

POL 23-9 L-111

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Authority 2000 96 5000
By NARA Date 11/15/97

Department of State

TELEGRAM



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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5610
INFO AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI IMMEDIATE

[REDACTED] TRIPOLI 3711

SUBJECT : CONTINGENCY STATEMENT RE HAWWAAZ APPROACH TO
USG FOR ASSISTANCE

POL 23-9 L107A

REFERENCE: BENGHAZI 1296; STATE 206436

1. DURING HIS RECENT TV INTERVIEW, QADHAAFI HAS STATED THAT (A) HAWWAAZ HAD ADMITTED HIS ROLE IN PLOTTING; (B) RCC PLANNING THOROUGH INVESTIGATION WHOLE AFFAIR; AND (C) SECURITY PERSONNEL HAD UNCOVERED EXTENT COUNTER COUP ATTEMPT AND IDENTITY PLOTTERS BY KEEPING CAREFUL WATCH ON ALL VISITORS TO DEFENSE MINISTRY. IT SEEMS CERTAIN THEREFORE THAT LANE'S TWO MEETINGS WITH HAWWAAZ DECEMBER 2 AND 4 COULD NOT HAVE GONE UNNOTICED.

2. WHILE LANE/HAWWAAZ ENCOUNTERS MAY COME OUT IN NEXT FEW DAYS DURING ANOTHER QADHAAFI STREAM-OF-CONSCIOUSNESS TYPE TV OR PRESS INTERVIEW, IT IS MORE LIKELY THAT THIS CHOICE BIT WILL BE RESERVED FOR REVELATION AT PROMISED TRIALS.

3. EMBASSY SUGGESTS FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY STATEMENT BE APPROVED FOR POSSIBLE ISSUANCE BY PAO TRIPOLI AND/OR BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN IF AND WHEN SINISTER PUBLIC INTERPRETATION IS PLACED ON EXCHANGE BETWEEN LANE AND HAWWAAZ. IF MEETINGS OR EXCHANGE ARE MERELY ALLUDED TO, DECISION WHETHER TO RESPOND AT ALL AND HOW WILL HAVE TO BE MADE IN LIGHT SPECIFIC FORM OF ALLUSION.

4. CONTINGENCY STATEMENT:

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NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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