



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

January 31, 2017

Case No: F-2010-04163

Ms. Katherine Gallagher
Center for Constitutional Rights
666 Broadway, 6th Floor
New York, NY 10012

Dear Ms. Gallagher,

I refer you to our letter dated December 16, 2016, regarding the release of certain Department of State records under the under the Freedom of Information Act (the "FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552.

Upon further review, the Department has identified certain additional information that may be released in 15 documents that were previously withheld either in full or in part. The documents containing the additional information released are enclosed.

All non-exempt material that was reasonably segregable from the exempt material was released. Where we have made excisions, the applicable exemptions are marked on the document. An enclosure provides information on FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material.

We will keep you advised as your case progresses. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Assistant U.S. Attorney Jean-David Barnea at (212) 637-2679 or at Jean-David.Barnea@usdoj.gov.

Sincerely,

Suzal C. Weimer for

Eric F. Stein, Director
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

- (b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:
- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
 - 1.4(b) Foreign government information
 - 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
 - 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
 - 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
 - 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction
- (b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| ARMSEXP | Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c) |
| CIA PERS/ORG | Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g) |
| EXPORT CONTROL | Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c) |
| FS ACT | Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004 |
| INA | Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f) |
| IRAN | Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505 |
- (b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product
- (b)(6) Personal privacy information
- (b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
 - (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
 - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
 - (D) disclose confidential sources
 - (E) disclose investigation techniques
 - (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual
- (b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions
- (b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

- NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

RELEASED IN PART B3 OTHER, B5, B6

A/47

Law, Rosemary C

From: Sindle, James M
 Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 3:35 PM
 To: Connelly, Maura; NEA-IPA-DL; Knopf, Payton L; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA)
 Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Maggi, Robert W; Maxwell, Raymond D; EUR-SE-DAR-DL; Schlereth, Frank G; Burgess, Richard J; Sievers, Marc J; Grubb, Jason B; Levin, Jan
 Subject: DoD Contacting Gaza Flotilla Ships
 Importance: High

According to the below email from DoD's National Military Command Center (their version of OPS), DoD DID NOT/NOT deliver the maritime warning to U.S. vessels on Friday, May 30 before the Israeli boarding. Furthermore, DoD does not believe that they have equities in contacting U.S. vessels.

Jim Sindle

B6

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

From: NJOIC POLICY JCS J-5 JCS J-3
 Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 2:13 PM
 To: [Redacted]
 Cc: [Redacted] NJOIC POLICY JCS J-5 JCS J-3; [Redacted]
 AO
 Subject: Contacting Gaza Flotilla Ships

B3 OTHER

B3 OTHER
B6

Follow-up to your phonecon with the Battle Capt a few minutes ago. BLUF: Recommend the tasker to contact US ships participating in the Gaza Flotilla be directed to State Dept. (They don't know what they are talking about here because we never got this bounced back to us.)

- Over the weekend, NJOIC attempted to comply with J5 instruction to contact US flagged/owned vessels participating in the Gaza Flotilla to forward the NSS approved message regarding Israeli sovereignty and shipping to Gaza, despite the lack of Joint Staff or OSD equities in the matter.

- NGA does not have the capability to contact US Ships outside of US territorial waters. They could broadcast a general notice to all mariners.

B5

- USCG had difficulty verifying Challenger I and II identity and ownership (many ships by that name). They had no success in contacting the parent company (in Delaware) of the suspected vessels.

- EUCOM was contacted, and EUCOM Chief of Staff determined that this was an Israeli Law Enforcement issue - not a DoD lane - and that even so, EUCOM had no assets available to conduct ship-to-ship communications.

- NJOIC concluded, based on Open Source Internet sites reporting on the Free Gaza Flotilla, that all ships involved were well aware of the purpose and risks involved in approaching Israeli naval boundaries.

At this point, NJOIC recommends against DoD being responsible for contact with potential US vessels still involved with the Free Gaza movement.

B5

V/R,
NJOIC Policy Desk - Pentagon

National Joint Operations Intelligence Center (NJOIC)



B6

RELEASED IN PART B3
DOD-PII, B6, B5

Goushe, Saffie

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, May 28, 2010 1:14 AM
To: Carouso, James A; Allison, Alicia P; Stewart, Nan E
Cc: Langan, William B; [redacted]
Subject: FW: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

B3 DOD-PII
B6

In case anyone is interested, below is a lengthy email chain regarding the "Free Gaza" ships that may or may not be sailing to the Levant today...

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 5:19 PM
To: Reisser, Wesley J; Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Grubb, Jason B
Cc: Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Parker, Andrew C; Burnett, David R; Adams, Julie D; Greene, Elisa; Richter, Kim B; Mendel, Teresa S; Briganti, James D; [redacted]; [redacted]@eu.navy.mil; Goodman, Ian A; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

B5

Thanks. [redacted]

[redacted]

R/

[redacted]

B3 DOD-PII
B6

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 5:15 PM
To: [redacted] Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Grubb, Jason B
Cc: Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Parker, Andrew C; Burnett, David R; Adams, Julie D; Greene, Elisa; Richter, Kim B; Mendel, Teresa S; Briganti, James D; [redacted]; [redacted]@eu.navy.mil; Goodman, Ian A; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Frank - Our Embassy in Athens is contacting Greek authorities to find out the actual port of registration of these two ships. Although they are flying American flags, we have not been able to confirm if they are actually U.S. registered boats, or have raised the U.S. flag over foreign registered vessels [redacted]
Wes

B5

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:12 AM
To: Sievers, Marc J; Reisser, Wesley J; Levin, Jan; Grubb, Jason B

B3 DOD-PII

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer

Cc: Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Parker, Andrew C; Burnett, David R; Adams, Julie D; Greene, Elisa; Richter, Kim B; Mendel, Teresa S; Briganti, James D; [REDACTED]@eu.navy.mil; Goodman, Ian A;

Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

The Israel Navy has sent me the Blog below from a AMCIT, Ann Wright, participating that indicates the two vessels are US Flagged. The Israel Navy is formally requesting, and I understand the Israeli MFA has requested as well, that the USG take appropriate actions. I have been asked to provide a response to ASAP to Israel Navy leadership on USG intentions as well as USG reaction to Israel Navy intercepting US Flagged yachts. Thank you.

R/

B3 DOD-PII

Break the Israeli siege of Gaza or attack at sea, detention camps and deportation

BY ANN WRIGHT
| MAY 26, 2010

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- [Support rabble](#)
- [Corrections](#)
- [SHARE](#)

By the time you read this, we will be on the high seas of the Mediterranean (we hope the seas will not be too high).

Our two U.S. flagged Free Gaza boats, will join two other passenger ships, a 600 passenger ship from Turkey sponsored by the Turkish humanitarian organization, Insani Yardim Vakfi (IHH) and a 50 passenger ship from Athens sponsored by the European Campaign Against the Siege and the Greek/Swedish Ships to Gaza campaign, to sail to the shores of Gaza to break the Israeli naval blockade of the 1.5 million citizens in Gaza.

Four cargo ships from Ireland, Greece, Algeria and Turkey, will carry a total of 10,000 tons or 2 million pounds of construction materials for the housing of 50,000 made homeless during the 22 day Israeli attack on Gaza that killed 1440 Palestinians and wounded 5,000.

Many of us would like to see our boat renamed "The Audacity of Hope" as that is what we want to see from the Obama administration-- courage to challenge the Israeli government on the siege of Gaza. It would be a really brave, bold move as every U.S. presidential administration since the formation of the State of Israeli in 1948 has blindly given free-rein to Israel in whatever actions it wishes to undertake no matter if the actions are a violation of international law. The carte blanche given to Israel by the United States has been dangerous for Israel's national security as well as for the national security of the United States.

Probable reaction of Israeli Navy Ships-Bow shots, ramming or boarding

In less than 48 hours, the Israeli Navy will probably fire U.S. made ammunition and rockets in International waters over the bows of two U.S. flagged boats and one Greek boat with U.S. citizens aboard as well as citizens from 13 other countries and over the bows of the Turkish 600 passenger ship.

Ironically, on one passenger ship will be Joe Meaders, a U.S. citizen who is a survivor of the Israeli air and naval attack on a United States Navy ship, the USS Liberty, in 1967 killed 34 U.S. sailors and wounded 173. The Israeli government has never acknowledged, much less apologized for, the deaths of these sailors, nor the destruction of the USS Liberty.

According to Israeli media (<http://www.jpost.com/Israel/Article.aspx?id=176491>), the Israeli military is preparing for our arrival off the shores of Gaza. The Israeli navy has been practicing its plan for preventing us from docking in Gaza, a plan that probably includes demanding by radio that the ships change course away from Gaza, firing weapons in front of the ships, ramming the ships and sending well-armed boarding parties onto the ships.

Israelis prepare a detention camp

As our 8 ship flotilla prepares to depart Greece and Turkey to break the Israeli naval blockade of Gaza, the Israeli military is preparing a detention camp for the flotilla's 700 delegates from 20 countries who are passengers on four of the ships.

Those passengers include Hedy Epstein, an 85 year old holocaust survivor, Parliamentarians from Germany and Ireland, two former diplomats from the United States, a retired U.S. Army Colonel, authors, journalists, activists, businesspersons and clergy.

Additionally, the military has identified a warehouse in the Ashelod area, just over Gaza's northern border that will be used to detain the 700 passengers on the 8 ships.

Taking a page from the New York City police who put over 1500 persons into a filthy, unclean warehouse on a pier in New York City during the 2004 Republican convention, the Israeli government no doubt will make the surroundings as difficult as possible for us.

The Israeli government has extensive experience in warehousing dissent, as over 10,000 Palestinians are in Israeli jails and prisons, including juveniles who are arrested regularly in nighttime raids in villages of the West Bank.

20 passengers on the May, 2009 Free Gaza boat trying to break the siege were imprisoned for 10 days before they were deported from Israel. They included Nobel Peace Laureate Mairead Maguire and former U.S. Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney..

Wish us luck as we challenge the Israeli, Egyptian, European Union and United State's unlawful siege and collective punishment of 1.5 million Palestinians in Gaza!

What will you do to help break the siege of Gaza?

About the Author:

Ann Wright is a 29 year US Army/Army Reserves veteran who retired as a Colonel and a former US diplomat who resigned in March, 2003 in opposition to the war on Iraq. She served in Nicaragua, Grenada, Somalia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Sierra Leone, Micronesia and Mongolia. Wright made three trips to Gaza in 2009 and helped organize the Gaza Freedom March that in December, 2009 brought 1350 persons from 44 countries to Cairo, Egypt in an attempt to break the siege of Gaza. She is the co-author of the book "Dissent: Voices of Conscience." (www.voicesofconscience.com)

B3 DOD-PII

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 3:11 PM
To: Parker, Andrew C; Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Adams, Julie D; Greene, Elisa; Richter, Kim B; Mendel, Teresa S; [REDACTED]
Cc: Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C
Subject: FW: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

These are the boats that Athens is aware of. Note that they do not include Challenger 1 & 2, which they are trying to track down and reportedly are flying American flags. No confirmation on the actual port of registry yet for those two boats.

From: Frowick, George H
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 7:25 AM
To: Goodman, Ilan A; Taylor, Victoria J; Reisser, Wesley J; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Scarlattelli, Adam W
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H; McCarthy, Deborah A; Cockrell, John D; Malik, Paul; McKeever, Matthew X; Davison, Kees C; 'OPALKA, SCOTT J'
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza.

We are trying to get through to Piraeus harbor authorities. IN the meantime, our Consular Section received a few days ago a fax of the crewlists for the ships that purport to be in the flotilla leaving Greece. None is U.S. flagged or crewed, but none is named Challenger I or Challenger II.

The names/nationalities of the ships we have are:

1. (unreadable) Ocean/Marshall Islands Capt. Dane, Crewed by Filipinos and two Ukrainians
2. Novorossysk Star/Malta, Capt Israeli, crewed by Bulgarians, Israelis, Russians, Romanians, a Moroccan and a Filipino
3. Kyklades/Panama – Capt. Greek, crew Ukrainian, Egyptian, Sri Lanka, Ghana, etc.
4. (Resire?) Kallavan/Marshall Islands. Capt and crew are Turkish.
5. Ocean Star/Malta Capt. and crew Ukrainian
6. Shenandoah Highway/Panama – Capt. Bulgarian, crew Bulgarian and Filipino

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Goodman, Ilan A
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 1:19 AM

To: Goodman, Ilan A; Taylor, Victoria J; Reisser, Wesley J; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Scarlatelli, Adam W
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H; McCarthy, Deborah A; Frowick, George H; Cockrell, John D; Malik, Paul; McKeever, Matthew X; Davison, Kees C
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Embassy Athens colleagues:

[Redacted]

B5

Additionally, Embassy Tel Aviv would greatly appreciate if Embassy Athens can help determine which of the ships are carrying AmCits. I believe CA has already reached out on this.

