

RELEASE IN PART B6

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2012 11:42 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Ankara 17:45 update on TUAf/Syria from MFA Cevik:

And here is Frank's report - note that his report suggests plane was inside Syrian airspace when shot, while Sinir's suggests it was outside (but had previously been inside).

From: Ricciardone, Francis J
Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2012 10:57 AM
To: Gordon, Philip H; [REDACTED]; SES-O; Shapiro, Andrew J; Sullivan, Jacob J; 'Winnefeld, James A ADM JCS VCJCS' [REDACTED]; 'Stavridis, James G. ADM' [REDACTED]; 'Butler, Lawrence E AMB' [REDACTED]; 'Greenert, Jonathan W ADM CNO' [REDACTED]; 'Chaudhry, Asif J AMB OPNAV, N00H' [REDACTED]; Nuland, Victoria J
Cc: Baily, Jess L; Kim, Yuri J; Fernandes, Anthony C; Carraway, Cassandra B; NEA-Syria-DL; 'Meghan_Gregonis' [REDACTED]; Daalder, Ivo H; 'esherwood-randall' [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Zeya, Uzra S; Lakhdir, Kamala S; Kaidanow, Tina S; Rubin, Eric S; EUR-SE-TU-DL; Dibble, Elizabeth L; Hof, Frederic C; Ford, Robert J (OES); Nuland, Victoria J; Ellison, Janine M; Lester, Raymond; Netos, Eleftherios (Terry) E; Citrin, Ruth; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Roquemoire, Darlene M; Hartley, Brent R; Tremont, Pamela M; Holmes, Stephanie E; 'Daniel, James E Jr BrigGen USAF EUCOM ODC-T/TCH' [REDACTED]; Degnan, Kelly C
Subject: Ankara 17:45 update on TUAf/Syria from MFA Cevik:

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Jake, it might upstage Halit Cevik if S betrays her full knowledge of following when she speaks w/ Davut in a couple hours, so discretion pls.

1. GoT priorities , are:

- (1) find the pilots
- (2) establish the facts.

2. before accomplishing above, will take a reserved media line -- no specific plans for formal media statement by PM or FM over the weekend though this could of course happen. MFA will brief dip community Sunday, after which they expect more to get out in media. Thinking now is to hold formal media presentations until Monday parliamentary session. But GoT "will have to respond somehow," once SAR finished + facts fully established.

3. TU will "inform" NAC on Tuesday.

4. facts established so far about the incident, "from radar tracks:"

- the RF-4 was shot down on its SECOND Run, inside Syrian airspace over territorial waters.
- pilots had been warned by TU air traffic control (NFI, presume Malatya – area TU AFB) that it had strayed into Syrian airspace too close to shore, and should move out. It had just begun to turn and head directly back to Turkey when it was hit.
- the RF-4 was squawking IFF, so Syrians definitely knew it was an unarmed TUAf a/c.
- no warning or any contact by Syrians w/ the RF-4 before launching the missile

5. TU has found a private Turkish salvage ship which will deploy in about 2 days and reportedly can work at the local depths. If they need any consultation or other eqpt, MFA will help them get in touch with any US mil or other experts. GoT Appreciates USN consideration of its previous request for availability and also appreciates that USN can not reflag its ships.

6. Based on forgoing, I'd suggest any weekend statements to media from Washington along following lines:

-- Sec Clinton (+ SecDef Panetta?), and US military leaders, have spoken with their counterparts to express our concern for the situation, especially for the two pilots who are still missing.

We pray for their safe recovery.

-- our diplomats and military officers at all levels likewise have remained in close and constant touch with Turkish counterparts since the incident occurred Friday afternoon.

-- We have offered all appropriate assistance. At this time, we understand that Turkey is conducting SAR with its own capabilities.

-- We support the GoT's immediate priorities to recover the pilots and to establish the facts, before it decides what further steps it wishes to take.

-- Obviously, the GoT, not us, will make public the results of its investigation and its decisions in consequence.

-- of course, we will stay in the closest consultations with our Turkish allies as the facts become clearer, and as they and we decide how each of us will proceed in the coming days.

Francis J. Ricciardone
US Ambassador
Ankara,
Republic of Turkey

tel: +90 312 457 7280

From: Ricciardone, Francis J

Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2012 12:24 PM

To: Burns, William J; Gordon, Philip H; [REDACTED] Shapiro, Andrew J; Sherman, Wendy R; Sullivan, Jacob J; 'Winnefeld, James A ADM JCS VCJCS'; Stavridis, James G. ADM; Butler, Lawrence E AMB ; 'Greenert, Jonathan W ADM CNO'; Chaudhry, Asif J AMB OPNAV, N00H

