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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection: CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTER (CMC), NSC: Records **Archivist:** dlb

File Folder: Beirut Hostages (2 of 3)
Box 91131

Date: 9/16/99
Wills - F97-109/1

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
1. Cable	Cable #121245Z Aug 85, 3 p. <i>Part 2/6/03 F97-109/1 #112</i>	8/12/85	P1/F1
2. Cable	Cable #122256Z Aug 85, 4 p.	8/12/85	P1/F1
3. Cable	Cable #121341Z Aug 85, 2 p.	8/12/85	P1/F1
4. Cable	Cable #120903Z Aug 85, 8 p. <i>0818 Part #114 #115</i>	8/12/85	P1/F1
5. Cable	Cable #121343Z Aug 85, 6 p.	8/12/85	P1/F1
6. Cable	Cable #110434Z Jul 85, 3 p. <i>Part #117</i>	7/11/85	P1/F1
7. Cable	Cable #111146Z Jul 85, 3 p. <i>Part #118</i>	7/11/85	P1/F1
8. Cable	No cable number, re: Arab and Israeli Highlights, 5 p. <i>Part #119</i>	7/18/85	P1/F1
9. Cable	Cable #111721Z Jul, 3 p. <i>D #120</i>	7/11/85	P1/F1
10. Cable	Cable #120313Z Jul 85, 2 p. <i>D #121</i>	7/12/85	P1/F1
11. Cable	Cable #111649Z Jul 85, 2 p.	7/12/85	P1/F1
12. Cable	Cable #131214Z Jul 85, 2 p. <i>Part #122</i>	7/13/85	P1/F1
13. Cable	Cable #041718Z Jul 85, 8 p. <i>D #123 #124</i>	7/4/85	P1/F1

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
- P-2 Relating to appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA].
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA].
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA].
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA].
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA].
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- F-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA].
- F-2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
- F-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA].
- F-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA].
- F-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA].
- F-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA].
- F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA].
- F-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA].

PENDING REVIEW IN ACCORDANCE WITH E.O. 13233

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTER, NSC: RECORDS

Withdrawer

CAS 4/17/2006

File Folder BEIRUT HOSTAGES (2)

FOIA

F97-109/1

Box Number 91131

ID Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date
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PAGE 01 OF 04 DAMASC 04965 00 OF 02 121245Z C01/01 006789 NOD360
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Department of State Guidelines, July 21, 1997
By db NARA, Date 9/16/99

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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CIA FOR DCI ONLY

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TEL AVIV

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, PREL, SY, LE, IS, US
SUBJECT: SHARA' -O'BRIEN MEETING ON KIDNAPPEES

REF: DAMASCUS 4952

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. SUMMARY: SHARA' RECEIVED CONGRESSMAN O'BRIEN AUGUST 11 WITH THE UNEXPECTED NEWS THAT PRESIDENT ASAD WANTED TO SEE HIM THE MORNING OF AUGUST 12.

E N D

SUMMARY.

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NLS F97-10911 #112
By CSJ NARA, Date 2/6/03

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PAGE 03 OF 04 DAMASC 04965 00 OF 02 121245Z C01/01 006789 NOD360

3. IN A SURPRISE MOVE FOREIGN MINISTER SHARA' INVITED CONGRESSMAN GEORGE O'BRIEN TO A MEETING AT 8:40 P.M. AUGUST 11. THE MEETING LASTED HALF AN HOUR WITH THE SAME ATTENDEES AS THE MORNING MEETING WITH VICE PRESIDENT KHADDAM (REFTEL). AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING, SHARA' INFORMED O'BRIEN THAT PRESIDENT ASAD WANTED TO SEE HIM THE NEXT MORNING.

4. O'BRIEN MADE A SIMILAR PRESENTATION TO SHARA' AS HE HAD TO KHADDAM. HE REVIEWED HIS RELATIONSHIP TO THE FAMILY OF FATHER MARTIN JENCO AND HIS MANY EFFORTS SINCE JANUARY ON FATHER JENCO'S BEHALF. "OVER THE LAST MONTH I HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THERE CAN BE NO REAL RESOLUTION FOR THESE KIDNAPPEES WITHOUT THE POWER, STRENGTH AND AUTHORITY OF THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT. IN MY PEOPLE'S MINDS THE TWA HOSTAGES WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN RELEASED WITHOUT YOUR INTERVENTION. WE ARE GRATEFUL."

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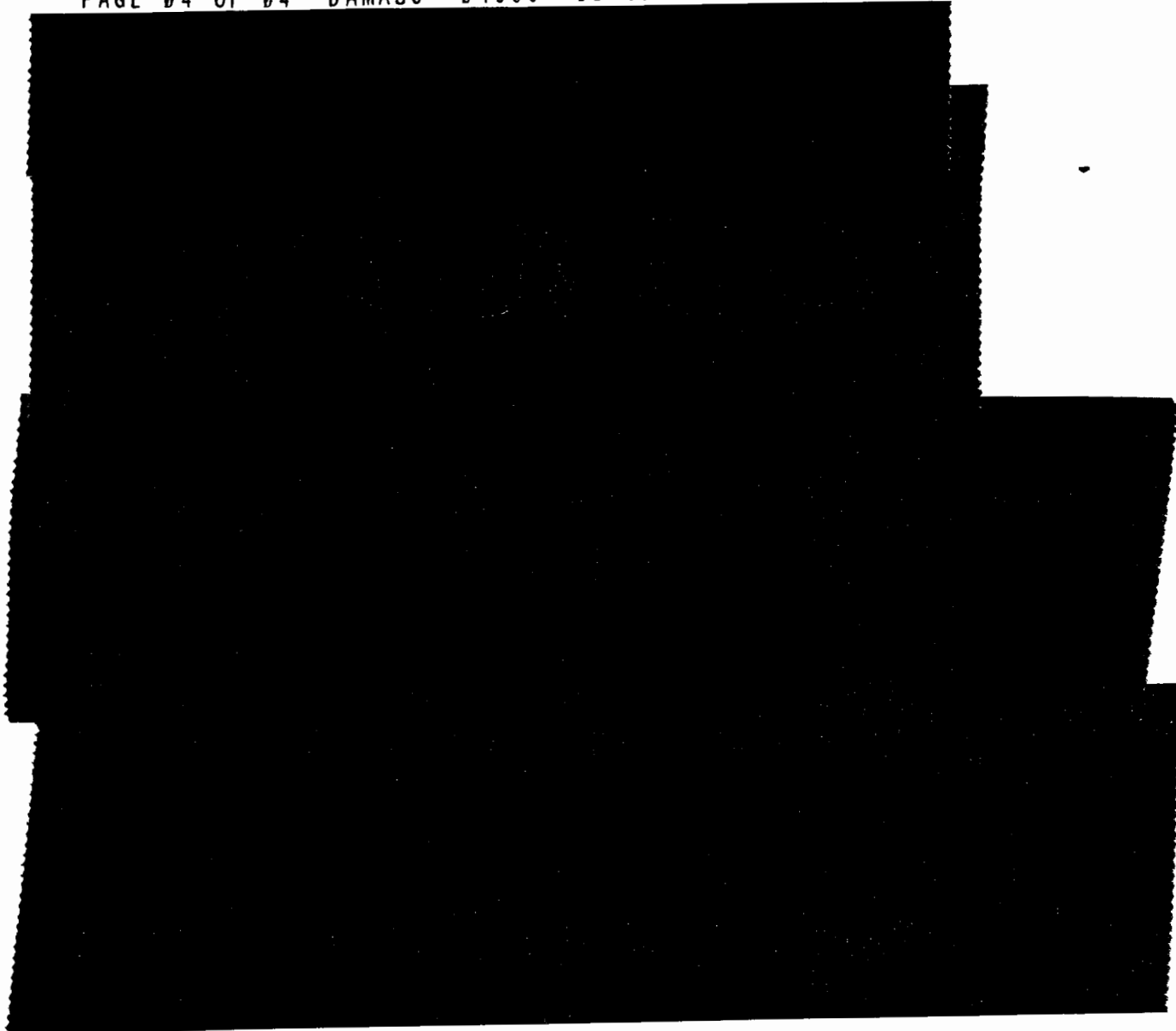


