

UNCLASSIFIED

El66

R

*** Current Classification *** [REDACTED]
*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

DECLASSIFIED

<<<**** OASYS DOCUMENT HEADER ****>>>

DOC_NBR= 88TELAV15542

FILM= D880962-0625

DATE= 29 OCT 88

TYPE= TE

FROM= TEL AVIV

DRAFTER= n/a

OFFICE= ACTION SS

TO= SECSTATE WASHDC
JERUSALEM

CHANNEL= n/a

ORIGHAND= EXDIS

ORIGPHAND= n/a

ORIGCLASS= [REDACTED]

ORIGPCCLASS= n/a

EO= N/A

SUBJECT= FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION WITH TERRITORIES

REFERENCE= 88 TEL AVIV 15885

CONTROL_NBR= n/a

ENCLOSURE= n/a

LOCATOR= TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

ERRORS= N/A

CONCEPTS= DISCUSSION, PRESS COMMENTS, DEATH SQUAD

TAGS= PREL, IS, US

<<<<. >>>>

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RELEASE DECLASSIFY

EXCISE DECLASSIFY

DENY IN PART

DELETE Non-Responsive Info

FOIA Exemptions _____

PA Exemptions _____

S/FPC/CDR _____ Date: _____

MR Cases Only: _____

EO Citations _____

CLASSIFY as _____ TS with _____

DOWNGRADE TS to () S or _____

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]
PAGE 01 TEL AV 15542 01 OF 02 291200Z
ACTION SS-00

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 SSO-00 /000 W
-----177360 291201Z /38

O 291357Z OCT 88
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1752
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

[REDACTED] SECTION 01 OF 02 TEL AVIV 15542

EXDIS
DECAPTIONED

E.O. 12356: OADR
TAGS: PREL, IS, US
SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION WITH TERRITORIES
- COORDINATOR ON PRESS REPORT OF DEATH SQUADS

REF: TEL AVIV 15885

1. [REDACTED]

2. IN MEETING OCTOBER 27, DCM PURSUED WITH GOI COORDINATOR FOR THE TERRITORIES GOREN THE REUTER REPORT OF IDF DEATH SQUADS IN THE TERRITORIES AND GOREN'S COMMENTS IN THEIR CONVERSATION OF THE PREVIOUS DAY (SEE REFTEL). DCM SAID HE WANTED TO EXPAND ON HIS QUESTION OF THE PREVIOUS DAY AND HAVE GOREN'S REACTION. HE SAID THAT, AS GOREN AND OTHERS HAVE TOLD US, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE GOI HAS VARIOUS SPECIAL UNITS OPERATING IN THE TERRITORIES CARRYING OUT SPECIAL OPERATIONS INCLUDING SETTING UP AMBUSHES AIMED AT PALESTINIANS CARRYING OUT ACTIONS AGAINST THE OCCUPATION. DCM SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THESE ISRAELI UNITS, USING INFORMATION FROM INTELLIGENCE SOURCES, STAKE OUT ROUTES OF APPROACH AND ESCAPE IN ORDER TO APPREHEND PALESTINIAN ACTIVISTS. HE ASKED ABOUT THE

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
PAGE 02 TEL AV 15542 01 OF 02 291200Z

ROE IN SUCH CASES, AS WELL AS THE ROE FOR SPECIAL UNITS INVOLVED IN OTHER KINDS OF OPERATIONS.

3. GOREN SAID THAT ISRAEL HAD NO OBJECTIVE AND NO UNIT TO CARRY OUT THE KINDS OF THINGS ALLEGED IN THE PRESS. HE SAID THERE WAS NO IDF UNIT, NO POLICE UNIT

