

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library
Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: North, Oliver L.: Files
Folder Title: Hostages: Father Janco Release
07/26/1986 (2)
Box: 11

To see more digitized collections visit:
<https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:
<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name NORTH, OLIVER: FILES

Withdrawer

SMF 9/3/2008

File Folder HOSTAGES: FATHER JENCO RELEASE 07/26/1986 (2)

FOIA

M08-131

Box Number 11

WANNER

4

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
55725	CABLE	261624Z JUL 86 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	2	7/26/1986	B1
55726	CABLE	261802Z JUL 86 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	2	7/26/1986	B1
55727	CABLE	TEXT SAME AS 55726 WITH NOTATIONS R 4/20/2010 M131/1	1	7/26/1986	B1
55728	CABLE	261804Z JUL 86 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	2	7/26/1986	B1
55729	CABLE	TEXT SAME AS 55730 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	1	7/26/1986	B1
55730	CABLE	261805Z JUL 86 PAR 4/20/2010 M131/1	3	7/26/1986	B6
55731	CABLE	261932Z JUL 86	7	7/26/1986	B1 B3
55732	CABLE	261912Z JUL 86 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	1	7/26/1986	B1
55733	CABLE	262239Z JUL 86 PAR 4/20/2010 M131/1	4	7/26/1986	B1
55734	CABLE	TEXT SAME AS 55733 PAR 4/20/2010 M131/1	7	7/26/1986	B1

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

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name NORTH, OLIVER: FILES

Withdrawer

SMF 9/3/2008

File Folder HOSTAGES: FATHER JENCO RELEASE 07/26/1986 (2)

FOIA

M08-131

Box Number 11

WANNER

4

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
55735	CABLE	262315Z JUL 86 PAR 4/20/2010 M131/1	1	7/26/1986	B6
55736	SCHEDULE	JENCO RELEASE	1	7/27/1986	B1 B3
55737	SCHEDULE	JENCO RELEASE	1	7/27/1986	B1 B3
55738	CABLE	270206Z JUL 86 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	2	7/27/1986	B1
55739	CABLE	TEXT SAME AS 55738 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	1	7/27/1986	B1
55740	CABLE	DUPLICATE OF 55739 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	1	7/27/1986	B1
55741	CABLE	DUPLICATE OF 55729 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	1	7/26/1986	B1
55742	CABLE	DUPLICATE OF 55727 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	1	7/26/1986	B1

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

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

~~SECRET~~

55725

NSCPC

PAGE 01
IBM085

DAMASCUS 4539

DTG:261624Z JUL 86 PSN:029231
TOR: 207/1628Z CSN:HCE759

DISTRIBUTION:

NSCPC	BEIRUT HOSTAGE SYRIA TERREP
NSRLE	BEIRUT HOSTAGE SYRIA TERREP
NSDGM	HOSTAGE INTELLIGENCE TERREP
NSJRR	HOSTAGE INTELLIGENCE TERREP
NSVMC	HOSTAGE INTELLIGENCE TERREP
NSDBR	*NOMAIL* BEIRUT SYRIA
NSHRT	BEIRUT SYRIA
NSJAM	BEIRUT SYRIA
NSJRS	*NOMAIL* BEIRUT SYRIA
NSFLL	PRES@VISIT
NSMEN	MEDIA
NSPWH	SYRIA

WHSR COMMENT:

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT:

EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHDM #4539 2071624
O 261624Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6120
SECRET DAMASCUS 04539

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, SY, LE
SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO: II

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AFTER SHARA' TOLD ME OF JENCO'S COMING RELEASE (SEPTTEL), WE WAITED HALF AN HOUR BEFORE JENCO ARRIVED AT ABOUT 3:30 P.M. LOCAL. HE WAS BROUGHT INTO SHARA'S OFFICE WHERE, AFTER EMBRACING US BOTH, HE SAT DOWN FOR A SHORT CONVERSATION. SHARA' EXPRESSED THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT'S CONGRATULATIONS. JENCO THANKED SHARA' FOR SYRIAN ASSISTANCE. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN HELD IN A ROOM WITH THE OTHER THREE HOSTAGES DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS. BEFORE THAT HE WAS MOVED FROM PLACE TO PLACE A TOTAL OF SEVEN TIMES. HE DESCRIBED HIS CAPTORS AS FANATICS AND DETERMINED MEN.

Jen

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M08-131 #55725

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

3. JENCO SAID THE ONLY MESSAGE HE HAD BEEN GIVEN BY HIS CAPTORS WAS A VIDEO TAPE. HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT WAS IN IT, BUT HAD BEEN TOLD NOT TO DELIVER IT TO THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT OR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT,

BUT ONLY TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. HE HAD BEEN WARNED THAT IT MUST BE TURNED OVER TODAY OR THERE WOULD BE RETRIBUTION AGAINST THE HOSTAGES.

4. JENCO UNDERSTOOD, AND SHARA' AGREED, THAT HE SHOULD MAKE NO COMMENTS TO THE PRESS REGARDING HIS DETENTION OR DETAILS OF HIS RELEASE. AT THAT POINT, THE DOORS WERE OPENED TO ABOUT THIRTY-FIVE PRESS REPRESENTATIVES AND PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO TOOK PICTURES AND TRIED TO ELICIT JENCO'S COMMENTS. SHARA' MADE A BRIEF STATEMENT EXPRESSING THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT'S HAPPINESS THAT HE HAD BEEN RELEASED. JENCO THANKED THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AND ALL THOSE WHO HAD HELPED BRING HIS FREEDOM. HE TOLD THE JOURNALISTS HE WAS WELL AS WERE THE OTHER HOSTAGES (HE DID NOT SAY HOW MANY). HE PRAYED THAT THEY WOULD SOON BE RELEASED.

-

5. I EMPHASIZED TO SHARA' THAT WE MUST BE GIVEN THE VIDEO TAPE WHICH WAS IN THE HANDS OF THE SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE PEOPLE WHO HAD PROVIDED JENCO WITH SHOWER, CLOTHING AND FOOD. WE ARE FOLLOWING UP ON THIS.

5. THE SYRIANS HAVE THUS FAR HANDLED THE TURNOVER IN A BUSINESSLIKE WAY WITHOUT EXCESSIVE MEDIA EXPLOITATION. THEY HAVE TOLD ME THAT HOW WE HANDLE JENCO FROM HERE ON OUT IS UP TO US.

6. WE ARE KEEPING THE PRESS ONLY SEMI-HAPPY WITH INFORMATION THAT JENCO HAS BEEN VISITED BY THE PAPAL NUNCIO AND MRS. SAY. WE HAVE TOLD THEM HE WILL BE LEAVING TOMORROW MORNING. WE ANTICIPATE ANOTHER PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AT THE AIRPLANE, BUT HAVE RESISTED REQUESTS FOR A PRESS CONFERENCE BY JENCO OR EMBASSY PERSONNEL.

7. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON
** END OF CABLE **

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

55726

NSCPC

PAGE 01
IBM117

SECSTATE WASHDC 5080

DTG:261802Z JUL 86 PSN:029428
TOR: 207/2041Z CSN:HCE787

DISTRIBUTION:

NSCPC	BEIRUT HOSTAGE KIDNAP SYRIA TERREP
NSRLE	BEIRUT HOSTAGE KIDNAP SYRIA TERREP
NSDGM	HOSTAGE KIDNAP TERREP
NSJRR	HOSTAGE KIDNAP TERREP
NSVMC	HOSTAGE KIDNAP TERREP
NSDBR	*NOMAIL* BEIRUT SYRIA
NSHRT	BEIRUT SYRIA
NSJAM	BEIRUT SYRIA
NSJRS	*NOMAIL* BEIRUT SYRIA
NSLSS	CONGRESS
NSPWH	SYRIA
NSRKS	CONGRESS

WHSR COMMENT:

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT:

EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5080 2071803
O 261802Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE 7686
S E C R E T STATE 235080 TOSEC 140011

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING DAMASCUS 4538 DTD 26 JUL SENT ACTION
SECSTATE, INFO BEIRUT, BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION:

QUOTE:

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 04538

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, LE, SY
SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO I

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. HAVING HEARD PRESS REPORTS THAT FATHER JENCO
WOULD SOON BE RELEASED, WE ESTABLISHED CONTACT
WITH THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY MORNING OF JULY 26.
THEY WERE NOT ABLE OFFICIALLY TO CONFIRM THAT JENCO

DECLASSIFIED
NLRR MO8-131 #5526
BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

WAS IN SYRIAN HANDS. HOWEVER, AT 2:30 P.M. LOCAL I WAS CALLED IN TO MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SHARA'. SHARA' SAID THAT JENCO WAS IN DAMASCUS AND WOULD SOON BE IN HIS OFFICE WHERE HE WOULD TURN HIM OVER TO ME. SHARA' SAID HE WANTED THE USG TO KNOW THAT JENCO HAD

BEEN RELEASED BY THE CAPTORS NEAR THE LEBANESE TOWN OF QARAAOUN IN THE SOUTHERN BIQA' VALLEY. HE HAD BEEN DELIVERED THERE IN THE TRUNK OF A CAR BY PERSONS MANAGING TO CONCEAL THEIR IDENTITY. SHARA' THOUGHT THAT THE CAPTORS HAD HANDLED IT THIS WAY TO CONCEAL THE PLACE WHERE JENCO HAD BEEN HELD. (HE LATER TOLD SHARA' HE HAD BEEN HELD SOMEWHERE IN BEIRUT FOR THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS.)

-

3. SHARA' ADDED THAT HE WANTED THE USG TO KNOW THAT THE SYRIANS HAD STEPPED UP PRESSURE WITH "PHYSICAL MEASURES" AND HE IMPLIED THAT THIS CAMPAIGN HAD CONTRIBUTED TO JENCO'S RELEASE. HE SAID ASAD HAD ISSUED ORDERS SEVERAL WEEKS AGO AFTER BEING IMPRESSED BY THE LETTER SIGNED BY SEVERAL HUNDRED CONGRESSMEN DELIVERED TO HIM BY CONGRESSMAN DORNAN. SHARA' CONCLUDED BY PLEDGING THAT THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO APPLY PRESSURES; THEY HAVE MADE NO COMMITMENTS TO THE KIDNAPPERS AND WOULD MAKE NONE. THEIR AIM, HE SAID, WAS TO BRING ABOUT THE RELEASE OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES.

-

4. COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: AT THIS POINT WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW IMPORTANT THE SYRIAN CONTRIBUTION WAS TOWARD JENCO'S RELEASE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THEIR MOVE INTO WEST BEIRUT AND WELL-ADVERTISED PLAN TO ENTER THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS WAS A FACTOR. WHATEVER THEIR CONTRIBUTION, THEY HAVE THUS FAR BEEN VERY PROMPT AND COOPERATIVE IN TAKING CARE OF JENCO AND TURNING HIM OVER TO US. FOR TACTICAL REASONS, IF NOTHING ELSE, WE SHOULD GIVE AMPLE CREDIT TO THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT ASAD AS A MEANS OF ENCOURAGING THEM TO STEP UP THE PRESSURE ON HIZBALLAH. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE CONSISTENT AND APPROPRIATE FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN TO PHONE ASAD WITHIN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR JENCO'S RELEASE AND THANK HIM FOR HIS CONTINUING EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES. END COMMENT.

5. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON
UNQUOTE ARMACOST
** END OF CABLE **

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

E
55727

PAGE 01 SECSTATE WASHDC 5080 DTG: 261802Z JUL 86 PSN: 029428
EOB988 AN009393 TOR: 207/2041Z CSN: HCE787

DISTRIBUTION: COBB-01 NORT-01 SOMM-01 NAT-01 /004 A2

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:
SIT:
EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5080 2071803
O 261802Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE 7686
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT NIACT IMMEDIATE 0066

S E C R E T STATE 235080 TOSEC 140011

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING DAMASCUS 4538 DTD 26 JUL SENT ACTION
SECSTATE, INFO BEIRUT, BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION:
QUOTE:
S E C R E T DAMASCUS 04538

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, LE, SY
SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO I

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. HAVING HEARD PRESS REPORTS THAT FATHER JENCO WOULD SOON BE RELEASED, WE ESTABLISHED CONTACT WITH THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY MORNING OF JULY 26. THEY WERE NOT ABLE OFFICIALLY TO CONFIRM THAT JENCO WAS IN SYRIAN HANDS. HOWEVER, AT 2:30 P.M. LOCAL I WAS CALLED IN TO MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SHARA'. SHARA' SAID THAT JENCO WAS IN DAMASCUS AND WOULD SOON BE IN HIS OFFICE WHERE HE WOULD TURN HIM OVER TO ME. SHARA' SAID HE WANTED THE USG TO KNOW THAT JENCO HAD BEEN RELEASED BY THE CAPTORS NEAR THE LEBANESE TOWN OF QARAAOUN IN THE SOUTHERN BIAQA' VALLEY. HE HAD BEEN DELIVERED THERE IN THE TRUNK OF A CAR BY PERSONS MANAGING TO CONCEAL THEIR IDENTITY. SHARA' THOUGHT THAT THE CAPTORS HAD HANDLED IT THIS WAY TO CONCEAL THE PLACE WHERE JENCO HAD BEEN HELD. (HE LATER TOLD SHARA' HE HAD BEEN HELD SOMEWHERE IN BEIRUT FOR THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS.)

3. SHARA' ADDED THAT HE WANTED THE USG TO KNOW THAT THE SYRIANS HAD STEPPED UP PRESSURE WITH "PHYSICAL MEASURES" AND HE IMPLIED THAT THIS CAMPAIGN HAD CONTRIBUTED TO JENCO'S RELEASE. HE SAID ASAD HAD ISSUED ORDERS SEVERAL WEEKS AGO AFTER BEING IMPRESSED BY THE LETTER SIGNED BY SEVERAL HUNDRED CONGRESSMEN DELIVERED TO HIM BY CONGRESSMAN DORNAN. SHARA' CONCLUDED BY PLEDGING THAT THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO APPLY PRESSURES; THEY HAVE MADE NO COMMITMENTS TO THE KIDNAPPERS AND WOULD MAKE NONE. THEIR AIM, HE SAID, WAS TO BRING ABOUT THE RELEASE OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES.

4. COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: AT THIS POINT WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW IMPORTANT THE SYRIAN CONTRIBUTION WAS TOWARD JENCO'S RELEASE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THEIR MOVE INTO WEST BEIRUT AND WELL-ADVERTISED PLAN TO ENTER THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS WAS A FACTOR. WHATEVER THEIR CONTRIBUTION, THEY HAVE THUS FAR BEEN VERY PROMPT AND COOPERATIVE IN TAKING CARE OF JENCO AND TURNING HIM OVER TO US. FOR TACTICAL REASONS, IF NOTHING ELSE, WE SHOULD GIVE AMPLE CREDIT TO THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT ASAD AS A MEANS OF ENCOURAGING THEM TO STEP UP THE PRESSURE ON HIZBALLAH. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE CONSISTENT AND APPROPRIATE FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN TO PHONE ASAD WITHIN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR JENCO'S RELEASE AND THANK HIM FOR HIS CONTINUING EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES. END COMMENT.

5. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON
UNQUOTE ARMACOST
BT

66
cheatitis!
Bullshit
no way.

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M08-131 #55727

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

← sure....

~~SECRET~~

55728

NSCPC

PAGE 01
IBM118

SECSTATE WASHDC 5081

DTG:261804Z JUL 86 PSN:029430
TOR: 207/2043Z CSN:HCE788

DISTRIBUTION:

NSCPC BEIRUT HOSTAGE SYRIA TERREP
NSRLE BEIRUT HOSTAGE SYRIA TERREP
NSDGM HOSTAGE INTELLIGENCE TERREP
NSJRR HOSTAGE INTELLIGENCE TERREP
NSVMC HOSTAGE INTELLIGENCE TERREP
NSDBR *NOMAIL* BEIRUT SYRIA
NSHRT BEIRUT SYRIA
NSJAM BEIRUT SYRIA
NSJRS *NOMAIL* BEIRUT SYRIA
NSFLL PRES@VISIT
NSMEN MEDIA
NSPWH SYRIA

Handwritten signature

WHSR COMMENT:

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT:

EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5081 2071805
O 261804Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE 7687
SECRET STATE 235081 TOSEC 140012

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING DAMASCUS 4539 DTD 26 JUL SENT ACTION
SECSTATE, INFO BEIRUT, BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION:

QUOTE:

SECRET DAMASCUS 04539

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, SY, LE
SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO: II

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AFTER SHARA' TOLD ME OF JENCO'S COMING RELEASE
(SEPTTEL), WE WAITED HALF AN HOUR BEFORE JENCO
ARRIVED AT ABOUT 3:30 P.M. LOCAL. HE WAS BROUGHT
INTO SHARA'S OFFICE WHERE, AFTER EMBRACING US BOTH, HE
SAT DOWN FOR A SHORT CONVERSATION. SHARA' EXPRESSED

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M08-131 #55728

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT'S CONGRATULATIONS. JENCO THANKED SHARA' FOR SYRIAN ASSISTANCE. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN HELD IN A ROOM WITH THE OTHER THREE HOSTAGES DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS. BEFORE THAT HE WAS MOVED FROM PLACE TO PLACE A TOTAL OF SEVEN TIMES.

HE DESCRIBED HIS CAPTORS AS FANATICS AND DETERMINED MEN.

3. JENCO SAID THE ONLY MESSAGE HE HAD BEEN GIVEN BY HIS CAPTORS WAS A VIDEO TAPE. HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT WAS IN IT, BUT HAD BEEN TOLD NOT TO DELIVER IT TO THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT OR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, BUT ONLY TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. HE HAD BEEN WARNED THAT IT MUST BE TURNED OVER TODAY OR THERE WOULD BE RETRIBUTION AGAINST THE HOSTAGES.

4. JENCO UNDERSTOOD, AND SHARA' AGREED, THAT HE SHOULD MAKE NO COMMENTS TO THE PRESS REGARDING HIS DETENTION OR DETAILS OF HIS RELEASE. AT THAT POINT, THE DOORS WERE OPENED TO ABOUT THIRTY-FIVE PRESS REPRESENTATIVES AND PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO TOOK PICTURES AND TRIED TO ELICIT JENCO'S COMMENTS. SHARA' MADE A BRIEF STATEMENT EXPRESSING THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT'S HAPPINESS THAT HE HAD BEEN RELEASED. JENCO THANKED THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AND ALL THOSE WHO HAD HELPED BRING HIS FREEDOM. HE TOLD THE JOURNALISTS HE WAS WELL AS WERE THE OTHER HOSTAGES (HE DID NOT SAY HOW MANY). HE PRAYED THAT THEY WOULD SOON BE RELEASED.

5. I EMPHASIZED TO SHARA' THAT WE MUST BE GIVEN THE VIDEO TAPE WHICH WAS IN THE HANDS OF THE SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE PEOPLE WHO HAD PROVIDED JENCO WITH SHOWER, CLOTHING AND FOOD. WE ARE FOLLOWING UP ON THIS.

5. THE SYRIANS HAVE THUS FAR HANDLED THE TURNOVER IN A BUSINESSLIKE WAY WITHOUT EXCESSIVE MEDIA EXPLOITATION. THEY HAVE TOLD ME THAT HOW WE HANDLE JENCO FROM HERE ON OUT IS UP TO US.

6. WE ARE KEEPING THE PRESS ONLY SEMI-HAPPY WITH INFORMATION THAT JENCO HAS BEEN VISITED BY THE PAPAL NUNCIO AND MRS. SAY. WE HAVE TOLD THEM HE WILL BE LEAVING TOMORROW MORNING. WE ANTICIPATE ANOTHER PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AT THE AIRPLANE, BUT HAVE RESISTED REQUESTS FOR A PRESS CONFERENCE BY JENCO OR EMBASSY PERSONNEL.

7. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON
UNQUOTE ARMACOST
** END OF CABLE **

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

55729

PAGE 01 SECSTATE WASHDC 5081 DTG: 261804Z JUL 86 PSN: 029430
EOB989 AN009394 TOR: 207/2043Z CSN: HCE788

DISTRIBUTION: COBB-01 NORT-01 SOMM-01 MAT-01 /004 A2

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:
SIT:
EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5081 2071805
O 261804Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE 7687
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT NIACT IMMEDIATE 0067

S E C R E T STATE 235081 TOSEC 140012

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING DAMASCUS 4539 DTD 26 JUL SENT ACTION
SECSTATE, INFO BEIRUT, BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION:
QUOTE:
S E C R E T DAMASCUS 04539

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, SY, LE
SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO: II

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AFTER SHARA' TOLD ME OF JENCO'S COMING RELEASE (SEPTTEL), WE WAITED HALF AN HOUR BEFORE JENCO ARRIVED AT ABOUT 3:30 P.M. LOCAL. HE WAS BROUGHT INTO SHARA'S OFFICE WHERE, AFTER EMBRACING US BOTH, HE SAT DOWN FOR A SHORT CONVERSATION. SHARA' EXPRESSED THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT'S CONGRATULATIONS. JENCO THANKED SHARA' FOR SYRIAN ASSISTANCE. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN HELD IN A ROOM WITH THE OTHER THREE HOSTAGES DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS. BEFORE THAT HE WAS MOVED FROM PLACE TO PLACE A TOTAL OF SEVEN TIMES. HE DESCRIBED HIS CAPTORS AS FANATICS AND DETERMINED MEN.

3. JENCO SAID THE ONLY MESSAGE HE HAD BEEN GIVEN BY HIS CAPTORS WAS A VIDEO TAPE. HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT WAS IN IT, BUT HAD BEEN TOLD NOT TO DELIVER IT TO THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT OR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, BUT ONLY TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. HE HAD BEEN WARNED THAT IT MUST BE TURNED OVER TODAY OR THERE WOULD BE RETRIBUTION AGAINST THE HOSTAGES.

4. JENCO UNDERSTOOD, AND SHARA' AGREED, THAT HE SHOULD MAKE NO COMMENTS TO THE PRESS REGARDING HIS DETENTION OR DETAILS OF HIS RELEASE. AT THAT POINT, THE DOORS WERE OPENED TO ABOUT THIRTY-FIVE PRESS REPRESENTATIVES AND PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO TOOK PICTURES AND TRIED TO ELICIT JENCO'S COMMENTS. SHARA' MADE A BRIEF STATEMENT EXPRESSING THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT'S HAPPINESS THAT HE HAD BEEN RELEASED. JENCO THANKED

THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AND ALL THOSE WHO HAD HELPED BRING HIS FREEDOM. HE TOLD THE JOURNALISTS HE WAS WELL AS WERE THE OTHER HOSTAGES (HE DID NOT SAY HOW MANY). HE PRAYED THAT THEY WOULD SOON BE RELEASED.

5. I EMPHASIZED TO SHARA' THAT WE MUST BE GIVEN THE VIDEO TAPE WHICH WAS IN THE HANDS OF THE SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE PEOPLE WHO HAD PROVIDED JENCO WITH SHOWER, CLOTHING AND FOOD. WE ARE FOLLOWING UP ON THIS. ✓

5. THE SYRIANS HAVE THUS FAR HANDLED THE TURNOVER IN A BUSINESSLIKE WAY WITHOUT EXCESSIVE MEDIA EXPLOITATION. THEY HAVE TOLD ME THAT HOW WE HANDLE JENCO FROM HERE ON OUT IS UP TO US.

6. WE ARE KEEPING THE PRESS ONLY SEMI-HAPPY WITH INFORMATION THAT JENCO HAS BEEN VISITED BY THE PAPAL NUNCIO AND MRS. SAY. WE HAVE TOLD THEM HE WILL BE LEAVING TOMORROW MORNING. WE ANTICIPATE ANOTHER PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AT THE AIRPLANE, BUT HAVE RESISTED REQUESTS FOR A PRESS CONFERENCE BY JENCO OR EMBASSY PERSONNEL.

7. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON
UNQUOTE ARMACOST
BT

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M08-131 #55729

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

~~SECRET~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

55730

E

PAGE 01 OF 03 DAMASCUS 4541
SIT142

DTG: 261805Z JUL 86 PSN: 029301
TOR: 207/1812Z

DISTRIBUTION: NORT SIT /003

OP IMMED
DE RUEHDM #4541 2071806
O 261805Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE 2040

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6121

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 04541

FOR CHARGE MCNAMARA

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, LE, SY
SUBJECT:

REF: BEIRUT 3953

1. SECRET - ENTIRE B XT.

2. WE REGRET RESPONDING TARDILY TO YOUR TELEGRAM
BUT PRESSING SERIES OF REQUIREMENTS HERE HAVE
DELAYED US.

3. PLEASE TELL MRS. SUTHERLAND THAT WE NOW EXPECT
FATHER JENCO TO DEPART DAMASCUS TOMORROW AT TEN A.M.

DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NLRR M08-131 #55730

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

~~SECRET~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 03 DAMASCUS 4541

DTG: 261805Z JUL 86 PSN: 029301

AND THEREFORE IT IS NOT LIKELY THAT SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO ARRIVE HERE IN TIME TO SEE HIM.

3. HOWEVER, FATHER JENCO HAS PASSED ALONG SOME INFORMATION CONCERNING TOM SUTHERLAND AND WE THINK JEAN WILL FIND SOME OF IT COMFORTING. WE PASS THIS ON WITH THE SUGGESTION THAT SHE NOT USE IT FOR THE MOMENT WITH THE PRESS.

4. FATHER JENCO SAYS THAT FOR THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS THE FOUR HOSTAGES HAVE BEEN TOGETHER AND PROVIDED EACH OTHER COMPANY, SUPPORT AND HOPE. WHILE THEY HAVE BEEN CONFINED IN A SMALL PLACE, THEY HAVE HAD ACCESS AT TIMES TO A RADIO AND MORE RECENTLY TO A (#) BRINGS SPECIAL GREETINGS AND EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE FROM TOM SUTHERLAND TO HIS FAMILY WHOM HE OFTEN DISCUSSES. APART FROM THE CONDITIONS OF CONFINEMENT, WHICH TAKE PLACE IN A SMALL ROOM, THE FOUR HAVE NOT BEEN MISTREATED OR BEATEN. THEY ARE FED REGULARLY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THEY HAVE A FAN AND ELECTRIC LIGHT IN THEIR ROOM AND ACCESS TO A KITCHEN AND A TOILET. THE FOUR ARE GOOD FRIENDS AND PRAY DAILY TOGETHER IN THE AFTERNOON AND IN THE EVENING. THEY DO EXERCISES IN THE ROOM AND HAVE SOME BOOKS AND EVEN WRITING PAPER AND PENS. FATHER JENCO SAYS THAT EACH NIGHT BEFORE SLEEPING THEY EXCHANGE A HANDSHAKE OF PEACE.

5. LAWRENCE JENCO HAS GREATLY IMPRESSED OFFICERS AT THIS EMBASSY WITH HIS HUMANITY AND STRENGTH.

FOIA(b)(7)

~~SECRET~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 03 OF 03 DAMASCUS 4541

DTG: 261805Z JUL 86 PSN: 029301-

WE KNOW HE WILL WANT TO SHARE MORE INFORMATION
WITH MRS. SUTHERLAND AS SOON AS THAT IS POSSIBLE.
THE THOUGHTS ABOVE, HOWEVER, ARE THE ONES HE
WANTED FIRST TO CONVEY TO HER.

6. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON
BT

SECRET

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

NORTH, OLIVER: FILES

Withdrawer

SMF 9/3/2008

File Folder

HOSTAGES: FATHER JENCO RELEASE 07/26/1986 (2)

FOIA

M08-131

WANNER

Box Number

11

4

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
55731	CABLE	7	7/26/1986	B1
	261932Z JUL 86			B3

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

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

55732

NSCPC

PAGE 01 JCS WASHINGTON DC// 0848 DTG:261912Z JUL 86 PSN:029366
IBM108 TOR: 207/1931Z CSN:CRI360

DISTRIBUTION:

NSCPC HOSTAGE
NSDGM HOSTAGE
NSJRR HOSTAGE
NSRLE HOSTAGE
NSSRS *NOMAIL* HOSTAGE

Jenco

WHSR COMMENT:

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT:

EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEKJCS #0848 2071928
O 261912Z JUL 86 ZFF-4
FM JCS WASHINGTON DC//CJCS//

TO USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE
C O N F I D E N T I A L

DELIVER IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT
REF: JCS WASH DC//CJCS//MSG DTG 261716Z
SUBJECT: HOSTAGE RETURN (U)
(C) MODIFY REF TO REFLECT JENCO FAMILY DEPARTURE TIME ANDREWS AFB TO
2100Z 27 JUL.
DECLAS OADR
** END OF CABLE **

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

DECLASSIFIED
NLRR M08-131 #55732
BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

~~SECRET~~

55733

NSCPC

PAGE 01
IBM173

DAMASCUS 4543

DTG:262239Z JUL 86 PSN:029814
TOR: 208/0248Z CSN:HCE832

DISTRIBUTION:

NSDBR *NOMAIL* BEIRUT ISRAEL KUWAIT SYRIA
NSHRT BEIRUT ISRAEL KUWAIT SYRIA
NSJAM BEIRUT ISRAEL KUWAIT SYRIA
NSJRS *NOMAIL* BEIRUT ISRAEL KUWAIT SYRIA
NSCPC BEIRUT HOSTAGE SYRIA
NSRLE BEIRUT HOSTAGE SYRIA
NSRMS ISRAEL MAP
NSDGM HOSTAGE
NSDMF ISRAEL
NSELM ISRAEL
NSJHO VP
NSJL *NOMAIL* BROADCAST
NSJRR HOSTAGE
NSPWH SYRIA
NSVMC HOSTAGE

NSHS REUNION
NSPHR REUNION

WHSR COMMENT:

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:
SIT: VP NORT SIT PUBS
EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHDM #4543/01 2072242
O 262239Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6123
**** SECTION BREAK ****
SECRET SECTION 01 OF 02 DAMASCUS 04543

EXDIS

FRANKFURT EYES ONLY FOR HOSTAGE DEBRIEFING TEAM

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, SY, LE
SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO IN DAMASCUS

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: EARLY [REDACTED] REPORTING BASED ON
LIMITED DEBRIEFING HAS PROVIDED SOME DETAILS WHICH
MIGHT BE OF USE TO DEBRIEFING TEAM WHICH WILL MEET
FATHER JENCO TODAY, JULY 27 IN FRANKFURT. FOLLOWING

DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NLRR M08-131#55733

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

E.O. 12958
As Amended
Sec. 1.4(c) -

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

ADDITION TO EARLIER REPORT DRAWS ON FURTHER REMARKS
JENCO MADE IN DAMASCUS LAST NIGHT, JULY 26, TO
EMBOFFS. END SUMMARY.

3. JENCO'S MENTAL AND PHYSICAL CONDITION IS GOOD AL-
THOUGH HE HAS A MILD CASE OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE. HE
IS IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION AND REMARKABLY ALERT
MENTALLY. WITH THE AID OF REGULAR RADIO AND T.V.
BROADCASTS, PLUS SOME NEWSPAPER REPORTS, PLUS A LOT
OF CONVERSATION WITH HIS COLLEAGUES OVER THE LAST
SEVERAL MONTHS, HE HAS BEEN ABLE TO INTERPRET REMARKS
BY HIS CAPTORS AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS PRISONS TO
PROVIDE A RATHER FULL PICTURE OF HIS CAPTIVITY.
ALTHOUGH HE HAS SPENT MOST OF THE LAST TWO DAYS AWAKE,
OFTEN UNDERGOING GRUELING PHYSICAL MOVES FROM PLACE
TO PLACE, HIS ELATION TODAY KEPT HIM AWAKE AND TALKING
MOST OF THE EVENING. HE IS WILLING TO RECONSTRUCT
THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF HIS CAPTIVITY BUT HE
WILL NEED TIME AND ENCOURAGEMENT. HIS OVERWHELMING
CONCERN IS FOR THE SAFETY OF HIS FELLOW PRISONERS,
AND EVENTUAL RELEASE, BUT HE ALSO HAS A DESIRE TO DO
WHAT HIS CAPTORS HAVE ASKED HIM TO DO, WHICH IS TO
CARRY TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT A SIMPLE MESSAGE, NAMELY,
THAT FURTHER RELEASE OF HIS FRIENDS DEPENDS ON THE
RELEASE OF THE SEVENTEEN DAWA' PRISONERS IN KUWAIT.
HIS CAPTORS FURTHER WANT HIM TO TELL THEIR STORY,
A LITANY OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT ISRAEL AND THE U.S.
HE IS BY NO MEANS A SLAVE TO THESE DEMANDS AND
CLEARLY SEES HIS CAPTORS AS EVIL MEN AND IN ADDITION
HE IS LUCID AND FULL OF OBSERVATIONS. THE DEBRIEFING
TEAM SHOULD APPROACH HIM WITH TRUST AND CONFIDENCE,
ABOVE ALL RESPECTING HIS VOCATION AS A CHRISTIAN
AND A CATHOLIC PRIEST. FOR ALL HIS STRENGTH, HOWEVER,
HE IS STILL CLOSE TO THE HORRORS OF HIS CAPTIVITY
AND SHOULD NOT BE PRESSED TOO HARD LEST HIS ELATION
TURN OCCASIONALLY TO TEARS.

4. THE CHRONOLOGY OF HIS RELEASE AND SOME OF THE
CONDITIONS OF HIS CAPTIVITY MAY BE USEFUL FOR THE
DEBRIEFING TEAM AS A POINT OF DEPARTURE. THE CHANGE
OF CIRCUMSTANCES STARTED ON JULY 25 AT 5 P.M. WHEN
HIS CAPTORS TOLD THE FOUR AMERICAN HOSTAGES WHO
WERE HELD TOGETHER IN ONE TWELVE BY FIFTEEN FOOT
ROOM THAT THE BUILDING WAS NO LONGER "HEALTHY"
AND THEY WERE BEING MOVED. THE CONTEMPTUOUS
REMARKS OF THE CAPTORS FOR THE SYRIANS LEADS JENCO
TO CONCLUDE THAT PRESSURES FROM THAT QUARTER FORCED
THE MOVE AND MAY HAVE PRECIPITATED THE DECISION TO
RELEASE HIM. HE BELIEVES THAT A SET OF NEGOTIATIONS
ABOUT A MONTH AGO FOR THE RELEASE OF AMERICANS IN
EXCHANGE FOR SOME PRISONERS ELSEWHERE THAN IN
KUWAIT COLLAPSED SUDDENLY, LEAVING HIS CAPTORS

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

HIGHLY CRITICAL OF U.S. GOVERNMENT BAD FAITH. THE DEMAND NOW FOR THE RELEASE OF THE PRISONERS IN KUWAIT WOULD SEEM TO BE, THEREFORE, A REVERSION TO EARLIER AND HARDER TERMS. IN ANY CASE, THE PRISONERS WERE REMOVED ON JULY 25, ONE BY ONE FROM THEIR TOP FLOOR PRISON IN A BUILDING IN BEIRUT. (JENCO BELIEVES HE COULD IDENTIFY THE LOCATION OF THIS BUILDING ON A MAP OR AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH.) JENCO WAS THE LAST TO GO DOWN THE ELEVATOR WHERE, ALL THE

PRISONERS WERE TOLD, THEY WOULD WALK NONCHALANTLY FROM THE FRONT DOOR TO A WAITING CAR AND THEN, DRESSED

IN STREET CLOTHES, BE DRIVEN OFF TO A NEW LOCATION. JENCO, HOWEVER, WAS NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE AND WAS TOLD AT THAT TIME HE WOULD BE RELEASED. JENCO BELIEVES A VIDEO TAPE THAT HE WAS GIVEN WAS MADE AT THAT TIME.

5. AT TWO IN THE MORNING, JENCO WAS TAPED LIKE A MUMMY AND PLACED IN THE WHEEL WELL OF A LARGE TRUCK, TRANSPORTED FOR ABOUT FOUR HOURS ACROSS VERY ROUGH ROADS. AT ONE POINT THE TRUCK GOT STUCK AND HAD TO BE PUSHED FREE. AT SOME TIME IN THE EARLY MORNING, JENCO WAS TAKEN OUT OF THE WELL AND PUT IN THE BACK SEAT OF A CAR AND DRIVEN FURTHER UNTIL HE WAS LET OUT ON THE ROAD NEAR LAKE QARA'OUN IN THE SOUTHERN BIQA'. HE WAS POINTED TOWARD A VILLAGE. THE CAR DROVE OFF AND HE WALKED TO THE VILLAGE WHERE HE WAS AT FIRST

NOTE BY OC/T:UPGRADED EXDIS PER S/S-O-MR YAMATO
** END OF CABLE **

**** SECTION BREAK ****

SECRET SECTION 02 OF 02 DAMASCUS 04543

EXDIS

FRANKFURT EYES ONLY FOR HOSTAGE DEBRIEFING TEAM

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PTER, SY, LE

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO IN DAMASCUS

TREATED LIKE AN ESCAPED LUNATIC WITH TAPE AND COTTON STILL STICKING TO HIS HEAD AND CLOTHES. FINALLY, A WOMAN WHO SPOKE ENGLISH WAS ABLE TO INFORM LOCAL OFFICIALS THAT HE WAS THE JENCO OF HOSTAGE FAME. WITHIN A VERY SHORT TIME HE WAS TURNED OVER TO THE SYRIANS.

-

6. HIS MOVEMENT ONWARD TO DAMASCUS WAS THEREAFTER QUITE STEADY AND QUICK. HE WAS BRIEFLY QUESTIONED

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT ONE POINT ABOUT WHERE HE HAD BEEN AND WHO HELD HIM, BUT HE DID NOT PROVIDE THE SYRIANS FULL INFORMATION ON THESE QUESTIONS. THEY DID NOT SEEM TO EXPECT HIS RELEASE, ACCORDING TO JENCO, BUT TREATED HIM KINDLY, ALLOWING HIM TO SHOWER AND GIVING HIM NEW CLOTHES. BY LATE AFTERNOON HE WAS IN DAMASCUS AND THEN TAKEN TO THE RESIDENCE.

7. JENCO HAS FIRSTHAND AND INFERENTIAL INFORMATION ABOUT FRENCH AS WELL AS OTHER CAPTIVES. HE ATTRIBUTES MUCH OF THE RECENT COMFORT AND FACILITIES (E.G., RADIO AND T.V.) TO THE EFFORTS OF TERRY WAITE, WHOSE APPEARANCE AT THE RESIDENCE FROM AMMAN AT 11 O'CLOCK THIS EVENING, JULY 26, PROVIDED AN ESPECIALLY WARM REUNION. WAITE WILL RETURN ON THE PLANE WITH JENCO

AND, DESPITE OUR PROMPTINGS TONIGHT AND OUR ESCORT TOMORROW, WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CONTINUE TO DEBRIEF JENCO ON SOME MATTERS. WE WILL DO ALL WE CAN TO LIMIT THIS, BUT THE BOND BETWEEN THESE TWO MEN IS VERY STRONG.

8. JENCO IS A VERY IMPRESSIVE MAN. HIS ONLY REQUEST TO US SO FAR IS THAT HE LEAVE TOMORROW DRESSED AS A PRIEST. WITH A LITTLE SCRAMBLING WE BELIEVE WE WILL BE ABLE TO SATISFY THIS REQUEST. THE DEBRIEFING TEAM SHOULD KNOW THAT HE HAS RECEIVED AN INVITATION FROM THE POPE TO VISIT ROME FOR A PRIVATE AUDIENCE ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 30. THIS IS SOMETHING HE WANTS VERY MUCH TO DO.

-

9. ON DEPARTURE, JENCO WILL ANSWER NO REPEAT NO QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS, BUT WILL READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

-- I AM PLEASED TO BE GOING HOME, AND WANT TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO HELPED BRING ABOUT MY RELEASE, AND ESPECIALLY THOSE IN THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN DAMASCUS WHO RECEIVED ME SO WARMLY YESTERDAY. I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR THE STATEMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE BY PRESIDENT REAGAN AND THE HOLY FATHER. I HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR THE RELEASE OF MY THREE FRIENDS AND FELLOW PRISONERS AND OTHER HOSTAGES. I AM WELL, AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING MY RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.

-- I NEED TIME TO PRAY AND REFLECT ON THE EVENTS OF THE PAST TWO DAYS, AND ASK ALL THOSE WHO ARE HERE TODAY, AND WATCHING FROM AFAR, TO GIVE ME THIS TIME AND PEACE. EAGLETON

NOTE BY OS/T:UPGRADED EXDIS PER S/S-O-MR YAMATO
** END OF CABLE **

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

E

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

55734

PAGE 01 OF 04 DAMASCUS 4543
SIT164

DTG: 262239Z JUL 86 PSN: 029814
TOR: 208/0248Z

DISTRIBUTION: VP PUBS NORT SIT /005

OP IMMED

DE RUEHDM #4543/01 2072242

O 262239Z JUL 86 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6123

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT NIACT IMMEDIATE 0775

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 DAMASCUS 04543

EXDIS

FRANKFURT EYES ONLY FOR HOSTAGE DEBRIEFING TEAM

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PTER, SY, LE

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO IN DAMASCUS

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: EARLY [REDACTED] REPORTING BASED ON LIMITED DEBRIEFING HAS PROVIDED SOME DETAILS WHICH MIGHT BE OF USE TO DEBRIEFING TEAM WHICH WILL MEET FATHER JENCO TODAY, JULY 27 IN FRANKFURT. FOLLOWING ADDITION TO EARLIER REPORT DRAWS ON FURTHER REMARKS JENCO MADE IN DAMASCUS LAST NIGHT, JULY 26, TO EMBOFFS. END SUMMARY.

E.O. 12958
As Amended
Sec. 1.4(c)

DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NLRR MD8-13#55734

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

SECRET

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 04 DAMASCUS 4543

DTG: 262239Z JUL 86 PSN: 029814

3. JENCO'S MENTAL AND PHYSICAL CONDITION IS GOOD AL-
THOUGH HE HAS A MILD CASE OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE. HE
IS IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION AND REMARKABLY ALERT
MENTALLY. WITH THE AID OF REGULAR RADIO AND T.V.
BROADCASTS, PLUS SOME NEWSPAPER REPORTS, PLUS A LOT
OF CONVERSATION WITH HIS COLLEAGUES OVER THE LAST
SEVERAL MONTHS, HE HAS BEEN ABLE TO INTERPRET REMARKS
BY HIS CAPTORS AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS PRISONS TO
PROVIDE A RATHER FULL PICTURE OF HIS CAPTIVITY.
ALTHOUGH HE HAS SPENT MOST OF THE LAST TWO DAYS AWAKE,
OFTEN UNDERGOING GRUELING PHYSICAL MOVES FROM PLACE
TO PLACE, HIS ELATION TODAY KEPT HIM AWAKE AND TALKING
MOST OF THE EVENING. HE IS WILLING TO RECONSTRUCT
THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF HIS CAPTIVITY BUT HE
WILL NEED TIME AND ENCOURAGEMENT. HIS OVERWHELMING
CONCERN IS FOR THE SAFETY OF HIS FELLOW PRISONERS,
AND EVENTUAL RELEASE, BUT HE ALSO HAS A DESIRE TO DO
WHAT HIS CAPTORS HAVE ASKED HIM TO DO, WHICH IS TO
CARRY TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT A SIMPLE MESSAGE, NAMELY,
THAT FURTHER RELEASE OF HIS FRIENDS DEPENDS ON THE
RELEASE OF THE SEVENTEEN DAWA' PRISONERS IN KUWAIT.
HIS CAPTORS FURTHER WANT HIM TO TELL THEIR STORY,
A LITANY OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT ISRAEL AND THE U.S.
HE IS BY NO MEANS A SLAVE TO THESE DEMANDS AND
CLEARLY SEES HIS CAPTORS AS EVIL MEN AND IN ADDITION
HE IS LUCID AND FULL OF OBSERVATIONS. THE DEBRIEFING
TEAM SHOULD APPROACH HIM WITH TRUST AND CONFIDENCE,
ABOVE ALL RESPECTING HIS VOCATION AS A CHRISTIAN
AND A CATHOLIC PRIEST. FOR ALL HIS STRENGTH, HOWEVER,
HE IS STILL CLOSE TO THE HORRORS OF HIS CAPTIVITY
AND SHOULD NOT BE PRESSED TOO HARD LEST HIS ELATION
TURN OCCASIONALLY TO TEARS.

✓ good.

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 03 OF 04 DAMASCUS 4543

DTG: 262239Z JUL 86 PSN: 029814

EX
DIS

EX
DIS

EX
DIS

EX
DIS

4. THE CHRONOLOGY OF HIS RELEASE AND SOME OF THE CONDITIONS OF HIS CAPTIVITY MAY BE USEFUL FOR THE DEBRIEFING TEAM AS A POINT OF DEPARTURE. THE CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCES STARTED ON JULY 25 AT 5 P.M. WHEN HIS CAPTORS TOLD THE FOUR AMERICAN HOSTAGES WHO WERE HELD TOGETHER IN ONE TWELVE BY FIFTEEN FOOT ROOM THAT THE BUILDING WAS NO LONGER "HEALTHY" AND THEY WERE BEING MOVED. THE CONTEMPTUOUS REMARKS OF THE CAPTORS FOR THE SYRIANS LEADS JENCO TO CONCLUDE THAT PRESSURES FROM THAT QUARTER FORCED THE MOVE AND MAY HAVE PRECIPITATED THE DECISION TO RELEASE HIM. HE BELIEVES THAT A SET OF NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT A MONTH AGO FOR THE RELEASE OF AMERICANS IN EXCHANGE FOR SOME PRISONERS ELSEWHERE THAN IN KUWAIT COLLAPSED SUDDENLY, LEAVING HIS CAPTORS HIGHLY CRITICAL OF U.S. GOVERNMENT BAD FAITH. THE DEMAND NOW FOR THE RELEASE OF THE PRISONERS IN KUWAIT WOULD SEEM TO BE, THEREFORE, A REVERSION TO EARLIER AND HARDER TERMS. IN ANY CASE, THE PRISONERS WERE REMOVED ON JULY 25, ONE BY ONE FROM THEIR TOP FLOOR PRISON IN A BUILDING IN BEIRUT. (JENCO BELIEVES HE COULD IDENTIFY THE LOCATION OF THIS BUILDING ON A MAP OR AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH.) JENCO WAS THE LAST TO GO DOWN THE ELEVATOR WHERE, ALL THE PRISONERS WERE TOLD, THEY WOULD WALK NONCHALANTLY FROM THE FRONT DOOR TO A WAITING CAR AND THEN, DRESSED IN STREET CLOTHES, BE DRIVEN OFF TO A NEW LOCATION. JENCO, HOWEVER, WAS NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE AND WAS TOLD AT THAT TIME HE WOULD BE RELEASED. JENCO BELIEVES A VIDEO TAPE THAT HE WAS GIVEN WAS MADE AT THAT TIME.