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Department of State Guidelines, July 21, 1997
By dm NARA, Date 9/16/99

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RABAT-EYES ONLY FOR PELLETREAU, PARIS FOR DAVID WINN

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PTER, LE, SY, FR

SUBJECT: TALKING POINTS FOR THE FRENCH

1. ~~(S)~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. FOLLOWING ARE TALKING POINTS FOR DAS PELLETREAU'S USE
IN CONSULTATIONS WITH THE GOF:

-- WE ARE WORKING INTENSIVELY TO SECURE THE RELEASE OF
THE MISSING AMERICANS IN LEBANON. WE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE
WITH YOU THE STATUS OF OUR CURRENT EFFORTS.

-- THE MAIN FOCUS OF OUR EFFORTS REMAINS THE SYRIANS. WE
HAVE HAD REGULAR ACCESS TO FOREIGN MINISTER SHAR'A. AND

BY CAS NLS 2/6/85 2/6/85
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WHILE OUR CONTACTS WITH HIGHER LEVELS IN THE LEADERSHIP HAVE NOT BEEN FREQUENT, WE ARE SATISFIED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY KEEPS THEM WELL INFORMED ON THIS ISSUE.

-- WE HAVE EMPHASIZED TO THE SYRIANS THAT KIDNAPPING IS UNACCEPTABLE AND NOT IN THEIR OWN REGIONAL INTERESTS. IT UNDERMINES THE STABILITY THEY SEEK IN LEBANON AND DAMAGES THEIR OWN AND LEBANON'S INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION. WE BELIEVE THAT PRESIDENT ASAD IS PERSONALLY COMMITTED TO EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE FOREIGN HOSTAGES AND THAT VICE PRESIDENT KHADDAM HAS BEEN WORKING ON THIS PROBLEM AT THE PRESIDENT'S INSTRUCTION.

-- IT IS OUR ASSESSMENT THAT THE SYRIANS COULD DO MORE TO ATTAIN THE RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES BUT ARE CONSTRAINED BY OTHER INTERESTS, INCLUDING THE PRESERVATION OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH IRAN AND A DESIRE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH ALL LEBANESE FACTIONS.

-- WE ARE ALSO WORKING WITH A VARIETY OF OTHER INTERMEDIARIES WHO HAVE SHOWN AN ABILITY OR HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CONTACT THE KIDNAPPERS.

-- WE ARE NOT CERTAIN WHO IS HOLDING THE HOSTAGES NOR THEIR EXACT LOCATION. IT IS LIKELY THAT THEY ARE MOVED FREQUENTLY, INCLUDING POSSIBLE MOVES BETWEEN THE BIOA AND THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS OF BEIRUT.

-- THE ONLY DEMAND THAT WE HAVE VERIFIED IS THE RELEASE OF THE DAWA PRISONERS IN KUWAIT. IT APPEARS THAT THE CAPTORS ARE RELATED TO ONE OR MORE OF THE THREE LEBANESE THAT KUWAIT HOLDS.

-- THE KUWAITIS HAVE STOOD FIRM ON THIS ISSUE AND WE HAVE NOT TRIED TO DISSUADE THEM. THEY HAVE DONE SO IN

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THE FACE OF THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF THEIR EMIR.
THE BOMBING OF THE SEA FRONT CAFE AND THE HIJACKING OF
THEIR AIRCRAFT.

-- WE DETECT NO SIGNS OF SOFTENING IN KUWAIT'S POSITION.
IT IS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WILL NOT CARRY OUT ANY
DEATH PENALTIES.

-- WE WILL NOT, IN ANY CASE, MAKE ANY CONCESSIONS TO
OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF OUR CITIZENS. SUCH A COURSE WOULD
BE DISASTROUS. IT WOULD MAKE EVERY AMERICAN, EVERYWHERE,
VULNERABLE. WE HAVE REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED THIS PUBLICLY,
AND PRIVATELY TO THE SYRIANS. WE HAVE INDICATED THROUGH
VARIOUS INTERMEDIARIES, OUR WILLINGNESS TO TALK DIRECTLY
TO THOSE WHO MIGHT BE HOLDING THE KIDNAPEES, BUT HAVE HAD
NO RESPONSE. IF WE HAVE THE CHANCE WE WILL TELL THE
KIDNAPPERS DIRECTLY WHAT WE HAVE CONVEYED THROUGH
INTERMEDARIES: THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WELFARE OF
THE CAPTIVES: THEY WILL GET NOTHING BY CONTINUING TO HOLD
THEM; IT WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME A PROBLEM FOR THEM IF IT
IS NOT ALREADY.

-- THIS WAS OUR APPROACH DURING THE TWA HIJACKING AS
WELL. THERE WAS NO LINKAGE, FORMAL OR INFORMAL BETWEEN
THE RELEASE OF THE TWA PASSENGERS AND THE RELEASE OF
ATLIT DETAINEES.

-- WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT MOST KINDS OF PUBLICITY
RETARD EFFORTS TO LIBERATE THE HOSTAGES. PUBLICITY
DISCOURAGES CONFIDENTIAL INTERMEDIARIES. AND IT CAN GIVE
THE KIDNAPPERS MOTIVATIONS FOR CONTINUING TO HOLD THEIR
CAPTIVES.

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Department of State Guidelines, July 21, 1997

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TEL AVIV

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PTER, LE, IS, SY, US
SUBJECT: ATLIT AND THE U.S. HOSTAGES: CONGRESSMAN
O'BRIEN'S VISIT TO SYRIA

REF: DAMASCUS 4952. AND DAMASCUS 4965

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. CONGRESSMAN O'BRIEN'S VISIT TO DAMASCUS HAS BEEN USEFUL IN OBTAINING REASSURANCES FROM PRESIDENT ASAD, VICE PRESIDENT KHADDAM AND FOREIGN MINISTER SHARA' THAT SYRIA WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF ALL ELEVEN HOSTAGES. VICE PRESIDENT KHADDAM WAS MOST DIRECT OF THE THREE IN EXPRESSING SYRIAN UNHAPPINESS WITH THE CONTINUING DELAY OF THE RELEASE OF THE ATLIT PRISONERS. HE WAS ALSO THE MOST EXPLICIT IN LINKING THIS DELAY WITH DIFFICULTIES THAT SYRIA IS HAVING WITH HIZBALLAH ON THE AMERICAN HOSTAGE QUESTION.

