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Folder Title: Terrorism Groups: Hizballah
[Hezbollah] (1)

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Collection Name COUNTERTERRORISM AND NARCOTICS, NSC:
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Withdrawer

SMF 3/20/2009

File Folder TERRORISM GROUPS: HIZBALLAH [HEZBOLLAH] (1)

FOIA

F05-109/1

Box Number RAC BOX 7

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25

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
67372	CABLE	217454 D 1/16/2013 M361/1	2	12/22/1986	B1 B3
67373	REPORT	RE HIZBALLAH PAR 4/10/2013 M361/1	4	3/1/1987	B1 B3
67374	CABLE	371089 D 1/16/2013 M361/1	3	3/28/1987	B1 B3
67375	CABLE	446993 D 1/16/2013 M361/1	3	5/12/1987	B1 B3
67376	REPORT	RE HIZBALLAH D 1/16/2013 M361/1	2	5/26/1987	B1 B3
67377	CABLE	473975 D 1/16/2013 M361/1	2	5/28/1987	B1 B3
67378	CABLE	543708 D 1/16/2013 M361/1	2	7/8/1987	B1 B3
67379	CABLE	STATE 232192 R 3/21/2012 M361/1	2	7/28/1987	B1
67380	CABLE	611450 D 1/16/2013 M361/1	2	8/18/1987	B1 B3

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

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67381	CABLE	281750Z AUG 87 D 10/12/2012 M361/1	2	8/29/1987	B1
67382	CABLE	646025 PAR 1/16/2013 M361/1	2	9/9/1987	B1 B3
67383	CABLE	111727Z SEP 87 D 11/2/2013 M361/1	2	9/11/1987	B1 B3
67384	CABLE	DAMASCUS 05316 PAR 3/21/2012 M361/1	2	9/22/1987	B1
67385	CABLE	KUWAIT 07519 R 3/21/2012 M361/1	1	11/11/1987	B1
67386	CABLE	832735 D 1/16/2013 M361/1	2	1/5/1988	B1 B3
67387	CABLE	RE LEBANON D 1/16/2013 M361/1	2	3/4/1988	B1 B3
67388	CABLE	954756 D 1/16/2013 M361/1	3	3/16/1988	B1 B3
67389	CABLE	984570 D 1/16/2013 M361/1	2	4/1/1988	B1 B3
67390	CABLE	PARIS 13966 PAR 10/12/2012 M361/1	4	4/19/1988	B1

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	217454			B3

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Defense Research Comment

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(b) (3)



358

of Hizballah

E. O. 12958 13526
As Amended
Sec. 1.4(b), 1.4(c)

Development of the
Hizballah Strategy in South Lebanon (U)

~~(S/NF)~~ The Hizballah (Party of God) has proclaimed its intention to create an Islamic republic in Lebanon along the lines of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Initial efforts were first evidenced in the Bekaa Valley and southern suburbs of West Beirut. In the past year, the Hizballah has increasingly directed its attention and energies toward predominantly Shi'a-populated south Lebanon, developing a clear strategy aimed at eliminating Israeli and Lebanese Christian presence in that area.

67373

~~(S/NF)~~ South Lebanon is the heartland of Lebanon's Shi'a community and the Hizballah is in competition with the Amal Movement for constituents in the region. The Hizballah also finds itself at odds with Amal's fight against the Palestinians in the "camps war." The Hizballah, believing that the camps war detracts from the primary goal of confronting Israel, openly seeks to resolve the conflict and to redirect Palestinian and Amal forces toward operations against Israel.

~~(S/NF)~~ Amal, Israeli, and Army of South Lebanon (ASL) attempts to resist the Hizballah inroads into southern Lebanon, on both military and propoganda terms, have been unsuccessful. The Hizballah efforts to harass Israeli/ASL positions have received increased support among the Shi'a population, forcing Amal to reluctantly increase its support for the Hizballah's strategic plans.

~~(S/NF)~~ The Hizballah attacks are occurring with greater frequency and have visibly demoralized and deteriorated the ASL and bolstered the Shi'a population's will to resist foreign occupation. Unless a successful military or political response to the gains of the Hizballah is implemented, much of south Lebanon may eventually become a fundamentalist Islamic canton in and of itself.

Strategic Importance of South Lebanon

~~(S/NF)~~ The Hizballah (Party of God) leadership has repeatedly proclaimed its intention to create an Islamic republic in Lebanon modeled upon the Islamic Republic of Iran. Hizballah is a religiously motivated party which portrays itself as representing all Muslims, but its roots are clearly Shi'a and the Iranian influence in its teachings is strong. One of the party's primary goals is to replace the Amal Movement as the major spokesman for the Shi'a Muslim community — the most populous and least privileged sect to emerge over the past decade as an instrumental force in Lebanon's volatile political arena.

~~(S/NF)~~ The Iranian leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, is considered the supreme commander of the Hizballah movement and his views are translated into guidance and instructions by Iran's Supreme Defense Council. Policies pertaining to Lebanon are then sent to either the Iranian Ambassador in Damascus or the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) contingent in Lebanon. Iran established and continues to sponsor the Lebanese Consultative Council in an attempt to better coordinate its policy in Lebanon. Inside Lebanon, Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah is considered the spiritual leader of the Hizballah, while its military operations are normally supervised by the IRGC.

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BY KAL NARA DATE 4/10/13



of the Hizballah forces from the Bekaa to south Lebanon must be controlled. This may include Israeli military operations outside of the Security Zone and possibly into the heart of the Bekaa Valley, which could prove quite costly and probably would be challenged by Syrian forces stationed in that part of Lebanon.

~~(S/NF)~~ While the Hizballah's achievements appear to have influenced its efforts in gaining ground in south Lebanon, Israel contends that the Hizballah still plays a limited role in the region. Its growth is attributed more to its financial resources and less to its ideological appeal among the poor, Shi'a community. Its weakness is that it focuses on the religious dimension and neglects the social aspects of society, something Amal doctrine emphasizes.

~~(S/NF)~~ The Hizballah can be expected to continue to mount hit-and-run attacks throughout south Lebanon at periodic intervals depending upon its ability to stockpile supplies and replenish existing caches. The Hizballah leadership has stated its acceptance of probable high casualty rates in its determination to implement its political plans throughout Lebanon.

