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Collection: North, Oliver L.: Files
Folder Title: Hostages: Father Janco Release
07/26/1986 (1)
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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name NORTH, OLIVER: FILES

Withdrawer

SMF 9/3/2008

File Folder HOSTAGES: FATHER JENCO RELEASE 07/26/1986 (1)

FOIA

M08-131

Box Number 11

WANNER

3

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
55710	REPORT	RE HOSTAGES PAR 3/29/2012 M131/1	1	6/27/1986	B1
55711	REPORT	RE HOSTAGES PAR 3/29/2012 M131/1	1	ND	B1
55712	REPORT	TO POINDEXTER	1	ND	B1 B3
55713	MEMO	TO POINDEXTER (INCLUDES COVER SHEET)	5	7/25/1986	B1 B3
55714	MEMO	RE HOSTAGES	15	ND	B1 B3
55715	SCHEDULE	RE JENCO RELEASE W/NOTATIONS	1	ND	B1 B3
55716	SCHEDULE	JENCO RELEASE	1	ND	B1 B3
55717	REPORT	RE JENCO RELEASE	1	7/26/1986	B1 B3
55718	REPORT	RE JENCO RELEASE	1	7/26/1986	B1 B3
55719	CABLE	261011Z JUL 86 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	2	7/26/1986	B1

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

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

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B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
55720	CABLE	TEXT SAME AS 55719 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	2	7/26/1986	B1
55721	CABLE	261115Z JUL 86	2	7/26/1986	B1
55722	CABLE	261143Z JUL 86 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	2	7/26/1986	B1
55723	CABLE	261240Z JUL 86 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	2	7/26/1986	B1
55724	CABLE	261623Z JUL 86 R 4/20/2010 M131/1	2	7/26/1986	B1

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RECEIVED
FBI

55710

DEC 16 1986

Copy is Receipt

27 June 1986

~~SECRET~~

Lengthy meeting this afternoon with Gorba and Nir followed by discussion with Kangarlu via phone. Following are salient points. Kangarlu believes he has demonstrated his ability to perform and has expectations we are now prepared to deal. Despite our earlier and current protestations that we want all hostages before we deliver anything, this is clearly not the way they want to proceed. They see clearly that the ball is now in our court. In discussion with Kangerlu he repeatedly asked quote - "When are you going to deliver". While Kangarlu made no specific threat, he noted that he was under intense pressure and could not totally control events. We will call him back 28 July at 1100 Frankfurt time and urge that he come to Europe for a meeting and to do nothing rash in the meantime. We are trying to make this idea attractive - using points he made [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] re: a "special account" for him as an incentive. Please pass to JMP how effective Waite has been in this and send out thank-you to Amman and Damascus for expediting his movement and boarding the aircraft with Jenco. Jenco has expressed a desire to thank the three world leaders responsible for his release. The Pope, The Archbishop of Canterbury and RR. The first two intend to oblige. Can we deliver on the last? Unodir we will call Kangarlu in A.M. and urge him to meet us in Europe ASAP. Since it will take him several days to get authorization to come, we plan to return to D.C. via Pan Am 061 on 28 July and report to JMP in evening. Please advise via this channel if other instructions obtain. Warm regards. North/Cave

Bottom line, is that if we want to prevent the death of one of the three remaining hostages, we are going to have to do something.

*Put this in sealed envelope
and have Allie pick it up.*

DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NLRR M08-131 #55710

BY RW NARA DATE 3/29/12

Sec. 3.3(b)(1)
E.O. 12958
135246

Box 11 15.1
12/16/86

~~SECRET~~

55711

Lengthy meeting this afternoon with Gorba and Nir followed by discussion with Kangerlu via phone. Following are salient points. Kangerlu believes he has demonstrated his ability to perform and has expectations we are now prepared to deal. Despite our earlier and current protestations that we want all hostages before we deliver anything, this is clearly not the way they want to proceed. They see clearly that the ball is now in our court. In discussion with Kangerlu he repeatedly asked quote - "When are you going to deliver". While Kangerlu made no specific threat, he noted that he was under intense pressure and could not totally control events. We will call him back 28 July at 1100 Frankfurt time and urge that he come to Europe for a meeting and to do nothing rash in the meantime. We are trying to make this idea attractive - using points he made [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] re: a "special account" for him as an incentive. Please pass to JMP how effective this has been in this and send out thank-you to Amman and Damascus for expediting his movement and boarding the aircraft with Jenco. Jenco has expressed a desire to thank the three world leaders responsible for his release. The Pope, The Archbishop of Canterbury and RR. The first two intend to oblige. Can we deliver on the last? Unodin we will call Kangerlu in A.M. and urge him to meet us in Europe ASAP. Since it will take him several days to get authorization to come, we plan to return to D.C. via Pan Am 061 on 28 July and report to JMP in evening. Please advise via this channel if other instructions obtain. Warm regards. North/ Cave

P.S. Please call Dewey and tell him George will send hard copy mess to he and Tom Twetten in A.M. via NIACT

Bottom line, is that if we want to prevent the death of one of the three remaining hostages, we are going to have to do something.

Read all to JMP, except P.S. 7/27 1830

As Amman
E.O. 12958
Sec. 3.3 (b) (1)

DONE ✓

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
NLRR M08-131 #55711
BY RW NARA DATE 3/29/12

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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>Restrictions</i>
55712	REPORT TO POINDEXTER	1	ND	B1 B3

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55713	MEMO TO POINDEXTER (INCLUDES COVER SHEET)	5	7/25/1986	B1 B3

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55714	MEMO RE HOSTAGES	15	ND	B1 B3

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

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WASHFAX RECEIPT
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RECEIVED

86 JUL 26 P3:41

86 JUL 26 P3:41

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S/S #

ADJUTANT GENERAL
SITUATION ROOM

C

NM

009660

MESSAGE NO. 009660 CLASSIFICATION _____ No. Pages 1

FROM: J. ANDRES S/S-0 6471512 OPS CENTER
(Officer name) (Office symbol) (Extension) (Room number)

MESSAGE DESCRIPTION ESTABLISHMENT OF HOSTAGE RELEASE
WORKING GROUP

TO: (Agency)	DELIVER TO:	Extension	Room No.
NSA	McDaniel		
SECDEF	Pearson		
JCS	North		
CIA			
WHSR			
NSOC			
NMCC			

FOR: CLEARANCE INFORMATION PER REQUEST COMMENT

REMARKS: FBIS

S/S Officer: J. Andres



DIST.