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

OR NO UNIT OF THE SERVICES WHICH HAD ANY AUTHORIZATION TO OPERATE ON THE BASIS OF ROE OTHER THAN THOSE WE HAD BEEN INFORMED OF. DCM SAID THAT, NEVERTHELESS, THERE HAD BEEN HINTS IN THE ISRAELI PRESS AND THE WORD WAS CIRCULATING AROUND THAT THERE HAD BEEN DEATHS UNDER SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES, AND THERE WAS A PERCEPTION THAT SOME UNITS WERE OPERATING BEYOND THOSE ROE OR AT LEAST ON THE VERY MARGINS OF LEGALITY. GOREN REPEATED THAT THERE WERE NO ISRAELI UNITS WHICH WERE AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE BEYOND THE STANDARD ROE. DCM ASKED ABOUT THE KILLINGS IN YATTA. GOREN SAID THAT WAS A CASE OF A GROUP OF MASKED PALESTINIANS CARRYING OUT AN ACTION WHO WERE CONFRONTED BY REGULAR IDF SOLDIERS. THE SOLDIERS WERE IN DANGER AND HAD FIRED AT THOSE PALESTINIANS WHO SEEMED TO BE GIVING ORDERS. GOREN INDICATED THE IDF WAS SURPRISED AFTERWARD TO LEARN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DEAD PALESTINIANS AND REGRETTED THE FATALITIES NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF THE LOSS OF HUMAN LIFE, BUT ALSO BECAUSE THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN OF MORE VALUE TO THE IDF ALIVE.

4. DCM ALSO RAISED THE QUESTION OF PROVOCATIONS, NOTING THAT THE GIVATI BRIGADE IN PARTICULAR HAD A REPUTATION OF AGGRESSIVENESS AND PROVOCATION TO DRAW PALESTINIAN REPOSE. GOREN WENT INTO A LONG MONOLOGUE ABOUT THE HIGH QUALITY OF THE GIVATI BRIGADE (HIS OLD UNIT -- HE WAS S-2) AND THE DIFFICULTY OF SOLDIERS

████████████████████
████████████████████
PAGE 03 TEL AV 15542 01 OF 02 291200Z

CARRYING OUT POLICE WORK BUT HE DID NOT WANT TO ENGAGE AT ALL IN THE QUESTION OF PROVOCATIVE BEHAVIOR.

5. COMMENT: AN INTERNATIONAL PRESS SOURCE HAS TOLD US THAT HE HAD BEEN WORKING ON A "DEATH SQUADS" STORY FOR MONTHS AND WAS CONVINCED THERE WAS SOMETHING TO IT. HE TOLD US HIS ORGANIZATION HAD BUILT UP A NUMBER OF INCIDENTS FROM BOTH PALESTINIAN AND ISRAELI SOURCES. IN OUR CONVERSATION WITH HIM, HE FOCUSED ON WHAT HE THOUGHT WERE THE VERY BROAD TERMS OF ISRAELI DENIALS AND SAID HE BELIEVED IT WAS TRUE THAT THERE WERE VERBAL ORDERS TO SHOOT THOSE WITH BLOOD ON THEIR HANDS. HE ASSERTED THAT THE IDF RULES WERE SUFFICIENTLY ELASTIC THAT IT WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY TO BREAK THE LAW IN ORDER TO SHOOT SOMEONE.

--
6. COMMENT CONTINUED: IF THERE WERE EXTRA-LEGAL OPERATIONS ON DEATH SQUAD LINES BEING CARRIED OUT IN THE TERRITORIES, WE WOULD THINK THAT ALL OF THE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PUBLICITY OVER THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS WOULD BE CAUTIONARY. AS STATED REFTEL, WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE WHICH WOULD SUPPORT THE ALLEGATION OF DEATH SQUADS IN THE REUTER REPORT, EXCEPT OCCASIONAL CLAIMS BY PALESTINIANS TO CONGEN JERUSALEM OFFICERS, WHICH WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO SUBSTANTIATE, OF PALESTINIANS BEING KILLED IN COLD BLOOD. REGARDING ISRAELI SECURITY PRACTICES, ESPECIALLY IN THIS PERIOD BEFORE THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS (NOVEMBER 1) AND LEADING UP TO A POSSIBLE PNC ONE CAN BE SURE THAT THE ESRAELIS ARE

[REDACTED]

NNNN

[REDACTED]

PAGE 01 TEL AV 15542 02 OF 02 291200Z
ACTION SS-00

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 SSO-00 /000 W
-----177354 291200Z /38

O 291357Z OCT 88
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1753
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

[REDACTED]

SECTION 02 OF 02 TEL AVIV 15542

[REDACTED]

E.O. 12356: OADR
TAGS: PREL, IS, US
SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION WITH TERRITORIES

GOING TO BE VERY ACTIVE AND EVEN AGGRESSIVE IN THEIR

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

SECURITY OPERATIONS. END COMMENT. PICKERING

[REDACTED]

NNNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions ***

*** Current Classification ***

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED