

Deny Cover Sheet in toto citing FOIA exemptions (b)(3).

587

Approved for Release
Date December 1997

~~TOP SECRET~~ [] b3

National Intelligence Council

15 August 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Vice Admiral John M. Poindexter
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

FROM: Charles E. Allen
National Intelligence Officer for Counterterrorism
Director, DCI-Hostage Location Task Force

SUBJECT: DCI-Hostage Location Task Force Report

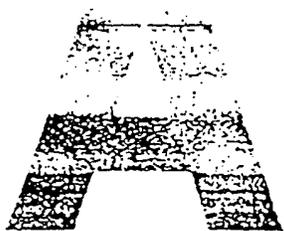
Attached is my report for the week 9 - 15 August 1986 on the status of US hostages in Lebanon. Key points in this week's report are:

[]

b-1, b-
b3

-- Members of the DCI Hostage Location Task Force conducted a second debriefing of former hostage Father Lawrence Jenco in Joliet, Illinois, on 14 August. Father Jenco provided a number of additional insights including: if there is another hostage released, David Jacobsen likely would be the one; the captors believe Thomas Sutherland is a CIA case officer and see Terry Anderson as a rebellious captive; the captor known as "Hajj," stated in early June that all of the Americans would soon be released, but later claimed that the United States had reneged on an unspecified demand after agreeing to others. Father Jenco also provided additional information on the site in south Beirut where he was held, but was unable to identify the specific location.

~~TOP SECRET~~ [] b3



3 BC

DU

953

~~TOP SECRET~~ 54 7 b3

[[]]

b.1.1
b.3

-- President Assad of Syria met with a US Arab-American delegation in Syria this week and vociferously condemned international terrorism and hostage-taking. We believe his real motivation is to try to establish direct contact with President Reagan, by encouraging the United States to send a high-level emissary to Damascus to discuss the hostage issue.

-- The French-Iranian hostage negotiations appear temporarily stalled over French insistence that its hostages be freed all at once rather than singly or a few at a time.

[[]]

b1 b3

b.1.b.

Charles E. Allen

Attachment:
Report As Stated

~~TOP SECRET~~ 54 7 b3

A NORTH

3 BC

~~TOP SECRET~~ [] b3
NOFORN, NOCONTRACT, ORCON

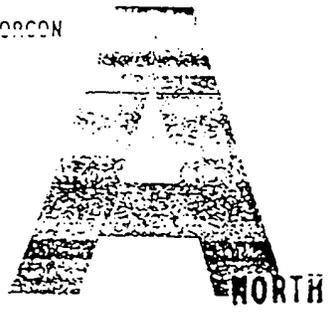
SUBJECT: DCI Hostage Location Task Force Report

DCI/NIO/CT/CAllen [] (15 August 1986) b3

Distribution:

- Copy 1 - VADM John M. Poindexter, NSC
- 2 - LTC Oliver North, NSC
- 3 - COMJSOC
- 4 - COMJSOC
- 5 - DCI
- 6 - DDCI
- 7 - DDO
- 8 - DDI
- 9 - DO [] b3
- 10 - NIO/CT
- 11 - DCI/HLTF
- 12 - DCI/HLTF
- 13 - DCI/HLTF

~~TOP SECRET~~ [] b3
NOFORN, NOCONTRACT, ORCON



3 BC

Director of Central Intelligence

**HOSTAGE LOCATION
TASK FORCE
REPORT**

SPECIAL ACCESS REQUIRED

A Top Secret
A NORTH

3 BC

TOP SECRET S 7 b3

SPECIAL ACCESS REQUIRED

US HOSTAGES

Hostages Reportedly Moved to Southern Lebanon

Two DIA sources reported during the past week that the remaining US hostages have been moved from the Beirut area to southern Lebanon. We are unable to confirm these reports, but have levied requirements on human source and imagery collectors for collateral information. (S) [REDACTED] (b3)

The Defense Attache Office in Beirut reported on 11 August that a reliable source had learned from a subsource that the US hostages were moved from Beirut to southern Lebanon following the release of Father Jenco. The hostages reportedly were moved after three days of discussions among Hizballah officials, including Shaykh Fadlallah. The hostages allegedly were transferred to the new location to distance them from the Syrian presence in West Beirut. (S) [REDACTED] (b3)