[Redacted]

"It is definitely worth pursuing more factual information as to which vessels are actually doing what. I suspect they are not US flagged vessels, and might not even be Greek flagged (may just be Greek owned, but who knows).

[Redacted]

Thanks,
Ilan

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Goodman, Ilan A
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 1:35 PM
To: Taylor, Victoria J; Reisser, Wesley J; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Scarlatelli, Adam W
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H; McCarthy, Deborah A; Frowick, George H; Cockrell, John D
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

I'm looping in Embassy Athens, who should be able to help out.

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Taylor, Victoria J
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 12:08 PM
To: Reisser, Wesley J; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Goodman, Ilan A
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Hi Wesley, I'm adding in Greece Desk officers Adam and Ilan.

VT

Victoria J. Taylor
Turkey Desk and Regional Economic Affairs
Office of Southern European Affairs (EUR/SE)
Phone: 202-647-6934
Fax: 202-647-5087
TaylorVJ@state.gov

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 12:07 PM
To: Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Taylor, Victoria J
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: FW: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Can EUR help us confirm with the Greeks if two of the boats mentioned by our DATT in Tel Aviv are legitimately American flagged vessels or are they registered as Greek ships?

From: [redacted] B3 DOD-PII
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 11:06 AM
To: [redacted] Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa;
[redacted]
Cc: Reisser, Wesley J; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Correction from Israel Navy –
Vessels departed Greece and are currently on the way to Cyprus.

V/R.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 5:51 PM
To: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; [redacted]

B3 DOD-P11

[Redacted]

Cc: Reisser, Wesley J; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

The Israel Navy is inquiring about two vessels -Challenger I and Challenger II that they believe have departed Cyprus as a part of the Flotilla and reportedly are now flying American Flags. They have asked if there is any way to confirm this. [Redacted] will reach out to our POCs in Cyprus, but appreciate any insight folks may have on this topic. [Redacted]

B5

[Redacted]

R/

[Redacted]

B3 DOD-P11

[Redacted]

From: Reisser, Wesley J

Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 5:06 PM

To: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Mendel, Teresa S; Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted] Waters, John R; Rogan, Thomas G; Towry, Debra J; Hanania, Vera V; Weinfeld, Nili I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; [Redacted]; Manring, Nicholas J; Tyson, Paul H; Maggi, Robert W; [Redacted] Falls, Eric G; Reed, Julia G; Davison, Kees C; Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Parra, Yolanda A; Dilworth, Alison E; Osman, Amany A; Netos, Eleftherios E; Taylor, Victoria J; Riley, Robert J; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Marsh, Denise M; Baily, Jess L; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Parker, Andrew C; Silliman, Douglas A; Rosenstock, Matthew S

Subject: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

(SBU) Courtesy Embassy Tel Aviv, a message on how the navy intends to handle this:

"The Israel Navy has expressed to me that they intend to respond to this situation as peaceful as possible; however they have been directed by the GOI to prevent the vessels from arriving in Gaza. Their intention is to ensure the ships arrive in Ashdod, process the individuals to be deported and deliver any legitimate humanitarian aide to Gaza via land. It should be noted, that GOI has made it clear that although they have directed a peaceful response, those participating are viewed as individuals deliberately attempting to provoke the Israel Navy and appropriate action to prevent arrival in Gaza will be taken."

Wesley J. Reisser, Ph.D.

Desk Officer - NEA/IPA
Office of Israel & Palestinian Affairs
Phone (202) 647-2647
Fax (202) 736-4461

This message is UNCLASSIFIED/SBU according to the definitions provided by E.O. 12958.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

B9A

RELEASE IN PART B5, NR

September 17, 2010

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

INFORMATION MEMO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY POSNER

FROM - DRL/MLGA - through DAS Thomas Melia

SUBJECT -Update on Goldstone and Flotilla Issues in the UN

The Swiss: U/S Burns will meet the Swiss State Secretary Maurer next week in NY to reiterate U.S. opposition to Swiss convocation. Ambassador Held has said the Swiss will hold an October meeting unless Burns objects. [redacted]

B5

[redacted]

Human Rights Council action on the Goldstone/Flotilla issues will begin September 27. [redacted]

B5

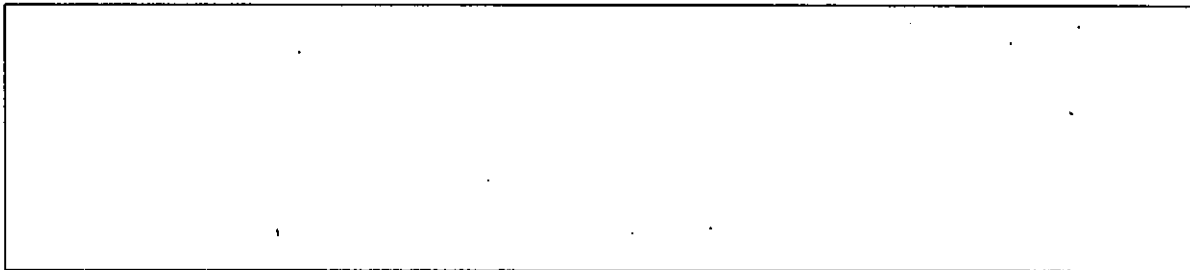
[redacted]

[redacted]


NR

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED




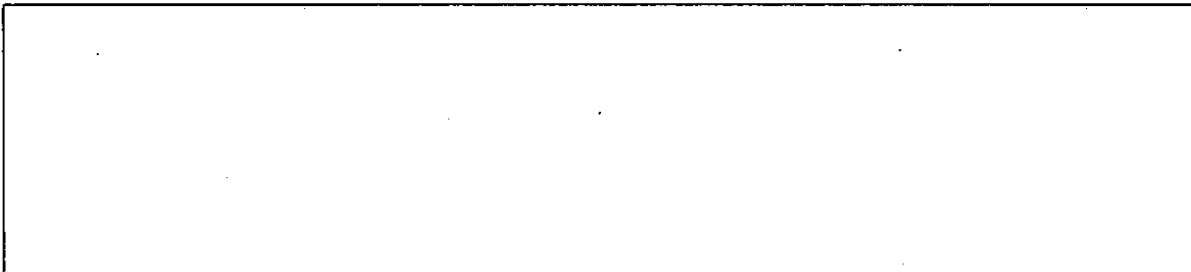
NR

The HRC flotilla fact-finding mission (FFM) will release its report between September 27 and 29. Turkey expects that it will find Israel in violation of International Law. Mission Geneva met with the members of the FFM and learned that the report will not include recommendations. We expect Turkey to introduce a resolution. In New York, Geneva and Ankara, we will urge the Turkish government to limit the scope of the resolution and not call for new UN follow-up mechanisms. Turkey is not pleased with the U.S. position. 

B5



 The U.S. statement on September 27 will highlight the UNSYG process.



NR

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Drafted: DRL/MLGA: SJohnston-Gardner, 7-2286

Approved: DAS Melia

DRL/MLGA: JCassidy OK

DRL/NESCA: JLieberman OK

CLASSIFICATION: UNKNOWN

Page 1 of 2

RELEASE IN PART
B5, NR

From: Posner, Michael H
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 5:03 PM
To: Busby, Scott W
Cc: Lieberman, Jessica D (DRL)
Subject: FW: Revised S Letter to Sen Leahy-Leahy Implementation for Israel
Attachments: H20101007=003.tif; Leahy Implementation for Israel Letter 7 1 11 .docx

Lets discuss when you get a moment

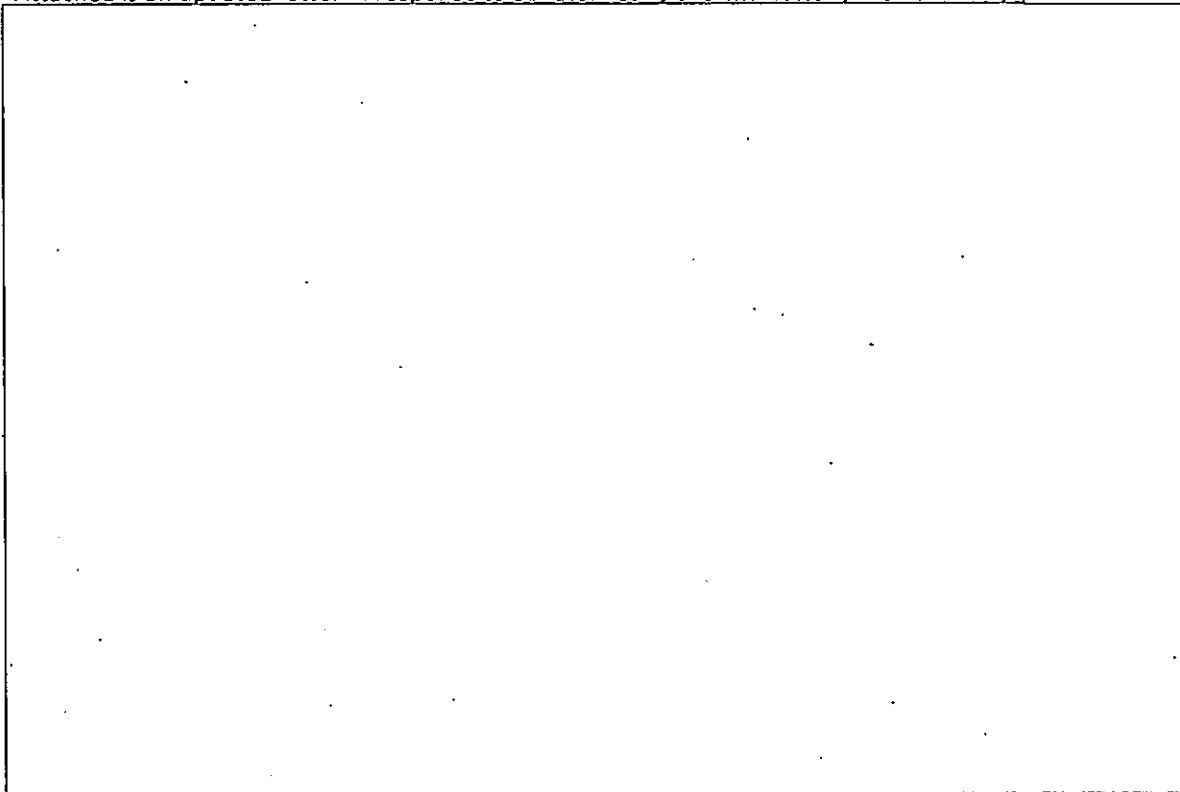
From: Short, Julie A
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 1:53 PM
To: Posner, Michael H
Subject: FW: Revised S Letter to Sen Leahy-Leahy Implementation for Israel

From: Short, Julie A
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2011 6:42 PM
To: Posner, Michael H
Cc: Graze, Deborah E
Subject: FW: Revised S Letter to Sen Leahy-Leahy Implementation for Israel

Mike,

Attached is an updated letter in response to Senator Leahy's formal letter (also attached).

