UNCLASSIFIED STATE 056048

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TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE IMMEDIATE
WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
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COMSOCEUR VAIIHINGEN GE IMMEDIATE
JICPAC PEARL HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
CDR USSOCOM MACDILL AFB FL IMMEDIATE
CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL IMMEDIATE
CDR USJFCQM NORFOLK VA IMMEDIATE
CDR USEUCOM VAIIHINGEN GE IMMEDIATE
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HQ DA WASHINGTON DC//DAPE:MO// IMMEDIATE
DA WASHINGTON DC//DAMO:OCC-CAT//PCC// IMMEDIATE
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DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
DIA WASHINGTON DC//TWC// IMMEDIATE
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J-3:JOD// IMMEDIATE
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J-1//J-3:JOD// IMMEDIATE
CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE
HQ USSOUTHCOM J2 MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE
CIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
FBI WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 0000

UNCLASSIFIED STATE 056048
INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: AEMR, ASEC, CASC, KFLO, MARR, PREL, PINR, AMGT, IS, GZ
SUBJECT: MGGZ01: MONITORING GROUP FORMATION REGARDING THE GAZA FLOTILLA SITUATION

1. At 1200 EDT on 05/31/2010 the Executive Secretary directed the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs establish a Monitoring Group regarding the situation with the Gaza Flotilla. The Monitoring Group will operate virtually with support from the Operations Center, but will be prepared to upgrade to physical staffing should events warrant.

2. The Monitoring Group director will be Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Ronald Schlicher of the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs. Representatives from EUR, IO, CA, PA, H, and DRL will participate in the Monitoring Group; additional bureaus or offices may be added to the Monitor Group as needed.

3. All cables and other documents relating to this Monitoring Group should include the SIPDIS caption. Reporting cables should include MGGZ01 on the subject line as well as the following tags: AEMR, ASEC, CASC, KFLO, MARR, PREL, PINR, AMGT, IS, GZ.

4. The Monitoring Group will be located in Task Force Room One. The Monitoring Group non-secure telephone numbers for internal departmental business are (202) 647-6611 and fax (202) 647-7094. Congressional and public inquiries should be directed to (888) 407-4747 or to (202) 501-4444 if calling from an overseas location. Media inquiries should be directed to the Press Office at (202) 647-2492 during regular business hours or to the Operations Center at (202) 647-1512 after business hours. The Monitoring Group secure telephone numbers are STE (202) 647-0765 and STE fax (202) 647-0764.

5. The unclassified email address for the Monitoring Group is 'GazaFlotillaMonitoringGroup@state.gov'; the classified email address is GazaFlotillaMonitoringGroup@state.gov. Department personnel may email the Monitoring Group using the 'Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group' email address found in the Global Address List (GAL) on both the classified and unclassified systems.

6. A Gaza Flotilla webpage, which includes Monitoring Group situation reports, is available at http://www.intelink.gov/wikilPortal:Gaza_Flotilla_2010. Please note that this web address is case sensitive.
7. Embassy Tel Aviv should take the following actions immediately:

(a) Please provide by email the office and residence phone numbers of all country team members and other key officers who will have action responsibilities during this crisis. Please direct these emails to SES-O@state.gov.

(b) Participate in conference calls and provide situation reports by email as required for as long as the Monitoring Group is in operation.

8. Minimize considered.

CLINTON

NNNN
ACTION NEA-00

INFO LOG-00 RPPR-00 CIAE-00 INL-00 DNI-00 PERC-00 EUR-00
DIAS-00 TEOE-00 INR-00 ARMY-00 NSAE-00 ISN-00 ISNE-00
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--------------6F5CBE 031618Z/38
P 031555Z JUN 10
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHOe PRIORITY 7666
INFO ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE
CONFIDENTIAL TUNIS 000399

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/03/2020
TAGS:
PREL, PHUM, PGOV, KPAL, ASEC, PINR, TS, IS, GZ
SUBJECT: MGGZ01: TUNISIA: MORE DEMONSTRATIONS AND
CONDEMNATIONS OF GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

REF: TUNIS 396

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

Summary

1. (C) Demonstrations supporting the Palestinian people and
denouncing Israel over the Gaza flotilla incident continued
in Tunisia on June 2 with several protests throughout the
country. The Tunisian General Labor Union (UGTT) led a
protest in Sfax, but the Government of Tunisia (GOT)
prevented the union from organizing demonstrations in other
cities. Tunisian lawyers in a public statement and in a
court case also have protested Israeli actions. Despite UGTI
efforts, the GOT is likely to continue to clamp down on
protests to maintain control of Tunisian sentiment and to
preserve its image championing the Palestinian people. End
summary.

2. (C) Following on the heels of a government-sanctioned
protest in Tunis on June 1 (ref tel), demonstrations against
Israeli actions in the Gaza flotilla incident continued in
Tunisia on June 2. Civil society organizations arranged
demonstrations in Bizerte, Jendouba, Sousse, and Sfax.

UGTT Tries To Lead the Charge

3. (C) The UGTT has attempted to host several protests

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior
Reviewer
throughout the country, but police forces have prevented many of the demonstrations. On June 2, the UGTT organized a march in Sfax, which the Arabic tabloid Chourouq reported featured "great numbers" of workers, including youth and civil society members. The UGTT is scheduled to have a demonstration in Tunis on the afternoon of June 3. However, in Gabes, the regional authorities stopped the UGTT from organizing a protest without the ruling Democratic Constitutional Rally (RCD) party, and the police banned two demonstrations led by the UGTT in the Tozeur province. In Chebba, police officers used force to prevent the UGTT regional office and civil society activists from holding a demonstration, and thwarted protesters settled for burning an Israeli flag. Realities, a French independent weekly, reported that the UGTT has said that it will protest to the U.S. Embassy. (Note: The Embassy has not yet heard from the UGTI. End note.)

