

NEH



RELEASE IN FULL

United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Archie Bolster,  
Senior Reviewer

DEC -1 2010

Dear Mr. Poe:

Thank you for your June 17 letter to President Obama regarding Israel's interdiction of the *M/V Mavi Marmara* on May 31, 2010. The Department of State has been asked to respond on the President's behalf.

The United States has consistently opposed initiatives that pre-judge Israel's actions, such as the flawed investigation into the Flotilla incident that was mandated by the UN Human Rights Council (HRC), and have made our views in this regard very clear in the HRC and other international bodies. With regard to the *Marmara* incident, we welcomed UN Secretary General Ban ki-Moon's establishment of a panel to receive and review the Israeli and Turkish investigations of the incident, as well as the decision by Israel and Turkey to cooperate with that panel. The Government of Israel took an important step forward with the creation of the Turkel Commission, which is now in the midst of an independent inquiry. The Commission was mandated to look into the actions undertaken by Israeli forces on May 31, 2010.

Rest assured that the bond between the United States and Israel is unbreakable. As President Obama stated on July 6, "it encompasses our national security issues, our strategic interests, but most importantly, the bond of two democracies who share a common set of values and whose people have grown closer and closer as time goes on." Israel's right to exist, and to defend itself, is not negotiable.

We deeply regret the tragic loss of life and injuries suffered among those involved in the incident aboard the Gaza-bound ships. We will continue to work closely with the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority, along with international NGOs and the UN, to provide adequate access for humanitarian goods, including reconstruction materials, through the border crossings, while bearing in mind the Government of Israel's legitimate security concerns. The Administration has also exerted significant diplomatic efforts to ensure that

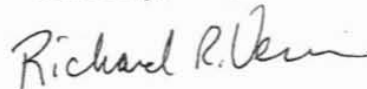
The Honorable  
Ted Poe,  
House of Representatives.

W 20100220-001

subsequent humanitarian flotillas bound for Gaza use existing mechanisms to deliver humanitarian aid to protect Israel's security.

If we can assist you further on this or any other issue, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard R. Verma". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "R".

Richard R. Verma  
Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs

Approved: NEA A/S Jeffrey D. Feltman

Drafted: NEA/IPA: Rachel Steyer, 7-9582

Cleared: NEA/FO: RSchlicher  
NEA/FO: JWalles  
NEA/IPA Paul Sutphin  
NEA/IPA: JBuzbee  
P: ECatalano (ok)  
S/P: DRand (ok)  
D(S): DSchrepel (ok)  
DRL: JLieberman (ok)  
PRM: VDel Prete (ok)  
NEA/IPA: JSindle (ok)  
S/SEMEP: SKhoury-Kincannon (ok)  
IO/HR: WReisser (ok)  
L: KBaumert/LJacobson/JDolan (ok)

F-23-40Z 001 AMZQ-01-4FCM

# CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

UNCLASSIFIED

Subject: regarding Israel's interdiction of the M/V Mavi Marmara on 5/31/10  
11/24/10 H20100630=004 Poe (+343)

Verma RN 9.30

Rooney 11/30 1726

**Please be advised that 343 other Members signed along with Rep. Poe.**

343  
Verma

DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONGRESSIONAL  
CORRESPONDENCE TASKER



IPS CONTROL# **H2010** 0630-004 ACTION BUREAU: NEA

DATE: JUN 30 2010

**IPS:**

SUBSTANTIVE  CONSTITUENT  
 IMAGE ENTIRE DOCUMENT  IMAGE ONLY FIRST  PAGES

**BUREAU:**

BUREAU ACTION REQUESTED: RESPOND TO CCU **2** DAYS FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

REPLY FOR SIGNATURE BY **Richard R. Verma**, ASSISTANT SECRETARY,  
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

ADDRESS ENVELOPE TO DISTRICT OFFICE

DIRECT REPLY TO CONSTITUENT BY OFFICE DIRECTOR WITH COPY TO  
CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE. PHONE 7-1608 WHEN COMPLETED

FYI ONLY/NO RESPONSE NECESSARY

REPLY FOR SIGNATURE DIRECTLY BY BUREAU

OTHER ACTION: White House Referral  
# 1034471

FOR GUIDANCE/INFORMATION ON FORMATTING CONGRESSIONALS SEE:  
[http://diplopedia.state.gov/index.php?title=Bureau of Legislative Affairs Reference Documents#Yellow Border](http://diplopedia.state.gov/index.php?title=Bureau%20of%20Legislative%20Affairs%20Reference%20Documents#Yellow%20Border)

Due Date 7/6/10

\*\*\*\*BUREAUS MUST MAKE TRANSFERS OF ACTION DIRECTLY WITH RECEIVING BUREAU'S FRONT  
OFFICE. The CCU has a listing of contacts. PLEASE NOTIFY CCU 7-1608 OF ALL TRANSFERS OF  
ACTION\*\*\*\*

FROM: Richard R. Verma (H)

**Recommendation**

\_\_\_\_\_ For the Secretary's  
signature to the \_\_\_\_\_ bureau

\_\_\_\_\_ Tasked to the ~~NSA~~ bureau for  
signature by Richard R. Verma  
Assistant Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Provide copy of H signed  
response

COMMENTS:

-11110-2011

ER-IGA

1034471

FROM :

FAX NO. : 2488516031

Jun. 20 2010 06:12PM P1



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4302

June 17, 2010

RECEIVED  
JUN 20 11 52

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express our strong support for Israel's right to defend itself. We believe that it is in the national security interest of the United States to unequivocally reiterate that the United States stands behind its longtime friend and ally. Further, we urge you to remain steadfast in the defense of Israel in the face of the international community's rush to unfairly judge and condemn Israel in international fora such as the United Nations Security Council. We urge you to continue to use U.S. influence and, if necessary, veto power to prevent any biased or one-sided resolutions from passing.

On May 31, after repeated warnings, Israeli forces intercepted a flotilla attempting to break through its naval blockade of Gaza. The blockade of Gaza was instituted to stop terrorists from smuggling weapons into Gaza to murder innocent civilians. Since Israel's disengagement from Gaza in 2005, Hamas has fired more than 10,000 rockets and mortars at Israel's civilian population. Acknowledging the seriousness of the problem, Egypt also initiated its own blockade of Gaza along the Rafah crossing in 2007.

Over the course of its blockade, Israeli forces have diverted nine such flotillas, all without incident. The same was true for five of the six ships in this flotilla. They were commandeered peacefully and directed to the Israeli port of Ashdod. However, those aboard the largest ship, Mavi Marmara, violently resisted. As dramatic video depicts, the passengers on the ship attacked Israeli soldiers with clubs, metal rods, and iron bars as they attempted to board the ship. The soldiers were brutally beaten and one even thrown off the top deck. With their lives threatened, Israeli forces used necessary force as an act of self-defense and of last resort.

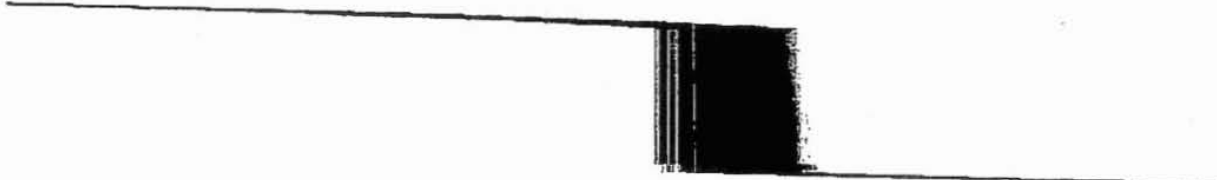
The several dozen who attacked the Israeli soldiers were not peaceful aid workers, but extremists who sought to aid the Iran-backed terrorist Hamas regime in Gaza. Days before, as broadcast on al-Jazeera, they proclaimed their willingness to be martyrs for the destruction of Israel, revealing a sinister element of premeditated violence. Furthermore, as confirmed by the State Department and intelligence agencies around the world, the Turkish aid group that sent out the flotilla, İnsani Yardım Vakfı (IHH), has met with senior officials of recognized terrorist groups over the last three years.

If the flotilla was truly intent on bringing aid to Gaza, it could have done that. Israeli officials repeatedly offered their ports to harbor the ships and disperse the aid so that it would not go into the hands of corrupt Hamas officials but directly to the people living in Gaza. But the flotilla refused these overtures, instead revealing their intent to break the blockade and sail unchecked into Gaza. As you know, Hamas even refused the aid that was aboard the Mavi Marmara after it was inspected by Israeli officials.

FROM :

FAX NO. : 2488516031

Jun. 20 2010 06:12PM P2



The U.S. should make every effort to thwart international condemnation and focus the international community on the crimes of the Iran-backed Hamas leadership against Israel and the Palestinian people. As Israel faces increased threats, most recently from the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, which announced that it could provide a naval escort to any additional aid ships wishing to reach Gaza, the United States must continue to stand by Israel, one of our strongest allies.

We look forward to working with you on these vital issues affecting the U.S.-Israel relationship.

TED POE  
Member of Congress  
TEXAS

Sincerely,

GARY PETERS  
Member of Congress  
MICHIGAN



THE WHITE HOUSE  
DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT AND  
TRACKING WORKSHEET



DATE RECEIVED: June 25, 2010

CASE ID: 1054478

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE TED ROE

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO DEFEND ITSELF AND URGES THE PRESIDENT TO REMAIN STEADFAST IN THE DEFENSE OF ISRAEL IN THE FACE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S RUSH TO UNFAIRLY JUDGE AND CONDEMN ISRAEL IN INTERNATIONAL FORA SUCH AS THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL.

