

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

SENSITIVITY: Sensitive

Page 1 of 5

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

From: svcSMARTMFI
Sent: 3/17/2009 9:05:03 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: GAZA SMUGGLING INTERDICTION: AGREED PROGRAM OF ACTION FROM THE MARCH 13 LONDON MEETING

CONFIDENTIAL

Sensitive

MRN: 09 STATE 25578
Date/DTG: Mar 18, 2009 / 180040Z MAR 09
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Action: AMEMBASSY BERLIN, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY LONDON, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY OSLO, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY OTTAWA, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY PARIS, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY ROME, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE, PRIORITY
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: EUN, MOPS, NATO, PREL, XF
Sensitivity: Sensitive
Reference: STATE 20406
Subject: GAZA SMUGGLING INTERDICTION: AGREED PROGRAM OF ACTION FROM THE MARCH 13 LONDON MEETING

DE RUEHC #5578 0770058
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 180040Z MAR 09
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 0000
RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 0000
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0000
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0000
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0000
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 0000
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 0000
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY 0000
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 0000
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY 0000
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY 0000
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0000
RUEHPG/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY 0000
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY 0000
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 0000
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 0000
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 025578

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/15/2029
TAGS: EUN, MOPS, NATO, PREL, XF
SUBJECT: GAZA SMUGGLING INTERDICTION: AGREED PROGRAM OF ACTION FROM THE MARCH 13 LONDON MEETING

REF: STATE 20406

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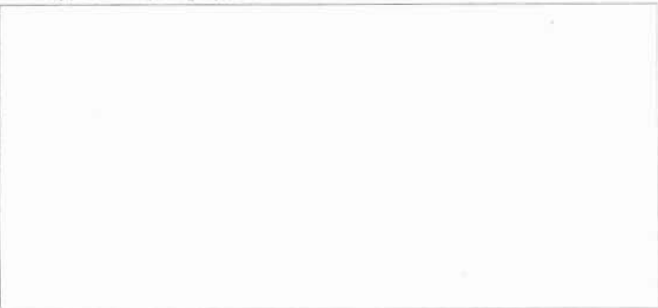
Page 2 of 5

Classified By: T - Stephen D. Mull, for reason 1.4 (d)

1. (U) Summary and Action Request: Representatives of Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, the UK, and the U.S. reached agreement in London March 13 on a Program of Action on interdiction of the flow of arms to Gaza. Text is in paragraph six. Department greatly appreciates posts' roles in making agreement in London possible. Department requests action addressees take advantage of appropriate opportunities to express appreciation for host government's support for the program of action and encourage their continued engagement as we move forward with implementation. Info addressees may draw on background points to brief host governments/organizations as appropriate. End Summary and Action Request.

2. (U) Objective: To encourage host governments' continued support for the Program of Action on Gaza arms smuggling interdiction, as agreed upon in London March 13.

3. (SBU) Background: Building on the February 4-5 discussions in Copenhagen, representatives of nine governments (Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, the UK, and the U.S.) met in London on March 13 and reached agreement on a Program of Action for measures to help prevent and interdict arms smuggling to Gaza. The Program of Action aims to enhance coordination of information and intelligence sharing, diplomatic engagement, and military and law enforcement activities. Text of the Program of Action appears in paragraph 5.



1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

5. (SBU) As was the case in Copenhagen, the UK invited both Israel and Cairo to send observers. The Israelis accepted the invitation; the GOE did not. Department will continue to update the Egyptian Embassy privately of this effort. We have also briefed the Chinese and Russian Embassies and plan to share copies of the Program of Action with them as well.

6. (SBU) Begin Text Program of Action:

This initiative constitutes a response to persistent concerns over the flow of weapons to the Gaza Strip. These efforts should be seen in the context of efforts to support an immediate and durable cease-fire, including a cessation of all violence such as rocket attacks against Israel and all other hostilities directed against civilians, and the unimpeded provision of humanitarian assistance to Gaza as well as the sustained re-opening of crossing points on the basis of the 2005 Agreement on Movement and Access. The initiative aims to develop an effective framework for

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international cooperation, supplementary to measures taken by regional states to prevent and interdict the illicit flow of arms, ammunition, and weapons components, to Gaza.

Participating governments seek to enhance efforts to prevent and interdict the illicit trafficking of arms, ammunition and weapons components to Gaza and within their jurisdiction to prevent the facilitation of such transfers. The Governments confirm their commitment to support efforts of regional states through activities farther afield. The Governments reaffirm that the international community has a responsibility to support prevention and interdiction efforts and that such efforts may involve a broad range of tools to include diplomatic, military, intelligence, and law enforcement components. These efforts build upon UNSCR 1860 and the principles and obligations pursuant to transfers of arms or related materials established in relevant UNSCRs including 1747. They recognize that these efforts include measures to prevent, disrupt, delay, stop, or seize illicit transfers of arms, ammunition and weapons components and offer a range of roles for members of the international community, taking into account counter-terrorism and non-proliferation conventions and regimes. Participation in this effort does not obligate states to take any specific action. Cooperative actions may involve only some of the participants.