Lawyers Jump into the Fray

4. (C) Tunisian lawyers on June 2 gathered outside of a court in Tunis, where the president of the Tunisian bar association, Abderrazek Kilani, gave a speech condemning Israel and calling for the end of the blockade on Gaza. Policemen and RCD lawyers harassed independent lawyers at the gathering, according to civil society sources.

5. (C) A Tunisian lawyer also has filed a case in Tunisian courts against Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu. As-sarih, an independent Arabic daily, published an interview with the lawyer, who is a familiar face in Tunisia and often appears on television. In the interview, he says that he expects the Tunisian court to sentence Netanyahu to prison and Interpol to issue a warrant for the Israeli leader.

Comment

6. (C) Tunisian anger at the flotilla incident continues to brew, and the government's restrictions on the UGTT protests and the harassment of independent lawyers reflect the GOT's desire to keep close control of Tunisian reaction and maintain the RCD's prominence in condemning Israeli actions. End comment.
SUBJECT: PORTUGAL: THE FREE GAZA "ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA"

REF: A) 11 STATE 36240;

CLASSIFIED BY: Paul Martinek, Pol-Econ Officer; REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

(C) Poloff delivered reftel demarche April 20 to the Director of Middle East and Maghreb Affairs at the Portuguese MFA. He said the GOP knows of no Portuguese individuals or vessels participating in the flotilla in May to break the blockade of Gaza.

KATZ

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
EU condenms deadly assault against international peace flotilla sailing to Gaza and calls for unconditional lifting of blockade and inquiry

Brussels, 31/05/2010 (Agence Europe) - [...] Speaking in Warsaw on Monday, EU High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy
Catherine Ashton said in a press conference that she had spoken to Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman to express "our deepest concern about the tragedy" and call for "an immediate inquiry into the circumstances" surrounding the attack. She also stated the importance of opening the crossings for humanitarian aid to go through, to ensure that ordinary people have a better existence" than that which she saw when she visited Gaza. Ashton also offered her condolences to the families of the victims and stated that coordination would continue with EU ambassadors throughout the day. Several member states have already recalled their ambassadors. In a press release published on Monday morning, European Parliament President Jerzy Buzek expressed his outrage. "Despite repeated calls for all involved to act with restraint and responsibility, the interception of the convoy in international waters has resulted in many casualties. This is an unjustified attack, which has claimed at least a dozen lives," he said. [...] During a press conference in the European Parliament on Monday 31 May, Vronique de Keyser (S&D, Belgium), returning from a Parliamentary mission to Gaza, one of the tasks of which was to assess the scale of the consequences of the blockade, went further in calling for the EU, not just to ask for, but to "bring about the end of the blockade by whatever means necessary". She denounced Israel's disproportionate action, stated that "here a red line has been crossed" and said she feared a "logic of concerted escalation" threatening the peace process. She added, "We want an independent international inquiry. We want results from EU ambassadors, using all available means, including sanctions, if necessary". She argued that "an investigation by Israel is not enough". [...] The GUE/NGL Group strongly condemned the "unacceptable practices" against vessels manned by unarmed civilians and called for the EU to "respond immediately to such impunity". They called for the immediate suspension of the association agreement with Israel and a debate at Parliament's next session with High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy, Ms Ashton.

EU demands inquiry into Israeli military action
BRUSSELS, May 31 (Reuters) – The European Union called for an immediate inquiry into deaths aboard six ships seized by Israel's navy on Monday and urged Israel to allow the free flow of humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip. "The EU condemns the use of violence that has produced a high number of victims among the members of the flotilla and demands an immediate, full and impartial inquiry into the events and the circumstances surrounding them," EU High Foreign Policy Representative Catherine Ashton said in a statement. She spoke after an emergency meeting of member states' envoys to Brussels to discuss the incident, in which at least 10 people were killed after six ships tried to break Israel's blockade of the Islamist-controlled Palestinian territory. "The EU does not accept the continued policy of closure. It is unacceptable and politically counterproductive. We need to urgently achieve a durable solution to the situation in Gaza," Ashton said.
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UNCLASSIFIED
Sensitive
Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs
Staff Meeting Notes
Friday, May 28, 2010

THIS SUMMARY IS CLASSIFIED SECRET AND IS FOR INTERNAL EUR USE ONLY

A/S Gordon chaired the meeting

Special Envoy Morningstar
Secretary likely to meet Davutoglu on Tuesday.
Israel will try to divert flotilla of three Turkish and six other ships headed for Gaza.

(This document is uncleared and unofficial. It is subject to errors and/or omissions.)
1. (SBU) IHH informed post that it expects its passenger ship, the Mavi Marmara, to depart Antalya around 5:00 pm today. The ship will head towards the "Free Gaza" flotilla rendezvous point off of Cyprus (reftel). IHH expects the flotilla to approach Gaza on the evening of May 28 or morning of May 29.

ONE AMCIT HAS JOINED IHH GROUP. TWO MORE MAY ARRIVE TODAY

2. (SBU) IHH said that one American citizen, has arrived in Antalya and will be aboard its passenger ship when it departs. Two other American citizens, one believed to be named may also board the ship. However, IHH said it is unsure they will arrive before the ship departs. The IHH said it will submit a final list of passengers to their headquarters in Istanbul after their ship's passengers pass through passport control. The list will contain the names of the American citizens on board their ship. IHH said they will share those names with post.

