

SECRET

SECRET

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL SECRETARIAT

PAGE 01 OF 03 SECSTATE WASHDC 6458 DTG: 050245Z NOV 86 PSN: 074301
EOB939 AN001638 TOR: 309/0426Z CSN: HCE423

DISTRIBUTION: COBB-01 ROSS-01 STK-01 STRK-01 SOMM-01 RCDM-01
MAT-01 /007 AI

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:
SIT:
EOB:

OP IMMED /PRIORITY
#: 3423
DE RUEHC #6458 3090245
O P 050245Z NOV 86 ZEX
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY 0000
EC COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 0000
AMEMBASSY VIENNA 0000
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 0000
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0000
AMEMBASSY AMMAN 0000

*That the
Visit*

~~SECRET~~ STATE 346458

EXDIS

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PTER, SY, UK, US
SUBJECT: MURPHY MEETING WITH BRITISH DCM

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. SUMMARY: IN A NOVEMBER 4 MEETING, ASSISTANT SECRETARY MURPHY AND UK DCM JENKINS REVIEWED NEXT STEPS ON SYRIA. MURPHY REASSURED JENKINS THE U. S. DOES NOT INTEND TO ANNOUNCE UNILATERAL ACTIONS BEFORE THE NOVEMBER 10 EC MINISTERIAL, AND TOLD HIM THAT THE SECRETARY PLANNED FULL DISCUSSIONS ON SYRIA WITH HOWE AND OTHER EUROPEANS IN VIENNA THIS WEEK. THE U. S. HAS MADE NO FINAL DECISION ON ITS OWN STEPS. END SUMMARY.

3. BRITISH DCM JENKINS CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY MURPHY NOVEMBER 4 TO DISCUSS NEXT STEPS REGARDING SYRIA. JENKINS OPENED THE MEETING WITH A REQUEST THAT THE U. S. NOT MAKE PUBLIC ANY STEPS IT PLANS TO TAKE AGAINST SYRIA BEFORE THE NOVEMBER 10 EC MINISTERIAL. MURPHY TOLD JENKINS THAT THE U. S. HAS NO PLANS TO DO SO, AND THAT THE SECRETARY AND FOREIGN SECRETARY HOWE WILL BE ABLE TO DISCUSS TIMING AND SUBSTANCE FULLY IN THEIR VIENNA MEETING LATER THIS WEEK. MURPHY INDICATED THAT THE SECRETARY PLANS TO COVER SYRIAN SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM IN

ALL OF HIS BILATERALS IN VIENNA, AND THAT WHAT ACTIONS WE DECIDE TO TAKE WILL BE INFLUENCED BY THE SECRETARY'S TALKS IN VIENNA AND PARIS, AND BY EC DECISIONS ON NOVEMBER 10. MURPHY EMPHASIZED TO JENKINS THAT THE U. S. WISHES TO SUPPORT BRITISH EFFORTS.

3. MURPHY ASKED JENKINS ABOUT THE DETAILS OF THE FOUR

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
NLS 197-0132-129
601, NARA, Date 11/16/00

Reproduced at the Ronald Reagan Library

EXDIS

EXDIS

EXDIS

EXDIS

SECRET

SECRET
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

PAGE 02 OF 03 SECSTATE WASHDC 6458 DTG: 050245Z NOV 86 PSN: 074301

POINTS OF AGREEMENT IN THE EC WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE ANNOUNCED AT THE NOVEMBER 10 MEETING. JENKINS DESCRIBED THE POINT ON AIRLINE SECURITY AS INDICATING THAT THERE WOULD BE INCREASED SURVEILLANCE AGAINST SYRIAN AIRLINES' OPERATIONS IN EUROPE. THE DETAILS AND EXTENT OF SUCH SURVEILLANCE WOULD BE DECIDED BY INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS. ASKED WHETHER THE UK PERCEIVES A RELUCTANCE IN EUROPE TO TAKE ON SYRIAN AIRLINES DIRECTLY BY CANCELLING SERVICE TO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, JENKINS SAID THAT WILLINGNESS TO TAKE ACTIONS WILL DEPEND IN PART ON FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS, INCLUDING, FOR EXAMPLE, THE RESULTS OF THE UPCOMING TRIAL IN BONN.

4. JENKINS ASKED MURPHY WHETHER DECISIONS HAD BEEN TAKEN ON UNILATERAL U.S. STEPS. MURPHY REPLIED THAT NO FIRM DECISIONS HAD BEEN TAKEN. THE SECRETARY VIEWS HIS UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS IN EUROPE AS GENUINE AND IMPORTANT IN THIS REGARD. WE ARE ALSO CONTINUING TO LOOK AT THE QUESTION OF TIMING AND HAVE NOT DECIDED WHETHER TO MAKE OUR OWN DECISIONS PUBLIC JUST AFTER THE EC MINISTERIAL OR FOLLOWING THE THATCHER VISIT. JENKINS PRESSED MURPHY FOR DETAILS AS TO WHAT MEASURES THE U.S. IS CONSIDERING. MURPHY SAID THAT IT IS TOO EARLY TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE - TO DO SO NOW WOULD BE SPECULATIVE. MURPHY AND JENKINS AGREED THAT THERE IS LITTLE THE U.S. CAN DO ALONE ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT WHICH WOULD HAVE ANY PRACTICAL EFFECT IN SYRIA. JENKINS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE WITH OTHER EUROPEANS ON THE QUESTION OF SUBSIDIZED GRAIN SALES.

