

RELEASE IN PART
B6

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 11:48 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Annan Deputy Says Syrian Regime Now Willing to Implement Ceasefire

FYI. Details.

From: Abbaszadeh, Nima
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 11:22 AM
To: Hanley, Monica R; 'monica.hanley' <monica.hanley>
Cc: S_SpecialAssistants; Macmanus, Joseph E (S); Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: FW: Annan Deputy Says Syrian Regime Now Willing to Implement Ceasefire

Monica: Please flag for S (Jake will have also seen an abbreviated version of this from Feltman).

From: McCutcheon, Robert H
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 11:17 AM
Subject: Annan Deputy Says Syrian Regime Now Willing to Implement Ceasefire

Kofi Annan's Deputy Nasser Qidwa just spoke with A/S Feltman to share that JSE Annan received a new letter from Syrian FM Muallim that said:

1. The regime is willing to cease all military action in all of its territory by 0600 hours local time (1300 EST) on 12 April.
2. The regime reserve the right to respond *proportionally* (supposedly the first time it has agreed to this) to any attacks
3. Will redeploy its forces to certain encampment areas and bases, particularly in the governates of aDmsscus, Homs, and Hama.
4. Request updates from the JSE on his efforts with the "other parties" (i.e., opposition).

Qidwa admitted that this may all be a trick or ply to prevent a Russian rapprochement with the UNSC, but said the letter was more straightforward and factual than making excuses. He thought it could represent a new political position, rather than just another tactic. A/S Feltman remained skeptical. Qidwa admitted that, assuming this was true, there were still two schools of thought within the JSE office with respect to monitoring: some wanted to have a ceasefire in place ahead of time, others (like Qidwa) believe that monitors could help improve things on the ground even if things were still "messy." The letter apparently made no reference to shabiha or other security elements, which Qidwa admitted was a problem.

We will a more in depth readout on the high side, but wanted S to have this before her G8 meetings.

Rob McCutcheon
 Syria Desk

SBU

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