ROUTE TO: AGENCY/OFFICE	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		CODE	DATE	TYPE RESPONSE	CODE
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	PHIL SCHILIRO	ORG	05/28/2010		

ACTION COMMENTS:

STATE A 6/29/10

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION COMMENTS:

COMMENTS: 1 ADDL SIGNEE

MEDIA TYPE: EMAIL

USER CODE:

ACTION CODES	TYPE RESPONSE	DISPOSITION	COMPLETED DATE
A = APPROPRIATE ACTION	INITIALS OF SIGNER	DATE RECEIVED OR	DATE OF
B = RESEARCH AND REPORT BACK	STAFF	ACKNOWLEDGED	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
D = DRAFT RESPONSE	NRN - NO RESPONSE NEEDED	STATUS	OF RESPONSE
I = INFO COPY NO ACT NECESSARY	OTB - OVER TAKE BY B/S	EX - EXEMPT REPLY	INMDD
R = DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY			
ORG = ORIGINATING OFFICE			

KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES.  
REFER QUESTIONS TO DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT (802) 456-2590  
SEND ROUTING UPDATES AND COMPLETED RECORDS TO OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT, DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT, ROOM 85, EEOB.

1039471



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-4302  
June 29, 2010

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express our strong support for Israel's right to defend itself. We believe that it is in our national security interest to unequivocally reiterate that the United States stands behind our longtime friend and ally. Further, we urge you to remain steadfast in the defense of Israel in the face of the international community's rush to unfairly judge and condemn Israel in international fora such as the United Nations Security Council. We urge you to continue to use U.S. influence and, if necessary, veto power to prevent any biased or one-sided resolutions from passing.

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Over the course of its blockade, Israeli forces have diverted nine such flotillas, all without incident. The same was true for five of the six ships in this flotilla. They were commandeered peacefully and directed to the Israeli port of Ashdod. However, those aboard the largest ship, the Mavi Marmara, violently resisted. As dramatic video depicts, the passengers on the ship attacked Israeli soldiers with clubs, metal rods, and iron bars as they attempted to board the ship. The soldiers were brutally beaten and one was even thrown off the top deck. With their lives threatened, Israeli forces used necessary force as an act of self-defense and of last resort.

The several dozen who attacked the Israeli soldiers were not peaceful aid workers, but extremists who sought to aid the Iran-backed terrorist Hamas regime in Gaza. Days before, as broadcast on al-Jazeera, they proclaimed their willingness to be martyrs for the destruction of Israel, revealing a sinister element of premeditated violence. Furthermore, as confirmed by the State Department and intelligence agencies around the world, the Turkish aid group that sent out the flotilla, Insani Yardim Vakfi (IHH), has met with senior officials of recognized terrorist groups over the last three years.

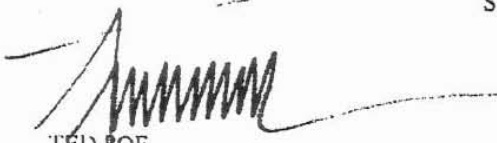
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The U.S. should make every effort to thwart international condemnation and focus the international community on the crimes of the Iran-backed Hamas leadership against Israel and the Palestinian people. As Israel faces increased threats, most recently from the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, which announced that it could provide a naval escort to any additional aid ships wishing to reach Gaza, the United States must continue to stand by Israel, one of our strongest allies.

We look forward to working with you on these vital issues affecting the U.S.-Israel relationship.

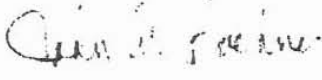
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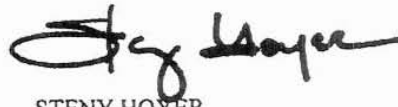
TED POE  
Member of Congress



GARY PETERS  
Member of Congress



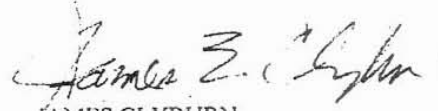
JOHN BOEHNER  
Member of Congress



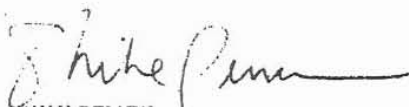
STENY HOYER  
Member of Congress



ERIC CANTOR  
Member of Congress



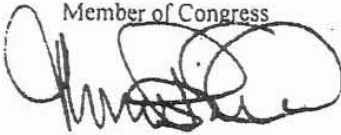
JAMES CLYBURN  
Member of Congress



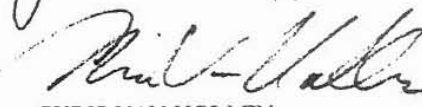
MIKE PENCE  
Member of Congress




JOHN LARSON  
Member of Congress




TOM PRICE  
Member of Congress





CHRIS VAN HOLLEN  
Member of Congress

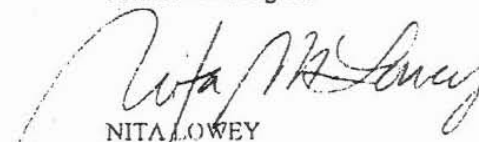
  
HLEANA ROS-LEHTINEN  
Member of Congress

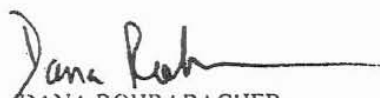
  
HOWARD BERMAN  
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DAN BURTON  
Member of Congress