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BY CAS NARA, DATE 7/6/03

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3. I DO NOT KNOW HOW TO ASSESS KHADDAM'S STATEMENT THAT SYRIA'S VERSION OF THE EXCHANGES THAT LED TO RELEASE OF THE TWA HOSTAGES WILL BE MADE PUBLIC "NEXT WEEK." NEITHER ASAD NOR SHARA' MENTIONED THIS POSSIBILITY. I DO NOT BELIEVE THEY WISH TO DO SO. BUT WE SHOULD NEVERTHELESS TAKE THE THREAT SERIOUSLY. SEVERAL WEEKS AGO WE HEARD OF A SIMILAR COMMENT BY SHARA' INDIRECTLY THROUGH THE FRENCH. "NEXT WEEK" PROBABLY REFERS TO THE WEEK BEGINNING SATURDAY, AUGUST 17. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT IMPACT -- IF ANY -- ANOTHER, PARTIAL ATLIT RELEASE WOULD MAKE ON THE SYRIAN INTENTION TO GO PUBLIC.

4. ALTHOUGH I SHARE THE DEPARTMENT'S RELUCTANCE TO PASS TO THE SYRIANS ANY TIME FRAME FOR THE RELEASE OF THE ATLIT PRISONERS. I NOW BELIEVE THAT THE BEST WAY TO HEAD OFF A SYRIAN STATEMENT THAT WOULD NOT BE IN OUR INTERESTS OR THAT OF THE HOSTAGES WOULD BE TO GIVE THE SYRIANS OUR ESTIMATE OF ATLIT TIMING. THIS NEED NOT BE IN THE FORM OF A U.S. COMMITMENT BUT RATHER AN EXPRESSION OF OUR UNDERSTANDING OF ISRAELI INTENTIONS. IF THE RELEASE OF ALL ATLIT PRISONERS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE MONTH OF AUGUST WE WILL BE IN A GOOD POSITION TO MAKE A STRONG APPEAL TO PRESIDENT ASAD IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. POSSIBLY WITH AN ENVOY AND/OR MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT REAGAN. SEEKING TO ACTIVATE SYRIAN EFFORTS ON THE REMAINING SEVEN.

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Department of State Guidelines, July 21, 1997
By dlb DATE 9/14/99

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NLS 197-10911 #115
By CS NARA, Date 2/6/03

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TEL AVIV

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, PREL, SY, LE, IS, US
SUBJECT: KHADDAM-O'BRIEN MEETING ON KIDNAPPEES

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY:

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PAGE 03 OF 09 DAMASC 04952 00 OF 04 120903Z C01/05 006469 NOD353

[REDACTED]

END SUMMARY.

3. CONGRESSMAN O'BRIEN, REPUBLICAN, FOURTH DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, WAS RECEIVED BY VICE PRESIDENT KHADDAM FROM TEN TO ELEVEN A.M. AUGUST 11, 1985. ALSO PRESENT WERE AMBASSADOR EAGLETON, DON BOUCHARD FROM M, DCM RANSOM, AND NOTE TAKER. THERE WERE NO SYRIAN OFFICIALS PRESENT OTHER THAN THE INTERPRETER.

4. O'BRIEN OPENED BY SAYING: IN MY ROMAN CATHOLIC TRADITION WE HAVE MANY SAINTS, SAINTS FOR LOST ITEMS, SAINTS FOR POOR SOULS, BUT LAST NIGHT I PRAYED TO SAINT JUDE THE SAINT FOR DESPERATE CASES.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

O'BRIEN RESPONDED: I CAN ONLY THINK OF SAINT THOMAS, WHOM WE CALL "DOUBTING THOMAS," WHO FINALLY WAS CONVINCED.

[REDACTED]

5. O'BRIEN EXPLAINED THAT HE CAME TO DAMASCUS AS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF FATHER MARTIN JENCO, AND HIS OLDER BROTHER AND SISTER. HE COMMENDED THE JENCOS AS A GOOD AND HONORABLE FAMILY WHO HAD VISITED HIM ON DIFFERENT OCCASIONS AND HAD ASKED FOR HIS HELP. O'BRIEN SAID THAT SINCE FATHER JENCO'S KIDNAPPING IN JANUARY HE HAD CALLED ON THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE IN WASHINGTON, WRITTEN TO AMBASSADOR JOUEJATI, VISITED THE VATICAN, AND CONTACTED IGNATIUS IV GREEK

ORTHODOX PATRIARCH OF ANTIOCH. HE HAD INVOLVED HIMSELF IN THE PROBLEMS OF THE KIDNAPPEES SO DEEPLY



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HE FELT A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WHOLE GROUP.

"I HAVE USED ALL MY OPTIONS. I AM HERE BECAUSE
YOU AND PRESIDENT ASAD ARE MY COURT OF LAST RESORT."

6. O'BRIEN CONTINUED: IN MY HOME IN ILLINOIS
AND IN CONGRESS THERE IS A CONVICTION THAT THE TWA
HOSTAGES WERE RELEASED BECAUSE OF SYRIAN INTERVENTION.
AND WE ARE GRATEFUL. I UNDERSTAND THERE ARE
MULTIPLE INTERESTS INVOLVED, AND IT WAS NOT YOUR
RESPONSIBILITY. BUT SEEKING YOUR INTERVENTION IS
REALLY THE ONLY POSSIBILITY I HAVE LEFT. I WANT --
TO SPEAK FOR ALL ELEVEN KIDNAPPEES, THE SEVEN
AMERICANS AND THE FOUR FRENCHMEN. IT HAS SEEMED TO
ME THAT THERE ARE AT LEAST FOUR GROUPS INVOLVED --
THOSE IMMEDIATELY IN CHARGE, HIZBALLAH, AMAL, AND
SYRIA. I PLACE SYRIA AT THE TOP OF THE HEAP,
BECAUSE, OF COURSE, WE MUST GET AGREEMENT OF ALL
FOUR, BUT WE CANNOT GET THE OTHER THREE IN LINE
WITHOUT SYRIA, EVEN THOUGH IT IS APPARENT THAT
SYRIA HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE KIDNAPPINGS.

7.

8.

O'BRIEN REPLIED THAT WHAT HE WANTED

TO SAY WAS THAT SYRIA IS THE SON OF A B*CH
WHOM OTHERS WHO HAVE A ROLE WOULD NOT WISH TO

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9.



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17. O'BRIEN RESPONDED: YOU REASSURE ME. THOUGH I SEE THE LIMITS OF MY ROLE. I ASSURE YOU THAT I WILL CONVEY YOUR COMMENTS TO WASHINGTON. MAYBE SAINT JUDE WILL COME THROUGH.