~~(S/NF)~~ The Hizballah will continue to emphasize that it is properly focused on actions against the occupying forces of Israel and its surrogate, the ASL, while belittling the Amal tendency to pursue an inter-Arab struggle with the Palestinian militias. Whether this will significantly influence the local populace remains to be seen. Syria will most likely increase its military and political support to the Amal to counter the Hizballah gains, particularly since the Hizballah efforts run counter to Syrian interests in Lebanon. Whether either Israel with the ASL or Syria with the Amal shows enough determination to halt Hizballah's growing presence in south Lebanon will greatly affect how successful Hizballah military and political strategies are in the region.

Defense Intelligence Agency

Prospects for the Future

~~(S/NF)~~ The potential for the Hizballah's dominance in south Lebanon is high. Neither Israel nor the ASL has been able to adequately deter the Hizballah attacks or to extract a prohibitive price from the Hizballah for its recent boldness. At the same time, the ASL is becoming increasingly demoralized and more dependent upon Israeli military support; i.e., airstrikes and artillery bombardments. This has helped to increase the Hizballah's stature among the Shi'a population at the expense of the Amal, who are frustrated by their lack of success in the camps war against the Palestinians. In order to stem the tide of Hizballah's success, movement

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67374	CABLE	3	3/28/1987	B1
	371089			B3

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67375	CABLE	3	5/12/1987	B1
446993				B3

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67376	REPORT RE HIZBALLAH	2	5/26/1987	B1 B3

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67377	CABLE	2	5/28/1987	B1
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67378	CABLE	2	7/8/1987	B1
	543708			B3

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E.O. 12958: DECL: OADR
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 INTRUM 117, JULY 28, 1987

USDEL WRRP VIENNA FOR AMBASSADOR
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 L E R A N O W : H I Z B A L L A H - -
 F A C T I O N A L I S M

1. ~~(S)~~ INTERNAL DIFFERENCES HAVE BEGUN TO APPEAR WITHIN HIZBALLAH, DESPITE THE UNITY IT CONTINUES TO DISPLAY. SYRIA AND IRAN MAY EVENTUALLY EXPLOIT THIS DEVELOPMENT. BUT THE EMERGENCE OF FACTIONS COULD ALSO SPAWN RADICAL SPLITTER GROUPS EVEN MORE EAGER TO PURSUE ANTI-WESTERN TERRORISM.

SOURCES OF FACTIONALISM

2. ~~(S)~~ DISAGREEMENT OVER TACTICS IS ONE KEY DIFFERENCE WITHIN HIZBALLAH, AN ACADEMIC EXPERT SUGGESTS, AND A CAUSE OF EMERGING HIZBALLAH FACTIONALISM. SOME CLERICS, INCLUDING FARJALLAH, ARE PUBLICLY OPPOSED TO KIDNAPPING; OTHERS DEFEND IT AS A LEGITIMATE MEANS OF CONFRONTING THE WEST. DIFFERENCES ALSO EXIST ON STRATEGY TOWARD SYRIA. SOME PREFER ACCOMMODATION WHILE OTHERS BELIEVE IT BEST TO CONFRONT SYRIA--WHICH THEY CONSIDER AN UNSTEADY ALLY OF IRAN--THROUGH TERRORISM.

3. ~~(S)~~ TIES TO IRAN MAY ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO FACTIONALISM WITHIN HIZBALLAH. SOME CLERICS, PARTICULARLY THOSE BROUGHT INTO THE ORGANIZATION BY IRAN AFTER 1984, ARE

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 BY RW 3/21/15

WIDE SCHEMINGS ON BEHALF FOR GUIDANCE AND MORE LIKELY TO ANSWER STRICTLY TO ITS POLICY LINE.

4. (C) OTHERS, LIKE FADLALLAH, HAVE INDEPENDENT BASES OF SUPPORT AND RELIGIOUS AUTHORITY, AND CAN ACT MORE INDEPENDENTLY OF TEHRAN. COMPETITION AMONG POWER CENTERS IN TEHRAN--THE REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, EVEN RIVAL AYATOLLAHS--MAY ALSO PROMOTE FACTIONALISM WITHIN HIZBALLAH AS THE IRANIAN ACTORS TRY TO SET UP THEIR OWN LEBANESE SPHERES OF INFLUENCE.

5. (C) AS IN OTHER LEBANESE ORGANIZATIONS--NOTABLY, AMAL--REGIONAL DIFFERENCES AS WELL AS FAMILY AND PERSONAL RIVALRIES MAY ADD TO HIZBALLAH FACTIONALISM.

HIZBALLAH NOT HEADED FOR THE ROCKS

6. (C) HIZBALLAH, HOWEVER, IS NOT, WE BELIEVE, ON THE VERGE OF A BREAKUP. INDEED, "FACTIONALISM" MAY BE MISLEADING. THERE IS SCANT EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT HIZBALLAH HAS DIVIDED INTO DISCRETE FORMATIONS ACTIVELY OPPOSED TO ONE ANOTHER, AS IS INCREASINGLY THE CASE WITH AMAL. AT PRESENT, THE DIFFERENT GROUPINGS WITHIN HIZBALLAH SEEM TO REFLECT DIFFERING APPROACHES TO COMMON PROBLEMS; THE VARIOUS GROUPS APPARENTLY SHARE BROAD AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES AND GENERAL TACTICS, INCLUDING THE NECESSITY TO CONFRONT ISRAEL IN THE SECURITY ZONE.

OPPORTUNITIES . . .

7. (C) AS HIZBALLAH GROWS AND GAINS INFLUENCE--AND COMES UNDER HEAVIER PRESSURE FROM A WARY SYRIA--INTERNAL C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 STATE 232192 FOR NSFR DIFFERENCES ARE LIKELY TO BECOME MORE PRONOUNCED. ALTHOUGH HIZBALLAH IS LIKELY, WITH IRANIAN SUPPORT, TO MAINTAIN A COHERENT CORE, EVENTUALLY THE DIFFERENCES WILL PRESENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR SYRIA AND AMAL LEADER HARRI, BOTH OF WHOM MAY TRY TO CO-OPT HIZBALLAH'S MORE PRAGMATIC GROUPINGS TO ADVANCE THEIR POSITIONS IN LEBANON'S WUUGH-AND-TUMBLE POLITICS.

