

ACTIONS DS-00

INFO LOG-00 MFA-00 AF-00 CIAE-00 INL-00 DNI-00 DOTE-00
 EB-00 FFAE-00 FBIE-00 UTED-00 TEDE-00 INR-00 M-00
 PER-00 IRM-00 SSO-00 SS-00 FMP-00 CBP-00 SCRS-00
 DSCC-00 SAS-00 SWCI-00 /000W

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P 281042Z AUG 06
 FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4311

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UNCLAS KHARTOUM 002039

FOR DS/IP/AF, DS/IP/OPO/FPD, DS/PSD/PCB, AF/EX, AF/SPG, DS/IP/ITA

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, SU

SUBJECT: A/S FRAZER'S ARRIVAL IN KHARTOUM GREETED WITH ANGRY
 DEMONSTRATION

1. (U) SUMMARY: On Saturday, August 26, 2006, at approximately 1830 hours, U.S. Assistant Secretary for African Affairs Jendayi Frazer was greeted with an angry demonstration upon arrival at Khartoum International Airport. There were no injuries as result of this incident. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) On Saturday, August 26, 2006, at approximately 1830 hours the arrival to Khartoum, Sudan, of U.S. Assistant Secretary for African Affairs Jendayi Frazer was greeted with an angry demonstration at Khartoum International Airport. This incident took place inside the lobby and in the parking lot at Khartoum International Airport's VIP lounge. The VIP lounge is separate from the main airport terminal, and is exclusively used to support arrival and departure of visiting dignitaries from Sudan. Access and use of this lounge must be requested from the Government of Sudan (GOS) Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). The VIP lounge is intended to serve as a more comfortable and secure venue where arriving dignitaries are treated with greater deference in regards to protocol.

3. (U) Approximately 15 minutes before A/S Frazer's arrival, a Toyota pick-up truck with several Sudanese male adults pulled into the VIP lounge parking area. The occupants of this vehicle were observed unloading and distributing anti-American banners and signs ("Go Back Home," "You Want War, We Want Peace") to a crowd of approximately 50 Sudanese (primarily male adults) who arrived on foot. These male adults positioned themselves approximately 25 feet

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from the Embassy's motorcade, staged immediately outside the entrance to the VIP lounge. A short while later a local press contingent (approximately 25 individuals) arrived, to include both still and video cameraman. The press contingent further added to what rapidly escalated into crowd control situation.

4. (U) RSO Khartoum requested the GOS police personnel assigned to support this visit to keep the demonstrators and press away from the motorcade as well as the entrance to the VIP lounge in order to ensure a secure route of egress. Initially the police seemed to have the situation under control, the demonstrators were compliant and maintaining a safe distance from the motorcade and the lobby of the VIP lounge was kept secure. Over a period of time the police relented control of these areas and the growing crowd became more unruly.

5. (U) Almost immediately before arrival of A/S Frazer's aircraft (Lufthansa commercial flight), a second group of demonstrators (predominately Sudanese females) arrived to join the first group of demonstrators. This group of demonstrators was considerably more unruly. As A/S Frazer exited the VIP terminal and proceeded to the motorcade, the demonstrators surged forward towards the front of the motorcade vehicles chanting anti-American sentiments and beating the vehicles with their signs. RSO Khartoum and Embassy FSN body guard detail quickly escorted and loaded the delegation (to include A/S Frazer, 2 visiting USDOS personnel, Khartoum CDA and Khartoum DCM) into two waiting LAV's). As soon as the above personnel were loaded into the vehicles, the crowd surrounded the motorcade on all sides chanting anti-American sentiments and beating the vehicles with their signs. Some of the demonstrators placed themselves in front of the vehicles, preventing the motorcades' departure from the VIP terminal parking area.

6. (U) As the motorcade slowly made its way through the crowded VIP terminal parking lot, two local vehicles pulled out in an apparent attempt to block the motorcade's route of egress. After several minutes of careful maneuvering, the Embassy motorcade made its way through the crowded parking lot and departed the area. Throughout this entire ordeal, demonstrators placed themselves in front of and beat Embassy vehicles with signs.

7. (U) Other Embassy personnel on hand for A/S Frazer's arrival experienced the same ordeal. An Embassy FSN airport expeditor was forced to seek refuge inside the VIP terminal. While no Embassy personnel were seriously assaulted, several were surrounded by angry crowds and mildly tapped with signs.