18. AMBASSADOR EAGLETON ADDED THAT HE WAS GLAD THAT KHADDAM HAD HAD AN ACCOUNT OF HIS MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER. WHEN IN WASHINGTON HE HAD FOUND UNDERSTANDING OF THE ATLIT PROBLEM. "I SEE THAT IT IS HARD FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND OUR DIFFICULTIES WITH ISRAEL. BUT WE DO HAVE DIFFICULTIES AND SO DOES THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL CONSIDERING THE SENSITIVE POLITICAL BALANCE IN THAT COUNTRY." WE HAVE TOLD THEM WE EXPECTED THE ARLY RELEASE OF THE ATLIT PROSONERS. THIS REMAINS OUR POSITION AND WE WILL TRY TO CLARIFY ISRAELI INTENTIONS.

19. O'BRIEN CONCLUDED: THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES KNOWS WHAT YOU HAVE DONE AND HOLDS YOU IN HIGH REGARD. I THINK WE ARE INCHING ALONG TOWARDS A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP.

20.

21. CONGRESSMAN O'BRIEN HAS CLEARED THIS MESSAGE.

22. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON



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Department of State Guidelines, July 21, 1997

By dh NARA, Date 9/14/99

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF STATE



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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PTER, LE, IS, SY, US
SUBJ: CONGRESSMAN O'BRIEN'S REQUEST TO PRESIDENT
- ASAD FOR HELP WITH HOSTAGE RELEASE

REF: A. DAMASCUS 4952. B. DAMASCUS 4965

1. ~~(SECRET)~~ - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. SUMMARY: IN AN UNEXPECTED AND WELCOME INTERVIEW OF ONE HOUR TODAY, 12 AUGUST CONGRESSMAN GEORGE O'BRIEN (REP-ILLINOIS) ASKED PRESIDENT ASAD FOR HELP IN SECURING THE RELEASE OF THE AMERICAN AND FRENCH HOSTAGES IN LEBANON DWELLING IN PARTICULAR ON THE PERSONALITY AND WORK OF FATHER MARTIN JENCO, A CONSTITUENT OF O'BRIEN'S. CONGRESSMAN O'BRIEN NOTED THAT ONE OF THE TWO HOSTAGES WHO HAD EARLIER BEEN FREED WAS ALSO FROM HIS DISTRICT AND HE EXPRESSED THE GRATITUDE OF HIS CONSTITUENTS FOR SYRIAN HELP. O'BRIEN

BY CIS NLS
NARA, DATE 7/6/03
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SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THAT ALTHOUGH THE SITUATION WAS NOT OF SYRIAN MAKING. THE HOSTAGES WILL NEVER BE RELEASED WITHOUT THE STRONG HELP OF SYRIA. ASAD REPLIED HE FOUND KIDNAPPING "LOATHESOME" AND NOTED THAT SUCH ACTS EMBARRASSED THE LEBANESE AS WELL AS THE SYRIANS IN THE TASK OF LEBANESE DIALOGUE AND REFORM. ASAD SAID HE WAS HAPPY THAT THE "MAJOR GROUPS" IN LEBANON WERE NOW TALKING TO EACH OTHER BUT LAMENTED THE ROLE OF CERTAIN "MINOR GROUPS." NOTING SYRIA HAD VERY LIMITED CONTACTS AND INFORMATION ABOUT THESE MINOR GROUPS. HE SAID HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD DO "ALL THEY COULD" TO SECURE THE RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES AND POINTED TO THE AID SYRIA HAD GIVEN EARLIER IN THE CASE OF DAVID DODGE. HE LAMENTED THAT THE FAILURE OF AMERICAN ASSURANCES GIVEN IN THE TWA CRISIS AND IN OTHER EARLIER PROBLEMS HAMPERED SYRIAN EFFORTS. BUT DID NOT RAISE -- EXCEPT BY IMPLICATION -- ATLIT OR THE EARLIER THREAT BY KHADDAM TO PUBLISH THE RECORD OF U.S. "GUARANTEES" IN THE NEAR FUTURE. O'BRIEN CLOSED THE DISCUSSION OF THE HOSTAGE ISSUE WITH THANKS AND DEEP APPRECIATION FOR PRESIDENT ASAD'S ROLE IN THE TWA CRISIS.

END SUMMARY

3. IN AN UNEXPECTED MEETING TODAY, 12 AUGUST, PRESIDENT ASAD RECEIVED CONGRESSMAN GEORGE O'BRIEN, REPUBLICAN REPRESENTATIVE FROM ILLINOIS AND AMBASSADOR EAGLETON. STATE ESCORT DON BOUCHARD AND DCM RANSOM ALSO ATTENDED THE DISCUSSION, WHICH LASTED AN HOUR. ON THE SYRIAN SIDE, ADNAN BARNEA TRANSLATED AND ISKANDER

LUKAH TOOK NOTES.

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4. O'BRIEN BEGAN BY SAYING THAT HE DEPENDED ON THE STRENGTH AND STABILITY OF SYRIA TO ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING WHICH IN HIS EARLIER EFFORTS WITH OTHERS, HAD PROVEN IMPOSSIBLE: THE RELEASE OF THE SEVEN AMERICAN AND FOUR FRENCH HOSTAGES HELD IN LEBANON. HE NOTED THAT CONSTITUENTS IN HIS DISTRICT AND ILLINOIS GAVE PRESIDENT ASAD FULL CREDIT FOR THE RELEASE OF THE TWA HOSTAGES. ONE OF WHOM CAME FROM THE CONGRESSMAN'S DISTRICT. HE EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE AND THAT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR THE SYRIAN ROLE AND ASKED FOR CONTINUED EFFORTS FOR THE OTHER HOSTAGES. HE EMPHASIZED THAT HE DID NOT SEE HOW THE RELEASE COULD BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT THE STRONG HELP OF SYRIA.

5. CONGRESSMAN O'BRIEN DWELT AT LENGTH ON THE DILEMMA OF FATHER JENCO WHOSE FAMILY WERE NOT ONLY FROM THE CONGRESSMAN'S DISTRICT BUT GOOD FRIENDS. HE THANKED THE PRESIDENT FOR THE WARM RECEPTION PROVIDED BY BOTH VICE PRESIDENT KHADDAM AND FOREIGN MINISTER SHARA' THE DAY BEFORE AND PROMISED TO CONVEY SYRIAN VIEWS TO U.S. OFFICIALS UPON THE CONGRESSMAN'S RETURN TO WASHINGTON. HE SAID JENCO WAS A PRIEST WHOSE CONCERN WITH THE DISADVANTAGED HAD LED HIM, BEFORE BEIRUT, TO CALCUTTA AND AMERICAN

INDIAN RESERVATIONS.

6. ASAD SAID THAT HE WELCOMED O'BRIEN'S VISIT AND APPRECIATED HIS CONCERN FOR JENCO'S IMPRISONMENT. HE NOTED THAT THE SITUATION

IN LEBANON WAS COMPLEX. IT WAS AN "ARMED COUNTRY." SYRIA WAS SATISFIED WITH THE CONTACTS IT HAD WITH THE "BIG GROUPS" IN LEBANON. HE THOUGHT

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THE PROCESS OF DIALOGUE AND REFORM WHICH SYRIA
HAD HELPED TO START MIGHT LEAD TO IMPROVEMENT
IN SECURITY THERE. HE SAID IN PASSING THAT WHAT
WAS NEEDED WAS A GUARANTEED CEASE-FIRE BY ALL WITH
EVERYONE BUT GOVERNMENT FORCES LAYING DOWN THEIR
ARMS. THERE WAS NOW A GENERAL AGREEMENT AMONG
THE LARGE GROUPS AND WHILE DIFFERENCES MIGHT
SURFACE IN THE FUTURE. WHAT WAS NEEDED NOW WOULD
NOT REQUIRE "A MIRACLE."

