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Collection Name NORTH, OLIVER: FILES

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
53250	CABLE	LETTER FROM RR TO MITTERAND	2	ND	B1 B3
53254	CABLE	LETTER FROM POINDEXTER TO BIANCO <i>R 4/9/2010 NLRRM2007-081</i>	2	ND	B1
53256	CABLE	DRAFT POINDEXTER TO BIANCO <i>R 4/9/2010 NLRRM2007-081</i>	2	ND	B1
53257	MEMO	NORTH, ET AL TO POINDEXTER RE MESSAGE TO MITTERRAND	1	7/18/1986	B1 B3
53258	MEMO	POINDEXTER TO THE PRESIDENT	1	ND	B1 B3
53260	CABLE	181754Z JUL 86 <i>R 4/9/2010 NLRRM2007-081</i>	6	7/18/1986	B1
53263	MEMO	TO ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS, ET AL	3	7/25/1986	B1 B3
53265	MEMO	TO ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS, ET AL	3	7/31/1986	B1 B3
53267	CABLE	222157Z OCT 86	2	10/22/1986	B1 B3
53269	CABLE	121859Z NOV 86 <i>R 4/9/2010 NLRRM2007-081</i>	11	11/12/1986	B1

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

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53250	CABLE	2	ND	B1
	LETTER FROM RR TO MITTERAND			B3

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~~SECRET~~

FM: WHITE HOUSE
TO: THE ELYSEE

*declassified
19 Jul 82*

~~SECRET~~ //SEND VIA BLUE CHANNEL EYES ONLY FOR JEAN LOUIS
BIANCO FROM ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY
AFFAIRS JOHN POINDEXTER

SUBJECT: LTC RAY CASE (S)

1. ~~SECRET~~--ENTIRE TEXT.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR JEAN LOUIS:

AS YOU WILL RECALL, GEORGES IBRAHIM ABDALLAH, LEADER OF THE
TERRORIST ORGANIZATION LEBANESE ARMED REVOLUTIONARY FACTION
(LARF), HAS BEEN CHARGED IN PARIS AS AN ACCOMPLICE IN THE JANUARY
1982 MURDER OF LTC CHARLES RAY, ASSISTANT ARMY ATTACHE AT THE
U.S. EMBASSY. THE PRESIDENT WOULD LIKE FOR PRESIDENT MITTERRAND
AND PM CHIRAC TO UNDERSTAND THAT WE ARE CONFIDENT, DESPITE RUMORS
TO THE CONTRARY, THAT THE ASSURANCES GIVEN GEORGE SHULTZ ON THIS
MATTER ARE FIRM AND THAT ABDALLAH, WHO WAS RECENTLY CONVICTED OF
OTHER CRIMINAL CHARGES AND SENTENCED TO FOUR YEARS IMPRISONMENT
IN LYON, WILL NOT BE RELEASED FROM FRENCH CUSTODY BEFORE
COMPETENT LEGAL AUTHORITIES FROM BOTH OUR COUNTRIES HAVE ADEQUATE
OPPORTUNITY TO ASSESS ALL EVIDENCE THAT CAN BE OBTAINED REGARDING
CHARGES AGAINST HIM IN PARIS.

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
NLRR 07-081 453254
BY GU DATE 4/9/10

~~SECRET~~

2

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS JOINED THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S CASE AGAINST ABDALLAH AS A CIVIL PARTY IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO COOPERATE MORE FULLY IN LEGAL MEASURES AVAILABLE IN DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES TO TO COMBAT TERRORISM. THE PRESIDENT BELIEVES THIS CASE, INVOLVING SUCH A HEINOUS ACT AND SUCH A DANGEROUS ORGANIZATION AS THE LARF, IS AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE THAT DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES HAVE THE CAPABILITY AND THE WILL TO SEE THAT JUSTICE IS CARRIED OUT FAIRLY AND FULLY AGAINST THOSE CHARGED WITH COMMITTING TERRORIST ACTS.

WARM REGARDS, JOHN.

END TEXT.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

5 204

FM: WHITE HOUSE

TO: THE ELYSEE

For Jean Louis Bianco

~~SEND VIA BLUE CHANNEL~~

~~SECRET~~ // EYES ONLY FOR ~~PRESIDENT MITTERRAND~~ FROM PRESIDENT REAGAN

Jean L. Bianco

SUBJECT: LIEUTENANT COLONEL RAY CASE (TS)

1. ~~SECRET~~--ENTIRE TEXT.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DECLASSIFIED
NLRR 107-081 #5325
BY CLL NARA DATE 4/9/10

Jean L. Bianco
DEAR FRANCOIS:

AS YOU MAY RECALL, GEORGES IBRAHIM ABDALLAH, LEADER OF THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION LEBANESE ARMED REVOLUTIONARY FACTION (LARF), HAS BEEN CHARGED IN PARIS AS AN ACCOMPLICE IN THE JANUARY 1982 MURDER OF LTCOL CHARLES RAY, ASSISTANT ARMY ATTACHE AT THE U.S. EMBASSY. ^{The President would like to see a letter to the President to understand what we are} ~~I AM~~ CONFIDENT, DESPITE RUMORS TO THE CONTRARY, THAT THE ASSURANCES GIVEN GEORGE SHULTZ ON THIS MATTER ARE FIRM AND THAT ABDALLAH, WHO WAS RECENTLY CONVICTED OF OTHER CRIMINAL CHARGES AND SENTENCED TO FOUR YEARS IMPRISONMENT IN LYON, WILL NOT BE RELEASED FROM FRENCH CUSTODY BEFORE COMPETENT LEGAL AUTHORITIES FROM BOTH OUR COUNTRIES HAVE ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY TO ASSESS ALL EVIDENCE THAT CAN BE OBTAINED REGARDING CHARGES AGAINST HIM IN PARIS.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