Participating governments will support, in conformity with international and domestic law, and given national capabilities, a range of actions which could include:

Sharing Information and Intelligence

– Enhance information gathering and sharing to support effective and timely prevention and interdiction measures, while protecting the confidential character of classified information. Such sharing would include the broadest possible array of relevant information about points of origin, contents, carriers and transit routes of suspect shipments.

Operating within existing or supplemental authorities and resources

– Review and provide information on current authorities and resources, including customary international law and other regimes and initiatives; consider the potential means to enhance them and ways to develop additional tools, including through bilateral ship-boarding agreements and national legislation. Conduct regular consultations among legal experts aimed at efficient implementation of those authorities.

Coordinating diplomatic engagement

– Coordinate approaches to flag, port, transit, origin and other states as appropriate to encourage full cooperation for prevention and interdiction efforts, to dissuade transit states from allowing their territory from being used to transfer arms, ammunition and weapons components and to prevent such transfers, including through cooperation based on bilateral agreements.

– Share best practices, including point of contact

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information, from their engagement with flag, port, transit, and origin states.

- Engage with regional partners that have shared interests in preventing illicit flows of arms, ammunition and weapons components.

Coordinating military and law enforcement activities

- Examine whether additional national assets might contribute to prevention and interdiction efforts.

- Identify assets with responsibilities in existing missions as well as additional resources that could be made available.

- Take action, to the extent that national legal authorities permit and consistent with international law, to support interdiction efforts. Such efforts may include inquiry, boarding, searching, stopping, seizing or other efforts necessary to prevent transfers of arms, ammunition and weapons components.

- Encourage transit states to prevent suspected transfers and support such efforts as necessary.

Establishing a regular mechanism to review common efforts

- Meet on a regular basis to review efforts and evaluate results. These meetings would be open to other governments prepared to support prevention and interdiction efforts.

- Provide appropriate point(s) of contact for prevention and interdiction activities.

End Text.

7. (SBU) Deadline for Responses and Points of Contact: Department would appreciate posts' updates on host government thinking on this initiative by April 10. Further information on this message can be obtained from T staff (Constantinos Nicolaidis) or NEA/RA (Mike Adler or Adam Vaccaro). CLINTON

Classified By: [redacted]
Declassify on: 03/15/2029
W/O Attachment(s):
Drafted By: NEA/RA:AVACCARO -- 03/17/2009 202-647-1552
Cleared By: NEA/RA:MJADLER T: CNICOLAIDIS EUR/PRA MHARDIMAN EAP/CM: JHIGGINS P: RRANGASWAMY NEA/ELA: DCANEDO NEA/IPA: PECCIA
Approved By: T:SMULL
Info: AMEMBASSY BEIJING, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY CAIRO, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY MADRID, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY MOSCOW, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY PRAGUE, PRIORITY ; AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV, PRIORITY ; AMCONSUL JERUSALEM, PRIORITY ; USMISSION USNATO, PRIORITY ; USEU BRUSSELS, PRIORITY ; CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL, PRIORITY

Dissemination Rule: Released Copy

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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

SENSITIVITY: Sensitive

Page 5 of 5

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Page 1 of 3

From: svcsmartmf
Sent: 12/20/2010 12:15:54 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

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

CONFIDENTIAL



MRN: 10 STATE 129967
Date/DTG: Dec 20, 2010 / 201705Z DEC 10
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Action: AMMAN, AMEMBASSY *IMMEDIATE* ; BEIRUT, AMEMBASSY *IMMEDIATE* ; DAMASCUS, AMEMBASSY *IMMEDIATE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, PHUM, IR, TU, SY, LE, JO, IS
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: ANKARA 1649
NEW DELHI 1923
STATE 119883
Subject: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 129967

SIPDIS

E.O. 13526: DECL: 2020/12/20
TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, PHUM, IR, TU, SY, LE, JO, IS
SUBJECT: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

REF: A) ANKARA 1649
B) NEW DELHI 1923
C) STATE 119883

Classified by: Ronald Schlicher, A/S, Acting
NEARReason(s): 1.4 (b), (d)

1. (U) This is an action request. Please see paragraph 5.