Cc: Baily, Jess L; Kim, Yuri J; Fernandes, Anthony C; Carraway, Cassandra B; NEA-Syria-DL; 'Meghan_Gregonis [REDACTED] Daalder, Ivo H; 'esherwood-randall [REDACTED]; Zeya, Uzra S; Lakhdhir, Kamala S; Kaidanow, Tina S; Rubin, Eric S; EUR-SE-TU-DL; Dibble, Elizabeth L; Hof, Frederic C; Ford, Robert J (OES); Nuland, Victoria J; Ellison, Janine M; Lester, Raymond; Netos, Eleftherios (Terry) E; Citrin, Ruth; [REDACTED] Khoury, Nabeel A; [REDACTED]; Roquemore, Darlene M; Hartley, Brent R; Tremont, Pamela M; Holmes, Stephanie E; 'Daniel, James E Jr BrigGen USAF EUCOM ODC-T/TCH'; Degnan, Kelly C

Subject: recommend C/JCS +/- or SecDef phone TU counterparts, later SecState

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While it is too soon to offer condolences for the pilots (missing and now unofficially presumed, but not confirmed, dead) and many other facts are not yet established (including how GoT intends to respond or speak), Turks would welcome senior official calls of solidarity/support from US. In an eventual public statement, it will be good to be able to say we've made such calls of sympathy and support.

I recommend SecDef and C/JCS call their counterparts as a first measure, to be followed later by SecState to Davutoglu. (also, as CNO Greenert was just here, this is an excellent peg for a follow up phone call.)

Purpose of that mil then diplo sequence is to establish and elevate the mil/ops conversation, and to strengthen those channels for further use in future Syrian contingencies.

Recommend TPs:

- state allied solidarity and concern, particularly for pilots;
- reaffirm offer of any needed or desired SAR assistance (they haven't asked as they are working with Syrians);
- recognize sensitivity on many levels, so thank you for close coordination thus far both in military and diplomatic channels;
- ask current state of investigation, interaction w/ SARG, TGS/MOD recommendations to the foreign policy side

(note there have been informal inquiries about possible USN or other salvage assistance, but no direct or official request; thinking is political need to attempt to recover bodies that may be in wreckage presumed in 1300 meters/meters depth; they are not at all certain they would wish a US flagged vessel in Syrian waters even for salvage or SAR.)

Of course, just before any calls we should check for latest official comms from GoT to us or announcement.

Francis J. Ricciardone
US Ambassador
Ankara,
Republic of Turkey

tel: +90 312 457 7280

From: Carraway, Cassandra B

Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2012 11:32 AM

To: NEA-Syria-DL; 'Meghan_Gregonis [REDACTED]'; SES-O; Daalder, Ivo H; 'esherwood-randal [REDACTED]'; Zeya, Uzra S; Lakhdir, Kamala S; Gordon, Philip H; Kaidanow, Tina S; Rubin, Eric S; Allegrone, Kathleen H; Dibble, Elizabeth L; Hof, Frederic C; Ford, Robert J (OES); Nuland, Victoria J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Ellison, Janine M; Lester, Raymond; Netos, Eleftherios (Terry) E; Citrin, Ruth; Khoury, Nabeel A; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Roquemoire, Darlene M; Hartley, Brent R; Tremont, Pamela M; Holmes, Stephanie E

Cc: Baily, Jess L; Ricciardone, Francis J; Kim, Yuri J; Fernandes, Anthony C

Subject: Turkish Plane Incident: Ankara update as of 11:00 local

Turkish Aircraft Incident – Update 11:00 Ankara Time

- Publicly GoT has said that search and rescue (SAR) continues, in cooperation with Syria.
 - Privately they have told us they think pilots are lost with wreckage.
 - Focus is on salvage and recovery, with requested USG assistance.
 - EUCOM is looking for available salvage assets.
 - We should not answer questions on pilots until GoT goes public.
 - MFA no further information for us as of 09:45 a.m.
- Turkish media reports that Syrian state news agency SANA is saying:
 - Syrian military spotted an "unidentified aerial target" flying at low altitude and high speed

- "The Syrian anti-air defenses counteracted with anti-aircraft artillery, hitting it directly"
- "The target turned out to be a Turkish military plane that entered Syrian airspace and was dealt with according to laws observed in such cases."
- See Syrian FM spokesman Tweets @Makdissi below (thanks to Ankara LES)
- Turkish commentators are focused on three main points:
 - Whether the plane was over Syrian territory
 - Whether pilots will be recovered
 - Possible recourse to NATO and the UN

Embassy Ankara POCs:

- Cassandra Carraway (Pol-Mil) 90 312 457 7414 office, [REDACTED]
- Tony Fernandes (Pol-Mil) 90 312 457 717 office, [REDACTED]

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Tweets from Syrian FM spokesman @Makdissi:

Unidentified target was down above syrian water & not turkish target,there was no aggression. Coordinating search& rescue now

10 km inside Syrian water .. That is was search and rescue are done in coordination between both sides

It was an unidentified target flying on very low range when it violated Syrian airspace only 1 km away from Syrian shore

Search & rescue are underway in a joint and coordinated efforts between both sides

Turkish Jet was gunned down by Syrian antiaircraft defense when it violated Syrian airspace. It fell 10 km away from Syrian sea shore