2

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS JOINED THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S CASE AGAINST ABDALLAH AS A CIVIL PARTY IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO COOPERATE MORE FULLY IN LEGAL MEASURES AVAILABLE IN DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES TO COMBAT TERRORISM. I BELIEVE THIS CASE, INVOLVING SUCH A HEINOUS ACT AND SUCH A DANGEROUS ORGANIZATION AS THE LARF, IS AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE THAT DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES HAVE THE CAPABILITY AND THE WILL TO SEE THAT JUSTICE IS CARRIED OUT FAIRLY AND FULLY AGAINST THOSE CHARGED WITH COMMITTING TERRORIST ACTS.

WARM REGARDS, RON. *John*

END TEXT.

~~SECRET~~

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53257	MEMO NORTH, ET AL TO POINDEXTER RE MESSAGE TO MITTERRAND	1	7/18/1986	B1 B3

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	POINDEXTER TO THE PRESIDENT			B3

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 **** SECTION BREAK ****
~~SECRET~~ SECTION 01 OF 03 PARIS 32731

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356:DECL:OADR
 TAGS: PTER, PREL, FR, ASEC
 SUBJECT: SENIOR AIDE TO SECURITY MINISTER AND ELYSEE
 COUNSELLOR ON ABDALLAH AND FRENCH HOSTAGES IN LEBANON

1. (~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT)
2. SUMMARY: ON JULY 18, SENIOR AIDE TO FRENCH PUBLIC SECURITY MINISTER SPEAKING IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE TOLD EMBOFF THAT CASE OF LARF LEADER ABDALLAH IS DIRECTLY LINKED TO THE FATE OF TWO FRENCH HOSTAGES IN LEBANON. CURRENT FRENCH GOVERNMENT POLICY ON ABDALLAH IS UNCLEAR AND NO IMMEDIATE RELEASE SEEMS IN THE

CARDS. HOWEVER, GIVEN MAJOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF HOSTAGES TO CHIRAC GOVERNMENT IF ONE OR TWO HOSTAGES WERE RELEASED, ABDALLAH'S RELEASE WOULD IN ALL LIKELIHOOD FOLLOW, ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE. SOURCE TOOK NOTE OF STRONG USG CONCERNS AND AGREED TO

PASS THEM URGENTLY TO PANDRAUD. SOURCE ALSO DESCRIBED THE CURRENT STATE OF PLAY ON OTHER ASPECTS OF THE HOSTAGE SITUATION AND SHARED FRENCH INSIGHTS ON LARF AND ACTION DIRECT. IN A SEPARATE JULY 18 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF (PARA 11), ELYSEE COUNSELLOR PROMISED THAT OUR CONCERNS OVER THE ABDALLAH CASE WOULD REACH MITTERRAND AND CONFIRMED THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS TAKEN A TOUGH LINE WITH CHIRAC ON TERRORISM, REFUSING TO "OK" THE RELEASE OF THE ASSAILANTS OF FORMER IRANIAN PRIME MINISTER BAKHTIAR. END SUMMARY.

-
3. ON JULY 18, SENIOR AIDE TO FRENCH PUBLIC SECURITY MINISTER PANDRAUD PROVIDED FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON THE ABDALLAH CASE, LARF, AND THE STATUS OF THE FRENCH HOSTAGES IN LEBANON. AIDE WAS SPEAKING IN STRICT CONFIDENTIALITY. ALL EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO PROTECT THIS SOURCE AND INFORMATION PROVIDED. DEPARTMENT SHOULD SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH GREATEST DISCRETION.

-
4. DURING DISCUSSION, EMBOFF CLEARLY EXPLAINED TO SOURCE STRONG USG CONCERN THAT THERE BE NO PRECIPITOUS DECISION ON THE PARIS CASE AGAINST ABDALLAH, THAT THE US HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE AND THAT THE LYON SENTENCE NOT BE REDUCED. EMBOFF UNDERLINED SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR BILATERAL RELATIONS IF OUR STRONG INTEREST WAS NOT HEEDDED.

5. ABDALLAH CASE AND HOSTAGES

--THERE IS NOW A DIRECT LINK BETWEEN THE CASE OF LARF LEADER ABDALLAH AND FRENCH HOSTAGES IN LEBANON.

--THE LARF HAS ESTABLISHED AN ALLIANCE WITH THE HEZBOLLAH-LINKED AMAL FACTION HEADED BY HUSSAYN MUSAWI. THIS FACTION IS THE ONE STILL HOLDING TWO FRENCH TV MEN AND IS RELATIVELY INDEPENDENT OF IRAN.

--THE RECENT RELEASE OF THE OTHER TWO FRENCH TV MEN WAS IN PART TIED TO A "GOOD" SENTENCE IN THE ABDALLAH CASE IN LYON.