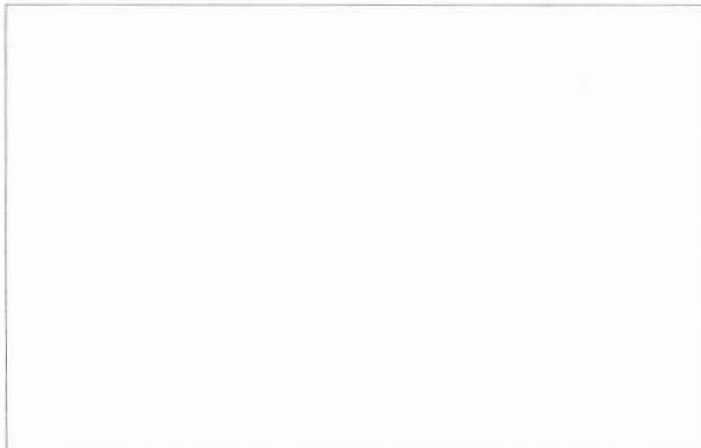


1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

4. (U) According to press reports and Asian People's Solidarity for Palestine press releases, organizers expect 100-500 activists from 17 Arab and Asian nations to participate. Organizers, including the Turkish Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH), announced plans for the caravan in early October in India, Iran, Indonesia, Lebanon, and Turkey.



1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

6. (U) Minimize considered.
CLINTON

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Page 2 of 3

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Page 3 of 3

Signature: CLINTON

Classified By: Ronald Schlicher, A/S, Acting NEA,

Declassify on: 2020/12/20

Drafted By: NEA_IPA:DOUTRICH, JACK T -- 12/20/10

Cleared By: NEA/FO:WALLES, JACOB SEMEP (NEA/I-POL);KHOURY -KINCANNON, SAHAR
NEA/IPA:BUZBEE, JOHN R NEA/RIGGS, SUSAN J EA/ELA:ABELL, J ANDREW
NEA:ROBERTS, KRISTI M DRL/MLGA:JOHNSTON -GARDNER, SARAH R (DRL)
L/AN:DOLAN, JOANN

Approved By: NEA/FO:SCHLICHER, RONALD L

Info: JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL ROUTINE ; ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ;
CAIRO, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ; ISLAMABAD, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ;
NEW DELHI, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ; TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE

Attachments: metadata.dat

Action Post:

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

Page 3 of 3

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

ORIGIN NEA-00

INFO LOG-00 EEB-00 AID-00 ACQ-00 CIAE-00 INL-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 PERC-00 DS-00 EAP-00 DHSE-00 EUR-00 FAAE-00
VCI-00 H-00 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-00 LAB-01 L-00
MOFM-00 MOF-00 VCIE-00 NSAE-00 ISN-00 OIC-00 NIMA-00
PM-00 GIWI-00 P-00 ISNE-00 DOHS-00 FMPC-00 SP-00
IRM-00 SSO-00 SS-00 T-00 NCTC-00 SCRS-00 PMB-00
DSCC-00 PRM-00 DRL-00 CARC-00 NFAT-00 SAS-00 FA-00
SWCI-00 /001R

006469

SOURCE: CBLEXCLS.001687
DRAFTED BY: NEA/RA:CARVIS -- 01/23/2009 647-4505
APPROVED BY: EUR/FO:MRIES
NEA/RA :MADLER
P: SMULL
PM: BMILTON KURZ
ISN: AGANZER
P: CNICOLAIDIS
P: RRANGASWAMY
NEA/IPA: JPECCIA
EUR/ERA: JGIAUQUE
EUR/RPM: PCHISHOLM
NEA/ELA: SNEWHOUSE

-----218B74 240234Z /38

O 240225Z JAN 09
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE IMMEDIATE
USEU BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RIYADH IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 006469

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/23/2019
TAGS: EG, IR, IS, KPAL, MARR, MOPS, PHSAQ, PREL, XG, NATO
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN GAZA ARMS
INTERDICTION EFFORT

REF: STATE 4900

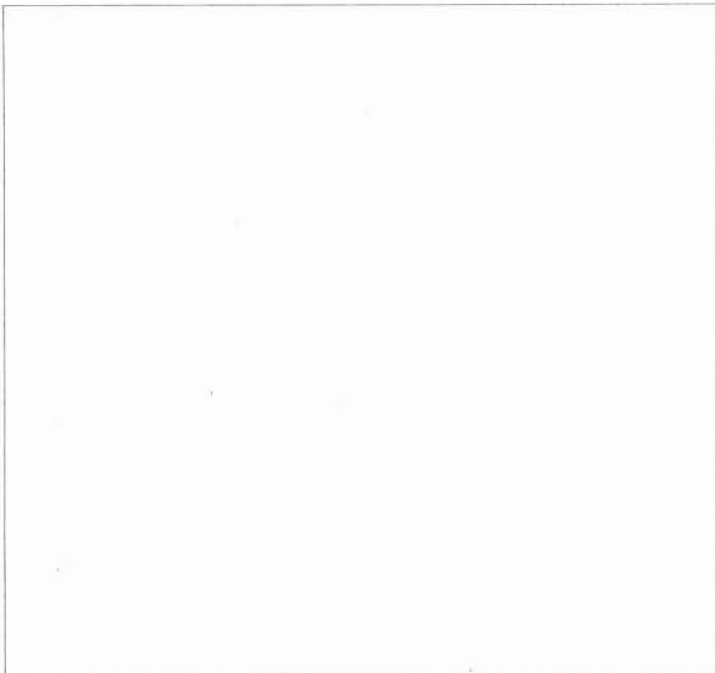
Classified By: EUR PDAS Marcie Ries for reasons 1.4(b) and (d)