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NEA (5)

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S/S (3)

S/S-I

SOTFO

MILREP

EDITOM

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SECDEF (LDX)

JCS (LDX)

CIA (LDX)

WHHR (LDX)

NSOC (LDX)

NMCC (LDX)

NMIC (LDX)

FBIIS (LDX)

JULY 26, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY RAPHEL AND DIRECTOR OF COUNTER TERRORISM AND EMERGENCY PLANNING OAKLEY

**SUBJECT: Working Group Designation -
Hostage Release Working Group**

The Secretary has instructed that a Working Group under your direction be established in the Operations Center, effective 1200 EDT, July 26, 1986 to coordinate activities related to the release of Lawrence Jenco.

Membership in this Working Group will include Consular Affairs and Public Affairs as well as your two offices. The Working Group should operate during normal working hours and such other times as required by the situation. No regularly scheduled Situation Reports are required.

Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

THIS VIDEO IS BEING RECORDED ON THE 25TH DAY OF JULY 1986. I AM DAVID JACOBSEN, THE HOSPITAL DIRECTOR AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT MEDICAL CENTER. AT LEAST I WAS UNTIL TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1985. I WAS TAKEN POLITICAL HOSTAGE. THAT WAS 424 DAYS AGO, NEARLY 14 MONTHS, A VERY LONG TIME BY ANY MEASUREMENT OF TIME. I WANT TO SEND MY LOVE AND GREETINGS AND MY BEST WISHES TO AMERICANS EVERYWHERE, TO ALL FREE PEOPLE AND ESPECIALLY TO MY FAMILY, TO MY LADY, AND TO THE FAMILIES OF LAWRENCE JENCO, TERRY ANDERSON AND TOM SOUTHERLAND. TO OUR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT WE ARE ALIVE AND WE'RE REASONABLY WELL AND WE ARE PROVIDED THE BASIC NECESSITIES OF LIFE AS WE REMAIN FAITHFUL TO OUR GOD, TO OUR MORAL AND ETHICAL PRINCIPLES AND WE ARE DETERMINED TO BE FREE AGAIN. YOU ARE ALWAYS IN OUR THOUGHTS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE DAY OF OUR REUNION. WE KNOW OF THE VERY GREAT EFFORTS THAT YOU, OUR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS AND OTHER AMERICAN CITIZENS HAVE MADE TO SECURE OUR RELEASE. PLEASE CONTINUE YOUR EFFORTS, AND REDOUBLE THOSE EFFORTS. DON'T LET OUR GOVERNMENT FORGET US OR THE URGENCY TO SECURE OUR RELEASE. ALTHOUGH WE ARE THOUSANDS OF MILES APART WE FEEL YOUR ANXIETY, YOUR CONCERN AND YOUR LOVE

I KNOW ABOUT THE RECENT CENTENNIAL CEREMONY AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY AND THE WORDS OF PRESIDENTS REAGAN AND MITTERRAND. BUT YOU ALSO MUST KNOW THAT LIBERTY CANNOT BE EXPRESSED ONLY BY A STATUE. WE MUST HAVE DEEDS. AND NOW IS THE TIME FOR DEEDS. SUCH DEMONSTRATIONS KEEP ALIVE THE FACT THAT WE ARE BEING KEPT HOSTAGE AND SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO FREE US. AFTER SUCH CEREMONIES MOST PEOPLE GO HOME TO BE WITH THEIR FAMILIES, ENJOY THEIR FREEDOMS WHILE OUR FAMILIES GO HOME TO PICTURES AND MEMORIES OF US.

WE REMAIN FAR AWAY FROM HOME, HOSTAGES

IN A FOREIGN LAND, HOPING TO BE FREE, DISCOURAGED AND EXISTING IN A VERY UNPLEASANT CONDITION OF MAXIMUM SECURITY IMPRISONMENT.

TODAY WE HAVE THE GOOD NEWS THAT FATHER LAWRENCE JENCO WAS RELEASED FROM CAPTIVITY AFTER 550 DAYS OF IMPRISONMENT. MY CAPTORS HAVE TOLD ME THAT FATHER JENCO LIKE THE REVEREND BENJAMIN WEIR WAS RELEASED AS A SIGN OF GOOD FAITH, BUT THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT DID NOT RECIPROCATE WHEN BEN WEIR WAS RELEASED. I PRAY THEY WILL DO SO NOW.

MY CAPTORS TOLD ME THAT THIS IS THE VERY LAST SIGN OF THEIR GOODWILL AND THAT OUR RELEASE WILL BE BY DEATH IF THE GOVERNMENT DOESN'T NEGOTIATE RIGHT NOW. FATHER JENCO WAS HELD FOR 550 DAYS. TERRY ANDERSON OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS HAS BEEN HELD FOR 496 DAYS. TOM SOUTHERLAND, THE DEAN OF AGRICULTURE AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT, HAS BEEN HELD 412 DAYS AND I HAVE BEEN HELD 424DAYS.

WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT WE WILL BE RELEASED ONLY WHEN THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS OUR CAPTORS' DEMANDS. PRESSURE BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS ON OUR CAPTIVES OR THE USE OF FORCE JUST WILL NOT WORK.

TO DATE, THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT, IT HAS REFUSED TO NEGOTIATE, THEY REFUSED TO NEGOTIATE IN ANY WAY. IF WILLIAM BUCKLEY WERE ALIVE TODAY, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN HELD IN CAPTIVITY TWO AND ONE-HALF YEARS. DURING THIS TIME, NOT ONE NEGOTIATION BY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT. UNFORTUNATELY WILLIAM BUCKLEY WAS EXECUTED. OUR SYMPATHIES TO HIS WIFE AND HIS FOUR CHILDREN.