3. (SBU) IHH has confirmed that it will have three ships in the flotilla. The Mavi Marmara, as well as two cargo ships, named the Gazze and the Defne. The cargo ships will only have IHH officials on board and no foreigners.

SIGNATURE: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
From: svcsmartmfi
To: SMART Core
Subject: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

CONFIDENTIAL

MRN: 10 BAGHDAD 1421
Date/DTG: Jun 01, 2010 / 010829Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE; USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION PRIORITY; ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, IS, GZ, IZ, PGOV
Captions: SIPDIS
Pass Line: AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
Subject: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

CONFIDENTIAL BAGHDAD 001421

Classification Extended on: 01/26/2015 - Class: CONFIDENTIAL
Author: DSCG 11-1 - Declassify on: 05/27/2023

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/27/2018
TAGS: PREL, USUN, NEA, IS, GZ, IZ, PGOV
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor Gary A. Grappo for reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

1. (C) On June 1, POL MIC delivered demarche points on the Gaza flotilla incident to FM Hoshyar Zebari.

Signature: MUNTER

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer
From: Wolf, Benedict (Moscow)
To: svcSMARTHBTSP0P4
Subject: Russia Daily Brief: June 1, 2010

Russia Daily Brief

POL
(SBU) Moscow's Reaction to Gaza Flotilla

ECON

Vladivostok

Upcoming Events
Links to More Information about Russia

POL
(SBU) Moscow's Reaction to Gaza Flotilla: Moscow condemned and expressed "deep anxiety" over the confrontation between Israel and the convoy of ships carrying aid to the Gaza strip, terming the action, in which more than 10 people were killed, a "gross" violation of international law, and called for a thorough investigation into the incident. "Use of weapons against civilians and detaining ships in the open sea without any legal reason constitutes obvious and gross violations of generally accepted international legal standards," the GOR said. During the UNSC deliberations May 31, Russia condemned the capture of the ships in the convoy.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer
(SBU) Upcoming Events

(SBU) Links to More Information about Russia

Derived From: multiple sources
Declassify on: 2020/06/01
W/O Attachment(s): This document is SECRET when separated from SECRET attachment(s).
Drafted By: MOSCOW/Wolf, Benedict (Moscow)
Released By: MOSCOW/Wolf, Benedict (Moscow)
Info:
Angah, Negah ROUTINE; Anita Friedt ([ ] ROUTINE; Apicelli, Michael ROUTINE; Bailey, John W., SFC ROUTINE; Bennett Elizabeth L Civ NASIC/SMBM ROUTINE; Bennett, Kirk ROUTINE; Bernie Stone ROUTINE; Beyrle, John R (Moscow) ROUTINE; Birmer, Timothy HOURTINE; Brig Gen Daniel R. Eagle ROUTINE; Bryan Earl ROUTINE; Burpee, Merryl ROUTINE; Canavan, Katherine ROUTINE; Cannizzaro, Christopher ROUTINE; Carpenter, Michael ROUTINE; Carver, Consuelo ROUTINE; Charles Tennyson ROUTINE; Clark, Steven L. CIV ROUTINE; Cohen, Michael ROUTINE; Corrydon Driscoll ROUTINE; Crenwelge, Colleen ERC ROUTINE; Crews, John W. COL ROUTINE; Dara Massicot ROUTINE; Donald Gable ROUTINE; Ekimoff, Lana ROUTINE; Elledge, Katrina M. ROUTINE; EUR-CARC-DL ROUTINE; EUR-RUS-DL ROUTINE; Fane, Darla MROUTINE; Fedkin, Yuriy ROUTINE; Friedt, Anita ERC ROUTINE; Gardner, Gregory N ROUTINE; Garverick, J Robert (Baku) ROUTINE;
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**SECRET**
From: svcsmartmfi
To: SMART Core
Subject: TWO INDONESIANS INJURED ABOARD HUMANITARIAN SHIP BOUND FOR GAZA

UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASED IN PART
B6

MRN: 10 JAKARTA 765
Date/DTG: Jun 01, 2010 / 010903Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: ASEc, ID, KISL, PGOV, IR
Captions: SENSITIVE, SIPDIS
Sensitivity: Sensitive
Pass Line: DEPT FOR EAP, EAP/MTS, EAP/MLS, EAP/RSP
NSC FOR J. BADER
Subject: TWO INDONESIANS INJURED ABOARD HUMANITARIAN SHIP BOUND FOR GAZA

UNCLAS JAKARTA 000765
SENSITIVE
SIPDIS
DEPT FOR EAP, EAP/MTS, EAP/MLS, EAP/RSP
NSC FOR J. BADER

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: ASEc, ID, KISL, PGOV, IR
SUBJECT: TWO INDONESIANS INJURED ABOARD HUMANITARIAN SHIP BOUND FOR GAZA

1. (U) This message is Sensitive but Unclassified. Please handle accordingly.