. . . BUT ALSO DANGER

8. (C) IF HIZBALLAH DIFFERENCES DO EMERGE INTO TRUE FACTIONALISM, THIS COULD ENGENDER EVEN MORE RADICAL GROUPS BEYOND THE DIRECT CONTROL OF IRAN AND HIZBALLAH'S RELIGIOUS MENTORS--HELPING TO PERPETUATE INSTABILITY IN LEBANON AND INCREASING THE DANGER OF ANTI-WESTERN TERRORISM. SHULTZ

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RUEATRS/TREASURY DEPT
RUEHSE/SECRET SERVICE//ID
RUEHFB/FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM
ZEN/CIA OFFICE OF CURRENT OPERATIONS
RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE//J-2
RUEOFAA/CDR JSOC FT BRAGG NC

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E.O. 12958-1 13526
~~As Amended~~
Sec. 1.4(c)

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<TEXT>
~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]
SECTION 1 OF 2
CITE [REDACTED]
SERIAL: [REDACTED]
PASS: NSA FOR ZKZK OO DLS DE (FOR NSOC).

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NLRR M361/1 #67382
BY KML NARA DATE 1/16/13

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.
REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]
DIST: 09 SEPTEMBER 1987
COUNTRY: LIBERIA/LEBANON
SUBJ: GROWTH AND ACTIVITIES OF HIZBALLAH IN LIBERIA
DOI: EARLY SEPTEMBER 1987
SOURCE: [REDACTED]

TEXT: 1. THE LIBERIA HIZBALLAH ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN GRANTED APPROVAL BY LEBANESE COMMUNITY PRESIDENT ABBAS ((FAWAZ)) AND THE LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT TO OPEN A CULTURAL CENTER TO BE CALLED THE ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION OF LIBERIA (IAL). FAWAZ DOES NOT SUPPORT THE INCREASING HIZBALLAH INFLUENCE IN THE LEBANESE COMMUNITY, BUT CAN NO LONGER DENY HIZBALLAH THE RIGHT TO PURSUE ITS RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL GOALS IN LIBERIA. HIZBALLAH MEMBERS BELIEVE FAWAZ WILL CONTINUE TO WORK BEHIND THE SCENES WITH HIS CONTACTS IN THE LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT AND IN LEBANON TO HAMPER HIZBALLAH EFFORTS.

2. ON 3 SEPTEMBER 1987, DURING THE FINAL RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL MEETING OF THE ASHIRA HOLY WEEK, HIZBALLAH RAISED \$48,000 TOWARD CONSTRUCTION OF AN OFFICE FOR THE IAL. OVER 600 PERSONS ATTENDED THE FINAL CEREMONY, LED BY SHAYKH ALI ((MERHI)). APPROXIMATELY HALF OF THE INDIVIDUALS ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE EITHER HIZBALLAH MEMBERS OR HIZBALLAH SYMPATHIZERS, AND ALL WERE EITHER LEBANESE EXPATRIATES OR INDIVIDUALS FROM OTHER ARAB NATIONALITIES. AT THIS TIME, THERE ARE NO LIBERIAN MEMBERS OF THE HIZBALLAH GROUP.

3. ~~SECRET~~ COMMENT: PRIOR TO THE ASHIRA HOLY WEEK, HIZBALLAH IN MONROVIA NUMBERED APPROXIMATELY 60 MEMBERS. DURING ASHIRA, HOWEVER, MANY PEOPLE WHO WERE PREVIOUSLY HIZBALLAH SYMPATHIZERS ACTUALLY JOINED HIZBALLAH. AT THIS POINT, IT IS DIFFICULT TO ESTIMATE THE NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS, BUT HIZBALLAH SHOULD REALIZE AN INCREASE OF AT LEAST 30 COMMITTED MEMBERS AS A RESULT OF THE ASHIRA

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CEREMONIES. THE NUMBER OF HIZBALLAH SYMPATHIZERS SHOULD ALSO INCREASE DRAMATICALLY.)

4. THE FUNDS TO CONSTRUCT OFFICES FOR THE IAL WERE SOLICITED BECAUSE HIZBALLAH PLANS TO USE THE IAL AS A COVER FOR ITS RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES. HIZBALLAH'S LONG-TERM GOAL IS TO DEVELOP A CADRE OF GOOD LIBERIAN MUSLIMS (SIC) WHO ARE LOYAL TO HIZBALLAH AND IRANIAN LEADER AYATOLLAH ((KHOMEINI)). PRIORITY IS TO BE GIVEN TO DEVELOPING QUALITY LIBERIAN HIZBALLAH MEMBERS RATHER THAN SIMPLY RECRUITING AS MANY LIBERIANS AS POSSIBLE TO HIZBALLAH. IN THE SHORT TERM, HIZBALLAH WILL INTENSIFY ITS RECRUITMENT EFFORTS AMONG THE LEBANESE COMMUNITY IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN THE RECRUITING AND TRAINING ASPECTS OF THE LIBERIA HIZBALLAH ORGANIZATION. HIZBALLAH WILL THEN BEGIN ENTICING LIBERIAN MUSLIMS TO JOIN THE IAL, SELECTING THE MOST DEVOUT TO JOIN HIZBALLAH. ULTIMATELY, HIZBALLAH HOPES TO BE ABLE TO DIRECT ITS RECRUITING EFFORTS TOWARD CONVERSION OF LIBERIAN CHRISTIANS TO THE SHIA VERSION OF ISLAM.

5. WHILE NOT INTENDED TO BE USED AS A MOSQUE, BOTH RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN THE IAL OFFICES. IN ADDITION, HIZBALLAH WILL MAINTAIN A LIBRARY OF PROPAGANDA MANUALS AND VIDEO TAPES IN THE IAL OFFICE. HIZBALLAH HAS BEGUN SOLICITATION FOR TELEVISIONS AND VIDEO RECORDERS FOR USE IN THE LIBRARY. (SOURCE COMMENT: HIZBALLAH HAS NOT SOLICITED ANY FUNDS FROM LEBANON OR IRAN TO ADVANCE PREPARATIONS OF THE IAL. HIZBALLAH HOPES TO BE ABLE TO FINANCE THE ENTIRE PROGRAM FROM LIBERIAN SOURCES OF FUNDS.)

