

Shipment of Arms from Syria Into Lebanon

Contributed by Administrator
Friday, 29 June 2007
Last Updated Friday, 29 June 2007

Daily Press Briefing
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Washington, DC
June 27, 2007

INDEX:

LEBANON/SYRIA

Shipment of Arms from Syria Into Lebanon
Helping Lebanon Strengthen UNIFIL
Syria's Lack of Constructive Behavior in Lebanon / Syrian Contravention of UN Security Council Resolution

TRANSCRIPT:

QUESTION: Sean, you (inaudible) be able to look into this -- a report that was sent to the UN Security Council yesterday about arms flow from Syria into Lebanon which apparently continues completely unabated. Do you have any response to that?

MR. MCCORMACK: I had a chance to check with some folks who have seen the report and who looked at it and yeah, it's an issue; it's a real issue. And I think the report recommends enhancing the capabilities of the Lebanese armed forces as well as seeing what UNIFIL might also do to help prevent the shipment of arms across the border into Lebanon. But more importantly about what -- than what we might do to help out the Lebanese and beef up UNIFIL, it is yet another indication that Syria has not decided to play a constructive role with respect to Lebanon. They still don't have an embassy in Beirut. And there are a lot of questions surrounding continued Syrian activities in Lebanon. And I think it's safe to say that Syria is not engaged in constructive behavior in Lebanon. So it's yet another indication that Syria is playing outside the boundaries, once again -- outside the boundaries that the international system has set and in this case, in contravention of a UN Security Council resolution. Okay.

(The briefing was concluded at 12:36 p.m.)

DPB # 115

Released on June 27, 2007