WILLIAM BUCKLEY WOULD BE ALIVE TODAY IF NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN CONDUCTED. SEVERAL GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES HAVE BEEN MISSED BY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

BECAUSE THEY HAVE FAILED TO NEGOTIATE. THERE ARE DAYS WHEN I BELIEVE THAT THE GOVERNMENT REALLY DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ME, AND THAT WE HAVE BEEN TOTALLY ABANDONED. IT SEEMS THAT MY GOVERNMENT OR AT LEAST MY PRESIDENT, MIGHT BE A PRISONER OF AN ABSURD SUBSERVIENCE TO A POLITICAL POSITION OF "WE WILL NOT ASSOCIATE WITH TERRORISTS." JUST REMEMBER THAT ONE PERSON'S TERRORIST MAY BE ACTUALLY SOMEBODY ELSE'S FREEDOM FIGHTER. ONE MUST ACKNOWLEDGE IN THE LONG TIMES PAST IN THIS HOSTAGE CRISIS THAT WE ARE NO CLOSER TO RELEASE THAN ON THE DAY WHICH WE WERE KIDNAPPED.

SO MUCH SAID FOR THE EFFECTIVNESS OF FOIANT DIPLOMACY. MAYBE IT IS TRUE THAT OUR GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN _____AND PERHAPS EVEN LYING TO OUR FAMILIES. I PRAY TO GOD THAT THIS IS NOT SO. MAY MY FAMILY AND THE AMERICAN PUBLIC PLEASE FORGIVE ME IF I GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT I FEEL LIKE I AM ONE OF GENERAL CUSTERS MEN, OR ONE OF THE MEN AT THE ALAMO WAITING FOR HELP TO ARRIVE. THEY KNOW THE END OF THEIR STORIES. PRAY THAT OURS WILL BE HAPPIER AND YOU KNOW PERHAPS THERE IS SOMETHING THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO TO HELP US BE RELEASED. I AM VERY TIRED AND I AM FRUSTRATED AND TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH I AM VERY ANGRY. WHY WON'T THE GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATE FOR OUR RELEASE? THEY HAVE NEGOTIATED FOR OTHER AMERICANS, WHY NOT US? IT TOOK THEM FOUR HUNDRED AND FORTY DAYS TO SECURE THE FREEDOM OF THE IRANIAN EMBASSY HOSTAGES. IT TOOK ABOUT THREE WEEKS TO FREE THE TWA HOSTAGES...NEGOTIATIONS IN BOTH CASES. OUR GOVERNMENT EVEN NEGOTIATES TO FREE CITIZEN FROM RUSSIA, SOUTH AFRICA SO WHY NOT US? WE'RE ONLY CRYING BECAUSE WE ARE AMERICANS, LOYAL AMERICANS. PERHAPS THERE IS A POLITICAL PRICE FOR THAT.

THE RUSSIANS GOT THEIR MAN OUT IN ONE MONTH ALTHOUGH THEY DID LOSE ONE OF THEIR MEN. WE HAVE ALREADY LOST OUR

MAN, WILLIAM BUCKLEY, MAY HE REST IN PEACE. AND WE'VE BEEN HERE A YEAR AND A HALF. OUR CAPTORS CLAIM THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN STALLING FOR TIME AND THEY MAINTAIN THAT APPROACH WILL NOT WORK ANY LONGER. AND THEY ARE PREPARED TO ACT AS THEY DID IN THE CASE OF WILLIAM BUCKLEY. WHAT ARE THE CONDITIONS OF OUR RELEASE? I DON'T KNOW. BUT FATHER MARTIN HAS BEEN GIVEN THE INSTRUCTIONS.

****THIS APPEARS TO BE THE END OF TAPE****

*-----INDICATES UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND FROM TAPE

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR FATHER JENCO'S RETURN

(ALL TIMES LOCAL)

TUESDAY, JULY 29

ETD 1600 Rhein Main, Germany

ETA 1730 Rome, Italy

Remain Overnight Rome, Italy

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

1000 Meeting with Pope

ETD 1100 Ambassador Oakley and debriefing team depart

ETD 1600 Rome, Italy

ETA 1730 London, England

Remain overnight London, England

THURSDAY, JULY 31

TBD Meeting w/Archbishop of Canterbury

Remain overnight London, England

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

0800 ~~TBD~~ Depart London, England

1200 TBD Arrive Andrews AFB

1400 TBD Meeting with The President

(Times will be determined to meet The President's schedule for meeting with the Jenco family.)

<SOUR> REUTER
<TOR> 860726095200

<TEXT> REUTER 0951
R062U I1111)LCZCCYNBYL
PM-LEBANON 3RDL0 ' ' ' (WRITETHROUGH)

KIDNAPPERS RELEASE U.S. HOSTAGE TO SYRIANS
(EDS: NEW STORY. JENCO OFFICIALLY FREE. UPDATES THROUGHOUT)

BY RASHID SINNO

BEIRUT, JULY 26, REUTER - A RADICAL MOSLEM GROUP TODAY FREED U.S. PRIEST LAWRENCE JENCO AFTER 564 DAYS AS A HOSTAGE, RELEASING HIM TO SYRIA WHICH INFORMED WASHINGTON THAT JENCO WOULD BE TURNED OVER TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

JENCO, A ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST, WAS HANDED OVER TO SYRIAN FORCES IN LEBANON'S EASTERN BEKAA VALLEY AND TAKEN ACROSS THE BORDER TO DAMASCUS, SECURITY SOURCES SAID.

A SYRIAN PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN SAID JENCO "IS NOW IN THE HANDS OF SYRIAN AUTHORITIES AND HAS ARRIVED IN DAMASCUS."

IN WASHINGTON A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESWOMAN SAID, "I CAN CONFIRM THAT THE SYRIANS HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY HAVE REVEREND JENCO AND THAT THEY WILL BE TURNING HIM OVER TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT."

THE SPOKESWOMAN SAID SHE HAD NO OTHER DETAILS OF REPORTS THAT JENCO WAS RELEASED FIRST IN LEBANON'S EASTERN BEKAA VALLEY BEFORE BEING TURNED OVER TO THE SYRIANS.

THE PRO-IRANIAN ISLAMIC JIHAD (HOLY WAR) GROUP ANNOUNCED EARLIER IN BEIRUT IT WAS FREEING JENCO AS A GOODWILL GESTURE BECAUSE HIS HEALTH WAS DETERIORATING. JENCO'S FAMILY SAID HE SUFFERS FROM A SERIOUS HEART CONDITION.

ISLAMIC JIHAD DELIVERED A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE BALDING PRIEST, SHOWING HIM LOOKING HAGGARD.

JENCO, HEAD OF THE BEIRUT OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK-BASED CHARITY CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES, WAS SEIZED JANUARY 8 1985.

AT LEAST THREE AMERICANS ARE STILL HELD BY ISLAMIC JIHAD (HOLY WAR), WHICH THREATENED TO KILL THEM IF KUWAIT FAILS TO FREE 17 ARABS JAILED FOR BOMBINGS IN THE PERSIAN GULF STATE IN 1983. KUWAIT SUPPORTS IRAQ IN ITS GULF WAR AGAINST IRAN.

THE CLANDESTINE GROUP, IN A STATEMENT PUBLISHED IN TWO NEWSPAPERS ANNOUNCING JENCO'S RELEASE, SAID, "THIS WILL BE OUR LAST INITIATIVE. THE CONSEQUENCES WILL BE GRAVE IF OUR DEMANDS ARE NOT MET."

FIRST U.S. REACTION TO JENCO'S RELEASE WAS FROM ITS BEIRUT EMBASSY, WHERE A SPOKESMAN DESCRIBED IT AS "MARVELLOUS NEWS". HE SAID IT WAS TOO EARLY TO SAY WHETHER A REPORTED INCREASE IN SYRIAN PRESSURE ON THE KIDNAPPERS WAS BEHIND THE RELEASE.

SYRIA, INFLUENTIAL WITH MANY FACTIONS IN LEBANON, SENT TROOPS INTO MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT THIS MONTH FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FOUR YEARS TO BACK A LEBANESE CRACKDOWN ON MILITIA ANARCHY.

THE TROOPS ARE DUE TO FAN OUT NEXT WEEK INTO WEST BEIRUT'S SOUTHERN SUBURBS, A BASTION OF PRO-IRANIAN MOSLEM EXTREMISTS.

MANY OF THE 18 FOREIGNERS MISSING IN LEBANON -- INCLUDING FRENCH, AMERICAN, BRITISH, IRISH, SOUTH KOREAN AND ITALIAN NATIONALS -- ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN HELD IN THE SUBURBS AT VARIOUS TIMES.

THE PLANNED MOVE INTO THE SUBURBS BY A JOINT SYRIAN- LEBANESE FORCE INITIALLY CAUSED APPREHENSION AMONG OFFICIALS OF THE RADICAL HIZBOLLAH (PARTY OF GOD) MILITIA, BUT THEY AGREED AFTER TALKS WITH SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS.

ISLAMIC JIHAD SAID JENCO, KIDNAPPED IN WEST BEIRUT IN JANUARY OF LAST YEAR WAS BEING FREED AS A "GOODWILL GESTURE" AND

THE PLANNED MOVE INTO THE SUBURBS BY A JOINT SYRIAN- LEBANESE FORCE INITIALLY CAUSED APPREHENSION AMONG OFFICIALS OF THE RADICAL HIZBOLLAH (PARTY OF GOD) MILITIA, BUT THEY AGREED AFTER TALKS WITH SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS.

ISLAMIC JIHAD SAID JENCO, KIDNAPPED IN WEST BEIRUT IN JANUARY OF LAST YEAR, WAS BEING FREED AS A "GOODWILL GESTURE" AND BECAUSE OF HIS DETERIORATING HEALTH.

THE STATEMENT SAID JENCO WOULD CARRY LETTERS TO THE FAMILIES OF OTHER HOSTAGES, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

THE GROUP IS BELIEVED TO BE STILL HOLDING ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS AGENCY JOURNALIST TERRY ANDERSON, HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR DAVID JACOBSEN AND AGRONOMIST THOMAS SUTHERLAND.

LAST OCTOBER, THE GROUP SAID IT HAD KILLED A FIFTH U.S. HOSTAGE, DIPLOMAT WILLIAM BUCKLEY. HIS BODY WAS NEVER FOUND.

JENCO'S RELEASE COMES A MONTH AFTER TWO FRENCHMEN AND TWO CYPRIOTS WERE RELEASED FOLLOWING STEPPED-UP SYRIAN EFFORTS TO WIN FREEDOM FOR KIDNAPPED FOREIGNERS.

SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ AL-ASSAD, INFLUENTIAL WITH MANY GROUPS IN LEBANON, RECEIVED AN APPEAL FOR HELP ON THE HOSTAGE CRISIS LAST MONTH FROM 251 U.S. CONGRESSMEN.

U.S. REP. ROBERT DORNAN, WHO HANDED THE LETTER TO ASSAD, SAID IT HAD BEEN THE LARGEST SUCH APPEAL BY CONGRESS ON ANY ISSUE TO ANY FOREIGN GOVERNMENT.

ASSAD, WHO HAS SINCE SENT SYRIAN TROOPS INTO MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT TO BACK A CRACKDOWN ON LAWLESSNESS, HAD SAID HE THOUGHT IT POSSIBLE TO PERSUADE THE CAPTORS, ON RELIGIOUS GROUNDS, THAT THE U.S. HOSTAGES SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO WRITE HOME.

THE LAST FIRM WORD OF THE HOSTAGES CAME IN LETTERS THEY SENT TO PRESIDENT REAGAN, CONGRESSMEN, RELATIVES AND ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY ROBERT RUNCIE NINE MONTHS AGO.

TODAY'S ISLAMIC JIHAD STATEMENT SAID JENCO, WHO HAS A HEART COMPLAINT, WAS BEING FREED "IN HARMONY WITH OUR ISLAMIC PRINCIPLES AND AS ANOTHER GOODWILL GESTURE ON OUR PART."

THE GROUP RELEASED PRESBYTERIAN PASTOR BENJAMIN WEIR LAST SEPTEMBER AFTER HOLDING HIM FOR 16 MONTHS.

WEIR SAID ON RELEASE THAT IN THE LATER STAGES OF HIS CAPTIVITY HE HAD BEEN HELD IN THE SAME BUILDING AS JENCO, ANDERSON, JACOBSEN AND SUTHERLAND. THEY HAD SEEN NO SIGN OF BUCKLEY, HE ADDED.