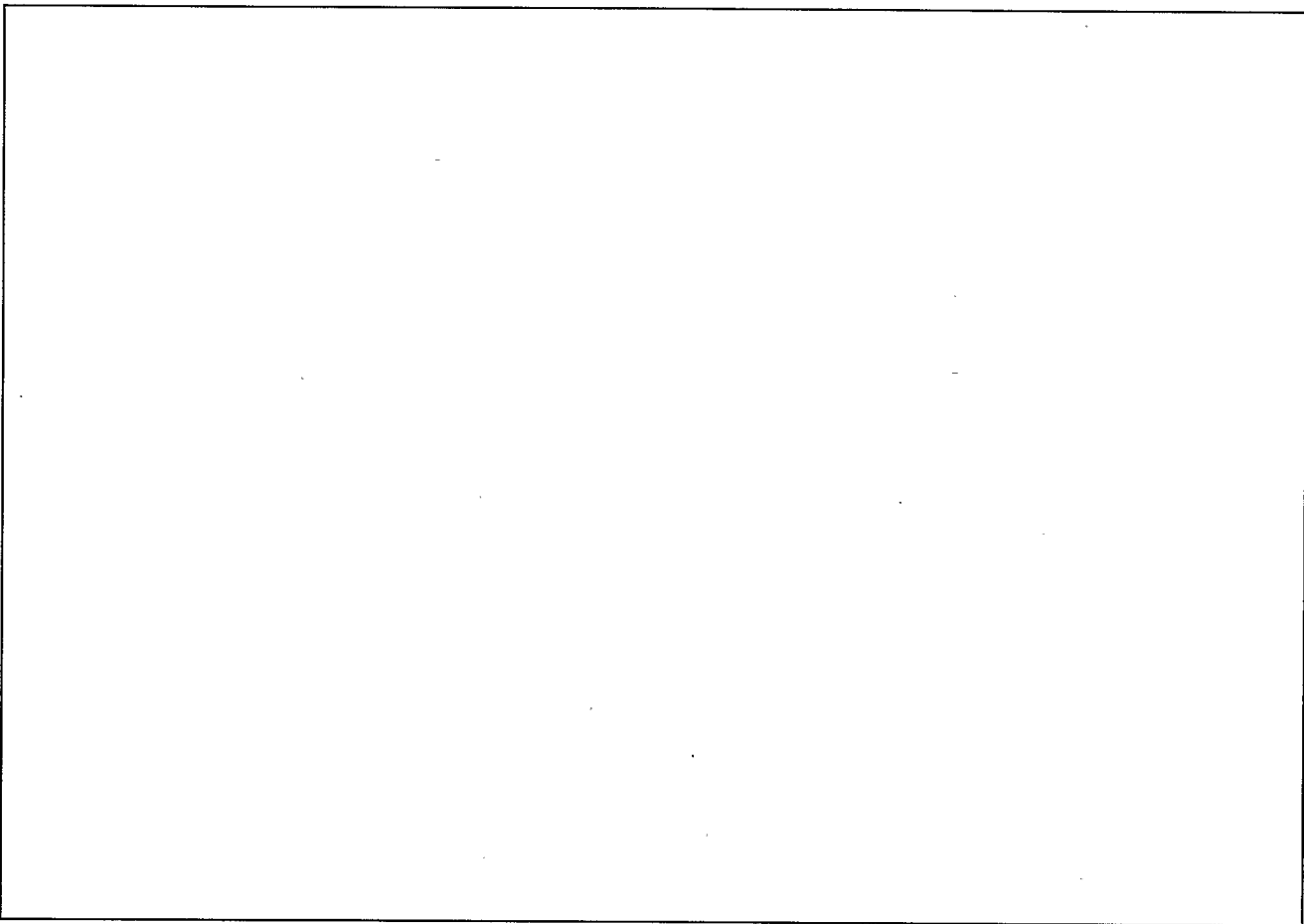
8. (U) The GOS had adequate police on hand to control the situation, however were either unable or unwilling to be of much assistance. As A/S Frazer and other USG personnel exited the VIP

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terminal, the police abandoned their positions, boarded their vehicles, departed the area and staged outside the VIP parking area as if they were waiting for the motorcade. The motorcade and USG officials made their way through the VIP parking area unassisted by the GOS police. Upon exiting the VIP parking lot, the GOS police vehicles escorted the Embassy motorcade to the Khartoum Hilton Hotel without further incident.

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