2. (SBU) According to two Indonesians were injured when the Mavi Marmara was allegedly stormed by Israeli forces on May 31. The Mavi Marmara was part of the Freedom Flotilla attempting to bypass the Israeli blockade to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza. The Indonesian government is working through its embassies in Beirut, Turkey and Jordan to ascertain the current health and welfare of its citizens. Indonesia maintains no diplomatic ties with Israel. There were 12 Indonesians in the flotilla from three pro-Palestine activist groups (one considered hardline) and five local journalists. Peaceful protests are ongoing throughout Jakarta with approximately 1,000 gathered outside Embassy Jakarta.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer
3. (SBU) The Indonesian government condemned the alleged attack and urged the United Nations to fully investigate the incident. Indonesian Foreign Minister Marty Natalegawa announced that one of the groups, Medical Emergency Rescue Committee (Mer-C), notified the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (KEMLU) prior to its departure. KEMLU officials reportedly told Mer-C that it appreciated efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Gaza, but warned of the high risk associated with this action.

4. (SBU) Mer-C is one of three pro-Palestine organizations aboard the Mavi Marmara and Indonesia's largest contingency with five representatives. It is known as a Muslim hardline group focused on providing humanitarian and disaster relief. This group sent representatives into Gaza in the aftermath of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict last year. Although the group is not known to have official ties to any jihadi group, there are allegations that it provided financial assistance to widows of the conflict in Gaza, which may have included families of terrorist suspects.

5. (SBU) The other two organizations include the Indonesian Committee for Palestine Solidarity (KISPA) and Friends of Al Aqsa Mosque (Sahat Al Aqsa). KISPA is a humanitarian and charity organization for the Palestine Authority, actively involved in a forum supporting Palestinian independence. Other members of the forum include the moderate mass-Muslim organization Muhammadiyah (with over 35 million members) and more hardline groups such as the Islamic Defender's Front (FPI) and Dewan Dakwah Islamiyah Indonesia (DDII). Friends of Al Aqsa Mosque conducts awareness campaigns on issues related to Palestinian humanitarian efforts. It was founded by an activist from the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS), Indonesia's largest Islamic-based political party.

6. (SBU) Also on board were several local journalists.

HUME

Signature: HUME

Info: TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION ROUTINE; NSC WASHDC ROUTINE; CIA WASHDC ROUTINE; ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM COLLECTIVE PRIORITY; ISLAMIC COLLECTIVE ROUTINE

Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED
Sensitive
Condemnations of Israeli Raid from across the Political Spectrum in France

(U) President Sarkozy expressed May 31 his "profound emotions" in response to the "tragic consequences of the Israeli military operation against the 'flotilla of liberty' headed for Gaza." He condemned the "disproportionate use of force" by Israel and expressed his condolences to the families of the victims. He called for light to be shed on the circumstances of the tragedy, which he said underlines the urgency of relaunching the peace process. Foreign Minister Kouchner, who was in Nice for the France-Africa summit when events unfolded on the aid ships in the early morning of May 31, released a statement the same day declaring that he was "profoundly shocked" and that "nothing could justify the use of such violence." He later added that these events serve as a reminder that the current situation in Gaza is untenable, and that France would take the necessary initiatives to prevent this tragedy leading to an escalation of violence. The French MFA convoked Israeli Ambassador Shek on the afternoon of May 31, where Kouchner's Chief of Staff Philippe Errera reportedly conveyed these messages.
Political leaders from across the spectrum in France roundly condemned the raid. Socialist Party (PS) leader Martine Aubry expressed her disapproval in the strongest terms of the "unacceptable and disproportionate" use of force. The PS Mayor of Paris, Bertrand Delanoë, described Israel's raid as "disastrous" for hopes of peace between the Palestinian and Israeli peoples. Marielle de Sarnez of the centrist Democratic Movement decried a "terrible catastrophe that could have been avoided." Left-wing parties unanimously denounced the attack, with several calling for action by the U.N. Security Council. The Greens, the New Anticapitalist Party, and pro-Palestinian groups organized protest demonstrations in Paris, Lille, Marseille, Lyon, and Toulouse. In Paris, hundreds of protesters gathered outside the Israeli Embassy in Paris, blocking traffic and ultimately clashing with French police. Some of the protesters threw stones at the police, who responded with tear gas and pepper spray. Police estimated that about 1,200 people took part in the demonstration. Many protesters waved Palestinian flags, others brought out flags from former French colonies, mainly in North Africa. Former Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin also joined the fray, declaring in a national television program that "nothing could justify a policy of force that defies international law." He said the drama unfolded in the context of a terrible blockade of Gaza since 2007, and since the terrible Israeli intervention in Gaza that killed so many people. (JM)
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From: svcsmartmfl
To: SMART Core
Subject: MGGZ01: TUNISIA: DEMARCHE AND REACTIONS TO THE GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

CONFIDENTIAL
Sensitive

MRN: 10 TUNIS 389
Date/DTG: Jun 01, 2010 / 011325Z JUN 10
From: AMBASSADRY TUNIS
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, KISL, AEMR, SEC, CASC, KFLO, MARR, PINR, TS, IS, GZ
Captions: SIPDIS
Sensitivity: Sensitive
Reference: A. MAY 31 FELTMAN - NEA AMBASSADORS EMAIL B. TUNIS 293
Subject: MGGZ01: TUNISIA: DEMARCHE AND REACTIONS TO THE GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

CONFIDENTIAL TUNIS 00389

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/01/2020
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, KISL, AEMR, SEC, CASC, KFLO, MARR, PINR, TS, IS, GZ
SUBJECT: MGGZ01: TUNISIA: DEMARCHE AND REACTIONS TO THE GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT
REF: A. MAY 31 FELTMAN - NEA AMBASSADORS EMAIL B. TUNIS 293

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

Summary

1. (C) Political/Economic Counselor has conveyed the points concerning U.S. actions following the Gaza flotilla incident.

