

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 7:11 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Update: Police are attempting to clear protesters in Manama, Bahrain (SBU)

From: OpsAlert
Sent: Wed Feb 16 23:59:15 2011
Subject: Update: Police are attempting to clear protesters in Manama, Bahrain (SBU)

(SBU) Embassy Manama reports 40 to 50 Bahraini tanks are in the capital and the Interior Minister told the British Ambassador the government "will work within Bahraini law to break up illegal demonstrations." Post believes the government is preparing to use violence because protesters crossed "red lines" in terms of denouncing the king and the royal family. Embassy Manama is closed February 17, with only emergency personnel reporting to work. Post will send out a message to the American community. Internet connectivity and e-mail access is limited. Embassy Manama is coordinating closely with the U.S. Navy base in Bahrain.

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From: OpsAlert
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 10:49 PM
Subject: Update: Police are attempting to clear protesters in Manama, Bahrain (SBU)

Embassy Manama reports ongoing clashes in two areas of Manama. Tear gas was utilized in both incidents. One of the clashes occurred next to the Salmaniya hospital, where several hundred people have gathered.

From: OpsAlert
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 9:37 PM
Subject: Update: Police are attempting to clear protesters in Manama, Bahrain (SBU)

Embassy Manama reports the Ministry of Interior confirmed the Pearl Roundabout has been cleared of protesters. There are reports of one or more fatalities, but Post has not been able to confirm these reports. Post continues to actively monitor the situation and will convene an EAC at 0900 Manama/ 0100 EST.

From: OpsAlert
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 8:31 PM
Subject: Police are attempting to clear protesters in Manama, Bahrain (SBU)

There have been reports force is being used. Embassy Manama is closely following the situation.