

UNCLASSIFIED

E9

SECRET PTQ6180

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

PAGE 01 RIYADH 03900 141442Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO LOG-00 CCOE-00 SAS-00 /000W
-----1B185E 141442Z /38

O 141440Z DEC 99
FM AMEMBASSY RIYADH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9693

S E C R E T RIYADH 003900

DECAPTIONED

NODIS

DEPT PLS PASS TO ABU DHABI, ISLAMABAD

E.O. 12958: DECL: 1.6 (X5) (X6)
TAGS: PTER, PREL, SA
SUBJECT: SAUDIS ON USG WARNING TO TALIBAN CONCERNING UBL THREATS

REF: (A) STATE 233908; (B) STATE 233914

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY CDA ALBERT THIBAUT. REASON: 1.5 (B), (C), (D)
1.6 (X5).

2. (S) DRAWING ON REF (A) INSTRUCTIONS, ON DECEMBER 14 CHARGE
DEMARCHED [REDACTED] MFA [REDACTED]

B1

REGARDING THE RECENTLY DISCOVERED UBL-INSPIRED PLOT TO ATTACK
AMERICANS DURING THE MILLENIUM AND RAMADAN. CHARGE STATED THAT THE
EVIDENCE OF SUCH PLOTTING WAS INCONTROVERTIBLE, WITH PLANNING
HAVING PROGRESSED TO SPECIFIC OPERATIONAL ISSUES BEFORE THE

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TERRORISTS WERE APPREHENDED IN A NEIGHBORING ARAB COUNTRY. CHARGE
STRESSED THAT SUCH EVIDENCE BELIED TALIBAN PLEDGES TO KEEP TIGHT
CONTROL OVER BIN LADIN AND TO KEEP HIM FROM PLANNING FURTHER
TERRORIST OPERATIONS. CHARGE ADDED THAT, IN THE WAKE OF THIS
DISCOVERY, WE WERE DELIVERING A STRONG AND UNMISTAKABLE MESSAGE TO
THE TALIBAN THAT SHOULD SUCH ATTACKS OCCUR, THEY AND BIN LADIN WILL
BE SUBJECT TO SWIFT AND SERIOUS RESPONSE. HANDING OVER REF (A)
TP'S IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC, HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE NEED NOW IS FOR
KEY COUNTRIES SUCH AS SAUDI ARABIA TO USE THEIR CHANNELS TO CONVEY
A SIMILAR MESSAGE TO THE TALIBAN AND TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE WITH
PAKISTAN TO ENSURE THAT THE MESSAGE IS REINFORCED BY ISLAMABAD.

3. (S) [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] LISTENED INTENTLY, COMMENTING THAT THE SAG TOOK SUCH INFORMATION VERY SERIOUSLY. [REDACTED] POINTED OUT THAT THE THREAT WAS NOT NECESSARILY LIMITED TO ONE PLACE BECAUSE OTHER GROUPS MAY BE BENT ON THE SAME COURSE AS THOSE WHO HAD BEEN APPREHENDED. [REDACTED] STATED HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY BRING OUR DEMARCHE TO THE ATTENTION OF [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SENIOR SAUDI OFFICIALS.

4. (S) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CHARGE

POINTED OUT THAT THE TALIBAN CONTINUE TO HAVE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN RIYADH (AT THE CHARGE LEVEL), ADDING THAT WE ALSO WOULD LIKE OUR MESSAGE TO BE EMPHASIZED BY THE PAKISTANIS, WHO ARE IN ACTIVE CONTACT WITH THE SAG. [REDACTED] TOOK THE POINT, STATING THAT THE U.S. AND SAUDI ARABIA FACE A COMMON THREAT AND DANGER. THIBAUT

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