SECRET

PAGE 01

ISLAMA 08520 01 OF 02 080944Z

ACTION SA-01

INFO LOG-00 INLB-01 CIAE-00 SMEC-00 INL-01 CASY-00 DOE-00
SRPP-00 EAP-01 EUR-01 OIGO-01 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00
IO-00 LAB-01 L-01 ADS-00 M-00 NEA-01 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-00 PM-00 PRS-00 P-00
CIO-00 SCT-00 SP-00 SSO-00 TRSE-00 FMP-00 SNIS-00
NISC-00 PMB-00 PRME-01 PRMC-01 DRL-09 G-00 /024W

---------6D9F2F 080944Z /38

O 080914Z OCT 96
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO AMEMBASSY DHAKA IMMEDIATE
SECRET WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2396
INFO AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT
AMEMBASSY ALMATY
AMEMBASSY BISHKEK
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY RIYADH
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USIA WASHDC 5936
AMEMBASSY BEIJING
AMEMBASSY PARIS

SECRET

PAGE 02

ISLAMA 08520 01 OF 02 080944Z

AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY TASHKENT

UNCLASSIFIED

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN S BLODGETT
DATE/CASE ID: 16 NOV 2005 200504096

UNCLASSIFIED
1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY DCM JOHN C. HOLTZMAN. REASON: 1.5 (B,D).

2. (S) DURING AN OCTOBER 7 MEETING AT THE DCM RESIDENCE, SELF-DESCRIBED "NUMBER TWO FOR THE TALIBAN ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS," ABDUL JALIL, DELIVERED A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM TALIBAN LEADER MAULVI OMAR ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

SECRET

3. (C) EXPLAINING OMAR'S MESSAGE FURTHER, JALIL SAID INFORMAL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TALIBAN AND USG REPRESENTATIVES, SUCH AS MEETINGS AT THE DCM'S RESIDENCE OR UNPUBLICIZED CONTACTS INSIDE AFGHANISTAN WOULD BE POSSIBLE. JALIL ADDED THAT MAULVI GAUS, WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS THE "NUMBER ONE" PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MIGHT BE COMING TO ISLAMABAD "AFTER SOME TIME"
4. (C) TAKING THIS MESSAGE ON BOARD, THE DCM ASKED THAT JALIL CONVEY THE FOLLOWING POINTS TO MAULVI OMAR:

-- THE U.S. WANTS TO BE IN TOUCH WITH THE TALIBAN AND WORK WITH THEM, JUST AS WE HAVE WITH THE OTHER FACTIONS IN AFGHANISTAN; THERE IS NO NEED FOR EITHER SIDE TO RUSH FORWARD IN THIS RELATIONSHIP;
-- THE TALIBAN MUST REACH OUT TO ALL AFGHAN RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC GROUPS TO BUILD A BROADLY-REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, THE ONLY KIND OF GOVERNMENT THAT CAN BRING LASTING PEACE AND STABILITY TO AFGHANISTAN;
-- THE U.S. AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT TALIBAN VIEWS REGARDING ISSUES OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO US, SUCH AS THE NEED FOR DUE PROCESS AND RESPECT OF BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS, ESPECIALLY RELATING TO WOMEN;
-- THE U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD RECOGNIZE AFGHANISTAN'S GREAT NEEDS FOR RECONSTRUCTION AFTER NEARLY TWO DECADES OF WAR, BUT SUCH ASSISTANCE MAY NOT BE FORTHCOMING UNLESS THE TALIBAN TREATS ALL AFGHANS, INCLUDING WOMEN, EQUALLY;
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 ISLAMA 08520 01 OF 02 080944Z

5. (C) RESPONDING TO THE DCM'S POINTS, JALIL EXPLAINED THAT THE TALIBAN HAVE "NO PROBLEM" WITH EITHER DOSTAM OR THE TAJIKS -- THEIR PROBLEM IS WITH MASOOD, WHO CANNOT BE TRUSTED. FOR EXAMPLE, JALIL RECALLED, MASOOD HAD EVEN ACCEPTED SUPPORT FROM THE RUSSIANS IN 1982 WHEN THE JIHAD WAS IN FULL SWING. JALIL CLAIMED MORE TAJIKS ARE WITH THE TALIBAN THAN WITH MASOOD, AND MASOOD WOULD HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH. JALIL CONTINUED THAT DOSTAM WOULD NEED TO DISARM HIS FORCES AS PART OF A DEAL WITH THE TALIBAN; THE TALIBAN, HOWEVER, WERE NOT PLANNING TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE HAZARAS AT THIS TIME. RESPONDING TO THE DCM'S POINT ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS, JALIL MERELY UTTERED A POLITE "YES, THANK UNCLASSIFIED
YOU."

