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ISRAELI RESPONSE
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UNCLASSIFIED

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
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- (U) UN: Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Robert Serry, condemned Hamas for raiding NGO offices in Gaza City and the Rafah crossing. *(MGZ01/Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process e-mail)*
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- (U) South Africa: The ambassador to Israel was recalled June 3. *(jnetnews.com)*
- (U) Ecuador: The ambassador to Israel was recalled June 3. *(washingtonpost.com)*
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- (U) Saudi Arabia: Flotilla discussions interrupted meetings between a U.S. Congressional delegation and members of the Saudi business community at the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry on June 2. *(Saudi Gazette, Al-Watan, Shams)*
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- (SBU) Australia: PM Rudd called for an independent inquiry and an easing of the blockade. *(MGZ01/Embassy of Australia to the United States e-mail)*

Additional updates are available through our Ops portal at http://www.intelink.gov/wiki/Portal:Gaza_Flotilla_2010

Drafted: KFeifel/Opelkiser
Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

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S/ES-O:RWTHOMAS

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CIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
FBI WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 0000

UNCLASSIFIED
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additional specifics. (Ma'ariv)

STATUS OF HUMANITARIAN GOODS

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but have not entered Gaza. UNRWA and ICRC are waiting
for permission from Turkey to secure the items. Hamas
is disallowing any further entry of goods into the area.
(MSGZ01/Special Envoy for Middle East Peace e-mail)

ISRAELI RESPONSE

8. (C) 

9. (U) 

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

10. (SBU) Arab League:

11. (U) UN:

INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS

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SOURCE: DISKETTE.070659
DRAFTED BY: CA/OCSC/ACS/NSCA:KRICHETR -- 06/05/2010 7-8308
APPROVED BY: CA:JLJACOBS
CA/OCSC/ACS/NSCA:CNWALKER CA/OCSC:MBHICKBY NEA:JFELTMAN
S/SEMP:PKNOFF NEA/IPA:GGOLDBERGER NEA:MCONNELLY
CA/OCSC/ACS:MBERNIER-TOOTH CA/OCSC:MTBOND EUR/SE:JBAILY
P:ECATLANO/AWELLS D(S):GRANA S/F:DRAND
NSC:PKUMAR (OK-MUST X-HATCH), M:TBURL (OK),
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UNCLAS STATE 058397

SENSITIVE
FOR AMB CUNNINGHAM FROM CA A/S JACOB AND NEA A/S FELTMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: CASC, IS
SUBJECT: Tel Aviv: Demarche Regarding Death
of/Injuries to U.S. Citizens

REF: TEL AVIV 1224, TEL AVIV 1225

1. (U) This is an action request. See paragraph 2.

2. (SBU) Action Request: The Department requests that
Embassy Tel Aviv approach the GOI at senior levels to
seek details concerning the specific circumstances
surrounding the death of U.S. citizen Furkan Dogan and
injuries to U.S. citizens [Redacted]

Objectives follow in para 5.

3. (SBU) Background: On May 31, Israeli Naval Forces
(INF) boarded a Turkish-flagged ship which was part of a
six ship flotilla carrying humanitarian aid to Gaza in contravention of an Israeli blockade. Upon boarding, the GOI claims the INF were attacked by passengers carrying metal rods, axes and sticks. INF officers responded, resulting in nine fatalities and more than 30 wounded among the passengers. One INF officer was also seriously wounded. Among the fatalities was U.S. citizen, Furkan Dogan, and among the wounded was a second U.S. citizen, [redacted]. According to Turkish press reports and Mr. Dogan’s father, Dogan was shot four times in the head and once in the chest. Embassy Tel Aviv was shown photographs of nine corpses at the morgue. None of the photographs indicated evidence of gunshot wounds to the face. At the time of viewing, Embassy Tel Aviv did not have the picture or identity of Mr. Dogan and could not compare that to the photographs shown at the morgue. No USG official, in either Turkey or Israel, viewed the body of Mr. Dogan because he was transported to Turkey prior to identification as a U.S. citizen and was positively identified by his father upon arrival.

4. (SBU) In a separate incident, U.S. citizen [redacted] was injured when she was struck in the face by a gas canister shot at the protesters by Israeli security forces during a protest of the IDF action against the flotilla at the Qalandiya checkpoint. [redacted] lost her eye in this incident.

5. (U) Objectives:

- Seek an explanation from the GOI of the specific circumstances surrounding the death of U.S. citizen Furkan Dogan, and the injuries to U.S. citizens [redacted];
- Note that the seriousness of the injuries in these incidents is of especially deep concern to the U.S. Government;
- Reinforce that the safety of U.S. citizens abroad is one of the highest priorities of the U.S. Government;
- Confirm that the return of Furkan Dogan’s remains to Turkey without identification or notice to the U.S. Embassy that a U.S. citizen’s body was being removed was because the GOI was unaware of his identity as an American citizen;
- Reinforce that the USG expects a thorough, credible, and transparent investigation into these incidents.;
- Note that we will follow-up to request the results of the investigation.

UNCLASSIFIED
6. (U) Point of Contact: Post should contact CA/OCS/ACS/MESCA Kim Richter at (202) 647-8308 for any additional background or assistance.

CLINTON
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD  
DATE/CASE ID: 21 SEP 2011  201004163  

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touched on the matter of the whereabouts of personal belongings confiscated by the GOI during the arrest and detention of Gaza flotilla participants. MFA officials present were Barukh Binah, Deputy Director General of the North American Division; Yigal Tsarfati, Head of Consular Affairs Bureau; Sara Weiss, Senior Assistant to the MFA Legal Advisor (and an expert on maritime law); Dana Kursch, adviser to Director General Yossi Gal and North American desk officer Gershon Keder.

3. (U) A/DCM emphasized that the safety and security of Amcits abroad is among the highest priorities of the USG and added that the USG expects a thorough, credible and transparent investigations into these incidents. Binah thanked the USG for standing by Israel in the international arena during this difficult time. He assured the A/DCM that each incident would be thoroughly and transparently investigated by appropriate GOI agencies and that information from those investigations will be made available to the USG as soon as they are available.

4. (SBU) Binah and Weiss confirmed that the GOI was not aware that Furkan Dogan was an Amcit as well as a Turkish national while his remains were in Israel; they advised that no autopsy was done in Israel on Dogan, nor on any of the other deceased flotilla participants in deference to the request of the Government of Turkey for the immediate repatriation to Turkey of all individuals, dead, injured, or alive as well as their belongings. Speaking of the injuries sustained by flotilla passenger

Tsarfati assured the A/DCM that the GOI will check into exactly what happened in his case. Tsarfati stated that the injuries to

have not been verified by medical experts, adding that

refused GOI consular or medical assistance at the Ashdod port and later, refused medical treatment at Barzilay Hospital. Did, however, receive medical treatment and evaluation at the prison hospital in Ramle. That report will be made available when ready.

5. (U) At the request of the GOT, Tsarfati noted that all property collected by the GOI was placed in a container and returned to Turkey on the same flights as the repatriated passengers. This included all of the flotilla passengers' confiscated personal belongings. The MFA suggested that the U.S. Embassy in Ankara might be able to obtain information from the GOT regarding the missing property of Amcit flotilla participants. Weiss noted that according to reports, some items were lost at sea. A/DCM acknowledged that the GOI's decision to acquiesce to the GOT's demands for the immediate return of all belongings and detainees, in order to avoid escalating the tension between the two governments, may have
resulted in the loss of some evidence. UNCLASSIFIED

6. (SBU) The circumstances surrounding the injuries sustained by [redacted] remain unclear at this time. The GOI will first conduct an investigation to determine whether the IDF or the Border Police were involved. Once the responsible entity is identified, a thorough investigation will take place and information will be provided to the USG as soon as possible. Binah acknowledged the USG concern over the similarity between [redacted] injury and those of other Amcits in the recent past, and assured A/DCM that MFA will do its best to ensure an appropriately serious investigation.

7. (SBU) Binah emphasized that the GOI regrets the injury suffered by [redacted]. He stated that the ultimate objectives of the GOI were to conduct thorough investigations into each incident. In the case of Mr. Dogan, he agreed that it was important for Israel to provide a clear timeline of events on the Mavi Marmara, including the decision to use lethal force. He assured the A/DCM that the investigations will be credible, thorough and transparent and that information and conclusions from the investigations will be made available to the USG as soon as possible. He added that the investigations may be lengthy as they will involve coordination among various agencies but that the results will be enhanced by that process. Post will update the Department as information becomes available.

8. (SBU) COMMENT: With the assistance of the MFA, we are continuing to press the Medical Examiner for photographs and details concerning the death of Fuzkan Dogan. We will continue to press the GOI on various fronts to address all three cases in a serious and expeditious manner.

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EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
AMBASSASY ANKARA PRIORITY

SECRET TEL AVIV 001239

SECRET

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/03/2020
TAGS: PREL, CAEC, KWG, RPAL, IS
SUBJECT: GAZA FLOTILLA AFTERMATH - SITREP 3

REF: A. TEL AVIV 1218
    B. TEL AVIV 1225

Classified By: A/DCM Marc Sievers, reasons 1.4 (b), (d)

1. (U) As of 6:30 p.m. local time on June 3:

   POLITICAL-MILITARY
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2. (U) During a special evening press conference in his office on June 2, Prime Minister Netanyahu addressed the harsh international criticism leveled at the IDF's Gaza flotilla intervention. Speaking in English and Hebrew, Netanyahu said that Israel regrets the loss of life, but will not apologize for defending itself. He noted that Israel is once again facing what he termed international "hypocrisy" and a "biased rush to judgment."

3. (U) Netanyahu argued that under international law, Israel had the right to interdict and inspect the Gaza flotilla ships. Previous interdictions -- the Francop and the Karine A -- discovered tons of weapons destined for Hizballah and Fatah, respectively. Netanyahu said that Hamas already
possesses rockets capable of hitting Tel Aviv -- Israel cannot afford to permit Iran to establish a Mediterranean port, which would also become a threat to the international community.

4. (U) Netanyahus defended the actions of the IDF naval commandos that boarded the Mavi Marmara, who were met by a "vicious mob" which stabbed, clubbed and fired upon them. He said this was not a "love boat," but a "hate boat" of "violent supporters of terrorism." He asked international leaders how they would respond if facing a similar situation, and reiterated Israel's right to defend itself.

5. (C) During a June 3 brief to the diplomatic corps, MFA [Israel Naval] reviewed the timeline of and legal justification for the operation. [Blank] presented an overview of the incident, while [Blank] reviewed a timeline of the operation and [Blank] explained the legal aspects detailing Israel's right to interdict (full read-out provided septel).

6. (C) [Blank] stressed that IDF operational planning had not anticipated that the Gaza flotilla activists aboard the Marmara would attempt to kill the IDF naval commandos. He provided an operational timeline and video footage, including five loudspeaker warnings to the Marmara to divert to Ashdod, which were ignored. Additional video images from the Marmara's security cameras showed IHH members on deck of the Marmara preparing weapons to be used against the IDF commandos. Members of the diplomatic corps also were shown a video display of weapons seized on the Marmara, which included long knives, metal bars, and axes, as well as non-lethal equipment including night vision goggles and gas masks.

7. (U) The IDF Military Advocate General released a report detailing the international legal aspects of the flotilla interdiction. The report states that according to the Law of Armed Conflict, a state party to an armed conflict has the right to establish a naval blockade on its enemy's coast for security reasons. A naval blockade means preventing the passage -- entry or exit -- of all vessels to or from the ports and coastal areas of the enemy, irrespective of the kind of cargo carried by these vessels. The report also quotes the U.S. Navy's "Commander's Handbook on the Law of Naval Operations," where Article 7.7.1 states that nations are entitled to search contents entering or exiting, as well as the right to blockade "intended to prevent vessels and
aircraft, regardless of their cargo, from crossing an established and publicized cordon separating the enemy from international waters and/or airspace."

8. (U) All four Israeli Arab participants in the flotilla held in custody were released June 3 to house-arrest until June 6. The Muslim Brotherhood-affiliated Islamic Movement's northern branch leader, Sheikh Raed Salah, claimed in court that Israeli soldiers tried to kill him and shot at someone else they thought was him. News reports today alleged that Salah was one of the activists who attacked IDF soldiers boarding the Marmara and who "tried to provide cover" for a gunman who opened fire on the commandos. The three Islamic Movement leaders and the head of the Arab Higher Monitoring Committee were released on bail of HIS 150,000 (about USD 39,000) and the condition they not leave the country for 45 days. Street celebrations were planned to be held in Umm al-Fahem today to welcome the Islamic Movement leaders home.

9. (S//NF) The IDF continues to watch for additional vessels that may potentially participate in a "second wave." Israeli and international media reported extensively on the intentions of the M/V Rachel Corrie, a Cambodian-flagged 1,200-ton cargo vessel. The Rachel Corrie is expected to arrive at Gaza as early as 7:00 pm local Tel Aviv time on June 3. However, public statements by organizers suggest the Rachel Corrie may delay its arrival at Gaza until Monday, June 7, in order to maximize international media coverage.

10. (S//NF) Other potential vessels that may join the Rachel Corrie include the Challenger II (registered to "Western Mediterranean Trips" in Wilmington, Delaware) and the Greek-flagged Dimitris-K, both of which are currently at port in Limassol, Cyprus.

11. (C) [Redacted] told A/DCM that the Israeli Ambassador in [Redacted] was in contact with senior [Redacted] officials about the possibility of diverting the Rachel Corrie to Ashdod if Israel would guarantee the delivery of all humanitarian supplies on board, including 500 tons of...
cement, to Gaza. Barak said that PM Netanyahu had agreed to this proposal, as well as to the possibility of NGO personnel or UN representatives accompanying the supplies to the Gaza crossing. Barak said the Israelis are waiting for confirmation whether the ship will be diverted, but he cautioned that the Israeli Navy is going ahead with plans to intercept the ship. Ambassador to Israel reportedly promised to get back to the Israelis with an answer by the morning of June 4.

CONSULAR

12. (SBU) During the early morning hours of June 3, CONS confirmed through the MFA the departure of eight AmCits to Istanbul and one AmCit to Athens. The nine AmCits left from Ben Gurion Airport on aircraft sent by the Greek and Turkish governments. Consular access was not permitted at Ben Gurion Airport. Onward transportation was to be the responsibility of each traveler. Many inquiries have been received concerning Paul Larudee, an activist who has been arrested previously in Israel. He alleges mistreatment and has publicized his condition to Physicians for Human Rights and to the media.

13. (SBU) Post later learned that one of the deceased whose remains were returned to Turkey at the same time was almost certainly that of Furkan Dogan, a 19-year-old Turkish American dual national whom we had been trying to locate for several days. Embassy Ankara is waiting for the Turkish MFA to confirm the identity of the deceased. Post does not know of any AmCits who participated in the flotilla who remain in detention. We have no information on three possible AmCits:

14. (SBU) AmCit participant update:

Deported to Istanbul
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Deported to Athens
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15. (U) The most dominant theme in the Israeli press three days removed from the Gaza flotilla incident is the debate over what type of investigation should be launched. As reflected throughout the press, the "spirit of investigations past" looms over the debate and guides the Israeli leadership's current behavior in the matter -- specifically, the internal Winograd Commission investigating the 2006 Second Lebanon War, and the external Goldstone Report investigating the 2008-2009 Operation Cast Lead in Gaza.

16. (U) Contrary to previous demands of Israel to cooperate with international probes, there is a compelling recognition in the press that Israel should allow some kind of international scrutiny and participation -- even if limited -- in its own investigation of the events, hopefully staving off a full-blown "Goldstone II." Another option discussed is cooperation with an international investigation as a lesson learned from the results of Israel's non-cooperation with the Goldstone Report. The willingness to allow this unprecedented action also stems from the limited mandate of the would-be probe, and the fact that Israel's case is backed by physical and photographic evidence and "positive" legal opinions.

17. (U) According to Israel Radio News on June 3, a majority of ministers are opposed to the formation of an international commission of inquiry. That said, they believe that an internal investigative committee must examine operational issues to determine intelligence failures and flaws in the
political decision-making process. FM Lieberman has indicated he supports an internal investigation that might be supervised by impartial foreign officials.

CUNNINGHAM

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SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/03/2020
TAGS: AEMR, ASBC, GASC, KFLO, MARR, PREL, PINR, AMGT, IS, GZ
SUBJECT: MSGZ01: GAZA FLOTILLA MONITORING GROUP
SITUATION REPORT NO. 8

CLASSIFIED BY: Robert Thomas, Senior Watch Officer,
S/ES-O for REASON: 1.4(B) AND (D)

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UNCLASSIFIED
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8. (C)

9. (U) Media report Israel decided to release flotilla detainees immediately in order to help the United States garner support for UN sanctions against Iran. (ynetnews.com)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

10. (SBU) Arab League: Foreign ministers agreed to ask the UN Security Council to urge an end to the Israeli Blockade of Gaza. (MGZ201/Embassy Riyadh e-mail)

11. (U) UN: Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Robert Serry, condemned Hamas for raiding NGO offices in Gaza City and the Rafah crossing. (MGZ201/Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process e-mail)

12. (SBU) A June 3 International Maritime Organization meeting was interrupted by Cuba, Indonesia, Syria and Venezuela condemning Israeli actions. Turkey is expected to push for official IMO condemnation of Israel at the June 7 meeting. (MGZ201/Bureau of International Organization Affairs e-mail)

INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS
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14. (U) South Africa: The ambassador to Israel was recalled June 3. (ynetnews.com)

15. (U) Ecuador: The ambassador to Israel was recalled June 3. (washingtonpost.com)

16. (U) EU: The European Jewish Congress called on the EU to ban the Foundation for Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief (IHH) and other "terrorist front organizations." (European Jewish Congress press release)

17. (U) Saudi Arabia: Flotilla discussions interrupted meetings between a U.S. Congressional delegation and members of the Saudi business community at the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry on June 2. (Saudi Gazette, Al-Watan, Shams).

18. (U) UK: Former FS Miliband restated the British call for an end to the blockade as the only way to limit Hamas' control over the region. (MGG201/Embassy of the United Kingdom to the United States e-mail)

19. (SBU) Australia: PM Rudd called for an independent inquiry and an easing of the blockade. (MGG201/Embassy of Australia to the United States e-mail)

20. (U) Minimized considered.
CLINTON
ACTION NCA-00

INFO LGG-00 EEB-00 AP-00 AID-00 AMAD-00 A-00 ACC-00
CIAE-00 IND-00 DODD-00 DOTR-00 DS-00 DHSE-00 DUR-00
FAG-00 VGL-00 OBO-00 H-00 TEDR-00 INR-00 IC-00
FB-01 G-00 CAS-00 MIG-00 MOF-00 M-00 WICB-00
DCM-00 NSAS-00 ISN-00 COS-00 NIMA-00 PA-00 PM-00
ISNE-00 DORS-00 PMFC-00 SSO-00 SS-00 STEP-00 WTCP-00
EBG-00 SHER-00 TIP-00 PMB-00 DSGC-00 DRU-00 PPL-00
CARC-00 NFH-00 SAS-00 FA-00 SWET-00 DESJ-00 BAK-00

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FM AMBASSADOR TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7168
INFO ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
AMBASSADOR ANKARA PRIORITY

S R C R E T T E L A V I V 001265

NOFORN

E.O. 12958; DECL: 06/04/2020
TAGS: PRED, CASC, MOF, MWRG, KPAL, TU, IS
SUBJECT: GAZA FLOTTILLA AFTERMATH - SITREP 4

REF: A. TEL AVIV 1218.
B. TEL AVIV 1225.
C. TEL AVIV 1239

Classified By: A/DCM Marc Sievers, reasons 1.6 (b), (d)

1. (U) As of 6:00 p.m., local time on June 4:

2. (SBU) SUMMARY: As Israel prepares for the arrival of the
next ship, the M/V Rachel Corrie, both GOI officials and the
press are focusing on Israel's accounts of the events on the
Mavi Marmara on May 31. There are conflicting reports
regarding when the Rachel Corrie will arrive off the coast of
Gaza, ranging from June 5 to June 7. The GOI says that it
will continue to use diplomatic means to try to convince the
Rachel Corrie to divert to Ashdod, but will intercept the
ship if necessary and will not allow it to dock in Gaza. END
SUMMARY.

POLITICAL - MILITARY
4. (S//NF) The Israeli Defense forces (IDF) continues to watch for additional vessels that may potentially participate in a "second wave." Israeli and international media reported extensively on the intentions of the M/V Rachel Corrie, a Cambodian-flagged 1,200-ton cargo vessel.

The Free Gaza website posted a press release stating that it is stopping to board more journalists and dignitaries, and "there is no way we are going to Ashdod. We are, for sure, on our way to Gaza."

5. (S//NF)
6. [SBU] According to European passport holders who were detained had complained of mistreatment at the time of arrest and detention. said the EU countries are weighing a collective démarche to the GOI. Given the number of countries involved and the number of Europeans detained, doubted any decision would be made until next week.

7. [SBU] The medical doctor who examined the bodies of nine men brought to the morgue from the Havi Marmara told Consulate that none of the remains had been identified prior to their return to Turkey. At the request of the Turkish government, no autopsies had been conducted. He said the Turkish Embassy had not been helpful and had not provided documentation or photographs to help identify remains prior to shipment. Although no official cause of death was determined by the morgue, the doctor reported that all bodies had gunshot wounds. He could not confirm that any of the bodies showed evidence of entry wounds to the head, as reported in some media. He suspected that some wounds visible on the remains were in fact exit wounds.

8. [SBU] ConOffs continue efforts to obtain guidance from the MFA on reclaiming property and an accounting of the nationalities of any remaining detainees. According to the MFA, there are no flootilla passengers still in custody while three flootilla passengers remain in the hospital, one Indonesian and two Turks. ConOffs are still trying to ascertain if any of the six still-hospitalized IDF commandos are dual-national American citizens.

REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICE

9. [SBU] On June 3, there was an anti-Turkish government protest outside the Embassy of Turkey in Tel Aviv. Approximately 1,000 people participated in the demonstration, which went late into the night. Police arrested three people after protestors hurled stones and a smoke grenade at the Turkish Chancery. Embassy MPs and Local Guards were on alert, and Surveillance Detection Units monitored the situation, which took place about one mile from the U.S. Embassy. A/DCM happened to drive by the demonstration as it
was getting started. The demonstrators appeared mostly to be young, secular Tel Aviv types waving large Israeli flags. We saw at least one sign written in Turkish mentioning the Armenian genocide. There are also press reports that a monument to Turkish soldiers was vandalized in Beersheva.

PRESS REPORTING

10. (U) Hundreds of Israeli Arabs rallied on June 3 in Israel’s second-largest Arab town of Umm al-Fahm when the movement’s northern branch leader, Sheikh Raed Salah, entered the city for his House arrest. The crowd of primarily Islamic Movement members shouted “Alah Akbar” and “the sheikh is our hero,” and waved Turkish and Palestinian flags and Islamic Movement banners. In an attempt to ensure that protests did not erupt in Jerusalem, the Israeli National Police increased its presence in Jerusalem and denied access to the Temple Mount/Haram al-Sharif for Friday prayers to all men under the age of 40, according to customary security measures.

11. (U) While the Israeli press defends the actions of its soldiers, with several banner headlines calling them heroes, editorials are still questioning both the methods used and the explanation for why the IDF was unprepared for the resistance it met. At the same time, some news sources say that PM Netanyahu will ease the blockade on Gaza to relieve international pressure, including allowing for more types of goods to enter the Strip. Official statements maintain that the blockade must be kept in place as-is and that any humanitarian aid ships must dock in Ashdod and have the cargo transferred to Gaza via truck following inspection.

12. (SBU) The GOI reported that its transfer of humanitarian goods from the initial flotilla continues, with 30 truckloads already delivered to the Kerem Shalom crossing. Items already transferred include, inter alia, clothing, blankets, school bags, mattresses, baby safety seats, toys, wheelchairs, motorized scooters, bandages, hospital beds, and medication. The GOI reported that the shipment also included some medicines that have been expired for over a year, and camouflage cloth it says was meant for Hamas militants. While these shipments have been sent to Kerem Shalom, the GOI says that Hamas is refusing to allow the goods to enter Gaza.

Sources in the NGO community have also told Embassy officials that no commodities from the flotilla have entered Gaza. The same sources told EmbOffs that Hamas will not allow acceptance of any of the goods until all those being held from the flotilla are released.

UNCLASSIFIED
13. (U) Israel still has not officially responded to calls for an international investigation regarding the incident, leaving the press to speculate about the government's intentions. Within the inner cabinet, the reports generally say that PM Netanyahu, MOI Barak, and possibly Minister Meridor support allowing an international investigation, while Visiak, Begin, and Ya'alon are reportedly against it, preferring to rely on the credibility of the IDF Military Advocate General investigation. MFA Lieberman has publicly called for an independent Israel-led investigation, possibly headed by a former Supreme Court judge, with international observers.

14. (U) The IDF continues to release video of the events from the Mavi Marmara, including from both passenger and ship security cameras. One video, which the IDF was reportedly reluctant to release, shows a few Israeli naval commandos being beaten by a large group until other passengers on the ship fended off the mob. Other press reports say that 5-6 commandos were briefly held hostage below deck during the confrontation before being freed. One member of the Naval Commando assault team gave an exclusive interview to the Jerusalem Post. The soldier, reportedly the last of 15 commandos to rappel to the deck from the helicopter and responsible for six of the nine deaths, said that when he arrived his team was already taking fire from two Turkish passengers who had seized pistols from the wounded commandos, and that he was forced to fire back while under attack.

15. (U) Navy officials have publicly asserted that no innocent civilians, only combatants, were killed during the operation on the Mavi Marmara. In addition, the GOC is briefing the press regarding their evidence about the violent intentions of some passengers on the ships. This includes reports that ammunition casings of a type that were not used by the IDF were found aboard the Mavi Marmara, that the IDF had discovered code books used to prepare plans for violent resistance, and that several passengers made videos in which they declared their intention to become "shahids," which is typical of suicide terrorists. Officials from the IDF have speculated that the activists could have thrown their weapons overboard during the takeover.

CUNNINGHAM
UNCLASSIFIED

ACTION NEA-00

INFO LOG-00 AF-00 ALD-00 BND-00 TERC-00 DS-00 BHSE-00
EUR-00 VCI-00 DIAS-00 H-00 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-00
LAB-01 ARMY-00 MOEM-00 MOE-00 VCIH-00 DCF-00 NSAE-00
OES-00 NIMA-00 FM-00 MA-00 DOCS-00 RMG-00 SF-00
SSO-00 SS-00 NCTC-00 BWC-00 EARL-00 DEP-00 SCR3-00
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FA-00 SWC-00 PESU-00 SANA-00 /001W
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O 041632Z JUN 10
FM AMBASSADY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0174
INFO EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
DIA WASHINGTON DC
BUCON POLAD VAININGEN GE
39ABG INCIKILIK AB TU
CIB USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
ODC ANKARA TU
CIA WASHINGTON DC
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMBASSADY TEL AVIV
SECOM WASHINGTON DC
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AFOSI DET 521 ANKARA TU
JAC MOESWORTH UK

CONFIDENTIAL ANKARA 000815

SIPDIS
AMBASSADY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL AIMATY
AMBASSADY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMBASSADY BELGRADE PASS TO AMBASSADY PODGORICA
AMBASSADY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLASTYOSTOK
AMBASSADY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMBASSADY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKRATERINBURG
AMBASSADY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG
AMBASSADY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG

E.O. 12958; DECL: 2020/06/04
TAGS: EGY, PSHA, FREL, TU, IS
SUBJECT: Turkey: 8th Rep 8 on IHF Flotilla

REF: 10 ANKARA 799; 10 ANKARA 890; 10 ANKARA 779; 10 ISTANBUL 203

CLASSIFIED BY: Douglas Silliman, DCM; REASON: 1.4(b), (D)
UNCLASSIFIED

1. (C) Summary. Non-violent protests continued in Ankara, Istanbul, and Adana June 4, with press attention focused on the victims of the Israeli raid on the Gaza flotilla and their funerals.

MOST TURKS BACK IN TURKEY

3. (SBU) Acting U/S Govikot expressed gratitude for U.S. engagement in securing the release of detainees and reported that all of those detained were returned to Turkey, with the exception of five who had been too seriously injured to be moved on June 3. Two additional "air ambulances" had arrived in Israel in the early morning hours of June 4, but it was likely that one of the five was still not stable enough to transport. The daughter of the man who was still too injured to be moved had been transported to Israel and would remain with her father, supported by the Turkish Embassy.

Govikot said. The Ambassador contacted the family of the Turkish-American dual national who was killed in the attack and conveyed its condolences. His body was returned to his hometown of Kayseri and a funeral was planned for June 4.

UNCLASSIFIED
4. (SBU) There was press speculation that a Turkish warship might accompany the M/V Rachel Corrie, one of the next boats scheduled to arrive in the INN convey. Both MFA Acting U/S Cevikoz and the Turkish Navy denied this rumor. When PM Erdogan was questioned about the rumor, he told the press that the idea was "out of the question."

MORE PROTESTS EXPECTED

5. (SBU) In Ankara, between 100-200 protestors continue to gather outside of the Israeli Embassy and the Israeli Ambassador’s residence. On Sunday a group of NGOs plan a protest in downtown Ankara that organizers estimate will attract up to 80,000 people, while the police believe the number will be closer to 20,000.

7. (SBU) In Istanbul, the ceremony for the bodies of the deceased victims of the attack on the flotilla — their coffins draped in Turkish and Palestinian flags and ribbons in Arabic saying “there is no God but God and Muhammad is the Prophet of God” — was widely televised and Turkish press reported tens of thousands of people attended.

9. (SBU) According to an AKP Provincial Chairman in Istanbul (see REF A) and an AKP Municipal Assembly member in Ankara, the AKP has not issued a call for supporters to turn out for protests. AKP members instead, they claimed, have attended protests to reinforce their position as leaders, to draw attention from opposition political parties, and to deliver a message that people should act with calm and common sense and refrain from violent acts.
UNCLASSIFIED

058397
SOURCE: DISKETTE.070659
DRAFTED BY: CA/OCS/ACS/NeSCA:KRICKER -- 06/05/2010 7=6308
APPROVED BY: CA:JLJACOBS
CA/OCS/ACS/NeSCA:GWALKER CA/OCS:MEHICKER NEA:JFELTMAN
S/SE/MID:PKNOPF NEA/IPATGOLDBERGER NEA:MCNELLY
P:LCATALANO/ANEILLS D:NSGRANA S/P:DRAND
NSC:PUMAR, (OK-MUST X-HATCH), M:TBURL (OK),
D(1):NSHEPPARD (OK), CA/OCS/PRI:BEETANCOURT (OK)
S/ES-O:RPSANDERS

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AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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SENSITIVE
FOR AMB CUNNINGHAM FROM CA A/S JACOBS AND NEA A/S FELTMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: CAS.
IS
SUBJECT: Tel Aviv: Demarche Regarding Death
of/Injuries to U.S. Citizens

REF: TEL AVIV 1224, TEL AVIV 1225

1. (U) This is an action request. See paragraph 2.

2. (SBU) Action Request: The Department requests that
Embassy Tel Aviv approach the GOI at senior levels to
seek details concerning the specific circumstances
surrounding the death of U.S. citizen Furkan Dogan and

3. (SBU) Background: On May 31, Israeli Naval Forces
(INF) boarded a Turkish-flagged ship which was part of a

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON EAHMAD
DATE/CASE ID: 21.SEP.2011 201004163

UNCLASSIFIED
six ship flotilla carrying humanitarian aid to Gaza in contravention of an Israeli blockade. Upon boarding, the GOI claims the INF were attacked by passengers carrying metal rods, axes and sticks. INF officers responded, resulting in nine fatalities and more than 30 wounded among the passengers. One INF officer was also seriously wounded. Among the fatalities was U.S. citizen, Furkan Dogan, and among the wounded was a second U.S. citizen, [redacted] According to Turkish press reports and Mr. Dogan's father, Dogan was shot four times in the head and once in the chest. Embassy Tel Aviv was shown photographs of nine corpses at the morgue. None of the photographs indicated evidence of gunshot wounds to the face. At the time of viewing, Embassy Tel Aviv did not have the picture or identity of Mr. Dogan and could not compare that to the photographs shown at the morgue. No USG official, in either Turkey or Israel, viewed the body of Mr. Dogan because he was transported to Turkey prior to identification as a U.S. citizen and was positively identified by his father upon arrival.

4. (SBU) In a separate incident, U.S. citizen [redacted] was injured when she was struck in the face by a gas canister shot at the protesters by Israeli security forces during a protest of the IDF action against the flotilla at the Qalandiya checkpoint. [redacted] lost her eye in this incident.

5. (U) Objectives:

-- Seek an explanation from the GOI of the specific circumstances surrounding the death of U.S. citizen Furkan Dogan, and the injuries to U.S. citizens [redacted]

-- Note that the seriousness of the injuries in these incidents is of especially deep concern to the U.S. Government;
-- Reinforce that the safety of U.S. citizens abroad is one of the highest priorities of the U.S. Government;
-- Confirm that the return of Furkan Dogan's remains to Turkey without identification or notice to the U.S. Embassy that a U.S. citizen's body was being removed was because the GOI was unaware of his identity as an American citizen;
-- Reinforce that the USG expects a thorough, credible, and transparent investigation into these incidents;
-- Note that we will follow-up to request the results of the investigation.
6. (U) Point of Contact: Post should contact CA/OS/ACS/NESCA Kim Richter at (202) 647-8308 for any additional background or assistance.

CLINTON
O R 061707Z JUL 10
FM EMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0621
INFO EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
DIA WASHINGTON DC
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
EUCOM POLAD VAIHINGEN GE
CGR USCENTCOM-MACDILL AFB FL
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
CIA WASHINGTON DC
EMBASSY TEL AVIV
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EMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG
EMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG
EMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG

E.O. 13526: DECL: 2020/07/06.
TAGS: PGOV PREL KIDP EDDR CT
SUBJECT: IHU Releases Its Report on the Gaza Flotilla

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

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

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

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

Furkan Dogan

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

General Allegations of the Report

4. (SBU) The primary report declares in its introduction and conclusions that the Israeli government conducted a "terrorist attack" against the flotilla, subjected the survivors -- especially the wounded -- to "physical and psychological torture," attempted to provoke the survivors to violence once in custody on Israeli...
soil, and had "stolen" personal property of the activists. The
authors of the report claim that after Israeli ships attempted to
engage the Mavi Marmara -- the flagship of the flotilla -- with
grappling irons, Israeli soldiers descended upon the ship from
helicopters, simultaneously firing percussion or gas bombs,
automatic weapons, and an indeterminate "high
frequency...intermittent" weapon. The report claims that
"participants saw the Israeli soldiers firing real bullets as they
came down from the upper floors of the ship," at which point the
passengers began to resist with random objects at hand. According
to the report, three soldiers were subdued and their weapons taken
from them and dropped into the sea. TIKH head Bulent Yildirim
claims he announced over the ship's loudspeakers that the
passengers should stop fighting, and that he himself waved a white
shirt to indicate the ship's surrender. However, according to the
report, Israeli soldiers resumed firing upon the occupants of the
ship during the transfer of wounded to Israeli ships for medical
treatment.

5. (SBU) Under the category of torture, the report cites exposure
to elements and "inhumane" conditions, invasive searches, verbal,
and physical assaults while under detention, and sleep deprivation.
The Mavi Marmara passengers were forced to kneel on the ship's deck
while it was transported to Israel, all the while subjected to the
wind and seaspray churned up by the blades of hovering helicopters.
After being transferred to the ship's lounge, the activists
complained that the room was overcrowded and inhumanely hot and
humid. The group then complained that the automobiles in which
they were transferred to Beer Ya'eva Prison were air conditioned to
"cold-storage" degrees. All the while, the detainees were,
according to the report, kicked, struck with weapons, and verbally
assaulted, with intent to "provoke" them. The activists complain
of continual searches, repeated interrogations (with the results
being handed directly over to Israel's internal intelligence
service, Shabak), and hourly questioning in prison, amounting to
sleep deprivation. The report claims the detained activists were
also pressured to sign documents saying that they had arrived in
Israel without permission, and that they repeatedly refused to do
so until a record of their having been brought to Israel against
their will was included in the documentation. While allegedly the
Israeli authorities claimed they would return personal belongings
to the detainees, the report claims that all that was returned were
empty suitcases and broken electronics equipment. Some claimed the
loss of "large sums of money," while others that their credit cards
and cell phones have been used since their confiscation.

Some Contradictions

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

Comment

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

JEFFREY

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED

StateDept0468
Richter, Kim B

From: Reissner, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 6:32 AM
To: Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elissa
Cc: Richter, Kim B
Subject: FW; protest re Aamot death

Let us know of any additional material Kim or I may need on this.

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 9:29 AM
To: Béhnter-Toth, Michelle; Reissner, Wesley J.
Cc: Lopatkiewicz, Victorie; Walker, Carolle B
Subject: RE: protest re Aamot death

I'm drafting the demarche cable now and you'll see it soon.

From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 9:28 AM
To: Reissner, Wesley J; Richter, Kim B
Cc: Lopatkiewicz, Victorie
Subject: RE: protest re Aamot death

Good. I love working with NEA.

From: Reissner, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 9:27 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Cc: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Lopatkiewicz, Victorie
Subject: FW: protest re Aamot death

NEA concurs.

From: Connely, Maura
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 9:23 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Reissner, Wesley J; Holmstrom, Todd C
Cc: Slevers, Marc J
Subject: RE: protest re Aamot death

Wes -- start work immediately on a draft instruction to Tel Aviv. Work with CA and TA Consular Section for now and then -- after we review -- with NSC.

UNCLASSIFIED

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

From: Reissner, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 6:34 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas M; Holmstrom, Todd C
Subject: RE: Press report: Possible Amlot among bodies sent to Turkey

Will need to discuss this with CA.

From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 8:28 AM
To: Reissner, Wesley J; Richter, Kim B
Cc: Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria
Subject: Re: Press report: Possible Amlot among bodies sent to Turkey

Thanks. Ops passed to us and we have alerted the White House. CA/F should get some press guidance out ASAP!

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 7:26 AM
To: Reissner, Wesley J
Subject: FW: Press report: Possible Amlot among bodies sent to Turkey
Importance: High

Not sure if you are on the email.

Amlot killed in the Gaza Flotilla

From: Appleton, Richard H
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 7:11 AM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Lawrence, Suzanne I; SIES-O, SWO; SES-O, OPS-WatchTeam; Miller, Andrew T; Marsh, Denise M; Mendel, Teresa S
Cc: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jen; Grubb, Jason B; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Amodio, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Stillman, Douglas A; Hunter, Rodney M; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Ogle, Karen L; Still, Fathly; Keen, Daniel G; Parker, Andrew C; Jeffrey, James F; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Hunter, Rodney M; Keen, Daniel G; Glavold, Lisa C (Istanbul); de Oliveira, Laura H; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Combs, James D; Dickerson, Craig I
Subject: RE: Press report: Possible Amlot among bodies sent to Turkey
Importance: High

All:

Here is what we know. We still await confirmation from MFA.

UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED

Turkish-American Furkan DOGAN DOB 2000 CT91 was one of those killed in the Gaza Flotilla event. His name appears on the latest list of the dead in the Turkish Media. Turkish media widely covered father’s speech on camera. The father, Dr. Ahmet DOGAN, said he went to Istanbul airport last night to meet his son and the Turkish authorities informed him that his son was amongst the dead. The Turkish press indicates he was shot once in the chest and four times to the head...obliterating the head and making identification difficult.

The body leaves Istanbul for Kaiserslautern this afternoon; funeral will be held after midday prayers in Kaiserslautern at a mosque, Hunat Cemil, tomorrow.

Turkish media said the father was working on a PhD in the US for 4 years when the son was born there and lived there two years. The family returned to Turkey where the father is an associate professor at Erciyes University in Kaiserslautern. The son has been residing in Turkey since. Embassy Ankara issued him a US passport # 445502934 on 28 August 2008.

We have already had inquiries from the US press (CBS). We are referring such inquiries to CA/F ... particularly since we still await confirmation from MFA. We will call the father as soon as we have confirmation.

Rich Appleton
CG Ankara

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Parker, Andrew C.
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 1:28 PM
To: Appleton, Richard H; Bernier-Tobbi, Michelle; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Jeffrey, James F
Cc: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Grubbs, Jason B; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Amedeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, Will (Istanbul); Silliman, Douglas A; Hunter, Rodney M; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Ogle, Karen L; Sill, Faith; Keen, Daniel G
Subject: RE: Press report: Possible Amtc among bodies sent to Turkey

Israeli MFA here still does not have a complete list of the deceased; only those who had Turkish passports. When our Cons Assistant visited the morgue it was before we were asked about Furkan Dogan, so she did not have the PERS photo with her. Subsequently, she examined the PERS photo, which is of a very young man, and it did not resemble any of the photos of the deceased she had seen at the morgue.

From: Appleton, Richard H
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 1:09 PM
To: Bernier-Tobbi, Michelle; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Jeffrey, James F
Cc: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Grubbs, Jason B; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Amedeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, Will (Istanbul); Silliman, Douglas A; Hunter, Rodney M; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Ogle, Karen L; Sill, Faith; Keen, Daniel G; Parker, Andrew C
Subject: RE: Press report: Possible Amtc among bodies sent to Turkey

Importance: High

More shortly... but the dual [US - Turkish] citizen Furkan DOGAN [DOB: 1991] is on the media published list of the dead. His family had been calling at least twice a day for several days but not yet today.

UNCLASSIFIED
Believe the body is in Istanbul.

We have the family's cell number.

Before we contact, we are going to get confirmation thru MFA ... there have been various lists ... and this is a new addition to the list of the dead.

More as this story develops.

Rich

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Bämmer-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 12:55 PM
To: Parker, Andrew C; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)
Cc: Slevers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Grubb, Jason B; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Appleton, Richard H; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, Win (Istanbul)
Subject: Re: Press report: Possible Amrt among bodies sent to Turkey.

Any idea who this might be, if it's true?

This email was sent from a wireless BlackBerry device.

This email is unclassified based on the definitions provided in E.O. 12958

From: Parker, Andrew C
To: Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)
Cc: Bämmer-Toth, Michelle; Slevers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Grubb, Jason B; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Appleton, Richard H; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, Win (Istanbul)
Sent: Thu, Jun 3, 05:49:30 2010
Subject: Press report: Possible Amrt among bodies sent to Turkey


UNCLASSIFIED
Hi Susan: Per Rich Appleton's email to us, the father confirmed to Rich via telcon at 1630, Ankara time, that it was his son. Father ID'd the body as that of his son.

From: Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 9:51 AM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Duguid, Gordon K; Beekman, Phillip M; PA FO Group; Crowley, Philip J; CA-OCS-Duty-Principals; CAPRESSREQUESTS; Miller, Andrew T; Mendel, Teresa S
Cc: SES_DutyDeputies; SES-O_SWO-Only; Appleton, Richard H
Subject: RE: WH Inquiry: Press report: Possible Amtft among bodies sent to Turkey

Hi, Michelle: Not quite. I said that Rich Appleton was going to talk with the father.
Susan

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 4:43 PM
To: Duguid, Gordon K; Beekman, Phillip M; PA FO Group; Crowley, Philip J; CA-OCS-Duty-Principals; CAPRESSREQUESTS; Miller, Andrew T; Mendel, Teresa S
Cc: SES_DutyDeputies; SES-O_SWO-Only; Appleton, Richard H; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)
Subject: RE: WH Inquiry: Press report: Possible Amtft among bodies sent to Turkey

All: Istanbul (Susan; Abeyta) just alerted Ops that the father of our Amtft has confirmed his death. We can therefore say:

We can confirm that a U.S. citizen was among those killed in the raid on the Free Gaza flotilla. Our Mission in Turkey has been in contact with the U.S. citizen's family and will provide all appropriate consular assistance.

M

From: Duguid, Gordon K [mailto:cduguid@state.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 9:08 AM
To: Beekman, Philip M; PA FO Group; Crowley, Philip J; CA-OCS-Duty-Principals
Cc: SES_DutyDeputies; SES-O_SWO-Only; Appleton, Richard H
Subject: RE: WH Inquiry: Press report: Possible Amtft among bodies sent to Turkey

PA is also getting a number of queries. A/S Crowley will brief at noon, so we will also need whatever we can say about the case before then. Thanks.

UNCLASSIFIED

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

UNCLASSIFIED
From: Beeckman, Philip M [mailto:BeeckmanPM@state.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 8:05 AM
To: PA-FORCE; Crowley, Philip J; CA-OCS-Duty-Principals
Cc: SES_DutyDeputies; SES-O_SWO-Only; Appleton, Richard H
Subject: WH inquiry; Press report: Possible Amicit among bodies sent to Turkey

Colleagues –

The White House Situation Room just called with a request from Robert Gibbs for information on the case below (Gibbs apparently stated he was receiving media inquiries and needed more information). We briefed out the information below but did not forward the below email. We reinforced several times that no NOK notification had yet been made and this personal information is sensitive.

The Watch also called out to post to Inform Mr. Appleton of the request for information. He will inform the Watch once NOK notification has been made.

Regards;

Philip Beeckman
Senior Watch Officer
Operations Center
Department of State
202-647-1512

From: Appleton, Richard H
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 7:29 AM
To: Benner-Toth, Michelle; Lawrence, Suzanne J; SES-O_SWO; SES-O_CPS-WatchTeam; Miller, Andrew J; Marsh, Denise M; Mendel, Teresa S
Cc: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Grubb, Jason B; Richter, Kim B; Losalkiewicz, Viktoria; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Sillman, Douglas A; Hunter, Rodney M; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Cogle, Karen L; Siddiq, Faith; Keen, Daniel G; Parker, Andrew G; Jeffrey, James F; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Hunter, Rodney M; Keen, Daniel G; Glavold, Lisa C (Istanbul); de Olaya, Laura H; Abyeita, Susan K (Istanbul); Combs, James D; Dicker, Craig L
Subject: RE: Press report: Possible Amicit among bodies sent to Turkey

Addendum:

A large crowd is at the historic Fatih Mosque in Istanbul where all 9 bodies are presented in flag draped coffins. Extensive coverage on tv. Bodies will then be transported to their hometowns.

Correction: Father got his MBA at Rensselaer in Troy, NY... and his PhD in Turkey thereafter.

We will call father at COB; Ankara today even if there is no confirmation from MFA.

Rich Appleton
CG Ankara
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SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Appleton, Richard H
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 2:11 PM
To: Bemiller-Toth, Michelle; Lawrence, Suzanne I; SES-O_SWO; SES-O_GPS-WatchTeam; Miller, Andrew T; Marsh, Denise M; Mendel, Teresa S
Cc: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Grubb, Jason B; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Silliman, Douglas A; Hunter, Rodney M; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Ogle, Karen L; Staff, Faith; Keen, Daniel G; Parker, Andrew C; Jeffrey, James F; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Hunter, Rodney M; Keen, Daniel G; Gislason, Lisa C (Istanbul); de Queiroz, Laura H; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Combs, James D; Dicker, Craig J
Subject: RE: Press report: Possible Amel among bodies sent to Turkey
Importance: High

All:

Here is what we know. We still await confirmation from MFA.

Turkish-American Furkan DOGAN DOB 20OCT91 was one of the killed in the Gaza Flotilla event.
His name appears on the latest list of the dead in the Turkish Media.
Turkish media widely covered father's speech on camera. The father, Dr. Ahmet DOGAN, said he went to Istanbul airport last night to meet his son and the Turkish authorities informed him that his son was among the dead.
The Turkish press indicates he was shot once in the chest and four times to the head...obliterating the head and making identification difficult.

The body leaves Istanbul for Kaiseri ... arriving Kaiseri this afternoon.
Funeral will be held after midday prayers in Kaiseri at a mosque, Hugat Camii, tomorrow.

Turkish media said the father was working on a PhD in the US for 4 years when the son was born there and lived there two years. The family returned to Turkey where the father is an associate professor at Erciyes University in Kaiseri. The son has been residing in Turkey since. Embassy Ankara issued him a US passport # 445902994 on 28 August 2008.

We have already had inquiries from the US press (CBS). We are referring such inquiries to CA/P ... particularly since we still await confirmation from MFA. We will call the father as soon as we have confirmation.

Rich Appleton
CG Ankara

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.
Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Silliman, Douglas A; Hunter, Rodney M; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Ogle, Karen L; Siloi, Feltha Keen, Daniel G

Subject: RE: Press report: Possible Amicit among bodies sent to Turkey

Israeli MFA here still does not have a complete list of the deceased, only three who had Turkish passports. When our Cons Assistant visited the morgue it was before we were asked about Furkan Dogan, so she did not have the PIERS photo with her. Subsequently, she examined the PIERS photo, which is of a very young man, and it did not resemble any of the photos of the deceased she had seen at the morgue.

From: Appleton, Richard H
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 1:09 PM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Jeffrey, James F
Cc: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Grobb, Jason B; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkievicz, Viktoria; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Silliman, Douglas A; Hunter, Rodney M; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Ogle, Karen L; Siloi, Feltha Keen, Daniel G; Parker, Andrew C
Subject: RE: Press report: Possible Amicit among bodies sent to Turkey

More shortly...but the dual [US—Turkish] citizen Furkan DOGAN [DOB: 1991] is on the media published list of the dead. His family had been calling at least twice a day for several days...but not yet today.

Believe the body is in Istanbul.

We have the family's cell number.

Before we contact we are going to get confirmation thru MFA...there have been various lists...and this is a new addition to the list of the dead.

More as this story develops.

Rich

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 12:55 PM
To: Parker, Andrew C; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)
Cc: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Grobb, Jason B; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkievicz, Viktoria; Appleton, Richard H; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, Win (Istanbul)
Subject: Re: Press report: Possible Amicit among bodies sent to Turkey.

Any ideas what this might be, if it's true?

This email was sent from a wireless Blackberry device.

This email is unclassified based on the definitions provided in E.O. 12958.

From: Parker, Andrew C
To: Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)
Hi, Michelle: I saw your email with the list around 6:30 this morning. It came in at 2:15. We sent a corolff and let to the airport and now to the hotel where most have been sent. I spoke with [redacted] at some length around 8:30. Also with [redacted] who is fine and promised to call his children. I also spoke with Katherine Sheehy to [redacted] contact her family [redacted] will give her the numbers she needs. The following group are at the Akgun Hotel:

(b)(6)

B6

[redacted] (Brazilian American) decided not to go to the hotel with the group but is in Istanbul, had been on the Mavi (b)(6). Marmara.

[redacted] the American we knew was on the Mavi Marmara; told me (b)(6) went off with another group but was expected to contact her and the group at the hotel later today. (b)(6)

All appear to be well.

[redacted] Israeli/American, went to Cyprus, according to (b)(6)

[redacted] dual Irish/American is using her Irish passport, is here in Istanbul, according to (b)(6)

[redacted] reported that she went out through Jordan, which fits the info you provided. (b)(6)

[redacted] did not know passengers (b)(6)

Israeli authorities confiscated everything except for their passports: baggage, cameras, laptops, wallets, credit cards, money.

Turkish airlines has been great: They are paying for their hotel rooms and meals.

We will be assisting if they need money, transfers etc. We'll need to coordinate with colleagues in Israel to track down their belongings.

That's it for now.

Susan

Privacy/PIL
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.
From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 2:12 AM
To: Abejía, Susan K (Istanbul)
Cc: Richter, Kim B; Lopatki-Zawicz, Viktoria
Subject: Freda Gabe Flotilla Folks

Susan: These Amsctts may seek assistance from y'all; don't know what they have with them in terms of passports, etc.
Landing about 5 a.m. I've just woken up your Duty Officer to see if we can pass an emergency message to

From: Parker, Andrew C.
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 6:58 PM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Davison, Keas C; Richter, Kim B
Cc: Mendel, Teresa S; Reisser, Wesley J; Sindle, James M; Manring, Nicholas J; Plutt, Susan M; Zuckermann, Eva; Romero, Vincent
Subject: Re: More on

Landing details of flights are all known to MFA except for advice that Greek and Turkish MFAs should have details.
Onward travel plans also unknown.

Only known Amsct on Athen's flight.

Istanbul flights include:

Location: unknown (from Irish/Amsct)
Others believed to have left thru Allenby:

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This is the latest language on this.

We can confirm that a U.S.-Turkish dual national was among those killed in the raid on the Free Gaza flotilla. Our Mission in Turkey has been in contact with the family and will provide all appropriate consular assistance. Out of respect for the family we cannot further comment on this incident.

FYI

Trying this one; thanks.

Theresa,

The WH Spokesman wanted the latest guidance we can use on the AmOct death on the Turkish flotilla.

Grateful if you could forward CA's recommended guidance. Is the fact that this is now in the press mean that we can talk about it, i.e. express our condolences, etc?

Thanks.
Andy—it can be much shorter, but we need something to the full Monitoring Group collective that confirms the death. Wes

Rich,

Of course, we all feel badly for the family and for the young man who died. It won’t make the father feel any better, but if it helps now or heads off future arguments, you can let him know that many of the Amcits that Embassy Tel Aviv sought and located were Muslim Americans. We were aware from Ankara that Furkan Dogan was a possible Amcit participant and raised his name every time we asked the insect for news of Amcits. When we did not locate him at E10 Prison, with the other detainees, we continued to question Amcits. On one occasion, at least, the duty officer took a call from the family directly and passed the request to CONS. We did get the Mavi Marmara manifest on Tuesday after 5:00 p.m.; when the two vice consuls were at E10 Prison and I was at Goli Prison to see [insert name]. On Wednesday I reviewed the list for anyone identified as an Amcit but failed to review the 400 or so names of Turks, where I would have seen Dogan listed as a Turk. The father should know that we have Muslims on staff and that two of the consular assistants who went to E10 Prison are Israeli Arabs, one Muslim and the other Christian. The family has our condolences.

Andy

At 1650hrs Ankara time I talked to Ahmet DOGAN, the father of Furkan DOGAN, by phone. He had just loaded the body of his son on the plane in Istanbul bound for Kaiser. He confirmed to me that he had identified the body; it was his son’s.
He was very emotional. Stressing the lad was just 19 years old. He said his son was fired at five times from very close range...and that he was unarmed.

He asked that I pass the following back to Washington:
The US government didn't do anything to locate my child, and was it because this child was a Muslim? "My child was first wounded and then he was killed by a firing squad. He died of gunshot fired very closely to him and he didn't have any weapons in his hands. He received 5 gunshots from close range."

He said that he is really saddened and he wanted to know what the US government will do perceptibly regarding this issue.

The father agreed to pass this information back to Washington, but did not give specific release under the Privacy Act, beyond simply that.

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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2

StateDept0681
Richter, Kim B.

From: Parker, Andrew C.
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 9:22 AM
To: Miller, Andrew T; Mendel, Teresa S; Appleton, Richard H; Richter, Kim B; Walker, Carolee B
Cc: Greene, Carrie P; Ogle, Karen L
Subject: RE: THIS MORNING'S TASKING

RELEASED IN PART
B6, B5, B7(C)

From: Parker, Andrew C.
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 10:05 AM
To: Stevens, Marc J; Levin, Jan
Cc: Burnett, David R; Grubb, Jason B; Palm, Robert H; Hoyer, Kurt J; Greene, Carrie P; Ogle, Karen L; Richter, Kim B; Walker, Carolee B
Subject: RE: Today's Guidance

Our consular assistant visited the morgue at 10:50 a.m. on June 1, and met with He showed her frontal photos of nine men taken from the shoulders up. They compared the photos with photos had from PFE of fifteen Americans we had not yet located. None of them appeared to match. None of the men in the photos showed evidence of bullet wounds, damage or distortion, except for some bruises and hematomas. While returning to the Embassy, received a call from ACS Chief Elisa Greene who had just received information about another possible Amed, Furkan Dogan. Elisa described the man from the PFE record and reviewed the photo in person on return to the Embassy. There did not appear to be any similarity with the photos she had seen.

We had no further contact with the morgue until today, when spoke with He reported that all bodies had gunshot wounds, but he could not confirm that any of the bodies showed evidence of entry wounds. He suspected that some wounds were exit wounds. He noted that the Turkish government had requested that the morgue not conduct autopsies or take fluids from the remains, so only superficial examinations were made. He noted that he had limited contact with the Turkish embassy, all initiated by the morgue, and that he found them uncooperative and at no time did they provide assistance with identification by forwarding documents or photographs of their citizens. None of the bodies were ID'd prior to sending them to Turkey, and no official causes of death were determined. However, he did say that one of the bodies did fit the description of a 19-year-old.

The conversation with today as limited as he was in the midst of an autopsy. He said he would be willing to talk later if we require additional information.

From: Miller, Andrew T
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 3:58 PM
To: Mendel, Teresa S; Appleton, Richard H; Parker, Andrew C; Richter, Kim B; Walker, Carolee B
Cc: Greene, Carrie P; Ogle, Karen L
Subject: RE: THIS MORNING'S TASKING

Folks,

[...]

Cell into the Ops center and we'll get hooked up. Copying other ACS players in case the chiefs are tied up. Posts, feel free to add in any LES that have relevant info. Thanks, Andy.

From: Mendel, Teresa S
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 8:27 AM
To: Appleton, Richard H; Parker, Andrew C; Lopez-Kleweicz, Viktoria; Richter, Kim B; Walker, Carolee B; Miller, Andrew T
Cc: [Redacted]

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

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Subject: FW: THIS MORNING'S TASKING
Importance: High

All,
Andy has suggested we convene a conference call to outline our response to this tasking. Are you available now?

Teresa

From: Gallegos, Adriana M
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 8:01 AM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Richter, Kim B; Kazi, Pamela R; Lapatskiewicz, Viktor; Walker, Carolee B; Mendel, Teresa S; Cc: CA-OCS-Special Assistant; Echard, John E Jr; Macray, Rosemary R; Glaube, Jina
Subject: THIS MORNING'S TASKING
Importance: High

I know we answered many of these questions yesterday but what new updates can we add about the deceased Amcit?

CA/FEUR/NEA/TURKEY/JS/PAL: What updates do we have on the deceased AmCit? Do we have a better idea on the nature of his death? Can we confirm the reports of four gunshots to the head? How many times have we seen the body? Who has seen the body? Where is the body now? Who or what organization on the American side is investigating the death? When and at what level was our last communication with the Turkish government on this?

From: Parker, Andrew C
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 3:35 PM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Macray, Rosemary R; Jeffrey, James F; Marsh, Denise M; Stillman, Douglas A; Appleton, Richard H; Hickey, Mary E; Miller, Andrew T; Greene, Elisa
Cc: Bally, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Kaldanow, Tina S; CAPRESSREQUESTS; Sleevers, Marc J
Subject: Re: FOLLOW-UP Qs from Spokesman's Daily Briefing

Some points of interest:

At Abu Kabir (the TLV morgue) told our Cons:Apst that they were under strict orders from the Turkish govt not to do autopsies that involved intrusive procedures or the drawing of blood. He also said they had zero contact from the Turkish embassy with respect to identification of remains. Our Pax saw photos of nine victims. None looked like he was damaged greatly as if he had taken four bullets to the head.

From: Parker, Andrew C
Sent: Thu, Jun 03 21:38:02 2010
Subject: Re: FOLLOW-UP Qs from Spokesman's Daily Briefing

Our consular assistant, who has training in identification of remains, went to the morgue with color photos from PIERs files of all Amcits. we were aware of but had not yet located. She was not given access to the morgue but was shown color photos of the deceased. None matched our records. On her return to the Embassy we had learned of Mr Dogan. She looked at his PIERs photo and did not believe it matched any of the photos she saw. At this time we do not know absolutely that the photos she saw included one of Mr Dogan. No other USG official was present.

From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
To: Macray, Rosemary R; Jeffrey, James F; Marsh, Denise M; Stillman, Douglas A; Appleton, Richard H; Hickey, Mary E; Miller, Andrew T; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa

2

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StateDept0690
The family identified the remains of Furkan Dogan and reported his death to the U.S. Embassy in Ankara. A consular official visited the morgue in Tel Aviv. This was before we learned that Mr. Dogan was on the flotilla, however. The consular official reviewed Mr. Dogan’s PIERs record and did not think his remains were among those at the morgue (right, Andy P and Elise?) Dogan’s PIERs record shows POB as Troy, NY.

Follow-up question from the Spokesman’s daily briefing.

CA/NEA: What U.S. official viewed the body of the dual-national American citizen who was killed in the Gaza flotilla incident?

Can we confirm that it was a consular official who went to the morgue in Israel in an attempt to identify deceased Amdts and that at the time the body of Mr. Dogan could not be identified? (Were there representatives of any other USG agency present?)

Did anyone else from the USG view the body again after that morgue visit—either in Israel or Turkey?

Ultimately, it was his father, who ID’d his son, right?

Also, the Spokesman said that Mr. Dogan was born in Troy, NY (which I think was his extrapolation from the father’s studies at Rensselaer Polytechnic). Can we confirm the city of birth please?

Rosemary Macray
Media Unit Chief
Office of Policy Coordination and Public Affairs (CA/P)
U.S. Department of State
(202) 647-1888

From: Berliner-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 12:12 PM
To: Jeffrey; James; Marsh; Denise; Stillman; Douglas; Appleton; Richard; Hickey; Mary; Miller; Andrew; Macray; Rosemary; R
Cc: Bally; Jess; Riley; Robert; Kailenow; Tina
Subject: RE: Contact with Father of Deceased Amdt

Amb, Jeffrey:

We just got off a call with the NSC in which we hashed out the USG’s public statement—we’ll get you the guidance that PJ Crowley will use vis a vis whether the USG is going to investigate, in case you need it.

Michelle
From: Jeffrey, James F  
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 11:32 AM  
To: Marsh, Denise M; Beinler-Toth, Michelle; Stillman, Douglas A; Appleton, Richard H; Hickey, Mary E; Miller, Andrew T  
Cc: Bally, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Kaldanow, Tina S  
Subject: RE: Contact with Father of Deceased Amcit  

As predicted. I'll call J'.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Marsh, Denise M  
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 6:25 PM  
To: Beinler-Toth, Michelle; Stillman, Douglas A; Jeffrey, James F; Appleton, Richard H; Hickey, Mary E; Miller, Andrew T  
Cc: Bally, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Kaldanow, Tina S  
Subject: Re: Contact with Father of Deceased Amcit  

Thanks Michelle - looping in others.

From: Beinler-Toth, Michelle  
To: Marsh, Denise M; Stillman, Douglas A; Jeffrey, James F; Appleton, Richard H; Hickey, Mary E; Miller, Andrew T  
Sent: Thu Jun 03 11:24:31 2010  
Subject: Re: Contact with Father of Deceased Amcit  

Dear All,  

I recommend that Amb. Jeffrey contact Mr. Dogan to reiterate the Department's condolences and explain the efforts that Embassy Tel Aviv went to (as outlined in an email from Andy Parker to Rich and myself) to locate his son among the casualties.  

It would be entirely appropriate, and I'm sure welcome, for such a message to come from the Ambassador.

M
From: Parker, Andrew C  
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 8:50 AM  
To: Miller, Andrew T; Richter, Kim B  
Cc: Greene, Elisa  
Subject: RE: background on Furkan Dogan notification of death

Eve just spoke with the chief medical examiner of Israel. Before clamming up and referring her to the Min. of Defense, he said that Dogan had two bullet wounds, one to the right cheek and one to the head (not specified where). He did say there were NO shots to the back of the head.

Per tel/cont: Background information. Recommend not for distribution outside the USG as K.

From: Zuckerman, Eve  
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 2:48 PM  
To: Greene, Elisa; Parker, Andrew C  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: background on Furkan Dogan notification of death

In response to para 4, I would like to affirm that immediately upon my return to the Embassy, I reviewed the PIERS photo (one photo) and told Elisa Green that he did not appear to resemble any of the nine headshots that I had seen at the morgue.

Eve Zuckerman
Consular Assistant
US Embassy, Tel. Aviv

From: Greene, Elisa  
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 2:44 PM  
To: Parker, Andrew C  
Cc: Zuckerman, Eve  
Subject: background on Furkan Dogan notification of death

Andy, further to your email:
- At 11:13 AM on 01 June 2010, Daniel Keen, Ankara VGC Consul, sent me an email asking if we knew anything about Aytek Furkan DOGAN, as his parents believed he was on the flotilla.
- As I was at the interviewing window and in the middle of passport and CRBA interviews, I didn't see the email until approximately 11:50 am. I then called Johnny Sakran, Susan Plott, and Jason Greer (whom I had spoken to a few minutes earlier who said they were about to enter the Elia Prison in Beersheba and would be returning off their phones momentarily) but none answered. (If you need the exact time of the call, we can wait until the phone bill comes out.)
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I then responded to Daniel Keen at 11:33am, stating that I was unable, at that moment, to ask my staff at the Ella Prison in Beer Sheva to ask about Mr. Dogan because they had already entered the compound and had surrendered their telephones to the prison guards.

I then called [ ] from ext. 7649 (Window 5) at approximately 11:45AM to tell her that we had another Amit, a Turkish-American named Furkan Dogan, and that I was concerned that he was amongst the dead, particularly since the dead were reported to have been Turkish citizens. (If you need the exact time of the call, we can wait until the phone bill comes out.) [ ] said she was in an Embassy vehicle en route to the Embassy, returning from the Institute of Forensic Medicine in Abu Kabir (the morgue) and had already seen nine headshots of the deceased. I described Mr. Dogan to [ ] over the phone, stating that he was young looking, eighteen years old, with a clean complexion, brown hair, protruding ears, olive-skinned. [ ] said that while there was an unidentified man in his 20's to 30's, the man I described did not meet the description of the man that he had seen who had reddish hair. I asked [ ] to return to work and review the PIERS photos that I had emailed her to see if this was the same man. [ ] said she would.

After I hung up with [ ], I then emailed Daniel Keen again, cc-ing Faith Sisl, Eve, Sandra, George, and you, at 11:37AM. In my email, I stated: "Doesn't appear to be amongst the dead—one of my staff just returned from the morgue."

I then added Mr. Dogan to the Amit flotilla spreadsheet. Before leaving for the day, I sent the updated spreadsheet via email to Consular Staff, at 12:08 PM. Shortly thereafter, I left for the day, on sick leave, and then returned to work Friday morning, 04 June 2010.

Please see attached documents. Thanks, ellsa

Ellis Greene, Chief, American Citizen Services, U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv, Israel
Address: From Israel: 71 Ha-Yarkon Street, Tel-Aviv 63900, Israel
Address from the U.S.: Box 33, APO AE 09630, U.S.A.
Switchboard Tel: +972-3-517-7570; Fax: +972-3-517-2348; Email: americans@state.gov

From: Parker, Andrew C
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 10:58 AM
To: Reeves, Marc J; Levin, Jan
Cc: Burnette, David R; Grubbs, Jason B; Palm, Robert M; Hoyer, Kurt J; [ ]
Subject: RE: Today's Guidance

Our consular assistant [ ] visited the morgue at 10:30 a.m. on June 1, and met with [ ] He showed her frontal photos of nine men taken from the shoulders up. They compared the photos with photos Eve had from PIERS of fifteen Americans we had not yet located. None of them appeared to match. None of the men in the photos showed evidence of bullet wounds, damage or distortion, except for some bruises and hematomas. While returning to the Embassy, [ ] received a call from ACS chief Ellis Greene who had just received information about another possible Amit, Furkan Dogan. Ellis described the man from the PIERS record and [ ] reviewed the photo in person on return to the Embassy. There did not appear to be any similarity with the photos she had seen.

We had no further contact with the morgue until today, when [ ] again spoke with [ ]. He reported that all bodies had gunshot wounds, but he could not confirm that any of the bodies showed evidence of entry wounds. He suspected that some wounds were exit wounds. He noted that the Turkish government had requested that the morgue
not conduct autopsies or take fluids from the remains, so only superficial evaluations were made. He noted that he had limited contact with the Turkish embassy, all initiated by the morgue, and that he found them uncooperative and at no time did they provide assistance with identification by forwarding documents or photographs of their citizens. None of the bodies were ID'd prior to sending them to Turkey and no official causes of death were determined. However, he did say that one of the bodies did fit the description of a 19-year-old.

The conversation with [ ] today as limited as he was in the midst of an autopsy. He said he would be willing to talk later if we require additional information.
UNCLASSIFIED
ANKARA: UNR RELEASES ITS REPORT ON THE GAZA FLOTILLA

TO:        SECSTATE WARRIOR - IMMEDIATE

ACTION:    IMMEDIATE

FROM:      AHMED VIY AHMADI (ANKARA 879 - IMMEDIATE)

TAGS:      SEC, WAR, IMM, IMM

COUNTRIES: GAZA

SUBJECT:   UNR RELEASES ITS REPORT ON THE GAZA FLOTILLA

REF:       19 ANKARA 972, 09 ANKARA 969, 10 ANKARA 888

REF: 19 ANKARA 973, 09 ANKARA 969, 10 ANKARA 888

CLASSIFIED BY: Douglas Williams, Deputy Chief of Mission, 30th Sep, 2009 (E/4180).

1. (SBU) SUMMARY: International humanitarian help -- the organization better known by its acronym, UNR -- has published a report accusing the Israeli navy of shooting down the Gaza aid flotilla, interceded by Israeli soldiers, leaving nine people dead. The English-language report is primarily based on the testimony of participants without input from the government of Israel. Previously, the UN and Israel's Israel in Violation of International Law and the Constitution of Israel, or "terrorist" acts. The UN also published an autopsy report which alleges the Israeli soldiers fired upon the ship from the air, and that the Israeli sailors attempted to cover their "evidence." This report also states that eyewitnesses in a number of eyewitness accounts to Israeli naval forces against the fleet of Israeli ships involved in the flotilla attack on five of the participants in the flotilla, and summary.

2. (SBU) The UN drew extraordinary attention via fax for its report on the 31 May confrontation between the Israeli navy and the Gaza Peace Flotilla, and to report detailing the results of a secondary autopsy performed in Turkey on the body of the international activists killed in the operation. Most of the contents of the preliminary report is unverified, presumably derived from testimony by the survivors without input from the Israeli government. The Israeli government also conducted the autopsy, which included some information about the death that was not released, and subjected to chemical treatment against decay, certainly making the use of the information difficult. However, it claims that the "high angle" shots of the bodies indicate that the bullets entered "near" the bodies, not in the air when they fired. The report also claims that the

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bodies' having been wished to "close" proof that the Israeli government intended to destroy evidence.

Furkan Dogan

1. The report continues to claim Furkan Dogan, a Palestinian citizen, was killed in the incident - so a Palestinian citizen from Jenin. The report also notes that he was hit by two bullets and that the damage done to Mr. Dogan's face indicated that these two bullets were fired at close range. The report appears the range from which the two bullets hit Mr. Dogan's head was inconsistent because his body had been washed and his clothes were bloodstained. A fifth bullet damaged one of his feet. The entry and exit points for the bullets in Mr. Dogan's body do not appear to be consistent with the "high angle" allegation of the report.

General Allegations of the Report

4. Israel's preliminary report contains in its introduction and conclusion that the Israeli government concluded in "categorically" attacking the flotilla, inhibited the operation "gravely" and "intentionally" the wounded - that the Israeli government, in an attempt to provide the authority to withdraw some in custody to the Israeli Navy, and the "negative operational propriety" of the authorities. The authorities of the Israeli warship that sank the flotilla, which is called the "High Intensity" - the flagship of the Israeli Navy, with grappling thongs, flotilla soldiers ascended upon the ship from helicopters, simultaneously firing persuasion or gas, 60 mm, automatic weapons, and fire "short-range" weapons. The report claims that the Israeli soldiers fired real bullets as they came down from the upper floors of the ship, at which point the passengers began to scatter with random objects at hand. According to the report, three soldiers were wounded and their weapons taken from them and dropped into the sea. The passengers' "claim" he announced over the ship's loudspeakers that the passengers should stop fighting, and that he himself wore a white shirt to indicate the ship's identity. However, according to the report, Israeli soldiers resumed firing upon the occupants of the ship during the transfer of wounded to Israeli ships for medical treatment.

5. Israel under the report of torture, the reporting exposure to elements and "inhumane" conditions, invasive searches, verbal and physical assaults, while under detention, and sleep deprivation. The 40 Israeli passengers were forced to kneel on the ship's deck while it was transported to Israel, all of them subjected to the wind and seaspray charged up by the blades of hovering helicopters.

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6. [SINU], the report claims that upon being arrested, the captain of the HMMU returned reportedly told Israeli ships via radio that the ship was 'supplying humanitarian aid on the ship to Gaza', establishing large impact to fry and break the embargo. The report also states that the 'merchants' on the ship told the activists to put all their belongings in anticipation of a possible Israeli attack.'

7. The report also states that due to the existence of Israeli warnings that the activists will not be allowed to leave the documentation, while allegedly the Israeli authorities claimed they would return personal belongings to the detainees, the report claims that all that was returned were empty suitcases and broken electronics equipment. Some claimed the loss of large sums of money, while others that their credit cards and cell phones have been used since their confiscation.

Comment:

7. (CI) The report, though lengthy in style, does not cred any new ground. There is little in the report to cause public uproar, as previous media reports and interviews with the survivors make for very lurid and sensational. Indeed, the COI's own second-hand information appears already has issued a DVD that is far more heavy-handed. The COI also seems politically influenced, calling upon the government of Turkey to take action and explicitly identifying the fipillia as 'completely civilian in nature.' It also reasserts that the HMMU was actually a Conflitek-tagged vessel.
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AMBAŠDA: NISIČIO DVE ŠEĆ ŽO AMBASADU V KIŽEŠIJE

AMBAŠDA: BERLIN DVE ŠEĆ ŽO AMBASADU EUSEBIJE

AMBAŠDA: BASIOI DVE ŠEĆ ŽO AMBASADU BARIJE

AMBAŠDA: ROMA DVE ŠEĆ ŽO AMBASADU RIMIJE

AMBAŠDA: IZBROD DVE ŠEĆ ŽO AMBASADU SY BRESTIJJE

E.O. 11523: DEKL. MODEL

TABO: 2281, 358, 4288, 4288, 74.

SUBJECT: JIH RELEASES ITS REPORT ON THE GAZA FLOTILLA

End Cable Text.

Afternoon Key Cables - 7/06/2010

ANKARA: JIH RELEASES ITS REPORT ON THE GAZA FLOTILLA

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List of Topics of consular interest for discussion with the MFA

1. What is the current status of the investigation of the incident?

2. What is the expected timeline of this investigation?

Erdogan Dogan, 19, was killed on May 31, 2010 on the Gate B61 by Turkish military. Status of case: On June 7, 2010, the USG delivered a demand letter requesting a thorough, credible, and transparent investigation of his death. On June 29, 2010, Andrew Parker forwarded a request to MFA.
CONSular FieldHeld requesting assistance in obtaining photos taken of the remains, medical photos showing entry and exit wounds caused by multiple shots to the head and body, and any written reports that describe the injuries.

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

MFA officials as well as other diplomatic representatives of Israel and France have been consulted and brought up to date on the incident. MFA officials have been in contact with officials of Turkish colleagues. Turkish officials have been informed of the death.

MFA officials have been informed that the remains are now in the process of being transported to Israel.

Fleet personnel:

A. The Embassy was advised by the MFA on August 23, 2010, that the GOI intends to send the electronic equipment, belonging to the fleet personnel, to the foreign embassies. To date, the Embassy has not received the equipment belonging to the GOI.

Can the MFA provide when these items will be returned and if for American citizen whose items are not among these to be returned, please advise any resources available to those individuals who wish to file claims against the GOI.

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

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

MFA officials confirmed that the GOI is in the process of returning personal effects that were on board the Israeli vessels seized during Operation Opea. These effects include personal belongings and electronic equipment that were seized during the incident. The GOI has been in contact with the families of the deceased and has begun the process of returning these personal effects.
Israel: Furkan Dogan and Rachel Corrie

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

Our Embassy in Tel Aviv has been in frequent contact with the Government of Israel regarding their investigation, being conducted by the "Turkel Commission" into the May 31 Mavi Marmara Flotilla incident, including requesting additional information on the death of American citizen Furkan Dogan.

In a discussion with Israeli authorities November 30, we were informed that further information regarding the circumstances of Mr. Dogan's would not be forthcoming until the Turkel Commission has finished its overall inquiry into the incident. We will continue to follow this case closely.

If asked about Rachel Corrie:

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

From: Bills, Colin C
To: Greens, Eliia
Cc: Richter, Kim B
Subject: RR: Inquiry on Furqan Dogan Possibly Rachel Corrie
Sent: 12/20/2010 3:59:19 PM

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

NEW ISRAELI: When was the last time that an official from the US spoke to the Israelis about the death of an American citizen involved in the Gaza Flotilla?

Dogan:

Our Embassy in Tel Aviv has been in constant contact with the Government of Israel regarding their investigation (n.b., the Turkel Commission) into the Mavi Marmara flotilla incident, including requesting additional information on the death of American citizen Furqan Dogan:

In a discussion with Israeli authorities in November 2010, we were informed of further information regarding the circumstances of Mr. Dogan’s death. We asked for the conclusion of the investigation, but the Israeli authorities indicated that they would not be announcing the conclusion until the Turkel Commission has finished its overall inquiry into the incident. We will continue to follow this closely.

Note: The Turkel Commission will likely finish its report some time in January or early February of 2012, but this should not be cited to the press.

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

Nbr

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Greens, Eliia
Sent: Friday, December 17, 2010 1:32 AM

NR

PLAIN_TEXT
To: Ellis, Colin C.
Subject: RE: Inquiry on Furqan Dogan / Possibly Rachell Cortile

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

Ellis Greenfine (Chief, American Citizen Services - U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv, Israel)
Address: 32 Yafa St., Tel Aviv 63905, Israel
Telephone: +972-3-626-1261, Fax: +972-3-626-1264, Email: americas@post.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Ellis, Colin C.
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 6:26 PM
To: Levin, Jan.
Subject: RE: Inquiry on Furqan Dogan / Possibly Rachell Cortile

Hi,

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

Best,

Colin Ellis

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Levin, Jan.
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 10:22 AM
To: Ellis, Colin C.
CC: Silverman, Robert J; Nelson, Timothy (Tel Aviv); Greenfine, Ellis
Subject: RE: Inquiry on Furqan Dogan / Possibly Rachell Cortile

NR
Thanks,

Jim

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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

Regarding Furkan Dogan:

Post requested a status report on the investigation into the circumstances of the death of Furkan Dogan, an American killed in the May 2010 Toliab airstrike in Mar Marmara. MFA rep stated that since the Turkish Committee has not yet finished, they are unable to provide any information about the investigation. MFA requested that the GO provide the GO with a copy of Dogan’s autopsy report conducted by the government of Turkey. Post, however, stated that Post was not in a position to give the autopsy report to the MFA.

Please let me know if you need further information or other case. Thanks, Elisa.

Elisa Greene
Chief, American Citizens Services
U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv, Israel
Address: 10-15 Ramat HaSharon St. Tel Aviv, 66030, Israel
Telephone: 972 (3) 67720, 6397721
Fax: 972 (3) 6772348
Email: Americancs@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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

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

Dogan: via separate email.

Tx,
Elisa
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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

Hi, Eli. Can you give us a quick update from the APS perspective on these two cases? Thank you.

Jan

From: Elts, Colin C.
To: Levin, Jan; Nelson, Timothy [Tel-Aviv]; Luce, Mike D
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010
Subject: FW: Inquiry on Purgan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie

Dear TA colleagues,

Do we have any new information on the Purgan Dogan or Rachel Corrie cases? (Aside from do you have any recommendations on updated points for RE@P) does anyone have any ideas about this?

Thank you,

Colin Elts

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Subbin, Paul R.
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 3:17 PM
To: Buebe, John-R; Jacoby, Julie; Elts, Colin C.
Subject: RE: Inquiry on Purgan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie

One step forward....
The last update I saw on this case was in a memo for Bill Burns with Oren, Jil (real). We should run the traps with TA and CA on DOgan.

Paul Sullivan
Director
Office of Israeli and Palestinian Affairs
Robin 6251, Department of State
(1) 202-522-3672 - (F) 202-735-4461

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Sylva, Ambrose G.
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 11:41 PM
To: Sullivan, Paul; Puglia, John; Jolley, Julie; Ellis, Colin; Vesavia, Peter
Subject: Inquiry on Figen Boghni / Possibly Rachel Corrie

Hi IPA Team,

PJ has agreed to stand down on requiring additional guidance points on Abdullah Abu Khedma. However, he asks that we provide him with the following points on what we agreed to last week:

- Does Figen's latest statement regarding the situation on the town of al Nabi Saleh confirm that he was praying through the Israeli military in al-Majdal Shams, and is she being held in an Israeli military facility? Also, any update on Rachel Corrie's case is also appreciated. It would not officially ask for an update on this, but did mention it in our discussion, and thought we need to be prepared for both issues.

Thank you,
Ambrose

Ambrose Sylva (Press Officer) Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, U.S. Department of State
2211 13th St. NW, Room 2234, Washington, DC 20527] (202) 690-8469 [sylvaam@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.
Dear Mr. Hamami:

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

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

Talking points for the meeting are attached.
TALKING POINTS

- Please accept my condolences for your loss.

- The Department of State has no higher priority than the welfare of U.S. citizens overseas. When a death occurs, our role is to provide consular services to the immediate next-of-kin to ensure that their belongings and estate are handled expeditiously, in accordance with local law.

- The Department of State does not, however, investigate deaths of U.S. citizens overseas—regardless of the circumstances leading to the death. We rely on local authorities to investigate deaths within their jurisdiction.

- The Embassy in Tel Aviv as well as the Department of State has requested that the Government of Israel undertake a thorough, credible, and transparent investigation and provide us with their findings. We have been in touch with all levels of the Government of Israel, most recently on February 15, and have been told that further information regarding Mr. Dogan's death would not be forthcoming until the Turkel Commission has finished its overall inquiry and released the information. They have not yet released all the information from their findings.

- We cannot speak to the findings of foreign governments, or the United Nations, regarding the circumstances of your son's tragic death.
  - *If pushed:* We would suggest you consider options for reviewing locally.

- Additionally, the Department of Justice is charged with investigations related to civil or criminal charges under U.S. law. Questions or concerns regarding a U.S. investigation may be directed to the Department of Justice.

- In your son's case, the Department has responded to your requests for information in a timely manner but we fully understand your frustration at the delay in issuance of the death certificate and subsequent Consular Report of Death Abroad (Note: The autopsy report was received on July 29, 2010, and a CRODA was issued to Mr. Dogan on September 23, 2010).

- We cannot comment about any specific findings or conclusions made in the Turkish autopsy. Under U.S. regulations, the CRODA is an administrative
report to certify the local death certificate; it is not an independent
assessment of cause of death.

- We have acted to assist you throughout the course of events following your
son's death. We at the Department and at the Embassy will continue to
provide all appropriate consular services.

- We will continue to inquire as to when any private property or U.S. citizens
seized on the Florilla will be returned, but we also encourage you to work
through the local court systems or reach out to your own government to
pursue this further.

PARTICIPANTS

Department of State

DAS Petrik (CA/OCS)
Colleen Flood (CA/OCS/PRD)
Kim Richter (CA/OCS/ACS/NESCA)

Dogan Family

Mr. Dogan
Katherine Gallagher (attorney)
Others TBD

Attachments:

Furkan Dogan Timeline

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UNCLASSIFIED

Fahredin Dogan Timeline

5/13/10 FOS in US waters

5/14/10 Boats arrive in Istanbul from Israel. Funeral at Fatih Mosque. Dogan body loaded on plane for Kayseri.

6/7/10 CS Appelton calls dad at 1st Airport but offered that Express Condolences and will supply any info.

6/8/10 Dad calls back to say US is doing nothing and what will US do?

6/24/10 Funeral and burial in Kayseri.

6/27/10 Embassy up note to MFA asking for burial and death certificates, and the autopsy report. ASe to confirm.

6/30/10 CS Appelton calls dad with information about developments. Arab reiterated "it is the responsibility of foreign authorities to determine causes of death and, when appropriate, conduct an investigation."

7/8/10 MFA dip note informs Embassy that Fahredin Dogan renounced his Turkish citizenship on February 9, 2010.

7/14/10 Embassy up note informing Embassy with Fahredin Dogan's residence permit, birth information from register of Antalya on May 27, 2010 on his US visa. MFA also informs he is not listed as a dependent on parental passport.

7/22/10 CS Appelton noted a response to an Arab friend of Professor Dogan saying it is difficult to legally talk with the friend, that we still await all the documents requested of Turkish authorities, and that Fahredin Dogan can always email CS attached documents.

7/29/10 AnNY Jeffrey to the press said we had not yet received autopsy, burial or death records from Turkish authorities. MFA apologised for the delay.

9/22/10 CS called the POL Section in Ankara to follow up on which he had seen in the press about the lack of any official report on his son.

9/23/10 CS called dad to say autopsy report was out and we were reviewing it. Dad wants to know about the "start of US Investigation."

9/25/10 CS got phone call to say about the GCMUA arriving by courier and noted his request for a US Investigation with the standard language about same (see 9/21/10 entry).

9/26/10 Fahredin Dogan's official autopsy report. Our unofficial translation of the autopsy report. Fahredin Dogan's official death report, official GCMUA sent to Andrew Parker (tel Aviv via small).

10/6/10 New firm asks to discuss with CS Kliner in Istanbul the "unanswered question" to SCM Schimanski dated 9/7/10.

10/7/10 Chris' response to that letter said we read the lawyer's letter and the firm's interest in the lawyer represents (it's not the Dogan family then).

10/12/10 "Harm to Dogan family," called Legat once and ConS twice saying the family is not getting information on any US investigation of death.

10/14/10 Dad came back from tour visit to interview. Was very pleasant. Wading Chicago friends and DC lawyers.

There is no plott/act. Worked. They have not returned the US passport and returned to the family.

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I just wanted to share my general impressions—others were taking notes if addressees need more detail.

I expressed condolences to Prof. Degen on the loss of his son, telling him that SOA placed a high priority on assisting the next-of-kin when a U.S. citizen dies abroad. He initially stated that he had no contact with the embassy after his son’s body arrived in Turkey. I recounted dates and names of individuals from our embassy in Ankara (including the Ambassador) who were in touch with him in the few days. He eventually qualified his initial statement by stating that the embassy had not provided any information.

There were repeated calls for a U.S. investigation. I told them that the USG does not as a rule conduct investigations overseas, but must rely on local jurisdictions. In this instance, we were awaiting the findings of the UN Security Council (Guterres Commission), which would be based on independent investigations of the Gaza Flotilla incident by the governments of both Turkey and Israel. It was doubted as to why we did not accept the findings of the earlier UNHRC report and why the USG was critical of that report. I replied that we were seeking a more balanced and informed
study, noting that the UNHRC's mandate had been somewhat unclear and the investigation a bit "rushed." (Also, I had promised myself not to characterize any report—by the USG, if it reflects earlier statements by the USG. It would have been difficult.

The meeting was generally friendly, although Ms. Gallagher got a bit aggressive with her questioning toward the end, asking why we engaged in the talks on this issue. It is not clear whether we had signed an apology. My response was always, "We are waiting for the UN.""

Ms. Gallagher also pressed on the autopsy report, saying that it clearly showed summary execution of protesters and of Farkan. I told her I had seen the autopsy report and agreed that it seemed to evidence gunshot at close range, but that the characterization of the cause of death being "summary execution" was a call that would have to be made by experts who could determine the context.

I apologized for the delay in issuance of a Consular Report of Death, explaining that such documents are issued on the basis of a death report issued by local authorities and not on the autopsy report.

The group is meeting with the DOJ later today. I did say that there were circumstances under which the USG (including the FBI) could and would assist in the investigation of crimes against U.S. citizens overseas, but that whether the incident fell within those narrow parameters would have to be determined by DOJ.

Ms. Gallagher pointed out that the Israelis have yet to return the video camera taken from Farkan and insisted that this needed to be returned both because 1) it was the property of a deceased U.S. citizen and 2) it could have crucial evidence value to the ongoing investigation. I agreed and we committed to ask for an update from our embassy in Tel Aviv on efforts to locate and return the item.

I emphasize the point that we have been in frequent contact with the Israelis on this matter, most recently on February 15.

At the end of the meeting, I told Prof. Dorgan that he was always entitled to a response when he asked for information from the Department or our posts, and that he should follow up personally if he was not receiving the requested information. At the same time, I pointed out that many previous inquiries on his behalf to our embassy in Ankara were made by third parties who had no clear relationship to him (acting on his behalf). I added that our consular staff in Ankara would be happy to meet with him upon request.

Let me know if you have questions. I'll be back in the office on March 1.

Jim
From: Zeroubaely, Sandra S
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: RE: Flotilla Property

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

Sandra

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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

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

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

Kim,

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

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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

Sandra

Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2011 7:22 PM

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
To: Zeppoulaki, Sandra S  
Subject: Fleflle Property

Sandra,

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

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

1) Item #101: Sony camera.  
2) Item #37: Sony camcorder, listed as a b/w 1080.  
3) Item #101: A DSC N1 SONY (SN 8769260).  
4) Item #47: Nikon camera, flash (SN 6413395) and 122 Nikon lens (SN 14122307). They were both in a Lowe Pro "Slingshot" camera bag, along with three 8GB SD cards.

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

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

Kim

Sandy
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.
From: Zemlidze, Saida S.
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2011 11:43 AM
To: Parker, Andrew C.
Subject: Furkan Bogan’s camera

Andy,

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

Mr. Zaken will forward the catalogue to me for forwarding to Mr. Dogan’s family, to assist in identifying the camera.

Sincerely,

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.
The Embassy of the United States of America regrets to supplements to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel and has the honor to refer to the following personal effects of American citizen Fethi Dogan, who was killed on the Mavi-Marmara vessel during the confrontation on May 31, 2010.

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

1) Sony SX14E Camera (with external memory card);
2) Nokia 3600 Xpress Music Cellular Phone (Nokia);
3) 5353 (display attached);
4) Silver Ring (picture attached);
5) Adidas Sneakers (Dark brown with hidden shoelaces);
6) White trousers with khaki;
7) Adidas black trousers bottom;
8) Black Yelek with a.

Diplomatic Note

United States Department of State
Review Authority/Archive: Bolstar
Date/Case ID: 18 Nov 2011 201004165

State Dept 0770
The embassy would appreciate the Ministry's aid in arranging for these
items to be located and in facilitating their return as soon as possible.

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

Embassy of the United States of America,
Tel Aviv, April 15, 2011
UNCLASSIFIED
Privacy/PII

Info-Office: CI, Abduction, Special Assistant, ACS, ORISIS, MONIT, ACS, NESDA, PRI, ACS DIR, DIR

MRR: 11 TEL AVIV 1512
Date/DTG: May 05, 2011 / 051522Z MAY 11
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E: 13528
TAGS: CASA, PHUM, PREL, KWGO, IS
Caption: SENSITIVE, PRIVACY
Reference: A/TEL AVIV 552
Subject: Update on Armit Case: CONS TLV Meets with MFA

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

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

7. (SBU) Property: According to the MFA, the catalogue received by Post contains only the property taken from the Mavi Marmara. Some of that property was handed over to the IDF and the rest to the Turkish Embassy. Post requested that the MFA determine if there are any items still in the possession of the IDF, and if so, when they will be released and to whom. MFA represented that the GOC sent three air shipping containers filled with personal property (including electronics) to Turkey after the May 2010 flotilla. Two months ago, the GOC returned a fourth shipping container filled with approximately 200 suitcases to Israel. MFA represented that GOC's actions are "very bizarre" and requested that Post send a message to the GOC via Embassy Ankara asking why these items were returned. Additionally, the GOC removed non-personal items from the flotilla ships and is storing these items, which filled at least two of seven shipping containers which are stored at the Kishon building at the Ashdod Port, under IDF purview. MFA represented that the GOC is stumped on what to do with the confiscated ships and property in the shipping containers. COMMENT:

6. (U) Future Flotillas: MFA had no updates on upcoming possible flotillas. MFA also suggested the USG put out a travel alert requesting Amos to participate in future flotillas.
11. (U) Post's meeting with MFA was insightful and productive. Post will continue to follow up on these cases.

Signed:

GOLDBERGER

Drafted By: TELAVIV, Zuckerman, Eve
Cleared By: CONS, Parker, Andrew G
CONS, ACS, Green, Eric

Approved By: Front Office: Goldberger, Thomas H
Released By: TEL, AVIV, Green, Eric
Info:

Parker, Andrew D, ROUTINE, ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE
JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL ROUTINE, Goldberger, Thomas H, ROUTINE

Attachments:

 UNCLASSIFIED

Privacy/PFI

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
Printed By: Richter, Kjm B

UNCLASSIFIED

StateDept0774
Israei Intel Center: Marmara Casualties Members of Turkish Islamist Organizations

GMP20100623739007 Ramat Hasharon Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center
in English 25 Jun 10

The ITIC website carries a paper on 23 June saying: "Almost all of the Casualties on board the Mavi Marmara were fully identified as Members of Turkish Islamist Organizations, Most of Them of a Radical and Anti-Western Nature. About Half of Those Killed Had Declared Their Wish To Die as Martyrs (shahadehrs)."

The article’s introduction says:

"1. Since the violent confrontation aboard the ship Mavi Marmara, a great deal of information accumulated making it possible to identify the nine Turkish nationals killed in the confrontation, as well as to analyze their affiliation and political and ideological views. The analysis leads to the conclusion that almost all of those killed (8 out of 9) belonged to the IHH or those affiliated with it (mainly the Fethiye Party, Gazetel P师父clis). About half of those killed had told their relatives of their wish to die as martyrs (shahadehrs).

"2. On the other hand, human rights activists from Western countries or the Arab/Muslim world were not among those killed. That is to say, those who joined the flotilla to deliver humanitarian aid to the Palestinians found themselves in a violent confrontation initiated by the IHH. One of those killed, a youngster who was a citizen of both Turkey and the US, is not known to us as affiliated with any Islamist organization, and his involvement in the event is still unclear.

"3. Those conclusions are supported by a great deal of information collected since the IDF’s takeover of the Mavi Marmara. It turned out that hard core radical Islamist operatives prepared themselves well in advance for hard violence against IDF soldiers. That violence was preceded by speeches of incitement and indoctrination during the ship’s. The information includes statements taken from passengers questioned in Israel, security camera footage and footage shot by journalists on the Mavi Marmara, documents seized aboard the ship, voyage and statements made on the media (including Turkish media) before and after the flotilla incident."
UNCLASSIFIED

(See attached file GMP20100823739007001.pdf) Click here to view the 6-page English-language paper in pdf format.

[Description of Source: Ramat Hasharon Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center in English – Website of think tank set up by veterans of Israel's Intelligence community "to highlight the contribution of Israeli intelligence to the state's security," focuses on anti-Israel incitement in PA and Arab world and on Islamic terrorism; URL: www.intelligence.org.il]

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UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED

Law, Rosemary C

RELEASED IN PART
B6

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 10:26 AM
To: Goldberg, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Single, Jame M; Glauque, Jeffrey G; Frelich, Karlene H; Groebelacher, Julia; Lentz, Andrew N; Marsh, Denise M; Riley, Robert J.
Subject: FW: Deceased confirmed as Amci

FVI — Father has confirmed that the body is Dogan. Tel AAv has passed the below for Emb: Ankara to share with his family along with condolences.

From: Parker, Andrew C
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 10:13 AM
To: Appleton, Richard H
Cc: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Miller, Andrew T; Reisser, Wesley J; Sievers, Marc J
Subject: FW: Deceased confirmed as Amci

Rich,
Of course, we all feel badly for the family and for the young man who died.

We were aware from Ankara that Furkan/Dogan was a possible Amci participant and raised his name every time we asked the MFA for news of Amcis. When we did not locate him at Ella Prison with the other detainees, we continued to question MFA. On one occasion, at least, the duty officer took a call from the family directly and passed the request to CONs. We did get the MFA

Marrama manifest Tuesday after 5:00 p.m. when the two vice consuls were at Ella Prison and I was at GovPrison to see

On Wednesday I reviewed the list for anyone identified as an Amci but failed to review the 400 or so

names of Turks, where I would have seen Dogan listed as a Turk.

The family has our condolences.

Andy

From: Appleton, Richard H
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 4:55 PM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Miller, Andrew T
Cc: Brink, Bridget A.; Silliman, Douglas A.; Bally, Tess L.; Kaldenow, Tina S.; Jeffrey, James F.; Dugdale, Gordon K.; PA FO Group; Crowley, Philip J.; CA-OCS-Duty-Principals; SES_DutyDeputies; SES-O_SWO-Only; Lokatkiewics, Viktoria; Walker, Carolee B.; CA-OCS-Special Assistant; Macray, Rosemary R.; Echard, John E J.; Glauque, Ivan; Gallisaro, Adriana H.; Richter, Kim B.; Kazi, Pamea C.; Abeyta, Susan K. (Istanbul); Sievers, Marc J.; Levin, Jan; Grubbs, Jason; Richter, Kim B.; Amodeo, Salvatore A. (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A. (Istanbul); Dayton, Winn (Istanbul); Silliman, Douglas A.; Hunter, Rodney M.; Laary, Thomas M.; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Ogle, Karen L.; Sill, Faith; Keen, Daniel G.; Parker, Andrew C.; Jeffrey, James F.; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Hunter, Rodney M.; Keen, Daniel G.; Gisvold, Lisa C. (Istanbul); de Olaivar, Laura H.; Abeyta, Susan K. (Istanbul); Combs, James D.; Dicker, Craig L.; Lawrence, Suzanne J.; SES-O_SWO; SES-O_OPS-WatchTeam; Marsh, Denise M.; Mendel, Teressa S.; Darnell, Darla L.; Combs, James D.; Gisvold, Lisa C. (Istanbul); Morrissey, Karen M. (Istanbul)
Subject: Deceased confirmed as Amci

Importance: High

At 1630hrs Ankara time I talked to the father of Furkan DOGAN, by phone. He had just loaded the body of his son on the plane in Istanbul bound for Kaiseri. He confirmed to me that he had identified the body was his son's.
He asked that I pass the following back to Washington:

The father agreed to pass this information back to Washington, but did not give specific release under the Privacy Act beyond simply that.

SBU
This small is UNCLASSIFIED.
1. Very early this morning, CONS confirmed through MFA the departure of eight Americans to Istanbul and one American to Athens. The nine left from Ben Gurion Airport on aircraft sent by the Greek and Turkish governments. Consular access was not permitted at BGA. Onward transportation was the responsibility of each traveler. Many inquiries were received concerning an activist who has been arrested previously in Israel. He showed signs of bruising all over his body when visited by CONOFF on June 2. He alleges mistreatment and has publicized his condition to Physicians for Human Rights and to the media.

2. Post learned this afternoon that one of the deceased whose remains were returned to Turkey at the same time was that of Furkan Dogan, a 19-year-old Turkish American who we had been trying to locate for several days. He is listed on the manifest of the Mavi Marmara as a Turkish citizen. Post does not know if any American citizens who participated in the flotilla who remain in detention. We have no information on three possible Americans. None of them are listed on the Mavi Marmara manifest.

3. CONS has requested that MFA provide guidance on how American citizens can seek to reclaim property confiscated by the GOI. One American reported his suitcase was left on board the vessel he jumped from; others had property confiscated at processing and they were given numbers to assist in reclaiming. We will provide guidance when available and will contact the Americans directly.

4. American participant update:

Deported to Istanbul:

Deported to Athens:

Deported via Allenby Bridge:

Deported via BGA to U.S. on May 31
Edward Lionel Peck

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E. AHMAD
DATE CASE #1: 28 MAR 2012 201004163
UNCLASSIFIED

Others:

Possible Amcits still not located. We believe... kid not travel.

From: Parker, Andrew C
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 6:06 PM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Harutunian, Ruben; Kaplan, Dean; Usher, William R; Richter, Kim B; Marwaha, Brianne C; Power, Daniel J (Tel Aviv); 'cons@netvision.net.il'; Reissner, Wesley J; Levin, Jan; Gutman, Bonnie S; Stevers, Marc J; Goldberger, Thomas H; Rogen, Thomas G; Lewis, Glenn K; SES-O; Schereth, Frank G; Grubb, Jason B; 'sal_amodeo@yahoo.com'; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bond, Michele T; Cunningham, James B; Ploet, Susan M; Zuckerman, Eve; SES-O; OPS-WatchTeam; Greene, Elisa; Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group; Manning, Nicholas J
Subject: June 2, 2010 - 6:00 pm Update from ACS TLV

1. MFA reports following Amcits transferred to airport pending departure:

2. The document all details are being asked to sign, a Request for Immediate Departure, does not specify any further consequence to those who sign. MFA and Ministry of Interior are discussing whether this document will have the same meaning as typical, which is a ten year ban on re-entry.

3. CONS has been unable to reach ________ at a cell phone number we were given for her. Trying to confirm whereabouts of ________ who was seen by comrades at Ella Prison. Will check with family. Several possible Amcits still not located: ________ We believe... did not travel.

From: Parker, Andrew C
Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 9:58 PM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Harutunian, Ruben; Kaplan, Dean; Usher, William R; Richter, Kim B; Marwaha, Brianne C; Power, Daniel J (Tel Aviv); 'cons@netvision.net.il'; Reissner, Wesley J; Levin, Jan; Gutman, Bonnie S; Stevers, Marc J; Goldberger, Thomas H; Rogen, Thomas G; Lewis, Glenn K; SES-O; Schereth, Frank G; Grubb, Jason B; 'sal_amodeo@yahoo.com'; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bond, Michele T; Cunningham, James B; Nepal, Rohit S; Ploet, Susan M; Zuckerman, Eve; SES-O; OPS-WatchTeam; Greene, Elisa; Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group
Subject: June 1, 2010 - 10:30 pm Update from ACS TLV

2

UNCLASSIFIED
Update on prison visits:
ConCUFFs Flott and Green met with 11 AMCIT Detainees and 3 Pakistani nationals being held in Elia Prison in Beer Sheva.
- All AMCITs and all three Pakistanis told us that they planned to, or have already signed, voluntary deportation form provided by the Israeli MOI. All reported that they were in relatively good health and not being mistreated. Some reported minor cuts and bruises. Two AMCITs reported that they need to have access to prescription medicines and GOI authorities were alerted to that fact.

We could not locate ____________________________ (later report says he did not travel) and ____________________________ and none of the other passengers reported knowing them.

__________________________ did not board the Flotilla ____________________________ was not in custody as far as we know.

Lawyers were on hand at the end of the day to advise the detainees of their rights under Israeli law. When we left the Prison it appeared that either military police or shin bet officials were on site entering the prison. We were told by the German Consul that passengers on the Mavi Marmara (where the bulk of the violence occurred) were expected to be subject of a further investigation. AMCIT ____________________________ (who appeared to command the respect of the other travelers) was on that ship. We got PAWS for all of the detainees we interviewed and contacted family member of friends listed by all of them.

CG visited ____________________________ at Govin Prison, Ramle. He was bruised all over his body due to altercations with IDF soldiers at sea and prison or police officials at the POE. He signed a statement concerning mistreatment which he says was made out to him because of his non-violent/passive civil disobedience. He is in a cell with the Greek Captain of the Svedberg. Says he hopes to challenge deportation. CG will contact his wife, ____________________________.

Duty Officer reported calls from Amcit Daghan's family in Turkey. We have not yet located him in detention.
AMCIT CASES

U/S Burns raised our requests for additional information on U.S. citizen cases, including Furkan Dogan. Oren said that Turkish/Amcit Furkan Dogan was killed during the Israeli boarding of the Mavi Marmara. Burns asked if Oren would follow up and inform Embassy Tel Aviv on anything further the GOI could share; Oren took that on.

FM LIEBERMAN'S MEETING REQUEST WITH S

Jim Sindle
Pol-Mil Officer, NEA/PA
U.S. Department of State

NIPR: sindlejm@state.gov
SIPR: sindlejm@state.gov
Office: 202-647-4386
STE: 202-647-4547
From: Holmes, Stephanie E
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 11:03 AM
To: Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group
Subject: (C) MGG201: DEATH OF AMERICAN CITIZEN: FURKAN DOGAN

CONFIDENTIAL ANKARA 000809

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2020/06/04
TAGS: CASC, TU, US
SUBJECT: DEATH OF AMERICAN CITIZEN: FURKAN DOGAN 20OCT91 TROY NY

REF: EMAILS OF 03 JUNE 10 APPLETON-BERNIER-TOOTH

CLASSIFIED BY: Richard APPLETON, CG, State, CONS; REASON: 1.4(D)

1. (SBU) Summary: This reports the death of dual citizen Furkan Dogan, presumably on the high seas 31 MAY 2010 as a participant in the "Gaza Freedom Flotilla." CG and Ambassador made phone calls to the next-of-kin. Para 8 seeks CA answers to some questions. End summary.

2. (SBU) Early on 03 June, Turkish media reported the return of the body of Turkish-American Furkan Dogan, (DOB: 20OCT91 Troy NY) to Istanbul from Israel, one of those presumably killed on the "Gaza Freedom Flotilla" on 31 May 2010 on the high seas.

3. (SBU) CG phoned Turkish citizen father, to express condolences. The father confirmed identifying the remains as his son’s. He said the young man had suffered a gunshot to the chest and four to the head at close range.

4. (SBU) The remains were one of eight presented for funeral at Istanbul’s Historic Fatih Mosque. Dogan’s remains were later flown to Keyseri for a funeral Friday 04 June after mid-day prayers at Hunat mosque.

5. (CONF) Both with the CG and in a later telephone conversation 03 Jun with Ambassador Jeffrey the

6. (CONF) Consular Affairs informs us that the flotilla did not land in Cyprus, thus the Consular Report of Death (CRDA) will be pursued and produced in Ankara. Posts understands informally

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD
DATE/CASE ID: 08 FEB 2012 201004163
that the deceased used his U.S. passport when he departed Turkey by ship.

7. (CONF) The Turkish death certificate will not likely be available earlier than 30 days after the burial in Kayseri. As a matter of routine we will await that document before producing the CRDA.

8. (CONF) Since the CRDA will go to the Turkish next-of-kin (the father) we have some questions with which we would like CA's assistance to be prepared in advance.

JEFFREY

CONFIDENTIAL
The Secretary's Meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman
Date/Time TBD

CONTEXT

KEY OBJECTIVES

1.

SECRET/NODIS
Classified by: NEA Assistant Secretary Jeffrey Feltman
R.O. 13526, Reason 1.4 (b) and (d)

UNCLASSIFIED

StateDept01328
IF RAISED/IF TIME PERMITS

- (If Time Permits) U.S. Citizens: The GOI has not yet provided detailed information on the circumstances of the death of Turkish/American dual citizen Furkan Dogan aboard the Mavi Marmara or the incident in which he was killed at a protest following the interception of the Marmara flotilla. U/S Bums and Embassy Tel Aviv have asked for these details. You may wish to remind Lieberman that these cases are still pending and ask for his help in prompting substantive GOI responses.

- (If Raised)
UNCLASSIFIED

Approved: NEA Acting A/S: RSchlicher (ok)

Drafted: NEA/IPA Jack Doutrich, 7-4132

Cleared: NEA/FO: J Welles (ok)
NEA/IPA: PSutphin (ok)
NEA/ELA: N/Shampaine/ASchedlbauer (ok)
SEMEP: ASachar (ok)
NEA/IPA: PSutphin
D(S): DSchrepsel (ok)
D(L): JButte-Dahl (ok)
P: ECatalano (ok).
S/P: T Andrews (ok)
CA/OSC: IPettit (ok)
USUN/W: TRangarajan (ok)
IO/UNP: HEvans/MAndris (ok)
Deputy Secretary Steinberg’s Meeting with Israeli Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Daniel Ayalon
Wednesday, September 15, 11:45 am

CONTEXT

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Daniel Ayalon is in Washington to attend a Community of Democracies meeting in place of Foreign Minister Lieberman. Your meeting with him is an opportunity to discuss American citizen cases.

KEY OBJECTIVES

1.

2.

UNCLASSIFIED/NOFORN

Classified by: NEA Acting Assistant Secretary Ronald Schlichter
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE 2958, Reasons: 1.4 (b) and (d)
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD
DATE/CASE ID: 08 FEB 2012  201004163
IF TIME PERMITS

1. (If Time Permits) U.S. Citizens: [ ]

   [ ] death of Turkish/American dual citizen

   [ ] Furkan Dogan aboard the Mavi Marmara or

   [ ] a protest following the interception of

   [ ] the Marmara flotilla.

CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN

UNCLASSIFIED
2. (If Time Permits) Investor Visas;

3. (If Raised)

4. (If Raised)

5. (If Raised)

WATCH OUT FOR

CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN
-3-
U.S. Citizen Cases: We have previously asked the Israeli government for further information regarding the deaths or injuries of U.S. citizens. [Cases include: (1) Furkan Dogan, the death of U.S. citizen Furkan Dogan on board the MV Mavi Marmara on May 31 or (2) lost her eye after being struck by a tear gas canister at a Gaza Flotilla protest that same day. You and Ambassador Tel Aviv have asked that these details be provided in an expeditious fashion. (3)]
PARTICIPANTS

United States
Deputy Secretary Steinberg
D(S) Staff Dawn Schrepel
NEA/IPA Notetaker

Israel
Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister
Daniel Ayalon
Others TBD

Attachment:

CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN
UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN

- 6 -

Tab 1 - Biographic Information
Tab 2 - Draft U.S.-Israel Strategic Dialogue Agenda
Approved: NEA Ron Schlicher, Acting
Drafted: NEA/IPA – Julia Jacoby – 7-3673
Cleared:
NEA/FO: JWalles
NEA/IPA: PSutphin - ok
D(S): DSchrepel – ok
P: ECatalano – ok
S/P: DRand – ok
S/SEMEP: SKhoury-Kincannon - ok
NEA/IR: RWadhwani – ok
NEA/ELA: SRiggs, ASchedelbauer - ok
EUR/SE: MGregonis, IGoodman – ok
NEA/IPA: JSindle – ok
NEA/IPA: JLevinson - ok
USUN: WBass – ok
CA/OCS: JPettit – ok
S/SANAC: AYu - ok
Deputy Secretary Steinberg's Meeting with Israeli Ambassador Michael Oren
July 2, 1:45 p.m., 2010

CONTEXT

KEY OBJECTIVES

SECRET/NODIS/RAVEN
Classified by: NEA A/S Jeffrey Feltman
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 2958, Reasons: 1.4 (b) and (d)
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD
DATE/CASE ID: 06 FEB 2012 201004163
U.S. Citizens: The GOI has not yet provided detailed information on the circumstances of the death of U.S. citizen Furkan Dogan or the incident in which.

You may wish to remind Oren that these cases are still pending and ask for his help in prompting substantive GOI responses.

IF TIME PERMITS/IF RAISED

1. (If Raised) Flotilla Investigation:
2. (If Raised) Iran:

3. (If Raised) NPT Review Conference/IAEA:

4. (If Raised) Palestinian Boycott of Israeli Settlement Products: We
PARTICIPANTS

United States
Deputy Secretary Steinberg

Israel
Ambassador Michael Oren

Attachment:
Biographic Information
UNCLASSIFIED

Approved: NEA A/S Jeffrey Feltman

Drafted: NEA/IPA Jack Doutrich, 7-4132

Cleared:

NEA/FO: RSchlicher – ok
NEA/FO: JWalles – ok
NEA/IPA: THolmstrom – ok
D(S): DShreel – ok
D(L): JBunte-Dahl – info
P: KFrelich – ok
S/P: DRand – ok
S/SEMPEP: FKnopf – ok
S/SEMPEP: SKhoury-Kincannon – ok
R: ASomerset – ok
CA/OCS: MBond – ok
NEA/IPA: ALentz – ok
NEA/IPA: WRiesser – ok
NEA/IR: RWadhwani – ok
T: RLyons – ok
ISN: JDaniel – ok

UNCLASSIFIED
A/S Feltman’s Meeting with Israeli Ambassador Michael Oren
July 13, 2010, 5:30 p.m.

CONTEXT

KEY OBJECTIVES

1. U.S. Citizen Cases: You may wish to remind Oren that we are still awaiting GOI follow-up on the following cases, and ask for his help in substantive responses:

- Furkan Dogan/____________________ The GOI has not yet provided detailed information on the circumstances of the death of U.S. citizen Furkan Dogan on board the 
  MV Mavi Marmara on May 31 after being struck by a tear gas canister at a Gaza Flotilla protest that same day. U/S Burns and Embassy Tel Aviv have asked that these details be provided in an expeditious fashion.

2. ________________________________

SECRET/NODIS/RAVEN

Classified by: NEA A/S Jeffrey Feltman

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E. AHMAD

DATE/CASE ID: 08 FEB 2012 201004166

UNCLASSIFIED
PARTICIPANTS

United States
A/S Feltman
Others TBD

Israel
Ambassador Michael Oren
Others TBD

Attachments:
Biographic Information
Non-paper on Investor Visas, etc.
Under Secretary Burns' Meeting with Israeli Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Daniel Avalon

Time/Date TBD

POINTS TO RAISE

1.

2.

CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN

Classified by: NEA Acting Assistant Secretary Ronald Schlichter

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE 2958, Reasons: 1.4 (b) and (d)

UNCLASSIFIED
IF TIME PERMITS

1. U.S. Citizens: The GOI has not yet provided detailed information on the circumstances of the death of Furkan Dogan aboard the Gaza flotilla or the incident in which [ ] at a protest following the interception of the flotilla. You previously raised this with Amb. Oren and Embassy Tel Aviv has also asked for these details. You may wish to remind Ayalon that these cases are still pending and ask for his help in prompting substantive GOI responses.

2. [Blank]

3. (If Raised)

4. (If Raised)

WATCH OUT FOR

Turkey: [ ]

CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN
UNCLASSIFIED
U.S. Citizen Cases: We have previously asked the Israeli government for further information regarding the deaths or injuries of U.S. citizens, but have not yet received substantive responses. Cases include: (1) Furkan Dogan. Israel has not yet provided detailed information on the circumstances of the death of U.S. citizen Furkan Dogan on board the MV Mavi Marmara on May 31 or (2) the incident in which at a Gaza Flotilla protest.
that same day. You and Embassy Tel Aviv have asked that these details be provided in an expeditious fashion. (2)
PARTICIPANTS

United States
U/S Burns
P Staff Elisa Catalano
NEA/IPA Notetaker

Israel
Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister
Daniel Ayalon
Others TBD

Attachment:
Biographic Information
Under Secretary Burns' Meeting with Israeli Ambassador to the United States
Michael Oren
Thursday, July 29, 2010, 3:30 p.m., 30 minutes

POINTS TO RAISE:

1. 

2. U.S. Citizen Cases: We continue to await the Government of Israel's follow-up to our requests regarding several U.S. citizen cases, including Furkan Dogan, and. We would appreciate it if Israel could provide us substantive responses as soon as possible. We expect the ongoing investigations into the first three of these cases to be transparent, and shared with both Embassy Tel Aviv and the families involved.

IF TIME PERMITS:

1. 

CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN

Classified by: NEA Assistant Secretary Jeffrey Feltman

UNCLASSIFIED
The Secretary's Meeting with Israeli Ambassador Michael Oren  
Tuesday, June 15, 2010, 3:30 p.m.

CONTEXT

In previous meetings with senior Department officials,

This meeting is an opportunity to stress to Oren the

the May 31 flotilla incident that will be

ask about the status of several Amicit

inquiries,

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Gaza Access and Flotilla Investigation: Emphasize that the Gaza flotilla incident

31 flotilla incident itself,
U.S. Citizens: The GOI has not yet provided detailed information on the circumstances of the death of Furkan Dogan or the incident in which [REDACTED] US Burns and Embassy Tel Aviv have asked for these details.

