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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y ( P A R A 3 L I N E 1 4 )

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PGOV, MOPS, AF  
SUBJECT: GAILANI PARTY DEPUTY FAROOQ AZAM ON THE RESISTANCE

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. GAILANI PARTY DEPUTY CHIEF FAROOQ AZAM AND GAILANI'S NEPHEW HOSSAIN GAILANI VISITED CONSUL ON JANUARY 9 PRIMARILY TO SEEK INFORMATION ON CODEL HATCH AND TO RAISE A REFUGEE PROBLEM.

3. AS ACTING CHIEF OF MAHAZ WHILE GAILANI IS IN FEZ, AZAM WILL BE PARTICIPATING (IN ISLAMABAD) IN THE VISIT OF CODEL HATCH. ACCORDINGLY, HE SOUGHT INFORMATION ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE CODEL AND ITS PURPOSE. WE INFORMED HIM OF THE MEMBERS AND THEIR GENERAL PURPOSES, NOTING THAT HATCH, HECHT, AND LAGOMARSINO HAVE BEEN VERY STRONG SUPPORTERS OF THE RESISTANCE. AZAM ALSO NOTED RECENT DIFFICULTIES WITH THE PAKISTANI REFUGEE COMMISSIONERATE, PRINCIPALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE REENUMERATION. HE OBSERVED THAT IT SEEMED AS THOUGH THE REENUMERATIONS WERE TIMED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO BE OF MOST ADVANTAGE TO THE SOVIETS, SINCE THE PAK REQUIREMENT THAT THE REFUGEES BE IN THEIR CAMPS ON A CERTAIN DAY DREW MUJAHIDEEN FROM THE BATTLE FRONT TO THE PAKISTAN CAMPS. WE TOLD HIM THAT WE HAD HEARD SIMILAR TALES FROM A VARIETY OF AFGHAN SOURCES, BUT THAT WE HAD ALSO HEARD A FAIRLY CREDIBLE EXPLANATION OF HOW RATIONS ARE CONTIKUED FOR MUJAHIDEEN WHO ARE LEGITIMATELY AT THE BATTLE FRONT. HE SAID THAT THE EXPLANATION WAS "HOW IT OUGHT TO BE" BUT THAT IN PRACTICE COUNTING THE REFUGEES DAMAGED THE JIHAD. AZAM ALSO NOTED THAT THERE IS A FAIR AMOUNT OF CORRUPTION IN THE REFUGEE COMMISSIONERATE. HE CITED A FIGURE OF 4,000-5,000 RUPEES TO OBTAIN REGISTRATION IN ONE OF THE LARGE, ESTABLISHED CAMPS NEAR PESHAWAR.

4. ACCORDING TO AZAM, THE LONG-AWAITED FIRST MEETING OF THE RESISTANCE ALLIANCE "SHOORA" OR ADVISORY COUNCIL OCCURRED ON JANUARY 2 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SYED AHMAD GAILANI. THE SHOORAYS SOLE DECISION WAS THAT IT WILL MEET WITH THE SEVEN LEADERS TO DRAFT A CHARTER WHICH WILL DEFINE THE ROLE OF THE SHOORA. GAILANI, HE SAID, HAS SANCTIONED A BUILDING AND A STAFF FOR THE ALLIANCE SECRETARIAT, AND A COMMITTEE HAS BEEN FORMED TO SEARCH FOR AN APPROPRIATE LOCATION. ACCORDING TO AZAM, THE ALLIANCE IS MAKING GOOD PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING AS A VIABLE ORGANIZATION. DURING KHALIS'

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86 0005374 SCP

PAGE 002  
TOR: 222146Z FEB 86

NC 0005374  
PESHAW 00055

CHAIRMANSHIP, THE "SUPREME COUNCIL" OF THE SEVEN LEADERS MET ONLY ONCE (COMMENT: BUT THAT WAS DURING RAMAZAN AND THE HAJ. END COMMENT). DURING GULBADDIN'S THREE MONTHS, THE LEADERS MET SEVEN OR EIGHT TIMES. GIALANI PLANS TO CONTINUE THE TWO-TO-THRED TIMES A MONTH PACE, AND IN FACT THE LEADERS MET TWICE TO CONSIDER THEIR OIC STRATEGY AND STATEMENT.

5. WE ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE CALL TO EXPLAIN PURPOSE OF U.S. OFFER TO GUARANTEE SATISFACTORY AFGHAN SETTLEMENT. AZAM, LIKE MOST AFGHANS HERE, EXPRESSED MISGIVINGS ABOUT GENEVA PROCESS BECAUSE NEITHER THE SOVIETS NOR THE MUJAHIDEEN ARE PARTICIPANTS IN THE TALKS. HE ALSO COMPLAINED THAT THE GOP DOES NOT BRIEF THE RESISTANCE ON GENEVA. WE TOLD HIM THAT WE HAD RAISED THIS ISSUE WITH THE GOP.

6. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EASTHAM  
END OF MESSAGE CONFIDENTIAL

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