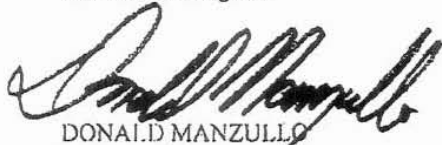
  
GARY ACKERMAN  
Member of Congress


  
CONNIE MACK  
Member of Congress


  
NITA LOWEY  
Member of Congress

  
DANA ROHRABACHER  
Member of Congress

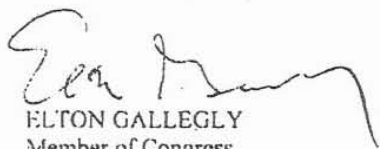
  
BRAD SHERMAN  
Member of Congress

  
DONALD MANZULLO  
Member of Congress

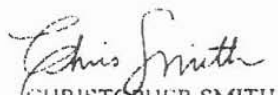
  
ELIOT ENGEL  
Member of Congress

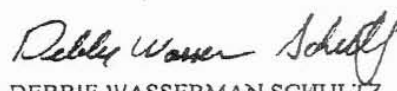
  
EDWARD ROYCE  
Member of Congress

  
IKE SKELTON  
Member of Congress

  
ELTON GALLEGLY  
Member of Congress

  
SHELLEY BERKLEY  
Member of Congress

  
CHRISTOPHER SMITH  
Member of Congress

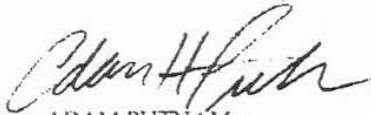
  
DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ  
Member of Congress



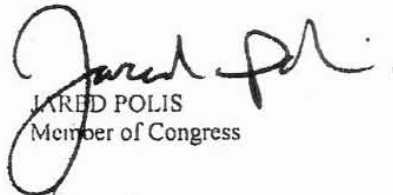
GRESHAM BARRETT  
Member of Congress



ANDER CRENSHAW  
Member of Congress



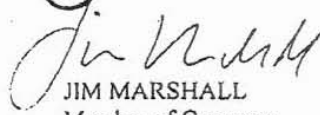
ADAM PUTNAM  
Member of Congress



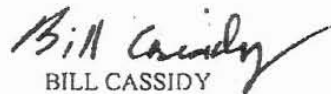
JARED POLIS  
Member of Congress



ADRIAN SMITH  
Member of Congress



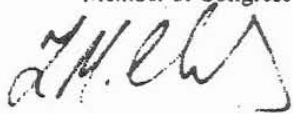
JIM MARSHALL  
Member of Congress



BILL CASSIDY  
Member of Congress



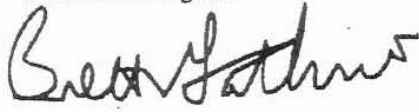
PETER ROSKAM  
Member of Congress



TOM McCLINTOCK  
Member of Congress



AARON SCHOCK  
Member of Congress



BRETT GUTHRIE  
Member of Congress



LOUIE GOHMERT  
Member of Congress



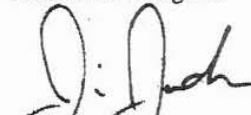
LARKY KISSELL  
Member of Congress




BRAD ELLSWORTH  
Member of Congress

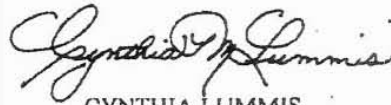


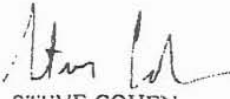
PETE OLSON  
Member of Congress

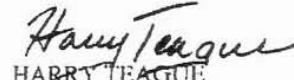


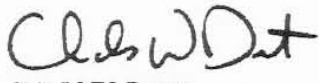
JIM JORDAN  
Member of Congress


  
FRANK WOLF  
Member of Congress


  
CYNTHIA LUMMIS  
Member of Congress


  
STEVE COHEN  
Member of Congress

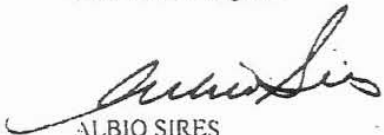
  
HARRY TEAGUE  
Member of Congress

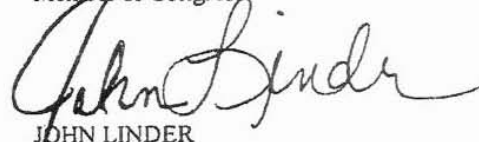
  
CHARLES DENT  
Member of Congress

  
DEVIN NUNES  
Member of Congress

  
JOE SESTAK  
Member of Congress


  
JOHN FLEMING  
Member of Congress

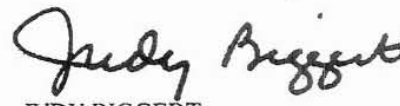
  
ALBIO SIRES  
Member of Congress

  
JOHN LINDER  
Member of Congress


  
YVETTE CLARKE  
Member of Congress

  
MARK KIRK  
Member of Congress

  
JASON CHAFFETZ  
Member of Congress

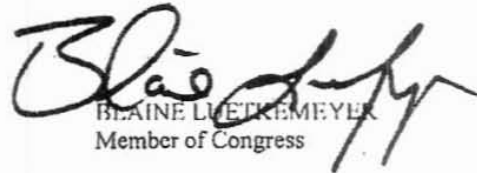
  
JUDY BIGGERT  
Member of Congress

  
KENDRICK MEEK  
Member of Congress

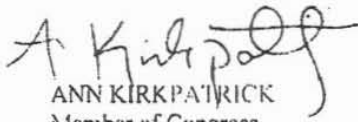
  
GEOFF DAVIS  
Member of Congress



PAUL RYAN  
Member of Congress



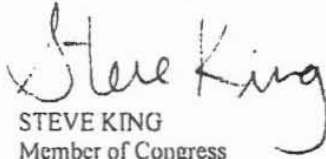
BLAINE LUETKEMEYER  
Member of Congress



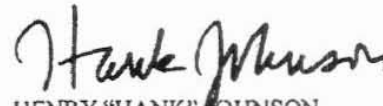
ANN KIRKPATRICK  
Member of Congress



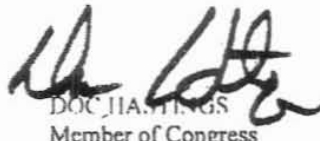
GUS BILIRAKIS  
Member of Congress



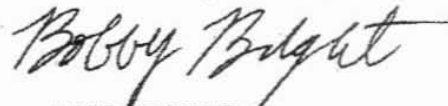
STEVE KING  
Member of Congress



HENRY "HANK" JOHNSON  
Member of Congress



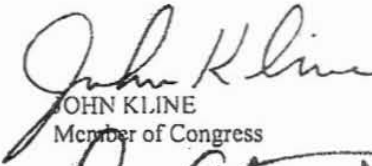
DOC HASTINGS  
Member of Congress



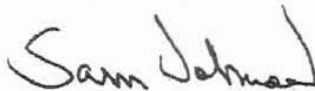
BOBBY BRIGHT  
Member of Congress



TIMOTHY JOHNSON  
Member of Congress



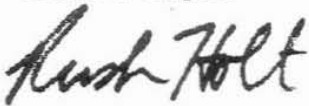
JOHN KLINE  
Member of Congress



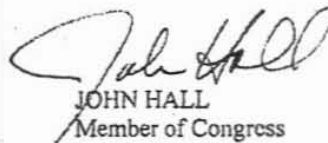
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LYNN WESTMORELAND  
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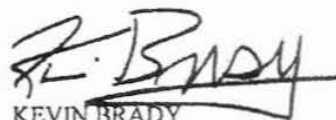
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JOHN HALL  
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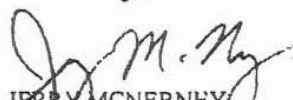
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KEVIN BRADY  
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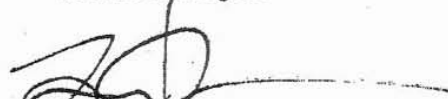
  
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FRANK KRATOVIL  
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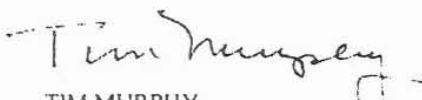
  
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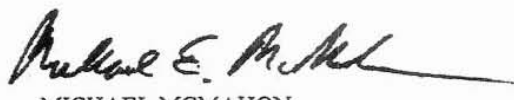
  
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KATHY CASTOR  
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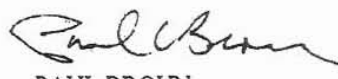
  
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KAY GRANGER  
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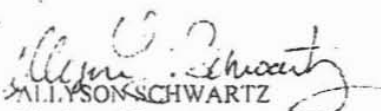
  
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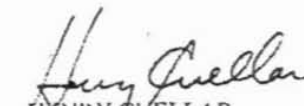
  
MARIO DIAZ-BALART  
Member of Congress





  
ALLYSON SCHWARTZ  
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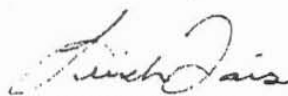
  
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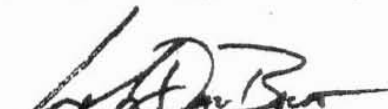
  
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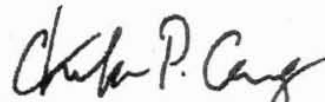
  
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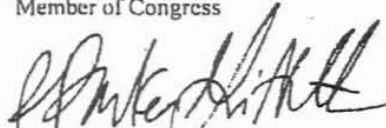
  
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LINCOLN DAVIS  
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CHRISTOPHER CARNEY  
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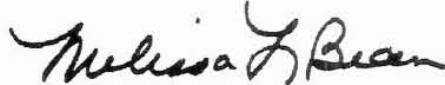
  
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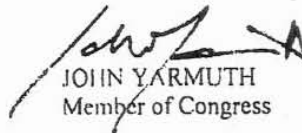
  
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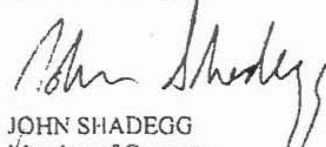
  
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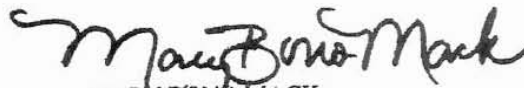
  
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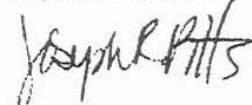
  
DOUG LAMBORN  
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JOHN SULLIVAN  
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BOB INGLIS  
Member of Congress


  
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MARY BONO MACK  
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RICK LARSEN  
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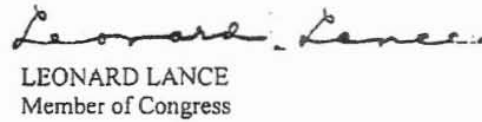
  
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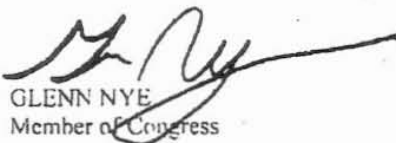
  
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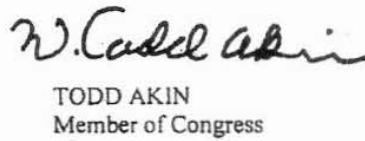
  
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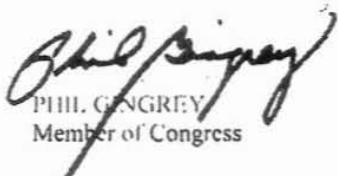
  
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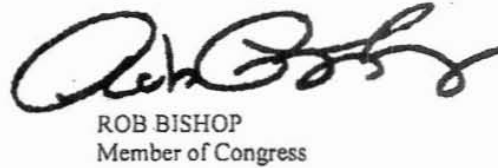
  
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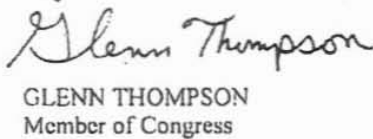
  
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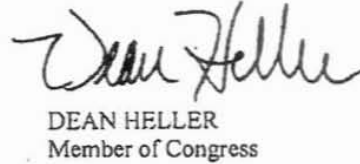
  
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GLENN THOMPSON  
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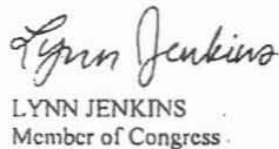
  
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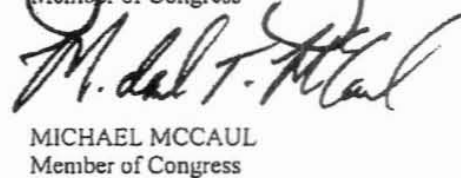
  
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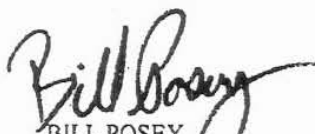
  
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PAUL TONKO  
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JEFF HENSARLING  
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LYNN JENKINS  
Member of Congress


  
MICHAEL MCCAUL  
Member of Congress

  
BILL POSEY  
Member of Congress

  
MIKE ROGERS  
Member of Congress

  
SCOTT GARRETT  
Member of Congress


  
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JOE WILSON  
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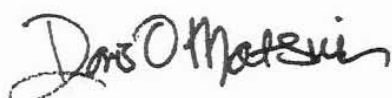
  
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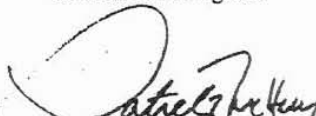
  
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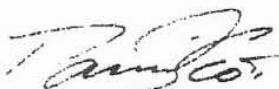
  
DAN BOREN  
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MARSHA BLACKBURN  
Member of Congress

  
VERN BUCHANAN  
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DORIS MATSUI  
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PATRICK MCHENRY  
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DAVID SCOTT  
Member of Congress

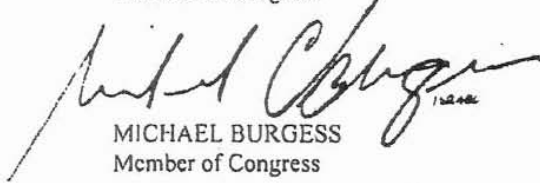
  
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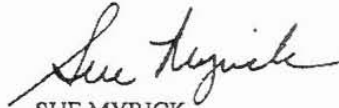
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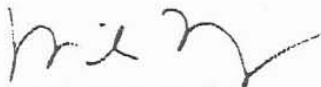
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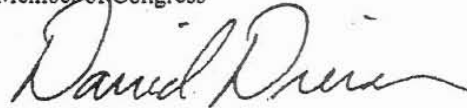
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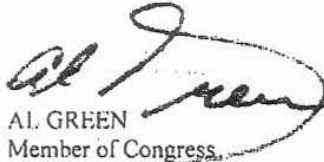
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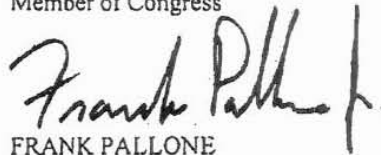
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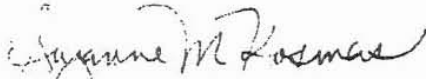
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AL GREEN  
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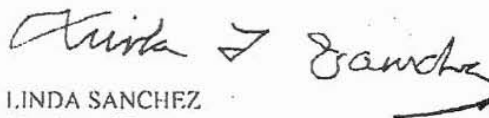
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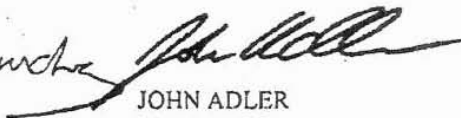
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JEFF FLAKE  
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LINDA SANCHEZ  
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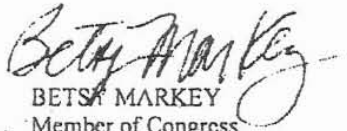
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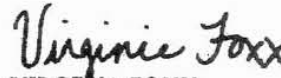
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ALLEN BOYD  
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BETSY MARKEY  
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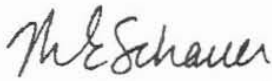
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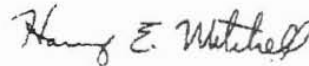
  
