

UNCLASSIFIED//

ENVELOPE

RAAUZYUW RUEIFBS4060 0131835-UUUU--RUMICEA.

ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

R
131835Z JAN 16
FM OSC RESTON VA

TO RHMCSII/ATTORNEY GENERAL D BRANCH
RHMCSII/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC
RUEPWDC/DA AMHS WASHINGTON DC
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC//IN-1//
RUEPTRX/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RHMCSII/HQ USPACOM NICE
RUZEJAA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK
RHMCSII/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//
RUZDJWC/JWAC DAHLGREN VA
ZEN/NGA WASHINGTON DC
RHMCSII/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RHMCSII/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//
RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RHMCSII/USSOCOM INTEL MACDILL AFB FL
ZEN/CIA WASHINGTON DC
BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS

QQQQ
CITE OSC RESTON VA 745861

WARNING: TOPIC: CRIME, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC,
INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, MILITARY
SERIAL:IMR2016011366658818

BODY

COUNTRY: IRAN

SUBJ: (U) KERRY: US GRATEFUL TO IRAN FOR SWIFT RELEASE OF AMERICAN
Marines

UNCLASSIFIED//

UNCLASSIFIED//

SOURCE: Tehran Fars News Agency in English 0859

GMT 13 Jan 16 (U)

TEXT:

[NEWS AGENCIES]

[OSC Transcribed Text]

(U) This product may contain copyrighted material; authorized use is for national security purposes of the United States Government only. Any reproduction, dissemination, or use is subject to the OSC usage policy and the original copyright.

[Computer selected and disseminated without OSE editorial intervention] TEHRAN (FNA)- US Secretary of State thanked Iranian authorities for resolving the issue which led to the detention of American marines and expressed gratitude for their swift release.

The US government is grateful to Tehran for helping to arrange a prompt release of ten American sailors who were seized by Iran in the Persian Gulf, US Secretary of State John Kerry said in a statement on Wednesday.

"I want to express my gratitude to Iranian authorities for their cooperation in swiftly resolving this matter," Kerry stated.

Kerry underscored that the peaceful resolution of the incident has become a testament to the critical role diplomacy could play in keeping the United States safe.

Iran on Wednesday released the 10 US marines that it had detained after their trespassing of its territorial waters in the Persian Gulf.

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps issued a statement on Wednesday saying that "it has released the US marines and their vessels in international waters" after its investigations showed that they had gone astray during their voyage in the Persian Gulf.

In its statement, the IRGC pointed out that its investigations show that the US combat vessels' illegal entry into the Iranian waters was not the result of a purposeful act.

"Following technical and operational investigations and in interaction with relevant political and national security bodies of

UNCLASSIFIED//

UNCLASSIFIED//

the country and after it became clear that the US combat vessels' illegal entry into the Islamic Republic of Iran's waters was the result of an unintentional action and a mistake and after they extended an apology, the decision was made to release them," the statement said.

"The Americans have undertaken not to repeat such mistakes," it added, and continued, "The captured marines were released in international waters under the supervision of the IRGC Navy moments ago."

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps seized two US Navy boats on Tuesday and detained them on Iran's Farsi Island in the Persian Gulf.

Nine men and one woman trespassed Iran's territorial waters in the Persian Gulf when they were captured by the IRGC Navy.

Each of the two US Navy boats that were 3 nautical miles deep into the Iranian waters when they were captured by the IRGC Navy's second naval zone were equipped with three 50mm caliber machine guns and other light and semi-heavy weapons.

IRGC officials said the coordinates recorded on the GPS devices taken from the 10 US marines confirmed their trespassing as well.

Following the capture, two US and French aircraft carriers as well as their accompanying fleets and military choppers started maneuvering near Iranian waters.

The IRGC statement blamed the US flotilla for its "excited and unprofessional moves", but said the IRGC navy could handle the situation and restored calm to the region through powerful and wise moves.

Senior US officials, including Secretary of State John Kerry, were in contact with their Iranian counterparts on the fate of the marines since Tuesday, and according to Iranian officials, Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif had told Kerry that the US should extend a formal apology first.

According to the statement, the Americans have extended an apology.

UNCLASSIFIED//

UNCLASSIFIED//

[Description of Source: Tehran Fars News Agency in English --
Hardline semi-official news agency, affiliated with the Islamic
Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), headed as of 24 July 2011 by
Nezameddin Musavi; <http://www.english.farsnews.com>]

(U) This product may contain copyrighted material; authorized use is
for national security purposes of the United States Government only.
Any reproduction, dissemination, or use is subject to the OSC usage
policy and the original copyright.

CABLETYPE: FBISEMS ACP 1.0

ADMIN

BT

#4060

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED//