From: Hamrick, Andrew S  
Sent: 7/16/2010 7:25:36 AM  
To: SMART Core  
Subject: MACEDONIA: NO ANTI-SEMITISM RELATED TO GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

UNCLASSIFIED

Aleksandra Subotic, technical secretary of the Jewish Community of Macedonia, reported that there were no acts of anti-Semitism in Macedonia in reaction to the May 31 Gaza flotilla incident.

Signature: REEKER  
Drafted By: SKOPJE-Hamrick, Andrew S  
Cleared By: POLECCOM:Burger, David  
Approved By: POLECCOM:Burger, David  
Released By: SKOPJE-Hamrick, Andrew S  
Info: CIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; Logsdon, Elijah J ROUTINE; EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE  
Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
From: svcsmartmfi  
Sent: 7/16/2010 8:08:13 AM  
To: SMART Core  
Subject: KOLKATA IMAMS CRITICIZE ISRAEL POLICY, GAZA FLOTILLA RESPONSE

UNCLASSIFIED
Sensitive

MRN: 10 KOLKATA 107  
Date/DTG: Jul 16, 2010 / 161203Z JUL 10  
From: AMCONSUL KOLKATA  
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE  
E.O.: 13526  
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, KISL, KPAO, IN, PHUM, OPRC, KIRF  
Sensitivity: Sensitive  
Reference: A. STATE 72296 B. KOLKATA 52  
Pass Line: DEPT ALSO FOR SCA/INSB AND IO/PRF HUSSAIN AND HESPRICH  
DEPT ALSO FOR ELIJAH LOGSDON DRL/IRF  
Subject: KOLKATA IMAMS CRITICIZE ISRAEL POLICY, GAZA FLOTILLA RESPONSE

UNCLAS KOLKATA 000107  
DEPT ALSO FOR SCA/INSB AND IO/PRF HUSSAIN AND HESPRICH  
DEPT ALSO FOR ELIJAH LOGSDON DRL/IRF  
E.O. 13526: N/A  
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, KISL, KPAO, IN, PHUM, OPRC, KIRF  
SUBJECT: KOLKATA IMAMS CRITICIZE ISRAEL POLICY, GAZA FLOTILLA RESPONSE  
REF: A. STATE 72296 B. KOLKATA 52

1. (SBU) Summary: In a June 21 call on the Kolkata CG, ten West Bengal Muslim religious leaders criticized USG policy towards Israel and called for a stronger response to the May 31 Gaza flotilla incident. The Imams presented a memorandum on behalf of the Majlis-e-Ulama-e-Islam, a 300-member organization of West Bengal's Urdu-speaking Imams, who form a small but influential minority among West Bengal's 20 million Muslims. The Imams were harshly critical of USG policies regarding Israel. In a written statement presented to Kolkata CG, the Imams used "Jews" and Israel interchangeably, but their spoken comments were exclusively aimed at Israeli policies. Their tone was consistently political rather than anti-Semitic. The Imams supported a two-state solution and were thankful for the opportunity to express their views directly to a USG official.  

End Summary.
2. (SBU) On June 21, a group of ten Imams called on Kolkata CG to criticize Israeli actions, particularly the May 31 raid on a flotilla carrying supplies to Gaza (Ref A). They called on the USG to pressure Israel to lift the Gaza blockade entirely, establish a Palestinian state that is economically viable and able to defend itself, and end construction projects at mosques in Jerusalem. The Imams contrasted USG claims to have intervened in Iraq and Afghanistan in pursuit of justice with the lack of USG reaction to Israeli policies, which the Imams termed unjust. They warned that, if the situation continues, "Allah will bring justice, as he did in the former Soviet Union."

3. (SBU) The Imams presented a memorandum on behalf of the Majlis-e-Ulama-e-Islam (Association of Islamic Scholars), a 300-member organization of West Bengal’s Urdu-speaking Imams. In it, the Imams said the USG’s claims to support democracy are at odds with USG policies towards Palestinians and the Muslim world. "The U.S. does not want any Muslim country to become powerful against the Jews," the memorandum noted. The MOU claimed that the U.S. and Israel accepted South Korea’s growing power since it is not a Muslim country, but that innocents Iraqis suffered because Saddam Hussein "fought against Jews."

4. (SBU) A quarter of West Bengal’s population, or roughly 20 million people, are Muslim (Ref B). The Left Front coalition, which has ruled West Bengal for more than 30 years, traditionally depended on almost unanimous support from West Bengal’s Muslim community. In recent years, the Muslim community has become more fractured in its political support, with voters moving in large numbers to support UPA partners Congress and Trinamul Congress. Bengal’s Muslim community is made up of two groups: the rural, Bengali speaking communities who are poorer and consequently more focused on livelihood issues, and the urban, more affluent Urdu speakers—originally from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar—who are more concerned with international religious and political issues. The Majlis-e-Ulama-e-Islam is influential within West Bengal’s Muslim community because it represents educated upper-class Muslims and controls the Urdu media.

5. (SBU) Comment: In its coverage of the meeting, the Urdu press focused more on CG Kolkata’s willingness to give the Imams a fair hearing than it did on the content of the Imams’ memorandum. This was the first meeting of its kind at the Consulate in Kolkata, which—with no Israeli Consulate in the region—often bears the brunt of anti-Israel sentiment. Although there was little common ground on the issues, there was general agreement that a two-state solution was the best option for lasting peace and security. As the Imams departed, they expressed gratitude for the opportunity to voice their concerns.

6. (SBU) Comment (cont.): Although the Imams’ written statement referred to Saddam’s fight “against the Jews” and “illegal construction work [settlements] for Jews,” the Imams in
their spoken comments referred exclusively to "Israel," and 
their tone did not suggest any anti-Semitism. Despite the 
virulent anti-Israel sentiment in many quarters in West Bengal, 
a 70-year old member of Kolkata's Jewish community told Pol FSN 
separately that anti-Israel sentiment has never manifested 
itself in protests or other action against Kolkata's Jewish 
community or the many prominent symbols of Kolkata's Jewish 
cultural heritage. End Comment.

PAYNE

Signature: PAYNE

Info: TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; KOLKATA, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; 
ISLAMIC COLLECTIVE ROUTINE; ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE ROUTINE

Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED
Sensitive
1. (C) SUMMARY:

END SUMMARY.

LITHUANIA-ISRAEL RELATIONS "NEVER BETTER"
FOCUS ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION

COMMON CULTURE AND HISTORY
we have seen no evidence that events in or involving Israel, such as the Gaza flotilla or other military actions, have translated into anti-Jewish words or actions in Lithuania. End Comment.
1. (U) Jewish Community Vienna (IKG) President Ariel Mucicant reported a rise in anti-Semitic incidents related to the May 31 Gaza flotilla incident. At a June 16 press conference, Mucicant pointed to anti-Semitic slogans on display at recent demonstrations against Israel organized by Austrian Muslim groups. A banner at one of the demonstrations displayed the slogan “Wake up, Hitler.” Another sign equaled the Star of David to a swastika. Mucicant said that more than a dozen anti-Semitic incidents were reported to the IKG in the wake of the flotilla incident. Among the reported incidents was the case of two Turkish-speaking men spitting at a rabbi in Vienna. The IKG filed a complaint with the Vienna police, citing a violation of the Austrian law banning neo-Nazi activities. Mucicant called on Muslim representatives to distance themselves from anti-Semitism.

2. (U) Mucicant specifically criticized Social Democratic (SPO) Vienna city legislator and Muslim Faith Community Integration (IGGÖe) Spokesman Omar Al-Rawi, who had co-organized one of the demonstrations. Al-Rawi also initiated a resolution in the Vienna city parliament that sharply condemned the “brutal Israeli action against a peaceful and flotilla in international waters.” Mucicant argued Al-Rawi was “activating anti-Semitic resentments” and pursuing a policy of incitement, and called him up to resign from his political function as a Vienna legislator.

Muslim Community Reaction

3. (U) While Al-Rawi condemned the anti-Semitic incidents and slogans and distanced himself from them, he also sharply rejected the IKG calls for his resignation and the IKG’s accusation he was pursuing a policy of incitement. He urged a resumption of the good interreligious dialogue in Austria. Muslim Faith Community President Anas Schakfeh also condemned the incidents, and warned against automatically equating anti-Israeli positions with anti-Semitism. Moreover, Schakfeh rejected Mucicant’s “unfounded attacks” against Al-Rawi and the IGGÖe and warned against endangering the good climate of interreligious dialogue in Austria. Schakfeh hinted that he suspected the IKG’s goal was to establish barriers against any criticism of Israel.
4. (SBU) Comment: While there was generally a public wave of indignation at the attack on the flotilla and nine deaths, Muzicant argues that figures like Al-Rawi were exploiting that atmosphere to activate anti-Semitic and anti-Israeli resentments. Commenting on the Jewish-Muslim controversy in Austria, political observers in the media note that the Gaza conflict was “imported into Austria,” and point to an anti-Israeli alliance of Muslims groups who usually do not engage much with each other. It appears the flotilla incident has heightened existing tensions between the Austrian Jewish and Muslim groups, rather than inciting anti-Semitism among the general population. End Comment.

Signature: HOH

Drafted By: VIENNA: Bosse, Mark J
Cleared By: ECON-POL: Yap, JDeak
Approved By: ECON-POL: Yap, JDeak
Released By: VIENNA: Yap, JDeak
Info: CAIRO, AMAMBASSY ROUTINE; DUBAI, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; ANKARA, AMAMBASSY ROUTINE; TEL AVIV, AMAMBASSY ROUTINE

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED
From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 7/18/2010 1:10:21 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: ALGERIA: GAZA FLOTILLA-RELATED REPORTING

UNCLASSIFIED

Embassy has not discovered any reporting in Algerian French or Arabic language press on the Gaza flotilla incident that is anti-Semitic. The flurry of reporting in the week or so following the Israeli boarding was all strongly critical of Israeli actions, frequently echoed positively Turkish government statements calling the killing of Turkish nationals a crime and an act of terrorism, generally supported Turkey's call for an international investigation, and featured commentary harshly critical of the Israeli blockade of Gaza. The criticisms focused on the Israeli military actions and government policies, not on a perception of Jews. Post did notice, however, that some Arabic and French papers in their reporting on the flotilla incident frequently used the qualifier "Zionist" derogatively to refer to everything Israeli, including calling Israel the "Zionist Entity," a formulation not routinely used for a long time in Algeria.

2. The most shrill comments came from among the approximately
30 Algerians who participated in the flotilla, including members of the moderate Islamist party that is a member of the Presidential coalition, Social Movement for Peace (MSP) Following their return from Israel through Jordan in early June, party members were quoted in the press as declaring, "the Zionist state is a terrorist state," and calling it a threat to Palestine and the world.

3. The Government of Algeria has not commented on the incident. JORDAN

Signature: JORDAN

Info: MAGHREB COLLECTIVE ROUTINE

Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED.
CONFIDENTIAL

From: Debevoise, Lyn (Bratislava)
Sent: 7/19/2010 2:58:22 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSPOPl
Subject: Slovak Views of Gaza Flotilla Incident
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

MRN: 10 BRATISLAVA 307
Date/DTG: Jul 19, 2010 / 190658Z JUL 10
From: AMEMBASSY BRATISLAVA
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, OPRC, KIRF, KPAO, LO
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: A) 10 STATE 72296
Subject: Slovak Views of Gaza Flotilla Incident

1. (C) Post discussed ref tel request for reporting on any potential Gaza flotilla-related rise in Anti-Semitism with the Rabbi of Bratislava, Baruch Myers, the Spokesman of the Union of Jewish Communities in Slovakia, Jaroslav Franek, and the head of the Bratislava Jewish community, Peter Salner. According to Myers, he has not witnessed or received any information about any anti-Semitic attacks as a result of the flotilla incident. Franek agreed that there have been no anti-Semitic demonstrations in Slovakia of late, but noted that there has been an increase in anti-Semitic rhetoric and hate speech on extremist websites, and that the number of such websites is growing. Franek also noted that virtually all of the online articles published about the Gaza flotilla incident were followed by online discussions in which many individual commentators from the public expressed anti-Semitic and anti-Israel views. Salner said that Slovak politicians were neutral in any comments about the incident. Salner added that while the former government (which left office in July 2010) led by Prime Minister Robert Fico included nationalist politicians, it was relatively pro-Israel and did not encourage anti-Semitism.

Signature: PATTERSON

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
Page 1 of 2
UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05744522 Date: 11/18/2015
(U) Post is not aware of any anti-Semitic reactions in Thailand to the May 31 Gaza flotilla incident. While some of the media and editorial coverage of the incident proved critical of Israeli actions, we did not detect any that crossed the line from anti-Israeli political expression to anti-Semitism per ref tel.
From: Mates, Michael J
Sent: 7/19/2010 8:38:39 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: No Anti-Semitism in Moldovan Reporting on Gaza Flotilla

UNCLASSIFIED

From:
Sent: 7/19/2010 8:38:39 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: No Anti-Semitism in Moldovan Reporting on Gaza Flotilla

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 10 CHISINAU 702
Date/OTG: Jul 19, 2010 / 191236Z JUL 10
From: AMBASSADY CHISINAU
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, OPRC, KIRF, KPAO, MD
Captions:
Reference: A) STATE 72296
B) 09 CHISINAU 0945
Pass Line: STATE FOR EUR/UMB, DRL/RF-ELOGSDON, DRL/AE
Subject: No Anti-Semitism in Moldovan Reporting on Gaza Flotilla

1. Summary: Moldovan electronic media have reported the Gaza flotilla factually, without editorial comment. The print press has not covered the story at all. We have found only one negative comment on Jews, on a website. Bessarabian/Romanian nationalist websites, the usual sources for anti-Semitic comments, have been silent on the issue. End Summary.

2. Moldovan electronic media, particularly unimedia.com and ziare.com, reported that the Moldovan-flagged, Libyan-owned vessel, the Amalthea, left Egypt on July 13, bound for Gaza, with assistance provided by the Libyan Foundation. According to the articles, the Israeli Navy warned the ship not to proceed to Gaza; Israeli commandos were prepared to deploy but had not done so.

3. We found only one comment that could be interpreted as anti-Semitic in character. Commenting on the story in ziare.com, Christian Democratic Party activist Octavian Racu stated: "According to pro-Israeli sources, five to six million Jews died in World War II. In the same war, between 15 and 20 million Chinese died. Who deserves more compassion?" (Note: The Christian Democratic Party, headed by Iurie Rosca, is an ethno-nationalist political party that has supported reunification with Romania. While Rosca has avoided overt anti-Semitism, some party members have voiced their support for World War II Romanian leader and Axis ally Ion Antonescu, and have minimized Jewish sufferings in the Holocaust in Moldova. End Note.)

4. A search of websites associated with Bessarabian/Romanian nationalism and
The Legionnaires has revealed no comments on the flotilla. (Note: The Legionnaires are a small, unregistered fringe group whose members revere the memory of the Legion of the Archangel Michael, an anti-Semitic organization that flourished in Romania in the 1930s. Legionnaires frequently use anti-Communist rhetoric to condemn Jews. End Note.) Nor have radical elements within the Moldovan Orthodox Church, one of whose priests led the December 2009 demonstration against a Menorah erected in a public park, mentioned the issue.
From: Siakey, Monica M
Sent: 7/19/2010 9:11:06 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSPOP4
Subject: Norway: No Perceptible Rise in Anti-Semitism After Gaza Flotilla Incident
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 10 OSLO 271
Date/DTG: Jul 19, 2010 / 191311Z JUL 10
From: AMEMBASSY OSLO
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, KIRF, OPC, PGOV, NO
Captions:
Reference: A) 10 STATE 72236
B) 10 OSLO 185
Pass Line: ELIJAH LOGSDON DRU/IRF
AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG
Subject: Norway: No Perceptible Rise in Anti-Semitism After Gaza Flotilla Incident

1. (SBU) SUMMARY: There has been no perceptible rise in anti-Semitic incidents in Norway attributable to the May 31 Free Gaza Flotilla Incident. In contrast with the riots that followed Gaza operations in December 2008 – January 2009, protests in Norway after the May 31 incident were relatively peaceful. Norwegian media reports of the flotilla incident also were relatively balanced and reflected the nuances of the situation. Respected commentators and opinion leaders cautioned against painting a black and white picture of Israel as the aggressor in the situation without also considering Israel at least partially as a victim – of rocket fire from Gaza and threats of worse violence. Media coverage and GoN statements favored ending the blockade and instituting an international (rather than Israeli) investigation of the incident. On the whole, criticism of Israel – although intense in Norway – has not crossed the line to demonization, and the Foreign Minister has rejected calls for boycotts. Given earlier, unrelated reports of anti-Semitism in Norway (ref B), post continues to monitor the situation closely.

END SUMMARY.

Flotilla-Related Protests Were Relatively Peaceful

2. (SBU) The May 31 Free Gaza Flotilla incident initially sparked an intense response in Norway, but the ensuing criticism of Israel did not cross the line to demonization or anti-Semitism as defined in ref A. There were no reported incidents of violence or disrespect toward individual Jews in Norway, and two demonstrations in front of the Israeli Embassy May 31 and June 5 were relatively peaceful. Press reports and Pol/Econ Counselor's
discussions with Israeli Embassy officials indicated that approximately 500 – 600 people attended both protests. Protestors burned the Israeli flag and chanted against Israel’s blockade. Some protestors carried signs saying, “Israel: Stop killing innocent people.” According to Israeli Embassy officials, Norwegian police provided excellent protection and a significant presence at both protests.

3. (U) The Turkish Unions Federation arranged a peaceful demonstration in central Oslo June 3. The demonstrators ended up outside the Norwegian Parliament and called for a full inquiry into the Flotilla incident and the deaths of nine Turks.

The GoN and Norwegian Media Called for an Independent Investigation

4. (U) The flotilla incident dominated Norwegian news for days afterwards. On the whole, Norwegian media reports of the incident were relatively balanced and reflected the nuances of the situation. Respected commentators and opinion leaders cautioned against painting a black and white picture of Israel as the aggressor in the situation without also considering Israel at least partially as a victim – of rocket fire from Gaza and threats of worse violence. Both pro-Israel and pro-Palestinian speakers were invited to face off in televised debates over the incident, resulting in a balanced exchange of opinions.

5. (U) Both media coverage and GoN statements favored ending or easing the blockade and instituting an international (rather than Israeli) investigation of the incident. One day after the flotilla incident, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) issued a statement, supporting the UN Security Council’s call for an independent investigation. “The Security Council’s statement shows that the entire international community condemns the Israeli raid on the convoy carrying humanitarian assistance to Gaza. I welcome the Security Council’s demand for a transparent and impartial investigation of the Israeli military operation,” Foreign Minister Jonas Gahr Støre stated. On balance, FM Støre also acknowledged Israel’s concerns: following Israel’s subsequent decision to ease the Gaza blockade, Støre praised the “extremely important” policy change in a June 21 release, stating that while he “recognizes Israel’s need to prevent weapons being smuggled into Gaza,” the blockade “does not serve to enhance Israel’s security.”

6. (U) Immediately following the incident, the Ministry of Defense asked the Norwegian Defense Command and Staff College (FSTS) to rescind its invitation to an Israeli Special Forces colonel to speak at a Norwegian conference on special operations. (Then) Defense Ministry State Secretary Espen Barth Eide (now MFA State Secretary) told state-sponsored NRK that “in this particular situation, we considered it entirely inappropriate that a special forces colonel should talk about experience gained in the 2006 invasion of Lebanon,” an operation that Norwegian authorities “deplored when it took place in 2006,” Barth Eide stated. Shortly thereafter, the FSTS canceled the special operations conference. [Comment: this incident does not amount to anti-Semitism per Ref A but illustrates how Israel and its military — already a hot button topic in Norway — became particularly so after the flotilla incident].

Boycotts Were Proposed But Most Have Been Rejected

7. (U) Socialist Left Party (among the governing coalition) Leader Kristin Halvorsen called for an international boycott of Israeli weapons following the incident. Governing Labor party leaders, including Foreign Minister Støre, came out against Halvorsen’s suggestion. Noting that the demand expressed frustration that he “understands and shares,” Støre stated that a boycott would simply close a door to Norway’s efforts to discuss the Gaza blockade with Israel. Open communication, not a boycott, was more likely to produce the desired result, Støre stated.

8. (U) Based on 1,028 responses to a survey, Norway’s largest print newspaper, Verdens Gang, reported that Norwegians favored boycotting Israel but believed FM Støre’s response to the flotilla incident was too mild.

9. (SBU) According to news reports July 1, Oslo boroughs Grorud and Gamle Oslo have decided not to buy Israeli goods or services until the Gaza blockade ends. [Note: Immigrants (primarily Muslim) constitute 39.9% of Grorud’s population and 34.9% of Gamle Oslo]. According to press reports, Governing Oslo Mayor Stian Berger Roesland
(Conservative Party) has asked the City Council to invalidate the boycott, saying that only the Foreign Ministry is allowed to exercise foreign policy in Norway. Press reports quoted the council leader for Gamle Oslo as saying the decision to boycott Israeli goods has more of a symbolic meaning than a practical one and is not without precedent, citing a previous decision to buy goods only in accordance with Fair Trade principles. According to press reports, the Oslo City Council will address the boycott after the summer break.

10. (U) Shortly after the flotilla incident, a board member at Oslo University called for an academic boycott of Israel. Rector Ole Petter Ottersen came out against the proposal, which the Board officially rejected on June 22 in a 9-2 vote. The Board also issued a statement, saying that the University of Oslo was committed to studying the Middle East conflict and contributing to a solution; an academic boycott would not serve this objective, the Board stated.

11. (SBU) According to press reports, the Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO) urged the GoN on June 2 to protest the flotilla incident and the continued blockade of Gaza by withdrawing Norway’s Ambassador from Israel and pulling all Norwegian Government Pension Fund – Global investments from Israeli companies. To post’s knowledge, the GoN has not publicly responded to LO’s proposals, although Støre’s call for dialogue, not boycotts, likely is intended to quell any such efforts indirectly. [Comment: the LO is very influential in Norwegian politics and society, with about 830,000 members. It has been, and continues to be, very outspoken about issues in Gaza and is actively engaged in efforts to break the blockade. LO is largely, although not exclusively, affiliated with the governing Labor Party, and LO President Roar Flathen is a board member of the Labor Party’s Central Committee. In the unlikely event LO convinced the GoN to adopt its proposal, this would pull nearly 6 billion Norwegian kroner of investment (just under $1 billion of the $450 billion+ fund) from 52 Israeli companies].

Comment:

12. (C) The relatively balanced nature of the debate over the flotilla incident is a very positive development compared to the more one-sided response during and after the Israel-Gaza conflict in 2008 – 2009. Nonetheless, the Jewish community in Norway remains on the alert for signs of anti-Semitism after news reports in March indicated Jewish students have been bullied in Oslo schools (ref B). Post will continue to work closely with Norway’s Jewish community to monitor the situation and report as the situation warrants.
From: Pogorzelski, Margo L
Sent: 7/19/2010 10:21:45 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: ALBANIA: NO ANTI-SEMITISM RELATED TO GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

UNCLASSIFIED

(U) Post is not aware of any incidences of anti-Semitism in the media or by the general public in Albania related to the May 31 Gaza flotilla incident.
From: Hoffman, Elizabeth M
Sent: 7/19/2010 8:22:21 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: COLOMBIA RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR REPORTING ON GAZA FLOTILLA-RELATED RISE IN ANTI-SEMITISM

UNCLASSIFIED

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 10 BOGOTA 2486
Date/DTG: Jul 19, 2010 / 192148Z JUL 10
From: AMBASSAD BOGOTA
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, OPRC, KIRF, KPAO, CO
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: A) STATE 72296
Pass Line: DEPT FOR DRL/IRF - ELIAH LOGSDON
Subject: COLOMBIA RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR REPORTING ON GAZA FLOTILLA-RELATED RISE IN ANTI-SEMITISM

1. (U) Post has noted no instances of anti-Semitism attributable to the May 31 Gaza flotilla incident. Notable reaction to the incident was limited to a GOC Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) press release in support of a rapid and transparent UN Security Council investigation. As a member of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), the GOC also joined calls for the immediate release of detainees.

2. (U) Both major Colombian newspapers – El Tiempo and El Espectador – condemned the disproportionate use of military force. Political science professor Arlene Tickner opined in El Espectador (June 2) about the toxicity of Israel and wrote, “the Netanyahu government has managed to marginalize its allies, especially Turkey, to hold up peace talks under the US mediation, and to end Israel’s international credibility.”

Signature: BROWNFIELD

Drafted By: BOGOTA: Hoffman, Elizabeth M
Cleared By: 1967.0 | STATE/PAS | FSO | Duque-Higgins, Ana
Approved By: 1900.0 | STATE/POL | FSO | Mandojana, Marcos C
Released By: BOGOTA: Hoffman, Elizabeth M
Info:

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy
From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 7/19/2010 9:09:38 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: TIMOR-LESTE: NO REPORTS OF ANTI-SEMITISM

UNCLASSIFIED

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 10 DILI 162
Date/DTG: Jul 20, 2010 / 200105Z JUL 10
From: AMBASSADY DILI
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, KIRF, TT
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: 10 STATE 72296
Subject: TIMOR-LESTE: NO REPORTS OF ANTI-SEMITISM

UNCLASSIFIED DILI 000162
SIPDIS
E.O. 13526: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, KIRF, TT
SUBJECT: TIMOR-LESTE: NO REPORTS OF ANTI-SEMITISM
REF: 10 STATE 72296

(U) There has been very little coverage of the May 31 Gaza flotilla incident in Timor-Leste, and certainly no anti-Semitic reports of any nature.

HENICK

Signature: HENICK

Info: DILI AMBASSADY ROUTINE ; ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE ROUTINE
Attachments: metadata.dat
Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05744539 Date: 11/18/2015
CONFIDENTIAL
Sensitive

SUMMARY

1. (SBU) Summary: A four-member Congressional staff delegation (Staffdel) led by House Foreign Affairs Committee Professional Staff Member Jessica Lee, visited Malaysia July 4-8. The Staffdel met with Law Minister Mohammad Nazri, opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim, officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs and Foreign Affairs, parliamentarians from both the ruling and opposition coalitions, UNHCR, academics, and a host of NGO's.
MEETING WITH LAW MINISTER NAZRI

Shifting to the recent Gaza flotilla incident, Nazri said that he had been personally charged by the PM to draft the June 7 parliamentary motion that condemned Israel, and that he was working closely with Foreign Minister Anifah, who is charged with implementing the resolution.

NR
Page Denied
Page Denied
14. (U) This cable has been cleared by Staffdel Lee.

Signature: RAPSON

Classified By: Acting Political Counselor Jeremy Nathan,
Reason: 1. 4 b and d
Declassify on: 07/19/2020
Info: CANBERRA, AMEBASSY PRIORITY; LONDON, AMEBASSY PRIORITY;
CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HIPRIORITY; NSC WASHDC PRIORITY; WASHDC, SECDEF
PRIORITY; ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
Attachments: metadata.dat
Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

CONFIDENTIAL
Sensitive
SECRET

MRN: 10 DAMASCUS 569
Date/DTG: Jul 13, 2010 / 130618Z JUL 10
From: AMBASSADOR DAMASCUS
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE PRIORITY
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PRL, PGOV, PTER, KPAL, IR, IS, LE, SY
Captions: SIPDIS
Pass Line: DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ELA, NEA/IPA
NSC FOR SHAPIRO/HAJJAR
LONDON FOR MILLER
PARIS FOR NOBLES
Subject: CODEL SPECTER'S JULY 8 MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AL-ASAD

SECRET DAMASCUS 000569
SIPDIS
DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ELA, NEA/IPA
NSC FOR SHAPIRO/HAJJAR
LONDON FOR MILLER
PARIS FOR NOBLES
E.O. 13526: DECL: 07/12/2020
TAGS: PRL, PGOV, PTER, KPAL, IR, IS, LE, SY
SUBJECT: CODEL SPECTER'S JULY 8 MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AL-ASAD

Classified By: CDA CHARLES HUNTER, Reasons 1.4 b and d.

1. (S) SUMMARY:

END SUMMARY.

NR
Senator Specter did not have an opportunity to clear this message.

HUNTER

 Classified By: CDA CHARLES HUNTER,
 Reason: 1.4 b and d
 Declassify on: 07/12/2020
 Info: LONDON, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; PARIS, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; CIA WASHDC ROUTINE; DIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL ROUTINE; WHITE HOUSE WASHDC ROUTINE; HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL ROUTINE; ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE
CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

CONFIDENTIAL JERUSALEM 001242

NOFORN

DEPT FOR NEA FRONT OFFICE, NEA/IPA, AND SEMEP, NSC FOR SHAPIRO/KUMAR

E.O. 13526: DECL: 07/13/2020
TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, OREP, SY, IS
SUBJECT: CODEL SPECTER MEETINGS WITH PALESTINIAN OFFICIALS

Classified By: CG Daniel Rubinstein, per reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

1. (C) SUMMARY:

END SUMMARY.

2. (C)
3. (C)

4. (C)

6. (U) Codel Speer did not have the opportunity to clear this cable.
RUBINSTEIN

Signature: RUBINSTEIN

Classified By: CG Daniel Rubinstein,
Reason: 1.4 (b) and (d)
Declassify on: 07/13/2020
Info: AMMAN, AMBASSAD ROUTINE; BEIRUT, AMBASSAD ROUTINE; CAIRO, AMBASSAD ROUTINE; DAMASCUS, AMBASSAD ROUTINE; TEL AVIV, AMBASSAD ROUTINE; NSC WASHDC ROUTINE
From: Witmer, Kami A
Sent: 7/13/2010 11:06:10 AM
To: svcSMARTHTSPO7
Subject: Turkey: Scenesetter for CSAF General Schwartz's Visit
Attachments: Metadata.dat

SECRET//NODFRN

MRN: 10 ANKARA 1001
Date/DTG: Jul 13, 2010 / 131506Z JUL 10
From: EMBASSY ANKARA
Action: SECDEF WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, MARR, TU, IZ, IS, AF
Captions: SIPDIS, NOFORN
Pass Line: DEPT FOR EUR/SE ILAN GOODMAN
Subject: Turkey: Scenesetter for CSAF General Schwartz's Visit

FOR CSAF GENERAL SCHWARTZ FROM DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION DOUG SILLIMAN

1. (C) On behalf of Ambassador Jeffrey, who will be out of the country when you arrive, I look forward to welcoming you in Ankara.

2. (S) 

3. (S/NF) 

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
Watch Out For:

- Gaza Flotilla questions (para 8);

Counter-PKK Operations: Still Turkey's Top Priority
Afghanistan

Retrograde from Iraq

Israel/Gaza
Predators/Reapers
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Aegean Issues
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Bilateral Reaction To The "No" Vote On Iran Sanctions
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NR
From: Cornforth, Jeremy A
Sent: 7/13/2010 11:33:44 AM
To: svcSMARTHTSPOP5
Subject: RE: Lebanon OI July 12, 2010
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

MRN: 10 MDA 1309
Date/DTG: Jul 13, 2010 /131534Z JUL 10
From: Cornforth, Jeremy A
Action: Evans, Jennifer RROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PBTS, KJIS, PREL, LE, SY, FR
Subject: RE: Lebanon OI July 12, 2010

From: Evans, Jennifer R
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2010 12:44 AM
To: Cornforth, Jeremy A
From: Phipps, Brian H
Sent: 7/15/2010 10:25:42 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: LATVIA: NO VISIBLE GAZA FLOTILLA-RELATED RISE IN ANTI-SEMITISM

UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASE IN PART B6

From: Phipps, Brian H
Sent: 7/15/2010 10:25:42 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: LATVIA: NO VISIBLE GAZA FLOTILLA-RELATED RISE IN ANTI-SEMITISM

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Subject: LATVIA: NO VISIBLE GAZA FLOTILLA-RELATED RISE IN ANTI-SEMITISM

UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASE IN PART B6
event quickly petered out. Latvia’s President, Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Interior Minister all issued strong statements condemning the demonstration as an affront to the people of Latvia and a smear on the country’s reputation. During his visit, FM Lieberman noted the July 1 event as evidence of a broader rise in anti-Semitism in Europe, but thanked the Latvian government for its support of Israel.

Signature: GARBER

Drafted By: RIGA:Jauce, Sannija
Cleared By: P0LECON:Maroney, Hagen D
Approved By: P0LECON:Phipps, Brian H
Released By: RIGA:Phipps, Brian H
Info: JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE;
EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED
Post discussed ref tel request for reporting on any potential Gaza flotilla-related rise in Anti-Semitism with

According to [Redacted] there has been no increase in anti-Semitic hate speech, demonstrations, or attacks in Bosnia since the May 31 flotilla incident. She added that her organization has tracked no Gaza-related incidents of anti-Semitism since a few isolated cases of graffiti in May 2009. [Redacted]'s information is consistent with our media monitoring.
From: svcsmarlmfl
Sent: 7/16/2010 12:19:20 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: NO INCREASE IN ANTI-SEMITISM IN INDIA

MRN: 10 NEW DELHI 1445
Date/DTG: Jul 16, 2010 / 160347Z JUL 10
From: AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE roume
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: KPAO, OPRC, PGOV, PHUM, IN
Captions: SIPDIS
Sensitivity: Sensitive
Reference: SECSfATE 72296
Subject: NO INCREASE IN ANTI-SEMITISM IN INDIA

UNCLASSIFIED
Sensitivity

1. (U) Official GOI reaction to Israeli actions against the Gaza flotilla on May 31 were nuanced and similar to the outpouring of condemnation from the global community. On May 31, the Ministry of External Affairs issued the following statement: "India deplores the tragic loss of life and the reports of killings and injuries to people on the boats carrying supplies for Gaza. There can be no justification for such indiscriminate use of force, which we condemn. We extend our sympathies to the families of the dead and wounded. It is our firm conviction that lasting peace and security in the region can be achieved only through peaceful dialogue and not through use of force." There was no mention of Israel by name. India has a historic tradition of religious tolerance, and has been home for more than a thousand years to Jewish communities. The events on May 31 have not resulted in any increase in anti-Semitism in the country.

2. (SBU) The told PolOff that the Israeli Embassy "does not feel there is
an anti-Semitism in India. However, went on to say that reaction to the attack has not been good, with local news articles accusing the Israeli navy of "genocide" and "holocaust" against the occupants of Gaza. Despite this outcry, the Deputy Chief of Mission of the Israeli Embassy had a successful visit to Lucknow after the event, where he met with leaders and members of the Shia Muslim community. Throughout India, Muslim protestors held several demonstrations in New Delhi and Kashmir against the attacks, and attempted to demonstrate in front of the Embassy of Israel on June 4. However, the protests were not large by Indian standards and remained peaceful.

WHITE

Signature: WHITE

Info: metadata.dat

Attachments:

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED
Sensitive
From: Price, Simone D
Sent: 7/16/2010 11:18:33 AM
To: svcSMARTHTSPOP2
Subject: Formal U.S.-EU Political Directors Dialogue Raises Turkey, Russia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Summits
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 10 USEU BRUSSELS 783
Date/DTG: Jul 16, 2010 / 161518Z JUL 10
From: USEU BRUSSELS
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, TU, RS, AF, KNNP, EUN, PK
Reference: A) 10 BRUSSELS 775
Pass Line: AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG
Subject: Formal U.S.-EU Political Directors Dialogue Raises Turkey, Russia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Summits

Summary and Introduction:

NR
Page Denied
19. (U) This cable has been cleared by EUR.

Signature: KENNARD

Classified By: Simmone Price, OMS
Reason: 1.4 (b), (d)
Declassify on: 2020/07/16
Drafted By: BRUSSELS:Price, Simmone D
Cleared By: Davis, Christopher
Approved By: USEU POL:Davis, Christopher R
Released By: BRUSSELS:Price, Simmone D
Info: MOSCOW, AMEMBASSY
Routine: European Political Collective Routine; NATO EU Collective Routine
ZeniamConsul Almaty; ZeniamConsul Adana; ZeniamConsul Vladivostok
ZeniamEmbassy Minsk; ZeniamConsul Dusseldorf
ZeniamConsul Yekaterinburg; ZeniamConsul Leipzig;
ZeniamConsul St Petersburg

Attachments: Metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

CONFIDENTIAL
LEVELS OF ANTI-SEMITISM REMAIN STEADY IN NIGERIA

1. (SBU) The Gaza flotilla incident does not appear to have created a heightened level of anti-Semitism in Nigeria. However, there remains a significant anti-Israel faction that says it opposes many actions and policies of Israel on political, not religious, grounds. There has been no significant demonstration against Israel since May 31. The only related demonstration occurred when nine persons, each holding a placard with an alphabetic letter that together spelled FLOTILLA and the ninth leading anti-Israel chants, stood in front of the Israeli Embassy.

2. (C) ______________ told PolOff July 14 that he suspects Iranian agitators paid for the protest, expressing doubt in the sincerity of the participants. ____________ added that the couple of anti-Israel op-eds appearing immediately the first week of June dissipated shortly thereafter.

Signature: 

SANDERS

Derived From: DSCG 05-1 (b), (d)
Declassify on: 2020/07/19
Drafted By: ABUJA: Miller, Scott M
Cleared By: Salaiz, Jeffrey A
Approved By: Exec: McCullough, Dundas C
Released By: ABUJA: Miller, Scott M
Info: HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GEROUTLINE; SECDEF WASHINGTON DCROUTINE; WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DCROUTINE; CIA WASHINGTON DCROUTINE; DIA DHP-1 WASHINGTON DCROUTINE; LAGOS, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; PRETORIA, AMBASSAD ROUTINE; LONDON, AMBASSAD ROUTINE;
Attachments: Dissemination Rule:

PARIS, AMBASSADY ROUTINE; ROME, AMBASSAY ROUTINE;
BRUSSELS, AMBASSAY ROUTINE; ECOWAS COLLECTIVE ROUTINE;
ZEN/AMBASSAY MALABO

Metadata dat

 Archive Copy

CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN
From: Rendo, Christopher M
Sent: 7/19/2010 9:16:14 AM
To: svcSMART@BTSPOP3
Subject: Ireland’s Reaction to the Gaza Flotilla
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN

MRN: 10 DUBLIN 195
Date/DTG: Jul 19, 2010 / 191316Z JUL 10
From: AMBASSADY DUBLIN
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, PREL, KIRF, EL, IS
Captions: SENSITIVE, SIPDIS, NOFORN
Reference: A) 10 DUBLIN 195
Pass Line: AMBASSADY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY
AMBASSADY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMBASSADY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK
AMBASSADY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMBASSADY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG
AMBASSADY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG
AMBASSADY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG
Subject: Ireland’s Reaction to the Gaza Flotilla

1. (SBU) Summary: Ireland tends to view the Israel/Palestine conflict through its own troubled history with the British and will identify with the Palestinians on most issues. Irish criticism of the raid on the Gaza flotilla came from across the political spectrum. However, according to Embassy contacts and from our observations, anger over the flotilla raid has been directed at Israel specifically and has not been broadly anti-Semitic. End summary.

Community Reaction

2. (SBU) said that he has not seen or heard of any rise in anti-Semitism in Ireland following the raid on the flotilla. He told Poloff that the Irish have been very clear that they are protesting specifically the actions of Israel, rather than actions of Jews in general. In addition, he said that he found incidents of anti-Semitism (as opposed to anti-Israel) to be extremely rare in Ireland.

3. (SBU) also told Poloff that he had not seen a recent increase in anti-Semitism. made very similar points to those made by . stating that in his 19 years in Ireland anti-Semitism has never been a very big problem. He noted that while people may be angry with Israel, they do not blame Jews generally or Ireland’s Jewish population for Israel’s actions.

Media Reaction

4. (SBU) The media criticism of the raid on the flotilla has been aimed at Israel. Stories in the mainstream media have been careful to refer to Israel in their coverage of the flotilla raids, and they have not tied Judaism to the events. The Irish Times and Irish Independent, Ireland’s two largest newspapers, published a number of letters to
the editor about the flotilla raid. These letters, while generally in opposition to the raid on the flotilla and the blockade of Gaza, also did not link Israel's action to the broader Jewish community. In addition, the two publications published a number of letters from readers who defended Israel's actions.