On the same day, another source of the Defense Attache who has reported reliably in the past stated that the hostages were being held in the village of Ghaziyah (see photograph at Annex 1), approximately three miles from Sidon. The source claims to have acquired this information from Syrian officials. Ghaziyah is known to be a Hizballah stronghold and we cannot rule out the possibility that the hostages were moved there following Father Jenco's release. (S) [REDACTED] (b3)

[REDACTED]

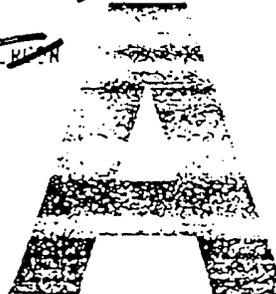
Second Debriefing of Father Jenco

On 14 August, Hostage Location Task Force members, accompanied by the FBI, conducted a second interview with Father Jenco in Joliet, Illinois. The team spent approximately eight hours with Father Jenco and attempted to close gaps and clarify discrepancies that arose from Jenco's initial debriefing in West Germany. (S) [REDACTED] (b3)

Significant points developed during the second interview are:

- An unidentified Kuwaiti citizen was held briefly with Terry Anderson and David Jacobsen in Beirut during the summer of 1985; he was eventually released.

TOP SECRET S 7 b3



NORTH }

3

BC

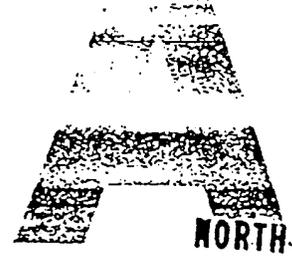
SECRET b3

State

- The American hostages are in good physical condition, but suffer from depression because of their continued detention.
- In June, "Ali", "the negotiator" for the captors told Jenco the Americans would be released in about a month and no later than two months hence. Prior to Jenco's release he was told by "Hajj"--the apparent senior authority over the guards holding the Americans--that the US Government had earlier agreed to all the conditions for the hostages' release but had reneged on one, unspecified condition. Hajj stated that, as a result, only Father Jenco was to be released.
- Also in June, one of the guards ("Said"), who served as a translator for Hajj, told Father Jenco they had changed their demand from the release of the al-Da'wa prisoners in Kuwait to the release of the Shi'a held by Israel and the Israeli-backed South Lebanese Army.
- Father Jenco believes that, if there is another release, David Jacobsen will be the next hostage released. The captors believe Thomas Sutherland is a "CIA officer" and perceive Terry Anderson as a rebellious captive.
- One of the guards, "Mahmud", (not mentioned in the earlier debriefing) may be related to one of the al-Da'wa prisoners held in Kuwait according to Father Jenco. His belief is based on Mahmud's regular references to the al-Da'wa prisoners. (b3)

Based on Father Jenco's follow-up debriefing, we have further defined the areas where we believe he and the other Americans were held. He was, however, unable to pinpoint significant landmarks that would assist us in identifying specific buildings. From 15 March to 1 July 1985, we believe Father Jenco probably was held six-to-ten blocks south or southwest of the Rasul al-Adhem mosque in the Burj al-Barajinah area of South Beirut. This corresponds with earlier information provided by Jenco such as the loud sound of aircraft taking off and the smell of jet exhaust. Shown imagery of this area, Jenco indicated an area approximately one-half mile south of the mosque as where he believed he was held. On 1 July 1985, the American hostages were moved to a new location, believed to be a short distance west of his previous location. Jenco stated it was about a 10 minute walk to this location and that he believed he was heading away from the Beirut International Airport. He also stated he could not hear the "calls to prayer" from the mosque as clearly here as at his previous location. A 10 minute walk west of his previous location would put him further away from both the Rasul al-Adhem mosque and the main north-south runway of the airport. The last location where Jenco was held, two five-story buildings very close together which were directly across the street from a nine-story building, probably is in the Bir