5. AT TWO IN THE MORNING, JENCO WAS TAPED LIKE A MUMMY AND PLACED IN THE WHEEL WELL OF A LARGE TRUCK, TRANSPORTED FOR ABOUT FOUR HOURS ACROSS VERY ROUGH ROADS. AT ONE POINT THE TRUCK GOT STUCK AND HAD TO

~~SECRET~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 04 OF 04 DAMASCUS 4543

DTG: 262239Z JUL 86 PSN: 029814

BE PUSHED FREE. AT SOME TIME IN THE EARLY MORNING,
JENCO WAS TAKEN OUT OF THE WELL AND PUT IN THE BACK
SEAT OF A CAR AND DRIVEN FURTHER UNTIL HE WAS LET OUT
ON THE ROAD NEAR LAKE QARA'OUN IN THE SOUTHERN BIQA'.
HE WAS POINTED TOWARD A VILLAGE. THE CAR DROVE OFF
AND HE WALKED TO THE VILLAGE WHERE HE WAS AT FIRST

NOTE BY OC/T: UPGRADED EXDIS PER S/S-O-MR YAMATO
BT

EXDIS

EXDIS

EXDIS

EXDIS

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01 OF 03 DAMASCUS 4543
SIT165

DTG: 262239Z JUL 86 PSN: 029816
TOR: 208/0249Z

DISTRIBUTION: VP PUBS NORT SIT /005

OP IMMED
DE RUEHDM #4543/02 2072244
O 262239Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6124

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT NIACT IMMEDIATE 0776

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 DAMASCUS 04543

EXDIS

FRANKFURT EYES ONLY FOR HOSTAGE DEBRIEFING TEAM

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PTER, SY, LE

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO IN DAMASCUS

TREATED LIKE AN ESCAPED LUNATIC WITH TAPE AND COTTON
STILL STICKING TO HIS HEAD AND CLOTHES. FINALLY, A
WOMAN WHO SPOKE ENGLISH WAS ABLE TO INFORM LOCAL
OFFICIALS THAT HE WAS THE JENCO OF HOSTAGE FAME.
WITHIN A VERY SHORT TIME HE WAS TURNED OVER TO THE
SYRIANS.

6. HIS MOVEMENT ONWARD TO DAMASCUS WAS THEREAFTER
QUITE STEADY AND QUICK. HE WAS BRIEFLY QUESTIONED
AT ONE POINT ABOUT WHERE HE HAD BEEN AND WHO HELD

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 03 DAMASCUS 4543

DTG: 262239Z JUL 86 PSN: 029816

E
X
D
I
S

HIM, BUT HE DID NOT PROVIDE THE SYRIANS FULL INFORMATION ON THESE QUESTIONS. THEY DID NOT SEEM TO EXPECT HIS RELEASE, ACCORDING TO JENCO, BUT TREATED HIM KINDLY, ALLOWING HIM TO SHOWER AND GIVING HIM NEW CLOTHES. BY LATE AFTERNOON HE WAS IN DAMASCUS AND THEN TAKEN TO THE RESIDENCE.

E
X
D
I
S

7. JENCO HAS FIRSTHAND AND INFERENTIAL INFORMATION ABOUT FRENCH AS WELL AS OTHER CAPTIVES. HE ATTRIBUTES MUCH OF THE RECENT COMFORT AND FACILITIES (E.G., RADIO AND T.V.) TO THE EFFORTS OF TERRY WAITE, WHOSE APPEARANCE AT THE RESIDENCE FROM AMMAN AT 11 O'CLOCK THIS EVENING, JULY 26, PROVIDED AN ESPECIALLY WARM REUNION. WAITE WILL RETURN ON THE PLANE WITH JENCO AND, DESPITE OUR PROMPTINGS TONIGHT AND OUR ESCORT TOMORROW, WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CONTINUE TO DEBRIEF JENCO ON SOME MATTERS. WE WILL DO ALL WE CAN TO LIMIT THIS, BUT THE BOND BETWEEN THESE TWO MEN IS VERY STRONG.

E
X
D
I
S

E
X
D
I
S

8. JENCO IS A VERY IMPRESSIVE MAN. HIS ONLY REQUEST TO US SO FAR IS THAT HE LEAVE TOMORROW DRESSED AS A PRIEST. WITH A LITTLE SCRAMBLING WE BELIEVE WE WILL BE ABLE TO SATISFY THIS REQUEST. THE DEBRIEFING TEAM SHOULD KNOW THAT HE HAS RECEIVED AN INVITATION FROM THE POPE TO VISIT ROME FOR A PRIVATE AUDIENCE ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 30. THIS IS SOMETHING HE WANTS VERY MUCH TO DO.

9. ON DEPARTURE, JENCO WILL ANSWER NO REPEAT NO QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS, BUT WILL READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 03 OF 03 DAMASCUS 4543

DTG: 262239Z JUL 86 PSN: 029816

EXDIS

-- I AM PLEASED TO BE GOING HOME, AND WANT TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO HELPED BRING ABOUT MY RELEASE, AND ESPECIALLY THOSE IN THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN DAMASCUS WHO RECEIVED ME SO WARMLY YESTERDAY. I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR THE STATEMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE BY PRESIDENT REAGAN AND THE HOLY FATHER. I HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR THE RELEASE OF MY THREE FRIENDS AND FELLOW PRISONERS AND OTHER HOSTAGES. I AM WELL, AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING MY RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.

EXDIS

-- I NEED TIME TO PRAY AND REFLECT ON THE EVENTS OF THE PAST TWO DAYS, AND ASK ALL THOSE WHO ARE HERE TODAY, AND WATCHING FROM AFAR, TO GIVE ME THIS TIME AND PEACE. EAGLETON

EXDIS

NOTE BY OS/T: UPGRADED EXDIS PER S/S-0-MR YAMATO
BT

EXDIS

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

NSCPC

PAGE 01
IBM155

JCS WASHINGTON DC// 0861

DTG:262315Z JUL 86
TOR: 207/2340ZPSN:029628
CSN:CRI417-----
DISTRIBUTION:

NSCPC	HOSTAGE
NSDGM	HOSTAGE
NSDMF	FRANCE
NSFLL	FRANCE
NSJRR	HOSTAGE
NSNDS	FRANCE
NSRLE	HOSTAGE
NSSRS	*NOMAIL* HOSTAGE

File - Jones

WHSR COMMENT: FYI

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT: SDO

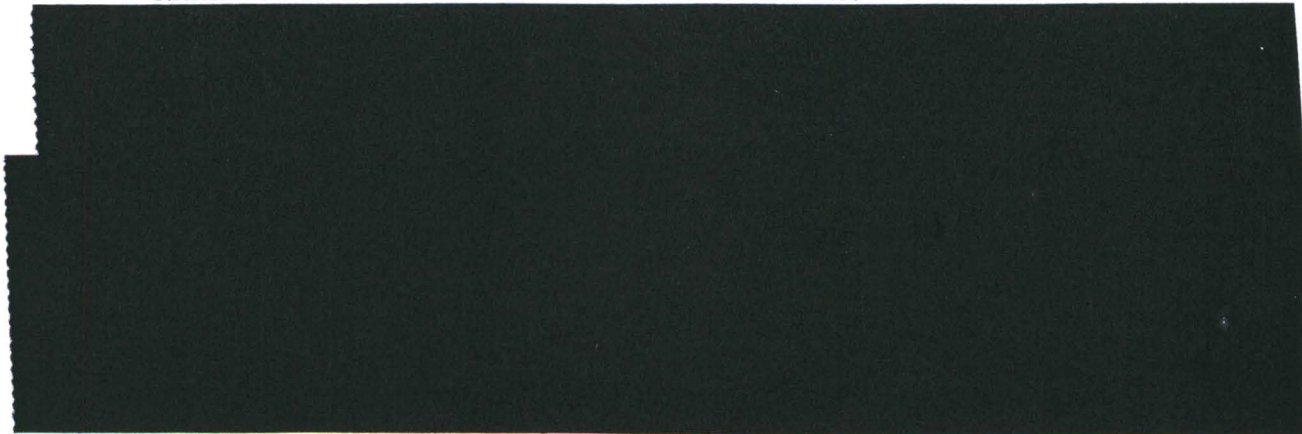
EOB:
-----OP IMMED
DE RUEKJCS #0861 2072333
O 262315Z JUL 86 ZFF-4
FM JCS WASHINGTON DC//CJCS//TO USCINCMAC SCOTT AFB IL
C O N F I D E N T I A LDELIVER IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT
REF: JCS WASH DC//CJCS//MSG DTG 261716Z
SUBJECT: HOSTAGE RETURN (U)

DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NLRR *Mo8-131* #55735BY *RW* NARA DATE *4-20-10*1. (C) IAW REF, PASSENGER MANIFEST FOR FLIGHT OF FATHER LAWRENCE
JENCO FAMILY FROM ANDREWS AFB TO RHEIN MAIN, GERMANY ON 27 JULY
FOLLOWS:

NAME

SSN



FOIA(b)(6)

2. (C) IN ADDITION, TWO PRIESTS WILL BE IN THE PARTY, NAMES AND
SSNS TO FOLLOW.

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

U N C L A S S I F I E D

NSCPC

PAGE 01
IBM157

SECSTATE WASHDC 5129

DTG:262318Z JUL 86 PSN:029660
TOR: 208/0002Z CSN:HCE812

DISTRIBUTION:

NSCPC	BEIRUT HOSTAGE LEBANON SYRIA
NSRLE	BEIRUT HOSTAGE LEBANON SYRIA
NSDBR	*NOMAIL* BEIRUT LEBANON SYRIA
NSHRT	BEIRUT LEBANON SYRIA
NSJAM	BEIRUT LEBANON SYRIA
NSJRS	*NOMAIL* BEIRUT LEBANON SYRIA
NSVMC	HOSTAGE LEBANON
NSDGM	HOSTAGE
NSJRR	HOSTAGE
NSPWH	SYRIA

WHSR COMMENT:

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT:

EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5129 2072318
O 262318Z JUL 86 ZEX
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE
UNCLAS STATE 235129

INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PREL
SUBJECT: PRESS RELEASE - FATHER JENCO RELEASED

1. FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS RELEASED BY WHITE HOUSE IN
NAME OF PRESIDENT REAGAN AT 12:15 P.M., WASHINGTON TIME,
SATURDAY, JULY 26: BEGIN TEXT:

I AM GRATEFUL THAT OUR PRAYERS FOR THE SAFE RETURN OF
FATHER MARTIN JENCO HAVE BEEN ANSWERED. SINCE HE WAS
SEIZED I-JANUARY OF 1985, WE HAVE BEEN WORKING
CONTINUOUSLY FOR HIS RELEASE AND THAT OF THE OTHER
AMERICANS TAKEN HOSTAGE IN LEBANON. I AM PLEASED AT THIS
DEVELOPMENT, BUT WILL NOT BE SATISFIED UNTIL ALL THOSE
WHO ARE HELD HOSTAGE -- OF WHATEVER NATIONALITY -- ARE
RELEASED.

I SPEAK FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WHEN I SAY THAT WE ARE
TRULY GRATEFUL FOR THE WORK OF ALL THOSE OF MANY
DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO CONTINUE TO

U N C L A S S I F I E D

U N C L A S S I F I E D

WORK FOR THE SAFE RETURN OF ALL HOSTAGES. I ALSO WISH TO EXPRESS OUR THANKS FOR THE WAY IN WHICH THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT EXPEDITED THE DELIVERY OF FATHER JENCO FROM WHERE HE WAS RELEASED IN LEBANON TO OUR EMBASSY IN DAMASCUS. FINALLY, I NOTE THAT THOSE WHO HELD FATHER

JENCO HAVE, IN EFFECT, DECLARED THEIR ABILITY TO CONTROL THE FATE OF THE REMAINING AMERICAN HOSTAGES. WHILE WE CONTINUE TO WORK FOR THE SAFE RELEASE OF ALL THOSE HELD, WE HOLD THEIR CAPTORS AND THOSE WHO SUPPORT THEM RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFETY OF THE REMAINING AMERICAN HOSTAGES. END TEXT.

2. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. ARMACOST
** END OF CABLE **

U N C L A S S I F I E D

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

NORTH, OLIVER: FILES

Withdrawer

SMF 9/3/2008

File Folder

HOSTAGES: FATHER JENCO RELEASE 07/26/1986 (2)

FOIA

M08-131

WANNER

Box Number

11

4

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restrictions</i>
55736	SCHEDULE JENCO RLEASE	1	7/27/1986	B1 B3

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

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

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

NORTH, OLIVER: FILES

Withdrawer

SMF 9/3/2008

File Folder

HOSTAGES: FATHER JENCO RELEASE 07/26/1986 (2)

FOIA

M08-131

WANNER

Box Number

11

4

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restrictions</i>
55737	SCHEDULE JENCO RELEASE	1	7/27/1986	B1 B3

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

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

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

55738

NSRLE

PAGE 01 SECSTATE WASHDC 5140 DTG:270206Z JUL 86 PSN:029812
IBM172 TOR: 208/0246Z CSN:HCE830

DISTRIBUTION:

NSCPC BEIRUT HOSTAGE TERROR
NSRLE BEIRUT HOSTAGE TERROR
NSDGM HOSTAGE TERROR
NSJRR HOSTAGE TERROR
NSVMC HOSTAGE TERROR
NSDBR *NOMAIL* BEIRUT
NSHRT BEIRUT
NSJAM BEIRUT
NSJHO VP
NSJRS *NOMAIL* BEIRUT

C

WHSR COMMENT:

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT: VP SIT

EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5140 2080240
O 270206Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE 7716
C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 235140 TOSEC 140031

FRANKFURT FOR AS MURPHY WITH VP'S PARTY AND AMB OAKLEY

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PTER, CASC, SY, LE

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE: REACTION TO JACOBSEN TAPE

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE ON USG REACTION TO
JACOBSEN TAPE (BEING SENT SEPTEL). IT IS FOR USE ON
IF-ASKED BASIS.

2. BEGIN GUIDANCE. WE HAVE BEEN MAKING -- AND CONTINUE
TO MAKE -- ALL POSSIBLE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF
OUR CITIZENS. BY THEIR VERY NATURE, THESE EFFORTS MUST
BE CONFIDENTIAL.

WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN READY TO TALK ABOUT THE SAFETY AND
RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES. BUT WE WILL NOT COMPROMISE WITH
TERRORISTS.

(IF PRESSED) WE WANT TO STUDY THE TAPE, SO AT THE MOMENT

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M08-131 #55738

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC REACTION TO IT. WE HAVE NOT BEEN
ABLE TO TALK IN DETAIL WITH FATHER JENCO YET, SO WE HAVE
NO REACTION TO ANY REPORTED "TERMS" FOR NEGOTIATING.

(NOTE TO BRIEFER: DON'T GET INTO QUESTION OF WHETHER

"TALKING" ABOUT SAFETY AND RELEASE" IS TANTAMOUNT TO
"NEGOTIATING.") END GUIDANCE.

3. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. ARMACOST

** END OF CABLE **

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

55739

PAGE 01 SECSTATE WASHDC 5140 DTG: 270206Z JUL 86 PSN: 029812
EOB010 AN009401 TOR: 208/0246Z CSN: HCE830

DISTRIBUTION: COBB-01 ROSS-01 NORT-01 STK-01 STRK-01 SOMM-01
MAT-01 /007 A2

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:
SIT: VP SIT
EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5140 2080240
O 270206Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE 7716
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT NIACT IMMEDIATE 0078
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE 1222
ZEN/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE 8275
ZEN/ALNED IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 235140 TOSEC 140031

FRANKFURT FOR AS MURPHY WITH VP'S PARTY AND AMB OAKLEY

E. O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PTER, CASC, SY, LE
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE: REACTION TO JACOBSEN TAPE

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE ON USG REACTION TO JACOBSEN TAPE (BEING SENT SEPTTEL). IT IS FOR USE ON IF-ASKED BASIS.

2. BEGIN GUIDANCE. WE HAVE BEEN MAKING -- AND CONTINUE TO MAKE -- ALL POSSIBLE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF OUR CITIZENS. BY THEIR VERY NATURE, THESE EFFORTS MUST BE CONFIDENTIAL.

WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN READY TO TALK ABOUT THE SAFETY AND RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES. BUT WE WILL NOT COMPROMISE WITH TERRORISTS.

(IF PRESSED) WE WANT TO STUDY THE TAPE, SO AT THE MOMENT WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC REACTION TO IT. WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO TALK IN DETAIL WITH FATHER JENCO YET, SO WE HAVE NO REACTION TO ANY REPORTED "TERMS" FOR NEGOTIATING.

(NOTE TO BRIEFER: DON'T GET INTO QUESTION OF WHETHER "TALKING" ABOUT SAFETY AND RELEASE" IS TANTAMOUNT TO "NEGOTIATING.") END GUIDANCE.

3. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. ARMACOST
BT

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR MD8-131 #55739

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

U N C L A S S I F I E D

NSCPC

PAGE 01
IBM181

SECSTATE WASHDC 5148

DTG:270306Z JUL 86 PSN:029847
TOR: 208/0320Z CSN:HCE842-----
DISTRIBUTION:

NSCPC BEIRUT HOSTAGE IRAN KIDNAP TERROR
NSRLE BEIRUT HOSTAGE IRAN KIDNAP TERROR
NSDGM HOSTAGE KIDNAP TERROR
NSHS AFRICA REUNION SOUTH AFRICA
NSJRR HOSTAGE KIDNAP TERROR
NSPHR AFRICA REUNION SOUTH AFRICA
NSVMC HOSTAGE KIDNAP TERROR
NSBSR FREEDOM@INFORMATION@ACT
NSDBR *NOMAIL* BEIRUT
NSDMF SOUTH AFRICA
NSHRT BEIRUT
NSJAM BEIRUT
NSJHO VP
NSJRS *NOMAIL* BEIRUT
NSPWH SOUTH AFRICA



WHSR COMMENT:

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT:
EOB:-----
OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5148 2080307
O 270306Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDCTO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT NIACT IMMEDIATE 0000
UNCLAS STATE 235148

FRANKFURT FOR A/S MURPHY WITH VP PARTY AND AMB. OAKLEY

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PTER, CASC, SY, LE
SUBJECT: JACOBSON TAPE TRANSCRIPT1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF TAPE MADE BY AMERICAN
HOSTAGE DAVID JACOBSEN AND CARRIED TO FREEDOM BY FATHER
JENCO.2. BEGIN TRANSCRIPT. THIS VIDEO IS BEING RECORDED ON
THE 25TH DAY OF JULY 1986. I AM DAVID JACOBSEN, THE
HOSPITAL DIRECTOR AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT
MEDICAL CENTER. AT LEAST I WAS UNTIL TUESDAY, APRIL 28,
1985 ON WHICH DATE I WAS TAKEN POLITICAL HOSTAGE. THAT
WAS 424 DAYS AGO, NEARLY 14 MONTHS, A VERY LONG TIME BY
ANY MEASUREMENT OF TIME. I WANT TO SEND MY LOVE AND

U N C L A S S I F I E D

U N C L A S S I F I E D

GREETINGS AND MY BEST WISHES TO AMERICANS EVERYWHERE, TO ALL FREE PEOPLE AND ESPECIALLY TO MY FAMILY, TO MY LADY, AND TO THE FAMILIES OF FATHER MARTIN JENCO, TERRY ANDERSON AND TOM SOUTHERLAND. TO OUR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT WE ARE ALIVE AND WE'RE

REASONABLY WELL AND WE ARE PROVIDED THE BASIC NECESSITIES OF LIFE, THAT AS WE REMAIN FAITHFUL TO OUR GOD, TO OUR

MORAL AND ETHICAL PRINCIPLES AND WE ARE DETERMINED TO BE FREE AGAIN. YOU ARE ALWAYS IN OUR THOUGHTS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE DAY OF OUR REUNION. WE KNOW OF THE VERY GREAT EFFORTS THAT YOU, OUR FAMILIES AND OUR FRIENDS AND OTHER AMERICAN CITIZENS HAVE MADE TO SECURE OUR RELEASE. PLEASE CONTINUE YOUR EFFORTS, AND REDOUBLE THOSE EFFORTS. DON'T LET OUR GOVERNMENT FORGET US OR THE URGENCY TO SECURE OUR RELEASE. ALTHOUGH WE ARE THOUSANDS OF MILES APART WE FEEL YOUR ANXIETY, YOUR CONCERN AND YOUR LOVE.

3. I KNOW ABOUT THE RECENT CENTENNIAL CEREMONY AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY AND THE WORDS OF PRESIDENTS REAGAN AND MITTERRAND. BUT YOU ALSO MUST KNOW THAT LIBERTY CANNOT BE EXPRESSED ONLY BY A STATUE. WE MUST HAVE DEEDS. AND NOW IS THE TIME FOR DEEDS. SUCH DEMONSTRATIONS KEEP ALIVE THE FACT THAT WE ARE BEING KEPT HOSTAGE AND THAT SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO FREE US. AFTER SUCH CEREMONIES MOST PEOPLE GO HOME TO BE WITH THEIR FAMILIES, ENJOY THEIR FREEDOMS WHILE OUR FAMILIES GO HOME TO PICTURES AND MEMORIES OF US.

4. WE REMAIN FAR AWAY FROM HOME, HOSTAGES IN A FOREIGN LAND, HOPING TO BE FREE, DISCOURAGED AND EXISTING IN A VERY UNPLEASANT CONDITION OF MAXIMUM SECURITY IMPRISONMENT.

5. TODAY WE HAVE THE GOOD NEWS THAT FATHER MARTIN JENCO WAS RELEASED FROM CAPTIVITY AFTER 550 DAYS OF IMPRISONMENT. MY CAPTORS HAVE TOLD ME THAT FATHER JENCO LIKE THE GOOD REVEREND BENJAMIN WEIR WAS RELEASED AS A SIGN OF GOOD FAITH, BUT THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT DID NOT RECIPROCATATE WHEN BEN WEIR WAS RELEASED AND I PRAY THEY WILL DO SO NOW.

6. MY CAPTORS TOLD ME THAT THIS IS THE VERY LAST SIGN OF THEIR GOODWILL AND THAT OUR RELEASE WILL BE BY DEATH IF THE GOVERNMENT DOESN'T NEGOTIATE RIGHT NOW. FATHER JENCO WAS HELD FOR 550 DAYS. TERRY ANDERSON OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS HAS BEEN HELD FOR 496 DAYS. TOM SOUTHERLAND, THE DEAN OF AGRICULTURE AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT, HAS BEEN HELD 412 DAYS AND I HAVE BEEN HELD 424 DAYS.

7. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT WE WILL BE RELEASED ONLY WHEN THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS OUR CAPTORS' DEMANDS.

U N C L A S S I F I E D

U N C L A S S I F I E D

PRESSURE BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS ON OUR CAPTIVES OR THE USE OF FORCE JUST WILL NOT WORK.

8. TO DATE, THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAS REFUSED TO NEGOTIATE. THEY HAVE REFUSED TO NEGOTIATE IN ANY WAY. IF WILLIAM BUCKLEY WERE ALIVE TODAY, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN HELD IN CAPTIVITY TWO AND ONE-HALF YEARS. DURING THIS TIME, NOT ONE NEGOTIATION BY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT.

UNFORTUNATELY WILLIAM BUCKLEY WAS EXECUTED AND OUR SYMPATHIES TO HIS WIFE AND HIS FOUR CHILDREN.