You may wish to remind Oren that these cases are still pending and ask for his help in prompting substantive GOI responses.
PARTICIPANTS

United States
Secretary Clinton
Others TBD

Israel
Ambassador Oren
Others TBD

Attachment:
Tab - Biographic Information
UNCLASSIFIED

Approved: NEA A/S Jeffrey Felman

Drafted: NEA/IPA Jeff Giauque, 7-4132

Cleared:
NEA/FO: R.Schlicher
NEA/FO: MConnelly - ok
NEA/FO: TWittes - ok
NEA/IPA: THolmstrom - ok
S/SEMEP: PKnopf - ok
P: ECatalano - ok
S/P: DRand - ok
D(S): GRana - ok (provisional)
D(L): JButte-Dahl - ok
NEA/IR: RWadhwani - ok
NEA/IPA: ALentz - ok
NEA/IPA: JSindle - ok
NEA/IPA: KFrelich - ok
R: ASomerset - ok
NEA/PPD: PAgnew - ok
NEA/MEPI: OStaples - ok
CA/OCS: MBernier-Toth - ok
From: State Department Press Office <Press@state.gov>
To: State Department Press Office
Sent: Thu Jun 03 21:32:44 2010
Subject: On the Record, Off-Camera Daily Press Briefing, 06-03-10, PJ Crowley, Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs

For Immediate Release and Posting

On the Record, Off-Camera Daily Press Briefing Index
Thursday, June 3, 2010
1:25 p.m.

-DEPARTMENT-

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- Israel/Gaza Flotilla -

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- PROXIMITY TALKS -

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Senator Mitchell's Activities Continue/Direct Negotiations the Only Way to Resolve These Issues//Meetings Held with Palestinian Officials This Week.

- IRIAN -

---

No Update on Sanctions Timeline/Will Check on Musjafian Request for Asylum/Work Continues on Sanctions/Secretary Spoke with Foreign Minister Lavrov//Conference Call Among P-5+1.

- PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY/HAMAS -

---

Ongoing Effort for Reconciliation/Importance of a Government Willing to Pursue Peace.

- TURKEY -

---

Turkey Expressed Importance of Returning Citizens/U.S. Conveyed Those Concerns to Israel.

- INDIA -

---

U.S. and India Discussing Counter-Terrorism Issues.

- EGYPT -

---

U.S. Concerns Stay and Full. Concerned About Reports of Fraud.

UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED

-RWANDA-
   Peter Erlinder Remains in the Hospital/ U.S. Remains in Touch with the Rwandan Government/ No Knowledge of Meeting with Family

-BURMA-
   Senator Webb Trip/ U.S. Concerned with Burma's Relationship with North Korea

-CHEONAN-
   No Readout of UN Meeting
MR. CROWLEY: Obviously today, the Secretary and External Affairs Minister Krishna have opened our high-level interagency discussions here at the State Department. Senior delegations from across the government are discussing a range of issues including agriculture, energy, climate change, education, trade, intellectual property enforcement, fighting illicit networks, crime, especially related to counterfeit pharmaceuticals and counterterrorism. We look forward to having the President here later on this afternoon for a reception as part of this and you’ll hear from the Secretary what about an hour from now. And have a statement from us this afternoon welcoming the European Union Council of Ministers’ adoption of the joint U.S.-EU Statement on Counterterrorism. We and our partners in the EU are committed to working together to combat the threat of terrorism, bring to that effort our common values of freedom, democracy, our respect for international law, the rule of law, human rights.

We’re just one left over from yesterday. We do have the report of Special Rapporteur Alston and as one of several reports being provided today within the Human Rights Council. We continue to review it and we note that it is difficult for states to meaningfully engage in an interactive dialogue if reports are not released with sufficient time for review. But we are firmly committed to the rule of law. As Legal Adviser Harold Koh said back in March, we are committed to complying with all applicable law, including international humanitarian law, in all aspects of ongoing armed conflicts. While the United States cannot comment on specific activities, we work hard to ensure that our activities are subject to scrupulous oversight, comport with domestic and international law.

Finally, clearly the subject of greatest interest, we can confirm that a U.S.-Turkish national—dual national—was among those killed in the raid on the Free Gaza Flotilla. Our mission in Turkey has been in contact with his family and is providing consular assistance. This morning, our consular officer met with the father and offered our heartfelt condolences to his family. His name is Fuat Dogan, D-o-g-a-n.

QUESTION: Can you spell the first name, please?

MR. CROWLEY: F-u-a-t. The last name is spelled—anglicized D-o-g-a-n, pronounced Dogan. And our Ambassador Jim Jeffrey will also be reaching out to the family soon. Clearly, we have obviously just learned about this. We are gathering information about what happened on the ship. We are also mindful that our citizen, Emily Henochowicz, has sustained a serious injury. She was involved in a West Bank protest. She is still in the hospital receiving proper treatment. We are aware that one additional American citizen had some injuries on board one of the ships and we are looking out for him as well.

We are in contact with the Israeli Government to obtain more information. We have made no decisions at this point on specific actions the United States Government will take. But as we’ve already stated, we expect the Israeli Government to conduct a prompt, impartial, credible, and transparent investigation that conforms to international standards and gets to all the facts surrounding this tragic incident.

We—as the Secretary has said—are open to different ways of assuring a credible investigation, including international participation, and we continue to talk about these ideas with the Israelis and others. And
meanwhile, we continue to evaluate how, together with the international community, we can expand the amount of assistance to the people of Gaza, and that is something we are looking into with our international partners.

QUESTION: What are the range of options that you can take related to this guy's death?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, we take the health and welfare of American citizens anywhere in the world seriously. It's our fundamental responsibility as a government. We will carefully evaluate all the information that we can gather about the circumstances of his death. And those facts will lead us wherever they lead to.

QUESTION: Do you have any information --

QUESTION: (Inaudible). Does the fact that an American was killed in this affect or change what you would like to see done in this case whether -- regarding the investigation and how that's carried out or otherwise?

MR. CROWLEY: I mean, we have taken this seriously from the moment that the -- we understood that this flotilla was being organized and that we understood both its ramifications for regional security and the fact that American citizens would be on board these vessels. We've had a number of conversations both with the Israeli Government and with others. In the weeks leading up to this, we have been very conscious of the ever-present danger of miscalculation when these kinds of situations and confrontations take place. So we have taken this seriously from the outset.

That said, the fact that -- and we've understood for a couple days that there were American citizens that had sustained injuries. But obviously now that we understand that there has been the death of an American citizen, this will be something that we will evaluate carefully -- we take seriously given it is one of our fundamental responsibilities as a government.

QUESTION: Would you ask the Turks --

QUESTION: P.J. --

QUESTION: Would you ask the Turks --

QUESTION: Since 2005 -- the Israelis say since 2005 there have -- they have dealt with nine flotillas. This was the first time they had violence. Now, in the -- with the United States, did you also raise issues about previous flotillas? Was this one particularly flagged because you thought there were going to be Americans? What made you talk so seriously with the Israelis about this one flotilla?

MR. CROWLEY: I think we had an understanding that this was larger than previous efforts to bring humanitarian assistance to the people of Gaza. So we -- I think we understood that the -- there was a greater potential for a confrontation.

QUESTION: But you also talked about the presence of Americans. I think you just mentioned that in passing. Was that something that the United States was aware of, that there were going to be Americans? And if so, how did you know that?

MR. CROWLEY: A fair -- I don't know the answer to the second question. But I mean, we have a broader geopolitical interest in this issue and, obviously, we were conscious as we got closer to the launching of the flotilla that there would be American citizens involved as well.

QUESTION: P.J., would you ask the U.S. Embassy in -- or does the Embassy in Turkey -- why wouldn't they ask the Turks for the autopsy reports? I mean, the nine dead are all there, including the American.
MR. CROWLEY: Well, I mean, from the outset, we’ve had consular officials in Israel in contact with Israeli authorities visiting hospitals. Our consular officials also visited the morgue, because we were looking to see — ascertain, knowing that there were U.S. citizens on board these ships, if any American citizens were injured or killed in this incident. So — and so we’ve been doing that from the outset. And we made contact with the family as soon as we learned today that one of those killed was a dual citizen.

QUESTION: P.J. —

QUESTION: What do we know about the cause of death?

MR. CROWLEY: Hum?

QUESTION: What do we know about the cause of death of the American citizen?

MR. CROWLEY: The individual sustained — I mean, I — the injured — our American citizen sustained gunshot wounds during this incident.

QUESTION: To the head?

QUESTION: To the head? Four shots to the head?

MR. CROWLEY: I —

QUESTION: He wasn’t the one with the four to the head, was he?

QUESTION: Well, that’s the reports, P.J., that he was four to the head and one to the body. Can you tell us what that tells you about the nature of the force that was used in —

MR. CROWLEY: I’m not — we are looking into this. We are in conversation with the Israelis to get more information. As we’ve said all along, we’re going to let facts govern our response. As we have said many, many times, we’re going to be very cautious and prudent in how we approach this. So I’m not going to prejudge. We are aggressively trying to understand precisely what happened on that ship. And once we have more information, then we’ll take appropriate steps based on that information.

QUESTION: Have you established as fact that this man sustained four bullet wounds to the head and one to the body?

MR. CROWLEY: I’m — I’ve said all I’m going to say on that.

QUESTION: Was his family all in Turkey? Even though he is an American citizen, were the contacts — consular contacts with his family in Turkey?

MR. CROWLEY: We had contact with his father today and he is a Turkish citizen. I can’t make a broad statement about the rest of the family.

QUESTION: But the contacts so far have been in Turkey?

MR. CROWLEY: In Turkey.
QUESTION: Did you at any point warn Turkish Government about the possible clash in the Mediterranean with this flotilla?

MR. CROWLEY: Again, all I'll say is that we had multiple contacts through multiple channels with the Israeli Government in the weeks leading up to the flotilla.

QUESTION: That was a question about the Turkish Government.

QUESTION: The Turkish Government.

MR. CROWLEY: Oh.

QUESTION: Did you inform Turkish Government about the possible clash?

MR. CROWLEY: I believe the answer is yes. I'm -- I'll -- yes.

QUESTION: Can you just confirm the comments that you made on the record to the Post about urging caution and restraint?

MR. CROWLEY: I think I just -- I basically have said that already. (Laughter.) We had multiple contacts with the Israeli Government in the weeks leading up to the flotilla. Understanding that civilians would be on those ships, including Americans citizens, we urged caution and restraint. And, in fact, in previous episodes, that's precisely what Israel has done.

QUESTION: What about the flotilla that's on the way? The Rachel Corrie, I believe, is the name of the ship. What is -- what do you understand about it? Do you understand any Americans to be on board? And what contacts -- what steps are you taking to try and prevent a repeat --

MR. CROWLEY: We are in contact with multiple governments about vessels that may still be making their way towards Gaza.

QUESTION: Does that include the Irish?

MR. CROWLEY: Yes.

QUESTION: And what have you told the Irish?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, I mean, everybody has the same concern given what happened earlier this week. And as we have said all along, we are -- everyone wants to avoid a repetition of this tragic incident.

QUESTION: So is your advice to the Israelis the same now as it was apparently in the previous weeks to urge caution and restraint when responding to this one?

MR. CROWLEY: Yes.

QUESTION: It worked so well --

QUESTION: Are you prescribing any sort of other action since they didn't do that last time?

MR. CROWLEY: Again, it's a fair question, but to what extent it prejudices what we will all learn as we go through and ascertain more facts about precisely what happened. Clearly, there was a tragic...
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confrontation on the high seas, and we deeply regret what’s happened. We’re looking into the circumstances. We all want to find a way to provide greater support to the people of Gaza, meet Israel’s legitimate security interest, and avoid further loss of civilian life.

QUESTION: What I’m trying to understand is that given what’s happened last time, how specific are you being with your advice to the Israelis this time?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, I mean, ultimately, governments are sovereign. Israel has very legitimate security concerns. They have their own policies in dealing with those security concerns. As a friend of Israel, we are providing them our perspective on how to best do this. But ultimately, these are decisions made by the Israeli Government. Only they can determine what they feel is best for their own security. We understand that.

QUESTION: Given the importance of this and the ease of which you can see whether Dogan’s got four bullet wounds in the head, is it reasonable to assume the U.S. will be able to establish whether those reports are true or not in the next few hours?

MR. CROWLEY: I’m not sure I understand the question.

QUESTION: It seems to be important whether this person was shot four times in the head, which is clearly not a restrained way of dealing with anyone. Is it quite easy to establish whether someone’s been shot four times in the head.

MR. CROWLEY: Well, again, we expect Israel to conduct a credible, prompt, transparent investigation of what happened on that ship. And we ourselves, in talking to Israel, are trying to gain greater information and perspective on what happened on the ship. And I’m not going to prejudge what information is provided, what we learn ourselves, and what we do based on that information.

QUESTION: Do you want it to be international? I mean, you suggested—you kind of hinted at it—that you wanted an international component to the investigation.

MR. CROWLEY: Yeah, I mean, on the broader aspect, as we’ve said in the last couple of days, there are many, many countries that had citizens involved in this flotilla. We obviously are one of them. Everyone wants to understand what happened on that ship. Everyone wants to make sure—do everything possible to try to avoid this tragedy happening again. In trying to understand what happened on the ship, the investigation has to be credible. And we’re open to a variety of ways of making that as credible as possible. Possible international involvement in the investigation is one way to accomplish that.

QUESTION: The Israelis still haven’t announced an investigation despite the U.S. (inaudible) and the U.N. Security Council over recent days. Are you disappointed by that? (inaudible)

MR. CROWLEY: I think we are confident that an investigation will take place.

QUESTION: The Turks themselves have been one of the countries that has asked to head an international investigation, while the Israelis, of course, are rejecting it. P.J., do you think the Israelis independently can conduct—can alleviate international concerns over the incident by conducting their own investigation?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, I mean, can Israel, as a vibrant democracy, with strong institutions of government, conduct a fair, credible, transparent investigation? The answer is yes. It is fully capable of doing that.
QUESTION: P.J., the Secretary has said that the situation in Gaza is really unsustainable. What is the United States looking forward, going to propose or what does the United States think should be the next step? If it is, in the U.S. opinion, unsustainable, what should be done? And how are you --

MR. CROWLEY: That's a process that we already have underway to evaluate how we can, working with Israel and other countries, expand the amount of and type of international assistance. In various meetings that we've had with world leaders, this has come up on a regular basis. The Secretary has commented on it on a regular basis. We have particular concern about and interest in construction materials that not only can help the people of Gaza sustain life, but actually improve their life on the ground.

We understand the security concerns that Israel has and we are going to be working with them, just as we have been pressing them for weeks and months to find a way to expand the amount of assistance that is provided on a regular basis to the people of Gaza. So we're going to redouble our efforts and see if there are other things that we can do and other things collectively the international community can do to increase that support while respecting and protecting Israel's legitimate security interests.

QUESTION: Should we interpret --

QUESTION: So when the Secretary -- I just want to make sure I understand. So when the Secretary talks about unsustainable, she's talking in a more direction fashion -- supplies what people get in the situation in Gaza. She's not talking about a broader issue like what do you do with Gaza, should it remain part of Israel. I mean, some people in Israel say just put up a wall and make it separate.

MR. CROWLEY: I think what the Secretary is saying is that the current status quo is not sustainable. We don't think it's in Israel's long-term security interest to maintain the status quo. And we will be working with Israel and seeing if we can, together with the international community, others who have direct interest in what happens in Gaza, find ways to increase the amount of assistance while also protecting Israel's security interest.

QUESTION: Just to follow up on that, I want to make sure I understand this correctly. Should one interpret --

MR. CROWLEY: I've got to go in a couple of minutes.

STAFF: You're actually okay.

MR. CROWLEY: All right.

QUESTION: Should one interpret your comment that the current situation is not sustainable and that you believe it's not in Israel's interest to maintain the status quo -- should one interpret that to mean that you indeed have concluded that the blockade of Gaza simply isn't a good policy and you need another one? I mean, finding a way to get more goods in could mean that the blockade stays established -- you just get more stuff in there. So I want to make sure that we're -- is the blockade a bad policy?

MR. CROWLEY: It's a good question, Arshad. I -- Ambassador Michael Oren had an interesting piece today in The New York Times. And he mentioned in it that Israel has been victimized by more than 10,000 rockets that have been fired from Gaza into Israel, fired indiscriminately, and has threatened and killed Israeli citizens. Given that history and that reality, Israel has a very legitimate interest in being able to inspect and, to some extent, control the flow of materials into Gaza to make sure that that doesn't include further rockets, missiles, arms that pose a real threat to Israeli citizens. Israel feels that the blockade is the most effective way of doing that. We understand that.
UNCLASSIFIED

We also are very mindful of the humanitarian plight of the people of Gaza. And it is certainly possible that one can maintain the ability to control the flow of goods into Gaza so that Israel can be assured that the flow of goods does not include weapons that can threaten Israel directly, while expanding the amount of assistance, particularly construction materials, so that together the international community can help improve the lives of the average citizen of Gaza. We're also conscious of the legitimate interests that Israel has and the United States shares in isolating Hamas, which is a terrorist organization that has chosen not to join the peace process, has chosen not to recognize Israel, has chosen to fire rockets that jeopardize Israel's security, have chosen not to respect international agreements with respect to the peace process. Hamas has a choice it could make if it wanted to play a more constructive role in the region. It has chosen not to do that.

So it is quite a legitimate policy to find ways to improve the lives of the citizens of Gaza while isolating Hamas and protecting Israel's security. We're going to look with Israel to find out if there are improvements that can be made in the current practices so that more goods flow to the people of Gaza and fewer weapons.

As to how we're going to do that, those are the kinds of conversations we expect to have with Israel and with other interested countries in the coming days and weeks.

QUESTION: How does this incident affect the proximity talks? What's happening to them right now? I mean, George Mitchell is there.

MR. CROWLEY: I'm sorry, I'm stunned -- (laughter).

QUESTION: (Inaudible) talking about the length.

MR. CROWLEY: Oh. I'm far more coherent than the late senator from South Carolina.

QUESTION: How is the incident and the fallout affecting the proximity talks? George Mitchell is in the region.

MR. CROWLEY: George is in the region. I haven't been up to speed on his current activities today. We--his activities are continuing. I think we still see ultimately this is the best route to avoid these kinds of confrontations in the future. Ultimately, direct negotiations are the only way to end the conflict. And so we would hope, and we've seen no evidence at this point, that the tragedy this week has affected proximity talks.

QUESTION: Has it --

QUESTION: (Inaudible) proximity talks, the Palestinians aren't really engaging on the issues because of this incident; isn't that right?

MR. CROWLEY: Actually, it's not right. We have had meetings already this week with Palestinian officials, including President Abbas. Now, the meeting with President Abbas was more about the Palestinian-Palestine Investment Conference, but we would expect to have more meetings before this week before George comes back. And so as far as we're concerned, the proximity talks continue to move forward, and we think that is the right decision for Israel, the Palestinians, and other countries in the region to take.

QUESTION: Has it affected the timeline of UN debate on Iran?

MR. CROWLEY: No.

QUESTION: One more thing on the Rachel Corrie -- the next flotilla coming. Do you have any understanding about Americans on board that ship or others that may be accompanying it?

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MR. CROWLEY: I do not.

QUESTION: P.J., has anyone from the Embassy seen this guy's body?

MR. CROWLEY: Yes.

QUESTION: Yes? And who was that in the Embassy? Was it a consular person or was it an FBI liaison or DS?

MR. CROWLEY: I believe it's—I'll take that question, but I think it was—they were consular officials. Now, we went to the morgue in Israel, so as it turned out, we—the first time we saw his body it was there at the—at that time, we just did not know that he was a dual citizen.

QUESTION: Well—

QUESTION: P.J.—

QUESTION: -- so if you've seen the body then at least twice, why are you not able to say what kind of wounds—

MR. CROWLEY: I'm not going to characterize—

QUESTION: Are those the first time or the only time?

MR. CROWLEY: I know— as it turned out, we saw the— those who were killed on the ship in Israel. What we didn't know at the time was that it turned out one of them was a dual citizen.

QUESTION: Right. And subsequently, have you seen him?

MR. CROWLEY: Since he's been back in Turkey? I can't say. I don't think so.

QUESTION: And where is that body now?

MR. CROWLEY: I believe the family has the body and they are—he's being shipped to their hometown for burial.

QUESTION: Do you have any reason why—

QUESTION: (inaudible.)

QUESTION: (Inaudible) to ease the flow of goods necessarily require agreement from Hamas, and doesn't that look like a kind of remote possibility now?

MR. CROWLEY: I think we have ways of channelling goods through the Palestinian Authority, through NGOs, and also with the assistance of Israel and Egypt. So there are ways of getting assistance. I mean, I think we have projects underway in Gaza and we're going to evaluate if we—if there's more that we can do.

QUESTION: Given the nature of these wounds could determine whether this person was killed in self-defense or (inaudible) execution?
MR. CROWLEY: Again, we’re trying to --

QUESTION: Is there some reason why you --

MR. CROWLEY: Again, I’m -- we’re -- we will look into the circumstances of the death of an American citizen, as we would do anywhere in the world at all times. Let us try to determine as best we can what happened, and then once we have information, we’ll evaluate what an appropriate course of action is.

QUESTION: Who from the American side is doing that? Who is doing the investigation on the U.S. side?

MR. CROWLEY: Right now, we’re trying to ascertain facts. And then we have officials at a variety of levels here and in Israel are in contact with Israeli officials. We’re finding out more information. We’ve had officials who have talked to the family.

QUESTION: Is the FBI involved?

MR. CROWLEY: At this point, no.

QUESTION: Have they done an autopsy?

MR. CROWLEY: I can’t say. I don’t -- I don’t know what the Israelis did before they released the bodies back to Turkey.

QUESTION: I wanted to ask you -- Mahmoud Abbas recently sent a delegation to Gaza to talk to Hamas about a reconciliation between the PA and Hamas. Could you comment?

MR. CROWLEY: I mean, there are longstanding efforts led by Egypt to try to effect a reconciliation with Hamas. Among other things, the Palestinians are overdue for elections. They were supposed to take place early this year and they had to be rescheduled or delayed because Hamas has declined to participate in the electoral process. So we’re not -- we certainly encourage efforts so that you can -- you have a unified government that is committed to the peace process, that has always been something that we think is beneficial.

QUESTION: Even though you’ve designated them as a terrorist group, you think it’s --

MR. CROWLEY: Well, I’m not saying what the composition of that unified government would be. We have the red lines that the Quartet have laid out for quite some time about the rules under which we think people should be engaged in this process and we’re open to any group that is willing to meet those conditions. But we recognize the importance and value of having a unified government that’s willing to aggressively pursue peace. This -- and that’s why we believe that government should be led by the Palestinian Authority. But I like I say, there is a reconciliation process that we’ve had underway that has been underway for some time to see if -- and we would hope that that would strengthen the hand of the Palestinian Authority.

QUESTION: P.J., you said at this point now, the FBI is not involved. Under what circumstances would they get involved?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, again, let’s let -- we’re gathering facts about this case where a dual citizen has died during this incident. And based on those facts, we’ll evaluate whether any further investigation is necessary.

QUESTION: P.J., can I ask --
QUESTION: By who? By you, you mean? I mean, (inaudible) specifically said the FBI, and you said at this point, suggesting that at some point they could be involved. And I'm wondering what it is that would trigger them.

MR. CROWLEY: Well, I mean, as to that judgment, you're welcome to talk to the FBI. But any time an American is killed overseas, we have the option of evaluating the circumstances and if we think a crime has been committed, then working with the host government we have the option of our own investigation. Let's not jump to any conclusions at this point. We're evaluating the facts as we can, best ascertain them. And based on that evaluation of the information that's available, we have a variety of options that are available to us.

QUESTION: P.J., can I ask about the Secretary Clinton and Foreign Minister Davutoglu's meeting? Did at any point Turks give an ultimatum to the U.S. side about the freeing of the activists?