SECRET b3



3 BC

~~TOP SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~ b3

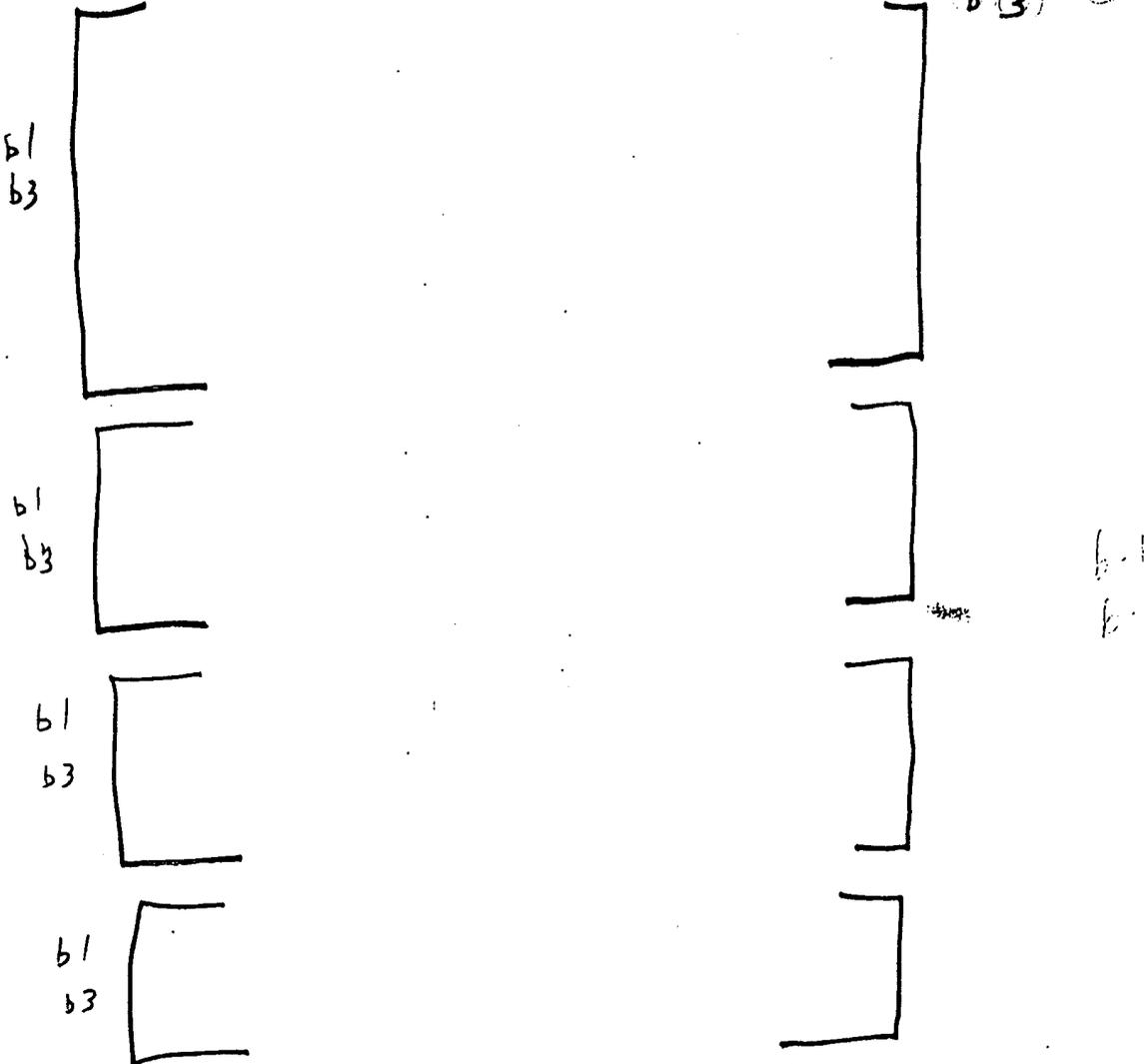
al-Abid or Hayrat. Murayk areas of south Beirut. Jenco was able to provide only minimal additional information on this location. (S [redacted] HF NC OC)

b3

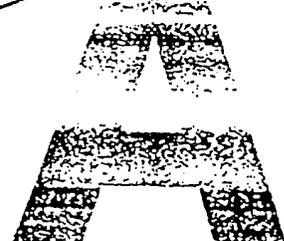
Inasmuch as Jenco could not provide the significant landmarks required to locate specific buildings in the densely populated areas of south Beirut [redacted] (b1, b3)

[redacted] (HF NC OC)

S
T
A
T
E



~~TOP SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~ b3



NORTH :

3 BC

2/35 3/ b3

[

] b1/b3

b1/b3

Status of the 17 al-Da'wa Party Prisoners

The 17 al-Da'wa party members serving time in Kuwait for terrorist bombings of the US and French embassies there are still being held in the central prison in Sulaybiya. Only immediate family members are permitted to visit the prisoners. Family members travel from Lebanon to visit and, according to the US Embassy, these contacts give Hizballah a way to communicate with the prisoners and vice versa. Mail to and from the prisoners is censored. ~~(S, NC, NF, OC)~~

S
T
A
T
E

Three of the al-Da'wa Party members were sentenced to death in December 1983, while the remaining 14 are serving from five years to life. Only the Amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, has the authority to commute their sentences and we have no evidence he is considering this action. Under Kuwaiti law and without the Amir's intervention, the earliest any of the al-Da'wa party members could be released is 1988. ~~(S, NC, NF, UC)~~

Assad Maneuvers to Upgrade Contacts with the United States

President Assad's comments regarding Syrian efforts on behalf of the US hostages, made this week to a visiting US Arab-American delegation that included former US Senator James Abourezk, were a standard reiteration of Syrian rhetoric and policy.