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<SOUR> UPI
<TOR> 860726100900

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<TEXT>UP021U IHOSTAGES
UPDATE UP009

BEIRUT (UPI) -- THE ISLAMIC JIHAD TERROR GROUP SATURDAY RELEASED THE REV. LAWRENCE JENCO APPARENTLY UNHARMED BUT WARNED OF "SEVERE"

CONSEQUENCES TO ITS REMAINING AMERICAN HOSTAGES IF ITS DEMANDS ARE NOT MET, POLICE SAID.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON CONFIRMED JENCO WAS IN SYRIAN HANDS AND WOULD BE TURNED OVER "SHORTLY" TO THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT. LEBANESE POLICE SAID THE 51-YEAR-OLD ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST WAS IN THE CUSTODY OF SYRIAN AUTHORITIES IN EASTERN LEBANONS BEKAA VALLEY AND WAS TO BE TAKEN TO THE SYRIAN CAPITAL OF DAMASCUS.

HOURS BEFORE THE RELEASE, THE ISLAMIC JIHAD -- HOLY WAR -- MOVEMENT SAID IN A STATEMENT PUBLISHED IN TWO BEIRUT NEWSPAPERS IT WOULD FREE JENCO AS A GESTURE OF GOODWILL BECAUSE OF HIS "WORSENING HEALTH" DURING NEARLY 19 MONTHS OF CAPTIVITY.

BUT THE GROUP SAID IT WOULD NOT RELEASE ITS REMAINING AMERICAN HOSTAGES IF ITS DEMANDS ARE NOT MET AND SAID THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LIVES OF AT LEAST THREE OTHER KIDNAPPED AMERICANS. THE PRO-IRANIAN FUNDAMENTALIST SHIITE MOSLEM GROUP CLAIMED IT KILLED A FOURTH AMERICAN HOSTAGE LAST YEAR, BUT HIS BODY HAS NOT BEEN FOUND.

THE ISLAMIC JIHAD HAS DEMANDED THE RELEASE OF 17 COMRADES JAILED IN KUWAIT FOR BOMBING U.S. AND FRENCH INSTALLATIONS IN 1983.

"I CAN CONFIRM THAT THE SYRIANS HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY DO HAVE REVEREND JENCO AND THAT HE WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

SHORTLY," A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESWOMAN SAID.

UPI 07-26-86 10:15 AED

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55715	SCHEDULE RE JENCO RELEASE W/NOTATIONS	1	ND	B1 B3

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

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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55716	SCHEDULE JENCO RELEASE	1	ND	B1 B3

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

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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E

<SOUR> AP
<TOR> 860726101912

<TEXT>N01901
LEBANON-HOSTAGES (TOPS) ****
URGENT

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) -- AN AMERICAN PRIEST HELD HOSTAGE NEARLY 19 MONTHS IN LEBANON WAS RELEASED TODAY BY HIS SHIITE MOSLEM CAPTORS AND ARRIVED HOURS LATER IN DAMASCUS, HIS FIRST STOP EN ROUTE HOME.

THE REV. LAWRENCE JENCO, 51, OF JOLIET, ILL., WAS GREETED IN FRONT OF THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY BY PEGGY SAY, WHOSE BROTHER TERRY ANDERSON IS AMONG FOUR OTHER AMERICANS STILL HELD HOSTAGE IN LEBANON.

WHERE'S TERRY ANDERSON'S SISTER? JENCO ASKED AS HE STEPPED SMILING FROM A SYRIAN GOVERNMENT CAR IN WHICH HE WAS DRIVEN FROM THE BEKAA VALLEY IN EAST LEBANON, WHERE HE WAS FREED.

JENCO, WHO WORE A WHITE SHIRT AND TROUSERS AND HAD A NEATLY TRIMMED BEARD, HUGGED MRS. SAY FOR SEVERAL MINUTES AND THEN WALKED WITH HER INTO THE MINISTRY.

SHE SAID LATER THAT THEY BOTH WEPT TEARS OF JOY AS THEY SILENTLY EMBRACED.

JENCO LOOKED FIT DESPITE A STATEMENT FROM HIS CAPTORS THAT SAID HE WAS BEING FREED BECAUSE OF HIS DETERIORATING HEALTH. MRS. SAY SAID JENCO TOLD HER HE FELT WELL, BUT HAD A LITTLE HEADACHE.

HIS FAMILY HAS SAID HE HAS A HEART PROBLEM.

MRS. SAY, 45, OF BATAVIA, N.Y., HAS BEEN IN DAMASCUS FOR THE PAST WEEK SEEKING SYRIAN HELP IN FREEING THE HOSTAGES. WHEN TOLD OF JENCOS

RELEASE, SHE SAID, THIS IS A HAPPY DAY FOR ALL WHO HAVE WORKED ON THIS HUMANITARIAN EFFORT. GOD BLESS FATHER JENCO.

I HOPE HE HAS MESSAGES FROM THE OTHER HOSTAGES. IM EXCITED AND PLEASED FOR HIS FAMILY AND I HOPE ALL THE OTHER HOSTAGES WILL BE FREED SOON, SHE SAID.

IT WAS NOT CLEAR IF SYRIA PLAYED A ROLE IN JENCOS RELEASE. WE MAY NOT KNOW EVER WHAT CONTRIBUTED TO FATHER JENCOS RELEASE, BUT I WOULD CERTAINLY NOT QUESTION SYRIAS ROLE, MRS. SAY SAID.

A HIGH-RANKING SYRIAN OFFICIAL SAID JENCO WOULD BE TURNED OVER LATER TODAY TO U.S. AMBASSADOR WILLIAM EAGELTON. U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS SAID THEY WERE TRYING TO ARRANGE FOR HIM TO FLY TO THE UNITED STATES.

THE OFFICIALS SPOKE ON CONDITION OF ANONYMITY.

JENCO WAS KIDNAPPED IN MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT ON JAN. 8, 1985. ISLAMIC JIHAD, A SHIITE MOSLEM GROUP BELIEVED LOYAL TO IRAN, CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR ABDUCTING HIM AS WELL AS ANDERSON AND THREE OTHER AMERICANS STILL MISSING IN LEBANON.

LEBANESE POLICE SAID A POLICE PATROL FOUND FATHER JENCO FREE AND ALIVE AT QAROUN AREA IN THE WESTERN BEKAA AT 10 A.M. HE ARRIVED AT THE SYRIAN ARMY INTELLIGENCE COMMAND IN THE BEKAA TOWN OF ANJAR, 31 MILES EAST OF BEIRUT, AT ABOUT 12:30 P.M., POLICE SAID.

THE BEIRUT NEWSPAPERS AN-NAHAR AND AS-SAFIR TODAY PUBLISHED A STATEMENT FROM ISLAMIC JIHAD THAT THEY SAID WAS DELIVERED TO THEIR WEST BEIRUT OFFICES SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT.

