

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 9:00 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Syrian amb to Iraq defects

From: Sherman, Wendy R
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 08:43 AM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Burns, William J
Subject: FW: Syrian amb to Iraq defects

FYI

From: Grantham, Chris W
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 8:43 AM
To: Sherman, Wendy R
Cc: Lakhdhir, Kamala S; Cintron, Dan
Subject: FW: Syrian amb to Iraq defects

From: Ford, Robert S
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 8:42 AM
To: Jones, Beth E
Cc: NEA-Syria-DL; Tripp, William H; Rees, Bradley L; Leaf, Barbara A; Desrocher, John P; Toner, Mark C; Vasquez, Edgar J; Holtz, Greta C (NEA); Sawyer, Julie L; Grantham, Chris W
Subject: Syrian amb to Iraq defects

Al-Jazirah is reporting now that the Syrian amb to Iraq has defected.

We had heard that he was very unhappy.

Assuming the story is true, he is the first senior diplomat from the regime to defect. (There was an honorary consul and a former ambassador, but now sitting amb.) Other prominent civilians to defect include a deputy oil minister and a senior inspector general.

Hope the amb got his family out of Syria – they'll be dead if he didn't.