

RELEASED IN FULL

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PTER

UNCLAS

AMMAN 04299

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CLAN01:

ACTION: POL

INFO: ECON CHRON RAO RSO DAO MAP DCM AMB USISX

Lasers:

INFO: FBIS USAID USIS

DISSEMINATION: POL

CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: POL:WJORDAN

DRAFTED: POL:WTSMITH

CLEARED: RSO:SGLEASON; RAO:MWOOLSTON

VZCZCAJI721

OO RUEHC RUEHJM RUEHEG RUEHTV RUEHDM RUEHAD
RUEHRH

DE RUEHAM #4299/01 1351151

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

O 141151Z MAY 96

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6683

INFO RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 5933

RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 8726

RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 8192

RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 4295

RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 0323

RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH 2186

BT

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 AMMAN 004299

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: H E BOVIS
DATE/CASE ID: 30 JUL 1998 199701870

STATE FOR S/CT, NEA/ARN, L/LEI

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PTER, ASEC, PREL, KISL, KPAL, JO, IS, US

SUBJECT: EMBASSY RECEIVES HAMAS AND ISLAMIC ACTION FRONT
PROTESTS OF THE DECISION TO EXTRADITE ABU MARZUQ

REF: 95 AMMAN 8068 AND PREVIOUS

1. THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FAXES FROM HAMAS AND JORDAN'S ISLAMIC ACTION FRONT (IAF) PARTY CRITICIZING THE RECENT U.S. COURT RULING THAT HAMAS POLITICAL OFFICE DIRECTOR MUSA MUHAMMAD ABU MARZUQ IS EXTRADITABLE TO ISRAEL. THE HAMAS FAX IS AN 11 MAY LETTER, FAXED THE SAME DAY, TO PRESIDENT CLINTON FROM HAMAS POLITICAL OFFICE DEPUTY DIRECTOR KHALID MASH'AL WARNING THAT THE EXTRADITION OF ABU MARZUQ WILL TARNISH THE U.S. IMAGE IN THE REGION AND CONSTITUTES "AN EXTREMELY SERIOUS ESCALATION THAT THREATENS SECURITY AND STABILITY, ...RAISES TENSION AND BODES SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES." MASH'AL ALSO APPEALS FOR PRESIDENT CLINTON TO INTERVENE ON ABU MARZUQ'S BEHALF.

2. THE IAF, WHICH IS THE POLITICAL ARM OF JORDAN'S MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD, ON 13 MAY FAXED A PRESS RELEASE DATED THE SAME DAY.

IT ASSERTED THAT THE DECISION TO EXTRADITE ABU MARZUQ WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE GROWING THE GAP BETWEEN "THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE ARAB AND ISLAMIC NATIONS" AND DEMONSTRATE THAT U.S. EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE AND JUDICIAL BRANCHES ARE "CAPTIVE TO THE ZIONIST WILL." LOCAL MEDIA HAVE REPORTED THE IAF'S STATEMENT BUT NOT THE HAMAS LETTER. THE HAMAS FAX DID NOT INCLUDE THE ORIGINATING PHONE NUMBER, BUT IT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN SENT FROM THE SAME MACHINE USED FOR THE IAF FAX, WHICH THE EMBASSY BELIEVES IS IN IAF HEADQUARTERS.



3. EMBASSY NOTES THAT THE FAXES FOLLOW A SIMILAR PATTERN TO THOSE IT RECEIVED LAST JULY IN RESPONSE TO ABU MARZUQ'S ARREST.

4. THE FOLLOWING IS THE EMBASSY'S UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THE FAXES.

BEGIN TEXT OF THE HAMAS LETTER:

11 MAY 1996

HIS EXCELLENCY BILL CLINTON

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

GREETINGS,

THE JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES IN YOUR COUNTRY ON MAY 8, 1996, ADOPTED THE UNJUST DECISION OF HANDING OVER OF DR. MUSA ABU MARZUQ, PRESIDENT OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE ISLAMIC RESISTANCE MOVEMENT (HAMAS), TO THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES.

DR. MUSA ABU MARZUQ IS ONE OF THE POLITICAL SYMBOLS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE WHO HAS DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO THE SERVICE OF HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS LEGITIMATE POLITICAL STRUGGLE TO END ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES. HE HAS NEVER CAUSED ANY HARM TO U.S. INTERESTS, NOR HAS HE EVER VIOLATED ANY U.S. LAWS. THEREFORE, THE DECISION TO UNJUSTLY HAND HIM OVER TO THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES CONTRADICTS WITH THE UNITED STATES' SLOGANS ON JUSTICE, DEMOCRACY AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