The Ambassador and visiting AFRICOM General Ward amplified this message during a press conference on the morning of June 1. The Tunisian MFA has not yet reacted to our demarche but it issued a strong condemnation of Israeli actions on the afternoon of May 31. Labor activists have tried to stage demonstrations in at least two Tunisian cities, but the police have suppressed them. At last count,

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer
fifteen Tunisian civil society groups have issued condemnations of Israeli actions. If public anger is sustained, the GOT is likely to organize its own demonstrations. End summary.

Demarche to the MFA

2. (C) Political/Economic Counselor delivered to the Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the morning of June 1 the points conveyed in ref email on U.S. actions in response to the Gaza Flotilla Incident.

Visiting AFRICOM Commander General Ward and the Ambassador amplified these points in remarks to Tunisian and regional media during a press conference at the end of his three day visit to Tunis.

MFA Condemnation

3. (SBU) We have not yet had a substantive response from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to our demarche. However, the MFA issued a statement late on May 31, carried in all morning papers on June 1, "firmly condemning the aggression perpetrated by Israeli forces in international waters against a humanitarian aide flotilla." The MFA, in its statement, expressed its "categoric rejection of these hostile practices which constitute an affront to international will and a violation of international and humanitarian conventions and resolutions, threatening to further complicate the situation in the region and compromise all hope for peace.... Tunisia reiterates its condemnation of all forms of collective punishment and urges the international community, influential forces in particular, to immediately intervene to lift the unjust blockade imposed upon the Palestinian people of Gaza and put an end to their suffering."

Public Reactions

4. (C) The Tunisian public is beginning to react with anger to accounts of the incident. In Tunis and in the southern city of Gabes, police prevented hundreds of union activists from staging demonstrations of "solidarity with Gaza" on May 31. Police also surrounded the headquarters of the opposition Progressive Development Party (PDP) which recently slammed the GOT for allowing Israeli citizens to visit Tunisia in the face of continuing Israeli "outrages" against Palestinians (ref B). At least 15 Tunisian civil society organizations and unions, recognized and unrecognized, have so far issued statements condemning Israeli actions and calling for an end to the blockade of Gaza.

Comment

5. (C) The GOT is loathe to authorize spontaneous demonstrations by groups it does not control. However, if pan-Arab anger over the incident is sustained, as in January 2009 (Gaza) or summer 2006 (Lebanon), the ruling Democratic
Constitutional Rally will likely organize and stage a
demonstration to serve as a control valve for public anger.
End comment.

GRAY

Signature: GRAY

Classified By: Ambassador Gordon Gray
Reason: 1.4 (b) and (d)
Declassify on: 06/01/2020
Info: ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE
Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

CONFIDENTIAL
Sensitive
CONFIDENTIAL

1. (C) We delivered ref demarche regarding Israel's naval interdiction of the "Free Gaza" humanitarian aid flotilla to Vice Foreign Minister (V/FM) Faisal Miqdad during his June 1 meeting with Staffdel Shea.
From: Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)
To: svcSMARTBTSPOP8
Subject: RE: Lebanon O/I May 28, 2010
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

MRN: 10 MDA 849
Date/DTG: Jun 01, 2010 / 011451Z JUN 10
From: Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)
Action: Lawson, Christine MARUTINE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, KDEM, LE, IS, ASEC
Captions: OFFICIAL INFORMAL
Subject: RE: Lebanon O/I May 28, 2010

(C) Public protests in support of Gaza flotilla: The Syrian Socialist Workers Party and the Communists have called for a gathering at the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) building in downtown Beirut tomorrow to protest the flotilla incident. They then plan to bus the protesters to a mall parking lot near here and have them march to Awkat Square, below the Embassy, starting at noon.
Christine Lawson
Lebanon Desk Officer
Office of Egypt and Levant Affairs
Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
U.S. Department of State
202-647-1030

This email classified SECRET unless otherwise noted.
Derived from DSCG 05-1 (A, B and/or D)
Declassify ten years from date of email or per attachment.

Classified By: Thomas F. Daughton, CDA, a.i.
Embassy Beirut
State
Reason: 1.4 (b), (d)
Declassify on: 2020/06/01
From: O'Grady, Daniel J
Sent: 7/1/2010 11:08:07 AM
To: svcSMARTHTSP07
Subject: IRI Poll Highlights AKP's Vulnerabilities
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

MRN: 10 ANKARA 895
Date/DTG: Jul 01, 2010 /011506Z JUL 10
From: AMEMBASSY ANKARA
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PGOV, TU, PREL
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: A) 10 ANKARA 896
Pass Line: DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR EUR/SE
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: IRI Poll Highlights AKP's Vulnerabilities

2. (SBU) The International Republican Institute (IRI) conducted a national public opinion poll of Turkey in cooperation with the Harris Institute and Infacto polling company. The poll was conducted May 8-16, and therefore does not take into account the change in leadership in the Republican People's Party (CHP), the fallout of Israel's interception of the aid flotilla to Gaza, or the UN Security Council vote to impose tighter sanctions on Iran. IRI provided us an advance presentation of the poll data and their analysis. IRI plans to make the results public July 2.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
Page 1 of 4

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05705604 Date: 06/01/2016

StateDept10822
Page Denied
From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 7/8/2010 3:34:30 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: PAYMENTS FOR ARABIC AND ELECTRONIC JOURNAL TRANSLATIONS