THE STATEMENT SAID JENCOS RELEASE WOULD BE THE GROUPS LAST GESTURE.

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55717	REPORT RE JENCO RELEASE	1	7/26/1986	B1 B3

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

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UP180

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PM-HOSTAGES 1STLD-1STADD 7-26

X X X NOT MET.

QUOTING SECURITY SOURCES, THE RADIO SAID JENCO WAS FOUND ALIVE AND APPARENTLY UNHARMED IN AL QARAOUN VILLAGE IN THE SYRIAN-CONTROLLED BEKAA VALLEY, 26 MILES SOUTHEAST OF BEIRUT.

IT SAID JENCO, A DIRECTOR OF THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES, WAS HANDED OVER TO AUTHORITIES IN THE AREA.

THE RADIO DID NOT SAY WHO FOUND HIM OR WHETHER HE WAS DELIVERED TO LEBANESE OR SYRIAN AUTHORITIES.

IN WASHINGTON, A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESWOMAN SAID SHE HAD NO INFORMATION AND WAS TRYING TO CONFIRM THE REPORTED RELEASE.

MORE

UPI 07-26-86 06:31 AED

R037U I1111)LCZCZYRZSA

PM-LEBANON-RELEASE URGENT

KIDNAPPED U.S. PRIEST FREED - SOURCES

BEIRUT, JULY 26, REUTER - U.S. HOSTAGE LAWRENCE JENCO, HELD BY A RADICAL MOSLEM GROUP, HAS BEEN FREED IN EAST LEBANON, SECURITY SOURCES REPORTED TODAY.

THEY SAID THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST FROM JOLLIET, ILL. APPEARED IN THE BEKAA VALLEY.

REUTER 0619

<SOUR> AP
<TOR> 860726071141

E

<TEXT>

POLICE IN LEBANON NOW CONFIRM THE REPORT THAT AMERICAN KIDNAP VICTIM LAWRENCE JENCO IS FREE. OFFICIALS SAY THE 51-YEAR-OLD ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST WAS RELEASED SAFE AND SOUND TODAY AFTER 30 MONTHS IN CAPTIVITY. OFFICIALS SAY HE WAS TURNED OVER TO SYRIAN AUTHORITIES IN THE BEKAA VALLEY AND WILL GO TO SYRIA BEFORE FLYING HOME. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAYS IT CANT CONFIRM THE STORY.

<SOUR> UPI
<TOR> 860726065927

<TEXT>UP184U IPM-HOSTAGES 1STLD-2,+--+PICKUP6THGRAF 7-26
X X X REPORTED RELEASE.

THE RADIO SAID JENCO WAS LATER TAKEN TO THE BEKAA TOWN OF ANJAR, LOCATED ON THE BEIRUT-DAMACUS HIGHY, SOME 4 MILES FROM THE SYRIAN BORDER.

THE STATEMENT, ACCOMPANIED BY A PHOTOGRAPH OF JENCO SHOWING HIM THIN AND BEARDED, DID NOT GIVE DETAILS OF HIS HEALTH PROBLEMS.

BUT HIS BROTHER IN ILLINOIS SAID HE HAD BEEN TREATED FOR HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE AND AN EYE INFECTION CAUSED BY HIS BLINDFOLD SINCE HIS KIDNAPPING JAN. 8, 1985, AS HE DROVE TO WORK IN MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT.

PICKUP6THGRAF: IN JOLIET, ILL.

UPI 07-26-86 07:02 AED

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55718	REPORT RE JENCO RELEASE	1	7/26/1986	B1 B3

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

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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UNCLAS BEIRUT 03943

TERREP

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PTER, LE
SUBJECT: HOSTAGE FATHER JENCO MAY BE RELEASED

1. AN-NAHR PUBLISHED PICTURE OF FATHER JENCO AND
STATEMENT OF ISLAMIC JIHAD CLAIMING JENCO WOULD SOON
BE RELEASED. JENCO APPEARED WORN DOWN IN PHOTO.
EMBASSY ATTEMPTING TO GET ORIGINAL OF TEXT AND PHOTO.

2. TEXT OF STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

QTE: THE ISLAMIC JIHAD ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY
IN A STATEMENT DELIVERED TO AN-NAHAR MIDNIGHT THAT IT
WILL RELEASE 'SOON' THE AMERICAN FATHER LAWRENCE JENCO

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 02 BEIRUT 3943

DTG: 260617Z JUL 86 PSN: 028663

BECAUSE OF 'HIS DETERIORATED HEALTH.'

- IT ASSERTED THAT ITS INITIATIVE WILL BE THE LAST ONE AND MAKE THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES BEAR 'THE FULL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LIVES OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES; THE PUNISHMENT WILL BE SEVERE (EXTREMELY BAD) IF OUR DEMANDS WERE NOT ACHIEVED.'

- FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT WHICH ACCOMPANIED A COLORED PHOTOGRAPH OF FATHER JENCO:

- "IN THE NAME OF MIGHTY GOD. A DECLARATION TO THE WORLDWIDE PUBLIC OPINION, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE FAMILIES OF TP HOSTAGES. WE ANNOUNCE THAT WE WILL RELEASE FATHER JENCO, ONE OF THE HOSTAGES IN OUR POSSESSION, SOON BECAUSE OF HIS DETERIORATED HEALTH SITUATION IN HARMONY WITH OUR HUMANE ISLAMIC PRINCIPLES, AND WE ASSERT OUR RIGHT OF JUSTICE AND OUR RIGHTFUL DEMANDS, AND WE ADDRESS OUR ANIMOSITY TO THE AMERICAN POLICY REPRESENTED BY REAGAN AND HIS GOVERNMENT. ON THIS OCCASION WE ASSERT THE FOLLOWING:

- THIS INITIATIVE WILL BE THE LAST ONE AFTER WHICH THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT WILL BEAR FULL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LIVES OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES. THE PUNISHMENT WILL BE EXTREMELY SEVERE IF OUR DEMANDS WERE NOT ACHIEVED. WE WILL GIVE THE FATHER A LETTER FROM THE HOSTAGES TO THE (AMERICAN) PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT AND THEIR FAMILIES.

- MAY GOD HELP YOU TO WIN AND AFFIRM YOUR STEPS.