NR



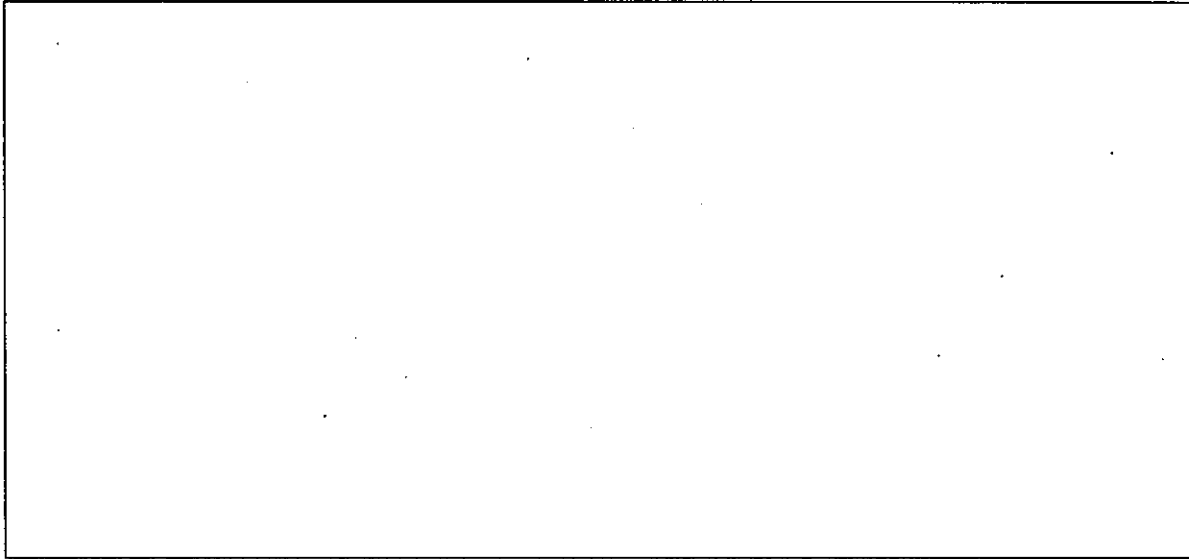
CLASSIFICATION: UNKNOWN

Printed By: Weetman, Susan C

Page 1 of 2

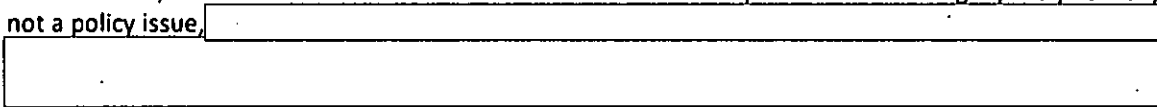
CLASSIFICATION: UNKNOWN

Page 2 of 2

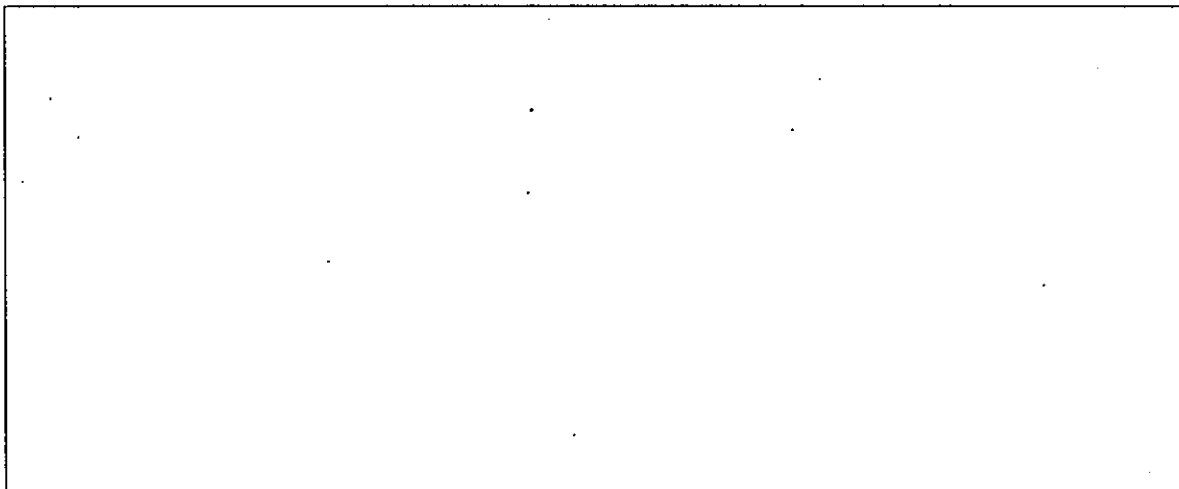


NR

The Dogan case (Amcit assassinated during the Mavi Marmara flotilla incident), raised in an email from Rieser to you and not in the formal letter to the Secretary, is an entirely separate issue not which we will have to brief you on when I return. The bottom line is that the Department is treating it purely as a CA, not a policy issue.



B5



NR

Julie

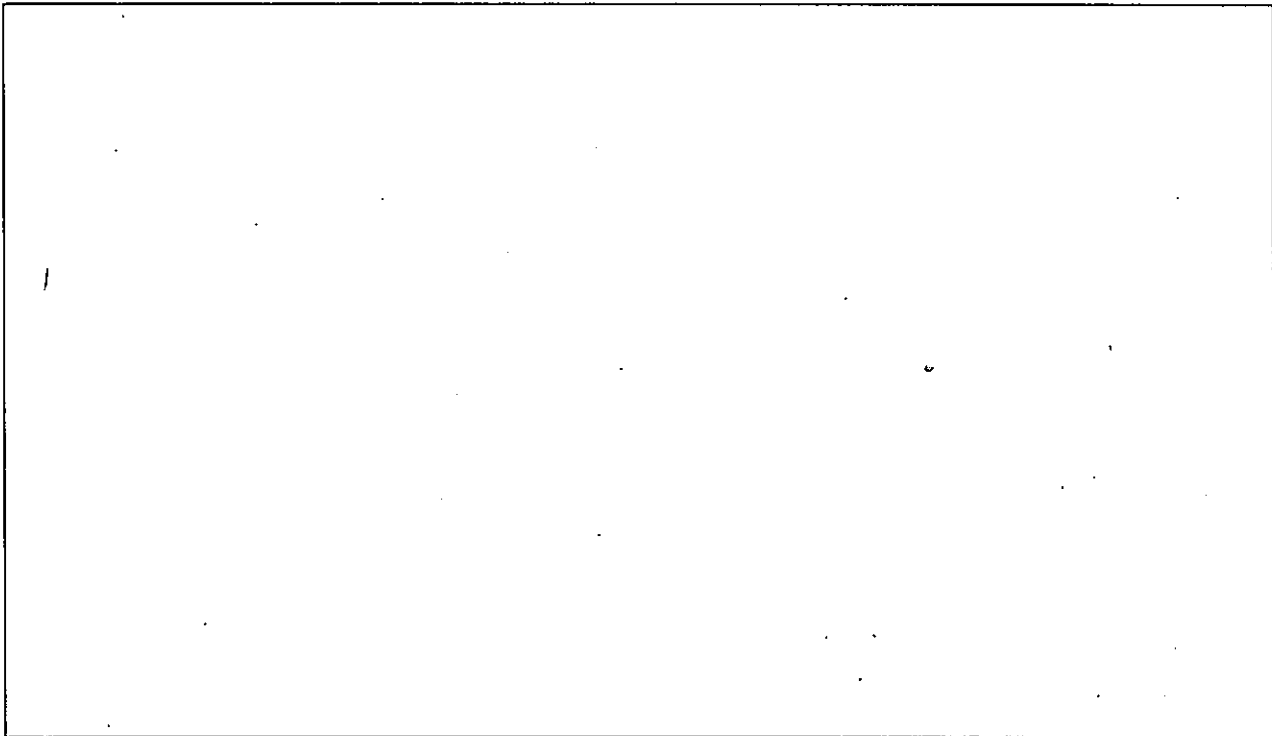
CLASSIFICATION: UNKNOWN

Printed By: Weetman, Susan C

From: Short, Julie A
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2011 8:15 PM
To: Posner, Michael H
Subject: List of To Dos Friday

RELEASE IN FULL

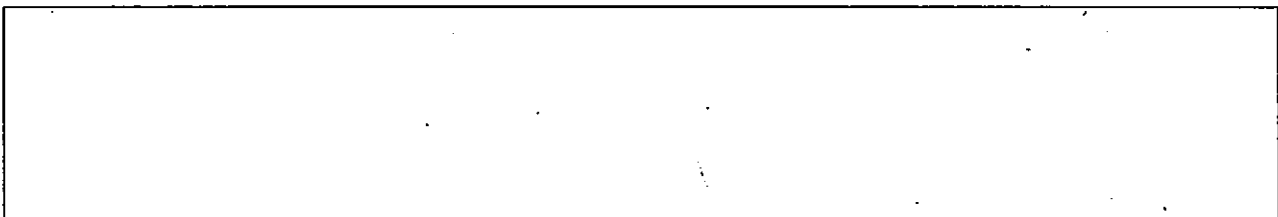
To dos Friday, June 17th



NR

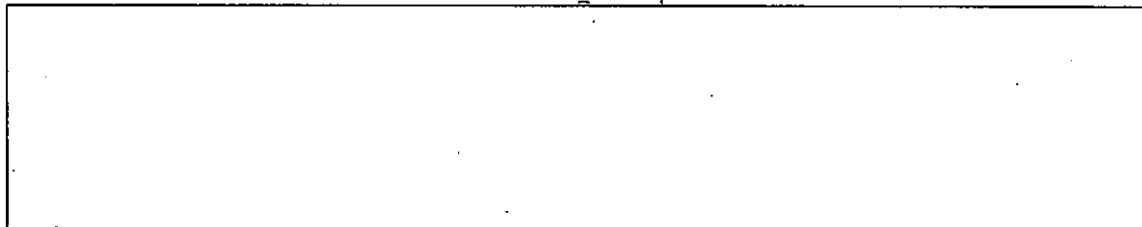
- o Call Tim Rieser (Julie to facilitate call) [redacted] we are not meeting with Dogan's lawyer, as we view this as purely a Consular Affairs issue and CA did meet with Mr. Dogan) [redacted]

NR



NR

Schedule tomorrow



NR

Law, Rosemary C

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 12:07 PM
To: Jacobson, Linda
Subject: FW: Conference Call: Deceased confirmed as Amcit

RELEASE IN PART
B5, B6

I just saw this myself. Maura is on the line from NEA.
>

From: Yares, John T. <John.T.Yares@nss.eop.gov>
To: McDonough, Denis R. <Denis.R.McDonough@nss.eop.gov>; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rhodes, Benjamin J. <Benjamin.J.Rhodes@nss.eop.gov>; Crowley, Philip J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Donoghue, Joan E; Hammer, Michael A. <Michael.A.Hammer@nss.eop.gov>; Carlin, John <jcarlin@ic.fbi.gov>; lisa.monaco@usdoj.gov <lisa.monaco@usdoj.gov>; Sherwood-Randall, Elizabeth D. <Elizabeth.D.Sherwood-Randall@nss.eop.gov>; Brink, Bridget A. <Bridget.A.Brink@nss.eop.gov>; Ross, Dennis B. <Dennis.B.Ross@nss.eop.gov>; Kumar, Prem G. <Prem.G.Kumar@nss.eop.gov>; Vietor, Tommy <Thomas.F.Vietor@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Hammer, Michael A. <Michael.A.Hammer@nss.eop.gov>; DL-NSC-WHSR <DL-NSC-WHSR@nsc.eop.gov>; Alhassani, Mehdi K. <Mehdi.K.Alhassani@nss.eop.gov>
Sent: Thu Jun 03 11:17:06 2010
Subject: Conference Call: Deceased confirmed as Amcit

BRIDGE NUMBER:

B6

CONFeree PASSCODE:

AUDIO CONFERENCE INFORMATION

CONFIRMATION NUMBER:

CONFERENCE LEADER: DENIS MCDONOUGH , NSC ,

B6

CONFERENCE REQUESTOR: JOHN YARES , NSC ,

START DATE/TIME: Thursday, June 03, 2010 11:30 AM

STOP DATE/TIME: Thursday, June 03, 2010 12:30 PM

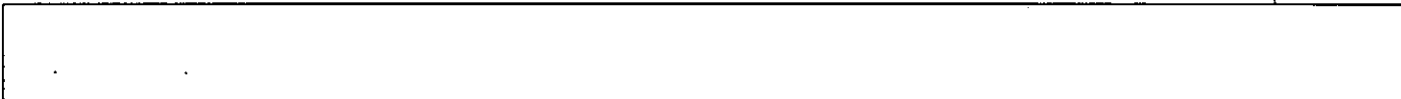
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 30

NOTE: Below are a few items to keep in mind to help your conference go smoothly.

*6 - Mute/Unmute. Individuals can use this code to mute or unmute their end of the conference if they don't have that capability available on the phone they called in from (i.e. cellular or home phone). Muting your end of the call when not actually talking, helps cut down on background noise and improve the overall quality of the call. Participants should NOT use the speakerphone capability on their phone unless they MUTE their phone from transmitting until they are ready to talk. A list of other conference commands is available upon request.

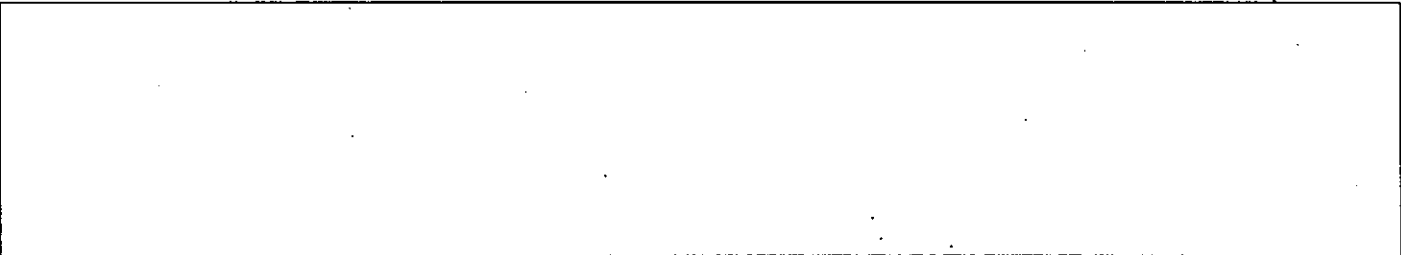
From: McDonough, Denis R.
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 11:12 AM
To: 'Feltman, Jeffrey D'; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Crowley, Philip J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Donoghue, Joan E; Hammer, Michael A.; 'Carlin, John'; 'lisa.monaco@usdoj.gov'; Sherwood-Randall, Elizabeth D.; Brink, Bridget A.; Ross, Dennis B.; Kumar, Prem G.; Vietor, Tommy

Cc: Hammer, Michael A.; DL-NSC-WHSR; Alhassani, Mehdi K.
Subject: Deceased confirmed as Amcit



B5

WHSR WILL SEND AROUND CALL IN #s SHORTLY.



