
MEMORANDUM

TO: DR. SAEB ERAKAT

FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: QUADRAPARTITE MEETING OF GAZA SECURITY COMMITTEE

DATE: 11TH MARCH 2007

ATTENDEES:

Palestinian: Mohamed Dahlan, Jamal Quaeid, Rashid Abu Shbek, Basil Jaber,
[REDACTED]

Egyptian: Gen. Sharif, Nader, + 1 other

Israeli: Gen. Amos Gilad, Col. Yusaf Orlion, Danny (AG's assistant), Igal +
1 other

American: Gen. Dayton, Col. Mike Pierson, Paul Rupp, Neil Hopp, PJ Dermour

PURPOSE:

- The purpose of the meeting was general and introductory, primarily to ensure that all parties are committed to the forum.
- The purpose of the forum is to focus on the security situation in the Gaza Strip. The West Bank will not be discussed.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT:

- All parties made very clear that nothing discussed in the meeting should be shared with anyone outside the forum. All parties made clear that any leakages would greatly hurt the forum and all those participating. All parties made clear that any leakages would immediately result in the cessation of the use of this forum and the projects being aborted. Also not to be shared is the fact that the forum exists, nor should who is attending the meetings be leaked. The press will not be involved.
- In addition, no party will use the forum to blame the others. All those governments represented in the room have a responsibility to improve the situation and all parties are involved in some way.
- The committee is a committee of the whole, meaning that all parties will participate, contribute to the agendas, and be equal partners in the forum.
- The forum is backed by the highest political echelons of each government represented.

PRIMARY TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

- The implications of the national unity government were discussed by all parties in general terms.
- Israel presented their perception of the security situation in Gaza, focusing on Hamas activities. The presentation highlighted the use of tunnels for all purposes including storage and meeting areas, the import/smuggling of advanced weaponry, and focused efforts on training of militants abroad, particularly in Iran. Hamas is seen to emulate the Hizbollah model, which in turn is based on the Iranian model. They use Rafah to move militants and money. The GoI highlighted three primary elements of their doctrine: (1) massive use of rockets against civilians; (2) use of tunnels; and (3) preparation to inflict high casualties on any force coming in. The main strategic goal of Hamas is to take over the PA then the PLO. Most Palestinians do not adhere to this Hamas ideology.
- The Palestinians agreed that this may be part of the analysis. Also made clear was that each party must be willing to take on its own responsibility in terms of restabilizing the security situation in the Gaza Strip. Palestinians cannot do this alone.
- It was agreed that the next meeting would start the substantive discussions. The focus of the next meeting, scheduled for the 29th of March, would be dealing with smuggling as a first step. Each party was tasked with going back to their own government and better understanding needs (legal, policy and practical), intentions, mandate and positions.