7. LEBANON WAS NEVERTHELESS TAKING MORE
TIME THAN SYRIA WANTED TO SPEND SINCE TO
ENCOURAGE THE DIALOGUE IN QUESTION IT WAS
NECESSARY TO TALK TO "TENS OF PEOPLE." ASAD
MADE IT CLEAR THAT SYRIA DID NOT HAVE ROUTINE
CONTACTS WITH "THE MINOR GROUPS," WHOSE KID-
NAPPINGS AND OTHER ACTS EMBARRASSED SYRIA AS
WELL AS LEBANON. THESE GROUPS, HE SAID FIRMLY,
CAN SLOW DOWN BUT NOT STOP AN OVERALL AGREEMENT.
HE WENT ON TO NOTE THAT IN THE TWA CRISIS,
SYRIA DID HAVE CONTACTS WITH THESE MINOR GROUPS
AND IT WAS SYRIAN INTERVENTION AT THE LAST
MINUTE THAT ENDED THE 24-HOUR DELAY IN
RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES. WHILE ASAD MADE
CLEAR THAT HE HAD NO "POLITICAL DEALS" WITH
SUCH GROUPS HE SAID HE HAD PASSED ON CERTAIN
GUARANTEES TO THEM "IN THE LIGHT OF
GUARANTEES WE GOT FROM PRESIDENT REAGAN."

8. ASAD LAMENTED THAT U.S. GUARANTEES

IN THIS CASE AND IN THE PAST HAD NOT ALWAYS
BEEN RESPECTED. AND MENTIONED IN PARTICULAR
GUARANTEES PASSED ON BY AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE
HABIB. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT IN THE CASE
OF THE HOSTAGES IN LEBANON, SYRIA WOULD "DO
ALL WE CAN" ALTHOUGH THE MATTER WAS COMPLICATED

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AND SYRIA HAD LIMITED INFORMATION. HE SAID
KIDNAPPING WAS "LOATHESOME" AND THAT SYRIA
HAD TOLD LEBANESE LEADERS AND OTHERS THAT
SUCH ACTS DO GREAT HARM TO THE LEBANESE CAUSE.
MOST PEOPLE ARE "REVULSED". HE SAID BY
KIDNAPPING PARTICULARLY WHEN IT INVOLVES
PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT SOLDIERS OR IN SECURITY
WORK. ASAD POINTED TO THE HELP SYRIA HAD
BEEN ABLE TO GIVE IN THE CASE OF THE SAUDI
CHARGE' AND IN THE CASE OF DAVID DODGE. BUT RE-
GRETTED THE SITUATION HAD BECOME MUCH MORE
COMPLICATED RECENTLY.

9. ASAD TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE VISIT OF
CONGRESSMAN O'BRIEN, A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, TO DEPLORE THE
MAGNITUDE OF U.S. AID TO ISRAEL CLAIMING
THE SUM GIVEN TO EACH ISRAELI WAS MORE THAN
THE PER CAPITA GNP OF SYRIA. HE WONDERED
RHETORICALLY IF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
WAS ACTING IN ITS OWN INTERESTS IN ALL SITU-
ATIONS OR IN THE INTERESTS OF "ZIONISTS."
HE SPOKE AT LENGTH OF ISRAELI "EXPANSIONISM"
AND QUESTIONED AN AMERICAN ROLE AS GUARANTOR
OF THE PEACE PROCESS IN THE AREA. HE SAID
NEVERTHELESS HE ACCEPTED THE U.S. ROLE IN
THESE MATTERS. IF THE U.S. JOINED A CONFERENCE
WHICH INCLUDED OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES IN
THE AREA AND OUTSIDE. AND HE SAID REPEATEDLY
TO THE CONGRESSMAN THAT HE WANTED A CLOSE

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE USG.

11. THE DISCUSSION ENDED WITH CONGRESSMAN
O'BRIEN ONCE AGAIN THANKING ASAD FOR SYRIA'S
HELP IN THE RELEASE OF PREVIOUS HOSTAGES
AND URGING HIM TO CONTINUE HIS EFFORTS ON

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BEHALF OF THOSE STILL IN CAPTIVITY.

12. COMMENT: WHILE ASAD DID NOT MENTION ATLIT BY NAME. HIS CRITICISM OF U.S. "GUARANTEES" REFLECTED HIS IRRITATION THAT THE DETAINEES IN ATLIT PRISON HAVE NOT YET BEEN RELEASED. HE IMPLIED THAT THE SYRIAN ROLE IN SECURING THE RELEASE OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES HAD BEEN COMPLICATED BY THE U.S. ROLE IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE RELEASE OF TWA HOSTAGES. HE NEVERTHELESS PROMISED TO DO WHAT HE COULD TO HELP. HIS WARMTH TOWARD THE CONGRESSMAN WAS EVIDENT THROUGHOUT THE CONVERSATION PARTICULARLY WHEN O'BRIEN OFFERED THANKS FOR SYRIAN AID.

13. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.
EAGLETON

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By C/S, NARA, Date 2/6/03

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IN CAPTION LINE)

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PINT, IS, SY
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER PERES
CONCERNING THE ATLIT DETAINEES

REF: DAMASCUS 4278

1. ~~(SECRET ENTIRE TEXT.)~~

2. EAGLETON'S MESSAGE (DAMASCUS 4278) ALERTS US TO THE
CONNECTION BETWEEN SYRIAN EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF OUR SEVEN
REMAINING HOSTAGES AND THE RELEASE OF THE ATLIT
DETAINEES.

[REDACTED] THE INFERENCE
IS THAT SYRIAN EFFORTS TO SECURE OUR SEVEN COULD BE
ADVERSELY AFFECTED IF DAMASCUS IS NOT REASSURED THAT THE

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REMAINING 435 ANSAR/ATLIT DETAINEES WILL BE RELEASED SOON, AS WE ASSURED DAMASCUS WOULD BE THE CASE.

3. AMAL'S COMMANDER IN THE SOUTH HAS JUST AFFIRMED (TO UNIFIL) THAT AMAL WILL ASSURE THERE WILL BE NO CROSS-BORDER ATTACKS ON ISRAEL FROM AMAL-CONTROLLED AREAS. ALTHOUGH RESISTANCE WILL CONTINUE WITHIN THE SOUTH AGAINST ASL AND REMAINING IDF PERSONNEL. (SEPTTEL PROVIDES DETAILS ON THIS.)

4. THE TWO CAR BOMBING INCIDENTS JULY 9 IN THE SECURITY ZONE ARE AN OMINOUS PORTENT OF LIKELY FUTURE ACTIVITIES BY SHIA EXTREMISTS. RELEASE OF THE ATLIT DETAINEES COULD FRUSTRATE EXTREMIST EXPLOITATION OF THAT CAUSE IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR SHIA LEADERSHIP AGAINST BERRI.