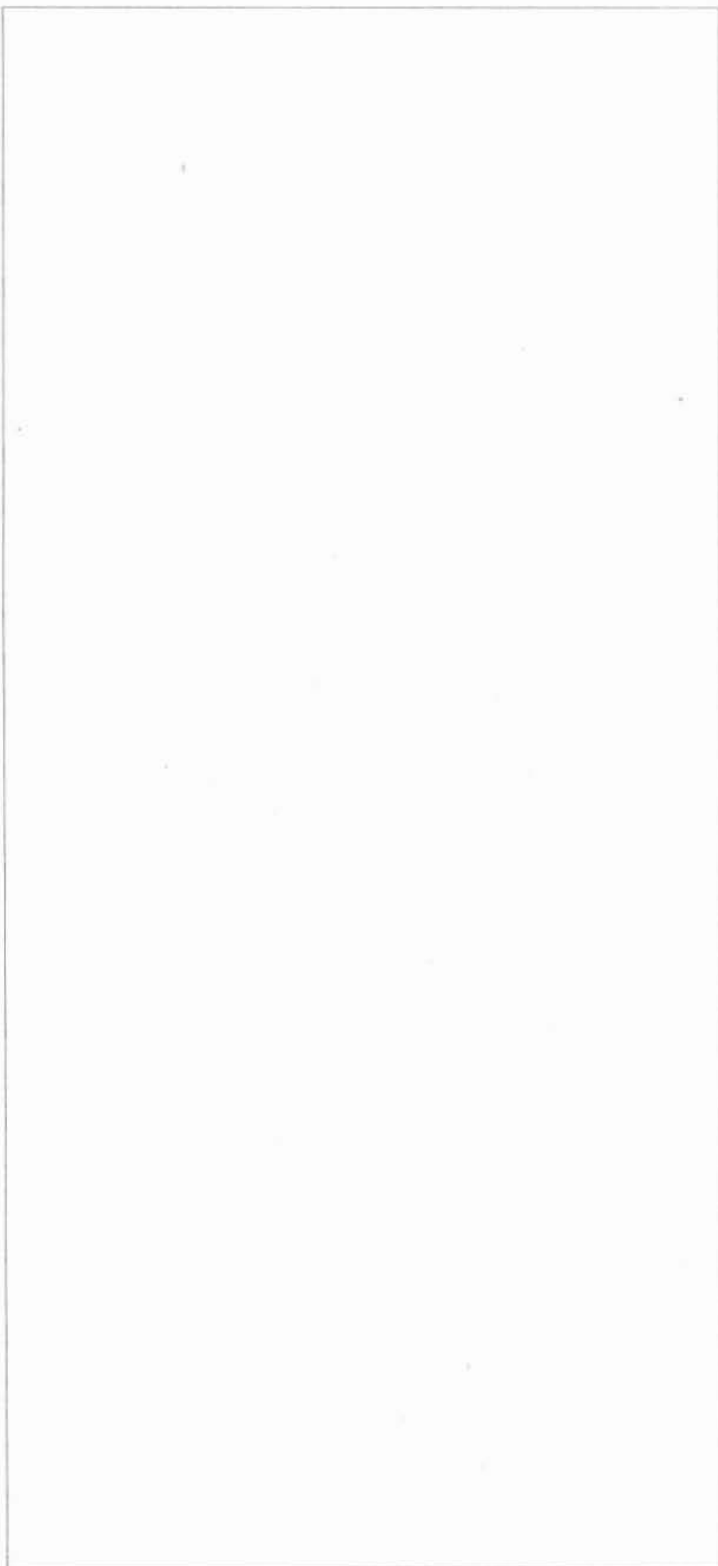
1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

General Background)

2. (U) The United States and Israel committed to cooperative efforts in a Memorandum of Understanding signed in Washington on January 16. We expect that the MOU has already had a positive impact on international efforts to achieve a ceasefire in the Gaza conflict and will help to support post-conflict security in the region.