[

] b1/b

[

] b1
b3

TOP SECRET 4
NOFORN/NOCONTRACT/NOFORN b3

NORTH]

3 BC

~~TOP SECRET~~ ~~NOFORN/NOCONTRAIL/NOORIN~~ b3

[Redacted]

b1/b3

Ambassador Eagleton believes Foreign Minister Shara' is the principal Syrian official promoting the idea that the US Administration has been remiss in not communicating directly at high level with Assad on the American hostages, although he suspects Shara' would not have pushed the idea with the media and the Arab-American delegation without Assad's approval. The Ambassador intends to meet with Shara' next week and, based on this meeting, will assess whether it would be useful for a Presidential emissary to meet again with Assad on the hostages. (S/NF)

S
T
A
T
E

[Redacted]

b1/b3

b1/b3

Lebanese Interior Minister "Clarifies" Statements on Hostage Locations

Lebanese Interior Minister Abdallah al-Rasi on 7 August was quoted by the Associated Press as saying:

~~TOP SECRET~~ ~~NOFORN/NOCONTRAIL/NOORIN~~ b3



NORTH :

3

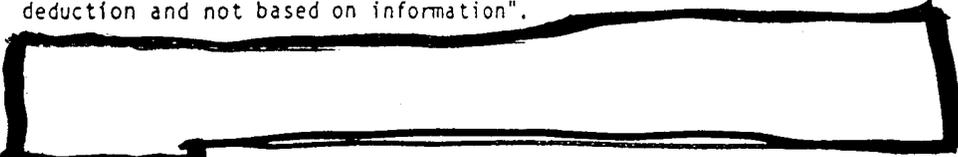
BC

947

~~TOP SECRET~~ [] b3

"When I took over on 21 July 1985, we had word where the (foreign) hostages were. But, now we don't. . . I am certain (the kidnapers) are moving them from one place to another."

Two days later al-Rasi "clarified" that statement, announcing to the Beirut newspaper An-Nahar that the Lebanese Government knew the hostage locations prior to his assumption of office on 21 July, but continued, "as of now, we do not." As for his comment that the captors had "moved (the hostages) from one place to another", he stated, "that was a deduction and not based on information".



(b)(1)
(b)(3)

The US Embassy in Beirut observes that al-Rasi's "clarification" represents an effort to avoid potential US and French pressure on the Lebanese Government regarding the foreign hostages. US Embassy officials, nevertheless, plan to raise the AP interview with al-Rasi in the near future in the context of our continuing concern over the US hostages.]

Sta:

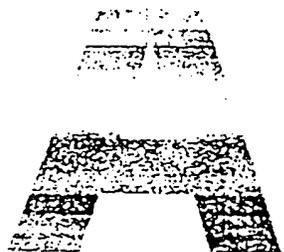


b1 b3

b1
b3

b1
b3

~~TOP SECRET~~ [] b3



NORTH

3 BC

2 7 b3

15 Aug 80

E
[
[
[
[

] b-1,
b-3
NR
NR
NR

FRENCH HOSTAGES

Normalization of Relations with Iran Slows

The normalization of French-Iranian relations appears temporarily blocked by France's insistence that all its hostages be freed before settling any financial claims and returning money to Iran.

[REDACTED]

b1.b3

[REDACTED]

b1.b3

b1.b3

2 7 b3

A

NORTH

3 BC

~~TOP SECRET~~ / ~~SECRET~~ / ~~SECRET~~ / b3

[]

] b1 b3
] b1 b3

Abdallah Case

The French still appear likely to free LARF leader George Abdallah from prison by mid-September in hopes of securing the release of the two remaining Antenne-2 television crew members. The Embassy has confirmed that the prosecuting judge in the case can let Abdallah go at any time without obtaining the Justice Minister's approval and this could make the release more politically palatable for Chirac. Bombings of French banks in East Beirut on 10 August claimed by the Anti-Imperialist International Brigade Organization--apparently a cover name used by LARF members--probably were intended to remind Paris that LARF could resume attacks on French soil if Abdallah remains in prison.

