

Title: UAE: Hutt River Province 'embassy' scam
MRN: AB610996L 22/10/2007 02:49:27 PM ZE4
To: Canberra
Cc: PP : Dubai
From: Abu Dhabi
From File:
References:
Response: Priority, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

We have received a number of phone calls today stating officials of the 'Hutt River Province' have set up an 'embassy' in a villa in Dubai, with the Hutt River Province flag, the UAE flag and CCTV in front. They are allegedly charging AED20000 (AUD6500) for passports and there is said to be a queue. Grateful urgent advice that we can add the last three paragraphs (suggested text) from Administrative Circular PO044 to our embassy website, and that we may also draw on it in drafting a media release and in responding to any media enquiries.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: CONSULAR/Public Information, POLITICAL-ECONOMIC/Domestic Political, PUBLIC DIPLOMACY/Media

Canberra distribution

To:	DFAT	CPD	Crisis Cntr, AS-CNB, CNB, CEC, AS-CPB, CPB, AS-IAB, IAB
		SMD	AS-MAB, MAB, AS-SWB, SWB
		FTA TF	FAS-ATTF, FAS-CFTF, AS-FTAU, FTAU
Cc:	Ministry		Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, Parl Sec Foreign Affairs, Foreign Min's Office, Trade Minister, Trade Min's Office
Cc:	DFAT	EXEC	Secretary, DepSec Grey, DepSec Spencer, DepSec Bird, DepSec Chester, DepSec Ritchie
		EXB	AS-EXB
		GIB	AS-GIB, GIB
		CMD	FAS-CMD, AS-SFB, SFS
		DID	FAS-DID, DID-Coord
		CPD	FAS-CPD, RCO, AS-PMB, PMB
		ILD	FAS-ILD, Amba-Env, AS-ENB, ENB
		ISD	FAS-ISD, GCB, AS-STB, STB
		SMD	FAS-SMD
		EAU	AS-EAU
		OTN	FAS-OTN, AS-SSB, SSB, AS-TCB
		TDD	FAS-TDD, AS-APB, APB, AS-MDB, MDB, AS-TAB, TAB
		FTA TF	ATTF, CFTF

DFAT - DECLASSIFIED
FILE: 13/10648
COPY ISSUED UNDER FOI Act 1982

AB610996L

Cc: OGOs AFP Commissioner, Officers
 AGS Secretary, Officers
 ASIO Head, Officers
 AUSAID Director-General
 DEFENCE Minister
 DIO Director, Officers
 DOTARS Deputy Prime Minister
 EFIC Head, Officers
 FACSIA Head OIPC, Officers OIPC
 NTAC Head, Officers
 ONA Director-General, Officers
 PMC Secretary, AS-CER, FAS-INT, INT, FAS-NSD, NSD
 PSCC Director, Officers

Title: CONSULAR : HUT RIVER PROVINCE
MRN: GE621758L 27/09/2007 04:00:59 PM CEDT
To: Canberra
Cc:
From: Geneva CG
From File: GE07/00045(2)
References: GE621692L
The cable has the following attachment/s -
3290_001.pdf
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

Ref our Cable GE621692L of 3 September. Attached is a further message from s 47 F(1) of the Audi Bank in Geneva concerning the HRP's wish to open accounts in Geneva.

2. Attachments include Consular Manager's translation of the relevant pages in French. (Please note that the reference to a map of the relevant area of Western Australia, can not be attached). Grateful you forward to appropriate section please.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: CONSULAR/Services and Policy

Canberra distribution

To:	DFAT	CPD	Crisis Cntr. AS-CNB, CNB, CEC, AS-CPB. CPB
Cc:	Ministry		Foreign Minister, Parl Sec Foreign Affairs, Foreign Min's Office
Cc:	DFAT	EXEC	Secretary, DepSec Spencer, DepSec Bird, DepSec Chester
		EXB	EAS
		CPD	FAS-CPD
		ISD	GCB
		EUD	FAS-EUD, EUD-Coord
Cc:	OGOs	ASIO	Head, Officers
		ONA	Director-General, Officers



s 47 F(1)

udi.ch>
27/09/2007 11:15
AM

@banka

To s 22 1(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

cc

bcc

Subject FW: SOUVERENETE DE HUTT RIVER PRINCIPALITY
[SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Topic

TRIM File Ref

NO. 1

Chère Madame,

Suite à notre conversation téléphonique et pour votre information, vous trouverez ci-joints les pièces dont je vous parlais. Ces personnes souhaitaient ouvrir des comptes chez nous, ce que nous avons bien évidemment refusé !