- SIGNED: THE ISLAMIC JIHAD ORGANIZATION UNQTE.

MCNAMARA

BT

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TERREP

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PTER, LE
SUBJECT: HOSTAGE FATHER JENCO MAY BE RELEASED

1. AN-NAHR PUBLISHED PICTURE OF FATHER JENCO AND STATEMENT OF ISLAMIC JIHAD CLAIMING JENCO WOULD SOON BE RELEASED. JENCO APPEARED WORN DOWN IN PHOTO. EMBASSY ATTEMPTING TO GET ORIGINAL OF TEXT AND PHOTO.

2. TEXT OF STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

QTE: THE ISLAMIC JIHAD ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY IN A STATEMENT DELIVERED TO AN-NAHAR MIDNIGHT THAT IT WILL RELEASE 'SOON' THE AMERICAN FATHER LAWRENCE JENCO BECAUSE OF 'HIS DETERIORATED HEALTH.'

- IT ASSERTED THAT ITS INITIATIVE WILL BE THE LAST ONE AND MAKE THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES BEAR 'THE FULL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LIVES OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES;

U N C L A S S I F I E D

U N C L A S S I F I E D

THE PUNISHMENT WILL BE SEVERE (EXTREMELY BAD) IF OUR DEMANDS WERE NOT ACHIEVED.'

- FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT WHICH ACCOMPANIED A COLORED PHOTOGRAPH OF FATHER JENCO:

- "IN THE NAME OF MIGHTY GOD. A DECLARATION TO THE WORLDWIDE PUBLIC OPINION, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE FAMILIES OF TP HOSTAGES. WE ANNOUNCE THAT WE WILL RELEASE FATHER JENCO, ONE OF THE HOSTAGES IN OUR POSSESSION, SOON BECAUSE OF HIS DETERIORATED HEALTH SITUATION IN HARMONY WITH OUR HUMANE ISLAMIC PRINCIPLES, AND WE ASSERT OUR RIGHT OF JUSTICE AND OUR RIGHTFUL DEMANDS, AND WE ADDRESS OUR ANIMOSITY TO THE AMERICAN POLICY REPRESENTED BY REAGAN AND HIS GOVERNMENT. ON THIS OCCASION WE ASSERT THE FOLLOWING:

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- MAY GOD HELP YOU TO WIN AND AFFIRM YOUR STEPS.

- SIGNED: THE ISLAMIC JIHAD ORGANIZATION UNQTE.
MCNAMARA
** END OF CABLE **

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PAGE 01 OF 02 BEIRUT 3947
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 03947

TERREP

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, LE, SY
SUBJECT: REPORTED RELEASE OF U. S. HOSTAGE FATHER JENCO

REFS: (A) BEIRUT 3943, (B) MCNAMARA/OPSCENTER TELCON

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. LEBANESE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE CENTER INFORMED US AT ABOUT 1240 HOURS LOCAL THAT ITS SOURCES

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NLRR MO8-131 #55719

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 02 BEIRUT 3947

DTG: 261011Z JUL 86 PSN: 028922

IN THE BIQA' HAD REPORTED THAT U.S. HOSTAGE FATHER LAWRENCE JENCO HAD BEEN FOUND THIS MORNING, JULY 26, AT 1000 HOURS AT A BRIDGE NEAR THE SOUTHERN END OF LAKE QIR'WAN IN THE SOUTHERN BIQA' VALLEY. THE MOD SAID JENCO WAS REPORTEDLY "WELL" AND IN THE HANDS OF THE SYRIAN ARMY.

3. WE BELIEVE THIS IS A RELIABLE REPORT AND ARE SEEKING CONFIRMATION AND FURTHER DETAILS, WHICH WE WILL CABLE AS WE RECEIVE THEM.

4. THE DISTANCE OF LAKE QIR'WAN FROM BEIRUT AND PAST SYRIAN PERFORMANCE IN OTHER HOSTAGE RELEASES SUGGEST THAT FATHER JENCO WILL BE RELEASED IN DAMASCUS, BUT WE DO NOT YET HAVE ANY FIRM INFORMATION TO THIS EFFECT.
MCNAMARA
BT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

55720

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

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PAGE 01
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BEIRUT 3947

DTG:261011Z JUL 86
TOR: 207/1015Z

PSN:028922
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 NSJRR HOSTAGE INTELLIGENCE TERREP
 NSVMC HOSTAGE INTELLIGENCE TERREP
 NSDBR *NOMAIL* BEIRUT SYRIA
 NSHRT BEIRUT SYRIA
 NSJAM BEIRUT SYRIA
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TERREP

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PTER, LE, SY

SUBJECT: REPORTED RELEASE OF U.S. HOSTAGE FATHER JENCO

REFS: (A) BEIRUT 3943, (B) MCNAMARA/OPSCENTER TELCON

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
-

2. LEBANESE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE CENTER INFORMED US AT ABOUT 1240 HOURS LOCAL THAT ITS SOURCES IN THE BIQA' HAD REPORTED THAT U.S. HOSTAGE FATHER LAWRENCE JENCO HAD BEEN FOUND THIS MORNING, JULY 26, AT 1000 HOURS AT A BRIDGE NEAR THE SOUTHERN END OF LAKE QIR'WAN IN THE SOUTHERN BIQA' VALLEY. THE MOD SAID JENCO WAS REPORTEDLY "WELL" AND IN THE HANDS OF THE SYRIAN ARMY.
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BY RW NARA DATE 4-20-10

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

3. WE BELIEVE THIS IS A RELIABLE REPORT AND ARE SEEKING CONFIRMATION AND FURTHER DETAILS, WHICH WE WILL CABLE AS WE RECEIVE THEM.

4. THE DISTANCE OF LAKE QIR'WAN FROM BEIRUT AND PAST SYRIAN PERFORMANCE IN OTHER HOSTAGE RELEASES SUGGEST THAT FATHER JENCO WILL BE RELEASED IN DAMASCUS, BUT WE DO NOT YET HAVE ANY FIRM INFORMATION TO THIS EFFECT.

