

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2011 12:09 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: June 9 UNSC Consultations on Libya (SBU)

Worth a read.

From: Meehan, Bernadette M
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 10:27 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Wells, Alice G
Cc: S_SpecialAssistants
Subject: Fw: June 9 UNSC Consultations on Libya (SBU)

Below is USUN's more detailed readout of al-Khatib's UNSC briefing today.

From: Holmes, Stephanie E
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 10:22 PM
To: SES_DutyDeputies; S_SpecialAssistants
Cc: SES-O_SWO
Subject: June 9 UNSC Consultations on Libya (SBU)

Colleagues – further to the Overnight Brief, USUN sent a more detailed readout of al-Khatib's UNSC briefing today.

Kind regards,

Stephanie E. Holmes
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Security Council Consultations on Libya
June 9, 2011

UN Special Envoy for Libya al-Khatib briefed the Security Council June 9 via video-teleconference on his recent trip to Tripoli and Benghazi. Although he had tentatively been promised a meeting with Colonel Qadhafi, once he arrived in Tripoli, he was told that he would instead be meeting with Prime Minister al-Mahmudi and Qadhafi's son Saif al-Islam (allegedly due to nervousness surrounding the NATO bombing campaign carried out during Khatib's visit). Khatib said that Mahmudi focused his comments on the ongoing NATO attacks and the detrimental effects he claimed sanctions were having on the humanitarian situation.

Khatib said he told Mahmudi and Saif al-Islam that both the TNC and the international community have made clear that Qadhafi must go. Both said that Qadhafi refuses to leave Libya, with Saif al-Islam suggesting Qadhafi would be better off staying in Tripoli and fighting until the end, but Mahmudi told Khatib that "everything is up for discussion" as far as a future transition of power. Khatib floated with them the idea of creating some type of interim body, which would include all factions, as a transitional mechanism. Mahmudi suggested that the Libyan People's Congress should be responsible for elaborating the plans for a transitional authority, a plan Khatib said is clearly unacceptable to the TNC. Khatib told the Council that a "member of Qadhafi's inner circle" had intimated to him that they were exploring options for Qadhafi to step down but only if he could remain in the country. Saif al-

Islam did not challenge the notion of Qadhafi stepping down when Khatib raised it, but was adamant that Qadhafi would never leave Libya.

In Benghazi, Khatib and TNC Chairman Mahmoud Jibril discussed the opposition's demand that Qadhafi step down as a pre-condition for a ceasefire and political process. Jibril clarified to Khatib that the TNC could accept that Qadhafi remains in Libya as long as he relinquishes his command of the military. Khatib said that the TNC is not open to any kind of immunity agreement for Qadhafi. He said the TNC could accept in principle the idea of indirect informal discussions through the UN with regime representatives, but was skeptical about any engagement before Qadhafi committed to step down.

Responding to questions from France, Lebanon and the UK on next steps, Khatib said that he hoped both sides would further develop their positions on the process for setting up a transitional authority. He told the Council that he would develop his next steps - and travel plans - based on his follow up with both sides in the coming days, but he noted that the two parties were not yet at a point where shuttle diplomacy could be effective. Following comments by China, Russia and South Africa that Khatib was exceeding his mandate by telling Tripoli officials that Qadhafi must go, Khatib said he was conveying an explicit demand of the TNC and he felt it was necessary to discuss the issue in Tripoli in order to find a way forward. He also said that members of Qadhafi's regime had raised the issue with him; he hadn't raised it himself. Gabon, speaking in its national capacity, said it didn't feel that Khatib had overstepped his mandate.

At Khatib's request, the meeting on June 14 has been canceled, as he was coming to NY only to brief the Council and felt today's briefing covered what he would say on the 14th. He told the Council he would make himself available for further updates via VTC if requested.

SBU

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