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Baily, Jess L

Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2012 1:26 AM

To: Carraway, Cassandra B; EUR-SE-TU-DL; NEA-Syria-DL; 'Meghan_Gregonis [REDACTED]'; SES-O; Daalder, Ivo H; 'esherwood-randall [REDACTED]'; Zeya, Uzra S; Lakhdhir, Kamala S; Gordon, Philip H; Kaidanow, Tina S; Rubin, Eric S; Allegrone, Kathleen H; Dibble, Elizabeth L; Hof, Frederic C; Ford, Robert J (OES); Nuland, Victoria J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Ellison, Janine M; Lester, Raymond; Netos, Eleftherios (Terry) E; Citrin, Ruth; Khoury, Nabeel A

Cc: Cabuk, Ozgur (Istanbul); Tayla, Suheyla; Orucoglu, Berivan; Ricciardone, Francis J; Kilner, Scott F (Istanbul); Jaworski, Richard E; Polt, Martina C; Wentworth, Mark A; Thompson, Tedde H; Fernandes, Anthony C; Campbell, Ross C; Fattahi, Loghman; '[REDACTED]'; Hanish, Patrick N (Istanbul); Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Artigues, Craig M; Sylvester, Thomas Y; AnkaraAMB; Kim, Yuri J; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Hansen, Ralph S; Densmore, William E; Lo, Debra; Darnell, Daria L; Earle, Renee (Istanbul); Parente, Joseph A; Faillace, Karlygash B (Istanbul); Price, Gabrielle M (Istanbul)

Subject: Turkish Plane Crash: Ankara update as of 00:30 local

Per Anatolian Agency, PM Office issued a statement following security meeting saying Syria downed the aircraft. "It is understood from the data provided by related institutions and information gathered in the framework of a joint search and rescue efforts with Syria that our plane was downed by Syria." The statement said Turkey would show "its final attitude" and make necessary steps after the incident is fully clarified.

MFA reports the pilots of downed plane have not/not been found or rescued.

MFA is asking for USG support on search and rescue (SAR).

Embassy SD0 is contact with EUCOM, which is looking for any available salvage assets that can support in a timely manner. They will respond ASAP once identified. SAR concerns are obvious, but they will work back through DC (DOD, DOS) for clearance.

Jess L. Baily
Deputy Chief of Mission
U.S. Embassy, Ankara, Turkey

From: Carraway, Cassandra B
To: EUR-SE-TU-DL; NEA-Syria-DL; 'Gregonis, Meghan' [REDACTED]; SES-O; Daalder, Ivo H; 'esherwood-randall' [REDACTED]; Zeya, Uzra S; Lakhdir, Kamala S; Gordon, Philip H; Kaidanow, Tina S; Rubin, Eric S; Allegrone, Kathleen H; Dibble, Elizabeth L; Hof, Frederic C; Ford, Robert J (OES); Nuland, Victoria J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Ellison, Janine M; Lester, Raymond; Netos, Eleftherios (Terry) E; Citrin, Ruth; Houry, Nabeel A
Cc: Cabuk, Ozgur (Istanbul); Tayla, Suheyla; Orucoglu, Berivan; Ricciardone, Francis J; Baily, Jess L; Kilner, Scott F (Istanbul); Jaworski, Richard E; Polt, Martina C; Wentworth, Mark A; Thompson, Tedde H; Fernandes, Anthony C; Campbell, Ross C; Fattahi, Loghman; [REDACTED]; Hay, Andrew W; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Hanish, Patrick N (Istanbul); Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Artigues, Craig M; Sylvester, Thomas Y; AnkaraAMB; Kim, Yuri J; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Hansen, Ralph S; Densmore, William E; Lo, Debra; Darnell, Daria L; Earle, Renee (Istanbul); Parente, Joseph A; Faillace, Karlygash B (Istanbul); Price, Gabrielle M (Istanbul); Carraway, Cassandra B
Sent: Fri Jun 22 19:15:56 2012
Subject: Turkish Plane Crash Reporting

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Update on Turkish Plane Crash

- Turkish RF-4 downed, 9 nautical miles off Syrian coast, circa 14:00 Turkish time.
- Media reports PM Erdogan said GoT received call from Syrian government apologizing for mistaken shutdown.
 - We heard same from MFA.
- Turkish media claiming pilots alive and in Syrian custody, and that PM Erdogan declared no casualties.
- PM Erdogan returning to Ankara, scheduled to meet 18:30 local with his security cabinet
 - (Note: this meeting was scheduled to deal with recent PKK attack. Already returning early from Rio.)
- We are standing by for PM Erdogan's expected press statement.
- AMB has met today with both MFA Deputy U/S Halit Cevik and military DChoD Hulusi Akar.
 - MFA appears to be in direct frequent contact with Syrian authorities.
 - DChoD reports Syrian-Turkish cooperation in search and rescue (SAR).
 - AMB offered support and invited frequent weekend contact with senior MFA and TGS.
- Embassy has set up real-time media monitoring via own personnel and OSC.

Embassy Ankara POCs:

- Cassandra Carraway (Pol-Mil) 90 533 429 4518
- Tony Fernandes (Pol-Mil) 90 533 522 3708