1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1



1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1



Deadline/Points of Contact

16. (U) Department requests missions/post report on interest in cooperation in both the broader effort and the proposed workshop by January 28. Please report results to P Special Assistant Constantinos Nicolaidis, with copies to NEA/RA Michael Adler and Constance Arvis, and EUR/RPM Peter Chisholm.
CLINTON

NNNN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONGRESSIONAL
CORRESPONDENCE TASKER

RELEASE IN PART
B6



IPS CONTROL# **1100** ACTION BUREAU: NEA

DATE: 1/24/11

IPS:

0 CONSTITUENT [] MEMBER AKaka
0 IMAGE ENTIRE DOCUMENT _____ IMAGE ONLY FIRST _____ PAGES

B6

BUREAU:

BUREAU ACTION REQUESTED: RESPOND TO CCU **7** DAYS FROM: _____

- 0 REPLY FOR SIGNATURE BY Richard R. Verma, ASSISTANT SECRETARY, LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
- 0 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: _____

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_of_Legislative_Affairs_Reference_Documents#Yellow_Border)

DUE DATE: _____

****BUREAUS MUST MAKE TRANSFERS OF ACTION DIRECTLY WITH RECEIVING BUREAU'S FRONT OFFICE. PLEASE NOTIFY CCU 7-1608 OF ALL TRANSFERS OF ACTION****

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

DANIEL K. AKAKA
HAWAII

WASHINGTON OFFICE
141 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
TELEPHONE: (202) 774-6381

HONOLULU OFFICE
3105 PRINCE JONAH K. HUI
KALANIANOLAH FEDERAL BUILDING
P.O. BOX 50144
HONOLULU, HI 96850
TELEPHONE: (808) 522-5970

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1103

COMMITTEES
ARMED SERVICES
BANKING, HOUSING AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
INDIAN AFFAIRS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL

TO: Department of State, Attn: Legislative Affairs

FR: Office of U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka

DA: November 12, 2010

FAX: (202) 647-1618

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET: 6

MESSAGE: Would appreciate the status of the attached inquiry filed on behalf of our constituent, Thank you for your assistance.

B6

If problems occur and you do not receive all the pages sent, please call (808) 522-8970 and ask for _____. Our facsimile number is (808) 545-4683. Thank you.

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED OR OBVIOUS FROM THE NATURE OF THE TRANSMITTAL, THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION INTENDED FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY NAMED ABOVE. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY US BY TELEPHONE.

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

DANIEL K. AKAKA
HAWAII

WASHINGTON OFFICE
141 HARRIS SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
TELEPHONE: (202) 224-6381

HONOLULU OFFICE:
3106 PRINCE JONAH KUHIO
KALANIANA'OLE FEDERAL BUILDING
P.O. Box 50144
HONOLULU, HI 96850
TELEPHONE: (808) 523-8970

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1103

September 17, 2010

COMMITTEES
ARMED SERVICES
BANKING, HOUSING AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
INDIAN AFFAIRS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. Richard Verma
Assistant Secretary
U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Legislative Affairs
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

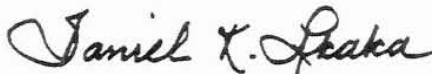
Dear Mr. Verma:

Enclosed is a copy of a further correspondence I received from regarding her possessions that were confiscated during the May 2010 flotilla. I would very much appreciate your additional advice on the issues raised in her letter in order to respond to her concerns.

B6

Please forward your response to my Honolulu office, P.O. Box 50144, Honolulu, HI 96850. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Aloha pumehana,



DANIEL K. AKAKA
U.S. Senator

Enclosure

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

AWright 8-23.txt

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, August 21, 2010 9:24 PM
To: zzwebrespond99 (Akaka)
Subject: CF_MAIL

2010 08 23 11:12:57

B6

<IP>75.210.223.80</IP>
<PREFIX>Ms. </PREFIX>

[REDACTED]
<SUBJECT>Foreign Relations</SUBJECT>
<MESSAGEBODY>August 20, 2010

The Honorable Daniel K. Akaka
United States Senator
Honolulu, Hawaii
Office (808) 522-8970
Fax: (808) 545-4683

Dear Senator Akaka:

Thank you for your July 15, 2010 request for information about my possessions that were taken by the Israeli commandos from the Challenger 1, one of the ships of the Gaza flotilla and for forwarding me the July 22, 2010 letter from U.S. Consul General Andrew Parker. I received that letter on August 16, 2010

I must take issue with parts of Mr. Park's letter.

Specifically, Mr. Park said that "The Government of Israel forwarded all personal property of flotilla participants, except for electronic and magnetized devices, to Turkey in early June 2010." I spent at least 6 hours in two days in Istanbul looking for my possessions and the possessions of the passengers on the other five ships in the flotilla and found nothing of mine, nor did anyone on my ship, the Challenger 1.