UNCLASSIFIED

MRN: 10 STATE 70570
Date/DTG: Jul 06, 2010 / 061929Z JUL 10
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Action: BEIRUT, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: AFIN, AMGT, KPAO, OIIP
Subject: PAYMENTS FOR ARABIC AND ELECTRONIC JOURNAL TRANSLATIONS

UNCLASSIFIED STATE 070570
E.O. 13526: N/A
TAGS: AFIN, AMGT, KPAO, OIIP
SUBJECT: PAYMENTS FOR ARABIC AND ELECTRONIC JOURNAL TRANSLATIONS

1. IIP requests Embassy assistance in paying the local Beirut Translation Firm "Sari" for Arabic translation work.

2. We request that post use the following fiscal strip:
   19-9.0113P-1096-930255-251160-2914-2589. Data are broken down as follows:
   Agency/Bureau: 19
   BFY: 09
   Appropriation: 0113P
   Obligation Number: 1096930255
   Org Code: 251160
   Function Code: 2914
   Budget Object Code: 2589

3. The Sari Director, Mr. Ramzi K. Saidi, will present receipts for the following projects and amounts, all in U.S. dollars:
   1. Statement by Assistant Secretary P.J. Crowley re: Free Gaza Flotilla (US78012010) $23.00
   2. Democracy is Stories of Survival and Hope (US781/2010) $57.00
   3. Holder Calls for Greater Security Against Drug Traffickers (US782/2010) $48.00

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer
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<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Remarks by Under Secretary Tauscher on 2010 NPT (US784/2010)</td>
<td>$94.00</td>
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<td>India an Indispensable Partner (US785/2010)</td>
<td>$66.00</td>
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<td>U.S. Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Neal S. Wolin Remarks on Palestine (US786/2010)</td>
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<td>A battle over ancient Bits of Clay (US787/2010)</td>
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<td>Sab Tabs (US789/2010)</td>
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<td>An Official Welcome from EY: See You in the USA (US790/2010)</td>
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<td>Path to the White House: Abraham Lincoln from 1854 (US791/2010)</td>
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<td>2 Articles from Publication &quot;Abraham Lincoln&quot; (US792/2010)</td>
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<td>Translation of 5 Articles Cairo Anniversary (US794/2010)</td>
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<td>One Year after the President's &quot;A New Beginning&quot; Speech in Cairo (US796/2010)</td>
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<td>World Cup 2010 Respect and Diversity (US799/2010)</td>
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<td>Mohammad Youssef (US800/2010)</td>
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<td>The Espinosa Family (US801/2010)</td>
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<td>Krip Dhungel (US802/2010)</td>
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<td>Biden Offers U.S. Support for Peaceful, Credible Sudan Referendum (US803/2010)</td>
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<td>4 Articles (US809/2010)</td>
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<td>President Obama's Address to the Nation on BP Oil Spill (US810/2010)</td>
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<td>Photo Gallery: Making a Home in the U.S. (US811/2010)</td>
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<td>5 Articles from Publication &quot;Focus on Intellectual Property Rights&quot;</td>
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**CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED**

Page 2 of 3
Property Rights (US822/2010) $790.00
44. U.S. Cultural Fund Preserves Egyptian, Sudanese Tribal Music (US823/2010) $130.00
45. Ambassadors Fund Support Middle East Heritage Projects (US823a/2010) $350.00
46. G8 Muskoka: Non-proliferation and Iran (US824/2010) $115.00
47. Major Muslim-Organized Cultural Festival Expands in Chicago (US825/2010) $85.00
48. 4 Articles from Publication "Edward R. Murrow, Journalism at its best" (US826/2010) $383.00
49. 6 Articles from Publication "Intellectual Property Rights" (US827/2010) $830.00

IIP greatly appreciates Post support of this process, which allows us to engage quality translators at lower cost than rates for similar work in the Washington area.

CLINTON

UNCLASSIFIED
From: Temath, Friedhelm  
Sent: 7/7/2010 8:12:23 AM  
To: SMART Core  
Subject: Media Reaction: U.S.-Israel, U.S.-Georgia, Iran, Afghanistan, France-Sarkozy, WTO:BERLIN

UNCLASSIFIED

Wednesday  
July 07, 2010

CONTENTS

1. Lead Stories Summary  
2. (U.S.-Israel) Obama-Netanyahu Meeting  
3. (U.S.-Georgia) Clinton Visit  
4. (Iran) Effect of Sanctions  
5. (Afghanistan) Karzai's Policy  
6. (France) Sarkozy in Trouble  
7. (Economic) WTO Talks

1. Lead Stories Summary

All papers led with reports on healthcare reform, while Handelsblatt dealt with a decision of the Federal Court of Justice to allow genetic tests on embryos. Editorials focused on the same issues and on the formation of a new government in North Rhine-Westphalia. ZDF-TV's early evening newscast heute and ARD-TV's early evening newscast Tagesschau opened with reports on healthcare reform.

2. (U.S.-Israel) Obama-Netanyahu Meeting

"Mission Handshake," headlined Frankfurter Rundschau and reported: "Results do not play any role during the Obama-Netanyahu meeting. A picture says more than a thousand words. This is how the most important item..."
The shaking of hands on the agenda during the Obama-Netanyahu meeting can be summarized: the shaking of hands. The brief period in which the U.S. government had thought to put pressure on Israel is already over. This time Netanyahu's visit was accompanied by conciliatory but also purely symbolic gestures. The fact that this time the friendly handshake was on the agenda is hushing up that Israel and the United States are still unable to agree on a joint strategy.