6. EXPANDING TERRORIST CAPABILITIES IS NOT THE PRIMARY MOTIVATION BEHIND THE INCREASED HIZBALLAH EFFORT IN LIBERIA. RATHER, HIZBALLAH IS ATTEMPTING TO "SEED" SHIA FUNDAMENTALISM IN BLACK AFRICA. (SOURCE COMMENT: MONROVIA HIZBALLAH MEMBERS SPEAK OFTEN OF PREPARATIONS FOR A WORLDWIDE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC. THEIR EFFORTS ARE INTENDED TO ENSURE THAT LIBERIAN MUSLIMS WILL RESPOND WHENEVER THE AYATOLLAH OR ANY OF HIS SUCCESSORS EXHORT THE MUSLIMS OF THE WORLD TO ARISE AND SPREAD ISLAM TO THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE WORLD. THAT SAID, A DEVOTED HIZBALLAH FANATIC WILL USUALLY ATTEMPT ANY TASK ASSIGNED BY A SHAYKH AND, ASSUMING RECRUITS MEET THE DESIRED CRITERIA, HIZBALLAH MEMBERS IN LIBERIA WOULD BE NO EXCEPTION. FOR NOW, HOWEVER, HIZBALLAH WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO PLAN ANY TERRORIST ACTIONS IN WEST AFRICA UNTIL INCREASED ANTI-TERRORIST MEASURES ENACTED BY WESTERN GOVERNMENTS BEGIN TO MAKE TERRORIST OPERATIONS IN EUROPE OR THE MIDDLE EAST UNTENABLE OPTIONS.)

DISSEM: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] JSOC.

WARNING: REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

DECL: OADR DRV [REDACTED] BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. ALL PORTIONS

~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

FINAL SECTION OF 2

CITE [REDACTED]

SERIAL: [REDACTED]

PASS: NSA FOR ZKZK 00 DLS DE (FOR NSOC).

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TERRORISM GROUPS: HIZBALLAH [HEZBOLLAH] (1)

FOIA

F05-109/1

MIZRAHI

Box Number

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<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
67383	CABLE 111727Z SEP 87	2	9/11/1987	B1 B3

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

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RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 1164

J. Hizballah
C 29
13

<SUBJ>SUBJECT: GERMAN HOSTAGES IN LEBANON

<TEXT>

~~SECRET~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 DAMASCUS 05316
TERREP EXCLUSIVE

47384

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PTER, LE, SY, GE

SUBJECT: GERMAN HOSTAGES IN LEBANON

REF: A) DAMASCUS 4820, B) DAMASCUS 4825, C) DAMASCUS
-- 4865, D) DAMASCUS 4946

1. ~~SECRET~~ ENTIRE TEXT.

~BEGIN SUMMARY~

2. SUMMARY: A GERMAN DIPLOMAT TELLS US THAT THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO MOVEMENT AT THE MOMENT ON THE RELEASE OF THE SECOND GERMAN HOSTAGE. ALTHOUGH SYRIA AND IRAN SEEM TO BE WORKING TOGETHER WELL TO EFFECT CORDES' RELEASE, THE HIZBALLAH KIDNAPPERS ARE NOW INSISTING ON A GUARANTEE FOR THE HAMADI BROTHERS' EARLY RELEASE-- ASSURANCES BONN REFUSES TO GIVE. NEVERTHELESS, THE DIPLOMAT [REDACTED]

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E.O. 12356
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SEC. 3.3(b)(1)(g)

[REDACTED] OPTIMISTIC THAT CORDES WILL BE RELEASED SOON. END SUMMARY.

3. POLCOUNS MET WITH THE HEAD OF THE POLITICAL SECTION OF THE WEST GERMAN EMBASSY IN DAMASCUS, SEPTEMBER 22. THE GERMAN DIPLOMAT, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SAID THAT THE PROCESS FOR RELEASING THE SECOND GERMAN HOSTAGE, RUDOLF CORDES, HAS COME TO A COMPLETE STOP. THE SYRIANS ARE CONFIDENT IN IRANIAN ASSURANCES THAT TEHRAN, TOO, IS WORKING ON THE CORDES RELEASE BUT THAT THE KIDNAPPERS THEMSELVES ARE NOW BALKING. THE LATTER HAVE RENEWED THEIR INITIAL DEMANDS FOR EITHER THE RELEASE OF THE HAMADI BROTHERS OR ASSURANCES THAT THEY WILL BE RELEASED SHORTLY AFTER A SPEEDY TRIAL. EVEN WITH IRANIAN PRESSURE ADDED TO THAT OF THE SYRIANS, IT APPEARS TO THIS SOURCE THAT HIZBALLAH CONTINUES TO BE CAPABLE OF PURSUING ITS OWN AGENDA.

4. THE GERMAN DIPLOMAT SAYS THAT HE WAS OFFICIALLY INFORMED [REDACTED] AT 9 P.M. ON THE EVENING PRIOR TO SCHMIDT'S RELEASE THAT ONE OF THE TWO GERMAN HOSTAGES (SCHMIDT WAS NOT IDENTIFIED) WOULD BE TURNED OVER TO THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR THE NEXT DAY. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AT APPROXIMATELY 10 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE DIPLOMAT ACCOMPANIED HIS AMBASSADOR TO MILITARY INTELLIGENCE HEADQUARTERS IN DAMASCUS WHERE SCHMIDT WAS TURNED OVER. OUR SOURCE

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BY RW RFA DATE 3/2/12

BELIEVES THAT SCHMIDT WAS CHOSEN FOR RELEASE BY THE CAPTORS IN THE BELIEF THAT HIS REPORT OF CORDES' DETERIORATING MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH WOULD PUT ADDITIONAL PRESSURE ON BONN.

5. ACCORDING TO OUR DIPLOMATIC SOURCE TODAY--AND CONTRARY TO HIS EARLIER INFORMATION, AS WELL AS COMMENTS BY HIS AMBASSADOR AND ADCM (REFTELS), THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOT AND WILL NOT ACCEDE TO KIDNAPPER'S DEMANDS REGARDING A RELEASE OR REDUCED PRISON TERM FOR HAMADI. WHILE THE GERMANS HAVE PROVIDED SUBSTANTIAL INCENTIVES TO BOTH THE SYRIAN AND IRANIAN GOVERNMENTS TO BE HELPFUL, THERE IS LITTLE THEY CAN DO OR ARE WILLING TO DO FOR THE CAPTORS THEMSELVES. THIS CREATES A DILEMMA FOR ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT A LEBANESE RESIDENT IN GERMANY, ONE "RASHID MAHMOUD," HAS TRIED TO BILL HIMSELF AS AN OFFICIAL INTERMEDIARY. HE EMPHASIZED THAT MAHMOUD HAS NO STANDING WITH THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT WHICH FINDS HIS ACTIVITIES AMOUNTING TO UNHELPFUL SELF-AGGRANDIZEMENT, PARTICULARLY HIS PERIODIC STATEMENTS TO THE GERMAN PRESS.