] STAT

[]

b1 b3

[]

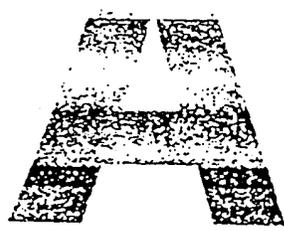
b1 b3

A Voice of Lebanon broadcast on 9 August announced that the kidnapers may soon release a French hostage

[]

b1 b3

~~TOP SECRET~~ / ~~SECRET~~ / ~~SECRET~~ / b3



NORTH]

3 BC

~~TOP SECRET~~ ~~NOFORN~~ ~~NOCONTRACT~~ ~~NOPI~~ b3

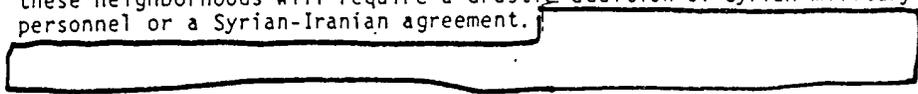


b1, b3

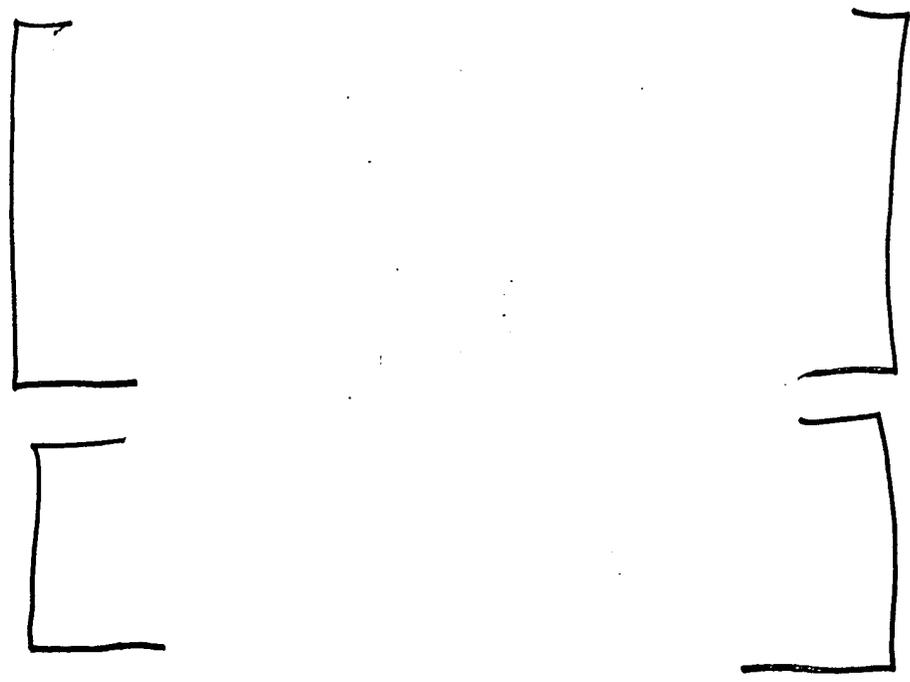
SECURITY SITUATION

Syrian Forces Extend Control in West Beirut

The security situation in West Beirut where we believe American hostages are held remains precarious, at least for now. Implementation of the Syrian security plan continues slowly and cautiously. The inner neighborhoods of north Beirut and the southern suburbs remain free from any direct Syrian control (see map at Annex 2). The Syrian forces appear to content themselves with policing major arteries adjacent to militia-controlled neighborhoods. Any major attempt to penetrate into these neighborhoods will require a drastic addition of Syrian military personnel or a Syrian-Iranian agreement.



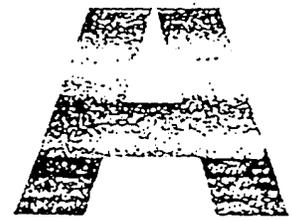
b1 b3



b1
b3

b1
b3

~~TOP SECRET~~ ~~NOFORN~~ ~~NOCONTRACT~~ ~~NOPI~~ b3



NORTH

3 BC

Page (s) *i0, 11, ANNEX 2* are denied in toto citing FOIA exemptions (b)(1)(b)(3).