B6

FACTS THAT WE HAVE:

A 19-year-old Amcit was among those killed in the flotilla incident. His name is Furkan Dogan, DOB 10/20/1991.

He was born in America to a Turkish father who was studying for his MBA in New York. The family moved back to Turkey when the child was 2 and has lived there since, where the father is a professor.

We learned of this when the father told Turkish press that he went to Istanbul airport last night to meet his son and the Turkish authorities informed him that his son was among the dead.

The Turkish press indicates that he was shot once in the chest and four times in the head, making identification difficult. The father has now identified the body as that of his son to the U.S. consular official on the scene.

We have had inquiries from the press but we are not able to anything until the family signs a privacy waiver. Our consul in Ankara is now in touch with the family.

We understand from the Embassy that the family had been calling the U.S. Embassy a few times a day for the last couple of days in an effort to get information about their son.

THANKS -
Denis.

UNCLASSIFIED

Law, Rosemary C

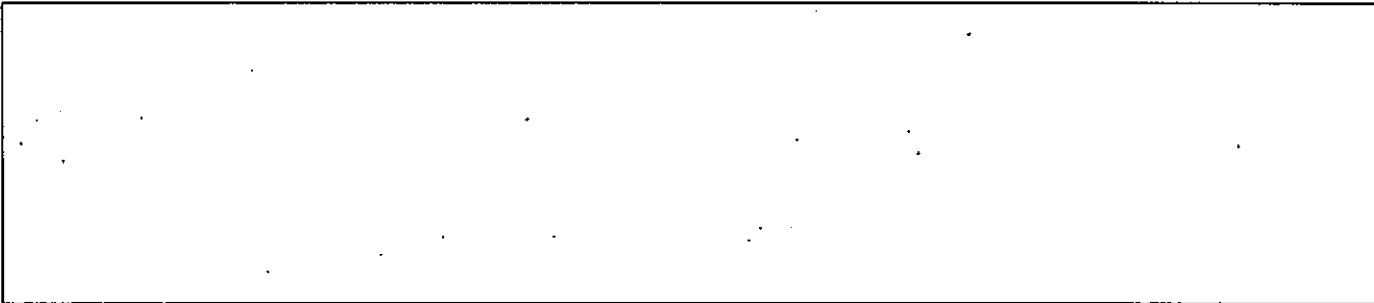
M32

B6

From: Shapiro, Daniel B. [redacted]
 Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 7:44 PM
 To: Gordon, Philip H; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Cunningham, James B; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Marsh, Denise M; Sherwood-Randall, Elizabeth D.; Brink, Bridget A.; Silliman, Douglas A; Ross, Dennis B.
 Cc: Hale, David M; Connelly, Maura; Sullivan, Jacob J
 Subject: RE: MFA on cabinet meeting

RELEASED IN PART B5, B6

+ Dennis Ross



B5

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

From: Gordon, Philip H [mailto:GordonPH@state.gov]
 Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 7:33 PM
 To: Feltman, Jeffrey D; Cunningham, James B; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Marsh, Denise M; Sherwood-Randall, Elizabeth D.; Brink, Bridget A.; Silliman, Douglas A
 Cc: Hale, David M; Connelly, Maura; Sullivan, Jacob J; Shapiro, Daniel B.
 Subject: RE: MFA on cabinet meeting

B6

Need to square this with what [redacted] told Jones about all passengers being released within 72 hours. "All but 55" will not cut it with the Turks and could leave us in crisis tomorrow. [redacted] just called Tina to reinforce the point about the Attorney General..

This email is UNCLASSIFIED

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

From: Feltman, Jeffrey D
 Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 7:14 PM
 To: Gordon, Philip H; Cunningham, James B; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Marsh, Denise M; 'Elizabeth_D_Sherwood-Randall [redacted]; 'bbrink [redacted]; Silliman, Douglas A
 Cc: Hale, David M; Connelly, Maura
 Subject: RE: MFA on cabinet meeting

B6

[redacted] just called with the following:

B6

- There are 673 total detainees from the Gaza flotilla.
- Of those, 118 will be deported via Jordan.
- 50 are being expelled via the airport, having signed a consent form.
- 120 others will be sent out via the airport "shortly."
- Israel is "hoping to make the deadline" for releasing Turks, with the deadline being the 11 a.m. Wednesday Turkish security council meeting.
- Three Lebanese are being deported directly via Ras Naqoura..
- 55 of various nationalities are wounded. The wounded are being treated as suspects in the attacks on the IDF by the Israelis. The Attorney General needs to rule on what to do

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UNCLASSIFIED

with these 55. Israelis may want to bring court cases against these, which argues against a quick release. But these are in the hands of the Attorney General.

Jeffrey Feltman
Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
Department of State
202-647-7209

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

From: Gordon, Philip H
Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 4:35 PM
To: Cunningham, James B; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Marsh, Denise M; 'Elizabeth_D._Sherwood-Randall'; 'bbrink'; Silliman, Douglas A
Cc: Hale, David M; Connelly, Maura
Subject: RE: MFA on cabinet meeting

B6

[redacted] very clear today that they wanted all of the passengers out, unconditionally. B6 If all not permitted to leave many others would refuse to leave. Important to get commitment on getting all out or big trouble ahead.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED

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

From: Cunningham, James B
Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 4:28 PM
To: Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group; Gordon, Philip H; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Marsh, Denise M; 'Elizabeth_D._Sherwood-Randall@nsc.eop.gov'; 'bbrink@nsc.eop.gov'; Silliman, Douglas A
Cc: Hale, David M; Connelly, Maura
Subject: Re: MFA on cabinet meeting

Mfa readout might not square with what [redacted] told me. I think they will B6 try to find a way to get most of the turkish out soon, and all in the near future. [redacted] said [redacted] is tasked to get the deportations working. We'll follow to see if they can make it work. He said decision was to get the Turks back.
Sent from my BlackBerry

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

From: Jeffrey, James F
To: Sievers, Marc J; Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group; Gordon, Philip H; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Marsh, Denise M; 'elizabeth.d.sherwood-randall'; [redacted] B6
<elizabeth.d.sherwood-randall>; 'bbrink'; [redacted]; Silliman, Douglas A
Cc: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Connelly, Maura
Sent: Tue Jun 01 23:20:42 2010
Subject: Re: MFA on cabinet meeting

This is going to be a disaster that Israelis will bring upon themselves. 'Lynching' video and what we know about IHH could help restore some balance but with this decision Israelis are going to deflect the entire story back on them. [redacted]

B5

[redacted]

[redacted] -it is politically and PD-wise insane. These people as 'all wounded' will

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UNCLASSIFIED

be seen as double victims and international pressure will eventually secure their release but only after rels with Turkey totally trashed and Israel back in the chopping block. This is so sad. Jim J

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

From: Sievers, Marc J

To: Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group

Cc: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Connelly, Maura

Sent: Tue Jun 01 23:08:22 2010

Subject: MFA on cabinet meeting

[REDACTED] called me to update on deportation authorB6y. Cabinet decided it has authority to expedite departure of all detainees not suspected of attacking Israeli military personnel. This apparently covers all those in detention in Beer Sheva. They will still be asked to sign release form, but oral request to leave Israel will be accepted.

Cabinet decided, however, to support police request to detain for possible investigation and perhaps prosecution those who are suspected of attacking Israeli military. He said this means basically all the wounded currently in hospitals and a small number of those in Beer Sheva will be held at least for a few more days while Attorney General decides how to proceed, it's not clear yet whether they will put any of them on trial. I noted this would scuttle understanding reached with Turks about evacuating Turkish wounded. He said that was correct.

UNCLASSIFIED

83

Schwartz, Jonathan B

From: Cleveland, Sarah H
Sent: Tuesday, June 08, 2010 12:27 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Subject: FW: Israel -Flotilla and beyond

RELEASE IN PART B5

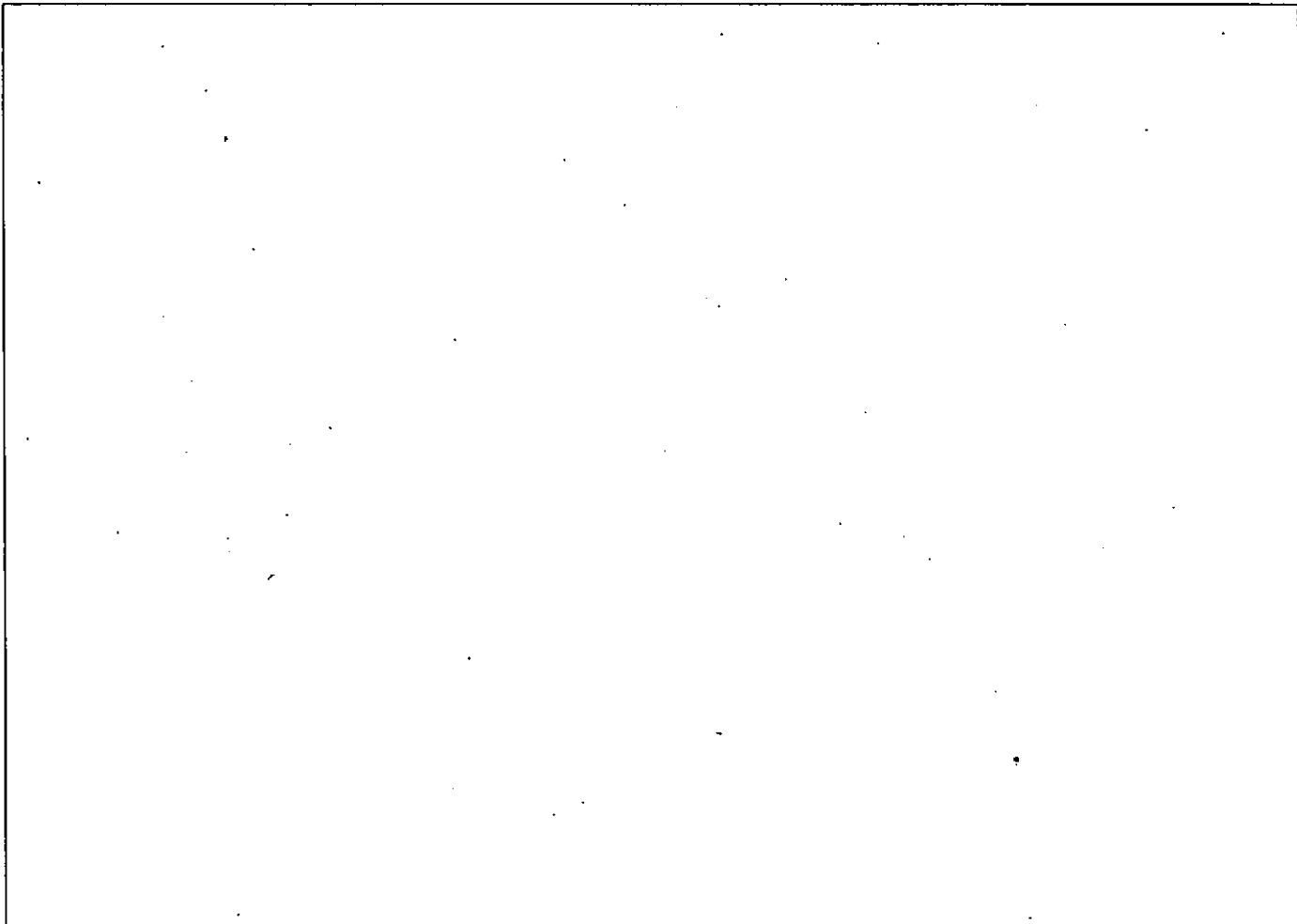
Importance: High

Jon - per the Samantha Power conversation, FYI.

From: Posner, Michael H
Sent: Tuesday, June 08, 2010 12:05 PM
To: 'Power, Samantha J.'; Feltman, Jeffrey D
Cc: 'Busby, Scott W.'; Graze, Deborah E; Koh, Harold Hongju
Subject: FW: Israel -Flotilla and beyond
Importance: High

B5

Samantha and Jeff



Please let me know if there is anything further I can do to advance this option in internal USG discussions.