The government of Israel did send in a cargo container that arrived in Istanbul on June 4, suitcases from the Mavi Marmara, but not from the other five ships. On the Mavi Marmara, the commandos dumped the contents of all the suitcases for 600 people and the bales of medical supplies and other humanitarian cargo onto the floors and aisles looking for weapons and contraband.

When ordered to "repack" the suitcases so they could be sent to Istanbul, the commandos scooped up whatever was near and crammed it into the first available suitcase. To my knowledge, no one on the Mavi Marmara got back their possessions in their suitcases, but had to rummage through the piles of clothes and items that were taken out of the suitcases and left in the hallways of the medical center so others could determine if any of the items were theirs.

Mr. Park also states, "The Government of Israel has not yet determined which, if any, of the electronic and magnetized devices will be returned to flotilla participants."

Page 1

AWRight 8-23.txt

Unfortunately, in the nine weeks since the commandos seized our property, the Israeli government has not inventoried or secured it. This week, Israeli newspapers headlined "Israeli commandos sell flotilla passengers' computers." (<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/6dbacbd6-ab94-11df-abee-00144feabdc0.html>) Two Israeli military officers have been arrested for stealing and selling four to six computers to other military personnel.

I request that you ask the US Embassy in Tel Aviv to demand that Israeli government allow them to see the conditions in which millions of dollars of electronic equipment is stored to ensure that it has been inventoried and that it is secure. All of the passengers have turned into their respective Embassies lists of equipment taken and most have provided descriptions and serial numbers of computers and other equipment that has serial numbers.

As we are very concerned that the Israeli government has allowed evidence on passengers' electronic equipment to be destroyed or lost, the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York City is acting as legal counsel for American citizens and has requested through numerous Freedom Of Information Act filings, copies of US government requests to the Israeli government that these items be preserved and secured.

If you could help us determine what pressure the U.S. Department of State has placed on the Government of Israel, I would appreciate it very much.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



</MESSAGEBODY>
<AddressTo>General</AddressTo>

B6

Embassy of the United States of America



2010 Jul 21 AM 7:51

Tel Aviv, Israel
July 21, 2010

The Honorable Daniel K. Akaka
United States Senator
Honolulu, Hawaii
Office: (808) 522-8970
Fax: (808) 545-4683

Dear Senator Akaka:

Thank you for your letter of July 15, 2010 regarding the return of your constituent, [redacted] possessions.

B6

The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv has been in regular communication with the Government of Israel concerning the confiscated property of American citizens who participated in the May 2010 flotilla, including [redacted]. The Government of Israel forwarded all personal property of flotilla participants, except for electronic and magnetized devices, to Turkey in early June 2010. The Government of Israel has not yet determined which, if any, of the electronic and magnetized devices will be returned to flotilla participants. The Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs has provided this information to the American citizen flotilla participants, including [redacted]. The Government of Israel has also informed us that Turkish authorities have returned to Israel some personal effects that had been unclaimed in Turkey and which apparently belongs to third-country nationals. The Government of Israel is attempting to determine ownership of these belongings and will inform foreign embassies of developments.

The Honorable
Daniel K. Akaka,
United States Senator

I hope this information is helpful. If I can be of further assistance please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew C. Parker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew C. Parker
Consul General

PRIVACY ACT RELEASE FORM

2010 JUN 15 AM 8:20

In accordance to the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552A), U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka has my permission to make inquiries into my personal records and/or files as necessary to assist me in the matter I have presented to his office.

B6

FILE CASE NO. [If applicable]: _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER [last four digits]: _____

DATE OF BIRTH [MM/DD/YYYY]: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: June 15, 2010

B6

B6

B6

PLEASE RETURN TO: U.S. SENATOR DANIEL K. AKAKA

300 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, SUITE 3-106

HONOLULU, HI 96850

DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST:

Please use this space to describe your issue. If more space is needed, attach additional pages to this authorization form. Mahalo.

B6

CA



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

DEC - 1 2010

RELEASE IN PART
B6

Dear Ms. Lee:

Thank you for your letter of October 20 regarding the U.S. citizens, including your constituents, [redacted] who were on the flotilla to Gaza in May.

B6

You requested information regarding the military action of May 31 and subsequent measures taken by the Government of Israel and the Department of State on behalf of U.S. citizens participating in the Free Gaza flotilla. The Department of State monitored the flotilla's progress and was in contact with the Government of Israel in an effort to safeguard U.S. citizens aboard the ships. The ships participating in the Free Gaza flotilla were stopped from reaching Gaza by the Israeli Navy on May 31. The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv was in constant communication with Israeli officials as the flotilla vessels and passengers were being escorted to port. They urgently requested access to the detained U.S. citizens as soon as possible and were granted access on June 1. We do not believe there was undue delay in gaining access to the U.S. citizens who were detained.

The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv delivered a high level demarche on June 7 regarding the flotilla and the actions against U.S. citizens by Israeli forces. Embassy Tel Aviv and the Department of State have requested an inquiry into the events surrounding the boarding of the ships and the subsequent death of a U.S. citizen. Any mistreatment that was reported to Embassy consular officers was also raised with Israeli authorities.

We have raised on many occasions the issue of the property confiscated by Israeli authorities. The Government of Israel has told us that it has no property belonging to U.S. citizens, and claims that all such property was returned to Turkey at the request of the Turkish government. The U.S. Consulate General in Istanbul has been working with the Turkish authorities and flotilla members to try and locate missing possessions among the personal property that was sent to Turkey. We understand there are still items missing, including electronic equipment, and the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv is actively pursuing the return of this property.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

The Honorable
Barbara Lee,
House of Representatives.

Handwritten signature/initials

In reference to your correspondence to the Department of Homeland Security, we have no information that would indicate that [redacted] cannot travel freely.

B6

We hope this information is helpful in addressing your concerns. Please feel free to contact Ms. Kim Richter in the Bureau of Consular Affairs, Office of American Citizens Services and Crisis Management, at 202-647-8308 if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Verma

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Incoming H20101025=013 Lee:G:\HCCUTaskers\Incoming H20101025=013
Lee.pdf

Drafted:CA/OCS/ACS/NESCA:KRichter x7-8308

Cleared:

CA/OCS/ACS/NESCA:CWalker	ok
CA/OCS/ACS:VMLopatkiewicz, Acting	ok
CA/P:TMazin	ok
NEA/IPA:JLevinson	ok
H:NManring	ok

Approved:

CA/OCS:JPettit	ok
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CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

UNCLASSIFIED

Subject: regarding Amcit's who were on the flotilla to Gaza in May
11/30/10 H20101025=013 Lee

Verma RV 11/30

Rooney _____

11/30/2010 11:38 AM	Task Completed	Task assigned to Alwine, Patrick was approved by Alwine, Patrick. Comments:	Approved by Al Patrick
11/30/2010 11:49 AM	Task Completed	Task assigned to H_SpecialAssistants was approved by Braxton, Connie X. Comments:	Approved by Br Connie X
11/30/2010 11:58 AM	Task Completed	Task assigned to Chartrand, Jennifer was approved by Chartrand, Jennifer. Comments:	Approved by Cf Jennifer
11/30/2010 2:19 PM	Task Completed	Task assigned to Hatcher, Stuart M was approved by Hatcher, Stuart M. Comments: clear	Approved by He Stuart M
11/30/2010 2:50 PM	Task Completed	Task assigned to Manring, Nicholas J was approved by Manring, Nicholas J. Comments:	Approved by M: Nicholas J
11/30/2010 3:32 PM	Task Completed	Task assigned to Adams, David S was approved by Reed, Roxanne L. Comments: bypassing David.	Approved by Re Roxanne

OK DT

11/30/10
Blue tags

DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONGRESSIONAL
CORRESPONDENCE TASKER



CA

IPS CONTROL# H2010 1025-013 ACTION BUREAU: ~~NSA~~

DATE: OCT 25 2010

IPS:

SUBSTANTIVE CONSTITUENT
 IMAGE ENTIRE DOCUMENT IMAGE ONLY FIRST PAGES

BUREAU:

OCT 25 2010

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: _____

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_of_Legislative_Affairs_Reference_Documents#Yellow_Border)

Due Date 10/27/10 10/29/10

****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)
OCT 21

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:

10/21/10

BARBARA LEE
9TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS
Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Subcommittee on
State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs
Subcommittee on
Financial Services and General Government

COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Subcommittee on
Africa and Global Health
Subcommittee on
the Western Hemisphere



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-0509

October 20, 2010

CHAIRWOMAN,
CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

REPLY TO OFFICE CHECKED

WASHINGTON OFFICE
2444 RAYBURN H.O.B.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2661
Fax: (202) 225-9817

DISTRICT OFFICE
1301 CLAY STREET, SUITE 1000N
OAKLAND, CA 94612
Phone: (510) 763-0370
Fax: (510) 763-6538

website: ee.house.gov

RECEIVED
OCT 25 A 10:29
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Hon. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 200520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

I write to share my constituents concerns and seek clarification regarding the events surrounding the civilian aid flotilla en route to Gaza, which on May 31, 2010, led to the death of 9 passengers, including an American citizen, as well as serious and significant injuries to both convoy participants and Israeli Defense Force (IDF) soldiers.

As you may recall, on May 21, 210, in advance of this civilian marine convoy's voyage, I sent a letter encouraging the State Department to use all means at its disposal to ensure the safety of American citizens seeking to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza. Constituents of mine from California's 9th Congressional District, [redacted] participated in this convoy and have since provided my office firsthand accounts of their experience that I believe warrant the State Department's attention.

B6

My constituents continue to seek further information regarding the military action that occurred aboard this flotilla and consequent measures taken by the Israeli government with regard to the detainment of the convoy's civilian participants. Based on the accounts of my constituents, I respectfully request a response from the State Department regarding the following issues:

1. My constituents have indicated that their vessel, the Sfondonh, was boarded by Israeli Defense Forces in international waters at a distance of more than 50 miles from the southern shore of Gaza.

Has the State Department taken a position regarding the Israeli government's authority to seize civilian vessels in international waters, and if such actions are in accordance with applicable international law?

2. My constituents have indicated that repeated requests to call their lawyers, consular officials, and family were denied, and eventually provided in a limited fashion. In the case of [redacted] his first contact with consular officials and legal representation did not occur until his second day of imprisonment.

B6

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

When did the State Department inquire, and first receive notification from the Israeli government, about the detainment of American citizens following the seizure of the flotilla?

When was access to the detained, by phone and in-person, provided to the State Department?

What was the cause of the Consular officials' delay in contacting and visiting American citizens that were detained?

Based on this information, is it the State Department's estimation that the Israeli government fulfilled its responsibilities under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, notably "freedom with respect to communication" as provided for under Article 36 of this convention?

- 3. During the boarding of the Sfendoh vessel by Israeli Defense Forces, [redacted] indicates he was forcefully struck on the temple while attempting to shield an incapacitated crew member from assault. He was later treated by one of the Sfendoh's passengers, a civilian doctor. My constituents also allege that some flotilla passengers may have been physically assaulted subsequent to their detainment.

B6

What actions, if any, has the State Department taken to investigate, determine culpability, and take appropriate corrective actions against those responsible for the alleged abuse of civilian flotilla participants both prior to and subsequent to their detainment?

- 4. My constituents have indicated that select personal items confiscated during the marine convoy's seizure were returned to individuals aboard the Mavi Marmara vessel. Despite assurances that all possessions would be returned upon their departure from Israel, my constituents report that personal property confiscated directly from their person or from the cargo hold of the Sfendoh vessel, has yet to be returned. I have attached for your reference a document detailing these items and their estimated worth as described by my constituents.

What actions, if any, has the State Department taken to ensure the return of items belonging to American citizens that were seized by the Israeli government, or alternatively to seek restitution for lost items?

What other means of recourse is available to provide recompense to my constituents, specifically [redacted] and [redacted] for their lost property?

B6

- 5. Lastly, [redacted] and [redacted] have both provided information to the Department of Homeland Security Travel Redress Inquiry Program (TRIP) in order to address concerns that they have been placed on federal watch lists as a result of their participation in this humanitarian aid trip. I previously sent correspondence dated July 16, 2010 to the Department of Homeland Security regarding this matter, and in reviewing the Department's response dated July 29, 2010, it is my understanding that information submitted by [redacted] will be shared with the State Department for review.

B6

Has the State Department received this information and has a review been undertaken? If a review has not been undertaken to-date, please explain why not.

B6

I very much appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to your timely response. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Scott Exner of my staff at 202-225-2661 or by e-mail at Scott.Exner@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Lee". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

BARBARA LEE
Member of Congress

Lost Belongings: Constituents of California's 9th Congressional District
 (As provided by constituents)



B6

	<u>Estimated Value</u>
A new Samsonite suitcase	\$225
A new backpack	\$35
REI safari shirts, 2 (1 new & 1 older)	\$120
A new REI safari hat	\$40
A new REI headlamp	\$40
Palestinian cloth carryall bag	\$10
Assorted toiletries in a leather toiletry bag	\$40
New camera battery	\$30
Safety deposit box key; cost to drill for new key	\$150
Pair of pants	\$25
Windbreaker jacket	\$55
Socks and underwear	\$30
Assorted papers that need to be Replaced	\$30
Total	\$830



B6

	<u>Estimated Value</u>
Canon PowerShot A1100 IS camera	\$175
LG GB102 Cell phone	\$75
Petzl Zipka Plus 2 LED Headlamp	\$50
Sleeping bag, sleeping mat, sleeping sheet	\$100
Clothing	\$1,300
Jewelry	\$400
Hair products, makeup	\$400
Medicine (prescriptions and food supplements)	\$300
Book: The Invention of the Jewish People (English version) by Schlomo Sand	\$50
Assorted Personal Items: steel water bottle, assorted toiletries, "Stop U.S. Military Aid to Israel" button	\$50
Blue/grey/black (Atlantic Brand) Concept 22" Rolling Duffel	\$100
Total	\$3,000

