P 201233Z JUN 91
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2806
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RIYADH
AMEMBASSY SANAA
USCINCCE NT MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2/POLAD//

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 03 DJIBOUTI 01559

E.O. 12356: DECL: QADR
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PREL, EPET, SO, DJ
SUBJECT: SOMALI NATIONAL RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE:
  - AN ORGANIZER'S VIEWS ON NEXT STEPS

  REFS: A) DJIBOUTI 0442, B) DJIBOUTI 1502
  - C) NAIROBI 14824, D) NAIROBI 12905

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02

1. CONFIDENTIAL -- ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. ACCORDING TO A KEY FIGURE IN THE
PREPARATION OF THE RECENT SOMALI NATIONAL RECONCILIATION
CONFERENCE, BRINGING MILITARY FIGURES TO THE SECOND
ROUND IS ESSENTIAL FOR SUCCESS. U.S. AND EUROPEAN
SUPPORT IS ALSO SOUGHT. THE U.S. WILL BE INVITED AS AN
OBSERVER. SNM POLITICAL LEADERS MIGHT BE WILLING TO
ABANDON SECESSION AND JOIN THE PROCESS IF THE SOUTH
MAKES CONCESSIONS, BUT THE SNM'S MILITARY WING WILL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: HARRY R MELONE
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(D)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 19 JUN 2016
DATE/CASE ID: 03 JUL 2006 200505183

UNCLASSIFIED
PROBABLY PREVENT THIS. THERE IS FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT
CONOCO HAS CONFIRMED THE PRESENCE OF OIL IN
NORTH-EASTERN SOMALIA, WHICH COULD ADD TO THE PROBLEMS
OF RECONCILIATION. END SUMMARY.

3. ON JUNE 17 POLOFF MET WITH [ ] WHO SAYS HE HAS WORKED HARD TO
MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WILL ALL SOMALI OPPOSITION
GROUPS, PLAYED A KEY PART IN ORGANIZING THE SOMALI
NATIONAL RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE, HELD IN DJIBOUTI
JUNE 5-11.

4. BACKGROUND -- ACCORDING TO [ ] WHEN IT BECAME
CLEAR THAT ITALIAN AND EGYPTIAN MEDIATION EFFORTS HAD
FAILED, HE AND OTHER FORMER SOMALI EXILES APPROACHED
DJIBOUTIAN PRESIDENT HASSAN GOULED TO ASK FOR ASSISTANCE
IN ORGANIZING A CONFERENCE. DESPITE INITIAL SCEPTICISM
GOULED AGREED TO HELP AND DJIBOUTI'S FOREIGN MINISTER,
MOUMIN BAHDON FARAH, IN COORDINATION WITH [ ] AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DJIBOU 01559 01 OF 03 201233Z
OTHER "NEUTRAL" SOMALIS, SET ABOUT BRINGING THE VARIOUS
GROUPS TOGETHER (AS REPORTED REF A, MOUMIN HAS LONG BEEN
INTERESTED IN PLAYING SUCH A ROLE). FOLLOWING
PRELIMINARY CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE INDIVIDUAL GROUPS
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF DJIBOUTI (GROD), GOULED OPENED THE
PLENARY SESSION ON JUNE 5 WITH A "MOTIVATIONAL" SPEECH
WHICH [ ] SAYS WAS VERY EFFECTIVE.

5. NEXT STEPS -- FOLLOWING THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF
THE FIRST ROUND (REF B), CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS BEGAN
RETURNING TO THEIR HOME REGIONS IN AN EFFORT TO CONVINCE
THEIR FELLOW CLANSMEN TO SUPPORT THE PROCESS. [ ]
REITERATED A THEME NOW OFT-REPEATED: THE KEY TO
EVENTUAL SUCCESS WILL BE THE ABILITY OF THE DELEGATES TO
BRING THE MILITARY LEADERS OF THE VARIOUS FACTIONS INTO
THE PROCESS. HE WAS CLEARLY CONCERNED THAT THIS WOULD
BE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE. HE SAID, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT HE
HAS SPOKEN SEVERAL TIMES TO [ ] WHOM HE
DESCRIBED AS "A HARD MAN" WHO WILL TAKE SOME CONVINCING
BEFORE HE WILL ABANDON THE BATTLEFIELD FOR THE
CONFERENCE TABLE.

6. REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE -- [ ] ASKED THAT THE U.S.
PLAY A GREATER ROLE IN THE RECONCILIATION PROCESS.
WHILE EXPRESSING UNDERSTANDING OF FOREIGNERS' FEARS ABOUT THE QUAGMIRE OF SOMALI POLITICS, HE QUICKLY ADDED THAT NOW THE PROCESS OF HEALING HAS BEGUN AND INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT WILL BE NECESSARY TO SEE IT THROUGH. AN IMMEDIATE NEED, HE ASSERTED, IS AN AIRCRAFT TO GATHER THE DELEGATES FOR THE SECOND ROUND. HE ASKED IF THE U.S. COULD PROVIDE A C-130. POLOFF REPLIED THAT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 DJIBOU 01559 01 OF 03 201233Z

THIS WAS UNLIKELY FOR SEVERAL REASONS, AND THAT WHILE HE WOULD PASS THE REQUEST ALONG, A BETTER APPROACH WOULD BE FOR THE GROD TO ASK THE FRENCH OR ITALIANS FOR USE OF A SUITABLE AIRCRAFT. IN THE CONTEXT OF EUROPEAN ASSISTANCE, THEN MENTIONED THAT THE CONFEREES HAD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DJIBOU 01559 02 OF 03 201240Z

ACTION AF-01

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 AMAD-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOEE-00 EB-01 EUR-01 HA-09 H-01 INRE-00 INR-01 L-03 NEA-01 NSA-00 NSCE-00 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-01 PRS-01 P-01 SNP-01 SP-01 SS-01 TRSE-00 T-01 USIE-00 /028W

P 201233Z JUN 91
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2807
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 02 OF 03 DJIBOUTI 01559

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PREL, EPET, SO, DJ
SUBJECT: SOMALI NATIONAL RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE:
- AN ORGANIZER'S VIEWS ON NEXT STEPS

. SENT A MESSAGE TO THE EEC SEEKING SUPPORT. ONE ELEMENT OF THIS MESSAGE IS SAID TO BE A REFERENCE TO A POSSIBLE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DJIBOU 01559 02 OF 03 201240Z
FUTURE REQUEST FOR INTERNATIONAL MILITARY INTERVENTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISARMING TRIBAL MILITIAS AND RESTORING ORDER.
-
-
8. DELIVERING THE SNM -- CLAIMS HE HAS MAINTAINED CLOSE CONTACTS WITH ECHOING COMMENTS OF OTHER CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS (REF B), SAID HE THOUGHT THE SOUTH HAS PREPARED TO MAKE ALMOST ANY CONCESSIONS THAT THE NORTH DESIRED, INCLUDING GRANTING THE PRESIDENCY OF UNITED SOMALIA TO A NORTHERNER. HE OPINED THAT THE PRESIDENCY WOULD NECESSARILY FALL TO FORMER PRIME

UNCLASSIFIED
MINISTER (AND NORTHERNER) MOHAMED IBRAHIM Egal, WHOM HE CONSIDERS "THE ONLY MAN CAPABLE OF UNITING THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DJIBOU 01559 02 OF 03 2012402Z COUNTRY." (FYI, END FYI).

9. THE PROBLEM, HOWEVER, IS THAT ___________ MAY NO LONGER BE IN A POSITION TO DELIVER ON THEIR PROMISES. ADMITS AS MUCH, POINTING OUT THAT THE SNM POLITICAL LEADERSHIP HAS LOST CONTROL OF "THE BOYS WITH THE GUNS," WHO ARE LOYAL TO MILITARY COMMANDERS AND CLAN ELDERS. TOO MANY OF THESE ARE HARD LINE SECESSIONISTS, AND IF THEY CHOOSE TO DO SO THEY CAN PREVENT THE POLITICAL LEADERS FROM ABANDONING INDEPENDENCE. IN THIS CONTEXT, ___________ POSTED THAT THE MILITARY WING MIGHT SCUTTLE THE PROJECTED MISSION TO MOGADISHU BY AN SNM DELEGATION UNDER SILANYO (REF C).

10. THE OIL PROBLEM -- ___________ CLAIMS TO HAVE SEEN AN INTERNAL DOCUMENT OF CONOCO (SOMALIA), WHICH STATES THAT SITES IN THE GAROE-LAS ANOD AREA ARE CAPABLE OF PRODUCING 300,000 BARRELS OF OIL PER DAY. CONOCO'S DRILLING RIG NEAR GAROE IS, WE UNDERSTAND, TECHNICALLY OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES OF FORMER BRITISH SOMALILAND. HOWEVER, IF THE PRESENCE OF LARGE QUANTITIES OF OIL IS CONFIRMED, THE BULK OF THE SOMALI OILFIELD WILL PROBABLY LIE UNDER SOIL CONTROLLED BY THE SNM. A CONFIRMED STRIKE COULD PRE-EMPT MOVES TOWARD RECONCILIATION BY MAKING IT APPEAR MORE LIKELY TO NORTHERNERS THAT THE "SOMALILAND REPUBLIC" IS A Viable ECONOMIC ENTITY. IT COULD ALSO SET OFF BATTLES BETWEEN CLANS FOR CONTROL OF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 DJIBOU 01559 02 OF 03 2012402Z

LAND WHERE DRILLING IS EXPECTED (SEE REF D).

11. BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION --

UNCLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL

P 201233Z JUN 91
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2808
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RIYADH
AMEMBASSY SANAA
USCINCCE CENT MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2/POLAD//

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 03 OF 03 DJIBOUTI 01559

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PREL, EPET, SO, DJ
SUBJECT: SOMALI NATIONAL RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE:
- AN ORGANIZER'S VIEWS ON NEXT STEPS

CONFIDENTIAL