

CONFIDENTIAL (AMENDED DISTRIBUTION 17/4)
FM TEL AVIV
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 114
OF 170930Z APRIL 90
INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, BAGHDAD, JERUSALEM,
INFO PRIORITY DAMASCUS, AMMAN, CAIRO ACTOR.

BAGHDAD TELNO 306: VISIT OF SENATOR DOLE

SUMMARY

1. DOLE GIVES ISRAELIS TOUGH MESSAGE OF CHANGING US PERCEPTIONS.

DETAIL

2. DOLE AND HIS PARTY HELD TALKS WITH SHAMIR ON 13 APRIL AND WITH LEADING PALESTINIANS ON 14 APRIL. THE VISIT WAS GIVEN EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE HERE, ALLOWING DOLE TO SPELL OUT PUBLICLY THAT 'ATTITUDES IN AMERICA ARE CHANGING' AS A RESULT OF THE INTIFADA. 'WE SEE LITTLE ARAB CHILDREN BEING SHOT BY ISRAELI SOLDIERS'.

3. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON 12 APRIL, DOLE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO REPORT SADDAM HUSSEIN'S STATEMENT TO HIM THAT IRAQ WOULD USE BINARY CW ONLY IN RESPONSE TO AN ISRAELI NUCLEAR STRIKE (PARA 5D OF TUR). DOLE ALSO EMPHASISED THAT SADDAM HUSSEIN HAD TOLD HIM THAT IRAQ HAD NO BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS. FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH DOLE, SHAMIR REPEATED ISRAEL'S WILLINGNESS TO HOLD DIRECT TALKS WITH THE ARAB STATES ON THE REDUCTION OF NON-CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

4. THE LOCAL MEDIA ALSO COVERED REMARKS BY DOLE:

A) SAYING THAT HE WOULD LEAD A CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN TO RESCIND THE RECENT NON-BINDING SENATE RESOLUTION ON THE STATUS OF JERUSALEM (WASHINGTON TELNO 718), NOW THAT HIS TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST HAD ENABLED HIM TO UNDERSTAND THE RESOLUTION'S IMPLICATIONS. 'WE THINK IT OUGHT TO BE AN UNDIVIDED CITY, BUT WE THINK THE STATUS OUGHT TO BE UP FOR NEGOTIATION'. REPORTS HERE SUGGEST THAT DOLE WILL CLARIFY HIS NEW POSITION IN A SPEECH TO THE SENATE TOMORROW (18 APRIL):

B) MAKING IT CLEAR THAT, ALTHOUGH A FRIEND OF ISRAEL, HE DID NOT WANT ISRAEL TO BE EXCLUDED FROM HIS CALL FOR A 5% ACROSS THE BOARD CUT IN FOREIGN AID (ECONOMIC, NOT MILITARY) TO ALLOW THE US TO HELP EASTERN EUROPE. DOLE REPORTEDLY SUGGESTED IN A U.S. CABLE TV INTERVIEW THAT JEWISH LEADERS WERE TOO SELFISH. 'THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD WHO NEED HELP IN ADDITION TO ISRAEL'.

COMMENT

5. WE SHALL TRY TO GET A MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT OF THE VISIT FROM THE AMERICANS HERE. DOLE'S BLUNT PUBLIC REMARKS ARE TIMELY AND HAVE NATURALLY ATTRACTED CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION HERE.

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ADDITIONAL 12

ARAB/ISRAEL

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