OUR PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND THE ARAB AND ISLAMIC NATIONS VIEW THIS UNJUST DECISION AS A BLATANT BIAS IN FAVOR OF THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT, AND A HOSTILE ORIENTATION DIRECTED AGAINST THE ARABS AND MUSLIMS. THIS DECISION IS AN EXTREMELY SERIOUS ESCALATION THAT THREATENS SECURITY AND STABILITY IN THE REGION IT WILL RAISE TENSION IN THE SITUATION AND BODES SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES. FURTHERMORE, THIS DECISION DEMONSTRATES YOUR ADMINISTRATION'S DISREGARD FOR THE FEELINGS OF THE ARAB AND ISLAMIC NATIONS. THIS DECISION WILL BLEMISH THE IMAGE OF THE UNITED STATES AND CAUSE IT TO LOSE ITS CREDIBILITY IN THE REGION IT WOULD THREATEN ITS STRONG AND CLOSE TIES WITH THE STATES AND PEOPLES OF THE ARAB AND MUSLIM WORLDS, WHICH VIEW THIS UNJUST EXTRADITION DECISION WITH DEEP DISPLEASURE AND ANGER.

WE DENOUNCE THIS UNJUST DECISION BY YOUR ADMINISTRATION AND CALL ON YOU TO REVOKE THIS DECISION THAT WILL HARM THE CREDIBILITY, RESPECT, AND INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE REGION. WE CALL ON YOU TO STOP THE CONFISCATION OF DR. MUSA ABU MARZUQ'S FREEDOM AND TO SECURE HIS IMMEDIATE RELEASE, HOPING THAT YOUR EXCELLENCY WILL RESPOND TO THIS CALL. A WISE MOVE BY YOU IN THIS REGARD COULD HAVE A VERY POSITIVE IMPACT ON YOUR IMAGE AND RELATIONS WITH THE REGION'S PEOPLES.

PLEASE ACCEPT OUR BEST REGARDS AND RESPECT.

KHALID MASH'AL
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF
THE ISLAMIC RESISTANCE MOVEMENT (HAMAS)
PALESTINE

END TEXT
BEGIN TEXT OF THE IAF PRESS RELEASE:

STATEMENT BY THE ISLAMIC ACTION FRONT PARTY ON THE U.S. COURT'S DECISION TO EXTRADITE DR. MUSA ABU MARZUQ

IT WAS WITH DEEP REGRET AND SORROW THAT WE LEARNED OF THE U.S. FEDERAL COURT'S DECISION TO EXTRADITE DR. MUSA ABU MARZUQ, PRESIDENT OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE ISLAMIC RESISTANCE MOVEMENT (HAMAS) TO THE ZIONIST AUTHORITIES IN OCCUPIED PALESTINE.

THIS DECISION WAS TAKEN AT THE REQUEST OF THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES AND CAME CONTRARY TO THE EXPECTATIONS OF OBSERVERS. DR. MUSA ABU MARZUQ IS A POLITICIAN WHO EXERCISES A LEGITIMATE RIGHT FOR A JUST CAUSE AND A RIGHT GUARANTEED BY DIVINE RELIGIONS AND INTERNATIONAL LAWS. HE IS KNOWN FOR HIS POLITICAL FLEXIBILITY AND RATIONAL STANDS, AND HIS ARREST BY THE U.S. AUTHORITIES AND THE DECISION TO EXTRADITE HIM TO THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES IS MERE SUBMISSION TO THE ZIONIST WILL.

THE DECISION OF THE U.S. COURT TO HAND HIM OVER TO THE OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES MEANS THAT THE U.S. EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE AND LEGAL AUTHORITIES HAVE BECOME CAPTIVE TO THE ZIONIST WILL.

THE ISLAMIC ACTION FRONT PARTY DEEPLY REGRETS THIS DECISION AND APPEALS TO THE U.S. LEGAL AUTHORITY NOT TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THIS STAND THAT WILL HARM ITS INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION. FURTHERMORE, THIS DECISION WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE WIDENING OF THE GAP BETWEEN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE ARAB AND ISLAMIC NATIONS WHICH VIEW THIS DECISION NOT ONLY AS AN INJUSTICE THAT AFFECTS DR. MUSA ABU MARZUQ, BUT AS AN AGGRESSION AGAINST ALL ARABS AND MUSLIMS, AND EVEN AN AGGRESSION AGAINST RIGHT AND THE TRUTH.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE ISLAMIC ACTION FRONT PARTY REGRETS THIS NEGATIVE STAND BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE ARAB AND ISLAMIC WORLDS WHICH DID NOT ACT ON THIS DECISION WITH THE NECESSARY SERIOUSNESS.

THEREFORE, WE CALL ON ALL THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE ARAB AND ISLAMIC
WORLDS AND ALL DEFENDERS OF HUMAN RIGHTS TO RAISE THEIR VOICES
AND DEMAND THE ABOLITION OF THIS DECISION AND THE RELEASE OF DR.
MUSA ABU MARZUQ, A PRISONER OF OPINION AND POLITICAL STRUGGLE.

SECRETARY GENERAL
OF THE ISLAMIC ACTION FRONT PARTY
MAY
13, 1996
DR. ISHAQ AL-FARHAN

END TEXT

BEECROFT
BT
#4299
NNNN