5. FINALLY, THIS WOULD BE AN OPPORTUNE MOMENT TO [REDACTED] BY PRESSING ASAD ON THE SEVEN, BUT WE WILL BE HAMPERED IN OUR EFFORT TO DO THIS UNLESS WE CAN ASSURE HIM ABOUT RELEASE OF THE ATLIT DETAINEES IN MORE DETAIL THAN WE ARE PRESENTLY ABLE TO DO.

6. WE COMMITTED OURSELVES TO THE SYRIANS TO WORK ACTIVELY TO THE END OF AN EARLY FULL RELEASE AND EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN A SUCCESSFUL RESULT. ON THE BASIS OF EARLIER CONVERSATIONS WITH PERES, IT APPEARED THEY WOULD DO WHAT WOULD BE NECESSARY FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT. THIS MAY BE THE TIMELY MOMENT TO GO BACK TO THEM. WE SHARE WITH ISRAEL AN INTEREST IN STABILIZING SOUTHERN LEBANON [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THOUGH PERHAPS NOT IN HELPING ASAD TO GET OFF THE HOOK RE THE ATLIT DETAINEES.

7. YOU RECALL KIMCHE'S DISCUSSIONS HERE DID NOT FURNISH ANY PRECISION ON A TIMETABLE. RECOGNIZING THE VALUE OF

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YOUR PRIVATE CHANNEL TO PERES, YOU MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER
CONTACTING HIM TO ASK WHAT HE CAN ADVISE US ABOUT THE
PLANS FOR AN OVERALL RELEASE. WHITEHEAD

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Department of State Guidelines, July 21, 1997
By dlb NARA, Date 9/16/99

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, SY, LE, PREL
SUBJECT: AMERICAN/FRENCH KIDNAPPEES: UNSUBTANTIATED
-- REPORT

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY:

[REDACTED] WHOSE RELIABILITY WE REGARD AS SUSPECT, TOLD A WESTERN DIPLOMAT THAT THE RADICAL HIZBALLAH GROUP LED BY TUFAYLI HOLDS THE AMERICAN KIDNAPPEES AND THE TWO FRENCH DIPLOMATS, THAT KILBURN IS DEAD, AND THAT THE AMERICANS ARE CONSTANTLY BEING MOVED AROUND. END SUMMARY.

3. A KNOWLEDGEABLE AND RELIABLE WESTERN DIPLOMAT RELATED FOLLOWING ACCOUNT TO EMBOFF JULY 10. SOURCE HAPPENED TO BE INTRODUCED TO [REDACTED]

SOURCE JOINED THE [REDACTED] THE EVENING OF JULY 9 AT THE SHERATON, WHERE THEY WAITED FOR KHADDAM'S MEETING WITH LEADERS OF AMAL, THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT, AND THE PNSF TO BREAK UP. THE [REDACTED] WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN SEEING [REDACTED]

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By [REDACTED], NARA, Date

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5. CONVERSATION FOCUSED ON THE TWO FRENCH DIPLOMATS.

[REDACTED] DID NOT KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE TWO FRENCH JOURNALISTS, THOUGH HE SUGGESTED THAT THEY ARE HELD BY "THE LESS FANATICAL HIZBALLAH GROUP UNDER MUSAWI." THE FRENCH DIPLOMATS, HE SAID, ARE HELD BY "THE MORE FANATICAL HIZBALLAH GROUP UNDER TUFAYLI." [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN CARTON AND FONTAINE PERSONALLY, WITH THEIR HEADS SHROUDED, AT A VILLAGE FIVE KILOMETERS SOUTH OF BA'LBAKK. SUBSEQUENTLY, THEY WERE MOVED, THOUGH THEY HAD BEEN HELD THERE FOR SOME TIME.

6. AS FOR THE AMERICANS, [REDACTED] TOLD SOURCE [REDACTED] THAT THERE ARE ONLY SIX--KILBURN IS DEAD. THEY ARE HELD BY THE TUFAYLI GROUP BUT NOT HELD WITH THE TWO FRENCH DIPLOMATS. THEY ARE BEING MOVED "EVERY TWO HOURS" BECAUSE OF THE TUFAYLI GROUP'S FEARS OF ATTACK BOTH FROM THE AMERICANS AND THE SYRIANS.

7. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, [REDACTED] STATED THAT "THE SYRIANS KNOW ABOUT THE TUFAYLI GROUP. KNOW WHO IS HOLDING THE AMERICANS EVEN IF THEY DO NOT ALWAYS KNOW EXACTLY WHERE THEY ARE BEING HELD. BUT HAVE NOT BEEN WILLING TO PUT SUFFICIENT PRESSURE ON THE TUFAYLI GROUP

TO BRING ABOUT RELEASE."

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8. COMMENT: WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT OUR SOURCE REPORTED ACCURATELY WHAT WAS HEARD, BUT WE HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF OR CONFIDENCE IN THE RELIABILITY OF [REDACTED] INDEED, IT IS NEWS TO US THAT THE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND OUR INFORMATION HAS BEEN THAT THEY ARE SUNNI. (INCIDENTIALLY, SOURCE ALSO SAID THAT [REDACTED] ARE HIGHLY ALARMED AT THE ACTIVITIES AND SPREAD OF HIZBALLAH IN THE BA'LBAKK AREA.) WE WARN AGAINST MAKING TOO MUCH OUT OF HIS INFORMATION. WE FEAR THAT [REDACTED] FALLS INTO A COMMON LEBANESE MOLD--FABRICATING AND EMBELLISHING FACTS WITHOUT ANY FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE, MAKING CLEVER GUESSES, AND TELLING AN ENTICING STORY IN ORDER TO IMPRESS AN AUDIENCE. NOTE: SOURCE IS EXTREMELY NERVOUS ABOUT HAVING REVEALED THIS INFORMATION AND SUBSOURCE; THEY MUST BE VERY CLOSELY HELD.

9. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON

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~~TOP SECRET~~

SC 12420-85

INR/NESA:WJORDAN/SROBERTS/WWHITE
7/18/85 EXT. 21888
INR:MABRAMOWITZ

S/S-0: RPACE

SCAT ONLY

IMMEDIATE SECRETARY

EXDIS/CODEWORD CHANNEL/NOFORN/NOCONTRACT/ORCON

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: EG, IS, PINR

SUBJECT: ARAB AND ISRAELI HIGHLIGHTS, JULY 18, 1985

HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY

K U W A I T : U N P R E P A R E D F O R T H E
"D A Y S O F R A G E" T O C O M E

1. ~~CS/NF~~ WE EXPECT THE FREQUENCY OF TERRORIST INCIDENTS IN KUWAIT TO RISE. EXPLOITING INTERNAL SECURITY WEAKNESSES AND RELYING ON EVIDENTLY WELL-ORGANIZED SUPPORT INSIDE KUWAIT, ELEMENTS OPPOSED TO THE KUWAITI REGIME INCITED FROM ABROAD HAVE TAKEN THE INITIATIVE IN WAGING A CAMPAIGN OF TERROR. DESPITE THESE ASSAULTS, WHICH FEED PUBLIC ANXIETY AND CRITICISM OF REGIME POLICIES, HOWEVER, WE DO NOT EXPECT KUWAIT TO ACCEDE TO TERRORIST DEMANDS. THE AMIR IS ESPECIALLY UNWILLING TO RELEASE INDIVIDUALS CONVICTED FOR STAGING THE DECEMBER 1983 BOMBINGS. THE OUTLOOK, THEREFORE, IS FOR MORE ATTACKS AND, AS OFFICIALDOM AND THE PUBLIC SEARCH FOR SCAPEGOATS, HEIGHTENED INTERNAL TENSION.