6. THE GERMANS INFORMED THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT ON THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 22 THAT FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER IS PREPARED TO COME TO DAMASCUS PERSONALLY TO RECEIVE CORDES FROM SYRIAN AUTHORITIES. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT BAVARIAN MINISTER-PRESIDENT FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS MIGHT ALSO COME TO DAMASCUS, "BUT THAT IS FOR GENSCHER AND STRAUSS TO WORK OUT FOR THEMSELVES." THE GERMANS HAD INSISTED THAT SCHMIDT BE TURNED OVER WITH MINIMAL PUBLICITY IN DAMASCUS FOR THE SAKE OF THE SECURITY OF

~~SECRET~~ SECTION 02 OF 02 DAMASCUS 05316

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PTER, LE, SY, GE

SUBJECT: GERMAN HOSTAGES IN LEBANON

OTHERS REMAINING HOSTAGE AND SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS SUPPORTED THIS REQUEST TO THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY. WHILE THE GERMANS HAD BEEN CONFIDENT THE SAME GROUP WAS HOLDING BOTH GERMAN HOSTAGES, THEY DID NOT KNOW UNTIL AFTER SCHMIDT'S RELEASE THAT THEY WERE IN FACT BEING HELD TOGETHER.

7. DESPITE THE ABSENCE OF AN IMMEDIATE MOVEMENT TOWARDS CORDES' RELEASE, THE DIPLOMAT SAYS THAT SYRIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS APPEAR CONFIDENT THAT CORDES WILL BE FREED SOON.

HE IS OPTIMISTIC THAT THIS ESTIMATE WILL PROVE TRUE.

8. COMMENT: A LOCAL PRESS SOURCE WITH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE CONNECTIONS SAYS THAT IN FACT THE SYRIANS AND IRANIANS HAVE CUT A DEAL FOR CORDES AND THAT THE SYRIANS ARE ABLE TO PRODUCE HIM NOW. THE HITCH HAS BEEN AT THE GERMAN, NOT THE LEBANESE, END: THE SYRIANS WANTED GENSCHER OR STRAUSS TO COME TO DAMASCUS FOR A WELL-PUBLICIZED RELEASE CEREMONY. PRESUMABLY, THE IRANIANS WANT THE FRG TO HELP EASE THEIR DILEMMA OVER A NEW UN VOTE ON SANCTIONS. OUR PRESS SOURCE HAS SELDOM BEEN RELIABLE ON HOSTAGE ISSUES, BUT IN THIS CASE GENSCHER'S WILLINGNESS TO COME TO DAMASCUS COULD POSSIBLY LEAD TO A SPEEDY RELEASE--AND GENSCHER MAY SAY SOMETHING MORE AT THE TIME ABOUT IRAQI WAR GUILT, THE NEED TO GIVE IRAN TIME, THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD SYRIAN AND OTHER RELATIONS



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J. Aziz Gollak
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PAGE 01

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RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 5413
RUFHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 6411
RUFHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 2756

<SUBJ>SUBJECT: IRAN'S "SILENT COUP D'ETAT" WITHIN LEBANON'S
- HIZBALLAH
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 KUWAIT 07519
E.O. 12356:DECL: OADR
TAGS:PREL, IR, LE
SUBJECT: IRAN'S "SILENT COUP D'ETAT" WITHIN LEBANON'S
- HIZBALLAH
REF: (A) STATE 286232

1. *W* SUMMARY. IRAN HAS INSTIGATED A "SILENT COUP D'ETAT" WITHIN LEBANON'S HIZBALLAH ORGANIZATION IN ORDER TO ACCELERATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CARBON-COPY ISLAMIC REPUBLIC IN THAT COUNTRY, ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL DAILY, "AL-QABAS." THE PAPER'S LONDON-BASED CORRESPONDENT, ALI BALLOUT, WROTE NOVEMBER 2 THAT THE IRANIANS, TO CREATE THE "ECONOMIC BASE" FOR THEIR LEBANESE OFFSHOOT, HAD INCREASED THEIR ASSISTANCE TO THE ORGANIZATION AND TO THE BAALBEK AREA BY DOLS 5 MILLION OVER THE MAY/SEPTEMBER PERIOD. HE MENTIONED APPEALS BY AMAL LEADER BARRI TO LEBANESE IN WESTERN AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE FOR DONATIONS TO COUNTER HIZBALLAH'S GROWING POPULARITY. END SUMMARY.

2. *W* ON NOVEMBER 2, THE LOCAL DAILY, "AL-QABAS," LED WITH A REPORT OF A "SILENT COUP D'ETAT" OCCURRING IN LEBANON'S HIZBALLAH ORGANIZATION, AT IRANIAN INSTIGATION. IN THIS EXCLUSIVE ITEM, LONDON-BASED "AL-QABAS" CORRESPONDENT ALI BALLOUT CITED "SECRET INFORMATION" FROM BEIRUT ABOUT IRAN'S EFFORT LATELY TO STRENGTHEN ITS CONTROL OVER THE ORGANIZATION BY HAVING "INDEPENDENT" MEMBERS REMOVED. BALLOUT MENTIONED TWO PROMINENT HIZBALLAH FIGURES AS TARGETS OF THE IRANIAN CAMPAIGN: SHAIKH MOHAMED MANDI SHAMS AL-DIN, CHAIRMAN OF THE SUPREME SHIA COUNCIL IN LEBANON, AND SPIRITUAL LEADER SHAIKH MOHAMED MUSSA FADHLALLAH. IRAN OBJECTED TO THEM, ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, BECAUSE OF THEIR RESISTANCE TO THE KHOMEINI REGIME'S INSTRUCTIONS TO REPLICATE IRAN'S FADHLALLAH ARGUED THAT THE POLITICAL EVOLUTION OF LEBANON'S MUSLIM FUNDAMENTALIST MOVEMENT (SUNNI AS WELL AS SHIA) DIFFERED FROM THE IRANIAN EXPERIENCE BECAUSE OF THAT MOVEMENT'S "UNIQUE LEBANESE CHARACTERISTICS."