Recevez mes sincères salutations,

s 47 F(1)

Private banking
Banque Audi (Suisse) SA
2, rue Massot
1211 Genève 12

-----Original Message-----

From: Sir s 47 F(1) Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs
[mailto:s 47 F(1),e-vice.minister@hutt-river.org]
Sent: mercredi, 26. septembre 2007 18:28
To: s 47 F(1)
Cc: s 47 F(1)
Subject: SOUVERENETE DE HUTT RIVER PRINCIPALITY

HUTT RIVER PRINCIPALITY-Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The Office of Vice-Minister

NO. 2

Cher Monsieur,

Pour éclairer votre service juridique concernant la souveraineté de la Principauté, je vous adresse quelques documents qui l'atteste.




Pourriez vous me confirmer que notre Rv du 4/10 est toujours possible avec s 47 F(1) en votre absence.

Meilleures salutations

Sirs 47 F(1)

s 47 F(1)

- > Banque Audi (Suisse) SA
- > 2, rue Massot
- > 1211 Genève 11
- >
- > Tél. : 00 41 22 704 11 11
- > fax : 00 41 22 704 11 00

 - Approbation consul general Benin.jpg  - HRP MAP AREA 002.jpg  -
Impots AU HRP Citizen 2.pdf

26 11 05 11:10

P. 1

NO. 3

REPUBLIQUE DU BENIN

SECRETARIAT GENERAL
DU GOUVERNEMENT

EXTRAIT DU RELEVÉ N° 46 DES DECISIONS
PRISES PAR LE CONSEIL DES MINISTRES EN
SA SEANCE DU MERCREDI 16 NOVEMBRE 2005

Ministre des Affaires étrangères et de l'intégration africaine

Communication n° 1334/05

Nomination d'un Consul général honoraire de la Principauté de Hutt River (Australie), au Bénin.

Approuvé.

Monsieur s 47 F(1) est nommé Consul général honoraire de la Principauté de Hutt River (Australie), au Bénin.

Il est demandé au *ministre des Affaires étrangères et de l'intégration africaine*, de notifier en temps opportun, cette décision du gouvernement béninois aux autorités de la Principauté de Hutt River en Australie et de veiller à sa bonne exécution.

Cotonou, le 17 novembre 2005

Le Secrétaire général du gouvernement



s 33(a)(iii)

Translation of E.mails & relevant attachment.

NO.1

From s 47 F(1) Audi Private Bank, Geneva, dated 27.09.2007
To s 22 1(a)(ii) Australian Consulate-General, Geneva

Subject: Sovereignty of Hut River Province.

Dear Madam,

Following our telephone conversation and your information, attached you will find the papers I spoke about. These persons wished to open accounts with us, which we obviously refused!

Please accept my sincere salutations.

s 47 F(1)
Private Banking
Audi Bank (Switzerland) SA
2 rue Massot
1211 Genève 12

NO.2

From Sir s 47 F(1) Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, dated 26.09.2007
To s 47 F(1)

Subject: Sovereignty of the Hut River Province

HUT RIVER PROVINCE - Ministry of Foreign Affairs / The Office of Vice-Minister

Dear Sir,

To enlighten your legal services concerning the Provinces' sovereignty, I forward some documents that attest to this.

Can you confirm to me that our appointment of 4 October is still possible with s 47 F(1) in your absence.

Best wishes,

Sir s 47 F(1)

Attachments Approval for (appointment of) Consul General to Benin / Hut River Province area map / Tax letter for citizens of Hut River Province.

NO. 3

Benin Republic.
Government's General Secretariat

Extract of article no. 46 of decisions take by the Council of Ministers at the meeting of Wednesday 16 November 2005.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and African Integration.

Communication No. 1334/05

Nomination of an Honorary Consul-General to the Hut River Province (Australia) in Benin.

Approved.

s 47 F(1) is named Honorary Consul General of the Hut River Province, (Australia) in Bénin.