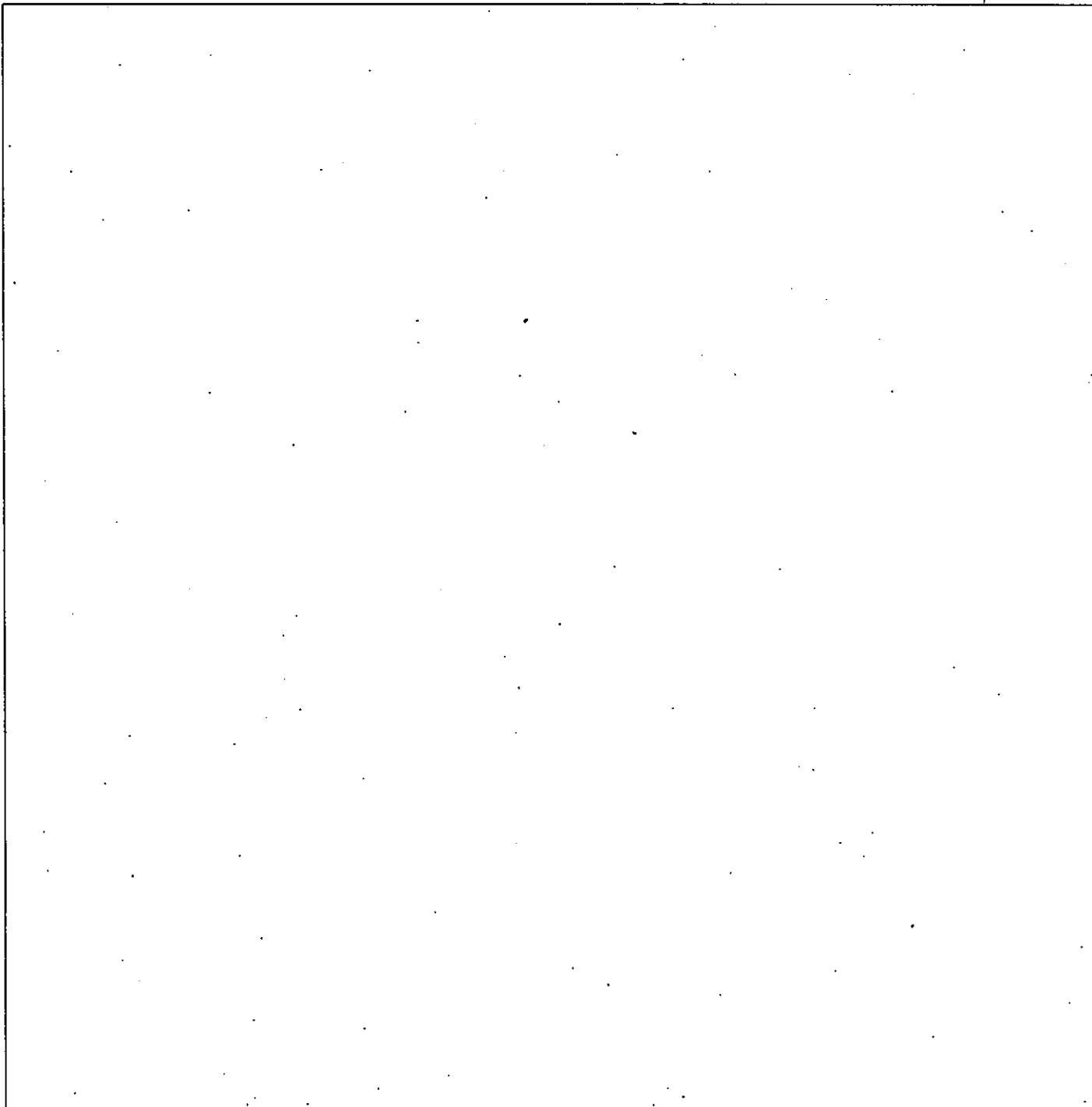
Law, Rosemary C

From: Donoghue, Joan E
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 9:53 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: Thessin, James H; Townley, Stephen G; Pomper, Stephen E; Cleveland, Sarah H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Guarin, Marc F; Koh, Harold Hongju
Subject:

RELEASE IN PART B5

B5

Dear Jake--



B5

Page Denied

B5

Regards,

Joan

RELEASED IN PART B5

Law, Rosemary C

From: Donoghue, Joan E
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 11:33 AM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: Jacobson, Linda; Townley, Stephen G
Subject: Investigation options

Jake,

Some additional thoughts, as discussed this morning.
Joan

[Redacted]

B5

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

RELEASED IN PART B5

Law, Rosemary C

From: Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 10:51 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Sullivan, David B; Townley, Stephen G; Pomper, Stephen E
Cc: Jacobson, Linda; Harris, Robert K
Subject: FW: US flagged vessels

Can you keep Linda and me looped in on anything flotilla related?

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 9:41 AM
To: Hale, David M; Rubinstein, Daniel H; 'dshapiro@nsc.eop.gov'; Cunningham, James B; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Sievers, Marc J; Waters, John R
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Subject: Fw: US flagged vessels

L's info, per Coast Guard, is that one of the second wave vessels is US registered/flagged.

From: Baumert, Kevin A
To: Thessin, James H
Cc: Townley, Stephen G; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Harris, Robert K; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
Sent: Wed Jun 02 09:34:35 2010
Subject: RE: US flagged vessels

Update -- USCG confirms that its database shows that the vessel is validly registered in Delaware. [REDACTED]

B5

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 12:08 AM
To: Thessin, James H
Cc: Townley, Stephen G; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Harris, Robert K; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
Subject: US flagged vessels

Jim – in case this comes up tomorrow, here is the situation as I understand it regarding the apparently US flagged vessels.

In terms of the facts –

- There are two vessels – Challenger I and Challenger II – that have been involved in this incident and are believed to be U.S. flagged vessels. Challenger I is believed to have been part of the flotilla that was intercepted on Monday by the IDF, although there were no violent confrontations with this vessel. Challenger II is believed to have had mechanical difficulties and may be intended to breach the blockade in the coming days (estimates range from Wed to Saturday).
- We are not certain that the vessels are properly registered in the United States. Greek port authority documentation showed both vessels as having Delaware registration numbers. Coast Guard is still checking whether those registrations are still valid; we should know tomorrow. IDF reported at various times that these vessels were actually flying Greek and St. Vincent flags (after earlier suggesting we take action because they were U.S. flagged). This also raises some doubt as to their nationality.

- It appears there are 12-20 persons on each vessel; Challenger II does not appear to include any AMCITs (again, based on Greek port docs). Cargo - humanitarian or otherwise - is not known. The two vessels are pleasure craft (yachts) that apparently do not tend to make international voyages. They are not equipped with identification/tracking gear, which makes locating them more difficult.
- Efforts were underway on Friday-Saturday to notify the vessel/owners and pass them a warning regarding potential consequences of unlawful activity. Unclear whether the vessels or owners have been reached yet (and efforts to reach Challenger II may have been aborted because it dropped out of the original flotilla). We are seeking an update on the facts.



B5

Thanks,
Kevin

RELEASED IN PART B5

From: Posner, Michael H
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 12:31 PM
To: Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL)
Cc: Stanfield, Emily; Sicade, Lynn M (DRL); Cassidy, Joseph P; McGeeney, Kristen R (DRL); Lieberman, Jessica D (DRL); Fitzpatrick, Kathleen M; Graze, Deborah E
Subject: RE: L Note to S on Flotilla - comments requested this afternoon

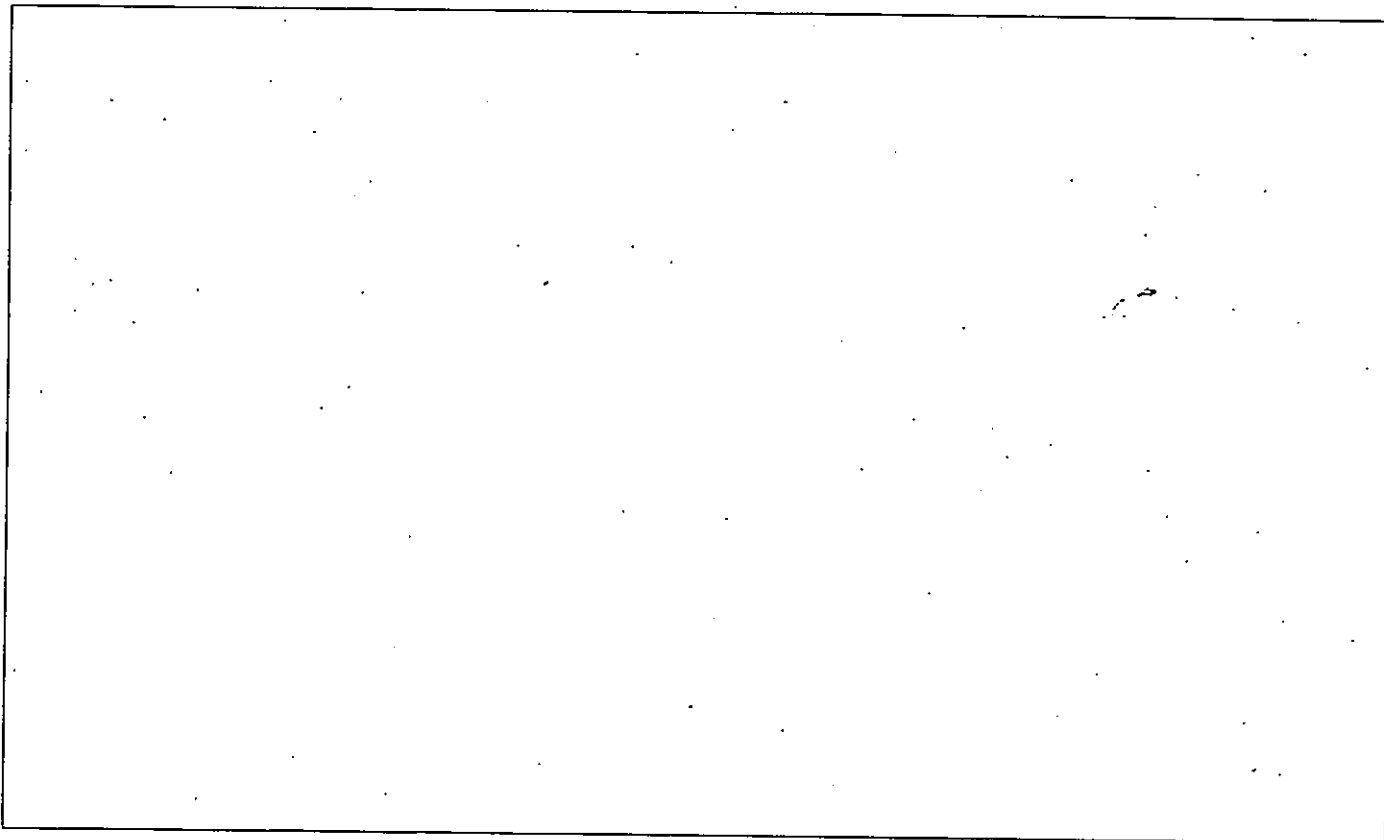
From: Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL)
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 11:56 AM
To: Posner, Michael H
Cc: Stanfield, Emily; Sicade, Lynn M (DRL); Cassidy, Joseph P; McGeeney, Kristen R (DRL); Lieberman, Jessica D (DRL); Fitzpatrick, Kathleen M
Subject: L Note to S on Flotilla - comments requested this afternoon

Hi A/S Posner,

L has shared their note to S with us. It covers legal issues around the flotilla issue [redacted] B5
[redacted] My changes are in bold and highlighted as I understand you are reading on blackberry. I also
attached in track changes. [redacted]

[redacted] Could you take a look and let me know if you have
any further comments?