MR. CROWLEY: About the?

QUESTION: Freeing of the activists from the flotilla. Freeing of the--

MR. CROWLEY: As we've said, during the course of the meeting, Foreign Minister Davutoglu expressed the importance that Turkey attached to a return of its citizens, including those killed and injured. We understood fully that - that concern. We conveyed that concern on Turkey's behalf to Israel, and Israel responded.

QUESTION: But what was the tone of Davutoglu? Was it an ultimatum? Was it friendly atmosphere? How was the interaction?

MR. CROWLEY: I mean, it just was--

QUESTION: (Inaudible.)

MR. CROWLEY: This was a conversation among allies and friends. The foreign minister expressed very forcefully the importance that Turkey attached to resolving this quickly. He asked that we convey that to Israel. We did so. And we're gratified that Israel responded rapidly to those Turkish concerns.

QUESTION: Do you have an age and place of birth of the dual-citizen?

MR. CROWLEY: He was born in New York.

QUESTION: New York City?

MR. CROWLEY: New York state. My understanding is he was 19 years old.

QUESTION: And where was he living? To your knowledge, was he living in Turkey?

MR. CROWLEY: Yes. I think he - he was born in Troy, New York.

QUESTION: Can we change the topic?

MR. CROWLEY: Sure.

QUESTION: Okay. Two quick things. One, did you ever get a comment on my question yesterday about the detained Kuwaiti blogger?
MR. CROWLEY: Not yet. I --

QUESTION: Okay. And then --

MR. CROWLEY: I meant to bring that with me. (Inaudible) arrived before I came in.

QUESTION: And one other quick one. There's a report picked up by the BBC saying that a foreign aide to the chief of Iran's nuclear program, a man named Hossein Musavian, has asked for asylum in the United States. Is that true, or can you check on that?

MR. CROWLEY: I'll check on that.

QUESTION: Thank you.

QUESTION: On India, will the United States grant the foreign minister's request this morning to get access to the American who was (inaudible) the Mumbai attacks?

MR. CROWLEY: It is an issue that we are discussing with India. During the course of our discussions here, counterterrorism cooperation is a significant priority for us. We are and have been working very closely with Indian authorities on our common threat. But as to that specific question, I'll defer to the Department of Justice.

QUESTION: Egyptian upper house elections yesterday -- the Egyptian Organization for Human Rights along with monitors from other groups have reported widespread irregularities. There's cases of vote buying. One candidate was apparently shot in the leg, yet the official electoral body, the High Elections Commission, announced that the vote went smoothly. What information do you have on the elections yesterday?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, we certainly support free and fair elections as a universal standard. We are concerned about reports of fraud and interference with the ability of some Egyptians to vote freely. We expect the Egyptian Government to take action to remedy any problems along with providing measures to ensure parliamentary elections next fall are free from similar problems. And we also have an interest in making sure that there is -- that the Egyptian Government facilitate credible monitoring of future elections.

QUESTION: Well, the high court said everything went smoothly. What steps do you foresee them taking? What steps do you see the government taking to ensure more effective elections?

MR. CROWLEY: I mean, there are some practical questions that can be taken. There were problems with access to polling stations both for voters, for election monitors. So the Egyptian Government has to improve on those clear challenges. As we've said many times, we -- there are practical issues regarding the execution of a particular election and there are broader issues on just opening up a political process to allow more candidates and more competitive elections. And these are issues that we continue to discuss on a regular basis with the Government of Egypt.

QUESTION: What time is the Secretary's press availability and how much time do we have to file or we get taken upstairs?

MR. CROWLEY: Yeah, I'm supposed to go up here --

STAFF: She's running a little bit late.

QUESTION: I was just thinking it's time we got out of here.

UNCLASSIFIED
QUESTION: Just one quick question on the Iran sanctions vote because there was a lot of expectations that it would be held as early as this week, but that's not happening. How close are you and how close are you to finishing the annexes?

MR. CROWLEY: We have work that is continuing. The Secretary had a conversation a short—right before the Strategic Dialogue with India opened, the Secretary had a conversation with Foreign Minister Lavrov on this issue. Yesterday, Under-Secretary Bill Burns had one of his regular conference calls with political directors among the P-5+1. So we continue to work very hard on this and we expect to meet the President's objective of concluding this by the end of spring, which I guess is June 21st.

QUESTION: Has the Secretary spoken to anybody—back on the Israeli issue—any senior Israeli officials in the last 24 or 36 hours?

MR. CROWLEY: Not to my knowledge.

QUESTION: Do you have any update on this lawyer in Rwanda?

MR. CROWLEY: Stand by. He's still in the hospital. I'm just looking—

QUESTION: Sorry. Who's this?

MR. CROWLEY: This is Peter Erlinder. We—he's still in the hospital. We are still in touch with the Rwandan Government. We want to make sure that he is accorded all of his rights. We are in touch with him. His legal representatives are in touch with him. But we are pressing the Rwandan Government to resolve this case quickly and we would like to see him released on compassionate grounds.

QUESTION: Thank you.

QUESTION: His family was seeking a meeting here today. Do you know if they got one?

MR. CROWLEY: I'll take that question. I don't know. We are obviously concerned about this and we are in direct conversation with the Rwandan Government to try to resolve this as quickly as possible.

QUESTION: P.J. —

QUESTION: Do you know—is it correct that he tried to kill himself?

MR. CROWLEY: He is in a hospital. Beyond that, I'm not comfortable talking about the details.

QUESTION: P.J., do you have any comment on Senator Webb's cancellation of trip to Myanmar (inaudible)?

MR. CROWLEY: Obviously, we're aware that he chose not to go to Burma, but we'll defer to his office for comment.

QUESTION: How about the press allegations on Myanmar's nuclear connection to North Korea?

MR. CROWLEY: What?

QUESTION: Press allegation.

MR. CROWLEY: Oh?

UNCLASSIFIED
QUESTION: Nuclear cooperation between Burma and North Korea.

MR. CROWLEY: Well, we are— we have been concerned about Burma's relationship with North Korea, the transactions that occur between Burma and North Korea. We are very conscious that North Korea is a serial proliferator of dangerous materials and weapons, and this is something that we have expressed directly to Burma and that continues to be a major concern of ours.

QUESTION: Did you hear anything from Ambassador Susan Rice after her meeting with Mr. (inaudible) from South Korea regarding Cheonan issue and when they are bringing this issue—

MR. CROWLEY: If you call my colleague, Mark Kornblau, I'm sure he can give you a readout. I don't have one.

QUESTION: Thank you.

MR. CROWLEY: Thanks.

(The briefing was concluded at 2:18 p.m.)

###
From ACS Tel Aviv. Please note that Embassy Ankara has confirmed the death of Furkan Dogan, the 19-year old dual national, via his family in Turkey. Post has been in contact with Dogan's father, who identified his son's remains, following their repatriation to Turkey. Embassy Tel Aviv had been trying to locate Dogan among the detainees since being notified of his participation in the flotilla. Dogan's father has released his son's name to the media.

Tel Aviv -
1. Very early this morning, CONS confirmed through MFA the departure of eight Amcits to Istanbul and one Amcit to Athens. The nine left from Ben Gurion Airport on aircraft sent by the Greek and Turkish governments. Consular access was not permitted at BGO. Onward transportation was to be the responsibility of each traveler. Many inquiries were received concerning an activist who has been arrested previously in Israel. He showed signs of bruising all over his body when visited by Canoff on June 2. He alleges mistreatment and has publicized his condition to Physicians for Human Rights and to the media.

2. Post learned this afternoon that one of the deceased whose remains were returned to Turkey at the same time was that of Furkan Dogan, a 19-year old Turkish American who we had been trying to locate for several days. He is listed on the manifest of the Mavi Marmara as a Turkish Citizen. Post does not know of any American citizens who participated in the flotilla who remain in detention. We have no information on three possible Amcits None of them are listed on the Mavi Marmara manifest.

3. CONS has requested that MFA provide guidance on how American citizens can seek to reclaim property confiscated by the GOL. One Amcit reported his suitcase was left on board the vessel he jumped from; others had property confiscated at processing and they were given numbers to assist in reclaiming. We will provide guidance when available and will contact the Amcits directly.
Logg, Cristina A

From: O'Grady, Daniel J
Sent: Monday, June 07, 2010 8:23 AM
To: Ankara-Political
Cc: Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul); Clv USAF SAF/EOS/INV@inciunlock.sf.usaf.mil
Subject: Country Team Notes, June 7
Categories: Working

CONFIDENTIAL

AME: We're working 24/7 on the Flotilla issue. We need to be VERY careful on the American citizen issue. (He asked to meet with CON, POL and DCM afterward on this.)

an investigation into the Flotilla incident; b) something to be done about the Gaza blockade.

ADANA: [____________________] Leyla is drafting a cable on the SE reaction to the flotilla. (AMB called this the dog-that-did-not-bark, and called it significant.)

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
Logg, Cristina A.

From: O'Grady, Daniel J
Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2010 4:34 AM
To: Ankara-Political
Cc: Warner, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul); [email] @incirlik.af.mil

Subject: Ambassador's a.m. meeting, June 17

Categories: Working

CONFIDENTIAL

AMB:

---

Dan noted that he would pass to Ambassador Cunningham in Tel Aviv his assessment that the new video clip purporting to show the slaying of the Amal on the Flotilla is incorrect because the IDF soldier appears to be firing a paint gun.

---

Blacked out

1.4(D) B1

Dan

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Classified by: Daniel O'Grady, POL Counselor, POL, STATE

Reason: 1.4(b), (d)

Declassify On: 2020/06/17
From: Howard, Jeremiah H
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 4:57 AM
To: Ankara-Political; Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul)@incirlik.af.mil
Subject: AMB's Last Morning Meeting; 7/30.

Categories: Working

CONFIDENTIAL

AMB

A/DCO

ECON

POL

PAS

CONS

- Received a call yesterday from the father of AMCIT Furkan Dogan, who was killed during the Mavi Marmara interdiction. CONS has the autopsy report. Still awaiting the death and burial certificates.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Classified by: J. Howard, D/POLCOUNS
Reason: 1.4(d)
Declassify On: 2013/07/31
From: Schrank, Alexander D
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 1:38 AM
To: Riccardone, Francis J; Stillman, Douglas A; Dayton, John W (Istanbul); O'Grady, Daniel J; Howard, Jeremiah H; Godfrey, Anthony F; CIV USAF USAFE 39 OS/IN; Leary, Thomas M; Guido, Deborah L; Appleton, Richard H; Fernandes, Cheryl L; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Witmer, Kami A; da Otavalo, Laura H; Kliner, Scott F; Jaworski, Richard E; Treiber, Laird D
Cc: EUR-SE-TU-DL
Subject: (C) Turkey Desk O/I - February 14, 2011

Turkey Desk
Official-Informal
Monday, February 14, 2011

ACTION

(SBU) Furkan Dogan / Radikal article: We would appreciate a copy of the June 16, 2010, article in Radikal, quoting from Furkan Dogan’s diary entry on the morning before the flotilla incident: “These are the last hours before I take part in the sweet experience of becoming a shaheed. Is there anything more beautiful than that?” The Turkel Commission report cites these lines in its paragraph on Furkan Dogan (page 219).

INFO

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey and has the honor to request the assistance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the following matter.

The Embassy would like to receive an official copy of the burial permission certificate (gömme izin belgesi) and the autopsy report of deceased American Citizen Furkan Dogan (DOB: 26 Oct 1991) who was presumed killed on the Mavi Marmara Ship. The Embassy would also like to receive a copy of the decision regarding the relinquishment of Furkan Dogan's Turkish citizenship published in the Official Gazette.

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

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

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
No. CONS 10-001451

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

The Embassy of the United States of America has yet to obtain through the good offices of the Ministry, an official copy of the burial permission certificate (gömme izin belgesi) and the autopsy report of deceased American Citizen Furkan Dogan (DOB: 20Oct1991,) presumed killed on the Mavi Marmara Ship. The Embassy requests this at once. The Autopsy report of Dogan was released to the Media and IHH Foundation, which placed the contents on their website. The Embassy asks the Ministry to convey in the strongest terms possible our dismay at the lack of regard for the privacy of individuals evidenced by this release pertaining to the death of an American citizen. The Embassy protests the release of this information in advance of its provision to the Embassy.

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

Ankara, July 7, 2010
No. CONS 10-01128

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

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

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

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Embassy of the United States of America

Ankara, June 4, 2010
AMB: FS aide Mehmet confirmed that GOT has no/no intention of escorting the Tahrir, Saoirse, or any other vessels to Gaza -- "they don't have any Turkish elements." Re Iran, he confirmed that he passed on to FS the copy of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons that I'd sent him last week, noting our desire for Turkey to press the Iranians to comply with the convention. Yuri
TURKEY'S REACTION TO THE PALMER COMMISSION'S REPORT

Background

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

Aftershock and Inquiry

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

Turkey's Response

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

  "Israel's decision to board the vessels with such substantial force at a great distance from the blockade zone and with no final warning immediately prior to the boarding was excessive and unreasonable;
  a. Non-violent options should have been used in the first instance. In particular, clear prior warning that the vessels were to be boarded and a demonstration of disarming force should have been given to avoid the type of confrontation that occurred;
  b. The operation should have reassessed its options when the resistance to the initial boarding attempt became apparent.
  The loss of life and injuries resulting from the use of force by Israeli forces during the take-over of the Mavi Marmara was unacceptable. Nine passengers were killed and many others seriously wounded by Israeli forces. No satisfactory explanation has been provided to the Panel by Israel for any of the nine deaths. Forensic evidence showing that most of the deceased were shot multiple times,

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

From: Riccardone, Francis J
Sent: Monday, September 05, 2011 3:19 PM
To: Riccardone, Francis J; Riccardone, Marle D.; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"
Cc: Grubisha, Thomas J
Subject: Fw: NYT/Cohen op-ed on Turkey/Israel

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

Jess L. Baily
Deputy Chief of Mission
U.S. Embassy, Ankara, Turkey

From: Yuri Kim <yurikKim@hotmail.com>
To: Riccardone, Francis J; Riccardone, Marle D.; Baily, Jess L; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"
Sent: Mon Sep 05 21:11:42 2011
Subject: NYT/Cohen op-ed on Turkey/Israel

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

September 5, 2011

Israel Isolates Itself

by ROGER COHEN

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

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

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

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

I met Dogan's father, Ahmet, a professor at Erdyves University in Kayseri, last year in Ankara; His grief was as deep as his dismay at U.S. evasiveness. It's hard to imagine any other circumstances in which the slaying in International waters, at point-blank range, of a U.S. citizen by forces of a foreign power would prompt such a singular American silence.

Senior Turkish officials told me Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan had raised Dogan's fate with President Obama. But of course no U.S. president, and certainly no first-term U.S. president, would say what Prime Minister David Cameron of Britain said: "The Israeli attack on the Gaza flotilla was completely unacceptable." Even if there's an American citizen killed, raising such questions about Israel is a political no-no. So it goes in the taboo-littered cul-de-sac of U.S. foreign policy toward Israel, a foreign policy that is in large measure a domestic policy.

The Palmer report, leaked to The New York Times last week, is a split-the-difference document, with the Israeli and
Turkish members of the panel including notes of dissent. My rough translation of its conclusion would be this message to Israel: You had the right to do it but what you did was way over the top and just plain dumb.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(more to follow)

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

"TRT News" reported that Turkey today submitted its final "Mavi Marmara Report" to the UN.
From: Ricciardone, Francis J [mailto:RicciardoneFJ@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2013 8:15 PM
To: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul

Frank:

I have heard about the alleged advance understanding from the Turks relatively recently. It is possible that the flotilla got so close to the coast that the Israelis decided they could not wait any further to test the ships' intentions. I do not know what the truth of the matter is but it is impossible for me to believe that the Israelis would have decided on the boarding if they had been persuaded that they really had that kind of easy way out of what everyone recognized as a looming crisis.

As to the events on board the Mavi Marmara, I happen to have been in Israel while they were occurring and learned that there were serious Israeli casualties, though fortunately no deaths. The first two soldiers on the rope from the helicopter, armed with paint ball guns, were assaulted by a mob with iron bars even before they hit the deck. They were badly injured, knocked to the deck and, in the melee that immediately ensued, were dragged away from the scene and locked in a room below decks. The next soldiers to land in the midst of the mob, seeing what was happening, drew lethal weapons and fired in self defense against the mob members who they believed were intent on killing them. So, sure, it was point blank, but so was the assault on the first two. All of this occurred in a matter of a few seconds. The two injured Israelis were found only after the Israelis had secured and searched the ship.

I couldn't agree more about the utility of compromise. I understand that the rejection came not from Lieberman alone and I can well understand the motivations of both the rejectionists (the angry mood among the Israeli public, left, right and center, and the questionable utility of appeasing the AKP at the expense of what they and the public considered the truth) and of Netanyahu (quite possibly turning over the leadership of Israel's dominant political right to center to Lieberman with elections coming up next year).

While I think the Petraeus/Gates analogy is inexact, I take your point. I wonder whether recent events in the Arab world which threaten Israel with even greater isolation — a possibility of which the Israeli government is certainly aware — might not strengthen Netanyahu's hand in dealing with his colleagues on the Turkish issue if it were reopened. I'd have to guess that it would take US diplomacy, and pretty skillful diplomacy at that, to get it reopened and that the USG could be helpful to the PM if it were.

I'd have to repeat that the Israeli government has certainly not written off Turkey, even if some of its members have. Netanyahu's disagreement with some of his colleagues on the ad ref compromise says as much. But as I see it, the question is not only whether the compromise could be revived but whether an Israeli government responsible for approving it would then be discredited by continuing evidences of gross Turkish hostility towards Israel as the country heads towards elections.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
This is important so I will check w/ my colleagues in TA and follow up on this end.

You probably know that the Turks allege they had an advance understanding w/ Israel that if the flotilla attempted to approach Gaza (probably vague on whether in int'l waters or whatever mile limit Israelis claim off Gaza). Israelis would deter the ships to Ashkelon or Egypt.

The parties do have irreconcilably different sets of "facts," as well as different interpretations of their meaning. Turks will not concede Israeli "good faith" in boarding the boats and using bullets evidently at point blank range, even against some apparently aggressively suicidal provocateurs armed with bicycle chains. Nonetheless, while both sides feel gravely offended, what no one disputes is that Israeli soldiers killed 9 Turkish civilians and injured others, with zero Israeli casualties. Given the tragic results of both sides' folly (that's my editorial judgment) I doubt the Turks will concede the Israelis' legal "right to board," but I know for sure they were prepared not to challenge it.

In their ad ref agreement to disagree last December, the diplomats' art was to distinguish each side's subjective judgment of the ethical/moral "justice" of the case, from any independent international legal determination of the same. That is, under the ad ref draft agreement, accepted by the Turkish leadership but publicly rejected by Lieberman evidently in order to corner Netanyahu, the parties would agree to disagree: each side would be free to proclaim the morality, ethics, "justice," and even " legality" etc of what each side did, with neither taking the other to court over this — provided the Israelis would express condolences and pay compensation to victims' survivors.

If any life could be breathed back into the basics of this deal, it seems to me there might be an imperfect but perhaps, to the GOL, a politically useful analogy with Petraeus and Gates apologizing for US forces' genuine mistakes in [repeatedly] killing groups of Afghan civilians, including paying compensation, while retaining our legal right to keep on doing the things that inevitably result in such accidents.

Frank

From: Riccardone, Francis J (mailto:RiccardoneFJ@state.gov)
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2011 1:19 PM
To: Riccardone, Francis J
Subject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul

Frank: I am not, and have not been involved in attempts to settle this issue and am offering my thoughts entirely as an interested member of the public. Hence, I do not know whether or which Turks might have heard the point. But from what I hear the Israeli government is absolutely convinced that it had established a blockade recognized under international law which gave it the authority to board, in international waters, vessels that were clearly attempting to breach it — the announced purpose of the flotilla. I do not know what L's opinion is. I do think that GOT recognition that Israel acted in a good faith belief that it had the right to board would be very helpful.

Best,
I didn't know about that "right-to-board" point. You are certain? Have right Turks heard this? Are you in touch w/ WH on this? I hope to see Sinirlioglu (point man on this for GoT - maybe Thrus (current blizzard permitting), + he will see Bill Burns Friday in Frankfurt. Frank

Francis J. Ricciardone
US Ambassador
American Embassy
Ankara, Turkey

Tel: +90 312 457 7280

From: Ricciardone, Francis J
To: Ricciardone, Francis J
Sent: Tue Mar 08 18:47:24 2011
Subject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul

Dear Frank:

Thank you very much for this valuable piece of information. I surmise that the opinions you sounded are those of official Turks who, I believe, have held to their policy line with remarkable fidelity all of these months. The policy has not varied from days after the incident until the present (a recent iteration occurred yesterday at SAIS by Namik Tan). It is that Turkey wants a positive relationship and that it can be restored if Israel will apologize for the flotilla incident and pay compensation (which is to say, accept full responsibility for an incident for which Israelis do not see themselves as responsible, let alone fully responsible).

As you know, there have been discussions between the governments which have produced significant progress, but not enough. The differences between the two governments are based on totally opposite factual narratives about what happened. Each party is "right" in its negotiating position if it is also right in its factual and legal perceptions, but the two sets of facts are irreconcilable. Therefore, if an agreement is to be reached it will have to be based on the maximum concession each side is prepared to make to the facts of the other and a willingness to move from a rigid adherence to it announced positions.

I understand further that Israel has indicated a preparedness to make some pretty major concessions and is looking for the Turks to balance these. My personal guess is that if the Turks were prepared to concede that Israel had a right to board (whether or not boarding was a good idea) under international law, that would go a long way toward bridging the remaining gap.

Finally, I have the strong impression that while there is considerable skepticism in Israel about the durability of a restoration of positive relations with the AK government following a settlement of the flotilla issue, the Israeli government as a whole has certainly not written off Turkey and that it has already demonstrated its willingness to go the extra kilometer to bring the dispute to an amicable resolution and to restore relations to their pre-Gaza level, or at least their pre-flotilla level.

With renewed thanks for your concern, your efforts, your openness, for reaching out, and with very best wishes,
From: Ricciardone, Francis J [mailto:RicciardoneFJ@state.gov]
Sent: Saturday, March 05, 2011 9:22 AM
To:
Subject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul

After sounding out a lot of opinions here, I have a sense that Turkey still very seriously wants to restore a positive official and broader relationship with Israel, but that the Israelis have written off the Turks. I believe that is a grave error that will become a self-fulfilling outlook if the current impasse persists much longer, i.e. as we approach the anniversary of the Mavi Marmara incident.

Should you wish to speak by phone at any point, I'm at your disposal.

Frank

Frances J. Ricciardone
US Ambassador
Ankara,
Republic of Turkey
tel: +90 312 455 7280

From: Ricciardone, Francis J [mailto:RicciardoneFJ@state.gov]
Sent: Saturday, February 19, 2011 6:40 PM
To: Ricciardone, Frances J
Subject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul

Dear Frank:

I think you're right about the father.

Thanks for your endorsement of a meeting with Mesata, Gordon and Fellman. We do, of course, understand the pressures under which they operate and will do our best to accommodate their schedules.

In the meanwhile we will keep you informed.

With very best wishes,

From: Ricciardone, Francis J [mailto:RicciardoneFJ@state.gov]
Sent: Saturday, February 19, 2011 4:36 AM
To:
Subject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul

You are right. It won't even occur to the bereaved father to ask to see any American Jewish organizations. And if it did, his motives could be open to serious question, he'd know that, even if he ever did have such a thought; hence another reason he'd not consider such an idea. We'll forget about it.

I've always favored maximum contact between Dept of State officials and knowledgeable, concerned private US citizens on any subject. I support doing this at most expert and senior available levels for such distinguished people and on such critical issues as your group and your purposes. Do feel free to ask to see Phil Gordon + Jeff Fellman, both of whom I've alerted to your interest, with my endorsement. But also please understand if their impossible span of viewing issues makes it a challenge to match your own group's collection of scheduling issues.
Dear Frank,

I'm just back from our study session which turned out to be fascinating, with as many views as guests.

Thanks for your message. We will consider about the father. But at this point it is, in a sense, moot since we have not received any inquiry from him.

Thank you for pointing out that Jess Bally is a man which, embarrassingly, I hadn't realized. We are starting to plan our next session for late March/early April and would certainly appreciate participation by him and Messrs. Gordon and Feltman. When the time comes to set this up may I make reference to your recommendation?

Again, your support and assistance is greatly appreciated.

Warm regards,

[Signature]

From: Ricciardone, Francis J [mailto:RicciardoneFJ@state.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 18, 2011 1:32 AM
Subject: Re: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul

I have to imagine that it would confound the haters and the fearful ones on all sides -- plus really set up a warm welcome for you here -- if members of your deficit[ ] would meet with the grooming father. What would better demonstrate true Jewish tradition? But I can't judge how that would play either in Israel or will sensitive calls only you could make.

Btw Jess Bally, the country director for Turkey, Greece + Cyprus will be starting in Ankara this summer as DCM. He is a good man. I've also recommended to both Phil Gordon + NEA's Jess Feltman to see you. so don't hesitate to enquire when the time is right.

Frank

Frank
From: Ricciardone, Francis J [mailto:RicciardoneFJ@state.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 2:59 AM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Re: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul

Dear Frank,

Thank you very much, once again.

Do you think we have something to learn from the father?

Jess Bally very kindly offered to participate in our session tomorrow but most regretfully we are fully booked for the relatively brief window within which we have to work, given travel schedules. But I’ve asked if she might join us at another session which we will arrange during our three-month delay period. The same goes for your very kind offer to participate by phone. Perhaps, with your consent, I will not wait for the next session.

I am greatly disappointed that we are unable to travel on schedule as I thought it would be useful to get the picture now and then consult experts after the election results have become clear. But that was not to be.

I do hope you succeed in your good efforts to keep the election campaign from escalating our problems.

I will certainly keep you abreast of our schedule as it takes shape.

With thanks and very best wishes,

Francis J. Ricciardone
US Ambassador
American Embassy
Ankara, Turkey
Tel: +90 312 457 7260

Of course I’m disappointed, as I was hoping to see you here both before the election campaign starts and even more importantly, after the results are in and a new government is in place. That’s unlikely much before July.

Meanwhile we’ll keep striving to put a floor under the problem and specifically to keep this issue out of the election campaign, and we’ll hope our mutual friends will repair and rebuild their ties under a refreshed GCT. Sure could use any help from the other side during this particularly sensitive period.

(Both the Turkish father of the Turk-AmCit killed in the flotilla incident will be visiting the US in the coming days. Jess + Meghan can tell you more, if there is any interest.)

This state.gov address is best for me as I do read it personally + it comes to my BB.

Francis J. Ricciardone
US Ambassador
American Embassy
Ankara, Turkey
Tel: +90 312 457 7260
If you judge it may be useful and appropriate, one or another of us in Turkey may be available to participate in your group discussions by DVC or phone.

Let's stay in touch as the calendar and your visit plans advance.

Frank

Francis J. Ricciardone
US Ambassador
American Embassy
Ankara, Turkey
Tel: +90 312 467 7280

From: Ricciardone, Francis J.
To: Ricciardone, Francis J.
Cc: Gregonis, Meghan E; Silliman, Douglas A; Baily, Jess L; Walston, Lysa M; Kliner, Scott P (Istanbul); O'Grady, Daniel J
Sent: Wed Feb 16 04:52:34 2011
Subject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul

Dear Frank:

Thank you very much for your extraordinarily warm and supportive message of this morning; one which makes me all the more abashed at having to tell you at this late date that we have had to postpone our visit. Staffing issues combined with the need, per Ambassador Tan's advice, to complete our visit to Turkey before the start of the campaign on March 12, left us with little wiggle room and several days ago obliged us to make the decision to travel after the election. We are meeting on Friday to decide on a new date subject, of course, to your advice and that of Ambassador Tan.

My colleagues and I will be gathering on Friday and on other occasions prior to our departure to meet with academic and governmental authorities in preparation for our trip and we would be most anxious to include senior officials at the Department in this process.

On the technical level, the reason I found it necessary to write you by snail mail, thereby holding up our exchanges, was that my email of several weeks ago to the address from which your message of today was sent was returned to me. Is this the address to which all future email should be sent?

Allow me to renew my colleagues and my own personal thanks for your support and concern. I greatly look forward to our continued contacts.

---

From: Ricciardone, Francis J [mailto:RicciardoneFJ@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 9:48 AM
To: Gregonis, Meghan E; Silliman, Douglas A; Baily, Jess L; Walston, Lysa M; Kliner, Scott P (Istanbul); O'Grady, Daniel J
Cc: Ricciardone, Francis J
Subject: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul

Dear [name],

Many thanks for your letter of February 3, which I've just now received. My colleagues and I are looking forward to your visit to Istanbul and Ankara with interest in early March. As we discussed when we met in Washington last month, we will be keen to support in any way. There is no more urgent and important objective even on the crowded US-Turkey agenda than getting Turkish-Israeli relations back on a productive track. This has been a principal subject of my first official

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calls all around the Turkish Government, and much quality time with my Israeli colleague in my first
days here in Ankara. I expect that senior colleagues in the Department will be eager to see you
before you depart for Turkey.

Other business obliges me to be in Istanbul from late on February 28 until return to Ankara the
morning of March 3. In order further to show USG support for your purposes, I would be happy to
join any or all of your official calls on top officials in Ankara, though I will defer to your wishes should
you see any advantage in making your calls independently. In any case, we will close the loop with
the MFA here on planning for your visit, which they will have begun through Ambassador Tan’s
initiative.

If you’ll permit, Lysa Walston and I will be glad to work with you and the Turkish Government to
arrange mutually convenient appointments in Ankara, and perhaps also for a pre-brief in Istanbul. I
will copy Lysa on this message, along with DCM Doug Silliman, political counselor Dan O’Grady, and
our CG in Istanbul, Scott Kliner. Please do feel warmly welcome to use my email or to phone me or
any of us at any time.

Sincerely,

Frank

Francis J. Ricciardone
US Ambassador
Ankara, Turkey

tel: +90 312 457 7280

cell: +90 533 482 0762

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.
Law, Rosemary C

From: Guido, Deborah L  
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2011 4:47 AM  
To: Riccardone, Francis J; Stillman, Douglas A; AnkaraAMB; Ankara-POL-DL  
Subject: US Statement on Gaza Flotilla, June 24  
Attachments: Statement on Mavi Marmara June 24.docx  
Categories: Working  

In case you didn’t see...  

Gaza "Anniversary" Flotilla  
Press Statement  
Victoria Nuland  
Department Spokesperson, Office of the Spokesperson  
Washington, DC  
June 24, 2011  

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.  

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer  

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

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

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

The United States remains concerned by conditions in Gaza, but notes that the humanitarian situation has significantly improved over the last year, including a marked increase in the range and scope of goods and materials moving into Gaza, an increase in international
Gilmore, Bradley T

From: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul)
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 11:39 AM
To: de Otelvaro, Laura H; Darnell, Daria L; Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Eppler, Dale B; Godfrey, Anthony F; Appleton, Richard H; Gilmore, Bradley T
Cc: Dayton, Win (Istanbul); McCarthy, David T (Istanbul); Mitchell, Shamar P (Istanbul); Solomon, Robin D; Ones, Leyla L; Borstein, Jeffrey D; Wilmor, Kami A; Lea, Robert D; Read, Anthony M

Subject: Istanbul SitRep input

Categories: Working
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

From Istanbul:

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmed, Senior Reviewer

AKP activity related to demonstrations in Istanbul: As Ibrahim Yildirim stated yesterday, AKP is present at the demonstrations for the purpose of letting the demonstrators know that they care (more than Saadet) and keeping the events from getting out of control. We are unaware that the party is organizing events per se.

The media reported that the Dep. PM Bulent Arinc was at the airport to meet the activists when they returned. The front page of AKP Istanbul’s website carries a picture of the Provincial Chairman Aziz Babasoglu visiting the HH. There were also statements by government officials including PM Erdogan saying that they ‘respected the democratic reactions of people.’ Thus, there are signs that the AKP is supporting the demonstrators who go out but no evidence of an official call to attend the events. There was high-level AKP attendance at yesterday’s funeral including Istanbul Mayor Topbas, Energy Minister Yildiz and Health Mayor Ahmet Demir.

Comments from: 

What I’ve noticed on the news shows I’ve been watching -- which admittedly are BBC and CNN International, I’m not sure that Turkish television would have shown quite the same camera angles -- is that the coffins at the funeral were all draped in a large Turkish flag, with two smaller flags pinned to them — one Palestinian, the other a modification of the Saudi flag (ie, white Arabic text of the creed of faith “There is no god but God, and Mohammad is the prophet of God” on a field of green, but without the white sword on the Saudi flag).

In video shots of protests, I’ve seen people waving this modified flag as well as a yellow flag that I couldn’t see well — however, it was the same shade of yellow as the Hezbollah flag. The men’s green headbands appeared to be the same script as the large green flags.

From PAS:
NTV was fairly straightforward in its 9:00 newscast — calling it “bloody” incident but not going much past that. Gave the names of all 9 nine of the dead and where they were from, but did NOT say that Furkan was an amnail, at least not that I heard. Showed new footage from the incident itself of the commandos boarding the ship and them walking around through the passengers, who were all wearing lifejackets.

RSO:
TNP has not received any additional information regarding planned organized demos or protests; however, they expect that there may be demonstrations throughout the weekend. Their security posture remains the same.

At 1100 hours the HH are reportedly planning to give a press release outside of the Israeli Consulate.
From: interpol Israel [mailto:interpol@police.gov.il]
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2010 12:56 PM
To: Zuckerman, Eve
Subject: RE: Request for info regarding Furkan Dogan

Shalom Eve,

I have inquired as to the possibility of answering your request. I have been told that all material from the flotilla – also that regarding deceased persons – is considered Investigative Material and none of it can at this time be relayed to anyone outside of the Israel Police at this time. We are not sure when this policy will change – the matter is being handled directly by the Head of the Investigation and Intelligence Dept. and the State's Attorney (MOJ). As you are aware, there will be an international investigation into this matter and it may be that we will not be allowed to pass on any information until after that investigation has been completed. We will inform you when permission is given to pass on information to foreign bodies.

Regards,

Carol

From: Zuckerman, Eve [mailto:ZuckermanEX@state.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 9:34 AM
To: interpol Israel
Subject: Request for info regarding Furkan Dogan

Carol,

I have been requested by the Consul General, Andrew Parker, to contact you regarding the death of Furkan Dogan, an American citizen killed on the flotilla. We are interested in receiving photographs, reports, or documentation, from Abu Kabir pertaining to Furkan Dogan. Please note that Mr. Dogan was an American citizen only.

We have been in contact with the Abu Kabir Institute for Forensic Pathology, and we understand from them that they are sending (or have already sent) the above items to Ms. Varda Shacham, Deputy Head of Investigations. Would it be possible for us to receive copies?

I will call you soon to discuss.

Thanks, Eve

Eve Zuckerman
Consular Assistant
US Embassy, Tel Aviv

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
To:
Subject: RE: [_____________] camera
Attachments: RE: remaining missing personal items from the flotilla [RE remaining missing personal items from the flotilla.msg]

Dear ACS Team,

Please review the attached email. It appears that personal items for some of the Amcits on the Mavi Marmara may have been sent to the MFA.

Tomorrow (Wednesday), please check with the MFA to see if they have received or continue to have any cameras or photographic equipment for Amcits [__________________________]

If they don’t have it, please contact [_____________] to obtain specific information about the missing camera/equipment so that we can pass it along.

Thank you very much.

Best regards,

Daniel

Daniel Keen
Acting Deputy Consular Section Chief
U.S. Embassy, Ankara, Turkey
+90-312-455-5555

Privacy/PII
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Mendel, Teresa S
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 4:24 PM
To: Keen, Daniel G
Cc: Siidl, Fatih; Karadag, Isil; Tiglioglu, Aylin; Appleton, Richard H; Richter, Kim B
Subject: RE: [_____________] camera

Daniel,

Thank you for following up on this, please copy Kim Richter on your response with the information.

Teresa

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
Privacy/PII
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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From: Keen, Daniel G  
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 2:22 AM  
To: Mendel, Teresa S  
Cc: Sill, Fatih; Karadag, Isil; Tiglioglu, Aylin; Appleton, Richard H  
Subject: Re: [REDACTED] camera

Hi Teresa,

This is not a problem. We may even have this information in our records somewhere as I recall seeing some emails about cameras/electronics previously.

We'll see if we have this information. If we don't, we'll reach out to [REDACTED] for the specifics and get it back to you. Do you know if he has returned to Turkey from his U.S. trip?

Best regards,

Daniel

Daniel Keen  
Acting Deputy Consular Section Chief  
U.S. Embassy, Ankara, Turkey  
+90-312-455-5555

Privacy/PII  
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

---

From: Mendel, Teresa S  
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 9:19 PM  
To: Keen, Daniel G  
Subject: FW: [REDACTED] camera

Daniel,

During [REDACTED] meeting with OCS DAS the issue of his son's camera came up. Kim is going to put [REDACTED] request to the GOI but need the specifics on the camera to ask about it. Can you reach out to [REDACTED] and get this information?

Teresa

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
Privacy/Pii

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:06 PM
To: Mendel, Teresa S
Subject: Camera

Can you ask Ankara to get the specifics on the camera so that Tel Aviv can ask the GOI about it?

Thanks.

Rosemary Law
Program Analyst
A/GIS/IPS/PP/LA
lawrc@state.gov
202-663-3906

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.
To: RE: Email Received from Prof. _______ with Regard to Mr. _______ B6  
Attachment: Second Gaza flotilla - May 31 [Second Gaza flotilla - May 31.msg]  
Second Gaza flotilla - IHH web page [Second Gaza flotilla - IHH web page.msg]

Hi Kim,

Thanks for taking care of this.

Yes, we'll be sure to keep you informed if we hear more about another flotilla. Current press statements have it between 10-15 boats. I've attached the two emails that Fatih Bey located today on the subject.

Best regards,

Daniel

Daniel Keen  
Acting Deputy Consular Section Chief  
U.S. Embassy, Ankara, Turkey  
+90-312-435-5555

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

---

From: Richter, Kim B  
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 5:02 PM  
To: Keen, Daniel G; Mendel, Teresa S  
Cc: Appleton, Richard H; Sisli, Fatih; Karadag, Isil; Tiglioglu, Aylin; Lally, Lilla V  
Subject: RE: Email Received from _______ with Regard to _______ Possessions B6

Thanks Daniel. I will pass this along to Tel Aviv. I'm not all that confident that we'll find anything but we will try.

Yes, unfortunately we've already heard the rumblings of another Free Gaza flotilla. If you get additional information please keep me in the loop and I will do the same.

Regards,

Kim

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
From: Keen, Daniel G  
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 9:52 AM  
To: Richter, Kim B; Mendel, Teresa S  
Cc: Appleton, Richard H; Stoll, Fahy; Karadjov, Ilija; Tigilgolu, Aylin; Lally, Lilia V  
Subject: Email Requested From [ ] With Regard to Mr. [ ] Possessions  

Dear Kim and Teresa,

We received a response from [ ] about Mr. [ ] belongings. The translated version is first with the originalTurkishcript at the bottom of this email. A photo of Mr. [ ] ring is attached.  

I know that DAS Pettit was enquiring about this case and regret that it took so long to receive a response to our enquiries. It is my understanding that you will follow up with the GOI with regard to these items. If we may be of further assistance or if you have any additional information that we may pass along to [ ], please let us know.  

Best regards,  

Daniel  

PS Please note that the one year anniversary of [ ] death will be May 31st, 2011. There are already reports of a second Gaza Flotilla in the local press. They are planning to sail on the same day.  

Begin translated message:  

"Dear Mr. Appleton, 

I am forwarding you the list of my son [ ] belongings including his camera and other belongings per your written request dated March 3, 2011.  

1) SONY SX34E Camera (together with its external memory card)  
2) NOKIA 5800 Xpress Music Cellular Phone IMEI: 351531040269911 (photo attached)  
3) Silver Ring (photo attached)  
4) Adidas Sports Shoes (Dark Brown with hidden shoelaces)  
5) White raincoat with hood  
6) Adidas Black Tracksuit bottom  
7) Black V-neck t-shirt"
As I have already expressed to Mr. Pettit, my son's above listed belongings have not been delivered to us. Especially his camera and its memory card are quite important as he was recording when he was shot. I thank you in advance for your interest and sensitivity in this issue.

I would be pleased if you could keep me informed on this issue.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Privacy/PII
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

---

From: Richard Appleton
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011 11:35 AM
To: Ankara-Consular-Public-MB
Subject: Re: arOther Muteşar Yardımcısı Jim Pettit ile yapmış olduğunuz görüşme

Seyhun Richard Appleton,

3 Mart 2011 tarihli yazımızla tarafındanda istediğiniz fotoğrafların yapımını ve diğer eşyaları ile ilgili listeyi aşağıda sunuyorım:

1) SONY SX43E Kamera (Harici Hafıza Kartı ile birlikte)
2) NOKIA 5800 XpressMusic Cep Telefonu IMEI: 351531040269911 (Fotograf Ekte)
3) Günlük Yüzük (Fotograf Ekte)
4) Adidas Spor Ayakkabı (Gizli Bağcıklı Koyu Kahverengi)
5) Kapanıvı Beyaz Yağmurlik
6) Adidas Siyah Eşofman Altı
7) V yaka siyah tişört


Gelişmelerle ilgili bilgilendirilmişseniz memnun olurum.

[Signature]

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Enclosed is an email chain between the JIM and the J2 relating to the flotilla incident. The two attachments are press pieces referred to below. I recommend redacting the names, but the rest of the email should be OK for release.

From: CENTCOM USA Government
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 11:09 AM
To: CENTCOM USA Government
Subject: FW: Press: 1 of 9 Dead Flotilla Activists a US Citizen of Turkish Origin

From: CENTCOM USA Government
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 10:27 AM
To: CENTCOM USA Military; CENTCOM USA CTR
CC: CENTCOM Mailbox; EMAF EMEASTERN MEDITERRANEAN TEAM

Subject: FW: Press: 1 of 9 Dead Flotilla Activists a US Citizen of Turkish Origin

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Gentlemen,

FYI, one possible U.S. citizen among the nine who were killed in the flotilla seizure, according to preliminary press out of both Turkey and Jordan. Mr. is tracking with EUCOM and DAO Tel Aviv - we've been unable to confirm the press reports as yet.

V/R

Syria-Lebanon
CENTCOM - Joint Intelligence Center Central
MacDill AFB, Tampa

1/21/2011

CCR/CENTCOM/000015
From: CENTCOM USA CTR (mailto:CENTCOM USA CTR)
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 9:41 AM
To: CENTCOM USA Government
Cc: MR
Subject: Press: 1 of 9 Dead Flotilla Activists a US Citizen of Turkish Origin

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

I've called JAC EUCOM and DAO Tel Aviv, and this report remains unconfirmed by the US or Israeli governments.

V/r,

Palmaisan - Israeli AOI Analyst
ASE, Inc. Contractor
JICCENT Levant Team (CCJ2-JARL)
TSQIP / Commercial
DSN / Commercial
SIPR
NIPR

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

1/21/2011

CCR/CENTCOM/000016

DeptofDefense0016
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<td>Subject:</td>
<td>Re: AmCt killed in flotilla incident</td>
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<tr>
<th>From:</th>
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<td>To:</td>
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<td>To:</td>
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<td>Subject:</td>
<td>RE: AmCt killed in flotilla incident</td>
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From: McHenry, Teresa  
Sent: Friday, February 18, 2011 1:03 PM  
To: Werlow, Molly; [Redacted]  
Ge: [Redacted]; [Redacted]  
Subject: FW: DOS meeting re: [Redacted]  

Follow Up Flag: Follow up  
Flag Status: Flagged  

[Redacted] AWP, DPP, A-GP
Attached is the letter we received today from the Center for Constitutional Rights. Feel free to do with it whatever you best see fit.

McHenry, Teresa
McHenry, Tara

Friday, February 18, 2011 1:03 PM

Warlow, Molb., (D)(6), (V)(7)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(Swartz, Bruce; Weinstein, Jason)

FW: DOJ meeting re: (D)(6)

Let's discuss

This

Referred to State
Teresa, (b)(6): Any initial thoughts?

Kevin L. Perkins
Assistant Director
McHenry, Teresa

From: Warlow, Molly
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 11:55 AM
To: McHenry, Teresa
Subject: FW: READOUT of meeting with [redacted] (Feb 23)
Importance: High

Report from meeting at state, below.

Referred to State
McHenry, Teresa

From: Warlow, Molly
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2011 5:13 PM
To: McHenry, Teresa; Swartz, Bruce
Cc: Warlow, Molly; Weinstein, Jason
Subject: RE: request for meeting with DOJ

(b)(5) AWP. DPP

Molly

From: Raman, Mythili
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2011 5:13 PM
To: McHenry, Teresa; Swartz, Bruce
Cc: Warlow, Molly; Weinstein, Jason
Subject: RE: request for meeting with DOJ

(b)(5) AWP. DPP

Teresa or Molly—Did either of you respond to the request for a mtg from the DOJ in USC/flotilla/gaza matter?

Not Responsive

From: McHenry, Teresa
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 6:07 PM
To: Swartz, Bruce
Cc: Warlow, Molly; Weinstein, Jason
Subject: request for meeting with DOJ

(b)(5) AWP. DPP
From: McHenry, Teresa
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 6:28 PM
To: Raman, Myhill; Swartz, Bruce; Weinstein, Jason
Cc: Warlow, Molly
Subject: USC/flding/51a4

Thanks
Teresa
MEMORANDUM

TO:        Teresa McHenry
Chief, Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section

FROM: [b](6), [b]/(7)(C)
Trial Attorney, Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section

SUBJECT: [b](6)

[Redacted text]
March 8, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: (D)(6) File

FROM: (D)(6), (D)(7)(C)

Trial Attorney, Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section

SUBJECT: Transfer of documents to possession of the FBI

(D)(5) AWPP: DFP
From: Perkins, Kevin L.
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 10:48 AM
To: Hess, Amy S.
Cc: Demarest, Joseph M., Jr.; Harrington, T. J.
Subject: Death of US Citizen

Amy: I am hearing that there is some media reporting that states one of those killed yesterday during the Israeli commando raid of the aid ships was a U.S. citizen. Please have your folks check this out and see if there is anything to the story being reported.

I'll be across the street in a meeting for the next couple of hours but will be reachable via BB.

Thanks,

kp

Kevin L. Perkins
Assistant Director