Berlin Zeitung carried a similar report, headlining: "Symbolic Gestures - The only thing that counts is the shaking of hands."

Under the headline: "Mission Joint Picture," Die Welt reported that "more than three months [after Netanyahu's previous visit to Washington] and one Gaza flotilla later, both sides are trying to pour oil on troubled waters and demonstrate harmony. Following the meeting, President Obama tried to dispel the impression that the United States had left the [Israeli] ally in the lurch. One factor that also contributed to a détente in relations was that the Obama government has understood in the meantime that it is not beneficial to U.S. interests to allow the impression to develop that the United States would disassociate itself too much from the closet ally in the Middle East. In Washington, the government has followed with concern the new positioning of Turkey and its rapprochement with Iran and Syria."

Tagesspiegel headlined: "Demonstrative Harmony in the White House," and reported that "after months of diplomatic disgruntlement, Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu and U.S. President Obama again demonstrated harmony. Following the meeting in the White House, President Obama said the one-on-one meeting between him and Netanyahu was "excellent." Netanyahu called reports on problems in bilateral relations between the two countries to be 'simply wrong.'"

In a report headlined: "Obama and Netanyahu Anxious to Demonstrate Détente," Frankfurter Allgemeine wrote: "In view of the Congressional elections in November, in which observers expect Democratic losses in both houses of Congress, the Israeli prime minister sees himself in a stronger negotiating position than a few months ago. In Congress, among Democrats but primarily among Republicans, Israel enjoys almost unlimited support. Obama and Netanyahu do not have a very cordial relationship. In addition, Obama is very unpopular among the Israelis."

In an editorial, Frankfurter Allgemeine judged: "Americans and Israelis are anxious to normalize their strained relations. In order to improve relations, Israel decided to lift the blockade on the Gaza Strip, reduce appearances of the controversial Foreign Minister Lieberman in public, and Netanyahu also imposed a temporary construction stop for settlements in the West Bank and western Jerusalem. But what next? [Netanyahu's] coalition partner and the settlers' movement have far-reaching new housing development plans. After the end of the moratorium they will certainly put pressure on him. And the Palestinians already threatened not to conduct new peace talks with Israel if new houses were built. But the most recent rapprochement between Israel and the United States is at least reason for hope."

3. (U.S.-Georgia) Clinton Visit

Die Welt is the only paper that carried a report on Secretary Clinton's visit to Georgia and reported under the headline; "Moscow Irritated at Clinton's Visit to Tbilisi" and wrote: "Moscow is reacting in an irritated way to the visit of Secretary Clinton to Georgia. It was not President Medvedev who expressed his views, because he was on a visit to Kazakhstan, but it was Prime Minister Putin who stepped into the breach for Medvedev, even though foreign policy is usually not part of his portfolio. But in Russia's self-understanding, Georgia is not a foreign country. Hillary Clinton gave assurances to Georgia's President Saakashvili of the [U.S.] support of Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity. At the same time, she called upon the high-handedly acting state leader to intensify his democratization efforts."

4. (Iran) Effect of Sanctions

In a report that focused on Iranian aircraft having problems obtaining sufficient jet fuel, Sueddeutsche mentioned the press roundtable with Undersecretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Stuart Levey, who is quoted as having said that "We have indications that the Iranians are reacting in an increasingly worried way to sanctions." He added that the far-reaching restrictions on financial transactions would hit Iran hard, and said: "The Iranian economy is under pressure."

Handelsblatt carried a similar report and wrote that the United States is pressing the EU to intensify its sanctions.
on Iran. The paper quoted Undersecretary Levey as having said: "Now phase two is beginning." He added that he wanted to get Germany and the EU's support for even tougher sanctions against Iran to dissuade the country from developing a nuclear bomb.

In this context, several papers reported that the European Commission expanded an already existing flight ban on Iran Air. The Commission banned the airline from using Boeing 727s and 747s, and Airbus 320s for its flights to EU countries.

According to an editorial in *Sueddeutsche*, "the Iranian leadership is trying to avoid the impression that the EU and U.S. sanctions really hit the country... even though some Iran Air aircraft must stay on the ground, because Western companies have not renewed contracts for the refueling of the aircraft.... But it will be decisive to see how these supply bottlenecks will hit Iran itself. For months, the Ahmadinejad government has been trying to cut gas subsidies which make fuel cheaper than water.... But the regime knows quite well that pressure from the streets will rise if the sanctions have an effect on the people on the street. That is why it is hardly surprising that the President, despite statements to the contrary, is now signaling Iran's willingness for talks before the vote in the UNSC. At home, the government is under pressure from conservative critics and the weakened 'green' opposition movement. In view of the complex balance of power, it would be premature to expect a softening of the tone in Tehran. Instead, the state leadership around religious leader Khamenei could simply drop Ahmadinejad."

5. (Afghanistan) Karzai’s Policy

*Sueddeutsche* carried an editorial under the headline: "Karzai's Calculations" and argued: "Following the attack on the peace jirga in June, President Karzai fired his interior minister and his security chief, arguing that they were responsible for the security hitch. But it became clear very quickly that he only wanted to get rid of them because they opposed an overly hasty agreement with the Taliban. Now Karzai has nominated two successors, thus strengthening his position for talks with the Islamic extremists.... Karzai's personnel policy shows to what extent he pins his hopes on talks with the Taliban, thus protecting himself from a possible failure of the U.S. military offensive. For Western observers, Karzai's pessimism may be distressing, but in view of the NATO setbacks, it is well understandable."