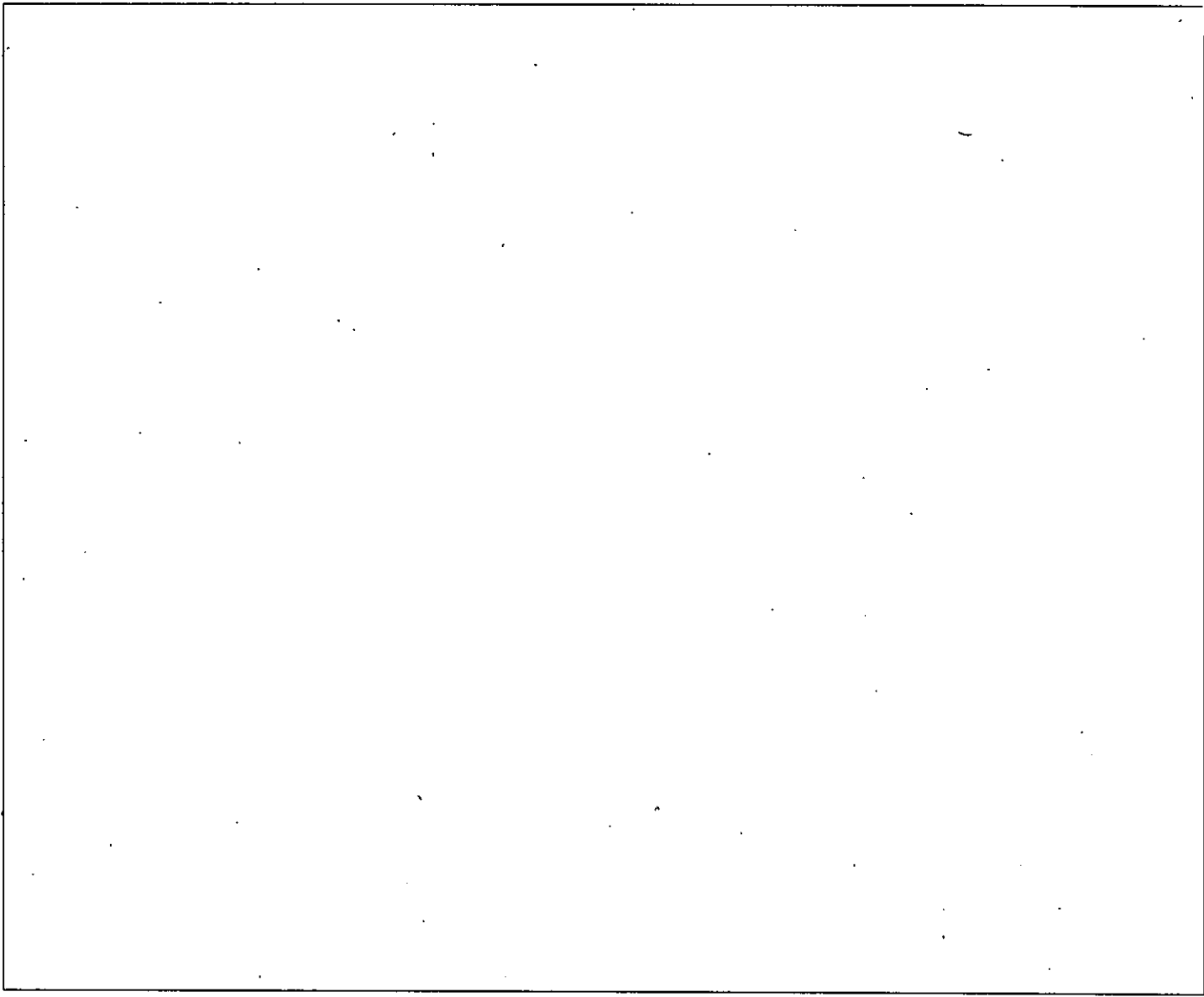
Thank you,
Sarah



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Sarah Johnston-Gardner
Foreign Affairs Officer
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)
Office of Multilateral and Global Affairs (MLGA)
202-647-2286

From: Gorove, Katherine M
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2010 4:43 PM
To: Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL); Nossel, Suzanne F; Banos, Mariano H; Honigstein, Michael D
Subject: flotilla Note, for comments

This is a note we have prepared for Harold Koh to send to S, possibly tomorrow. Harold has not reviewed yet, but I'd be interested in any comments you may have. Before noon tomorrow, please. Thanks so much, Kate

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~
Sensitive



Info Office: MIT, PASS_BUCZACKI, PMIT

MRN:		13 TEL AVIV 451
Date/DTG:		Jul 18, 2013 / 181703Z JUL 13
From:		AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
Action:	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">RELEASE IN PART B1, 1.4(D),NR</div>	WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.:		13526
TAGS:		PREL, PINR, PTER, MOPS, MCAP, KNNP, KPAL, IR, IS, SY, EG, LE, JO
Captions:		SENSITIVE, NOFORN
Subject:		Scenesetter for July 23-24 Interagency Visit on Israel FMF and Regional Developments

Summary

1. (S/NF)

NR

[Redacted]

NR

Major Defense Issues

2. (S/NF) [Redacted]

NR

Domestic Political Context

3. (SBU) [Redacted]

NR

Israeli Views of the Region

4. (G)

[Redacted]

NR

5. (S/NF)

[Redacted]

NR

6. (S)

[Redacted]

NR

[Redacted]

NR

7. (S)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

NR

8. (S/NF)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

NR

9. (S/NF)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

NR

[Redacted]

NR

10. (S/NF)

[Redacted]

NR

11. (S/NF)

[Redacted]

NR

[Redacted]

NR

12. (S)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

NR

13. (S/NF)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

NR

[Redacted]

NR

14. (S)

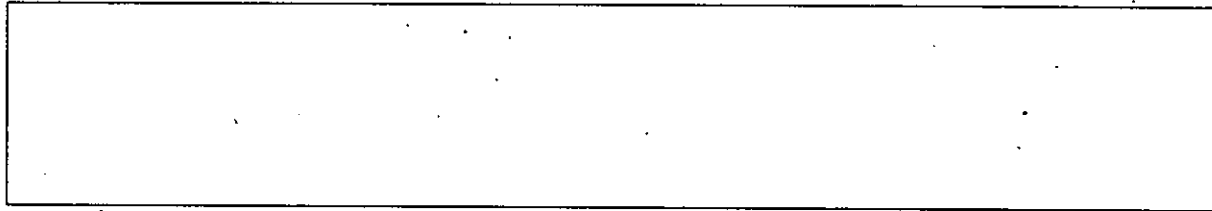
[Redacted]

NR

15. (S/NF)

[Redacted]

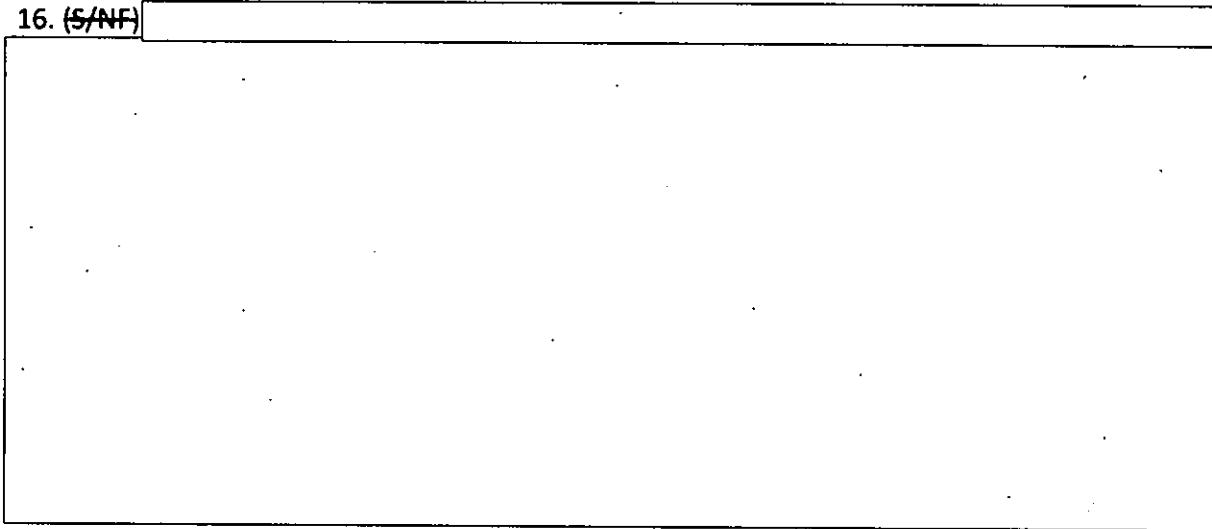
NR



NR

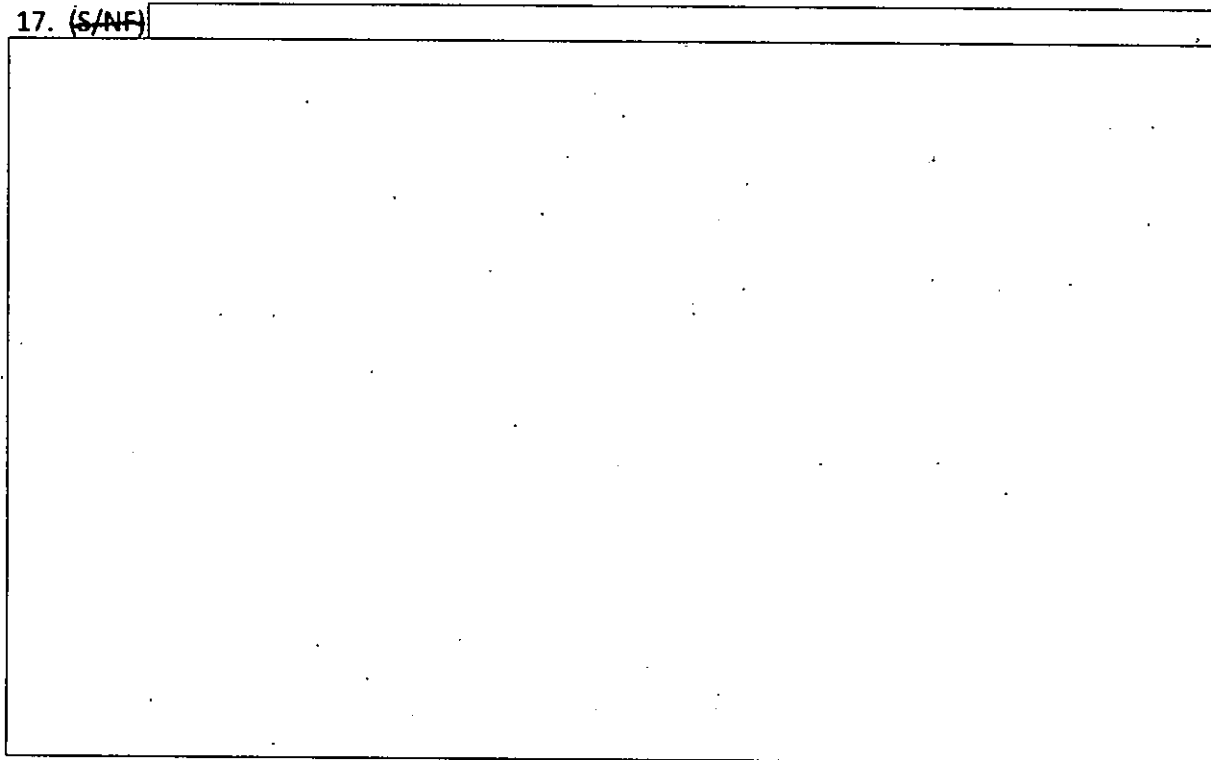
Defense and Military Cooperation

16. (S/NF)



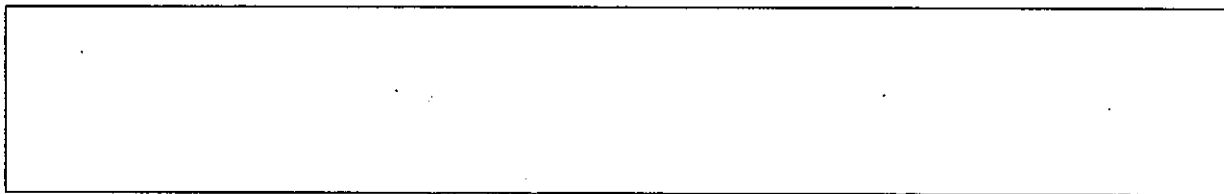
NR

17. (S/NF)