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CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS  
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BILL FOSTER  
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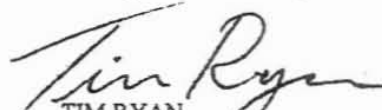
  
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MARK SCHAUER  
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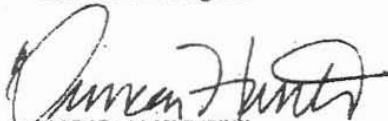
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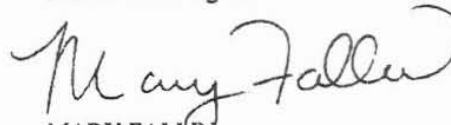
  
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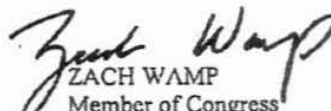
  
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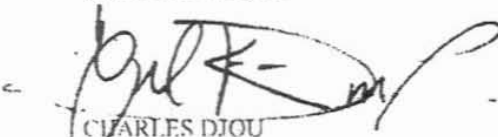
  
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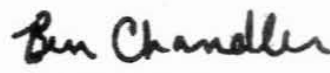
  
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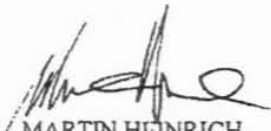
  
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ROBERT ADERHOLT  
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ZACH WAMP  
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CHARLES DJOU  
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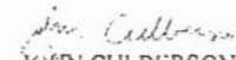
  
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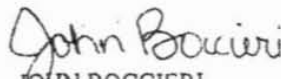
  
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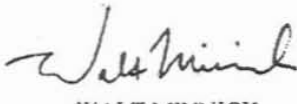
  
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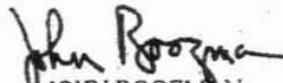
  
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MARCIA FUDGE  
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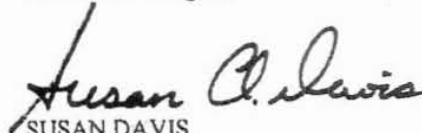
  
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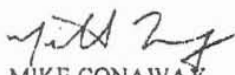
  
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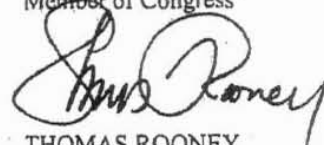
  
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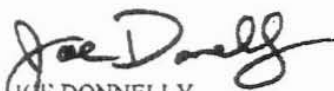
  
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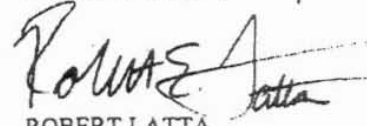
  
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SUSAN DAVIS  
Member of Congress


  
MIKE CONAWAY  
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THOMAS ROONEY  
Member of Congress

  
JOE DONNELLY  
Member of Congress

  
ROBERT LATTA  
Member of Congress

  
JEFF FORTENBERRY  
Member of Congress

  
JIM COOPER  
Member of Congress

*Debbie Halvorson*  
DEBBIE HALVORSON  
Member of Congress

*Alan Grayson*  
ALAN GRAYSON  
Member of Congress

*Patrick Murphy*  
PATRICK MURPHY  
Member of Congress

*Grace F. Napolitano*  
GRACE NAPOLITANO  
Member of Congress

*Dan Maffei*  
DAN MAFFEI  
Member of Congress

*Thaddeus McCotter*  
THADDEUS MCCOTTER  
Member of Congress

*Steve Austria*  
STEVE AUSTRIA  
Member of Congress

*Travis Childers*  
TRAVIS CHILDERS  
Member of Congress

*Russ Carnahan*  
RUSS CARNAHAN  
Member of Congress

*Christopher Lee*  
CHRISTOPHER LEE  
Member of Congress

*Daniel I. Lipinski*  
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*Betty Sutton*  
BETTY SUTTON  
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*Tim Walz*  
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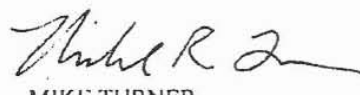
*Mike Michaud*  
MIKE MICHAUD  
Member of Congress

*Dennis Moore*  
DENNIS MOORE  
Member of Congress

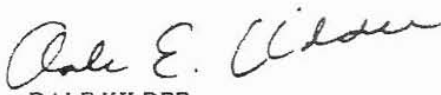
*Gabrielle Giffords*  
GABRIELLE GIFFORDS  
Member of Congress



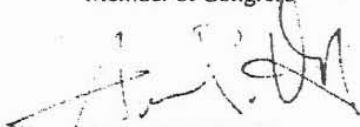
  
DAVID REICHERT  
Member of Congress


  
MIKE TURNER  
Member of Congress

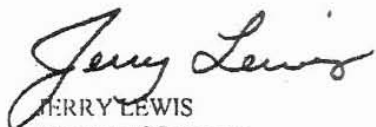
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Member of Congress

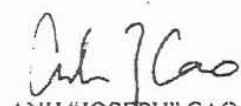
  
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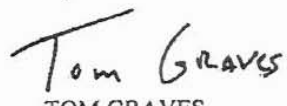
  
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Member of Congress


  
SOLOMON ORTIZ  
Member of Congress

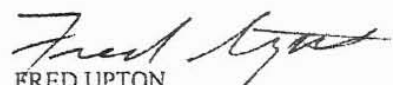
  
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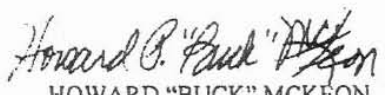
  
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Member of Congress

  
ANH "JOSEPH" CAO  
Member of Congress

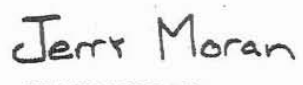
  
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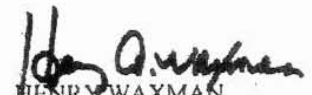
  
VERNON EHLERS  
Member of Congress


  
FRED UPTON  
Member of Congress


  
HOWARD "BUCK" MCKEON  
Member of Congress

  
KEN CALVERT  
Member of Congress


  
JERRY MORAN  
Member of Congress

  
HENRY WAXMAN  
Member of Congress

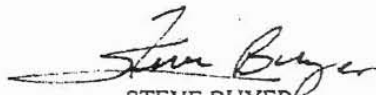
  
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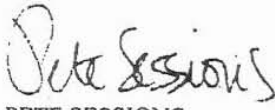
  
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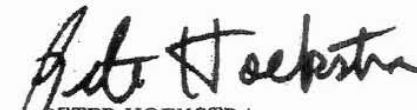
  
LAURA RICHARDSON  
Member of Congress


  
TOM LATHAM  
Member of Congress


  
ROY BLUNT  
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STEVE BUYER  
Member of Congress

  
PETE SESSIONS  
Member of Congress

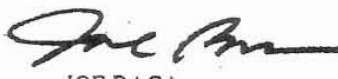
  
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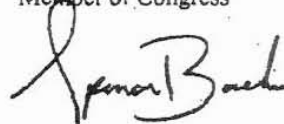
  
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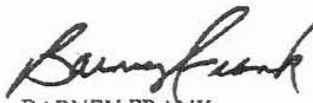
  
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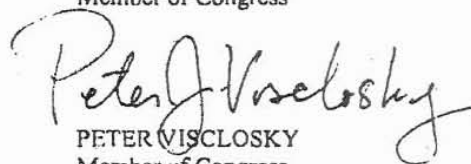
  
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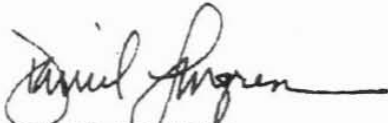
  
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JOE BACA  
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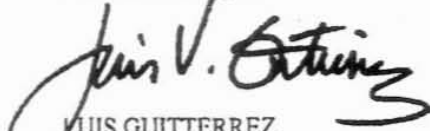
  
SPENCER BACHUS  
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BARNEY FRANK  
Member of Congress

  
PETER VISCLOSKY  
Member of Congress

  
DANIEL LUNGREN  
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ROB ANDREWS  
Member of Congress

  
LUIS GUITTERREZ  
Member of Congress


  
STEVEN ROTHMAN  
Member of Congress

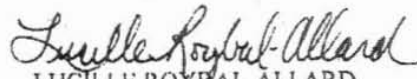
  
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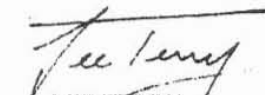
  
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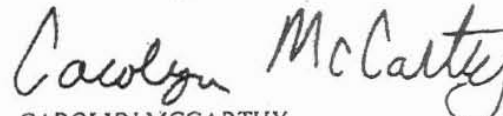
  
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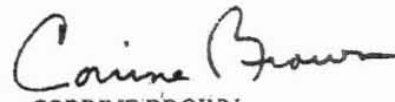
  
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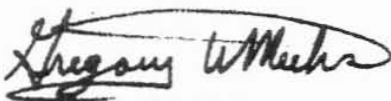
  
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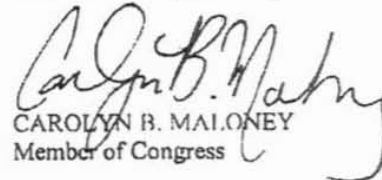
  
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CAROLYN MCCARTHY  
Member of Congress

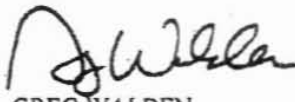
  
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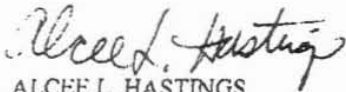
  