9. WILLIAM BUCKLEY WOULD BE ALIVE TODAY IF NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN CONDUCTED. SEVERAL GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES HAVE BEEN MISSED BY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT BECAUSE THEY HAVE FAILED TO NEGOTIATE. THERE ARE DAYS WHEN I BELIEVE THAT THE GOVERNMENT REALLY DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ME, AND THAT WE HAVE BEEN TOTALLY ABANDONED. IT SEEMS THAT MY GOVERNMENT OR AT LEAST MY PRESIDENT, MIGHT BE A PRISONER OF AN ABSURD SUBSERVIENCE TO A POLITICAL POSITION OF "WE WILL NOT NEGOTIATE WITH TERRORISTS." JUST REMEMBER THAT ONE PERSON'S TERRORIST MAY ACTUALLY BE SOMEBODY ELSE'S FREEDOM FIGHTER. ONE MUST ACKNOWLEDGE IN THE LONG TIMES PAST IN THIS HOSTAGE CRISIS THAT WE ARE NO CLOSER TO RELEASE THAN ON THE DAY IN WHICH WE WERE KIDNAPPED.

10. SO MUCH SAID FOR THE EFFECTIVENESS OF QUIET DIPLOMACY. MAYBE IT IS TRUE THAT OUR GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN LESS THAN CANDID AND PERHAPS HAS EVEN LIED TO OUR FAMILIES. I PRAY TO GOD THAT THIS IS NOT SO. MAY MY FAMILY AND THE AMERICAN PUBLIC PLEASE FORGIVE ME IF I GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT I FEEL LIKE I AM ONE OF GENERAL CUSTERS MEN, OR ONE OF THE MEN AT THE ALAMO WAITING FOR HELP TO ARRIVE. YOU KNOW THE END OF THEIR STORIES. PRAY THAT OURS WILL BE HAPPIER AND YOU KNOW PERHAPS THERE IS SOMETHING THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO TO HELP US BE RELEASED. I AM VERY TIRED AND I AM FRUSTRATED AND TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH I'M VERY ANGRY. WHY WON'T THE GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATE FOR OUR RELEASE? THEY HAVE NEGOTIATE FOR OTHER AMERICANS, WHY NOT US? IT TOOK THEM FOUR HUNDRED AND FORTY DAYS TO SECURE THE FREEDOM OF THE IRANIAN EMBASSY HOSTAGES. IT TOOK ABOUT THREE WEEKS TO FREE THE TWA PASSENGER HOSTAGES . . . NEGOTIATIONS IN BOTH CASES. OUR GOVERNMENT EVEN NEGOTIATES TO FREE CITIZENS OF RUSSIA AND SOUTH AFRICA BUT WHY NOT US? OUR ONLY CRIME IS THAT WE ARE AMERICANS, LOYAL AMERICANS. PERHAPS THERE IS A POLITICAL PRICE THAT WE'RE PAYING FOR THAT.

11. THE RUSSIANS GOT THEIR MAN OUT IN ONE MONTH ALTHOUGH THEY DID LOSE ONE OF THEIR MEN. WE HAVE ALREADY LOST OUR

U N C L A S S I F I E D

U N C L A S S I F I E D

MAN, WILLIAM BUCKLEY, MAY HE REST IN PEACE. AND WE'VE
BEEN HERE A YEAR AND A HALF. MY CAPTORS CLAIM THAT THE
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN STALLING FOR TIME AND THEY

MAINTAIN THAT APPROACH WILL NOT WORK ANY LONGER, AND THEY
ARE PREPARED TO ACT AS THEY DID IN THE CASE OF WILLIAM
BUCKLEY. WHAT ARE THE CONDITIONS OF OUR RELEASE? I
DON'T KNOW. BUT FATHER MARTIN HAS BEEN GIVEN THE
INSTRUCTIONS. END TRANSCRIPT.

12. BEIRUT MINIMIZED CONSIDERED. ARMACOST
** END OF CABLE **

U N C L A S S I F I E D

UNCLASSIFIED

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

PAGE 01 OF 02 SECSTATE WASHDC 5148 DTG: 270306Z JUL 86 PSN: 029847
EOB020 AN009404 TOR: 208/0320Z CSN: HCE842

DISTRIBUTION: COBB-01 SOMM-01 MAT-01 /003 A2

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT:

EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5148 2080307
O 270306Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT NIACT IMMEDIATE 0000
ALL NEAR EASTERN AND SOUTH ASIAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 0000

UNCLAS STATE 235148

FRANKFURT FOR A/S MURPHY WITH VP PARTY AND AMB. OAKLEY

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PTER, CASC, SY, LE

SUBJECT: JACOBSON TAPE TRANSCRIPT

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF TAPE MADE BY AMERICAN
HOSTAGE DAVID JACOBSEN AND CARRIED TO FREEDOM BY FATHER
JENCO.

2. BEGIN TRANSCRIPT. THIS VIDEO IS BEING RECORDED ON
THE 25TH DAY OF JULY 1986. I AM DAVID JACOBSEN, THE
HOSPITAL DIRECTOR AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT
MEDICAL CENTER. AT LEAST I WAS UNTIL TUESDAY, APRIL 28,
1985 ON WHICH DATE I WAS TAKEN POLITICAL HOSTAGE. THAT
WAS 424 DAYS AGO, NEARLY 14 MONTHS, A VERY LONG TIME BY
ANY MEASUREMENT OF TIME. I WANT TO SEND MY LOVE AND
GREETINGS AND MY BEST WISHES TO AMERICANS EVERYWHERE, TO
ALL FREE PEOPLE AND ESPECIALLY TO MY FAMILY, TO MY LADY,
AND TO THE FAMILIES OF FATHER MARTIN JENCO, TERRY
ANDERSON AND TOM SOUTHERLAND. TO OUR FAMILIES AND
FRIENDS I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT WE ARE ALIVE AND WE'RE
REASONABLY WELL AND WE ARE PROVIDED THE BASIC NECESSITIES
OF LIFE, THAT AS WE REMAIN FAITHFUL TO OUR GOD, TO OUR

MORAL AND ETHICAL PRINCIPLES AND WE ARE DETERMINED TO BE
FREE AGAIN. YOU ARE ALWAYS IN OUR THOUGHTS AND WE LOOK
FORWARD TO THE DAY OF OUR REUNION. WE KNOW OF THE VERY
GREAT EFFORTS THAT YOU, OUR FAMILIES AND OUR FRIENDS AND
OTHER AMERICAN CITIZENS HAVE MADE TO SECURE OUR RELEASE.
PLEASE CONTINUE YOUR EFFORTS, AND REDOUBLE THOSE
EFFORTS. DON'T LET OUR GOVERNMENT FORGET US OR THE
URGENCY TO SECURE OUR RELEASE. ALTHOUGH WE ARE THOUSANDS
OF MILES APART WE FEEL YOUR ANXIETY, YOUR CONCERN AND
YOUR LOVE.

3. I KNOW ABOUT THE RECENT CENTENNIAL CEREMONY AT THE
STATUE OF LIBERTY AND THE WORDS OF PRESIDENTS REAGAN AND
MITTERRAND. BUT YOU ALSO MUST KNOW THAT LIBERTY CANNOT
BE EXPRESSED ONLY BY A STATUE. WE MUST HAVE DEEDS. AND
NOW IS THE TIME FOR DEEDS. SUCH DEMONSTRATIONS KEEP
ALIVE THE FACT THAT WE ARE BEING KEPT HOSTAGE AND THAT
SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO FREE US. AFTER SUCH CEREMONIES
MOST PEOPLE GO HOME TO BE WITH THEIR FAMILIES, ENJOY

THEIR FREEDOMS WHILE OUR FAMILIES GO HOME TO PICTURES AND
MEMORIES OF US.

4. WE REMAIN FAR AWAY FROM HOME, HOSTAGES IN A FOREIGN
LAND, HOPING TO BE FREE, DISCOURAGED AND EXISTING IN A
VERY UNPLEASANT CONDITION OF MAXIMUM SECURITY
IMPRISONMENT.

5. TODAY WE HAVE THE GOOD NEWS THAT FATHER MARTIN JENCO
WAS RELEASED FROM CAPTIVITY AFTER 550 DAYS OF
IMPRISONMENT. MY CAPTORS HAVE TOLD ME THAT FATHER JENCO
LIKE THE GOOD REVEREND BENJAMIN WEIR WAS RELEASED AS A
SIGN OF GOOD FAITH, BUT THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT DID
NOT RECIPROCATE WHEN BEN WEIR WAS RELEASED AND I PRAY
THEY WILL DO SO NOW.

6. MY CAPTORS TOLD ME THAT THIS IS THE VERY LAST SIGN OF
THEIR GOODWILL AND THAT OUR RELEASE WILL BE BY DEATH IF
THE GOVERNMENT DOESN'T NEGOTIATE RIGHT NOW. FATHER JENCO
WAS HELD FOR 550 DAYS. TERRY ANDERSON OF THE ASSOCIATED
PRESS HAS BEEN HELD FOR 496 DAYS. TOM SOUTHERLAND, THE
DEAN OF AGRICULTURE AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT,
HAS BEEN HELD 412 DAYS AND I HAVE BEEN HELD 424 DAYS.

7. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT WE WILL BE RELEASED ONLY WHEN
THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS OUR CAPTORS' DEMANDS.
PRESSURE BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS ON OUR CAPTIVES OR THE USE
OF FORCE JUST WILL NOT WORK.

8. TO DATE, THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAS REFUSED TO

NEGOTIATE. THEY HAVE REFUSED TO NEGOTIATE IN ANY WAY.
IF WILLIAM BUCKLEY WERE ALIVE TODAY, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN
HELD IN CAPTIVITY TWO AND ONE-HALF YEARS. DURING THIS
TIME, NOT ONE NEGOTIATION BY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT.
UNFORTUNATELY WILLIAM BUCKLEY WAS EXECUTED AND OUR
SYMPATHIES TO HIS WIFE AND HIS FOUR CHILDREN.

9. WILLIAM BUCKLEY WOULD BE ALIVE TODAY IF NEGOTIATIONS
HAD BEEN CONDUCTED. SEVERAL GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES HAVE
BEEN MISSED BY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT BECAUSE THEY HAVE
FAILED TO NEGOTIATE. THERE ARE DAYS WHEN I BELIEVE THAT
THE GOVERNMENT REALLY DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ME, AND THAT WE
HAVE BEEN TOTALLY ABANDONED. IT SEEMS THAT MY GOVERNMENT
OR AT LEAST MY PRESIDENT, MIGHT BE A PRISONER OF AN
ABSURD SUBSERVIENCE TO A POLITICAL POSITION OF "WE WILL
NOT NEGOTIATE WITH TERRORISTS." JUST REMEMBER THAT ONE
PERSON'S TERRORIST MAY ACTUALLY BE SOMEBODY ELSE'S
FREEDOM FIGHTER. ONE MUST ACKNOWLEDGE IN THE LONG TIMES
PAST IN THIS HOSTAGE CRISIS THAT WE ARE NO CLOSER TO
RELEASE THAN ON THE DAY IN WHICH WE WERE KIDNAPPED.

10. SO MUCH SAID FOR THE EFFECTIVENESS OF QUIET
DIPLOMACY. MAYBE IT IS TRUE THAT OUR GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN
LESS THAN CANDID AND PERHAPS HAS EVEN LIED TO OUR
FAMILIES. I PRAY TO GOD THAT THIS IS NOT SO. MAY MY
FAMILY AND THE AMERICAN PUBLIC PLEASE FORGIVE ME IF I
GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT I FEEL LIKE I AM ONE OF GENERAL
CUSTERS MEN, OR ONE OF THE MEN AT THE ALAMO WAITING FOR
HELP TO ARRIVE. YOU KNOW THE END OF THEIR STORIES. PRAY
THAT OURS WILL BE HAPPIER AND YOU KNOW PERHAPS THERE IS
SOMETHING THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO TO HELP US BE
RELEASED. I AM VERY TIRED AND I AM FRUSTRATED AND TO
TELL YOU THE TRUTH I'M VERY ANGRY. WHY WON'T THE
GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATE FOR OUR RELEASE? THEY HAVE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

PAGE 02 OF 02 SECSTATE WASHDC 5148 DTG: 270306Z JUL 86 PSN: 029847

NEGOTIATE FOR OTHER AMERICANS, WHY NOT US? IT TOOK THEM FOUR HUNDRED AND FORTY DAYS TO SECURE THE FREEDOM OF THE IRANIAN EMBASSY HOSTAGES. IT TOOK ABOUT THREE WEEKS TO FREE THE TWA PASSENGER HOSTAGES . . . NEGOTIATIONS IN BOTH CASES. OUR GOVERNMENT EVEN NEGOTIATES TO FREE CITIZENS OF RUSSIA AND SOUTH AFRICA BUT WHY NOT US? OUR ONLY CRIME IS THAT WE ARE AMERICANS, LOYAL AMERICANS. PERHAPS THERE IS A POLITICAL PRICE THAT WE'RE PAYING FOR THAT.