5. JENKINS ASKED MURPHY HOW THE U.S. VIEWED ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH SYRIA EMERGING OVER THE LONGER RUN. MURPHY SAID THAT WE EXPECTED THE RELATIONSHIP TO BE

DIFFICULT. NEVERTHELESS, WE CONTINUE TO VIEW SYRIA AS A MAJOR PLAYER IN REGIONAL POLITICS. WHATEVER ASAD'S ROLE IN SUPPORT OF TERRORISM, HIS INFLUENCE OVER OTHER ACTORS, LIKE HUSSEIN AND FAHD, WILL CONTINUE TO BE IMPORTANT. JENKINS ASKED WHETHER THE U.S. REQUIRED PROGRESS IN THE SIX AREAS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED WITH THE SYRIANS BEFORE RELATIONS COULD IMPROVE. MURPHY SAID THAT THE SIX AREAS ARE ALL IMPORTANT TO THE U.S., BUT THAT FROM A PRACTICAL POINT OF VIEW, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO QUANTIFY SYRIAN

PERFORMANCE IN EACH AND EVERY AREA. THE U.S. HAS HOMOED IN ON THE ABU NIDAL PRESENCE. WE WILL BE IN A POSITION TO KNOW IF ABU NIDAL OPERATIONS ARE CLOSED DOWN IN DAMASCUS AND IF THEY ARE SQUEEZED OUT OF THE B10A'.

6. JENKINS TURNED TO THE SYRIAN ROLE IN JACOBSEN'S RELEASE OVER THE WEEKEND. MURPHY SAID THAT WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY SYRIAN ROLE. THE IRANIAN HAND APPEARS MORE EVIDENT. ASAD IS NOT GETTING CREDIT FOR THIS RELEASE, NOR HAS HE CLAIMED CREDIT. IN GENERAL, ASAD IS IN A NO WIN POSITION ON THE HOSTAGES AND IS PROBABLY UNABLE TO DO MUCH OF ANYTHING HIMSELF TO OBTAIN THEIR RELEASE.

7. MURPHY TOLD JENKINS THAT AMBASSADOR BREMER WOULD BE ACCOMPANYING THE SECRETARY TO VIENNA FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE EUROPEANS ON SYRIA. JENKINS ASKED WHAT BREMER'S ASSESSMENT IS OF EUROPEAN ATTITUDES. MURPHY SAID THAT BREMER IS RELATIVELY ENCOURAGED BY THE RESULTS OF HIS RECENT VISIT. JENKINS AGREED, NOTING THAT THE FCO IS "QUIETLY CONFIDENT" THAT THE NOVEMBER 10 MEETING WILL BEAR OUT THIS VIEW. IN ANY EVENT, THE UPCOMING TRIAL IN BONN WILL HELP IN THIS REGARD.

SECRET

Reproduced at the Ronald Reagan Library

EXD IS

EXD IS

EXD IS

EXD IS

SECRET

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

PAGE 03 OF 03 SECSTATE WASHDC 6458

DTG: 050245Z NOV 86 PSN: 074301

8. FOLLOWING A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE PROSPECTS FOR ACTION BY THE TURKS AND JAPANESE, JENKINS ASKED WHETHER THE U. S. PLANNED TO RAISE SYRIA IN THE SUMMIT SEVEN FORUM. MURPHY SAID THAT WE ARE LOOKING AT SUCH AN IDEA, BUT HAVE NOT MADE A DECISION. IT IS A LOGICAL OPTION TO EXAMINE. MURPHY ASKED WHETHER THE BRITISH WILL TRY TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE OF ADDITIONAL POINTS (BEYOND THE FOUR APPARENTLY AGREED) AT THE NOVEMBER 10 MINISTERIAL. JENKINS REPLIED THAT HE EXPECTED THE UK WOULD TRY TO BROADEN THE DISCUSSIONS, BUT WAS UNSURE WHETHER IT WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL. THE UK STRATEGY IS TO TRY TO COME UP WITH THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE PACKAGE WHICH CAN GAIN A CONSENSUS. FOR THE UK, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THOSE

ELEMENTS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE HINDAWI TRIAL (SYRIAN AIRLINES AND THE SYRIAN EMBASSY) BE PART OF THAT PACKAGE. AT THE SAME TIME, THE UK HOPES THAT SPECIFIC COUNTRIES CAN TAKE BILATERAL STEPS BEYOND THOSE AGREED IN THE MINISTERIAL. THE GERMANS AND ITALIANS, FOR EXAMPLE, ARE APPARENTLY MOVING TOWARD NOT REPLACING AMBASSADORS.



9. JENKINS CLOSED THE MEETING WITH A REQUEST TO MEET WITH MURPHY AGAIN EARLY NEXT WEEK -- BEFORE THE THATCHER VISIT -- TO REVIEW THE U. S. POSITION. MURPHY AGREED.

10. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. WHITEHEAD
BT

Reproduced at the Ronald Reagan Library

EXD IS

EXD IS

EXD IS

EXD IS

SECRET