2. ~~CS/NF~~ MANY QUESTIONS REMAIN IN THE WAKE OF THE

TOP SECRET

LATEST SERIES OF INCIDENTS AIMED AT KUWAIT--INCLUDING A SMALL RASH OF MYSTERIOUS FIRES AND THE KIDNAPPING IN BEIRUT OF A LEBANESE-BORN EMPLOYEE OF THE KUWAITI EMBASSY THERE. MOST PUZZLING IS THE ABSENCE OF CLEAR EVIDENCE ESTABLISHING A CONNECTION BETWEEN THESE EPISODES AND THE CULPABILITY OF SPECIFIC GROUPS. THE ARAB REVOLUTIONARY BRIGADES--A COVER NAME FOR ABU NIDAL'S ORGANIZATION--HAS TAKEN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE JULY 11 EXPLOSIONS AT TWO CAFES IN KUWAIT CITY. HIZBALLAH, THE LIKELIEST CULPRIT BEHIND THE BEIRUT KIDNAPPING, THOUGH, HAS SO FAR NOT REGISTERED AN AUTHORITATIVE CLAIM IN EITHER CASE.

3. ~~{S/NF}~~ THE MOTIVE FOR THE ASSAULTS IS EQUALLY VAGUE, THOUGH WE BELIEVE THERE IS A LINK BETWEEN THE BEIRUT SEIZURE AND THE KUWAITIS' INCARCERATION OF THE 1983 BOMBERS. THE INCIDENTS IN KUWAIT HAVE A MORE QUESTIONABLE RELATIONSHIP TO THE DAWA PRISONERS. A TIE-IN TO THE PRISONERS CANNOT BE RULED OUT, BUT NEITHER CAN AN INDIRECT SYRIAN EXPRESSION OF DISPLEASURE OVER THE KUWAITI NATIONAL ASSEMBLY'S CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS TO DISCONTINUE ENTIRELY KUWAIT'S BAGHDAD PAYMENTS TO THE PLO AND THE ARAB "CONFRONTATION" STATES (INCLUDING SYRIA). WHOEVER MAY ULTIMATELY BE BEHIND THE BOMBINGS, THE LIKELY SUSPECTS--IRAN, SYRIA, AND LIBYA--HAVE EACH BEEN QUICK TO JOIN THE CHORUS DEPLORING TERRORISM AGAINST KUWAIT.

4. ~~{S/NF}~~ OF PROBABLY GREATEST IMPORT HAS BEEN THE LATEST PUBLIC OUTCRY IN KUWAIT AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT'S LAX APPROACH TO SECURITY. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY KUWAIT, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS SWIFTLY CRITICIZED INSUFFICIENT SECURITY MEASURES TAKEN FOLLOWING THE MAY 25 ATTEMPT ON THE AMIR'S LIFE. NEWSPAPER EDITORIALS HAVE ALSO CLAMORED FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE THREE 1983 BOMBERS ALREADY SENTENCED TO DEATH. MOST OMINOUSLY, SOME PARLIAMENTARIANS HAVE ASSERTED THAT "FIFTH COLUMNS" COMPOSED OF SECTARIAN GROUPS, WHOSE MEMBERS HAD "IMPROPERLY" OBTAINED KUWAITI CITIZENSHIP, CONSTITUTE A LINGERING THREAT NOT ONLY TO KUWAIT BUT TO ALL OF THE ARAB GULF STATES.

5. ~~{S/NF}~~ WHERE THIS MOUNTING PUBLIC PRESSURE WILL LEAD THE KUWAITI REGIME--FEELING BELEAGUERED ON THE ONE HAND BY TERRORISTS AND ON THE OTHER BY A CONCERNED POPULACE--IS UNCERTAIN. THE AMIR IS STILL, WE BELIEVE, DISINCLINED TO ORDER THE EXECUTION OF THOSE DAWA PRISONERS CONDEMNED TO DEATH, ALTHOUGH HE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT THEIR CONTINUED CAPTIVITY GUARANTEES FUTURE ATTACKS. THE POTENTIALLY GREATER DANGER, THOUGH, IS THAT

THROUGH THE INEVITABLE IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARD MEASURES--SUCH AS DEPORTATIONS OF MOSTLY SHIA AND PALESTINIAN INHABITANTS--THE REGIME RISKS ALIENATING THESE ELEMENTS WITHOUT AMELIORATING ITS IMMEDIATE SECURITY ILLS. OVER TIME, SUCH FESTERING RESENTMENT COULD PROVE CATASTROPHIC, GIVEN THE CHRONIC DEFICIENCIES OF KUWAIT'S SECURITY APPARATUS. KUWAIT IS FAR FROM READY TO FACE A TRULY SUSTAINED, COORDINATED TERRORIST OFFENSIVE.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

6. ~~{S/EXDIS}~~ ISRAELIS BEGIN FOCUS-
ING ON JOINT DELEGATION: OFFICIAL
ISRAELI PUBLIC REACTION TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT THE US HAS
RECEIVED A LIST OF POSSIBLE PALESTINIAN PARTICIPANTS FOR
A JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MURPHY HAS BEEN UNCHARACTERISTICALLY MUTED, ACCORDING TO
EMBASSY TEL AVIV.

[REDACTED] TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT BOTH PERES AND
FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR GENERAL KIMCHE HAD TOLD HIM
THEY WOULD NOT REACT ONE WAY OR ANOTHER TO THE
PROSPECTIVE MURPHY MEETING. FOREIGN MINISTER SHAMIR IS
PUBLICLY OPPOSING ISRAELI PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS OF
CHOOSING PALESTINIAN DELEGATES.

7. ~~{S/EXDIS}~~ TEL AVIV COMMENT: THE MOOD
IN ISRAEL THUS FAR IS ANTICIPATORY WITHOUT THE EXPECTED
HYPE AND HAND-WRINGING. CLEARLY, THE DEBATE OVER PERES'
ECONOMIC PROGRAM IS DIVERTING ATTENTION FROM THE PEACE
PROCESS--A DEVELOPMENT THAT IS CLEARLY TO OUR ADVANTAGE
AT THIS TIME.

8. ~~{S/EXDIS}~~ INR COMMENT: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE DEEP SUSPICIONS OF MANY ISRAELI
LEADERS REGARDING JORDANIAN AND PALESTINIAN INTENTIONS,
AND THE POLITICAL EXPLOSIVENESS OF PEACE PROCESS ISSUES
DOMESTICALLY, WILL COOL THE ARDOR OF ALL SAVE THE MOST
FANATICAL MODERATES.

