

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

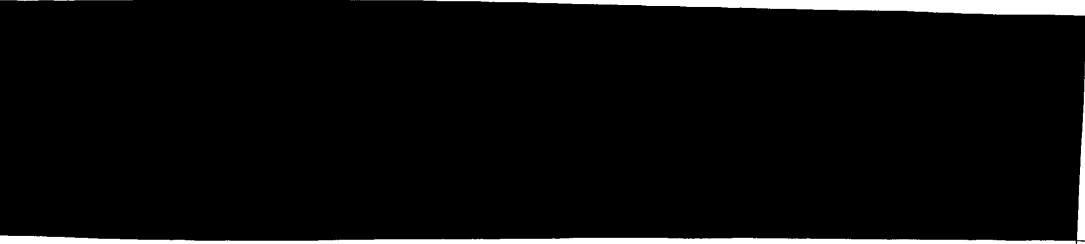
BODY

COUNTRY: (U) SOMALIA (SO), ETHIOPIA (ET).

SUBJ: IIR [REDACTED] CLANDESTINE ARMS SHIPMENT (U).

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED ~~S E C R E T NOFORN WNINTEL~~.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE



SUMMARY: ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ A CLANDESTINE ARMS SHIPMENT IS ENROUTE FROM ETHIOPIA DESTINED FOR THE SOMALI NATIONAL ALLIANCE. THE SHIPMENT IS TO BE SPLIT INTO TWO CONVOYS. SNA MILITIA ARE PROVIDING HEAVY SECURITY TO PREVENT THE SHIPMENT FROM BEING SEIZED.

TEXT: 1. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ ARMS SHIPMENT ENROUTE FROM ETHIOPIA--ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY SOMALI NATIONAL ALLIANCE (SNA) MILITIAMEN DEPARTED MOGADISHU ON 7 MARCH 1994 IN ORDER TO MEET TWO SEPARATE CONVOYS COMING FROM ETHIOPIA. THE CONVOYS ARE CARRYING WEAPONS DESTINED FOR THE SNA. ONE INCOMING CONVOY IS CROSSING INTO SOMALIA NEAR BELET WEYNE [REDACTED] AND THE OTHER CONVOY WILL BE CROSSING NEAR THE TOWN OF FERFER [REDACTED] IN THE HIRAAN DISTRICT. UPON RECEIVING THE SHIPMENT, THE SNA WILL KEEP THE WATER TRUCKS. THE TRUCKS' ETHIOPIAN LICENSE PLATES WILL BE EXCHANGED FOR SOMALI PLATES. ONE GROUP OF SNA DEPARTED MOGADISHU AT 1100 ENROUTE TO THE HIRAAN DISTRICT WHILE ANOTHER GROUP DEPARTED MOGADISHU AT 1400 HEADING FOR BAIDOA [REDACTED] THERE ARE

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APPROXIMATELY 12 WATER TRUCKS CARRYING THE CLANDESTINE SHIPMENT FROM ETHIOPIA.

2. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ HIRAAN GROUP--THE GROUP OF SNA HEADING FOR HIRAAN IS COMMANDED BY FIRST LIEUTENANT ABDI NASSIR SHEIKH ((MOHAMMED)), ALSO KNOWN AS 'RAMBO', OF THE HABR GEDIR/AYR SUBCLAN. THE CONVOY OF SNA CONSISTS OF NINE VEHICLES AND SEVENTY FIVE PERSONNEL. FOUR OF THE VEHICLES WILL BE CARRYING TECHNICAL WEAPONS, THE OTHER VEHICLES ONLY PEOPLE. TECHNICAL WEAPONS INCLUDE ONE B-10 ROCKET, 6 X RPG- 7'S, ONE 'SAKOW' [REDACTED] DESCRIBED TO BE SIMILAR TO A ZU-23), AND TWO DSHK MACHINEGUNS. OTHER WEAPONS INCLUDE 10 LIGHT ANTI-ARMOR WEAPONS (LAAW), 18 PKM MACHINEGUNS, AND ASSORTED SMALL ARMS.

3. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ HIRAAN CONVOY ROUTE--THE SHIPMENT IS TO BE MET AT THE TOWN OF BUR UKUR [REDACTED] APPROXIMATELY 45 KILOMETERS FROM BELET WEYNE, TOWARDS THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER. AFTER ACQUIRING THE SHIPMENT, THE CONVOY WILL TRAVEL TO EAL QALOW, NEAR BELET WEYNE. FROM EAL QALOW THE CONVOY WILL PASS THROUGH EL BUR [REDACTED] FROM EL BUR, THE CONVOY WILL GO THROUGH EL DHERE [REDACTED] FROM EL DHERE, THE CONVOY WILL TRAVEL TO, AND THEN ALONG, THE COASTAL ROAD TO A POINT JUST NORTH OF A UNITED NATIONS (UN) CHECKPOINT LOCATED IN QORILOW [REDACTED] AT THIS CHECKPOINT, APPROXIMATELY 48 KILOMETERS NORTH OF MOGADISHU, THE CONVOY WILL TRAVEL ALONG A ROUGH, DIRT ROAD, BYPASSING THE CHECKPOINT. THE CONVOY WILL THEN PASS INTO THE CITY OF MOGADISHU AND DEPOSIT THE WEAPONS AT THE LIVESTOCK MARKET, NORTH OF THE PASTA FACTORY.

4. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ BAIDOA GROUP--THE GROUP OF SNA GOING TO THE BAIDOA REGION IS COMMANDED BY CAPTAIN ABDI ((SHIRRE)) OF THE HABR GEDIR/SA'AD SUBCLAN. THIS CONVOY WILL MEET THEIR WEAPONS SHIPMENT APPROXIMATELY 35 KILOMETERS NORTH OF BAIDOA IN A UNIDENTIFIED VILLAGE. THE CONVOY CARRYING THE SNA TO THE BAIDOA REGION CONSISTED OF FOUR TECHNICAL VEHICLES AND AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF SMALL PICKUP TRUCKS AND 'LAND CRUISERS'. THERE WILL BE SEVENTY FIVE MILITIAMEN ACCOMPANYING THE CONVOY. THE TECHNICAL WEAPONS WHICH WILL BE IN THE CONVOY CONSIST OF ONE B-10 ROCKET, TWO B-2 ROCKETS, ONE SAKOW, AND TWO DSHK'S. OTHER WEAPONS INCLUDE SIX LAAW'S, FOUR RPG-7'S, TWENTY PKM'S, AND OTHER ASSORTED SMALL ARMS. THE TECHNICAL WEAPONS WILL BE CONCEALED IN THE TRUCK BED WHENEVER POSSIBLE. TO AID IN THEIR CONCEALMENT, THE WEAPONS WILL BE COVERED WITH CIGARETTE BOXES. THE CIGARETTE BOXES WILL BE COVERED BY A TARP. IF THE TARP IS LIFTED, ANY INSPECTORS WILL PRESUME THE CARGO IS ONLY CIGARETTES.

5. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ BAIDOA CONVOY ROUTE--MEMBERS OF THE SOMALI PATRIOTIC MOVEMENT (SPM)-JESS FACTION, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF ETHIOPIAN OROMO AND OGADEN, WILL ESCORT THE SHIPMENT FROM ETHIOPIA TO THE BORDER VILLAGE. THEN JESS FACTION PEOPLE WILL TRANSFER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SHIPMENT TO THE SNA MILITIAMEN AT THE VILLAGE NEAR THE BORDER. UPON RECEIVING THE SHIPMENT, THE CONVOY WILL DEPART THE VILLAGE AND PROCEED TOWARDS THE CITY OF BOLA BURTE [REDACTED]

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THE CONVOY DOES NOT INTEND TO PASS THROUGH BAIDOA. FROM BOLA BURTE, THE CONVOY IS TO PASS THROUGH JALA LAXI [REDACTED] FROM JALA LAXI, THE CONVOY IS TO TRAVEL TO AN ABGAL CONTROLLED VILLAGE, NEAR JOWHAR [REDACTED] THE SNA HAS BRIBED THE HARTI ABGAL CLAN LEADERS INTO ALLOWING THEM TO STAY IN THE VILLAGE. THE CONVOY INTENDS TO REMAIN FOR APPROXIMATELY 24 HOURS AND THEN CONTINUE TO MOGADISHU. FROM THIS VILLAGE, THE CONVOY WILL TRAVEL ALONG THE COASTAL ROAD. THE FINAL DESTINATION FOR THIS CONVOY IS ALSO THE LIVESTOCK MARKET, NORTH OF THE PASTA FACTORY.

6. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ CONVOY COMMUNICATIONS--THE CONVOYS ARE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH SNA HEADQUARTERS BY RADIO. IF THE CONVOYS ENCOUNTER ANY ARMED RESISTANCE OR ANY COMPLICATIONS, THEY ARE TO CONTACT SNA HEADQUARTERS. THE SNA HEADQUARTERS WILL THEN SEND OUT SUPPORT TO ASSIST THE CONVOYS.

COMMENTS: 1. (U) [REDACTED]

A. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ THE FACT THAT THE SNA ARE SENDING SEVERAL VEHICLES AND SEVERAL MILITIAMEN TO MEET THE CLANDESTINE SHIPMENT MAY INDICATE THE SHIPMENT IS SUBSTANTIAL AND RELATIVELY IMPORTANT. THE CIRCUITOUS ROUTE BEING USED TO MOVE THE WEAPONS, OLD KHAT TRAILS USED WHEN KHAT WAS ILLEGAL, INDICATES THE SNA DOES NOT WANT TO HAVE THE SHIPMENT INTERDICTED IN ANY WAY. THE SNA ALSO HAS RADIO CONTACT WITH THE CONVOYS AND IS PREPARED TO SEND ANY ASSISTANCE IF THE CONVOYS ENCOUNTER ANY RESISTANCE.

B. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ [REDACTED] SEEMED TO KNOW THERE WERE TWELVE WATER TRUCKS INVOLVED WITH THE SHIPMENT. HE WAS UNSURE IF THE TWELVE TRUCKS WOULD BE SPLIT, SIX GOING TO THE TWO PICK-UP POINTS. IT IS POSSIBLE, YET UNLIKELY, THERE IS A TOTAL OF TWENTY FOUR WATER TRUCKS INVOLVED IN THE SHIPMENT, WITH TWELVE GOING TO EACH PICK-UP SITE. SOURCE BELIEVES THERE ARE ONLY TWELVE WATER TRUCKS TOTAL.

C. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ [REDACTED]