--THERE WAS NO FORMAL DEAL, BUT THEIR RELEASE WAS A GESTURE AIMED AT ENCOURAGING A BETTER VERDICT FOR ABDALLAH.

--THE LYON CASE ITSELF WAS EXTREMELY POORLY PREPARED

AND, AS PRESENTED BY THE INVESTIGATING MAGISTRATE, WAS NOT VERY STRONG. WE WONDER IF SOMEONE DID NOT SABOTAGE THE PREPARATION.

--WE WERE, AND REMAIN, VERY CONCERNED THAT SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN TO ABDALLAH WHILE HE IS IN PRISON. IF HE WERE TO DIE IN OUR CUSTODY, WE BELIEVE THAT THE TWO FRENCH TV JOURNALISTS IN LEBANON WOULD BE KILLED.

--IN ALL FRANKNESS, WE HAVE BEEN CONCERNED THAT THE ISRAELI OR EVEN THE US SECRET SERVICES MIGHT TRY TO ASSASSINATE HIM.

-

--THE PARIS CASE AGAINST ABDALLAH IS NOT STRONG AND IT WILL BE VERY HARD TO GET A CONVICTION.

-

--THERE IS NO DEAL PER SE ON ABDALLAH AT THIS TIME; HOWEVER, IF ONE OR BOTH OF THE TV JOURNALISTS IN LEBANON ARE RELEASED, IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, ABDALLAH'S RELEASE WOULD FOLLOW.

6. GOVERNMENT'S CONCERNS AND POLICY

** END OF CABLE **

**** SECTION BREAK ****

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 03 PARIS 32731

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356:DECL:OADR

TAGS: PTER, PREL, FR, ASEC

SUBJECT: SENIOR AIDE TO SECURITY MINISTER AND ELYSEE

--THE POSSIBILITY OF ABDALLAH'S RELEASE IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE IMMENSE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE WHICH PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC ACCORDS THE HOSTAGE SITUATION. THIS REMAINS A DAILY ITEM ON THE EVENING NEWS, AND CHIRAC HAS GIVEN THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE TO SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVING THE RELEASE OF THE FRENCH HOSTAGES. IN ADDITION, THE CHIRAC GOVERNMENT NOW NEEDS SOME "COUPS" TO BOLSTER ITS DOMESTIC POPULARITY.

-

--CURRENTLY, THE GOVERNMENT'S EXACT POSITION ON THE ABDALLAH AFFAIR IS UNCLEAR. FOREIGN MINISTER RAIMOND HAS BEEN VERY STRONG IN SUPPORT FOR A TOUGH LINE, I.E., NO EARLY RELEASE FOR ABDALLAH. (COMMENT. THIS SEEMS TO CONFIRM THAT RAIMOND IS TRYING TO BE TRUE TO HIS PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO SECRETARY SHULTZ THAT THERE WOULD BE NO EARLY

RELEASE.) JUSTICE MINISTER CHALANDON IS "WEAK" AND WILL DO WHATEVER HE IS TOLD. PUBLIC SECURITY MINISTER PANDRAUD AS A COP WANTS TO BE TOUGH, BUT AS A CLOSE ALLY OF CHIRAC RECOGNIZES THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE HOSTAGE SITUATION.

--THE ELYSEE WANTS TO DENY CHIRAC ANY SUCCESSES. MITTERRAND HAS OPPOSED ANY EXCHANGE INVOLVING THE RELEASE OF THOSE IRANIANS WHO TRIED TO ASSASSINATE FORMER IRANIAN PRIME MINISTER BAKHTIAR.

--RIGHT NOW, I HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF A DEAL TO RELEASE ABDALLAH IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. SOURCE, HOWEVER, PROMISED TO PASS A MESSAGE OF CONCERN

ABOUT A PRECIPITOUS GOF HANDLING OF THE ABDALLAH MATTER DIRECTLY TO PANDRAUD.

7. HOSTAGE SITUATION

--AS FOR THE HOSTAGE SITUATION, PANDRAUD HAS A MAJOR ROLE IN TRYING TO SECURE THEIR RELEASE. AT MATIGNON, THE DOSSIER IS HANDLED BY CHIRAC'S CABINET DIRECTOR MAURICE ULRICH WHO REPORTS DIRECTLY TO CHIRAC.

-

--ALGERIA IS ONE OF THE KEY INTERMEDIARIES. THEIR AMBASSADOR IN BEIRUT HAS EXCELLENT CONTACTS.

--THE OTHER KEY INTERMEDIARY IS THE PLO WHICH MAINTAINS EXCELLENT CONTACTS WITH THE LARF.

--SYRIA HAS SO FAR NOT PROVEN VERY HELPFUL. INDEED, THE SYRIANS DESPICABLY TRIED TO GAIN THE PUBLIC CREDIT FOR THE RECENT RELEASE OF THE TWO FRENCH HOSTAGES WHEN THEY HAD NOTHING AT ALL TO DO WITH IT.

--IRAN IS INFLUENTIAL IN DEALING WITH THE BRANCH OF THE HEZBOLLAH CONTROLLED BY IMAD MUGHNIYYAH. THIS GROUP HOLDS THE FRENCH DIPLOMATS AND THE AMERICAN HOSTAGES. THEY HAVE OFFERED TO RELEASE ALL US AND FRENCH HOSTAGES IF WE COULD SECURE THE RELEASE OF THREE OF THE PRISONERS HELD IN KUWAIT. WE HAVE NO LEVERAGE, HOWEVER, TO SECURE THAT RELEASE.

