

**RELEASE IN PART
B5**

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Sunday, February 19, 2012 10:33 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Latest at Camp Liberty

From: Fried, Daniel
Sent: Sunday, February 19, 2012 06:51 AM
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Wells, Alice G
Subject: Re: Latest at Camp Liberty

Good news: Quiet so far at Liberty today. No overnight reports of trouble.

Bad (but expected) news: the MEK is putting out the line that the transfer was inhumane and no more will occur.

Based on embassy reports and the UN draft report to UN HQ, my initial take is that (a) problems existed about personal baggage (the GOI principle that Ashrafis could take anything that any Iraqi could legally possess does not seem to have been followed in full, though much, much baggage was indeed taken to Hurriya); (b) the Iraqis seemed under orders to behave and compromise (there are reports of one nasty Iraqi officer, but this seems to have been individual, not GOI-instructed); (c) the Iraqi search seems to have been too exacting and; (d) the Ashrafis/Hurriyaites made things more difficult through delaying tactics and deliberate confrontation, and are now playing their customary aggrieved victim role.

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From: Mills, Cheryl D
Sent: Sunday, February 19, 2012 06:28 AM
To: Fried, Daniel
Cc: Wells, Alice G
Subject: Re: Latest at Camp Liberty

Very helpful - many thanks

From: Fried, Daniel
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 12:31 PM
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Wells, Alice G
Subject: Re: Latest at Camp Liberty

Issues worked out by UN, GOI, MEK leaders and U.S. Embassy. All quiet now.

From: Fried, Daniel
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 09:46 AM
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Wells, Alice G
Subject: Latest at Camp Liberty

UN's Kobler reports new argument at Liberty reportedly over MEK demand that all Iraqi police leave. (Demand cannot be met; Iraqi presence was included in documents MEK grudgingly accepted). Kobler reports GOI trying to work it out, he will ask for U.S. help with both sides if he needs it.

From: Fried, Daniel
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 07:04 AM
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Subject: Re: Overnight Brief 02/18/I (SBU)

Plenty to add.

- loading the busses at Ashraf took a very long time due to (a) MEK-instigated arguments about cargo and general stalling and; (b) GOI searches of people and baggage, which seemed excessive. UN observers were present throughout and U.S. observers were there for the first hours (but had to leave due to weather). At UN head Kobler's request, I called MEK's Mohaddessin to unstick the process.

-- convoy got underway after midnight local time.

-- convoy proceeded to Liberty w/o incident.

-- at Liberty, problem arose when Iraqis wanted to search residents again. Residents balked and refused to leave the busses. Kober and Embassy reps got Iraqis to cave on searches. At Kobler's request I called Mohaddessin to seal the deal. As of 0645 our time/1445 Baghdad, unloading of busses has resumed.

Good news: move took place. No violence. GOI showed restraint throughout.

Bad news: process was rough and GOI procedure sometimes excessive. MEK remains difficult, referring all issues to MEK Paris leadership for long negotiations.

My point to MEK supporters (Torch, Zal, Tom Ridge) throughout has been MEK must pivot from focus on Iraqis to focus on resettlement. But this will be labor intensive.

Detailed, I know, but you asked!

From: Mills, Cheryl D
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 06:31 AM
To: Fried, Daniel
Subject: Fw: Overnight Brief 02/18/I (SBU)

Any further lowside report on how move went?

From: OpsAlert
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 05:30 AM
Subject: Overnight Brief 02/18/I (SBU)

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

Overnight Brief

Saturday, February 18, 2012
0530 EST

RESIDENTS BUSED FROM CAMP ASHRAF

(SBU) The Iraqi government transported an initial 400 of an estimated 3400 Camp Ashraf residents to a former U.S. military site near Baghdad's international airport, media report. The Iraq desk comments this was the first scheduled relocation of residents to the temporary transit facility at Camp Hurriya, formerly Camp Liberty. The transfer could assist in building confidence between the Mujahedin-e Khalq and the Iraqi government, but is only the first step in the process of closing Camp Ashraf and moving its residents out of Iraq. *(Ops/Iraq desk telcon and e-mail, AFP)*

DPRK REJECTS CALL FOR TALKS ON FAMILY REUNIONS

(SBU) The Republic of Korea's (ROK's) Red Cross had proposed the talks to discuss a resumption of temporary reunions for family members separated since the Korean War, according to press. Embassy Seoul comments the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK's) response was expected, but allows the ROK's ruling party to claim publicly the DPRK is to blame for the current poor state of north-south relations. *(Ops/Embassy Seoul telcon, AFP)*

IRAN-AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN TRILATERAL ENDS IN ISLAMABAD

(SBU) The presidents of the three countries agreed to bolster their counter-terrorism and counter-narcotics cooperation during the two-day consultations, media report. Embassy Islamabad comments while primarily symbolic, the fact that Afghanistan and Pakistan resumed high-level meetings was a positive step forward. Iran Regional Presence Office Dubai comments the trilateral meetings gave Ahmadinejad an opportunity to refute Western contentions Iran is increasingly isolated and repeat his assertion the source of all problems in the region is external. Embassy Kabul notes Iran is attempting to assert itself in the region, especially in Afghanistan where it sees a natural role. *(Ops/Embassy Islamabad e-mail, Ops/Iran Regional Presence Office Dubai telcon, Ops/Embassy Kabul telcon and e-mail, Dawn)*

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