3. *W* IN THE "COUP D'ETAT," WROTE BALLOUT, SHAIKH SUBHI AL-TAFILI EMERGED AS HIZBALLAH'S "ACTUAL LEADER," WHO WAS NOW SETTING THE ORGANIZATION'S POLICY IN MONTHLY MEETINGS AT THE "SHAIKH ABDULLAH ARMY CAMP" IN BAALBEK. OTHER ATTENDEES AT THESE GATHERINGS INCLUDED THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON, THE IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARY GUARD OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR SYRIA AND LEBANON, HOUSTAFA KHAKSAR, HIS DEPUTY, MOHAMED AWAI, AND MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD

OFFICIALS. THE BASIC PURPOSE OF THESE MEETINGS WAS TO PLOT A STRATEGY FOR ACCELERATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LEBANON'S ISLAMIC REPUBLIC, TO BE BASED INITIALLY IN BAALBEK AND THEN EXPANDED VIA THE "LIBERATION" OF THE COUNTRY'S OTHER REGIONS. ON THE MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD'S REPRESENTATION, BALLOUT SPOKE OF ITS "INTENSIVE COOPERATION" WITH HIZBALLAH AND ATTRIBUTED THE CLOSE LINKS TO IRAN'S PROMOTION OF AN ISLAMIC REPUBLIC IN LEBANON THAT WOULD ENJOY BROAD-BASED SUNNI, AS WELL AS SHIA SUPPORT.

4. *W* BALLOUT STATED THAT IRAN'S REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS HAD ENJOYED "ABSOLUTE CONTROL" OVER HIZBALLAH SINCE LAST MAY, WHEN THEY INSTALLED IRANIANS THROUGHOUT THE ORGANIZATION'S HIERARCHY. HE ADDED THAT, UNDER THE "TOTAL MILITARY MOBILIZATION" RECENTLY DECREED TO HIZBALLAH MEMBERS, THEY WERE UNDERGOING INTENSIFIED TRAINING AT CAMPS IN THE BEKAA AREA.

5. *W* DISCUSSING IRAN'S MOVES TO CREATE THE "ECONOMIC BASE" FOR ITS LEBANESE OFFSHOOT, BALLOUT SAID THAT AS OF LAST MAY, TEHRAN HAD SHARPLY INCREASED ITS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO HIZBALLAH AND TO THE BAALBEK AREA GENERALLY. OVER THE MAY/SEPTEMBER PERIOD, THE INCREASE AMOUNTED TO DOLS 5 MILLION, COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS AID LEVELS. THE ADDITIONAL MONEY WAS USED TO FINANCE PUBLIC HEALTH, AGRICULTURAL, AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS, AS WELL AS MILITARY OPERATIONS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON AGAINST ISRAELI AND SLA FORCES AND "SALARY" HIKES OF 20 TO 50 PERCENT FOR HIZBALLAH CADRES.

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 KUWAIT 07519
E.O. 12356:DECL: OADR
TAGS:PREL, IR, LE
SUBJECT: IRAN'S "SILENT COUP D'ETAT" WITHIN LEBANON'S

W BALLOUT ASSERTED THAT, WITH LEBANON'S ECONOMY IN A TAILSPIN, MANY CITIZENS IN THE SOUTH AND ELSEWHERE WERE JOINING HIZBALLAH BECAUSE OF THE FINANCIAL BENEFITS INVOLVED; FEW OF THESE NEW MEMBERS WERE ACTUALLY COMMITTED TO THE ORGANIZATION'S DOCTRINES. HIZBALLAH'S FINANCIALLY STRAPPED RIVAL, AMAL, WAS WITNESSING A DECLINE IN POPULARITY, SO MUCH SO THAT ITS LEADER, NABIH BARRI, HAD LAUNCHED AN URGENT APPEAL TO LEBANESE SUPPORTERS ABROAD, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN WESTERN AFRICA, FOR DONATIONS.

7. *W* COMMENT: BALLOUT IS REGARDED IN LOCAL ON LEBANESE AND MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS GENERALLY. WHILE WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO JUDGE THE VALIDITY OF HIS ASSERTIONS ABOUT HIZBALLAH'S "SILENT COUP D'ETAT," WE NOTE THAT SOME OF HIS ASSESSMENTS SQUARE WITH DEPARTMENT'S RECENT REPORTING -- E.G., BARRI'S EFFORT TO BLUNT THE RIVAL ORGANIZATION'S GROWING APPEAL (REFTEL).

8. *W* BAGHDAD AND BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. HOWELL

<SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 02 <SSN> 7519 <STOR> 871111124514 MSG00184941914
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<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
67386	CABLE	2	1/5/1988	B1
	832735			B3

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TERRORISM GROUPS: HIZBALLAH [HEZBOLLAH] (1)

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67388	CABLE	3	3/16/1988	B1
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67389	CABLE	2	4/1/1988	B1
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Hizballah 4

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67390

<SUBJ>SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENTS IN FRENCH INVESTIGATION INTO
- HIZBALLAH TERRORIST NETWORK

<TEXT>

~~SECRET~~ SECTION 01 OF 03 PARIS 13966

TERREP

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PTER, FR, LE, IR, ASEC

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENTS IN FRENCH INVESTIGATION INTO
- HIZBALLAH TERRORIST NETWORK

REF: PARIS 13647 (NOTAL)

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THIS IS AN ACTION CABLE. SEE PARAGRAPH 15.

~BEGIN SUMMARY~

SUMMARY

3. INVESTIGATING MAGISTRATE BOULOUQUE IS INCREASINGLY CONVINCED THAT THE SAME HIZBALLAH "CELL" WAS BEHIND THE 1986 CSPPA BOMBINGS IN PARIS, THE HAMMADI BROTHERS' ATTEMPTS TO BRING EXPLOSIVES INTO WEST GERMANY, THE HIJACKING OF TWA #847 IN 1985, THE ARREST OF BASHIR KHODR IN ITALY, AND THE HOLDING OF WESTERN HOSTAGES IN LEBANON. BOULOUQUE STATED THAT HIS DECISION TO RELEASE MUHAMMAD MUHADJER WAS BASED PURELY ON A LACK OF HARD EVIDENCE RATHER THAN ON ANY GOV NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE RELEASE OF HOSTAGES. THE MAGISTRATE IS CONFIDENT THAT HE HAS BUILT A SOLID CASE AGAINST THOSE REMAINING UNDER ARREST AND AGAINST OTHER HIZBALLAH MEMBERS STILL AT LARGE, SOME OF WHOM HE HAS SUCCEEDED IN IDENTIFYING THROUGH THE HELP OF A SECRET LEBANESE "SOURCE" OF THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

"SPIDER WEB" STILL UNRAVELING

4. DURING A CONVERSATION WITH POLOFF ON APRIL 15, INVESTIGATING MAGISTRATE GILLES BOULOUQUE (STRICTLY PROTECT) DISCUSSED HIS ATTEMPTS TO UNRAVEL WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS THE HIZBALLAH "SPIDER WEB" NETWORK THAT

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CARRIED OUT THE SERIES IF PARIS BOMBINGS IN 1980 CLAIMED BY THE "COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH ARAB POLITICAL PRISONERS" (CSPPA). AS REPORTED PREVIOUSLY, BOULOUQUE HAS DISCOVERED IMPORTANT LINKS BETWEEN THE PARIS NETWORK AND OTHER HIZBALLAH OPERATIONS IN EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST. THE MAGISTRATE IS INCREASINGLY CONVINCED THAT FUAD SALAH (THE LEADER OF THE PARIS NETWORK) WAS WORKING IN CLOSE COLLUSION WITH THE HAMMADI BROTHERS, WHO ARE STANDING TRIAL IN WEST GERMANY FOR TRYING TO SMUGGLE LIQUID EXPLOSIVES INTO FRANKFURT.

5. ACCORDING TO BOULOUQUE, THE BASIC FACTS ARE IRREFUTABLE. FUAD SALAH'S NAME AND PARIS TELEPHONE NUMBER WERE FOUND CRYPTICALLY MARKED IN MUHAMMAD HAMMADI'S ADDRESS BOOK WHEN THE LATTER WAS ARRESTED AT FRANKFURT AIRPORT IN JANUARY 1987. THE LIQUID METHYL NITRATE THAT HAMMADI WAS CARRYING WAS IDENTICAL TO THE LIQUID EXPLOSIVE THAT SALAH WAS TRANSPORTING WHEN HE WAS ARRESTED TWO MONTHS LATER. BOULOUQUE HAS ESTABLISHED THAT HAMMADI, JUST BEFORE BRINGING THE EXPLOSIVES TO FRANKFURT, HAD BEEN IN THE SAME HOTEL IN CYPRUS AND IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH KHALID ATEF ALA-AL-DIN. KHALID ATEF ALA-AL-DIN IS ALMOST CERTAINLY THE BROTHER OF ALI ATEF ALA-AL-DIN, ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SALAH NETWORK IN PARIS WHO HAD BEEN EXPELLED FROM FRANCE IN FEBRUARY 1986. THERE IS NO DOUBT IN BOULOUQUE'S MIND THAT HAMMADI'S EXPLOSIVES WERE MEANT FOR TERRORIST OPERATIONS IN FRANCE.

6. ANOTHER OF HAMMADI'S CONTACTS IN CYPRUS WAS YUSEF YUSEF MISHRAF, A LEBANESE HIZBALLAH MEMBER WHO HAD DELIVERED EXPLOSIVES TO FETHI BOURGUIBA, A MEMBER OF SALAH'S NETWORK, IN PARIS IN NOVEMBER 1986. BOULOUQUE ALSO HAS TESTIMONY THAT SUGGESTS THAT HAMMADI WAS IN CONTACT WITH MUHAMMAD MEHDI DIYAB, ONE OF THE HIZBALLAH "VISITING BOMBERS" WHO ACTUALLY PLANTED THE EXPLOSIVES IN THE CSPPA BOMBINGS.

THE WEST GERMANS' "LEBANESE SOURCE"

~~SECRET~~ SECTION 02 OF 03 PARIS 13966

TERREP

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PTER, FR, LE, IR, ASEC

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENTS IN FRENCH INVESTIGATION INTO

7. BOULOUQUE EXPLAINED THAT THE LINK BETWEEN HAMMADI, THE PARIS HIZBALLAH NETWORK, AND THE HOSTAGE-HOLDERS IN LEBANON HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED WITH THE HELP OF [REDACTED], A YOUNG LEBANESE WHO HAS BECOME A "KEY SOURCE" OF THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], WAS LIVING UNTIL RECENTLY IN A HIZBALLAH-CONTROLLED SHIA NEIGHBORHOOD OF WEST BEIRUT. [REDACTED] CURRENTLY IN THE FRG, AND HAS BEEN EXHAUSTIVELY DEBRIEFED BY WEST GERMAN AND OTHER WESTERN "SERVICES". BOULOUQUE IS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT TE USG UNDOUBTEDLY ALREADY KNOWS ALL ABOUT [REDACTED] INFORMATION; [REDACTED]

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8. [REDACTED] TOLD BOULOUQUE AND WEST GERMAN INVESTIGATORS THAT HAMDADI HAD WORKED CLOSELY WITH HASSAN GHOSN, WHO WAS SUBSEQUENTLY IDENTIFIED BY FORMER HOSTAGE ALFRED SCHMIDT AS ONE OF HIS CAPTORS IN BEIRUT. [REDACTED] DESCRIBED HAMDADI, GHOUN, AND SEVERAL OTHER HIZBALLAH MEMBERS AS THE CORE OF THE TERRORIST CELL---WHICH HE CALLED "THE SUICIDE FORCES OF IMAM HUSSEIN"---HOLDING WESTERN HOSTAGES IN LEBANON. BOULOUQUE NOTED THAT HASSAN GHOSN WAS ALSO ONE OF THE KEY "PLANNERS" BEHIND THE CSPPA BOMBINGS IN PARIS. GHOSN WAS AMONG THOSE HIZBALLAH MEMBERS ARRESTED AND EXPELLED FROM FRANCE IN FEBRUARY 1986.