**Protests**

5. (SHU) Numerous protests were held Dublin following the raid on the flotilla. Following news of the raid, protesters marched across Dublin to the Israeli Embassy, where more protesters joined. Police estimated 1,600 people took part in the protest. Protesters demanded the expulsion of the Israeli ambassador, which did not happen. Protests have continued outside the Israeli Embassy over the last seven weeks, most frequently on Friday mornings.

6. (C) reported that during one of the protests clear shouts of "Haybar, Haybar Ya Yahad" (Holy war against the Jews) could be heard. had received roughly 40 calls that were clearly anti-Semitic, referring to "dirty Jews" and how "Hitler should have done a better job." said they also recently received a letter that included ethnic slurs and Holocaust denials.

**Outlook**

7. (C) Protests outside the Israeli Embassy have dwindled following the initial outrage over the raid on the flotilla. There have been no reports of anti-Semitism from the local community. Post will continue to monitor for future incidents of anti-Semitism.

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**Confidential/NoFORN**
From: O'Grady, Daniel J.
Sent: 7/19/2010 11:30:04 AM
To: svcSMARTHTSPOPl
Subject: Ashton Visit: Davutoglu Refuses to Walk Back Criticism of Israel
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

MRN: 10 ANKARA 1029
Date/DTG: Jul 19, 2010 / 191530Z JUL 10
From: AMBASSADY ANKARA
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, IS, XG, TU
Captions: SIPDIS
Pass Line: AMBASSADY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY
AMBASSADY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMBASSADY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK
AMBASSADY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMBASSADY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG
AMBASSADY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG
AMBASSADY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG
Subject: Ashton Visit: Davutoglu Refuses to Walk Back Criticism of Israel
a first.

Signature: SILLIMAN

Classified By: Daniel O'Grady, A/DCM
Embassy Ankara

Reason: 14 (b)

Declassify on: 2020/07/19

Drafted By: ANKARA: Howard, Jeremiah H

Cleared By: Political O’Grady, Daniel J

Approved By: Political O’Grady, Daniel J

Released By: ANKARA: O'Grady, Daniel J

Info: USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION ROUTINE; SECDEF WASHINGTON DCROUTINE;
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DCROUTINE;
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DCROUTINE; EUCOM POLAD VAIHENGEN GEROUTINE;
DIA WASHINGTON DCROUTINE; CIA WASHINGTON DCROUTINE;
CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FLROUTINE; DRSNB FT GEORGE G MEADE MD
ROUTINE; JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UKROUTINE;
CDR USEUCOM VAIHENGEN GEROUTINE; CDR USEUCOM INTEL VAIHENGEN GE
ROUTINE; TEL AVIV, AMBASSADY ROUTINE; EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
ROUTINE; ZEN/AMCONSUL ALMATY; ZEN/AMCONSUL ADANA;
ZEN/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK; ZEN/AMCONSUL MINSK;
ZEN/AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF; ZEN/AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG;
ZEN/AMCONSUL LEIPZIG; ZEN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG

Attachments:
Metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

CONFIDENTIAL
In response to ref tel A, Post is reporting that there was no anti-Semitism reaction to the Gaza flotilla incident in the DRC. Public affairs found no reports in the media highlighting negative reactions toward Israel during or after the event. On June 6, poloff spoke with [redacted] who stated that there have never been any problems with the authorities over the years and that the Jewish community enjoys good relations with the other religious groups and the local community. According to an Israeli newspaper article, an Israeli team of doctors traveling to the East to assist with burn victims from the Sange oil tanker explosion (ref tel B) received a call of appreciation from President Kabila and moved freely in the remote areas under the supervision of South Kivu governor, Jean-Claude Kibala. Post has contacted Ministry of Justice spokesman Lukoo Ruffin (who has previously provided religious updates) for additional comments but has not yet received a reply. Post will continue to send updates on any reactions that have not been reported as of this response.
This cable is sensitive but unclassified. Please protect accordingly.

1. (SBU) This cable answers the questions in ref.b. Expressions of anti-Semitism have not increased in the Czech Republic as a result of the Gaza Flotilla incident on May 31st. Post reviewed media reports after the incident and found them to be either neutral or pro-Israel. This finding was confirmed by statements were made by elected officials or Czech leaders concerning the incident. Czech national elections were held the day before and the attention of the nation was focused on the election results. One exception was Premysl Sobotka, President of the Czech Senate, who is historically pro-Israel. Sobotka was in Israel on May 31st and gave a statement which was emphatically supportive of the Israeli action.

2. (SBU) There were a few poorly attended demonstrations against the Israeli government following the incident. However, the demonstrations focused their criticism on Israeli policy and did not cross the line into anti-Semitism. Pro-Israel groups held demonstrations in support of Israel, which were better attended. Since the fall of Communism 20 years ago, the Czech Republic has been one of Israel’s closest supporters in Europe.

3. (SBU) Incidents of anti-Semitic acts in the Czech Republic are low. According to Czechs are very tolerant of other religions in general, and Judaism in particular. This can be attributed to a long history of Judaism in the Czech Republic, integration by Jews into all aspects of Czech society, historical struggles by non-Catholics for the right to worship, and a majority of citizens who identify themselves as atheists. stated they believe the situation in the Czech Republic to be much better than in other Central European states.
Release in Part 86

From: Harris, Nicholas R
Sent: 7/20/2010 5:40:38 AM
To: svcSMARTbTSPops
Subject: BELGIUM: NO NOTICEABLE INCREASE IN ANTI-SEMITISM SINCE FLOTILLA INCIDENT
Attachments: Metadata dat

UNCLASSIFIED

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 10 BRUSSELS 805
Date/DTG: Jul 20, 2010 / 200940Z JUL 10
From: AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, OPRC, KIRF, KPAO, BE
Captions: SENSITIVE, SIPDIS
Subject: BELGIUM: NO NOTICEABLE INCREASE IN ANTI-SEMITISM SINCE FLOTILLA INCIDENT

1. (SBU) SUMMARY: Per ref tel, Poloff spoke to a number of Belgian Jewish community leaders and a representative of the Belgian Jewish community; most said that anti-Semitism has not become noticeably worse in Belgium since the May 31 flotilla incident. A Belgian website that tracks the number of reported anti-Semitic acts in-country also did not show any increase in June. In general however, various Jewish community leaders painted a bleak picture of anti-Semitism in Belgium, saying that since the start of the intifada ten years ago, Jews here cannot wear religious symbols in public without fear of being harassed, cannot rely on public support from politicians, and face a media they see as hypercritical towards Israel. They said that most Belgians are unable or unwilling to differentiate between being anti-Israel and anti-Semitic. End Summary.