--THE ONE BIT OF RECENT PROGRESS IS THAT WE NOW KNOW WHERE THE BODY OF DECEASED FRENCH HOSTAGE MICHEL SEURAT IS LOCATED AND WE BELIEVE WE HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF GETTING IT BACK SOON.

8. LARF

--AS FOR THE LARF ITSELF, THE CURRENT LEADER IS

ABDALLAH'S FIANCE. SHE IS VERY TOUGH AND PERSONALLY PLANTED THE FIRST BOMB ON THE CHAMPS ELYSEES.

--THE CHAMPS ELYSEES BOMBINGS CONFIRMED THE ALLIANCE OF CONVENIENCE BETWEEN LARF AND HEZBOLLAH IN THAT THE COMMUNIQUES FOLLOWING THE BOMBINGS ASKED FOR THE

RELEASE OF ABDALLAH AS WELL AS THOSE WHO TRIED TO KILL BAKHTIAR.

9. ACTION DIRECT

--THE LARF DOES HAVE LINKS TO THE FRENCH TERRORIST GROUP ACTION DIRECT. THE TWO HAVE WORKED TOGETHER IN THE PAST.

-
** END OF CABLE **

**** SECTION BREAK ****
~~S E C R E T~~ SECTION 03 OF 03 PARIS 32731

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356:DECL:OADR
TAGS: PTER, PREL, FR, ASEC
SUBJECT: SENIOR AIDE TO SECURITY MINISTER AND ELYSEE

--THE RECENT BOMBING OF A POLICE HEADQUARTERS IN PARIS WAS CARRIED OUT BY TWO ACTION DIRECT DISSIDENTS, BOTH OF WHOM ARE "REALLY CRAZY". THE BOMB WAS PLANTED PERSONALLY BY MAX FREROT.

--WE DON'T SEE ANY NEAR-TERM BREAKTHROUGHS ON ACTION DIRECT, HOWEVER. THEY ARE WELL UNDERGROUND AND HAVE GOOD ACCESS TO FALSE ID'S, CARS, ETC. WHICH THEY PURCHASE FROM "NORMAL" FRENCH GANGSTERS.

-
--ACTION DIRECT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE RECENT BIG BANK ROBBERY IN FRANCE. WE EXPECT TO HAVE A BREAKTHROUGH ON THAT CASE VERY SHORTLY.

10. LONGER-TERM STRATEGY

--PANDRAUD'S LONGER-TERM STRATEGY TO DEALING WITH FOREIGN TERRORISTS IN FRANCE IS INTIMATELY TIED TO THE GOVERNMENT'S IMMIGRATION LAW WHICH WILL ALLOW INTERIOR MINISTRY (RATHER THAN COURTS) TO DECIDE WHICH FOREIGNER TO EXPEL. ONCE THIS CHANGE IS MADE AND BORDER CONTROLS INCREASED, THE INTERIOR MINISTER "CAN PLUCK OUT THE BAD APPLES ONE BY ONE."

-
11 ELYSEE INFORMED

IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH AN ELYSEE COUNSELLOR ON JULY 18, EMBOFF DESCRIBED STRONG US CONCERN THAT THERE BE NO PRECIPITOUS DECISION ON THE ABDALLAH MURDER CASE IN PARIS AND NO EARLY RELEASE OF ABDALLAH ON THE LYON CHARGES. ELYSEE COUNSELOR SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD OUR MESSAGE AND WOULD ENSURE THAT THE PRESIDENT HEARD OF IT. HE DESCRIBED THE ELYSEE'S BELIEF THAT CHIRAC SEES THE HOSTAGE ISSUE AS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AND VERY MUCH WANTS TO SECURE THEIR RELEASE FOR HIS OWN DOMESTIC POLITICAL GAIN. COUNSELLOR ADDED THAT MITTERRAND HAD INDEED SAID NO WHEN CHIRAC PROPOSED TO RELEASE THE BAKHTIAR ASSAILANTS AND UNDERLINED THAT THE FRENCH PRESIDENT HAD BEEN TAKING A TOUGH LINE ON TERRORISM IN PRIVATE AS WELL AS IN HIS RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS.

12. COMMENT

THE TWO CONVERSATIONS UNDERLINE THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE HOSTAGE ISSUE IN FRANCE. SOURCE IN PANDRAUD'S OFFICE HAS ACCESS TO ALL OF PANDRAUD'S DOSSIERS. HIS COMMENTS SEEM QUITE PLAUSIBLE TO US AND HIS PAST REMARKS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN GENERALLY ON THE MARK. WE WILL PROVIDE OUR OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION AND RECOMMENDED POSTURE SEPTEL. ONE THING IS

CLEAR, THE FRENCH CERTAINLY HAVE OUR MESSAGE ON ABDALLAH. RODGERS
** END OF CABLE **

ROUTING

To	Name and Address	Date	Initials
1	O. North	7/30	
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

ACTION		FILE
APPROVAL	X	INFORMATION
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CONCURRENCE		RECOMMENDATION
DIRECT REPLY		RETURN
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	TO ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS, ET AL			B3

