

Shultz/
Weinberger

UNCLASSIFIED
FROM WASHINGTON
TO FLASH FCO
TELNO 949
OF 150425Z APRIL 86
AND TO FLASH MODUK

5 APR 1986



INFO IMMEDIATE UKDEL NATO, EUROPEAN COMMUNITY POSTS, MOSCOW, CAIRO
INFO IMMEDIATE TUNIS, RABAT, ALGIERS, DAMASCUS, AMMAN, TEL AVIV
INFO IMMEDIATE RIYADH, KHARTOUM, UKMIS NEW YORK
INFO PRIORITY ABU DHABI, ADEN, BAGHDAD, BAHRAIN, BEIRUT, DOHA
INFO PRIORITY DUBAI, JERUSALEM, KUWAIT, MUSCAT, SANAA, ANKARA
INFO PRIORITY OSLO, REYKJAVIK, UKDEL STOCKHOLM, UKDEL VIENNA
INFO PRIORITY TOKYO, NEW DELHI

SHULTZ and WEINBERGER *Press Conference*

MIPT: LIBYA CRISIS: SHULTZ/WEINBERGER PRESS CONFERENCE

1. SHULTZ AND WEINBERGER HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT 9.30 P.M. WASHINGTON TIME, ON 14 APRIL AFTER THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.
2. IN A PREPARED STATEMENT SHULTZ SAID THAT WHAT THE PRESIDENT HAD JUST DESCRIBED WAS QUOTE AN ACT OF SELF-DEFENCE ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES. THE ACTION WAS PROPORTIONATE TO THE SUSTAINED, CLEAR, CONTINUING AND WIDESPREAD USE OF TERROR AGAINST AMERICANS AND OTHERS BY QADHAFI'S LIBYA.....WE MUST REMEMBER, AND OF COURSE EUROPEANS PARTICULARLY REMEMBER, THAT TOLERANCE OR APPEASEMENT OF AGGRESSION HAS HISTORICALLY BROUGHT MORE AGGRESSION. IN QADHAFI'S CASE WHAT WE HAVE SEEN OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS, AND ESCALATING IN RECENT MONTHS, IS A CONTINUING INCREASE IN THE USE OF TERROR.....IT HAS BEEN AN ESCALATION BY QADHAFI WHICH HAS CALLED FORWARD THIS ACT OF SELF-DEFENCE ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES..... UNQUOTE.
3. WEINBERGER'S MAIN POINTS WERE AS FOLLOWS:
 - i) ALL THE US AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN ACCOUNTED FOR, EXCEPT ONE F111
 - ii) ALL THE TARGETS WERE TERRORIST-RELATED. THE CRITERIA FOR TARGET SELECTION HAD BEEN THAT THEY SHOULD HAVE QUOTE A FULL TERRORIST CONNECTION, THAT THERE SHOULD BE MINIMUM COLLATERAL DAMAGE, FULL CONSIDERATION FOR THE SAFETY OF THE PILOTS, AND A CHOICE OF GOOD NIGHT TARGETS, EASILY IDENTIFIABLE BY RADAR.
 - iii) THERE WAS NO EFFORT TO ATTACK QADHAFI PERSONALLY.
 - iv) MRS THATCHER HAD GRANTED PERMISSION FOR US OF UK-BASED F111S. ASKED LATER IF THIS PERMISSION HAD BEEN UNQUALIFIED, HE SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAD MANY QUESTIONS AND MANY CONCERNS: RESPONSES WERE GIVEN, AND PERMISSION WAS GIVEN TO DO WHAT WAS DONE.

4. SHULTZ SAID THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAD BEEN TOLD THAT THE US HAD CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE OF LIBYAN INVOLVEMENT IN TERRORIST ACTIVITY, INCLUDING THE BERLIN BOMBING. AS THE MILITARY OPERATION WAS TAKING PLACE, THE SOVIET CHARGE HAD BEEN CALLED IN AND TOLD OF IT, AND THAT IT WAS IN NO WAY DIRECTED AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION.

5. SHULTZ SAID THAT THE OPERATION WAS QUOTE NOT A QUESTION OF SETTLING SCORES, BUT OF ACTING AGAINST TERRORISM, OF SAYING TO TERRORISTS THAT THE ACTS THEY PERPETRATE HAVE A COST. IF YOU RAISE THE COST, YOU DO SOMETHING THAT SHOULD EVENTUALLY ACT AS A DETERRENT. THAT IS THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE, TO DEFEND OURSELVES BOTH IN THE IMMEDIATE SENSE AND PROSPECTIVELY UNQUOTE.

6. ON ALLIED ATTITUDES, SHULTZ SAID THAT THEY VARIED, BUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN QUOTE A SHIFT IN THE DIRECTION OF SEEING VERY CLEARLY WHAT QADHAFI IS AND WHAT HE IS DOING, GRADUALLY COMING TO THE CONCLUSION, THAT SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE DONE ABOUT THAT UNQUOTE. AT THE HAGUE, THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD STEPPED UP THEIR CONDEMNATION OF TERRORISM, SINGLING LIBYA OUT BY NAME. THIS WAS A MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

6. ASKED WHETHER PERMISSION FOR OVERFLIGHTS HAD BEEN SOUGHT FROM FRANCE AND DENIED, WEINBERGER SAID THAT THAT WAS QUOTE A FAIR DESCRIPTION UNQUOTE.

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