

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 EA-07 EUR-12 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 ACDA-07 L-03

ISO-00 /087 W

-----018816 301800Z /45

P R 300500Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0174

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

:USUN NEW YORK 30

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DJIBOUTI 0263

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MILI, PARM SO ET DJ KS

SUBJECT: SOMALI REQUEST FOR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION

1. ON AFTERNOON 27 JULY, SOMALI AMBASSADOR TO DJIBOUTI, HOUSSEIN MOHAMOUD MOHAMED URGENTLY REQUESTED MEETING WITH CHARGE IN EMBASSY OFFICES, SIESTA HOTEL. AFTER QUICKLY DISPENSING WITH FORMALITIES, SOMALI PRESENTED SHARPLY DETAILED ACCOUNTING OF SEVERAL CHARTER CARGO FLIGHTS BY "LUX AIRLINES" AND "TIGER AIRLINES" (SUPPOSE FLYING TIGER) BETWEEN SEOUL AND ADDIS ABABA CARRYING UNKNOWN MATERIAL FOR ETHIOPIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. HOUSSEIN WANTED TO KNOW WHAT THESE FLIGHTS CARRY AND SAID THAT IT CURIOUS THAT CLOSE ALLIES OF U.S. LIKE SOUTH KOREANS COULD SHIP WAR MATERIEL TO ADDIS ABABA ON U.S. AIRLINES WITHOUT FULL USG KNOWLEDGE AND CONSENT.

2. CARGE TOLD SOMALI THAT INDEED IT VERY POSSIBLE THAT CARGOS COULD BE SHIPPED ON U.S. FLAG CARRIERS BETWEEN SEOUL AND ADDIS WITHOUT

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USG INTERVENTION OF ANY KIND. RECALLING EARLIER VISIT TO ADDIS IN WHICH HE WAS INTRIGUED BY LUX AIRLINER AT AIRPORT, THE CHARGE VOLUNTEERED

THAT HE BELIEVED AIRCRAFT TO BE CARRYING UNIFORMS FOR ETHIOPIAN PEASANT MILITIA. SOMALI AMBASSADOR COULD NOT BELIEVE THAT FLIGHTS WOULD BE CHARTERED FROM SO FAR FOR UNIFORMS ALONE AND WONDERED WHETHER SOUTH KOREA WAS PROVIDING SPARE PARTS FOR ETHIOPIAN MILITARY

WHICH NO LONGER HAS ACCESS TO SPARE PARTS FOR ITS MILITARY EQUIPMENT OF U.S. ORIGIN THROUGH THE SUSPENDED U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

THE CHARGE REPLIED THAT IT UNLIKELY THAT INFORMATION ON CONTENTS THESE FLIGHTS IS AVAILABLE AND THAT THERE IS NO USG INTEREST IN GETTING INVOLVED IN NORMAL COMMERCIAL TRANSFERS. IT NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT IF TRANSFERS OF U.S. ORIGIN MILITARY EQUIPMENT ARE INVOLVED, THERE COULD BE SOME USG INTEREST BECAUSE OF FMS RESTRICTIONS. SOMALI WAS TOLD THAT AN INQUIRY OF THIS LATTER CASE COULD BE MADE.

3. CHARGE DOUBTS THAT THIS REQUEST MADE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM MOGAIDSCIO. HOUSSEIN, LIKE EVERYONE ELSE ON HIS STAFF, ARE SOMALI STATE SECURITY OFFICERS, AND CHARGE SUSPECTS THAT NEWS THAT SAME MORNING OF U.S. WILLINGNESS PROVIDE DEFENSIVE ARMS TO SOMALIA MAY HAVE INSPIRED SOMALI AMBASSADOR IMMEDIATELY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PERCEIVED U.S. POSITION ON SOMALI/ETHIOPIAN CONFLICT. WHILE CHARGE NOT INTERESTED IN BECOMING SOURCE OF INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION FOR SOMALI EMBASSY IN DJIBOUTI, THE FACT THAT SOMALI EMBASSY HERE IS EXTREMELY WELL-INFORMED ABOUT LOCAL SCENE AND THE EMBATTLED AREAS OF SOUTHERN ETHIOPIA, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO FOLLOW UP THIS APPROACH WITH SOME MEANINGFUL REPLY. IT SHOULD BE ADDED THAT ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR IN DJIBOUTI IS ALSO A VALUED CONTACT TO CHARGE. IT IS HOPED THAT A MEANINGFUL REPLY COULD CONSIST OF A DENIAL THAT MILITARY EQUIPMENT OF U.S. ORIGIN INVOLVED ON FLIGHTS.

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4. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED LOOK INTO MATTER AND PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS ON RESPONSE.
CLARKE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, AIR TRANSPORTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770274-0322
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977072/aaaaabct.tel
Line Count: 97
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1750513
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOMALI REQUEST FOR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION
TAGS: PINT, MILI, PARM, SO, ET, DJ, KS, (HOUSSEIN MOHAMOUD MOHAMED)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b6f50d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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