

RELEASE IN PART B5,B6

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 7:37 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: (AP) Israel says Arabs agree on Iran threat

From: Jackson, Christine P
To: NEWS-WikiLeaks; NEWS-NEA; NEWS-Mahogany
Cc: SES-O_Shift-II; SES-O_OS
Sent: Mon Nov 29 07:30:22 2010
Subject: (AP) Israel says Arabs agree on Iran threat

TEL AVIV (AP) - Israel's prime minister says newly leaked U.S. diplomatic cables provide clear proof that the Arab world agrees with his country's assessment that Iran is the chief danger to the Middle East. Benjamin Netanyahu said on November 29 "that the greatest threat to peace in the region, if not in the world, has been revealed." According to the cables released November 28 by Wikileaks, various Arab countries including Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states, have used terms like "evil" and "existential threat" to describe Iran. Some urged U.S. airstrikes on Iranian nuclear facilities. Netanyahu said that if Arab leaders would say in public what they say privately "there might be a breakthrough."

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 8:06 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Turkish Media Reaction - Wikileaks, November 29, 2010

From: Gordon, Phillip H
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Abedin, Huma; Burns, William J
Sent: Mon Nov 29 08:02:57 2010
Subject: FW: Turkish Media Reaction - Wikileaks, November 29, 2010

Here is first cut from Turkish media.

B5

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From: Guido, Deborah L
Sent: Mon Nov 29 05:35:04 2010
Subject: Turkish Media Reaction - Wikileaks, November 29, 2010

Media Highlights: Revelations by WikiLeaks – Turkey is the Epicenter

US Embassy Ankara – Turkey Media Reaction – November 29, 2010 as prepared by the Public Affairs Information Office

How the US Is Playing/Related News

Ankara Is WikiLeaks Epicenter (Hurriyet)

Turkish media is awash in Wikileaks revelations, with most focused on the 7,918 cables - the largest number for any one country - emanating from the US Embassy in Ankara. All news channels NTV and CNN Turk reported that PM Erdogan, as he departed for Libya on 11/29, told reporters "let the Wikileaks show what it has and, then, ... we can learn how serious or unserious these reports are because the credibility of Wikileaks is in question. So, currently we are waiting for them to print what they have. Then we can make an evaluation and necessary statement." Pro-government *Sabah* columnist Mehmet Barlas asks "Are Wikileaks Docs More Striking than Reality?" and opines "It's hard to understand why the State Department has panicked this much. After all, this information is gathered from the facts, media, and different sources. What could remain secret in an information age?" Asli Aydintasbas in *Milliyet*: Over the past year, the AK Party government had a volatile relationship with the Obama Administration. The documents show that Americans do not see the government in Ankara as a real ally, and that they have concerns. Unlike the style used in bilateral meetings, a much tougher language is used backstage. The fact that the Turkish foreign minister knows his interlocutors characterize him as 'dangerous' at a time he's in Washington will stiffen the distrustfulness between the two capitals." In "Ankara WikiLeaks Epicenter," mainstream *Hurriyet's* front page headline report mirrors most Turkish media reports in saying that the documents show that the US Embassy in Ankara views Turkey "as a country with divisions in leadership" and that "Turkey cannot be trusted because it was not likely to join the EU and was heading to an Islamist future." *Hurriyet* spotlights reports that purportedly say Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan had "incompetent" advisors and was pursuing a secret, Islamist agenda and that describe him as "stubborn, workaholic and perfectionist," but "not a tyrant." *Hurriyet* concludes that reports indicated that the US views Turkish Foreign Minister Davutoglu as an "exceptionally dangerous" figure and that "America had been alarmed by his aspirations to reassert the influence the Ottoman Empire used to exert on the region." In "9/11 of Diplomacy: WikiLeaks Releases 'Secret State Documents,'" Islamist-oriented *Zaman* reports that Ankara believes [the high number of cables from the US Embassy in Ankara] proves Turkey's importance and its diplomatic effectiveness." In "The WikiLeaks Bomb," pro-government, Islamist-oriented *Yeni Safak* reports the WikiLeaks releases contain "shocking details"

such as the chief of Mossad, Meir Dagan, telling an American official Islam was on the rise in Turkey, and "asking for how long the military, the defender of the secular identity, would remain silent." Other media cover the story as follows:

In its two-page spread, *Zaman* chronicles details of a FM Davutoglu –A/S Gordon meeting from November 12, 2009 in which the US side asks Turkey to take a tougher position against Iran if Tehran disregards international pressure, as well as a February 18, 2010 meeting between U/S of State William Burns and Turkish Foreign Ministry U/S Feridun Sinirlioglu on Iraq.

In "Hell Breaks Loose," mainstream *Vatan* focuses on the detailed US reports about Prime Minister Erdogan and AK Party. The paper notes on its centerfold piece that Ergenekon was closely watched by the US and that US officials were holding talks with Turkish generals. Both the Turkish government and the Turkish army were under close US surveillance, notes *Vatan*.

Pro-government *Sabah* in "Turkey Mark in WikiLeaks Documents," says the State Department has been waiting for the Wikileaks release with "curiosity and fear." Iran, Azerbaijan and the EU stand on the forefront in documents related to Turkey, says the paper.

Leftist *Taraf* in its front page banner headline, "They Monitored Even Erdogan's Son-in-Law," notes "in the documents, business connections of PM Erdogan's son-in-law were closely watched by the US. It's claimed that Erdogan rules Turkey with a group of incapable plotters."

Mainstream *Aksam* in "9/11 of Diplomacy," mentions American diplomats find Davutoglu very dangerous and add that "Turkey, with its axis shifting to East, is heading to an Islamist state."

Liberal *Radikal* and most media including the *CNN-Turk* headline "9/11 of Diplomacy." *Radikal* highlights "there was a struggle to prevent Wikileaks from releasing the secret documents but that "the documents that could put the relations with the US in trouble have been released anyway."

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Commentary In Full: "WikiLeaks Crypto will Cause Crisis in Washington" (*Milliyet*)

Asli Aydintasbas in *Milliyet*: "Three elements might cause damage between Ankara and Washington in the WikiLeaks revelations related to Turkey. First comes the claim that Turkey has helped al-Qaeda. A high level official believes this claim will not be convincing, because Ankara has proven itself in fighting against al-Qaeda. We recently see a flurry of news relating Turkey to al-Qaeda. All Turkish officials I have spoken with believe that such reports had been a campaign against Turkey which was launched right after the Mavi Marmara crisis. The second claim is the US is helping the PKK. If the WikiLeaks documents reveal a concrete tie between the US and the PKK, it will rock the two countries, further damaging the image of the US in Turkey. From time to time, the US has allowed Turkey to launch military operations into northern Iraq, but actually never really fought against the PKK. As a high level official put it, the US never supported the PKK but it also did not let the organization be destroyed, and kept it as an element of balance. The sources I have talked to said the leaks could contain information about the contacts of American officers or intelligence members with the PKK on security or other issues. Another possibility is contacts between Americans and the PKK's Iran wing, PJAK, but it's a remote possibility that this issue would be mentioned in diplomatic cables rather than intelligence reports. The third claim is the expressions used in the US State Department cables to define Turkish leaders. Over the past year, the AK Party government had a volatile relationship with the Obama Administration. The documents show that Americans do not see the government in Ankara as a real ally, and that they have concerns. Unlike the style used in bilateral meetings, a much tougher language is used backstage. The fact that the Turkish foreign minister knows his interlocutors characterize him as 'dangerous' at a time he's in Washington will stiffen the distrustfulness between the two capitals."

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