

Exchange Mail

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DATE-TIME 11/07/2000 7:48:42 PM

FROM Wolosky, Lee S. (TNT)

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

CLASSIFICATIONREASON 1.5(b)(d)

DATECLASSIFIEDON 11/07/2000

DECLASSIFYON 11/08/2010

SUBJECT Lee ===SOUTH AFRICA'S AZIZ PAHAD DISCUSSES REGIONAL
ISSUES CLASSIFIED BY AF DAS
WITNEY SCHNEIDMAN; REASON 1.5 (B) ~~{SECRET}~~

TO Harris, Grant T. (AF)

CARBON_COPY Rosa, Frederick M. (TNT)



TEXT_BODY Grant: No -- I had not seen it. Agree with you on information
dissemination/decla
ssification
and will discuss with RAC/Fred the best way to handle.

Did you
see this? I am not sure that frontchannel cables are the best way
to address this issue. Regardless, we need to set some uniform standard
for when information on this issue should be declassified.

-----Message
Text-----
~~SECRET~~ STATE 213743

E.O.
12958: DECL: 11/06/08
TAGS: PREL, ETTC, SF, ZA, AO, NI, ZI, WZ
SUBJECT:
SOUTH AFRICA'S AZIZ PAHAD DISCUSSES REGIONAL
ISSUES

CLASSIFIED
BY AF DAS WITNEY SCHNEIDMAN; REASON 1.5 (B)

1.(S) SUMMARY:
IN A NINETY-MINUTE LUNCHEON MEETING ON
NOVEMBER 2 AT THE PARLIAMENT
BUILDING WITH SOUTH AFRICA'S
DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, HE AND AF
DAS SCHNEIDMAN TOUCHED
ON A NUMBER OF TOPICS. THESE INCLUDED COOPERATION
ON THE
ACTIVITIES OF RUSSIAN ARMS DEALER VICTOR BUTT,
ANGOLAN-
SOUTH
AFRICAN RELATIONS, ZIMBABWE, SWAZILAND, NIGERIA,
AND, BRIEFLY, THE
ISSUE OF CONFLICT DIAMONDS. AT THE END
OF THE CONVERSATION, PAHAD
SAID SCHNEIDMAN SHOULD BE SURE
TO CONVEY TO S/E WOLPE THAT HE HAD
PASSED ON HIS MESSAGE
REGARDING DROC TO PRESIDENT MBEKI AND DEPUTY
PRESIDENT
ZUMA, AND THAT HE THOUGHT ZUMA SHOULD HAVE
CALLED HIM
BY
NOW. END SUMMARY.

2.(S) IN THE MINISTERIAL DINING ROOM AT
THE PARLIAMENT
BUILDING, OVERLOOKING THE GARDENS OF PARLIAMENT
AND
FACING
TABLE MOUNTAIN, THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER STARTED
THE
CONVERSATION
BY ASKING HOW SCHNEIDMAN VIEWED THE MEETING
WITH DFA OFFICIALS ON
VICTOR BUTT THE DAY BEFORE.
SCHNEIDMAN REPLIED THAT IT HAD BEEN
CONSTRUCTIVE BUT THAT

WE SENSED THAT THE OFFICIALS WITH WHOM WE
HAD MET HAD
EXPECTED MORE INFORMATION THAN WE HAD SHARED WITH
THEM.

SCHNEIDMAN
THEN PASSED TO PAHAD A NON-PAPER CONTAINING
INFORMATION CULLED FROM
OPEN SOURCES ABOUT BUTT'S
ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA IN THE 1997-98
PERIOD. IN THE
USG'S VIEW, THIS WAS THE KEY PERIOD AS IT CONCERNED

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

DEVELOPING
A COMMON STRATEGY FOR DEALING WITH BUTT. PAHAD
ASKED HOW THE AMERICANS
HAD LEFT IT WITH THEIR DFA
COLLEAGUES IN PRETORIA. SCHNEIDMAN SAID
THAT WE WOULD
SHARE MORE INFORMATION AS RELEVANT, BUT THAT THEY
HAD
AGREED TO DO THEIR OWN INTER-MINISTERIAL FILE SEARCH,
ESPECIALLY
AS IT CONCERNED OPERATION JACUZZI. PAHAD
COMMENTED THAT OPERATION
JACUZZI WAS ONLY PART OF THE
STORY BECAUSE IT WAS A SADC CROSS-BORDER
ANTI-CRIME
INITIATIVE "THAT WAS DOOMED AS SOON AS THE DECISION
WAS
MADE
TO PLACE ITS HEADQUARTERS IN HARARE." HE ASKED IF AN
OFFICIAL FROM
THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC PROSECUTION HAD
PARTICIPATED IN THE MEETING,
TO WHICH SCHNEIDMAN SAID NO.
SCHNEIDMAN SAID HE HOPED TO BE ABLE
TO RETURN IN THE NEXT
TWO TO THREE WEEKS FOR A MEETING THAT WOULD
INCLUDE
RESPECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS TO ASSESS HOW
TO
PROCEED
WITH OUR COMMON APPROACH IN DEALING WITH BUTT.
PAHAD AGREED WITH
THAT APPROACH AND UNDERScoreD THAT HE
WOULD TRY TO HAVE THE SOUTH
AFRICANS' REVIEW OF THEIR
FILES ON VICTOR BUTT COMPLETED IN TWO
TO THREE WEEKS.

