DECLASSIFIED

PAGE 01

UNCLASSIFIED

WASHINGTON, D.C., 24 JUL 99

SECRET

TO

SECSTATE WASHDC

IMMEDIATE 2271

ACTION NODS-00

INFO LOG-00

CCOE-00 SAS-00 /000W

O 040828Z AUG 99

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2271

SECTION 01 OF 03 ABU DHABI 005051

DECLASSIFIED

PLEASE PASS TO P, D, NEA, NEA/ARP, AND S/CT

PLEASE ALSO PASS TO SECDEF

PLEASE ALSO PASS TO NSC FOR CLARKE AND RIEDEL

PLEASE ALSO PASS TO CIA FOR RICHTER

DEPT PLEASE REPEAT TO EMBASSIES ISLAMABAD, RIYADH, NEW DELHI, AND TEL AVIV

E.O. 12958: DECL: 1.6 (X5) (X6)

TAGS: PTE_R, PREL, TC, SA, IS

SUBJECT:

ARIANA AIRLINES REQUEST

REF(1):

A) SECDEFWASHDC SPECAT 241337Z JUL 99

B) STATE 129564

C) STATE 143980

SECRET

PAGE 02

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1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY CDA DEBORAH K. JONES; 1.5 (B) AND (D).

2. (S/NF) SUMMARY: CHARGE DELIVERED SECRETARY COHEN'S JULY 24 LETTER (REF A) REGARDING USAMA BIN LADIN AND THE PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDER ON THE TALIBAN, AND REQUESTING THAT THE UAE DENY LANDING RIGHTS TO AFGHANISTAN'S ARIANA AIRLINES, TO NONCOMMTTAL ON MONDAY, AUGUST 2.

NONCOMMITTAL.

B1

B1

B1

Classification Extended on: 05/15/2013 ~ Class: SECRET~ Authority: DSCG 11-1 ~ Declassify on: 08-04-2039
GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS.

TURNING TO THE TALIBAN...

4. (S/NI) SHIFTING TO THE SUBJECT AT HAND, CHARGE NOTED THAT SHE HAD A MESSAGE FROM DEFENSE SECRETARY COHEN CONCERNING A MATTER PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BY AMBASSADOR KATTOUF

THE U.S. HAD GROWN IMPATIENT WITH THE TALIBAN'S CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR AND PROTECTION OF USAMA BIN LADIN (UBL). AS A RESULT, THE PRESIDENT HAD ISSUED AN EXECUTIVE ORDER IMPOSING FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL SANCTIONS ON THE TALIBAN, AND WE WOULD CONTINUE TO SEEK WAYS TO INCREASE THE PRESSURE. AS WE APPROACHED THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOMBINGS OF OUR TWO EMBASSIES IN EAST AFRICA, WE WERE AWARE THAT UBL AND HIS FOLLOWERS CONTINUED TO PLAN ATTACKS ON U.S. PERSONNEL AND INSTALLATIONS.
WE KNEW THAT UBL WAS USING ARIANA AIRLINES IN SUPPORT OF UBL'S TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. FOR THAT REASON, WE WERE AGAIN ASKING SHUT DOWN ARIANA'S OPERATIONS IN DUBAI. CHARGE NOTED THAT WE HAD PASSED THE SAME MESSAGE TO REGARDING ARIANA'S FLIGHTS TO

5. (S/NP)

CHARGE REMARKED THAT WHILE WE HAD SEEN PRESS REPORTS OF HIS MOVEMENT OUT OF

SECRET

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2272

SECRET

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DEPT PLEASE REPEAT TO EMBASSIES ISLAMABAD, RIYADH, NEW
QANDAHAR, WE BELIEVED HE REMAINED IN AFGHANISTAN. THERE HAD BEEN RUMORS OF HIS ILL HEALTH, BUT WE HAD NO SOLID EVIDENCE OF THIS.

CLEARLY THE PRESSURE WAS HAVING AN EFFECT.
SECRET

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------------------E89BB7 040907Z /38
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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2273
SECRET SECTION 03 OF 03 ABU DHABI 005051

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COMMENT.
JONES

SECRET