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10. ~~{S/NF/NC/OC}~~ SYRIA TALKS TOUGH
TO ANTI-ARAFAT PALESTINIANS:
SYRIAN VICE-PRESIDENT KHADDAM PRESIDED OVER A MEETING
BETWEEN AMAL AND THE SYRIAN-SUPPORTED PALESTINIAN
NATIONAL SALVATION FRONT {PNSF} ON JULY 15.

11. ~~{S/NF/NC/OC}~~ INR COMMENT :

12. ~~{S/NF}~~ ISRAELI JUDGE SOUTH
LEBANON "QUIET:"

AMAL, IN THE
ISRAELI VIEW, IS CONTINUING TO PREVENT HIZBALLAH AND
PALESTINIAN ELEMENTS FROM TURNING THE SOUTH INTO A BASE
FOR ATTACKS ON ISRAEL. ON THE OTHER HAND, AMAL REMAINS
STRONGLY OPPOSED TO LAHAD'S ARMY OF SOUTH LEBANON (ASL)

TOP SECRET

AND THE SECURITY ZONE. THE ISRAELIS BELIEVE AMAL PROBABLY GAVE AT LEAST TACIT APPROVAL TO THE CAR BOMB ATTACKS ON JULY 9. AMAL IS ALSO ENCOURAGING SHIA SOLDIERS IN THE ASL TO DESERT.

13. ~~{S/NF}~~ I N R C O M M E N T: THE PRESENT SITUATION IN THE SOUTH--A TEMPORARILY STABLE BALANCE CHARACTERIZED BY AMAL PREDOMINANCE, THE EXISTENCE OF SEVERAL POTENTIAL FLASHPOINTS {INCLUDING JAZZIN AND THE PALESTINIAN CAMPS}, AND LIMITED SYRIAN EFFORTS TO DESTROY THE ASL AND THE SECURITY ZONE THROUGH THE USE OF PROXY LEBANESE GROUPS--ALLOWS THE CURRENT ISRAELI POLICY OF SUPPORT FOR THE ASL AND THE SECURITY ZONE TO COEXIST WITH EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH A DIALOGUE WITH AMAL. SHOULD ATTACKS AND PRESSURE ON THE ASL AND THE SECURITY ZONE REACH THE POINT OF THREATENING THE EXISTENCE OF THESE TWO PROPS OF ISRAEL'S POLICY, THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT WOULD BE CONFRONTED WITH A PAINFUL CHOICE: EITHER ABANDON LAHAD AND RELY ON AMAL--AND, IMPLICITLY, ON SYRIA--FOR BORDER SECURITY, OR COME TO LAHAD'S AID, ENTAILING A RADICALIZATION OF AMAL POLICY VIS-A-VIS ISRAEL. 44

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PAGE 01 OF 04 PARIS 28130 111725Z

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INFO SSI-01 NSC-01 /002 A5 RVH

NSC - E.O. POINDEXTER - VIA COURIER -³ ADDED PER NPLATT, S/S, 7/11/85

11/17

ACTION OFFICE MCTP-01

INFO SWO-01 SSO-01 SSS-01 SSI-01 SS-04 S-02 D-01 P-01 M-01

NEA-01 INR-01 CATB-01 /017 A5 DDP

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PAGE 02 OF 03 TEL AV 10205 111653Z
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0827

~~SECRET~~ TEL AVIV 10205

NODIS

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, LE, IS
SUBJECT: FURTHER RELEASES OF ATLIT DETAINEES

REF: DAMASCUS 4278

1. ~~(S)~~ ENTIRE TEXT.

2. IN A MEETING JULY 11 MCD LEBANON COORDINATOR LUBRANI UNDERSCORED THAT ISRAEL HAS RETURNED TO ITS POLICY OF RELEASING DETAINEES BASED ON THE SECURITY SITUATION IN THE SOUTH. HE SAID THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE NO DATES OR NUMBERS HAD BEEN DECIDED FOR FUTURE RELEASES. AND POINTED OUT THAT DECISIONS ON INDIVIDUALS TO BE RELEASED WERE INFLUENCED BY THE SECURITY SITUATION IN THE AREA OF A PARTICULAR DETAINEE'S HOME: THE QUIETER THE SITUATION, THE GREATER HIS CHANCES OF RELEASE.

3. LUBRANI ADDED THAT OF THE 435 REMAINING DETAINEES, ABOUT 230 WERE SHIA, WITH THE REMAINDER A MIX OF PALESTINIANS AND SUNNIS. (ALL OF THE 300 RELEASED LAST WEEK WERE LEBANESE SHIA, HE SAID.) ABOUT 150 OF THESE WERE CONSIDERED SERIOUS SECURITY PROBLEMS (NOTE: THIS IS ABOUT

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PAGE 03 OF 03 TEL AV 10205 111653Z

C09/09 001118 NOD661

THE SAME NUMBER OF PROBLEM CASES RABIN CITED TO US
BEFORE THE MOST RECENT RELEASE³). AS EVIDENCE OF
THE PROBLEMS FACING ISRAEL LUBRANI SAID THAT ONE
DETAINEE RELEASED EARLIER FROM ATLIT HAD BEEN
RECENTLY KILLED WHILE TAKING PART IN A FIREFIGHT
IN THE SECURITY ZONE. FLATEN

~~SECRET~~



National Security Council
The White House

System # _____

Package # _____

STM #
7-15
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	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Pearson	_____	_____	_____
William Martin	_____	_____	_____
John Poindexter	1	J	_____
Paul Thompson	_____	_____	_____
Wilma Hall	_____	_____	_____
Bud McFarlane	2	_____	I
William Martin	3	_____	_____
NSC Secretariat	_____	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____

I = Information A = Action R = Retain D = Dispatch N = No further Action

cc: VP Regan Buchanan Other _____

COMMENTS

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C18/18 003019 NOD732

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SP-01 CATB-01 MCTP-01 NSC-01 /018 A5 SIK

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INR EYES ONLY ABRAMOWITZ; S/P EYES ONLY RODMAN

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PAGE 02 OF 03 DAMASC 04356 131214Z
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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
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By CL-5, NARA, Date 7/6/03

~~SECRET~~ DAMASCUS 04356

NODIS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL, IS, LE, SY

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SHARA': THE
ATLIT DETAINEES

REF: STATE 209888

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. IN MY OPENING PRESENTATION TO FOREIGN MINISTER
SHARA', JULY 14, I TOLD HIM THAT RE ATLIT, I WAS
AUTHORIZED TO "REAFFIRM OUR EXPECTATION THAT ALL
THESE DETAINEES WILL SOON BE RELEASED."

3.

4. I ASSURED SHARA' THAT THE USG WAS AWARE OF THE
IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE AND ANTICIPATED RELEASE



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PAGE 03 OF 03 DAMASC 04356 131214Z

C18/18 003019 WOD732

"SOON." EAGLETON



~~SECRET~~
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PAGE 01 OF 09 BEIRUT 03998 00 OF 03 041636Z C03/03 005238 NOD482

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INFO SSI-01 L-01 NSC-01 /003 A5 BDS

L E.O. SOFAER AND NSC E.O. POINDEXTER (BY COURIER) ADDED PER JCOLLINS, S
/S,
7/5/85

-----04/1645Z
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