3. (S) TURNING TO ANGOLA, PAHAD ASKED HOW OUR BCC
MEETINGS
WITH THE ANGOLANS HAD GONE. SCNEIDMAN SAID THEY
HAD BEEN
PRODUCTIVE
AND THAT THE ANGOLANS HAD FINALLY GIVEN US A
GREEN LGHT TO MAKE
CONTACT WITH UNITA REPRESENTATIVES IN
EUROPE TO URGE THEM TO RETURN
TO ANGOLA TO ENGAGE IN THE
POLITICAL REFORM PROCESS. WHEN PAHAD
REMARKED AT THE

LENGTH OF TIME IT HAD TAKEN THE ANGOLANS TO MAKE
A
DECISION, SCHNEIDMAN SAID THAT WE WOULD MAKE
CONTACT
THROUGH
OUR EMBASSIES IN EUROPE AT NEUTRAL LOCATIONS TO
AVOID ANY PERCEPTION
THAT WE WERE BEGINNING NEW TALKS WITH
UNITA, AND THAT WE WERE UTILIZING
THAT ASPECT OF THE UNSC
RESOLUTION WHICH ALLOWED CONTACT IN THE
PURSUIT OF PEACE.

4.(S) PAHAD RESPONDED THAT DOS SANTOS HAD RECENTLY
WRITTEN
MBEKI TO FOLLOW UP ON A SUGGESTION THE SOUTH
AFRICAN
MILIATRY
CHIEF OF STAFF APPARENTLY HAD MADE ON A RECENT
VISIT TO ANGOLA THAT
SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS JOIN THE FAA IN
THE EFFORT TO DEFEAT SAVIMBI.
THE LETTER WAS BROUGHT TO
SOUTH AFRICA BY MPLA GENERAL SECRETARY
JOAO LOURENCO AND
LONG-TIME MPLA OFFICIAL PAULO JORGE AT A MEETING
OF
LIBERATION MOVEMENTS THE DAY BEFORE MBEKI AND
PAHAD

DEPARTED
FOR THE RECENT MAPUTO SUMMIT ON DROC. SCHNEIDMAN
RESPONDED "THAT
WOULD BE DISASTROUS" AND ADDED THAT, IN A
MEETING THE DAY BEFORE
IN LUSAKA WITH ZAMBIA'S PERMANENT
SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
HE HAD BEEN TOLD THAT THE
ANGOLANS HAD BEEN PRESSURING THEM TO JOIN
THE FIGHT
AGAINST SAVIMBI. HE ADDED THAT THE ZAMBIANS HAD
REFUSED.

5.(S)
PAHAD THEN VOLUNTEERED THAT HE WAS WORKING TO GET
FOREIGN MINISTER
ZUMA TO ANGOLA IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.
SCHNEIDMAN COMMENTED THAT
HE WAS SURPRISED TO SEE HER AT
THE COMESA SUMMIT AND ASKED IF SOUTH

AFRICA WAS SIGNALLING
ITS INTENTION TO JOIN THE ORGANIZATION. PAHAD
SAID THAT
IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR SOUTH AFRICA TO STAY ABREAST
OF
SIGNIFICANT
DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REGION, AND IMPLIED THAT
AT SOME POINT, SADC
AND COMESA NEEDED TO HAVE SERIOUS
DISCUSSIONS. RETURNING TO ZUMA'S
PROSPECTIVE VISIT TO
ANGOLA, SCHNEIDMAN SAID WE SHOULD APPROACH
IT IN THE
"SPIRIT" OF WHAT WE HAD STARTED IN MADRID IN APRIL.
PAHAD
AGREED,
BUT SUGGESTED THAT IT WAS NOW THE ANGOLANS WHO
WERE BEING DIFFICULT
ABOUT A DATE. SCHNEIDMAN SUGGESTED
THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO BE HELPFUL
AND THAT HE WOULD ASK
AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN TO TALK TO SOUTH AFRICAN
AMBASSADOR
MAMPANE AND MANUEL AGUSTO IN LUANDA TO SEE HOW
WE MIGHT
PROCEED.
PAHAD SAID THAT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA.

6.(S)-ON ZIMBABWE, PAHAD
SAID THAT THEY WERE VERY
CONCERNED ABOUT THE DECLINE OF THE ECONOMY.
THE SOUTH
AFRICANS WERE CONTEMPLATING HOLDING AN INTER-
MINISTERIAL
MEETING
WITH THE ZIMBABWEANS, INCLUDING THE MINISTERS OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
FINANCE, AND TRADE, AMONG OTHERS.
SCHNEIDMAN REPLIED THAT COULD
BE HELPFUL AND MENTIONED
THAT HE HAD BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE NEW
TRADE MINISTER,
NKOSANA MOYO, WHOM HE HAD MET IN LUSAKA. PAHAD
SAID
THAT
ALEC ERWIN ALSO HAD POSITIVE THINGS TO SAY ABOUT
MOYO.
SCHNEIDMAN
SHARED WITH PAHAD THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE
UNDP REPORT ON THEIR

VISIT TO ZIMBABWE, AND MENTIONED THAT THERE WERE SOME INTERESTING IDEAS IN THE REPORT WORTH CONSIDERING. PAHAD AGREED THAT WE SHOULD MOVE FORWARD ON THE LAND ISSUE IF POSSIBLE AND RESPONDED POSITIVELY TO THE IDEA THAT A/S RICE MIGHT VISIT THE COUNTRY IN THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS.