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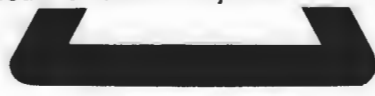
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53265	MEMO TO ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS, ET AL	3	7/31/1986	B1 B3

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File: Hostages

10/17

AP Associated Press

Charles J. Lewis
Chief of Bureau

August 31, 1986

Senior Watch Officer
Operations Center
Department of State
Washington, DC

Ladies/Gentlemen:

As requested by Pat Bailey and Bob Bentley, I'm enclosing the following message, which is a translation from the French of a two-page hand-written statement delivered today to the Paris bureau of the AP:

"The imperialist West treats us as murderers. Insisting on the rightfulness of our just demands and on our hostility with regard to American policies represented by Reagan and his government, we affirm having given a last chance to the great satan, because according to Koranic law, even the worst enemies have the right to pardon.

"We the Islamic Jihad, in homage to our hero Haidar Kalil killed with imperialist lead, we had decided to free the two Zionist spies of the CIA David Jacobsen and Terry Anderson, American citizens, against food aid destined for our people of southern Lebanon, martyr of the bombs of the Zionist people.

"To this day no response to our offer has come to us. The American government, the CIA, Reagan, therefore will have the sole responsibility for the execution of two American citizens, because the time limit that we have imposed is soon going to run out and no sign of mediation has come to us. The American people should know that we have abandoned as priority conditions, the former demands and we also have informed the offices of the New York Times and the Washington Post in Paris of our action.

Only the president and his government will heretofore be responsible for the lives of the hostages that we are holding.

Paris 31-8-86.
Islamic Jihad
European Chief"

It is signed with a signature that appears to be Omar Mohammed Mehdi Rasy, but is hard to read.

Omar Lewis

1 AM-Hostages-Message 08-31 0530

AM-Hostages-Message, 0527 (

Purported Message Renews Threats Against US Hostages In Lebanon (

PARIS (AP) — A message purporting to come from the Islamic Jihad on Sunday renewed threats against the lives of two Americans held hostage in Lebanon and appeared to shift the demands for their release.

The authenticity of the message could not be verified, however, and U.S. State Department spokesman Pete Martinez said in Washington, D.C., that the Reagan administration "would have no comment concerning the hostages."

The two-page letter, which was dropped in the The Associated Press mailbox here and was in passable but flawed French, differed in several respects from previous notes signed by the Islamic Jihad.

Unlike Sunday's message, most communications purportedly from the hostage-takers have come through Beirut, have been in Arabic, have begun with the Koranic phrase, "In the name of Allah, the merciful, the compassionate." Many have included a photograph of one or more of the captives, which Sunday's message did not include.

The Islamic Jihad, which claims to be holding the Americans, is believed to be made up of radical Shiite Moslems loyal to Iran.

The group had been demanding, in return for the hostages' freedom, that Kuwait release 17 prisoners convicted of bombing the U.S. and French embassies there in 1983. Kuwaiti officials have refused.

The message said that "the American people should know that we have abandoned as priority conditions, the former demands ..." and that the group "decided to free ... David Jacobsen and Terry Anderson, American citizens ..." in return for "food aid destined for our people of southern Lebanon, martyr of the bombs of the Zionist people."

"To this day no response to our offer has come to us," it said.

Unless the demands are met, it said, "the American government, the CIA, (and President) Reagan ... will have the sole responsibility for the execution of two American citizens, because the time limit that we have imposed is soon going to run out and no sign of mediation has come to us."

The most recent previous message was a communique delivered to a Western news agency in Beirut last week, accompanied by a photograph of Jacobsen. The message said the hostages would be killed if the United States tried to rescue them by force.

Anderson is chief Middle East correspondent for the AP, and Jacobsen is administrator of the American University Hospital in Beirut.

The message did not mention two other Americans taken captive, Thomas Sutherland, the acting dean of agriculture at the university, and William Buckley, a political officer at the U.S. Embassy.

The Islamic Jihad said last October that it had killed Buckley, but no body has been found. Additionally, the group says it kidnapped four Frenchmen and killed one, whose body has also not been found.

The letter was closed with a signature that appeared to read "Omar Mohammed Mehdi Rasy," described in the message as the "European chief" of the Islamic Jihad.

The State Department spokesman said he was not familiar with the name. The administration has refused to negotiate with the terrorists.

On July 26, the Islamic Jihad freed the Rev. Lawrence Martin Jenco after holding him for nearly 19 months.

APTV-08-31-86 1919EDT (

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French Hostages

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EXDIS

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, FR, US, SY, LE, PREL
SUBJECT: FRENCH HOSTAGE RELEASE TEMPERS IMPACT OF
- CHIRAC'S WASHINGTON TIMES INTERVIEW