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Member of Congress

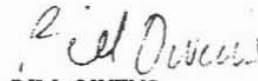
  
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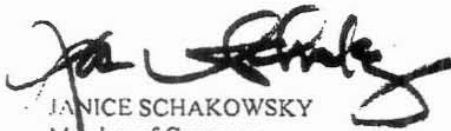
  
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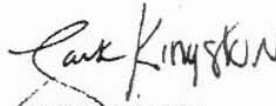
  
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GREG WALDEN  
Member of Congress


  
ALCEE L. HASTINGS  
Member of Congress

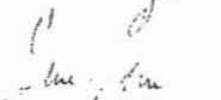
  
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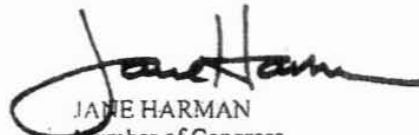
  
JANICE SCHAKOWSKY  
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JACK KINGSTON  
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CHET EDWARDS  
Member of Congress

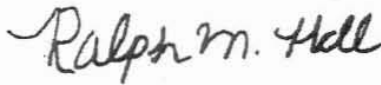
  
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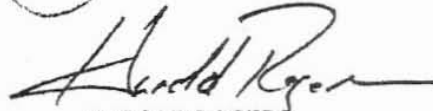
  
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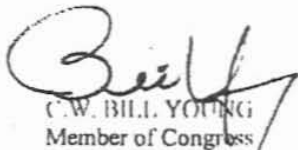
  
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GREGG HARPER  
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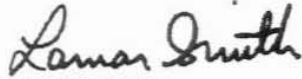
  
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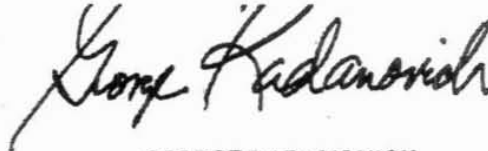
  
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HAROLD ROGERS  
Member of Congress

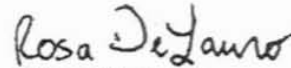
  
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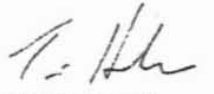
  
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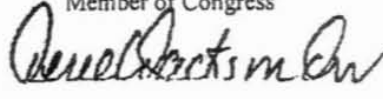
  
LAMAR SMITH  
Member of Congress


  
GEORGE RADANOVICH  
Member of Congress

  
ROSCOE BARTLETT  
Member of Congress

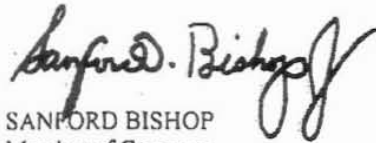
  
ROSA DELAURO  
Member of Congress


  
TIM HOLDEN  
Member of Congress

  
JESSE JACKSON  
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MARK CRITZ  
Member of Congress


  
FRANK LOBIONDO  
Member of Congress

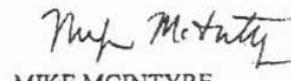
  
SANFORD BISHOP  
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SILVESTRE REYES  
Member of Congress

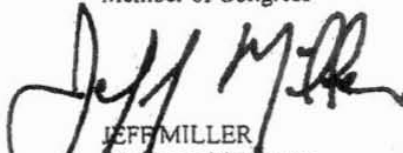
  
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TRENT FRANKS  
Member of Congress


  
MIKE ROSS  
Member of Congress

  
MIKE MCINTYRE  
Member of Congress

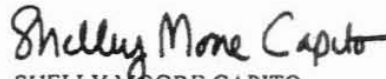
  
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JEFF MILLER  
Member of Congress


  
JO ANN EMERSON  
Member of Congress

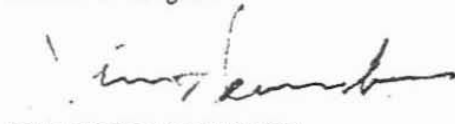
  
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RODNEY FRELINGHUYSEN  
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SHELLY MOORE CAPITO  
Member of Congress

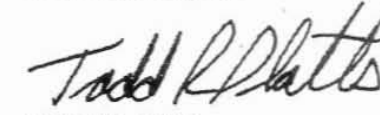
  
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DENNY REHBERG  
Member of Congress


  
JAMES SENSENBRENNER  
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JOHN SHIMKUS  
Member of Congress

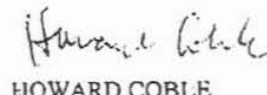
  
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TODD PLATTS  
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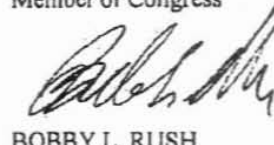
  
STEVE ISRAEL  
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TOM COLE  
Member of Congress


  
JOHN GARAMENDI  
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HOWARD COBLE  
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LOUISE SLAUGHTER  
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BOBBY L. RUSH  
Member of Congress

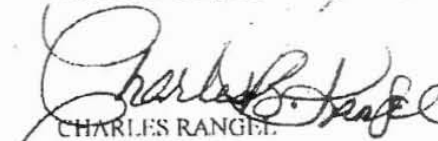
  
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BRAD MILLER  
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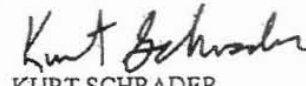
  
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BARON HILL  
Member of Congress

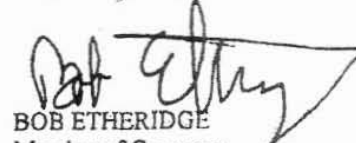
  
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CHARLES RANGEL  
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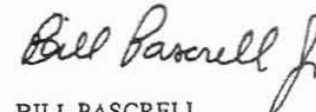
  
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KURT SCHRADER  
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PAUL HODES  
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BOB ETHERIDGE  
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ROBERT WITTMAN  
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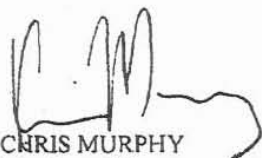
  
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EDWARD MARKEY  
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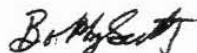
  
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PHOLPHUS TOWNS  
Member of Congress

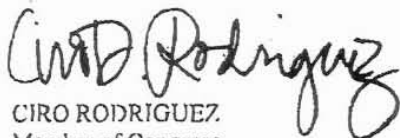
  
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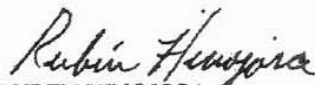
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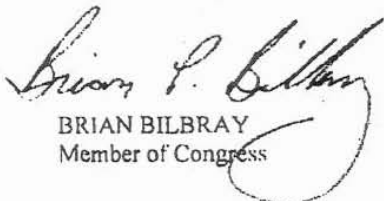
BOBBY SCOTT  
Member of Congress



CIRO RODRIGUEZ  
Member of Congress



RUBEN HINOJOSA  
Member of Congress



BRIAN BILBRAY  
Member of Congress



GINNY BROWN-WAITE  
Member of Congress



MARY JO KILROY  
Member of Congress



BENNIE THOMPSON  
Member of Congress



CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive

Page 1 of 3

RELEASE IN PART  
B6

From: svcsmartmfi  
Sent: 7/1/2009 5:44:03 AM  
To: SMART Core  
Subject: ARREST, CASE OF KATHERINE ELLIOT SHEETZ

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Archie Bolster,  
Senior Reviewer

UNCLASSIFIED



MRN: 09 TEL AVIV 1405  
Date/DTG: Jul 01, 2009 / 010918Z JUL 09  
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE, PRIORITY  
TAGS: CASC, PHUM, MOPS, EWWT, KWBG, IS  
Pass Line: CA/OCS/ACS/NESA NEA/IPA\_ACSIP\_TLV200918221080578\_ACSIP  
Subject: ARREST, CASE OF [REDACTED]

B6

DE RUEHTV #1405 1820918  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 010918Z JUL 09  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2379  
INFO RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 2281  
RUEHNC/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA 1474  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 4220

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 001405

CA/OCS/ACS/NESA  
NEA/IPA  
\_ACSIP\_TLV200918221080578\_ACSIP

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: CASC, PHUM, MOPS, EWWT, KWBG, IS [REDACTED]  
SUBJECT: ARREST, CASE OF [REDACTED]

1. NAME: [REDACTED]

2. SEX: Female

3. DPOB: [REDACTED]

4. PASSPORT: [REDACTED]

5. OTHER NATIONALITIES, IF ANY, AND HOW ACQUIRED: None  
USUAL COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: U.S.A.  
NATIONALITY OF PASSPORT USED TO ENTER COUNTRY OF ARREST: U.S.A.

6. LAST KNOWN U.S. ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive

Page 1 of 3

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive

Page 2 of 3

7. DATE/PLACE OF ARREST: June 30, 2009, Ashdod Port, Israel
8. CONDITION OF ARRESTEE: Normal
9. CHARGES: Immigration Violation
10. PLACE OF DETENTION: Ben Gurion Airport Immigration Detention Center
11. JUDICIAL STATUS: Pending Deportation

12. TRIAL/HEARING DATE: A hearing is scheduled for July 01, 2009 at the Ben Gurion Immigration Detention facility, Ministry of the Interior.

14. ATTORNEY: Yes. Ms. Gaby Lasky, tel: 972-544-418-988.

15. PRIVACY ACT WAIVER: On 07/01/09, subject signed a PAW to include family and friends.

16. NOK: Children: [REDACTED]

B6

17. NOTIFICATION: On 06/30/09, a representative of the Free Gaza Movement contacted Post to advise that subject and three other Amcits were detained at sea by the Israeli Navy. Also notified by Israel Navy through DAO.

18. ACCESS: On 07/01/09, Post's Dutyoff/Conoff visited subject at the Ben Gurion Immigration Detention Center.

19. OTHER AMERICANS ARRESTED: Three other Amcits were detained:

[REDACTED]  
(see septels).

20. MISTREATMENT: None.

21. PROPERTY CONFISCATED: None.

22. JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS: Later today.  
- SENTENCE: Deportation is expected.

24. REMARKS: On 06/29/09, subject boarded the Free Gaza boat "Spirit of Humanity" containing 3 tons of medical aid, children's toys, and rehabilitation and reconstruction kits for twenty family homes. Also aboard the boat were twenty-one multinational human rights activists from eleven different countries, including four Amcits. The passengers included Nobel laureate [REDACTED] and former [REDACTED]. According to media reports, Cypriot officials allowed the boat to leave Larnaca Port because the captain stated his destination as Port Said, Egypt. However, on 06/30/09, the boat was intercepted at sea by Israeli Naval Forces enroute to Gaza. Subsequently, the boat was boarded, seized and towed to the Ashdod Port, where it docked at approximately 21:00 local time, and the passengers were taken into custody by MOI officials.