7. ~~(S)~~ THE DEPUTY MINISTER THEN RAISED NIGERIA AND SAID THAT WE HAD TO DO EVERYTHING WE COULD TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THEIR DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION. IT WAS ALSO IMPORTANT THAT WE GET OUR PRIVATE SECTOR TO ENGAGE ACTIVELY. SCHNEIDMAN MENTIONED THAT WE HAD ESTABLISHED
A

JOINT ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE AND WOULD BE HAVING A MEETING DECEMBER 6-7 IN WASHINGTON. REMARKING THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAD ALSO ESTABLISHED A COMMISSION AT THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT LEVEL, PAHAD EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER PRESIDENT OBASANJO'S HABIT OF KEEPING A VERY CLOSE HOLD ON NUMEROUS ISSUES.

8. ~~(S)~~ SCHNEIDMAN THEN ALERTED PAHAD TO THE DIFFICULTIES WE WERE HAVING WITH SWAZILAND. PAHAD SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THE GSP ISSUE AND THAT THEY DID NOT QUALIFY FOR AGOA. SCHNEIDMAN SHARED WITH HIM HIS RECENT CONVERSATION WITH THE SWAZI PRIME MINISTER AND THAT WE HAD MADE NO PROGRESS WHATSOEVER IN OUR EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM. THERE WAS CONCERN THAT OUR BILATERAL PROBLEMS COULD BE EXPLOITED BY DIFFERENT GROUPS IN SWAZILAND TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE

GOVERNMENT. THE PICTURE WAS FURTHER DARKENED BY RECENT EVENTS, REPORTED IN THE PRESS, IN WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER HAD BANNED THE SWAZILAND FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS FROM HOLDING A MEETING BY INVOKING THE COLONIAL-ERA PUBLIC ORDER ACT AND HAD ALSO PREVENTED THE TEACHERS' UNION FROM MEETING UNDER THE SAME LAW. PAHAD SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THE ACTIONS BECAUSE THE TWO UNIONS WOULD BE HOLDING A COMBINED RALLY IN SOUTH AFRICA ON SUNDAY (11/5) BECAUSE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S ACTION. EXPRESSING CONSTERNATION, PAHAD SAID THEY WERE WATCHING THE SITUATION CLOSELY.

9. ~~(S)~~ AS THEIR LUNCH FINISHED, SCHNEIDMAN ASKED THE DEPUTY MINISTER WHY SOUTH AFRICA HAD NOT PARTICIPATED AT A SENIOR LEVEL IN THE CONFLICT DIAMONDS CONFERENCE IN LONDON. PAHAD SAID THAT THIS WAS MINISTER ZUMA'S ISSUE, AND SHE FELT STRONGLY THAT THIS SHOULD HAVE BEEN DEBATED IN THE UN FIRST. PAHAD ALSO ADDED THAT NEXT WEEK, IN SOUTH AFRICA, THERE WOULD BE A MEETING OF AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARIANS. HE SAID THAT SOME COUNTRIES WOULD WANT IT TO BE A POLICY-MAKING BODY, BUT IT WAS THE SOUTH AFRICANS' STRONG OPINION THAT IT SHOULD BE A CONSULTATIVE BODY. COMMENTING THAT EACH COUNTRY WOULD SEND EIGHT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE MEETING, HE MENTIONED THAT HE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT THOSE COUNTRIES WITHOUT A PARLIAMENT.

10.
~~(S)~~ COMMENT: THE MEETING HELPED TO SOLIDIFY RSA'S

WILLINGNESS TO
COOPERATE ON SHARING INFORMATION AND
DEVELOPING A COMMON STRATEGY
ON HOW TO DEAL WITH VICTOR
BOUTT. WHERE WE WILL COME OUT IS NOT
CLEAR, BUT WE WILL
WAIT WITH INTEREST FOR WHAT PAHAD CAN GET HIS
GOVERNMENT
TO PRODUCE IN THE NEXT TWO TO THREE WEEKS. ON
ANGOLA,
HE

STILL SEES THE VALUE OF OUR ROLE IN FACILITATING
ANGOLAN-
RSA
RELATIONS AND SHARES OUR INTEREST IN SEEING MINISTER
ZUMA MAKE A
VISIT IN THE NEAR FUTURE. PAHAD CLEARLY HAS
SHOWN HIMSELF TO BE
AN EFFECTIVE AND RELIABLE INTERLOCUTOR
ON A BROAD RANGE OF AFRICAN
ISSUES.
ALBRIGHT