1. S - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY

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PAGE 02 OF 04 PARIS 1788

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PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC GREETED THE TWO FRENCH HOSTAGES
RELEASED WITH SYRIAN HELP ON THEIR RETURN TO FRANCE
WITH A SIGH OF RELIEF. THE RELEASE OF THE TWO
HOSTAGES -- CAMILLE SONTAG AND MARCEL KHOUDARI -- IS
SEEN HERE AS A SYRIAN GESTURE TO REWARD FRANCE FOR ITS
POLICY IN THE WAKE OF THE HINDAWI AFFAIR. MATIGNON IS
PLEASED WITH THIS VINDICATION OF ITS "POLICY OF
DIALOGUE" AND WITH THE POLITICAL BOOST IT BRINGS. THE
RELEASE DISTRACTS ATTENTION FROM CHIRAC'S WASHINGTON
TIMES INTERVIEW, WHICH IS BEING CRITICIZED HERE MORE
FOR WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT CHIRAC'S LEADERSHIP STYLE THAN
FOR ITS SUBSTANCE. THERE IS WORRY ABOUT THE
INTERVIEW'S IMPACT IN WASHINGTON AND ELSEWHERE. THE
GOF REMAINS HOPEFUL ABOUT FURTHER HOSTAGE RELEASES.
THE CONSENSUS IS THAT THE KHOUDARI/SONTAG RELEASE HAS
BOUGHT A LITTLE TIME, BUT THE REAL PROOF OF PROGRESS
ON THE HOSTAGE QUESTION WILL BE THE RELEASE OF SOME OR
ALL OF THE OTHER FIVE FRENCHMEN HELD. END SUMMARY.

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THANK YOU TO DAMASCUS

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3. CHIRAC PUBLICLY THANKED THE SYRIAN AUTHORITIES AS
WELL AS THOSE OF SAUDI ARABIA AND ALGERIA FOR THE
HOSTAGE RELEASE WHEN HE GREETED THE FRENCH HOSTAGES AT
ORLY AIRPORT NOVEMBER 11. FOREIGN MINISTER RAIMOND
AFFIRMED THAT FRANCE HAD ACHIEVED THE RELEASE IN
COMPLETE DIGNITY AND WITHOUT ANY DEALS. TAKING A
SWIPE AT DOMESTIC CRITICS AND IMPLICITLY AT THE UNITED
STATES, HE SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO LOAN OR ARMS
INVOLVED IN THE DISCUSSIONS LEADING TO THE RELEASE.
RAIMOND DID ANNOUNCE, HOWEVER, THAT HE WILL SIGN IN
THE NEAR FUTURE AN AGREEMENT WITH IRAN PARTIALLY
SOLVING THE FINANCIAL DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO
COUNTRIES.

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4. THE HOSTAGE RELEASE HAS BEEN VERY POSITIVELY RECEIVED HERE AND WILL PERMIT CHIRAC TO COVER OVER SOME OF THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF HIS WASHINGTON TIMES INTERVIEW AND OF EARLIER PRESS ALLEGATIONS ABOUT WHAT HE WAS PROMISING IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THEIR RELEASE. HOWEVER, THERE IS STILL A GOOD DEAL OF SKEPTICISM ABOUT WHETHER THE PRICE PAID TO SYRIA AND OTHERS IS EQUAL TO THE REWARD, AND AS ONE SENIOR SOCIALIST TOLD US TODAY "WHAT WE'LL HAVE TO PAY FOR THE POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT HOSTAGES."

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"SIGNIFICANT" HOSTAGES STILL HELD

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5. INDEED, SONTAG AND KHOUDARI ARE SEEN AS THE LEAST IMPORTANT OF THE FRENCH HOSTAGES IN LEBANON. MANY SUSPECT THAT THE SYRIANS COULD HAVE SECURED THEIR RELEASE SOME TIME AGO. SONTAG, A RETIRED CAR DEALER WHO SPENT MOST OF HIS LIFE IN LEBANON, HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN HELD BY A FAMILY OF DRUG RUNNERS, SOME MEMBERS OF WHICH APPARENTLY HAVE VERY GOOD CONTACTS WITH THE SYRIANS. THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT EVEN BELIEVES THAT AT ONE TIME SONTAG WAS UNDER THE PHYSICAL CONTROL OF SOME SYRIAN ELEMENTS. KHOUDARI, WHO WAS REPORTEDLY WORKING

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FOR ONE OF THE FRENCH INTELLIGENCE SERVICES AT THE TIME OF HIS DISAPPEARANCE, HAS A QUESTIONABLE RECORD, INCLUDING CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS IN SWITZERLAND. HE IS A NATIVE SYRIAN AND A NATURALIZED FRENCH CITIZEN. AN INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIAL TOLD US PRIVATELY THAT THE BEIRUT COMMUNIQUE BY THE REVOLUTIONARY JUSTICE ORGANIZATION IS VIEWED AS COVER ALLOWING THOSE WHO WERE REALLY HOLDING THE HOSTAGES TO RELEASE THEM WITHOUT ADMITTING GUILT, WHILE ARRANGEMENTS OF THE

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RELEASE CONFIRM SYRIA'S ROLE. THE FRENCH ARE STILL
UNSURE OF WHO WAS HOLDING KHOUDARI. HE SAYS HE WAS
HELD WITH OTHER FOREIGNERS INCLUDING AN IRISHMAN
(PERHAPS BRIAN KEENAN). (AN INTERIOR MINISTRY
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E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, FR, US, SY, LE, PREL
SUBJECT: FRENCH HOSTAGE RELEASE TEMPERS IMPACT OF

OFFICIAL TOLD US OCTOBER 10 THAT INTERIOR THOUGHT
KHOUDARI MAY HAVE BEEN HELD WITH THE TWO TV
TECHNICIANS UNDER THE CONTROL OF HUSSEIN MOUSSAWI'S
ISLAMIC AMAL, BUT THIS HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED.
INDEED, MONDAY EVENING THE INTERIOR MINISTRY THOUGHT
THE TWO TV TECHNICIANS MIGHT BE INCLUDED IN THE

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

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TUESDAY RELEASE.)

