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E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

SUBJECT: CURRENT MEDIA REACTION: ARAFAT AND WALDHEIM
VISITS TO TURKEY

- -- PLO LEADER YASSER ARAFAT, WHO WAS RECEIVED BY
PRESIDENT KENAN EVREN AND PRIME MINISTER TURGUT OZAL,
COMPLETED HIS ONE-DAY VISIT TO ANKARA ON OCT. 25. HE
DECLARED THAT THERE ARE FOUR OPTIONS FOR THE PALESTINIAN
NATIONAL COUNCIL (PNC) WHICH WILL CONVENE IN ALGIERS
BETWEEN NOV. 12-14.

- -- IN AN INTERVIEW WITH DAILY MASS CIRCULATION

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HURRIYET (CIRC. 580,750) ON OCT. 26, HE LISTED THESE OPTIONS AS:

1. TO TRANSFER THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES TO UNITED NATIONS RULE.
 2. TO DECLARE AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.
 3. TO DECLARE A TRANSITION GOVERNMENT ALONG WITH THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.
 4. TO DECLARE ONLY A TRANSITION GOVERNMENT.
- -- COMMENTING ON THE VISIT, CENGIZ CANDAR OF HURRIYET WROTE THAT IF THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE GEORGE BUSH WINS THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, THEN TURKEY MAY ASSUME THE ROLE OF A MEDIATOR BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE PALESTINIANS. "IF BUSH WINS, THEN THE PLO WILL ESTABLISH A SORT OF STATUS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES THAT WILL NOT IRRITATE THE U.S...WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? IT IS NOT YET PRONOUNCED OPENLY BUT THEY (PALESTINIANS) WANTED ANKARA TO CONVEY THIS MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON. OF COURSE, IN RETURN FOR SUCH A GUARANTEE FROM THE PALESTINIANS, TO AN EXTENT THE U.S. IS EXPECTED TO EXTEND A HELPING HAND TO THE PLO," CANDAR COMMENTED.

- -- IN A SIMILAR COMMENT, THIS TIME TAKING THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS INTO ACCOUNT, MEHMET ALI KISLALI OF DAILY CONSERVATIVE TERCUMAN (CIRC. 92,474) WROTE THAT THE FINAL DECISION AT THE PNC MEETING WILL DEPEND ON THE OUTCOME OF THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS AND EXPLAINED: "THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS ARE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT. IF THE PEACE SEEKER PERES WINS, THEN ANKARA BELIEVES THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE PLO NOT DECLARING INDEPENDENCE WILL INCREASE. WHY SHOULD THE PLO MAKE THINGS MORE DIFFICULT?" HE COMMENTED THAT THOUGH TURKEY HAS BEEN SUPPORTING THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE FROM THE BEGINNING, IT DID NOT GIVE A "PROMISE" TO ARAFAT. "FIRST OF ALL THE PLO MUST TAKE ITS OWN DECISION. THEN ALL THE ARABS MUST DECLARE THEIR STANCE. AFTERWARDS TURKEY CAN ANNOUNCE ITS OWN VIEW" HE WROTE.

- -- IN HIS EDITORIAL COLUMN HASAN CEMAL OF DAILY LEFT OF CENTER CUMHURIYET (CIRC. 114,723) WROTE THAT TURKEY GAVE "CAUTIOUS SUPPORT" TO ARAFAT AND EXPLAINED THAT THE PLO HAS NOT YET REACHED A FINAL DECISION ITSELF. "THOUGH TURKISH DIPLOMACY HAS WARM FEELINGS FOR AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE, IT IS BEHAVING CAUTIOUSLY BECAUSE IT KEEPS IN MIND THE TRADITIONAL SHIFTS IN MIDDLE EAST POLITICS" HE WROTE.

IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE TURKISH TELEVISION AND RADIO CORPORATION (TRT), ARAFAT SAID HE HOPES TO MEET WITH TURKS IN JERUSALEM. CUMHURIYET QUOTED HIM AS SAYING: "WE HAVE A RENDEZVOUS WITH VICTORY. THEN WE WILL GIVE AN APPOINTMENT TO THE TURKISH NATION TO MEET US IN JERUSALEM AFTER THE VICTORY."

PROF. ERDAL INONU, LEADER OF THE MAIN OPPOSITION SOCIAL DEMOCRAT PEOPLES PARTY, TOLD CUMHURIYET THAT THEY SUPPORT THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE. "TURKEY, AS GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION, HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED ALL THE JUST RIGHTS OF

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THE PALESTINIANS, INCLUDING THE DECLARATION OF AN INDEPENDENT STATE," HE SAID.
EX-PRIME MINISTER BULENT ECEVIT SAID, "IN FACT, I BELIEVE THE DECLARATION OF A RATIONAL, CONTEMPORARY, AND DEMOCRATIC PALESTINIAN STATE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WILL BE BENEFICIAL FOR ALL THE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, INCLUDING ISRAEL."

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WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE IMPACT OF ARAFAT'S VISIT ON TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS, DAILY LIBERAL MILLIYET (CIRC. 249,753) QUOTED A HIGH LEVEL TURKISH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL AS SAYING, "WE WILL NOT HAVE MUCH DIFFICULTY WITH THE ADMINISTRATION, BUT IT IS VERY PROBABLE THAT THE JEWISH LOBBY WILL TURN AGAINST US." ISMAIL CEM, COLUMNIST AT DAILY GUNES (CIRC. 129,546) COMMENTED: "ONE HAS TO HELP THE CONSENSUS-SEEKING PEACEFUL INCLINATIONS OF YASSER ARAFAT AND SHIMON PERES. TODAY'S WORLD WAS DETERMINED BY THE WARRIORS. TOMORROW'S WORLD, WHICH DOUBTLESSLY WILL BE A MUCH BETTER PLACE, WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE PEACE SEEKERS."
MITHAT SIRMEN OF THE SAME DAILY QUOTED A HIGH-LEVEL ISRAELI DIPLOMAT IN JERUSALEM AS SAYING, "IF THE PLO IS TRYING TO LEARN THE VIEWS OF TURKEY, WHICH IS A STRONG COUNTRY IN THE REGION, THEN THIS CAN ONLY PLEASE US... TURKEY IS A RESPECTABLE COUNTRY WHICH HAS INFLUENCE ON ALL THE STATES IN THE REGION AND CAN SERVE AS A BRIDGE FOR EXCHANGING VIEWS SINCE IT HAS GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALL."

2. WALDHEIM VISIT:

THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS HANDED A NOTE TO THE TURKISH REPRESENTATIVE IN TEL AVIV PROTESTING THE UPCOMING VISIT OF **KURT WALDHEIM**, REPORTED DAILY LIBERAL MILLIYET (CIRC. 249,753) ON OCTOBER 26. IN THE NOTE THE WJC LABEL WALDHEIM AS A "FASCIST WAR CRIMINAL," AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT TURKEY WOULD CANCEL THE VISIT. WALDHEIM IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN ANKARA ON NOVEMBER 2 FOR A ONE-DAY STOP OVER AFTER VISITING SYRIA AND KUWAIT.
MILLIYET REPORTED THAT THE NOTE DISTURBED ANKARA.
"TURKEY IS NOT EXPECTED TO GIVE A WRITTEN RESPONSE BUT ITS REPRESENTATIVE IN TEL AVIV, EKREM GUVENDIREN, MAY BE INSTRUCTED TO CONVEY TURKEY'S VIEWS ORALLY TO THE WJC OFFICIALS," MILLIYET WROTE. MILLIYET ACCUSED THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION OF "INDIRECTLY" PROVOKING JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS' EFFORTS TO PREVENT WALDHEIM'S VISIT TO TURKEY. A SENIOR TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL IS QUOTED AS SAYING, "....THE CLAIMS THAT TURKEY'S RELATIONS

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WITH EUROPE AND THE U.S. WILL DETERIORATE ARE EXAGGERATED. IF SUCH PRESSURE TACTICS CONTINUE, THEN THEY CAN BACKFIRE ." MILLIYET ALSO QUOTED AN AMERICAN STATE DEPT. OFFICIAL AS SAYING, "WE WILL NOT BE VERY PLEASED IF THIS VISIT TAKES PLACE."

ON THE SAME DAY, MILLIYET CORRESPONDENT MEHMET ALI BIRAND, REPORTING FROM VIENNA, ASKED, "WOULDN'T IT BE MORE RATIONAL FOR A COUNTRY LIKE OURS, WHICH HAS TO BE VERY CAREFUL IN ITS EQUILIBRIUM POLICY, TO BE UNDERSTANDING OF SOME IMPORTANT SENSITIVITIES OF ISRAEL AND THE POWERFUL JEWISH LOBBY? TURKEY OFFENDED ITS JEWISH FRIENDS IN VAIN." ASKING IF ONE MUST BE A JEW IN ORDER TO SEEK PERSONAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS, BIRAND ASKED, "AREN'T PALESTINIANS HUMAN?" AND CONCLUDED THAT IT WAS UNFORTUNATE FOR BOTH THE STATES AND INDIVIDUALS TO USE DOUBLE STANDARDS. SCOTTON

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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