2. (SBU) Poloff discussed reaction in Belgium to the Gaza Flotilla incident with six Jewish community leaders from both sides of Belgium's linguistic (French and Dutch) border, with five out of the six saying that, in general, they had not noticed a significant increase in anti-Semitism, either in the media or in statements by political leaders or through public demonstrations, following the incident. Only one said that he had noticed a rise in anti-Semitic acts following the flotilla incident but was unable to offer any statistical proof, however, and only gave anecdotal evidence of a number of incidents targeting the Jewish Community. All Jewish community leaders implied that life for Jews in Belgium has become more difficult over the last ten years, principally caused by troubles in the Middle East. They said that the police are responsive in investigating their complaints. They also said that politicians are privately helpful but publicly backing Israel would be a certain "vote-loser" for any politician due to a fast-growing Muslim population numbering about ten times more than the Belgian Jewish community. The leaders said that many Jews do not feel comfortable wearing religious symbols in Belgium, as they believe that this could make them the target of anti-Semitic acts. All agreed that violent anti-Semitic acts are thankfully rare. Most acts consist of verbal assaults, vandalism to synagogues and hate-speech on chat-room websites. All see the Belgian media as mildly anti-Semitic in order to increase newspaper sales. They view the press as hypercritical of Israeli policies. For example, one leader cited negative media reaction towards Israel after the nine deaths in the Gaza flotilla incident as being much greater than the media outcry to the 74 deaths in Uganda bombings on July 11. The community leaders all said that the Belgian public see being anti-Israel and anti-Semitic as synonymous, mostly due to ignorance and a...
lack of motivation to understand the difference. After summarizing all the negative aspects of being a Jew in Belgium, one leader stated, "we Jews are getting used to it."

3. (SBU) The website tracking anti-Semitic acts, maintained by the Executive Bureau of the Community Monitoring, called www.antisemitisme.be, shows no increase in complaints in the month of June 2010. From June 2009 to May 2010 the website reported an average of 5 acts per month. There were 5 in total for June 2010. This is in contrast to the Gaza incursion in January 2009, when the website reports over 40 anti-Semitic acts. The website works by receiving complaints from members of the Jewish community, confirming that the complaint is valid and then posting a description of the anti-Semitic act on their website. Belgian government statistics on anti-Semitic acts occurring in 2010 will not be available until late 2011, according to the government agency responsible for religious freedom called CEOOR.

4. (SBU) Poloff and Polinterns also spoke to a Muslim political leader in the Belgian Turkish community to see whether she had witnessed an increase in anti-Semitism after the flotilla incident. She said that the community was "sensitive" after the incident, but she was not aware of any retaliation against the Belgian Jewish community in Belgium or of anti-Semitic acts.
UNCLASSIFIED

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad,
Senior Reviewer

Mrn: 10 sofiA 325
Date/DTG: Jul 20, 2010 / 201017Z JUL 10
From: AMEMBASSY SOFIA
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, OPRC, KIRF, KPAAQ, BU
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: A) 10 STATE 72296
Subject: BULGARIA: NO VISIBLE GAZA-FLOTILLA-RELATED RISE IN ANTI-SEMITISM

1. (U) The May 31 flotilla incident received widespread media coverage in Bulgaria. Per refid, we conducted a media review and found Bulgaria’s mainstream media reports were largely factual and commentaries were mostly balanced. Individual commentators on Internet blogs and social networking forums used some anti-Semitic rhetoric, but this did not trigger a surge in anti-Semitic incidents.

2. (U) The Bulgarian Jewish community maintains an anti-Semitic monitoring system, which did not register an increase in anti-Semitism following the flotilla incident. Dr. Maxim Benvensiti, one of the leaders of the Bulgarian Jewish community, told us that he had not witnessed or received any information about anti-Semitic attacks as a result of the flotilla incident.

3. (U) While unrelated to the Gaza incident, Bulgaria has experienced an overall uptick in anti-Semitism over the last year. The Bulgarian Jewish community reported an increasing number of incidents compared to 2009, including a May 9 incident in which vandals painted swastikas on the memorial to Russian soldiers in Sofia. A group of students upset by the increasing number of swastika graffiti on Sofia’s streets gathered to clean up Nazi symbols on July 1, however, vandals repainted most of the them the next day.

Signature: WARLICK

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1. (U) In response to reflet, Post has found no reports of increased anti-Semitic activity that can be attributed to the May 31 Gaza flotilla incident.

2. (U) A range of NGOs and political groups did organize protests against the Israeli Gaza flotilla attack, but based on available reports, the participants did not hold banners, chant slogans or deliver remarks perceived as crossing the line into manifestations of anti-Semitism. Similarly, there have been no media reactions that have crossed the line from criticism of Israeli policies into anti-Semitism.

3. (U) There have been reports of anti-Semitic incidents in the last 12 months, but there have been none since May 31 that can be attributed to the Gaza flotilla incident and none of the incidents involved violent physical attacks. In March, a 75-year-old rabbi of Moroccan origin was insulted on a bus in Milan by a group of people yelling “Jews go away, we will kill you all” while in Rome commemorative stones in memory of a family that was deported to Auschwitz were vandalized. Incidents of anti-Semitic graffiti occurred in Rome where the vast majority of Italian Jews live and in other cities.

4. (U) The Center of Contemporary Jewish Documentation found more than 40 anti-Semitic websites and social networks. These sites propagate Holocaust denial or conspiracy theories, with slogans such as “The satanic racist Jewish mafia plans to enslave humanity forever.” Most of these have been established by groups of pro-Palestinian extremists and fascists associations.

Signature: THORNE
From: Thomas, Holly Lindquist
Sent: 7/20/2010 8:04:31 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: Uzbekistan: No Rise in Anti-Semitism Following Gaza Flotilla Incident

UNCLASSIFIED

1. (U) Summary. In response to a report, post reached out to members of the Jewish community, the Israeli Ambassador, and governmental sources to determine whether any incidents of anti-Semitism were reported in Uzbekistan following the Gaza Flotilla incident on May 31, 2010. No such incidents were reported. End summary.

2. (U) On June 1, the GOI published a formal statement expressing "deep concern and alarm," condemning the Gaza Flotilla incident, and calling on Israel both to drop the blockade on the Gaza Strip and to fully implement relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions. The statement also encouraged the prevention of further tension and escalation of violence, which could have "unpredictable consequences." No government officials or political figures made any other public statement regarding the matter. Perhaps in an effort to avoid any escalation of tensions, the state-sponsored press carried only minor, factual reports of the incident, and the independent press (limited to internet news websites) devoted no real attention to the issue. There were no press articles that included anti-Semitic rhetoric, and no press reports of anti-Semitic incidents.

3. (SBU) Israeli Ambassador Hillel Newman stated that the Israeli Embassy closely monitored the Jewish community following the Flotilla incident, and received no reports of anti-Semitic activities. Similarly, the Chairman of the Jewish Religious Society in Tashkent reported that there was no manifestation of anti-Semitism following the Flotilla incident.

4. (SBU) Comment: The Jewish community in Uzbekistan has a long history of peaceful coexistence with the Muslim majority, so no one expected a strong backlash following the Gaza Flotilla incident. Nevertheless, the GOI, always conscious of maintaining stability across religious and ethnic lines, likely consciously downplayed the incident both in public statements and media reporting. End comment.

Signature: NORLAND