11. THE RUSSIANS GOT THEIR MAN OUT IN ONE MONTH ALTHOUGH

THEY DID LOSE ONE OF THEIR MEN. WE HAVE ALREADY LOST OUR MAN, WILLIAM BUCKLEY, MAY HE REST IN PEACE. AND WE'VE BEEN HERE A YEAR AND A HALF. MY CAPTORS CLAIM THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN STALLING FOR TIME AND THEY

MAINTAIN THAT APPROACH WILL NOT WORK ANY LONGER, AND THEY ARE PREPARED TO ACT AS THEY DID IN THE CASE OF WILLIAM BUCKLEY. WHAT ARE THE CONDITIONS OF OUR RELEASE? I DON'T KNOW. BUT FATHER MARTIN HAS BEEN GIVEN THE INSTRUCTIONS. END TRANSCRIPT.

12. BEIRUT MINIMIZED CONSIDERED. ARMACOST
BT

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

55740

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

PAGE 01 SECSTATE WASHDC 5140 DTG: 270206Z JUL 86 PSN: 029812
EOB010 AN009401 TOR: 208/0246Z CSN: HCE830

DISTRIBUTION: COBB-01 ROSS-01 NORT-01 STK-01 STRK-01 SOMM-01
MAT-01 /007 A2

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:
SIT: VP SIT
EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5140 2080240
O 270206Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE 7716
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT NIACT IMMEDIATE 0078
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE 1222
ZEN/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE 8275
ZEN/ALNED IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 235140 TOSEC 140031

FRANKFURT FOR AS MURPHY WITH VP'S PARTY AND AMB OAKLEY

E. O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PTER, CASC, SY, LE
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE: REACTION TO JACOBSEN TAPE

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE ON USG REACTION TO
JACOBSEN TAPE (BEING SENT SEPTTEL). IT IS FOR USE ON
IF-ASKED BASIS.

2. BEGIN GUIDANCE. WE HAVE BEEN MAKING -- AND CONTINUE
TO MAKE -- ALL POSSIBLE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF
OUR CITIZENS. BY THEIR VERY NATURE, THESE EFFORTS MUST
BE CONFIDENTIAL.

WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN READY TO TALK ABOUT THE SAFETY AND
RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES. BUT WE WILL NOT COMPROMISE WITH
TERRORISTS.

(IF PRESSED) WE WANT TO STUDY THE TAPE, SO AT THE MOMENT
WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC REACTION TO IT. WE HAVE NOT BEEN
ABLE TO TALK IN DETAIL WITH FATHER JENCO YET, SO WE HAVE
NO REACTION TO ANY REPORTED "TERMS" FOR NEGOTIATING.

(NOTE TO BRIEFER: DON'T GET INTO QUESTION OF WHETHER
"TALKING" ABOUT SAFETY AND RELEASE" IS TANTAMOUNT TO
"NEGOTIATING.") END GUIDANCE.

3. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. ARMACOST
BT

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR MD8-131 #55740

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECRET~~

55741

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL SECRETARIAT

PAGE 01 SECSTATE WASHDC 5081 DTG: 261804Z JUL 86 PSN: 029430
EOB989 AN009394 TOR: 207/2043Z CSN: HCE788

DISTRIBUTION: COBB-01 NORT-01 SOMM-01 MAT-01 /004 A2

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT:

EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5081 2071805
O 261804Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE 7687
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT NIACT IMMEDIATE 0067

S E C R E T STATE 235081 TOSEC 140012

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING DAMASCUS 4539 DTD 26 JUL SENT ACTION
SECSTATE, INFO BEIRUT, BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION:

QUOTE:

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 04539

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, SY, LE
SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO: II

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AFTER SHARA' TOLD ME OF JENCO'S COMING RELEASE (SEPTIL), WE WAITED HALF AN HOUR BEFORE JENCO ARRIVED AT ABOUT 3:30 P.M. LOCAL. HE WAS BROUGHT INTO SHARA'S OFFICE WHERE, AFTER EMBRACING US BOTH, HE SAT DOWN FOR A SHORT CONVERSATION. SHARA' EXPRESSED THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT'S CONGRATULATIONS. JENCO THANKED SHARA' FOR SYRIAN ASSISTANCE. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN HELD IN A ROOM WITH THE OTHER THREE HOSTAGES DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS. BEFORE THAT HE WAS MOVED FROM PLACE TO PLACE A TOTAL OF SEVEN TIMES. HE DESCRIBED HIS CAPTORS AS FANATICS AND DETERMINED MEN.

3. JENCO SAID THE ONLY MESSAGE HE HAD BEEN GIVEN BY HIS CAPTORS WAS A VIDEO TAPE. HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT WAS IN IT, BUT HAD BEEN TOLD NOT TO DELIVER IT TO THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT OR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, BUT ONLY TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. HE HAD BEEN WARNED THAT IT MUST BE TURNED OVER TODAY OR THERE WOULD BE RETRIBUTION AGAINST THE HOSTAGES.

4. JENCO UNDERSTOOD, AND SHARA' AGREED, THAT HE SHOULD MAKE NO COMMENTS TO THE PRESS REGARDING HIS DETENTION OR DETAILS OF HIS RELEASE. AT THAT POINT, THE DOORS WERE OPENED TO ABOUT THIRTY-FIVE PRESS REPRESENTATIVES AND PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO TOOK PICTURES AND TRIED TO ELICIT JENCO'S COMMENTS. SHARA' MADE A BRIEF STATEMENT EXPRESSING THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT'S HAPPINESS THAT HE HAD BEEN RELEASED. JENCO THANKED

THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AND ALL THOSE WHO HAD HELPED BRING HIS FREEDOM. HE TOLD THE JOURNALISTS HE WAS WELL AS WERE THE OTHER HOSTAGES (HE DID NOT SAY HOW MANY). HE PRAYED THAT THEY WOULD SOON BE RELEASED.

5. I EMPHASIZED TO SHARA' THAT WE MUST BE GIVEN THE VIDEO TAPE WHICH WAS IN THE HANDS OF THE SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE PEOPLE WHO HAD PROVIDED JENCO WITH SHOWER, CLOTHING AND FOOD. WE ARE FOLLOWING UP ON THIS.

5. THE SYRIANS HAVE THUS FAR HANDLED THE TURNOVER IN A BUSINESSLIKE WAY WITHOUT EXCESSIVE MEDIA EXPLOITATION. THEY HAVE TOLD ME THAT HOW WE HANDLE JENCO FROM HERE ON OUT IS UP TO US.

6. WE ARE KEEPING THE PRESS ONLY SEMI-HAPPY WITH INFORMATION THAT JENCO HAS BEEN VISITED BY THE PAPAL NUNCIO AND MRS. SAY. WE HAVE TOLD THEM HE WILL BE LEAVING TOMORROW MORNING. WE ANTICIPATE ANOTHER PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AT THE AIRPLANE, BUT HAVE RESISTED REQUESTS FOR A PRESS CONFERENCE BY JENCO OR EMBASSY PERSONNEL.

7. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON
UNQUOTE ARMACOST
BT

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR MD8-131 #55741

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

55742

PAGE 01 SECSTATE WASHDC 5080 DTG: 261802Z JUL 86 PSN: 029428
EOB988 AN009393 TOR: 207/2041Z CSN: HCE787

DISTRIBUTION: COBB-01 NORT-01 SOMM-01 MAT-01 /004 A2

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:
SIT:
EOB:

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #5080 2071803
O 261802Z JUL 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE 7686
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT NIACT IMMEDIATE 0066

S E C R E T STATE 235080 TOSEC 140011

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING DAMASCUS 4538 DTD 26 JUL SENT ACTION
SECSTATE, INFO BEIRUT, BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION:
QUOTE:
S E C R E T DAMASCUS 04538

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, LE, SY
SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO I

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. HAVING HEARD PRESS REPORTS THAT FATHER JENCO WOULD SOON BE RELEASED, WE ESTABLISHED CONTACT WITH THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY MORNING OF JULY 26. THEY WERE NOT ABLE OFFICIALLY TO CONFIRM THAT JENCO WAS IN SYRIAN HANDS. HOWEVER, AT 2:30 P.M. LOCAL I WAS CALLED IN TO MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SHARA'. SHARA' SAID THAT JENCO WAS IN DAMASCUS AND WOULD SOON BE IN HIS OFFICE WHERE HE WOULD TURN HIM OVER TO ME. SHARA' SAID HE WANTED THE USG TO KNOW THAT JENCO HAD BEEN RELEASED BY THE CAPTORS NEAR THE LEBANESE TOWN OF QARAAOUN IN THE SOUTHERN BIQA' VALLEY. HE HAD BEEN DELIVERED THERE IN THE TRUNK OF A CAR BY PERSONS MANAGING TO CONCEAL THEIR IDENTITY. SHARA' THOUGHT THAT THE CAPTORS HAD HANDLED IT THIS WAY TO CONCEAL THE PLACE WHERE JENCO HAD BEEN HELD. (HE LATER TOLD SHARA' HE HAD BEEN HELD SOMEWHERE IN BEIRUT FOR THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS.)

3. SHARA' ADDED THAT HE WANTED THE USG TO KNOW THAT THE SYRIANS HAD STEPPED UP PRESSURE WITH "PHYSICAL MEASURES" AND HE IMPLIED THAT THIS CAMPAIGN HAD CONTRIBUTED TO JENCO'S RELEASE. HE SAID ASAD HAD ISSUED ORDERS SEVERAL WEEKS AGO AFTER BEING IMPRESSED BY THE LETTER SIGNED BY SEVERAL HUNDRED CONGRESSMEN DELIVERED TO HIM BY CONGRESSMAN DORNAN. SHARA' CONCLUDED BY PLEDGING THAT THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO APPLY PRESSURES; THEY HAVE MADE NO COMMITMENTS TO THE KIDNAPPERS AND WOULD MAKE NONE. THEIR AIM, HE SAID, WAS TO BRING ABOUT THE RELEASE OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES.

4. COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: AT THIS POINT WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW IMPORTANT THE SYRIAN CONTRIBUTION WAS TOWARD JENCO'S RELEASE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THEIR MOVE INTO WEST BEIRUT AND WELL-ADVERTISED PLAN TO ENTER THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS WAS A FACTOR. WHATEVER THEIR CONTRIBUTION, THEY HAVE THUS FAR BEEN VERY PROMPT AND COOPERATIVE IN TAKING CARE OF JENCO AND TURNING HIM OVER TO US. FOR TACTICAL REASONS, IF NOTHING ELSE, WE SHOULD GIVE AMPLE CREDIT TO THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT ASAD AS A MEANS OF ENCOURAGING THEM TO STEP UP THE PRESSURE ON HIZBALLAH. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE CONSISTENT AND APPROPRIATE FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN TO PHONE ASAD WITHIN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR JENCO'S RELEASE AND THANK HIM FOR HIS CONTINUING EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES. END COMMENT.

5. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON
UNQUOTE ARMACOST
BT

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M08-131#55742

BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

SECRET

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Capt Shepard

Shin out of Israel

Jim Wallace

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

647-6610

354208

CTG

h

Bob / Craig

Ollie called 0530 EST to
say he intends to return this
afternoon aboard Flight 61; did
not say which airline.

Ron

ETA 1345

ETA 1640

John Ryder - NMCC

2123Z Andrews

0455Z - ETA

Don
Joe Spentham
366-9714