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6. OBSERVERS AND OFFICIALS NOTE IN PRIVATE THAT THE REAL TEST OF CHIRAC'S POLICIES (AND SYRIA'S INFLUENCE) WILL BE WHETHER OR NOT ANY OF THE OTHER FRENCH HOSTAGES ARE RELEASED. ACCORDING TO MOST REPORTS, THOSE "POLITICAL" HOSTAGES -- 2 DIPLOMATS, A JOURNALIST, AND 2 TV TECHNICIANS -- ARE HELD BY ELEMENTS OF HIZBALLAH, NOT SUBJECT TO SYRIAN INFLUENCE.

WASHINGTON TIMES AFTERMATH: CRITICIZE STYLE, NOT SUBSTANCE

7. THE HOSTAGE RELEASE HAS DISTRACTED THE FRENCH POLITICAL CLASS AND PRESS FROM CHIRAC'S WASHINGTON TIMES INTERVIEW. THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW WAS, IN FACT, NOT GREETED WITH MUCH CRITICISM, EVEN WHEN THE TEXT HIT THE NEWS STANDS. A NUMBER OF COMMENTATORS, INCLUDING FORMER SOCIALIST FOREIGN MINISTER CHEYSSON, HAVE WELCOMED THE TEXT OF THE INTERVIEW AS A NEEDED CLARIFICATION OF FRENCH POLICY. (WE ARE TOLD, HOWEVER, THAT THE TIMES AGREED NOT TO PUBLISH SOME OF THE MOST QUESTIONABLE PARTS OF THE INTERVIEW.) INDEED, AS ONE LEFT-LEANING PRESS EDITOR EXPLAINED PRIVATELY NOVEMBER 12, THERE IS A CONSENSUS AMONG THE FRENCH POLITICAL CLASS -- LEFT AND RIGHT -- ON FRANCE'S ASSESSMENT AND ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND CHIRAC EXPRESSED THESE BASICS IN HIS INTERVIEW. THERE ARE IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS VIEW AND THAT TAKEN BY THE UNITED STATES AND UNITED KINGDOM. ACCORDING TO THIS EDITOR, THIS FRENCH CONSENSUS INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING: 1) THE MAIN THREAT IN THE MIDDLE EAST COMES FROM THE SPREAD OF ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISM; THE WEST SHOULD AIM ITS POLICIES AT

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FIGHTING THAT THREAT; IRAN, OF COURSE, IS AT THE CENTER OF THIS FUNDAMENTALIST THREAT; THUS, FRANCE AND THE WEST SHOULD SUPPORT IRAQ AND SHOULD NOT CUT THEIR TIES TO SYRIA, BUT RATHER ENCOURAGE SYRIA TO FIGHT FUNDAMENTALISM; 2) SYRIA ITSELF REMAINS A VITAL ACTOR FOR THE FUTURE OF LEBANON, AND FRANCE HAS A HISTORIC ROLE IN LEBANON WHICH IT CANNOT SACRIFICE; THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT FRANCE CANNOT COMPLETELY BREAK WITH DAMASCUS; 3) TOO MUCH PRESSURE ON ARAB STATES SUCH AS SYRIA WILL HAVE A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON THE OVERALL ATTITUDE OF ARAB MODERATES TOWARD THE WEST: THE ARABS TEND TO RALLY TOGETHER AGAINST OUTSIDE PRESSURES.

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8. GIVEN THIS CONSENSUS, THERE IS LITTLE DESIRE TO CRITICIZE THE SUBSTANCE OF CHIRAC'S INTERVIEW, EVEN FROM THE ELYSEE OR THE SOCIALIST PARTY. WHERE CHIRAC HAS BEEN DAMAGED IS IN HIS IMAGE AS AN "HOMME D'ETAT." HIS CARELESS APPROACH TO THE INTERVIEW AND, INDEED, THE FACT THAT HE EVER GAVE IT, ARE WIDELY CRITICIZED. WHILE THE SOCIALISTS CONTINUE TO FIRE PUBLICLY, PRIVATE COMMENTS WITHIN THE MAJORITY HAVE ALSO BEEN VERY CRITICAL. AS ONE SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL PUT IT TO US, "THE DRAMA OF THE RPR IS THAT IT ONLY HAS ONE POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, JACQUES CHIRAC. CHIRAC IS AN EXCELLENT RACE HORSE, BUT ONE NEEDS TO KEEP VERY TIGHT CONTROL OF THE REINS. IF YOU DON'T, YOU GET THINGS LIKE THE WASHINGTON TIMES INTERVIEW." THE GENERAL ASSESSMENT NOW, ESPECIALLY WITH THE HOSTAGE RELEASE, IS THAT CHIRAC MAY NOT SUFFER MUCH IN THE PUBLIC OPINION POLLS BY HIS INTERVIEW. HOWEVER, CHIRAC HAS ALREADY MISSPOKEN A NUMBER OF TIMES WITH THE PRESS IN RECENT MONTHS, MOST NOTABLY OVER THIS SUMMER WITH ISRAELI JOURNALIST BEN PORAT WHEN HE DENIED ANY ROLE IN THE