9. IN BOULOUQUE'S VIEW, HASSAN GHOSN AND MUHAMMAD HAMDADI BOTH BELONGED TO THE SAME HIZBALLAH TERRORIST CELL, WHICH SUBSEQUENTLY SEIZED THE TWO WEST GERMAN HOSTAGES IN ORDER TO FORCE THE FRG TO RELEASE HAMDADI. BOULOUQUE'S THEORY IS THAT HASSAN GHOSN IS PARTICULARLY INDEBTED TO HAMDADI BECAUSE HAMDADI'S HIJACKING OF TWA #847 IN 1985 LED TO THE RELEASE OF ONE OF GHOSN'S BROTHERS, IBRAHIM GHOSN, FROM AN ISRAELI PRISON CAMP. THE MAGISTRATE POINTED OUT THAT LEBANESE TERRORIST BASHIR KHODR, ARRESTED IN ITALY IN 1986, WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF THIS HIZBALLAH CELL. KHODR'S ADDRESS BOOK CONTAINED DETAILED INFORMATION ON HOW TO CONTACT HASSAN GHOSN.

10. AS REPORTED IN REFTTEL, [REDACTED] ALSO ENABLED BOULOUQUE TO IDENTIFY ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE PARIS NETWORK WHO HAD TRAVELED TO FRANCE IN 1986 USING THE PASSPORT OF ALI GHOSN. (THE REAL ALI GHOSN, A BROTHER OF HASSAN GHOSN, IS MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY RETARDED AND CANNOT TRAVEL.) [REDACTED] IDENTIFIED THIS INDIVIDUAL AS HASSAN IZZ-AL-DIN, ONE OF HAMDADI'S ACCOMPLICES IN THE TWA HIJACKING, WHO OPERATES IN WEST BEIRUT UNDER THE CODE NAME "TAHSIN". IZZ-AL-DIN, AGAIN USING ALI GHOSN'S IDENTITY, WAS ALSO AMONG THOSE HIZBALLAH MEMBERS---INCLUDING HASSAN GHOSN, HUSSEIN MASBU, ALI HASSAN, AND ALI ATEF ALA-AL-DIN---ARRESTED AND EXPELLED FROM FRANCE IN FEBRUARY 1986.

MUHADJER'S RELEASE UNRELATED TO HOSTAGE NEGOTIATIONS

11. POLOFF ASKED BOULOUQUE WHY HE HAD DECIDED TO RELEASE SUSPECTED HIZBALLAH MEMBER MUHAMMAD MUHADJER. THE MAGISTRATE INSISTED THAT THE RELEASE WAS DUE SOLELY TO A LACK OF HARD EVIDENCE. HE POINTED OUT THAT HE HAD KEPT MUHADJER UNDER DETENTION FOR A FULL YEAR ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE LATTER HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH FUAD SALAH, ALI ALA-AL-DIN, AND IRANIAN EMBASSY EMPLOYEE WAHID GORJI, BUT THERE WAS NO ACTUAL EVIDENCE LINKING MUHADJER TO THE CSPPA BOMBINGS. BOULOUQUE STATED THAT MUHADJER HAD ALMOST CERTAINLY WORKED AS AN IRANIAN "INTELLIGENCE AGENT" BUT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE TERRORIST OPERATIONS.

12. THE MAGISTRATE VEHEMENTLY CRITICIZED THE PRESS FOR HAVING ACCUSED HIM OF RELEASING MUHADJER AS PART
S E C R E T SECTION 03 OF 03 PARIS 13966

TERREP

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PTER, FR, LE, IR, ASEC

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENTS IN FRENCH INVESTIGATION INTO OF A NEGOTIATED DEAL BETWEEN THE GOF AND TEHERAN FOR THE LIBERATION OF FRENCH HOSTAGES IN LEBANON. BOULOUQUE DENIED ANY SUCH "TRACTATIONS" AND REMINDED POLOFF THAT HE HAD TOLD AMBASSADOR BREMER IN EARLY MARCH THAT THE CASE AGAINST MUHADJER WAS WEAK. AS FURTHER PROOF THAT THERE IS NO GOF "DEAL", BOULOUQUE NOTED THAT THE STATE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE VIGOROUSLY OPPOSED BOULOUQUE'S DECISION AND IS IN THE PROCESS OF APPEALING IT. (COMMENT: CHIEF PROSECUTOR ALAIN MARSAUD HAS CONFIRMED THIS SEPARATELY TO US.)

13. POLOFF ASKED BOULOUQUE WHY CERTAIN GOF OFFICIALS WERE SAYING THAT MUHADJER WAS RELEASED BECAUSE HE HAD PROVIDED IMPORTANT ASSISTANCE IN THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE HIZBALLAH NETWORK. BOULOUQUE ADMITTED THAT HE WAS BAFLED BY THESE REMARKS, CONSIDERING THAT MUHADJER HAD BEEN RELATIVELY UNCOOPERATIVE. HE SPECULATED THAT THESE GOF OFFICIALS WERE MERELY TRYING TO DEFLECT ACCUSATIONS THAT BOULOUQUE'S DECISION WAS LINKED TO HOSTAGE NEGOTIATIONS.

INVESTIGATION REVEALS NEW NAMES

14. BOULOUQUE MENTIONED THAT THREE NEW NAMES HAVE RECENTLY COME UP IN THE INVESTIGATION. ONE IS FAROUK MASBU, WHO IS THE BROTHER OF HUSSEIN MASBU (SEE PARAGRAPH 10 ABOVE). FAROUK MASBU IS REPUTEDLY A LARGE-SCALE DRUG TRAFFICKER IN THE BEKAA VALLEY WHO HELPS FINANCE HIZBALLAH OPERATIONS. ANOTHER NEW NAME IS ABBAS NASRALLAH, A LEBANESE WHO TRIED TO TAKE DELIVERY OF THE PRINTING ROLLERS---WHICH ACTUALLY CONTAINED EXPLOSIVES---THAT HAD BEEN SHIPPED FROM BEIRUT TO A PARIS AIRPORT IN NOVEMBER 1986. FINALLY, BOULOUQUE HAS LEARNED THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WHO SHIPPED THE PRINTING ROLLERS FROM BEIRUT WAS HUSSIN JAFAR.

ACTION REQUESTED

15. BOULOUQUE ASKED IF THE USG CAN PROVIDE HIM WITH ANY INFORMATION ON THESE THREE INDIVIDUALS---FAROUK MASBU, ABBAS NASRALLAH, OR HUSSEIN JAFAR---OR FOR THAT MATTER ON ANY OF THE OTHER HIZBALLAH MEMBERS IDENTIFIED IN BOULOUQUE'S INVESTIGATION. PLEASE INFORM.

16. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. RODGERS##

<SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 03<SSN> 3966<STOR> 880419143357 MSG000198772437
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