At 0200 on 07/01/09, Post's Dutyoff/Conoff met with subject for approximately ten minutes at the BG detention facility. Subject was visibly tired but in good spirits. Her only stated concern was about arrangements for her trip home. Subject signed a Privacy Act Waiver for family and friends only.

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive

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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive

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Subject, along with [REDACTED] is expected to be deported to the U.S. later today.

B6

25. CONTACTING NOK OR OTHERS: Subject did not request Embassy assistance in contacting friends and family.

Cunningham

**Signature:**

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**Info:** JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL, *PRIORITY*; NICOSIA, AMEMBASSY, *ROUTINE*; CAIRO, AMEMBASSY, *ROUTINE*

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**Dissemination Rule:** Archive Copy

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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED  
SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive  
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RELEASE IN PART  
B6

From: svcsmartmfi  
Sent: 7/2/2009 10:36:06 AM  
To: SMART Core  
Subject: FREE GAZA--AMCITS STILL DETAINED IN ISRAEL

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Archie Bolster, Senior Reviewer

UNCLASSIFIED



MRN: 09 TEL AVIV 1435  
Date/DTG: Jul 02, 2009 / 021357Z JUL 09  
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE, ROUTINE  
TAGS: CASC, PHUM, MOPS, EWWT, KWBG, IS  
Reference: A) TEL AVIV 1405 B) TEL AVIV 1423 C) TEL AVIV 1421 D) TEL AVIV  
Pass Line: DEPT FOR CA/OCS/ACS and NEA/IPA  
Subject: FREE GAZA--AMCITS STILL DETAINED IN ISRAEL

DE RUEHTV #1435/01 1831357  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 021357Z JUL 09  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2425  
INFO RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 2302  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 4233  
RUEHNC/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA 1481

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 001435

DEPT FOR CA/OCS/ACS and NEA/IPA

E.O. 12958:N/A  
TAGS: CASC, PHUM, MOPS, EWWT, KWBG, IS

SUBJECT: FREE GAZA--AMCITS STILL DETAINED IN ISRAEL

REF: A) TEL AVIV 1405 B) TEL AVIV 1423 C) TEL AVIV 1421 D) TEL AVIV  
1424 E) TEL AVIV 1425 F) TEL AVIV 1426

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: More than 36 hours after their arrest, three of the four Amcits who were on board the Free Gaza boat "Spirit of Humanity" remain in immigration detention. The fourth, a dual American-Israeli national, was freed less than a day later. Post continues to closely monitor the case and will visit the detained Amcits this afternoon. END SUMMARY.

2. In Larnaca on June 29, 2009 twenty-one human rights activists from eleven different countries boarded the Free Gaza boat "Spirit of Humanity," which was carrying medical and other supplies for Gazans. Of the twenty-one activists, four were Amcits. Cypriot officials allowed the "Spirit of Humanity" to depart Larnaca that

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SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive

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day based upon its stated destination, Port Said, Egypt. The second boat the Free Gaza group had planned to use was not permitted to depart.

3. On June 30, 2009, the Israeli Navy intercepted, seized and escorted the boat to, and detained the passengers and crew at an Ashdod port facility. At 21:00 June 30th, Post's duty officer attempted to, and was denied, access to the four Amcits. About 22:30, the Israeli Navy turned three of the Amcits, [redacted] over to the Ministry of the Interior (MOI); the Navy held onto the fourth Amcit, [redacted] who is the spouse of [redacted] and an Israeli. The Navy later notified post that [redacted] had been held at Ashdod until noon on July 1; at that time she was released and dropped off at the Ashdod central bus station.

B6

4. The MOI continued to detain the other three Amcits. Before they were transferred to Ben Gurion's immigration detention facility, they, along with the other Free Gaza passengers and crew, underwent a "short process" at the immigration and deportation main office in Holon, which is between Ashdod and Tel Aviv. At 02:00 July 1, Post's duty officer succeeded in being able to visit all three Amcits at Ben Gurion Airport's immigration detention facility. The duty officer found the three Amcits tired, but in good health. All said to him that they had been able to have something to eat and drink and that they were being treated well. During their visit with the duty officer, each one of them signed a Privacy Act Waiver (PAW), details of which are in refsels A-C.

5. The duty officer spoke to [redacted] a former U.S. Representative, for about 15 minutes. When informed of the Secretary's and the Ambassador's personal interest in her welfare, McKinney appeared to be gratified. She relayed to the duty officer that some personal papers in a folder had been removed from her luggage and requested post's assistance in securing their return. The duty officer then individually spoke with [redacted] for 10 minutes. [redacted] expressed his concern about his digital video and photography equipment and his Mac laptop, which he said had been confiscated by the Israeli Navy. Post's Naval Attache is currently looking into the fate of the two Amcits' personal belongings and the boat's cargo of medical and other supplies intended for Gazans.

6. From 14:00 to 16:30 July 1, an ACS officer was able to visit [redacted] at Ben Gurion Airport's immigration detention facility; both were in good health and spirits. The third Amcit, [redacted] was not available for a visit at this time. During ACS officer's visit, the detainees had been in the process of being moved to the Givon immigration detention facility in nearby Ramle (south of the airport). Between 17:00 and 19:00 that day, McKinney and Sheetz were moved to the Givon immigration detention facility. [redacted]'s whereabouts were unknown at this time. At 21:00, ACS reached Israel Prison Authority officials, who confirmed that all three Amcits were at Givon.

7. On the morning of July 2, Post spoke with the GOI's Immigration Liaison for Foreign Missions at the MOI, [redacted] for an update on the status of [redacted]. [redacted] stated that all three had refused to sign the deportation agreement and that because of their refusals, the GOI was unable to deport them from Israel for three days.

[NOTE: According to GOI regulations, a person cannot be deported for three days unless they voluntarily agree. The hitch is that a deportation entails a ten-year ban on entering Israel in the absence

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of a special waiver. If, at any time during the three-day period, a person decides to sign the deportation agreement, s/he can then be deported immediately.]

8. Also on July 2, Post spoke with the Amcits' Israeli attorney, Gaby Lasky. Lasky is attempting to broker an agreement with the GOI that would enable the Amcits to agree to deportation. In addition, they are insisting that their personal belongings be returned and that they fly directly to Cyprus at GOI expense. Post also touched base with [redacted] s parents and [redacted] who said he was [redacted] s boyfriend. Post was unable to reach [redacted] s husband, [redacted] and left several messages. [redacted] as far as we know, has not yet been in touch with his wife, who was released yesterday.

9. Concerned about the manner in which [redacted] was released -by being dropped off at the Ashdod Central Bus station, Post and ConGen Jerusalem attempted to discern her whereabouts in order to contact her directly. Through ConGen Jerusalem's calls to her friends, it was learned that [redacted] had gone to the West Bank from Ashdod. Yesterday Al-Jazeera interviewed her in Ramallah; she is now trying to rally public and legal support for the remaining Free Gaza detainees. [redacted] remains unreachable since her own cell-phone may have either been confiscated or is not being answered.

9. Post is to visit [redacted] for a third time this afternoon. Post may also visit them Friday morning, before Shabbat begins. Also this afternoon, Post learned from [redacted] that unless the three Amcits sign the deportation agreements by 16:00 local time today, they will not be deported until Sunday (due to Shabbat).

CUNNINGHAM

**Signature:**

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**Info:** JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL, *ROUTINE* ; CAIRO, AMEMBASSY, *ROUTINE* ; NICOSIA, AMEMBASSY, *ROUTINE*

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SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive  
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RELEASE IN PART  
B6

REVIEW AUTHORITY:  
Archie Bolster, Senior  
Reviewer

From: svcsmartmfi  
Sent: 7/1/2009 9:40:05 AM  
To: SMART Core  
Subject: ARREST, CASE OF [redacted]

B6

UNCLASSIFIED



MRN: 09 TEL AVIV 1421  
Date/DTG: Jul 01, 2009 / 011313Z JUL 09  
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE, PRIORITY  
TAGS: CASC, PHUM, MOPS, EWWT, KWBG, IS  
Pass Line: CA/OCS/ACS/NESA  
Subject: ARREST, CASE OF [redacted]

DE RUEHTV #1421/01 1821313  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 011313Z JUL 09  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2404  
INFO RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 2288  
RUEHNC/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA 1475  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 4221

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 001421

CA/OCS/ACS/NESA

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: CASC, PHUM, MOPS, EWWT, KWBG, IS [redacted]  
SUBJECT: ARREST, CASE OF [redacted]

1. NAME: [redacted]

2. SEX: Male

[redacted]

5. OTHER NATIONALITIES, IF ANY, AND HOW ACQUIRED: None  
USUAL COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: U.S.A.  
NATIONALITY OF PASSPORT USED TO ENTER COUNTRY OF ARREST: U.S.A.

6. LAST KNOWN U.S. ADDRESS: [redacted]

7. DATE/PLACE OF ARREST: June 30, 2009, Ashdod Port, Israel

8. CONDITION OF ARRESTEE: Normal

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SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive  
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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive

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9. CHARGES: Immigration Violation

10. PLACE OF DETENTION: Ben Gurion Airport Immigration Detention Center.

11. JUDICIAL STATUS: Pending Deportation

12. TRIAL/HEARING DATE: A hearing is scheduled for July 01, 2009 at the Ben Gurion Immigration Detention facility, Ministry of the Interior.

14. ATTORNEY: Ms. Gaby Lasky, tel: 972-54-441-8998

15. PRIVACY ACT WAIVER: On 07/01/09, subject signed a PAW to include family, friends, members of Congress, and media.

16. NOK: Parents: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

17. NOTIFICATION: On 06/30/09, a representative of the Free Gaza Movement contacted Post to advise that subject and three other Amcits were detained at sea by the Israeli Navy. Also notified by Israel Navy through DAO.