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FRENCH NUCLEAR REACTOR SALE TO IRAQ AND LATER WHEN HE
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E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, FR, US, SY, LE, PREL
SUBJECT: FRENCH HOSTAGE RELEASE TEMPERS IMPACT OF

CALLED AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER HAWKE "VERY STUPID"
IN FRONT OF JOURNALISTS. THE ELYSEE REACTION IS
EPITOMIZED BY THIS ANONYMOUS QUOTE FROM A MITTERRAND
ADVISOR "ONE DAY CHIRAC WILL DECLARE WAR AND THEN DENY
IT, BUT IT WILL BE TOO LATE." IF THIS SORT OF THING
KEEPS HAPPENING, ALL AGREE THAT CHIRAC'S LEADERSHIP

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IMAGE -- ALREADY TINGED BY A REPUTATION OF "NERVOUSNESS" AND "CHANGEABILITY" -- WILL BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED.

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WORRY ABOUT OVERSEAS IMPACT

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9. THERE IS HIGH-LEVEL CONCERN HERE ABOUT THE IMPACT OF THE INTERVIEW IN EUROPE (ESPECIALLY IN GERMANY AND PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF CHIRAC'S ALREADY ROCKY RELATIONS WITH KOHL) AND IN WASHINGTON. MANY WORRY THAT CHIRAC'S FOREIGN INTERLOCUTORS WILL BE MORE HESITANT TO SPEAK FRANKLY WITH HIM AND HIS ADVISORS ARE WORRIED THAT HIS IMAGE IN WASHINGTON HAS BEEN TARNISHED. AT LEAST ONE OFFICIAL HAS ASKED US PRIVATELY WHETHER A SPECIAL EMISSARY TO WASHINGTON MAY NOT BE NECESSARY TO REPAIR THE DAMAGE. AT MATIGNON ITSELF, EVERYONE IS TRYING TO SPREAD THE BLAME. MATIGNON DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR BUJON D'ESTANG IS BEING FINGERED FOR SUPPORTING THE INTERVIEW REQUEST AND FOR NOT INTERVENING DURING THE INTERVIEW WHICH HE ATTENDED. SOMEONE HAS EVEN BACKGROUNDED THE PRESS THAT GENERAL VERNON WALTERS AND FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON DE MARGERIE CALLED TO ENCOURAGE THE INTERVIEW WHICH THEN WENT FORWARD OVER THE OBJECTION OF CHIRAC'S COMMUNICATIONS CHIEF (WHO IS OUTRAGED OVER THE WHOLE AFFAIR).

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HOSTAGE HOPES

10. THE GOF IS HOPEFUL THAT IT CAN WIN THE RELEASE OF MORE OF ITS HOSTAGES IN THE NEAR FUTURE. INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS CONFIRM CHIRAC'S PUBLIC INDICATIONS THAT MORE RELEASES MAY BE IN THE WORKS, THOUGH THEY ARE VERY CAUTIOUS AND WORRIED THAT SOMETHING COULD GO

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WRONG. MANY BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE NEXT TRANCHE OF RELEASES WILL HAVE TO RECEIVE A PUSH OR AN IMPLICIT OK FROM TEHERAN RATHER THAN DAMASCUS SINCE THE IRANIANS HAVE MORE INFLUENCE OVER THE HIZBALLAH HOSTAGE HOLDERS. THERE IS ALREADY SLDJMB TEEDD

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LLPED IN THE INITIAL RELEASE. HERE THERE IS REAL REASON TO WORRY ABOUT CHIRAC'S ANTI-IRANIAN REMARKS TO THE TIMES. THE FRENCH ARE DOUBTLESSLY HOPING THAT PAYING BACK THEIR LOAN TO IRAN WILL SMOOTH THE WATERS. THE TEST MAY WELL BE WHETHER OR NOT THE TWO REMAINING TV JOURNALISTS FROM A-2 CAN BE FREED. THE FRENCH ARE EXPLORING THIS POSSIBILITY FROM SEVERAL ANGLES (INCLUDING ALGIERS).

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POLITICAL IMPACT

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11. MOST OBSERVERS AGREE THAT POSITIVE IMPACT OF TUESDAY'S HOSTAGE LIBERATIONS WILL BE OF SHORT DURATION. EVEN IF CHIRAC CAN WIN THE FREEDOM OF THE OTHER FRENCH HOSTAGES IN LEBANON, MANY QUESTION WHETHER IT WILL HAVE A LONG-TERM POSITIVE IMPACT FOR HIM. A SUCCESS IN THIS AREA WOULD GIVE CHIRAC A BOOST FOR A MONTH OR SO IN THE POLLS, THOUGH MOST EXPECT THAT AFTER THAT THE BASIC COMPLAINTS THAT TOUCH THE DAILY LIVES OF FRENCHMEN WILL RESURFACE. WHAT IS GENERALLY AGREED, HOWEVER, IS THAT IF CHIRAC DOES NOT MANAGE MORE PROGRESS ON THE HOSTAGE ISSUE, IT COULD WELL BE A NEGATIVE FACTOR NAGGING AT HIM THROUGHOUT HIS TERM.

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*. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. RODGERS
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