MCNAMARA

** END OF CABLE **

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55721	CABLE 261115Z JUL 86	2	7/26/1986	B1

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- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

55728

NSCPC

PAGE 01
IBM014

BEIRUT 3951

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TERREP

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, ASEC, LE, SY, US
SUBJECT: U.S. HOSTAGE FATHER JENCO REPORTEDLY IN SYRIA

REFS: BEIRUT 3947 AND PREVIOUS

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. OSMAN OSMAN, DIRECT
GENERAL OF THE LEBANESE
INTERNAL SECURITY FORCES (ISF), INFORMED EMBASSY AT
1435 HOURS LOCAL THAT U.S. HOSTAGE FATHER LAWRENCE
JENCO HAD CROSSED LEBANESE-SYRIAN BORDER AT MASNA
GOING TOWARDS DAMASCUS. JENCO WAS UNDER SYRIAN
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE ESCORT.

3. OSMAN RECEIVED THE ABOVE INFORMATION FROM ISF
UNIT AT THE BORDER. MCNAMARA
** END OF CABLE **

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M08-131 #55722

BY RW **NARA DATE** 4-20-10

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

35723

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PAGE 01
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 03953

FOR AMBASSADOR EAGLETON FROM TERRY MCNAMARA

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PTER, LE, SY
SUBJECT: HOSTAGE WIFE VISIT

1. HOSTAGE WIFE, JEAN SUTHERLAND, REQUESTS YOUR OPINION AS TO WHETHER SHE MIGHT PROFITABLY COME TO DAMASCUS TO SPEAK TO FATHER JENCO TOMORROW? I WARNED HER THAT HE MIGHT NOT EVEN BE IN DAMASCUS WHEN SHE ARRIVED. NEVERTHELESS, I OFFERED TO ASK YOU WHETHER YOU SEE ANYTHING TO BE GAINED BY HER COMING? SHE SAID THAT SHE WOULD BE GUIDED BY YOUR ADVICE IN THIS REGARD.

2. SHOULD SHE DECIDE NOT TO COME TO DAMASCUS, SHE ASKED THAT ANY LETTERS OR OTHER MESSAGES FOR HER BE SENT HERE TO BEIRUT.

3. PLEASE REPLY BY NIACT WITH YOUR ADVICE SO WE CAN PASS IT TO MRS. SUTHERLAND IN TIME FOR HER TO GET TRANSPORT TO DAMASCUS IN MORNING SHOULD SHE DECIDE TO

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NLRR M08-131 #55723

BY RW **NARA DATE** 4-20-10

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

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COME. MCNAMARA
** END OF CABLE **

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

~~SECRET~~

55724

NSCPC

PAGE 01 DAMASCUS 4538
IBM084

DTG:261623Z JUL 86 PSN:029230
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NSJRR	HOSTAGE KIDNAP TERREP
NSVMC	HOSTAGE KIDNAP TERREP
NSDBR	*NOMAIL* BEIRUT SYRIA
NSHRT	BEIRUT SYRIA
NSJAM	BEIRUT SYRIA
NSJRS	*NOMAIL* BEIRUT SYRIA
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NSRKS	CONGRESS

Jenco

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SECRET DAMASCUS 04538

TERREP EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, LE, SY
SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FATHER JENCO I

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. HAVING HEARD PRESS REPORTS THAT FATHER JENCO WOULD SOON BE RELEASED, WE ESTABLISHED CONTACT WITH THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY MORNING OF JULY 26. THEY WERE NOT ABLE OFFICIALLY TO CONFIRM THAT JENCO WAS IN SYRIAN HANDS. HOWEVER, AT 2:30 P.M. LOCAL I WAS CALLED IN TO MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SHARA'. SHARA' SAID THAT JENCO WAS IN DAMASCUS AND WOULD SOON BE IN HIS OFFICE WHERE HE WOULD TURN HIM OVER TO ME. SHARA' SAID HE WANTED THE USG TO KNOW THAT JENCO HAD BEEN RELEASED BY THE CAPTORS NEAR THE LEBANESE TOWN OF QARAAOUN IN THE SOUTHERN BIQA' VALLEY. HE HAD

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BY rw NARA DATE 4-20-10

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

BEEN DELIVERED THERE IN THE TRUNK OF A CAR BY PERSONS MANAGING TO CONCEAL THEIR IDENTITY. SHARA' THOUGHT THAT THE CAPTORS HAD HANDLED IT THIS WAY TO CONCEAL THE PLACE WHERE JENCO HAD BEEN HELD. (HE LATER TOLD SHARA' HE HAD BEEN HELD SOMEWHERE IN BEIRUT FOR THE

LAST SEVERAL MONTHS.)

3. SHARA' ADDED THAT HE WANTED THE USG TO KNOW THAT THE SYRIANS HAD STEPPED UP PRESSURE WITH "PHYSICAL MEASURES" AND HE IMPLIED THAT THIS CAMPAIGN HAD CONTRIBUTED TO JENCO'S RELEASE. HE SAID ASAD HAD ISSUED ORDERS SEVERAL WEEKS AGO AFTER BEING IMPRESSED BY THE LETTER SIGNED BY SEVERAL HUNDRED CONGRESSMEN DELIVERED TO HIM BY CONGRESSMAN DORNAN. SHARA' CONCLUDED BY PLEDGING THAT THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO APPLY PRESSURES; THEY HAVE MADE NO COMMITMENTS TO THE KIDNAPPERS AND WOULD MAKE NONE. THEIR AIM, HE SAID, WAS TO BRING ABOUT THE RELEASE OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES.

4. COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION: AT THIS POINT WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW IMPORTANT THE SYRIAN CONTRIBUTION WAS TOWARD JENCO'S RELEASE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THEIR MOVE INTO WEST BEIRUT AND WELL-ADVERTISED PLAN TO ENTER THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS WAS A FACTOR. WHATEVER THEIR CONTRIBUTION, THEY HAVE THUS FAR BEEN VERY PROMPT AND COOPERATIVE IN TAKING CARE OF JENCO AND TURNING HIM OVER TO US. FOR TACTICAL REASONS, IF NOTHING ELSE, WE SHOULD GIVE AMPLE CREDIT TO THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT ASAD AS A MEANS OF ENCOURAGING THEM TO STEP UP THE PRESSURE ON HIZBALLAH. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE CONSISTENT AND APPROPRIATE FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN TO PHONE ASAD WITHIN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR JENCO'S RELEASE AND THANK HIM FOR HIS CONTINUING EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES. END COMMENT.

5. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON
** END OF CABLE **

~~SECRET~~