18. ACCESS: At 0200 07/01/09, Post's Dutyoff/Conoff visited subject at the Ben Gurion Immigration Detention Center.

19. OTHER AMERICANS ARRESTED: Three other Amcits were detained:

[REDACTED] (see septels).

20. MISTREATMENT: None.

21. PROPERTY CONFISCATED: Digital video camera, digital stills camera, Macintosh laptop.

22. JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS: Later today.

- SENTENCE: Deportation is expected.

24. REMARKS: On 06/29/09, subject boarded the Free Gaza boat "Spirit of Humanity" containing 3 tons of medical aid, children's toys, and rehabilitation and reconstruction kits for twenty family homes. Also aboard the boat were twenty-one multinational human rights activists from eleven different countries, including four Amcits. The passengers included Nobel laureate [REDACTED] and former [REDACTED]. According to media reports, Cypriot officials allowed the boat to leave Larnaca Port because the captain stated his destination as Port Said, Egypt. However, on 06/30/09, the boat was intercepted at sea by Israeli Naval Forces enroute to Gaza. Subsequently, the boat was boarded, seized and towed to the Ashdod Port, where it docked at approximately 21:00 local time, and the passengers were taken into custody by MOI officials.

On 07/01/09, Post's Dutyoff/Conoff met with subject for approximately ten minutes at the BG detention facility. Subject was in good health, tired, but in good spirits. He expressed concern of the detention of two citizen from Bahrain and one from Yemen, owing to the fact that their home countries do not have representation in Israel. According to subject, the Yemenee man is a camera man for Aljezeera. Subject also told Conoff that his wife, [REDACTED] a dual Israeli/Amcit, was separated from the rest of the group and was being treated as an Israeli. Post

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is attempting to locate her current whereabouts. Subject signed the Privacy Act Waiver.

Subject, along with [REDACTED] is expected to be deported to the U.S. later today.

B6

25. CONTACTING NOK OR OTHERS: Subject did not request Embassy assistance in contacting friends and family.

Cunningham

**Signature:**

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**Info:** JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL, *PRIORITY*; NICOSIA, AMEMBASSY, *ROUTINE*; CAIRO, AMEMBASSY, *ROUTINE*

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RELEASE IN PART  
B6

From: svcsmartmf  
Sent: 7/7/2009 12:06:10 PM  
To: SMART Core  
Subject: FREE GAZA--AMCITS RELEASED FROM ISRAELI DETENTION CENTERS

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Archie Bolster, Senior  
Reviewer

UNCLASSIFIED



MRN: 09 TEL AVIV 1485  
Date/DTG: Jul 07, 2009 / 071311Z JUL 09  
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE, ROUTINE  
TAGS: CASC, PHUM, MOPS, EWWT, KWBG, IS  
Reference: A) TEL AVIV 1405 B) TEL AVIV 1423 C) TEL AVIV 1421 D) TEL AVIV  
Pass Line: DEPT FOR CA/OCS/ACS and NEA/IPA  
Subject: FREE GAZA--AMCITS RELEASED FROM ISRAELI DETENTION CENTERS

DE RUEHTV #1485 1881311  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 071311Z JUL 09  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2489  
INFO RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 2328  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 4255  
RUEHNC/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA 1488

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 001485

DEPT FOR CA/OCS/ACS and NEA/IPA

E.O. 12958:N/A  
TAGS: CASC, PHUM, MOPS, EWWT, KWBG, IS

SUBJECT: FREE GAZA--AMCITS RELEASED FROM ISRAELI DETENTION CENTERS

REF: A) TEL AVIV 1405 B) TEL AVIV 1423 C) TEL AVIV 1421 D) TEL AVIV  
1424 E) TEL AVIV 1425 F) TEL AVIV 1426 G) TEL AVIV 1435 H) TEL AVIV  
1472 I) TEL AVIV 1473 J) TEL AVIV 1474

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: One week after their detention (as described in RefTel G), all four Amcits on board the Free Gaza boat "Spirit of Humanity" have been released from Israeli immigration detention. The first one, a dual Israeli-American national, was freed a day after her arrest. The remaining three were finally allowed to board flights to the United States on July 7th. Post monitored this case closely, day and night, throughout the week-long detention and visited the three detained Amcits four times. END SUMMARY.

2. Since June 30th, the MOI had been detaining three Amcits who

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were on board the Free Gaza boat "Spirit of Humanity" when it was escorted by the Israeli Navy to Ashdod port: [redacted] (see RefTel G for more details). [redacted] spent a week transferring several times between the Ben Gurion Airport Immigration Detention Facility and the Givon Immigration Detention Facility, in Ramle (which is just south of Ben Gurion Airport).

3. ACS staff visited the Amcits a total of four times during their week-long detention: on July 2 and 3 at Givon, and on July 1 and 5 at Ben Gurion. On the final July 5 visit, [redacted] expressed pleasure at the prospect of returning home and thanked our ACS staff for their assistance during the week. All were in good health and spirits. [Note: Conditions in the detention centers were basic but good, with adequate food, access to showers and opportunities to spend time in the courtyard.] They reported that, with the exception [redacted]'s folder containing some personal papers, their personal items had been returned to them. [redacted] requested that, if feasible, Post try to have the folder returned to her.

4. On the evening of July 5, the GOI's Immigration Liaison for Foreign Missions at the MOI, [redacted] informed Post that the Amcits would be voluntarily deported the next day. However, the three departures planned for July 6 were delayed for still-unknown reasons. Eventually, [redacted] was deported on July 6 at 16:00 via El Al flight LY 011 to New York, arriving at midnight local time. [redacted] were deported on July 7 at 01:00, via El Al flight LY001 to New York, arriving at 06:00 local time that same day.

5. The GOI confirms that [redacted] have been "expelled" from Israel and will not be allowed to re-enter for ten years. If any one of them wants to travel to Israel during the next ten years, they will need to seek the assistance of an Israeli attorney, who would then file an appeal on their behalf. If the three attempt to re-enter Israel or Gaza via sea with the Free Gaza Movement again, they will be detained and expelled again.

6. [redacted] whose wife is the dual Israeli-American national who was released after one day, mentioned to ACS staff on July 5 that he plans to return in four weeks, after Free Gaza obtains another boat. He did not know either the planned sailing date or the country of departure.

CUNNINGHAM

Signature:

Info: JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL, ROUTINE ; CAIRO, AMEMBASSY, ROUTINE ; NICOSIA, AMEMBASSY, ROUTINE

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SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive  
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RELEASE IN PART  
B6

From: svcsmartmfi  
Sent: 7/1/2009 9:42:02 AM  
To: SMART Core  
Subject: ARREST, CASE OF CYNTHIA MCKINNEY

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Archie Bolster, Senior  
Reviewer

UNCLASSIFIED



MRN: 09 TEL AVIV 1425  
Date/DTG: Jul 01, 2009 / 011315Z JUL 09  
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE, PRIORITY  
TAGS: CASC, PHUM, MOPS, EWWT, KWBG, IS  
Pass Line: CA/OCS/ACS/NESA NEA/IPA \_ACSIP\_TLV200918221085772\_ACSIP  
Subject: ARREST, CASE OF CYNTHIA MCKINNEY

DE RUEHTV #1425 1821315  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 011315Z JUL 09  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2410  
INFO RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 2293  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY 4226  
RUEHNC/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA 1480

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 001425

CA/OCS/ACS/NESA  
NEA/IPA  
\_ACSIP\_TLV200918221085772\_ACSIP

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: CASC, PHUM, MOPS, EWWT, KWBG, IS (MCKINNEY CYNTHIA)  
SUBJECT: ARREST, CASE OF CYNTHIA MCKINNEY

1. NAME: McKinney, Cynthia
2. SEX: Female
3. DPOB:
4. PASSPORT:
5. OTHER NATIONALITIES, IF ANY, AND HOW ACQUIRED: United States Of America  
USUAL COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: U.S.A.  
NATIONALITY OF PASSPORT USED TO ENTER COUNTRY OF ARREST: U.S.A.
6. LAST KNOWN U.S. ADDRESS:

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SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive

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7. DATE/PLACE OF ARREST: June 30, 2009, Ashdod Port, Israel

8. CONDITION OF ARRESTEE: Normal

9. CHARGES: Immigration Violation

10. PLACE OF DETENTION: Ben Gurion Airport Immigration Detention Center

11. JUDICIAL STATUS: Pending Deportation

12. TRIAL/HEARING DATE: A hearing is scheduled for July 01, 2009 at the Ben Gurion Immigration Detention facility, Ministry of the Interior.

14. ATTORNEY: Yes. Ms Gaby Lasky, tel: 972-54-441-8988.

15. PRIVACY ACT WAIVER: Subject signed a PAW to include parents, [redacted] family, friends, members of Congress, media, and the general public.

B6

16. NOK: Parents: [redacted]

17. NOTIFICATION: On 06/30/09, a representative of the Free Gaza Movement contacted Post to advise that subject and three other Amcits were detained at sea by the Israeli Navy. Also notified by Israel Navy through DAO.

18. ACCESS: On 07/01/09, Post's Dutyoff/Conoff visited subject at the Ben Gurion Immigration Detention Center.

19. OTHER AMERICANS ARRESTED: Three other Amcits were detained:

[redacted] (see septels).

20. MISTREATMENT: None.

21. PROPERTY CONFISCATED: Green folder containing personal papers

22. JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS: Later today.  
- SENTENCE: Deportation is expected

24. REMARKS: On 06/29/09, subject boarded the Free Gaza boat "Spirit of Humanity" containing 3 tons of medical aid, children's toys, and rehabilitation and reconstruction kits for twenty family homes. Also aboard the boat were twenty-one multinational human rights activists from eleven different countries, including four Amcits. The passengers included Nobel laureate [redacted] and former [redacted]. According to media reports, Cypriot officials allowed the boat to leave Larnaca Port because the captain stated his destination as Port Said, Egypt. However, on 06/30/09, the boat was intercepted at sea by Israeli Naval Forces enroute to Gaza. Subsequently, the boat was boarded, seized and towed to the Ashdod Port, where it docked at approximately 21:00 local time, and the passengers were taken into custody by MOI officials.