It is requested of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and African Integration, to notify this decision of the Benin government to the authorities of the Hut River Province in Australia and to ensure it's good execution:

Signed at Cotonou, on 17 November 2005, by the Secretary General of the (Benin) government, s 33(a)(iii)

If undelivered, return to address below
 (or to address on envelope if barcoded)

PO BOX 422
 Parramatta NSW 2123

4,985
 09

5 OF 5

Australian
 Taxation
 Office



s 47 F(1)
 HUTT RIVER PROVINCE
 VIA
 NORTHAMPTON WA 6535

Your Tax File Number is
 s 47 F(1)

Date of Issue
 17 JAN 05

Sequence Number
 PAR s 47 F(1)

Income Tax Assessment Act 1936 and Income Tax Assessment Act 1997
REFUND NOTICE
 For the year ending 30 June 2003 (or substituted accounting period)

Your Taxable Income is nil		\$	0.00
Tax on Taxable Income	A		0.00
Balance of this Assessment	L		0.00
Other amounts refundable			746.86CR
Net amount refundable			746.86CR

***** Additional Information *****

You have been deemed to be a non-resident of Australia for income tax purposes - no tax-free threshold is available to non-residents.

If your residency status has changed, please read the information on residency in TaxPack.

Other amounts refundable includes -
 Income Tax - s 47 F(1) \$746.86CR

PLEASE SEE THE REVERSE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR ASSESSMENT.

Erin Holland
 Deputy Commissioner of Taxation

V1

This cheque is protected with an ultra violet fluorescent ink, which can be verified under an ultra violet light. The absence of this could indicate a fraudulent cheque.



AUSTRALIAN
 GOVERNMENT

Reserve Bank of Australia
 Sydney, NSW

Australian Taxation Office,
 Parramatta
 Official Drawing Account No. 1

Dollars						Cents
Hundred Thousands	Ten Thousands	Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Units	
*****	*****	*****	SEVEN	FOUR	SIX	86

NOT NEGOTIABLE
 A/C PAYEE ONLY

40289937 3
 17 JAN 05

\$ 746.86

PAY:

TO: s 47 F(1)

OR ORDER

PAR s 47 F(1)

s 22 (1)(a)(ii)

Endorsement of Payee.....

Signing Officer.....

GE621692L

Title: CONSULAR - INQUIRY ABOUT HUT RIVER PROVINCE
MRN: GE621692L 03/09/2007 03:49:19 PM CEDT
To: Canberra
Cc:
From: Geneva CG
From File: GE05/00/00393(22)
References:
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

For your information, Consulate received an inquiry from a Swiss bank concerning documents they received from the Hut River Province.

2. Audi Bank in Geneva requested clarification, because they had received documents from Hut River, including certified copies of Hut River passports which had been 'legalised' by the Hut River Province Consulate in Lagos Nigeria.

3. Consulate provided the bank with the text as per Admin. Circular P0044 of 20.02.1997.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: CONSULAR/Services and Policy

Canberra distribution

To:	DFAT	CPD	Crisis Cntr. AS-CNB, CNB, CEC, AS-CPB, CPB
Cc:	Ministry		Foreign Minister, Parl Sec Foreign Affairs, Foreign Min's Office
Cc:	DFAT	EXEC EXB CPD ISD EUD	Secretary, DepSec Spencer, DepSec Bird, DepSec Chester EAS FAS-CPD GCB FAS-EUD, EUD-Coord
Cc:	OGOs	ASIO ONA	Head, Officers Director-General, Officers

Title: Protocol : Hutt River Province - Representations in Thailand
MRN: BK554186L 18/04/2007 04:42:36 PM ZE7
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Phnom Penh, Rangoon, Vientiane
From: Bangkok
From File:
References:
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

s 47 F(1) a French-Algerian citizen, visited post on 15 March requesting we prepare a letter in 'Australian English.' He presented a 'diplomatic passport' from Hutt River Principality, for which he apparently paid a large sum of money, claiming to be 'Ambassador to Vietnam.' We declined to provide any assistance. Thai MFA subsequently informally notified post that s 47 F(1) apparently attempted to present credentials as 'Ambassador' of the abovementioned province to Thailand. We advised MFA, in accordance with Administrative Circular 0044, that the so-called 'Hutt River Province' is not recognised by the Australian Government. For information.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: CONSULAR/Services and Policy, LEGAL/Privileges & Immunities, PROTOCOL/Agreement & credentials