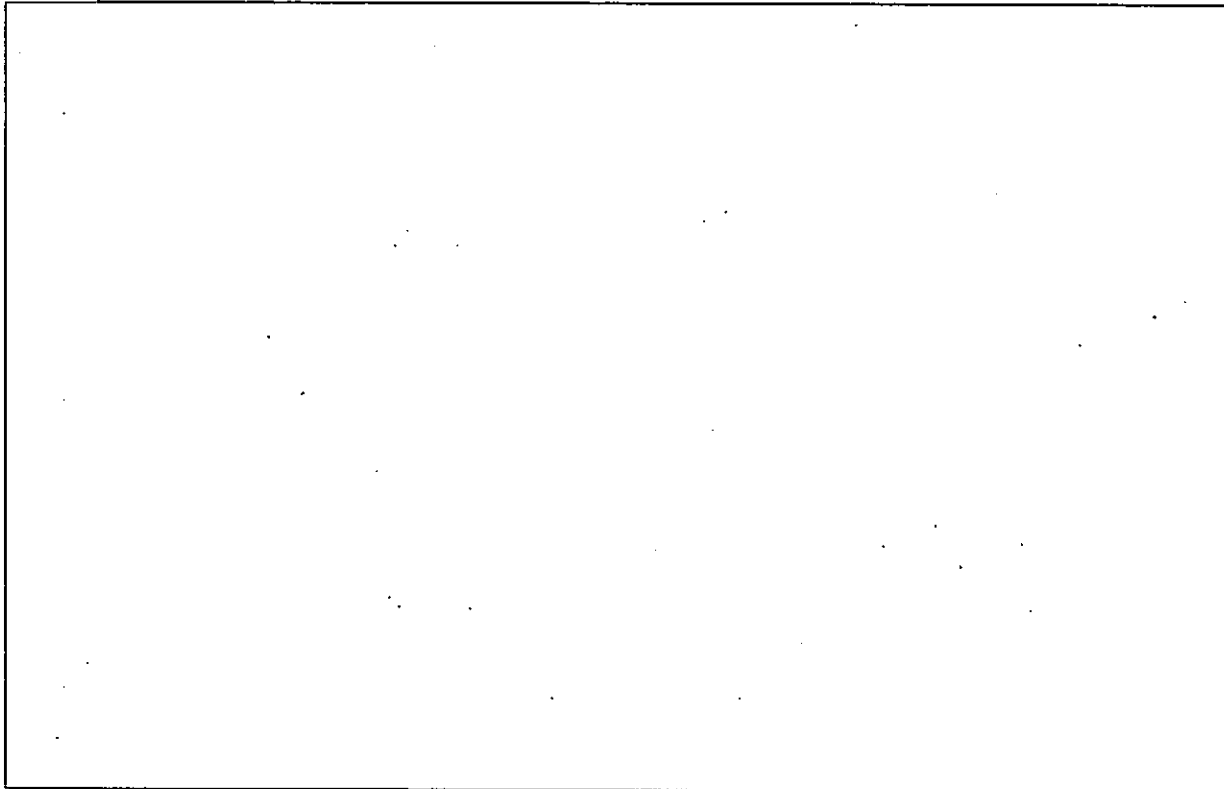
1.4(D)
B1





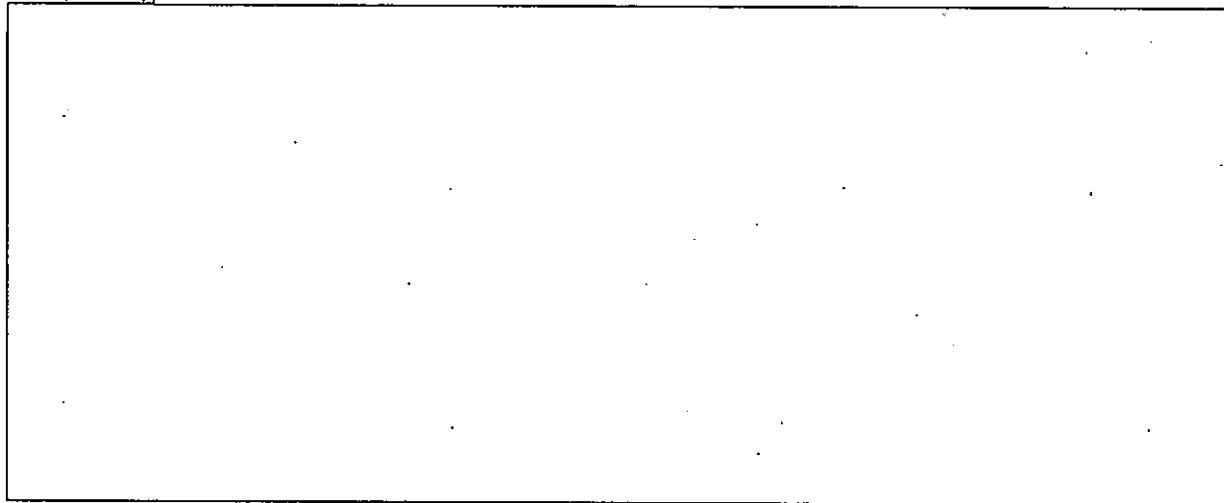
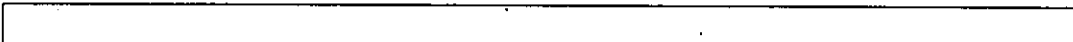
1.4(D)
B1
B5

18. (C)

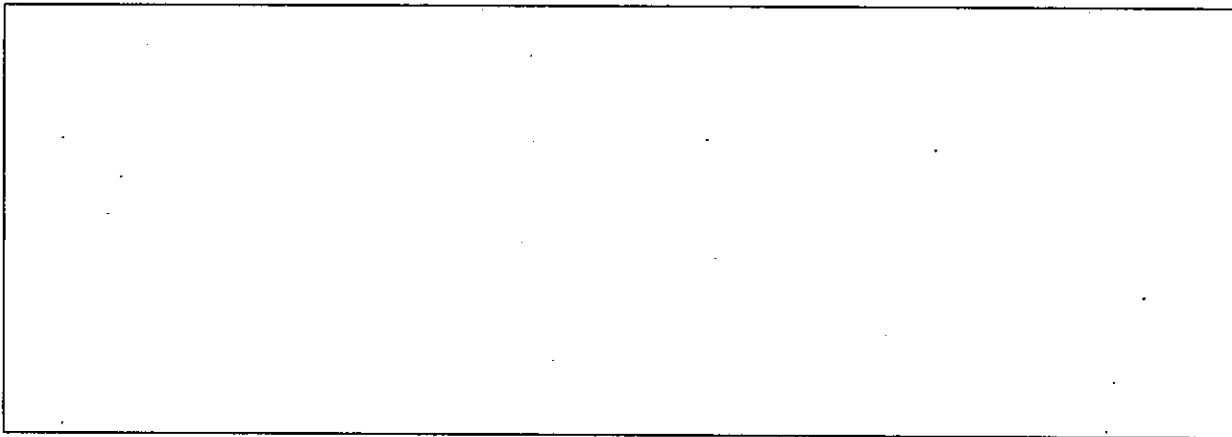


NR

19. (S//NF)

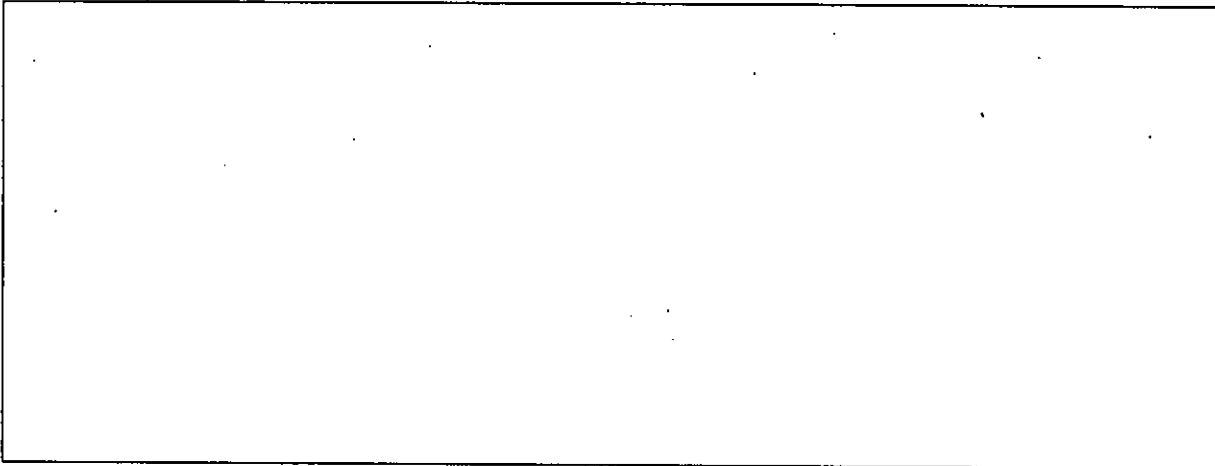


NR



NR

20. (S//NF)



NR

Signature: SHAPIRO

Classified By: Name: Daniel B. Shapiro, Title: Ambassador
Office: U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv
Agency: Department of State

Derived From: DSCG 11-01

Declassify On: 2038/07/18

Drafted By: TEL AVIV:Duwan, Gottlieb J

Cleared By: Forden, Robert W
Public Diplomacy:Olsin-Windecker, Hilary S
POL:Weigold Schultz, Eva A
Fisher, David L (Tel Aviv)
Cyril, Todd (DATT)

Approved By: EXEC:Shapiro, Daniel B (Tel Aviv)

Released By: TEL AVIV:Duwan, Gottlieb J

Info: OSD WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON DC RHEHAAA ROUTINE; IRAN COLLECTIVE ROUTINE

Action Post: NONE
Dissemination Rule: DIS_MIT, PASS_BUCZACKI, DIS_PMIT

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Sensitive

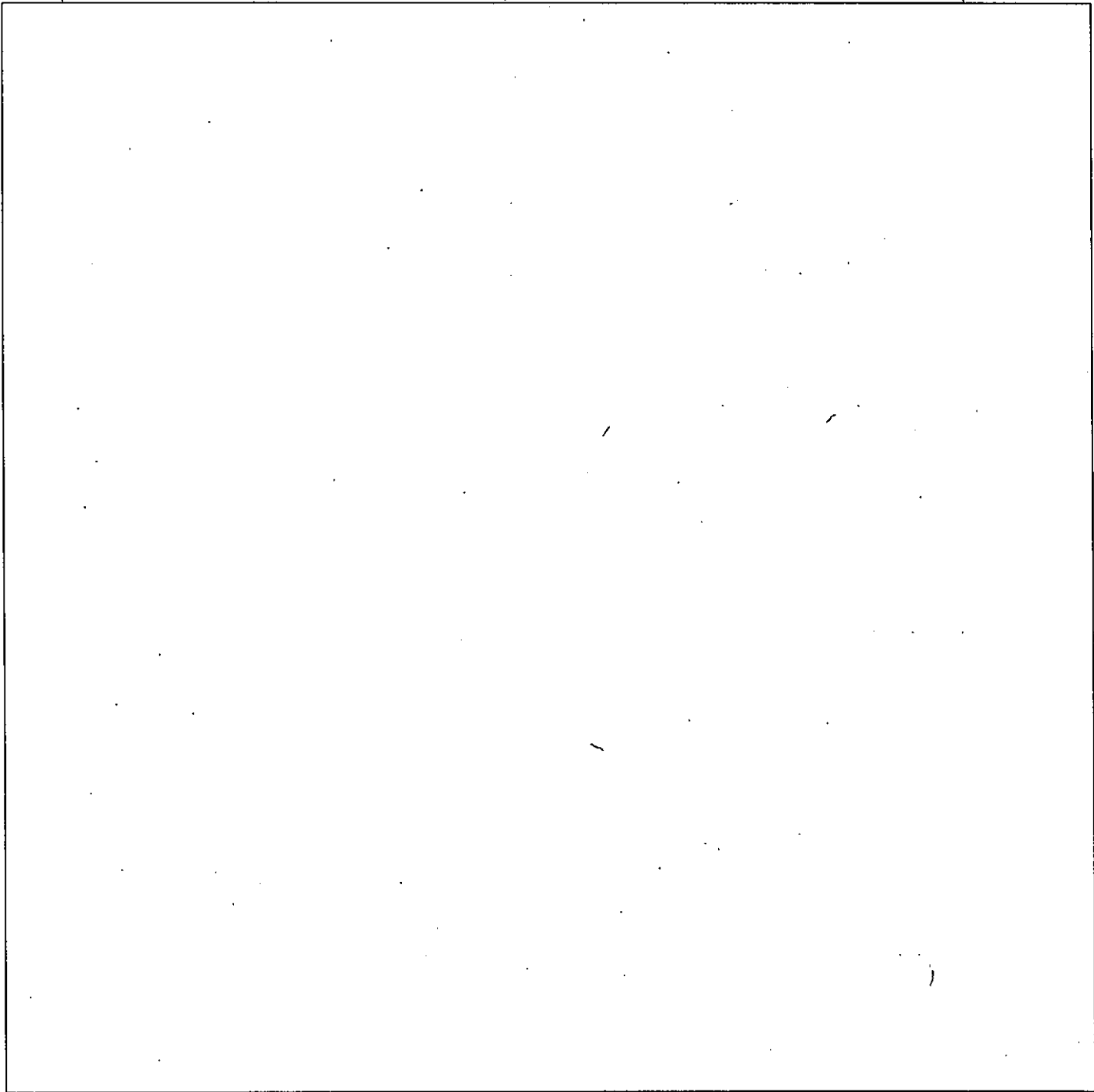
RELEASED IN PART B5

Law, Rosemary C

From: Grosh, Lisa J.
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2010 8:46 PM
To: Donoghue, Joan E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Kovar, Jeffrey D; Feldman, Mark E; Carlson, Hugh A
Subject: FW: Flotilla -- International Standrds for Investigation

Joan/Jonathan:

B5



[Redacted]

B5

Let

us know if you have any questions or want us to probe further. Lisa

From: Feldman, Mark E
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2010 5:22 PM
To: Carlson, Hugh A
Cc: Grosh, Lisa J.
Subject: RE: Flotilla/MST

Thanks, Hugh. Lisa – please see Hugh’s initial research on the flotilla issue. Mark

From: Carlson, Hugh A
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2010 5:02 PM
To: Feldman, Mark E
Subject: Flotilla/MST

Hi Mark,

As some additional background to the flotilla issue: A 19-year-old American citizen was among the nine persons killed by Israeli forces. An internal investigation led by IDF is currently underway, with an anticipated report release date of July 4. [Redacted]

B5

[Redacted]

When you have a moment, please let me know how you would like me to proceed from here.