At 0200 on 07/01/09, Post's Dutyoff/Conoff met with subject for approximately fifteen minutes at the BG detention facility. Subject was alert, in good health and spirits, and remained calm and friendly throughout the visit. Subject requested to be allowed to return to Cyprus before flying back to the U.S., as a second preference, she asked to be able to fly via NYC.

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SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive

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SENSITIVITY: Non Sensitive

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Subject, along with [redacted] is due to be deported to the U.S. later today.

B6

25. CONTACTING NOK OR OTHERS: Subject did not request Embassy assistance in contacting friends and family.

Cunningham

**Signature:**

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**Info:** JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL, *PRIORITY*; CAIRO, AMEMBASSY, *PRIORITY*; NICOSIA, AMEMBASSY, *ROUTINE*

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RELEASE IN PART  
B6

From: svcsmartmfi  
Sent: 6/4/2010 8:38:40 AM  
To: SMART Core  
Subject: ARREST, CASE OF [REDACTED]

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Archie Bolster, Senior Reviewer

B6

UNCLASSIFIED



MRN: 10 TEL AVIV 1253  
Date/DTG: Jun 04, 2010 / 041228Z JUN 10  
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE PRIORITY  
E.O.: 12958  
TAGS: CASC, IS  
Captions: PRIVACY  
Pass Line: CA/OCS/ACS/NESA  
\_ACSIP\_TLV201015324917201\_ACSIP  
Subject: ARREST, CASE OF [REDACTED]

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 001253

CA/OCS/ACS/NESA  
\_ACSIP\_TLV201015324917201\_ACSIP

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: CASC, IS [REDACTED]  
SUBJECT: ARREST, CASE OF [REDACTED]

1. NAME: [REDACTED]

2. SEX: Female

3. DPOB: [REDACTED]

4. PASSPORT: [REDACTED]

5. OTHER NATIONALITIES, IF ANY, AND HOW ACQUIRED: [REDACTED]

USUAL COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: U.S.A.  
NATIONALITY OF PASSPORT USED TO ENTER COUNTRY OF ARREST: U.S.

6. LAST KNOWN U.S. ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

7. DATE/PLACE OF ARREST: 05/31/10, Ashdod

8. CONDITION OF ARRESTEE: Subject complained of a headache and soreness from harsh physical treatment. She also said that she needed an inhaler from her baggage. ConOFF notified Prison authorities who said that it would be retrieved.

9. CHARGES: Unspecified

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

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10. PLACE OF DETENTION: Ella Detention Center, Beer Sheva

11. JUDICIAL STATUS: Deported

12. TRIAL/HEARING DATE: N/A

13. POSSIBLE SENTENCE: Deported

14. ATTORNEY: No.

15. PRIVACY ACT WAIVER: On 06/01/10, subject signed a PAW to include family, friends, members of Congress, and members of the media only. She specifically included her mother, [redacted]

[redacted] her fiancée, [redacted] and her uncle, [redacted]

16. NOK: [redacted]

17. NOTIFICATION: On 05/31/10, Post was notified of subject's arrest by the MFA.

18. ACCESS: On 06/01/10, Conreps visited subject at the Ella Detention Center, Beer Sheva. First visit to date.

19. OTHER AMERICANS ARRESTED: Yes. Fifteen Amcits in total that Post is currently aware of were arrested/detained on 05/31/2010 at the Ashdod Port. Subject and the other Amcits were passengers on a flotilla of 6 ships attempting to enter Gaza (see septels).

20. MISTREATMENT: On 06/01/10, subject completed a report of mistreatment indicating that she received several blows to the head, shoulders and back, and was pulled violently by the arms. Subject was able to see a doctor during detention.

21. PROPERTY CONFISCATED: Passport, all personal items, luggage, medications, items for donation.

22. JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS: N/A

24. REMARKS: Subject was on the Mavi Marmara. She claimed that during the incident IDF Navy personnel shot at and threatened passengers and that the Mavi Marmara passengers were unarmed and had surrendered. She said that a loaded weapon was pointed at her for "no reason". She also claimed that after detention they were held for four hours in the sun with no shade.

25. ADVISING NOK OR OTHERS: CONOFF notified NOK on 06/01/2010

CUNNINGHAM

Signature: CUNNINGHAM

Info: JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL ROUTINE

Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

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B6

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

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RELEASE IN PART  
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D),NR

**From:** svcsmartmfi  
**Sent:** 7/12/2010 11:28:19 AM  
**To:** SMART Core  
**Subject:** LIBYAN FM STANDS FIRM ON SENSITIVE ISSUES

**REVIEW AUTHORITY:** Archie Bolster, Senior Reviewer

SECRET  
Sensitive



**MRN:** 10 TRIPOLI 660  
**Date/DTG:** Jul 12, 2010 / 121525Z JUL 10  
**From:** AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
**Action:** WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE  
**E.O.:** 13526  
**TAGS:** PREL, PGOV, SMIG, PHUM, ER, IT, LY, ECIN, KPAL, PREF, UNHCR  
**Captions:** SIPDIS  
**Sensitivity:** Sensitive  
**Reference:** A) STATE 71687; B) STATE 72060  
**Pass Line:** STATE FOR NEA/MAG AND PRM.  
AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PASS TO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PASS TO AMCONSUL STRASBOURG  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG  
**Subject:** LIBYAN FM STANDS FIRM ON SENSITIVE ISSUES

SECRET TRIPOLI 000660

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/MAG AND PRM.

E.O. 13526: DECL: 7/12/2020  
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, SMIG, PHUM, ER, IT, LY, ECIN, KPAL, PREF, UNHCR  
SUBJECT: LIBYAN FM STANDS FIRM ON SENSITIVE ISSUES

REF: A) STATE 71687; B) STATE 72060

CLASSIFIED BY: Gene A. Cretz, Ambassador, U.S. Embassy Tripoli,  
Department of State.  
REASON: 1.4 (b), (d)  
1. (S) Summary:

[Redacted Summary Box]

NR

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[Redacted]

NR

B1  
1.4(B)  
1.4(D)

End summary.

AMBASSADOR DELIVERS DEMARCHE ON IAEA RESOLUTION ON ISRAEL

[Redacted]

NR

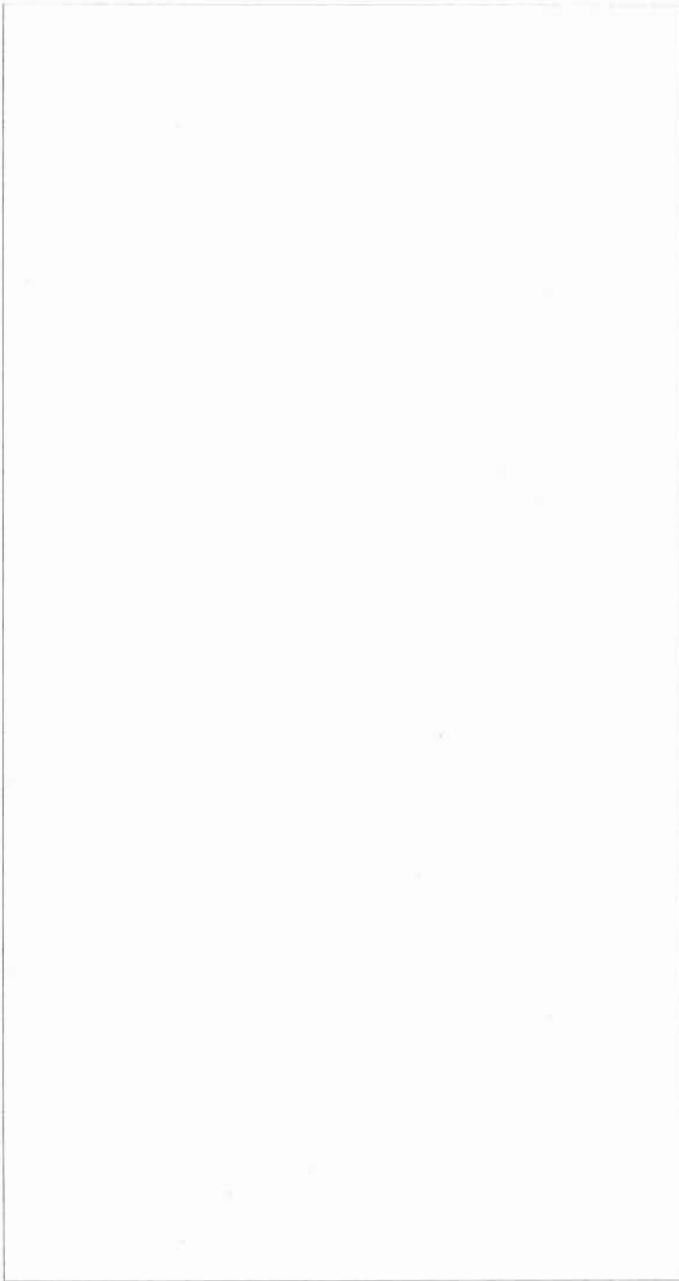
[Redacted]

NR

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Page 2 of 4

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET  
Page 3 of 4

NR



QDF AID SHIP TO GAZA



B1  
1.4(B)  
1.4(D)

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Page 3 of 4

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Page 4 of 4



B1  
1.4(B)  
1.4(D)

COMMENT



NR

CRETZ

**Signature:** CRETZ

**Classified By:** Gene A. Cretz, Ambassador, U.S. Embassy Tripoli, Department of State,

**Reason:** 1.4 (b),(d)

**Declassify on:** 7/12/2020

**Info:** TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ; JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL ROUTINE ;  
ASMARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ; NIAMEY, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ;  
NSC WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ; CIA WASHDC ROUTINE ; TRIPOLI, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ;  
ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE ; VIENNA IAEA POSTS COLLECTIVE ROUTINE ;  
EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE ; ZEN/AMCONSUL ALMATY ;  
ZEN/AMCONSUL ADANA ; ZEN/AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI ;  
ZEN/AMCONSUL STRASBOURG ; ZEN/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK ;  
ZEN/AMEMBASSY MINSK ; ZEN/AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF ;  
ZEN/AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG ; ZEN/AMCONSUL LEIPZIG ;  
ZEN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG

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