Canberra distribution

To:	DFAT	PRB CPD ILD	AS-PRB, PRB Crisis Cntr, AS-CNB, CNB, CEC, AS-CPB, CPB AS-DLB, DLB, AS-ILB, ILB
Cc:	Ministry		Prime Minister, PM's Office, Foreign Minister, Parl Sec Foreign Affairs, Foreign Min's Office, Trade Minister, Trade Min's Office
Cc:	DFAT	EXEC EXB CMD CPD ILD ISD SED OTN	Secretary, DepSec Grey, DepSec Spencer, DepSec Bird, DepSec Chester, DepSec Ritchie EAS FAS-CMD FAS-CPD FAS-ILD, Amba-Env, SLA GCB FAS-SED, AS-SNB, AS-SEB FAS-OTN, AS-TCB
Cc:	OGOs	AGS ASIO	Attorney-General, Minister Justice&Customs, Secretary, Officers Head, Officers

DFAT - DECLASSIFIED
FILE: 13/10648
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12

BK554186L

DOTARS	Deputy Prime Minister
NTAC	Head, Officers
ONA	Director-General, Officers
PMC	Secretary, AS-CER, CER, FAS-INT

Title: Press Summary: Denmark and Norway
MRN: CP650607L 27/03/2007 01:20:52 PM CEDT
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : EU Posts
From: Copenhagen
From File: CP05/50, CP05/56
References:
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

Over the past month there has been, quite unusually, a number of articles about Australia in the Danish and Norwegian press. Issues covered include political analysis, environmental topics and culture and human interest stories.

During the month there has been rash of articles in the press about Australia in Denmark and Norway. The range of topics has been broad. Following is a brief outline of the relevant articles.

s 22 1(a)(ii)

3 March Aftenposten (Norway) Six page Australian supplement in Saturday edition, with a life style/human interest focus - Australian wine, Pavlova and, reasonably accurately, the Hutt River Province.

s 22 1(a)(ii)

s 22 1(a)(ii)

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Topics: PUBLIC DIPLOMACY/Media

Canberra distribution

To:	DFAT	CPD	AS-IAB, IAB
Cc:	Ministry		Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, Parl Sec Foreign Affairs, Foreign Min's Office, Trade Minister, Trade Min's Office
Cc:	DFAT	EXEC	Secretary, DepSec Grey, DepSec Spencer, DepSec Bird, DepSec Chester, DepSec Ritchie
		EXB	AS-EXB
		GIB	AS-GIB, GIB
		CPD	FAS-CPD, AS-PMB, PMB
		ISD	GCB
		EUD	FAS-EUD, EUD-Coord
		TDD	FAS-TDD, AS-TAB, TAB
Cc:	OGOs	ASIO	Head, Officers
		DIO	Director, Officers
		DOTARS	Deputy Prime Minister
		FACSIA	Head OIPC, Officers OIPC
		NTAC	Head, Officers
		ONA	Director-General, Officers
		PMC	Secretary, AS-CER, FAS-INT, INT, FAS-NSD, NSD

PL1197H

Title: Seychelles : Hutt River Province
MRN: PL1197H 11/01/2007 03:29:48 PM ZE4
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Abuja, Accra, Harare, Nairobi, Pretoria
Ministers: Foreign Minister
From: Port Louis
From File:
References:
Response: Routine, Information Only

~~RESTRICTED~~

Summary

s 33(a)(iii) has sought our advice on recent approaches s 33(a)(iii) have received from the so called "Crown Prince" of Hutt Province. We have drawn on the guidance contained in Administrative Circular P0044 to briefs s 33(a)(iii) on the Australian Government position.

We (HOM) received a telephone call from s 33(a)(iii) on 11 January in relation to several approaches which both s 33(a)(iii) , have recently received by way of official correspondence from the "Hutt River Province". Additionally, an "emissary" of the "Crown Prince of Hutt Province" is currently in the Seychelles seeking high level meetings. We briefed s 33(a)(iii) on the Australian Government position by drawing on the helpful guidance provided in Administrative Circular P0044.

2. By way of background, s 33(a)(iii) advised us the initial contact was made following President Michel's successful re-election in July 2006. This was in the form of a congratulatory message from the "Crown Prince" of "Hutt River Province". The Seychelles authorities had responded in good faith to this message. In December 2006, s 33(a)(iii) then received a follow-up communication informing the Seychelles Government that "Hutt River Province" was keen to establish diplomatic relations with the Seychelles and would like to appoint an Ambassador. An "Emissary" of Italian origin then appeared in the Seychelles last week seeking to firm up this relationship. s 33(a)(iii) noted to us that, in response to s 33(a)(iii) professed ignorance of the existence of the "Hutt River Province", the Emissary explained to the s 33(a)(iii) that the Hutt River Province was similar in structure to the Sovereign Order of Malta, only it had a greater land mass. The "Emissary" also showed s 33(a)(iii) a copy of his passport and demonstrated that he had in fact entered the Seychelles on his "Hutt River" passport.