6. (C) BIOGRAPHIC NOTE: JALIL, WHO SPEAKS HALTING, BUT PASSABLE ENGLISH, MAKES A GOOD IMPRESSION: HE IS THOUGHTFUL AND CONSIDERED IN HIS REMARKS AND VERY POLITE. HE RECOUNTED THAT HE

SECRET

UNCLASSIFIED

NNNNPTQ0991

SECRET

PTQ0991

PAGE 01   ISLAMA   08520   02 OF 02   080944Z
ACTION SA-01

INFO  LOG-00  INLB-01  CIAE-00  SMEC-00  INL-01  OASY-00  DOEE-00
SRPP-00  EAP-01  EUR-01  OIGO-01  H-01  TEDE-00  INR-00
IO-00  LAB-01  L-01  ADS-00  M-00  NEA-01  NSA-00
NSCE-00  OIC-02  OMB-01  PA-00  PM-00  PRS-00  P-00
CIO-00  SCT-00  SP-00  SSO-00  TRSE-00  FMP-00  SNIS-00
NISC-00  PMB-00  PRME-01  PRMC-01  DRL-09  G-00  /024W

O 080914Z OCT 96
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO AMEMBASSY DHAKA IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2397
INFO AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT
AMEMBASSY ALMATY
AMEMBASSY BISHKEK

UNCLASSIFIED
HAD LEARNED HIS ENGLISH IN AN ICRC HOSPITAL IN PESHAWAR IN 1981, WHEN HE WAS RECEIVING TREATMENT FROM A LEG WOUND SUFFERED IN THE JIHAD. HE SAID THAT ONLY BY LEARNING ENGLISH COULD HE ENSURE HIMSELF AND HIS COMRADES ADEQUATE CARE FROM THE FOREIGN DOCTORS. JALIL MADE A POINT OF IDENTIFYING HIS ROLE AS MULLAH GHAUS'S DEPUTY IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, EVEN THOUGH THE TALIBAN HAVE NOT YET FORMED MINISTRIES OR NAMED MINISTERS. HE THEN ASSERTED THAT SHER MOHAMMED STANAKZAI IS ONLY GHAUS'S "HELPER" BECAUSE HE SPEAKS ENGLISH AND IS NOT THE NUMBER TWO ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AS UNSMA HEAD DR. HOLL HAS BEEN TOLD EARLIER; JALIL DECLARED THAT STANAKZAI IS THE DEPUTY FOR RECONSTRUCTION. ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT DISCOMFITED BY THE PRESENCE OF A WOMAN EMBASSY OFFICER (THE REFUGEE COUNSELOR) BEFORE HE AND THE DCM MET IN A CLOSED SESSION, JALIL NONETHELESS SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD THE DCM PRIVATELY
UNCLASSIFIED

THAT THE TALIBAN WOULD NEED TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THIS OFFICER TO SECURE

SECRET

PAGE 03

ISLAMA 08520 02 OF 02 080944Z

ADDRESS AFGHANISTAN'S SERIOUS REFUGEE PROBLEMS.

7. (C) COMMENT: BEFORE CONVEYING HIS POINTS, JALIL ASKED THAT THE OTHERS LEAVE THE ROOM, APPARENTLY BECAUSE HE WAS SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF MAULVI OMAR. OMAR'S MESSAGE SUGGESTS THAT THE TALIBAN MAY BE MORE POLITICALLY SOPHISTICATED THAN GENERALLY ACKNOWLEDGED IN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEXUS BETWEEN FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. WE WILL, OF COURSE, PUT THE DCM'S PROPOSED TRIP TO AFGHANISTAN ON HOLD FOR THE TIME BEING. MEANWHILE, WE WILL CONTINUE ONGOING INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH THE TALIBAN, INCLUDING WORKING LEVEL VISITS TO AFGHANISTAN DEALING WITH SUCH ISSUES AS REFUGEES AND NARCOTICS. SIMONS

SECRET

UNCLASSIFIED