6. (France) Sarkozy in Trouble

Headlines: "Sarkozy in the Maelstrom of Party Funding Scandal" (*Die Welt*), while *Frankfurter Allgemeine* headlined: "Sarkozy's Party Funding Scandal - Statement of Accountant Creating Trouble for French President." *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* headlined: "Sarkozy, Too, Received an Envelope." *Financial Times Deutschland* dealt with the affair with a front page picture of a thoughtful Sarkozy under the headline: "Sarkozygate?" The caption reads: "Sarkozy Seriously Battered: Yesterday, Sarkozy only indirectly wanted to present his view on the most recent accusations."

In an editorial, *Frankfurter Allgemeine* opined: "Behind the goal of destabilizing Labor Minister Woerth, who is pushing a reform of the French pension system, the President is now coming to the fore. Allegedly, Madame Bettencourt donated a considerable amount of money to Sarkozy's election campaign and received some 'favors' from the revenue office in return. The justice authorities, which are now investigating the affair, are also pervaded with political trench warfare. That is why it is still unclear what is truth and what is fiction; but day after day, the government seems to become weaker."

*Sueddeutsche Zeitung* editorialized under the headline: "The President of Affairs," that "it is likely that Sarkozy made the most serious mistake right at the beginning of his term as president in the hour of triumph: In May 2007, after his election victory in the Fouquet's glamour restaurant at the Champs Elysees. While politicians, industrial leaders, and show stars courted him, the mass of his supporters had to stay outside. This created the impression among the French of having voted for a parvenu, and the people spoke of 'President Bling-Bling.' This label continued to stick with him, and if Sarkozy is now being dragged into a maelstrom of affairs, then this is the tragedy of a man who wanted to purify France, but failed because of his own character.... Sarkozy still has time to draw consequences [from the most recent affairs]. He could, for instance, reduce his Cabinet and turn it into a vigorous team. He could also deliver a 'blood-sweat-and-tears' address in which he explained to the French which reforms he planned to implement. And he could promise in the name of his government to clear the stables of Cuban cigars, dubious donations, and all this bling-bling. Only if Sarkozy turns the political elite,
the noblesse of the French Republic, into servants of the state, will the French forget his party in the Fouquet's glamour restaurant."

Under the headline: "Mr. Clean Sarkozy in a Swamp," Berliner Zeitung observed: "Mr. Clean, who promised a model republic and a flawless democracy to the French, is now entangled in a sinkhole of scandals.... It is true that these are only accusations. There is no evidence of this and Sarkozy dismisses all these accusations in an outraged way, but they have caused immense damage, and the impression that the political manners are going to rack and ruin, cannot be easily removed.... What can happen when the ordinary people consider those at the top to have seedy characters could be seen in the presidential elections in 2002, when right-wing extremist Jean Marie Le Pen capitalized on the weariness of politics and entered a run-off election for the French presidency."

Under the headline: "Dangerous Affair," Financial Times Deutschland noted: "As long as the President is in office, he needs not fear any investigation, but the affair will have direct implications for him: his chances of being re-elected are almost zero now.... For the EU this means that, for the time being, it can no longer built on the Franco-German axis, because both countries are domestically paralyzed for unforeseeable time. This not only increases the danger that right-wing extremists will gain strength, but hopes will also dwindle that Europe will come up with wise ideas that make the global economy more fit to cope with future crisis."

7. (Economic) WTO Talks

Under the headline: "The Long Farewell from Doha," Frankfurter Allgemeine judged: "Quite often people do not recognize the most important form of development assistance: a liberalization of global trade. The poor nations would really benefit from the reduction of trade barriers. At the summit in Toronto, the G-20 abandoned its previous goal of finishing the Doha Round on trade liberalization. Instead the summiters confined themselves to an inexpensive general commitment to free trade and investment policy. But they agreed on another point: for the first time, bilateral and regional agreements have now been promoted to [the level of] official trade instruments.... This means that the WTO marathon continues in Geneva, and the situation can best be described with the motto: hope is the last that dies. This is all the more true because global trade seems to work even without 'Doha.'... Irrespective of all commitments to 'Doha,' the network of bilateral free trade agreements and regional alliances will be intensified after Toronto and turn, in the end, into carriers of trade liberalization. It is characteristic that Canada's Prime Minister Harper said that regional initiatives could give trade a new impetus as long as 'Doha' stagnated. In the same breath he referred to Canadian-EU talks on a free trade agreement. But with such an approach, the hoped-for liberalization would be pushed into the background and for the least developed countries 'aid for trade' would be the only thing that remained. But this means a departure from a new round of talks for the developing countries. They could only hope to be dragged along by new alliances. Maybe this is more honest than previous empty words. But then one should also formally end the Doha process. What is necessary in global trade are goals that can be achieved and an end to mere lip service."

Signature: Murphy

Drafted By: BERLIN:Temath, Friedhelm
Cleared By: PA:Armstrong, Bruce W
PA:Moss, Mitchell R
Approved By: PA:Armstrong, Bruce W
Released By: BERLIN:Temath, Friedhelm
Info: WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; CIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; BRUSSELS, AMBASSAD; PARIS, AMBASSAD ROUTINE; ROME, AMBASSAD ROUTINE; USNATO, USMSION ROUTINE; USOSCE, USMISSION ROUTINE; HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GEROUTINE; HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GEROUTINE; UDITOUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GEROUTINE; FRG COLLECTIVE ROUTINE

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