Best,
Hugh

RELEASED IN PART B5

I 3lelo

Law, Rosemary C

From: Sindle, James M
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 8:41 PM
To: Connelly, Maura
Cc: NEA-IPA-DL
Subject: FW: U.S. flagged vessels in the second wave of the GAZA Flotilla

Below is L/OES's legal views regarding how we might deal with Challenger II. Highlighted portion describes the option we're currently looking at.

Jim

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 8:24 PM
To: Sindle, James M; Maggi, Robert W
Cc: PM-Counter-Piracy-DL; Countryman, Thomas; Maxwell, Raymond D; Johns, Terry M; O'Brien, Gregory J (OES); Frederick, Jeffrey D; Kirshner, Amy Coletta; Polizzotto, Susan; 'Frederick.J.Kenney@uscg.mil'; Darr, Charles
Subject: RE: U.S. flagged vessels in the second wave of the GAZA Flotilla

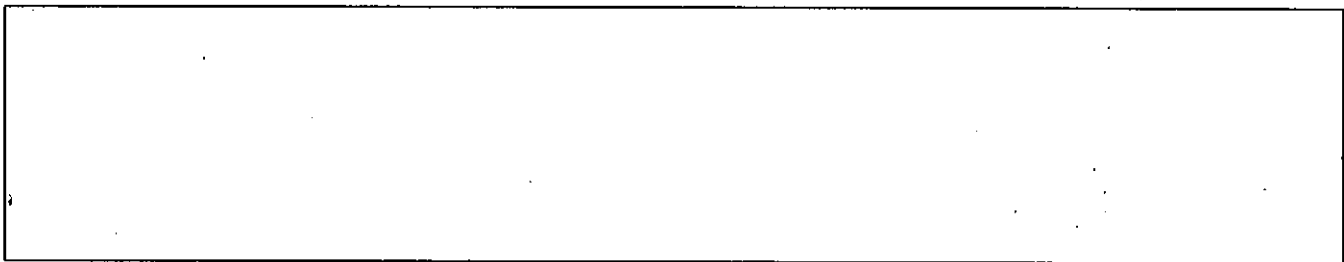
Pasted below are some factual/legal bullets, which L/FO provided informally to the 7th floor....some of which respond to questions posed in the email string below. Also, I'm copying USCG colleagues, since some of the legal angles are in their lane (and they are of course invited to correct or amplify, as appropriate).

Thanks,
Kevin

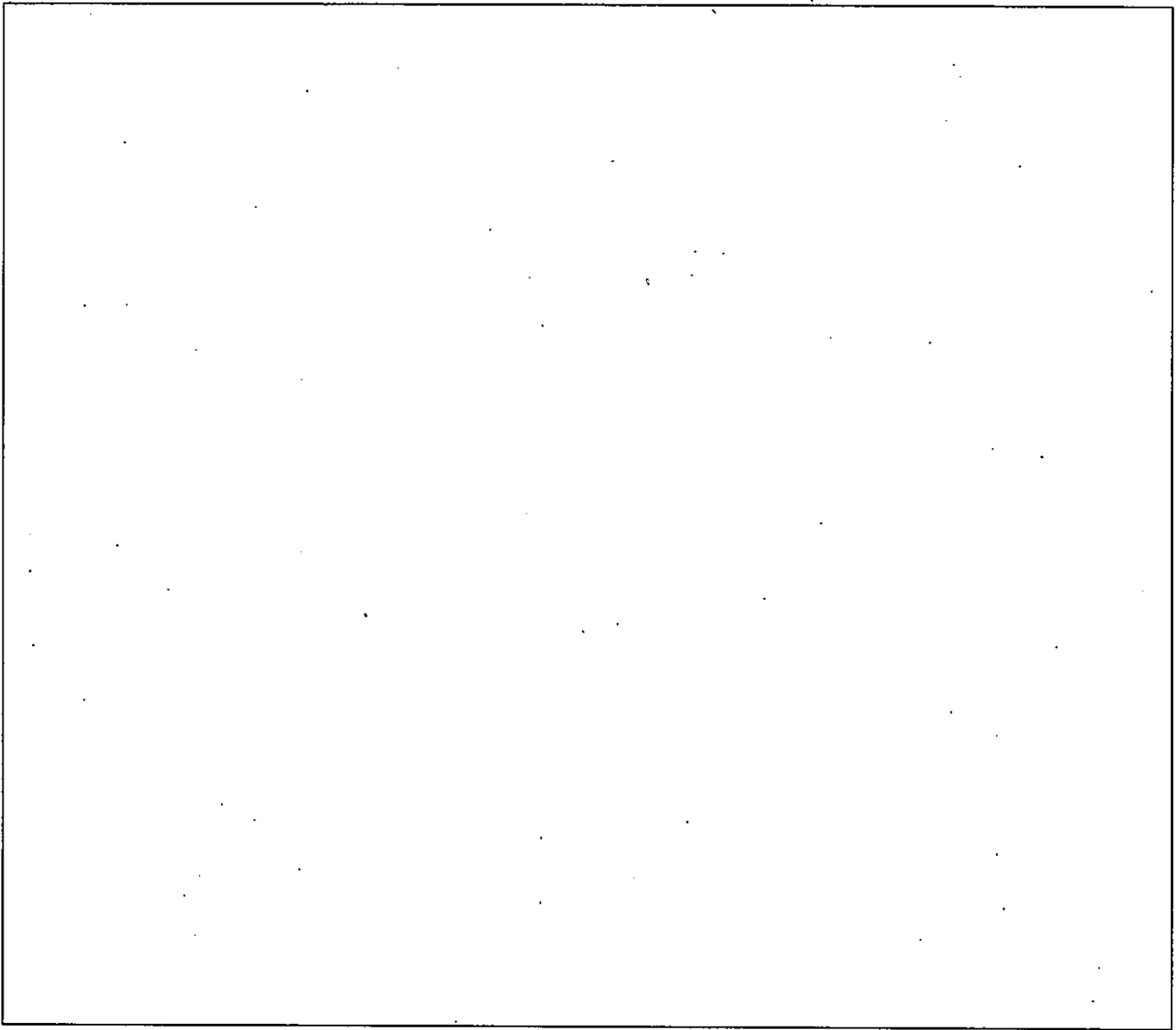
Factual Issues

- There are two vessels – Challenger I and Challenger II – that have been involved in this incident and are confirmed as U.S. flagged yachts (Delaware registered). Challenger I is believed to have been part of the flotilla that was intercepted on Monday by the IDF, although there were no violent confrontations with this vessel.
- Although the facts are uncertain, Challenger II is believed to be currently in the Cypriot port of Limassol, with the likely intent of breaching the blockade in the coming days. Cypriot authorities have stated that they are not allowing ships to depart for the blockade.
- It appears there are 12-20 persons on each vessel; Challenger II does not appear to have any AMCITs on board. As a pleasure craft, it is not equipped with identification/tracking gear, which makes it harder to track its location.

Legal issues and possible courses of action



B5



From: Sindle, James M

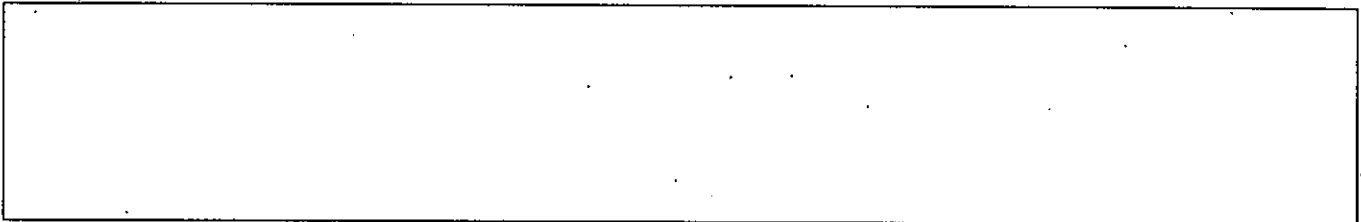
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 12:12 PM

To: Baumert, Kevin A; Maggi, Robert W

Cc: PM-Counter-Piracy-DL; Countryman, Thomas; Maxwell, Raymond D; 'Cook, Kevin RDML'; Johns, Terry M; O'Brien, Gregory J (OES); Frederick, Jeffrey D; Kirshner, Amy Coletta; Polizzotto, Susan

Subject: RE: U.S. flagged vessels in the second wave of the GAZA Flotilla

Kevin,



Thanks,

Jim Sindle
Pol-Mil Officer
Office of Israel and Palestinian Affairs
U.S. Department of State

Unclassified: SindleJM@state.gov
Classified: SindleJM@state.sgov.gov

202-647-4386 (office)

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 11:59 AM
To: Maggi, Robert W
Cc: PM-Counter-Piracy-DL; Countryman, Thomas; Sindle, James M; Maxwell, Raymond D; 'Cook, Kevin RDML'; Johns, Terry M; O'Brien, Gregory J (OES); Frederick, Jeffrey D; Kirshner, Amy Coletta
Subject: RE: U.S. flagged vessels in the second wave of the GAZA Flotilla

Turk - to try to get a better sense of legally available options, I have a call set up with USCG legal folks at 1430.

B5

Thanks, Kevin

From: Maggl, Robert W
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 11:49 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A
Cc: PM-Counter-Piracy-DL; Countryman, Thomas; Sindle, James M; Maxwell, Raymond D; Cook, Kevin RDML; Johns, Terry M; O'Brien, Gregory J (OES); Frederick, Jeffrey D; Kirshner, Amy Coletta
Subject: FW: U.S. flagged vessels in the second wave of the GAZA Flotilla

Kevin, thanks!

Best
turk

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 9:36 AM
To: Sindle, James M; Polizzotto, Susan; Warner, Trent (OES-OPA); Johns, Terry M; O'Brien, Gregory J (OES); Frederick, Jeffrey D
Subject: RE: US flagged vessels

Just to keep this group on the same page, Susan has confirmed that the relevant USCG's database shows that the vessel is validly registered in Delaware.

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From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 12:08 AM
To: Thessin, James H
Cc: Townley, Stephen G; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Harris, Robert K; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
Subject: US flagged vessels

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[REDACTED]

In terms of the facts –

- There are two vessels – Challenger I and Challenger II – that have been involved in this incident and are believed to be U.S. flagged vessels. Challenger I is believed to have been part of the flotilla that was intercepted on Monday by the IDF, although there were no violent confrontations with this vessel. Challenger II is believed to have had mechanical difficulties and may be intended to breach the blockade in the coming days (estimates range from Wed to Saturday).
- We are not certain that the vessels are properly registered in the United States. Greek port authority documentation showed both vessels as having Delaware registration numbers. Coast Guard is still checking whether those registrations are still valid; we should know tomorrow. IDF reported at various times that these vessels were actually flying Greek and St. Vincent flags (after earlier suggesting we take action because they were U.S. flagged). This also raises some doubt as to their nationality.
- It appears there are 12-20 persons on each vessel; Challenger II does not appear to include any AMCITs (again, based on Greek port docs). Cargo - humanitarian or otherwise – is not known. The two vessels are pleasure craft (yachts) that apparently do not tend to make international voyages. They are not equipped with identification/tracking gear, which makes locating them more difficult.
- Efforts were underway on Friday-Saturday to notify the vessel/owners and pass them a warning regarding potential consequences of unlawful activity. Unclear whether the vessels or owners have been reached yet (and efforts to reach Challenger II may have been aborted because it dropped out of the original flotilla). We are seeking an update on the facts.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] I will provide updates as the factual picture develops.

Thanks,

Kevin