3. s 33(a)(iii) appreciated our guidance on this matter and advised us he would deal with the "Emissary" appropriately tomorrow, 12 January.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)

~~RESTRICTED~~

Approved by:
Topics: IMMIGRATION & ENTRY CONTROL/General, POLITICAL-ECONOMIC/Domestic Political,
PROTOCOL/General

Canberra distribution

To:	DFAT	PRB ILD SMD	AS-PRB, PRB AS-IOB AS-MAB, MAB
To:	OGOs	DIMA	Secretary, Managers, Officers
Cc:	Ministry		Prime Minister, PM's Office, Foreign Minister, Parl Sec Foreign Affairs, Foreign Min Advisers, Foreign Min's Office, Trade Minister, Trade Min Advisers, Trade Min's Office
Cc:	DFAT	EXEC EXB GIB CPD ILD ISD SMD OTN TDD	Secretary, Dep Sec Grey, DepSec Spencer, DepSec Bird, DepSec Chester, DepSec Ritchie AS-EXB AS-GIB, GIB FAS-CPD FAS-ILD, Amba-PSI, Amba-Env, AS-ENB, ENB, IOB FAS-ISD, DG-GCB, GCB, AS-STB, STB FAS-SMD FAS-OTN, AS-SSB, SSB, AS-TCB FAS-TDD, AS-APB, APB, AS-MDB, MDB
Cc:	OGOs	AFP AGS ASIO AUSAID CUSTOMS DEFENCE DIMA DIO DOTARS EFIC NSC NTAC ONA PMC PSCC	Commissioner, Officers Minister Justice&Customs, Secretary, Officers Head, Officers Director-General, ADG-ODE, ODE, DDG-CGR, DDG-GPD, DDG-PPI, ADG-FSI Head, Officers Minister Minister Director, Officers Deputy Prime Minister Head, Officers Head, Officers Head, Officers Director-General, Officers Secretary, AS-CER, CER, GOV, FAS-INT, INT, FAS- NSD, NSD, SOC Director, Officers

~~RESTRICTED~~

BI12193H

Title: Lebanon: HOM Call on Foreign Minister
MRN: BI12193H 08/05/2006 04:48:17 PM ZE2
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Abu Dhabi, Amman, Baghdad, Cairo, Kuwait City, London, Paris
EMB, Ramallah, Riyadh, Rome, Tehran, Tel Aviv, UN New York,
Washington
From: Beirut
From File:
References:
Response: Routine, Information Only

~~RESTRICTED~~

Summary
s 22 1(a)(ii)

HOM made a courtesy call on Minister of Foreign and Emigrant Affairs, Mr Fawzi Salloukh on 5 May. s 22 1(a)(ii)

s 22 1(a)(ii)

~~RESTRICTED~~

s 22 1(a)(ii)

4. On request of the Chief of Protocol following approaches to senior Lebanese Government ministers, including the Prime Minister, by a Lebanese citizen purporting to be the Ambassador to Hutt River Province and seeking accreditation, HOM advised that the Australian Government does not recognise in any way the "Hutt River Province", including representatives, titles and travel documents. HOM is reinforcing this message in meetings with other Ministers and senior officials, including in the security services.

text ends

Sent by: Lyndall Sachs
Prepared by: Lyndall Sachs
Approved by:
Topics: POLITICAL-ECONOMIC/Domestic Political

Canberra distribution

To:	DFAT	AED PMD FTA TF	AS-AMB, AMB, AS-EWB, EWB, AS-NSB, NSB PMD-Coord, AS-ITF, ITF, AS-MAB, MAB FAS-ATTF, FAS-CFTF, AS-FTAU, FTAU
Cc:	Ministry		Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, Parl Sec Foreign Affairs, Foreign Min's Office, Trade Minister, Parl Sec Trade, Trade Min's Office
Cc:	DFAT	EXEC EXB GIB PCD ILD ISD AED PMD OTN TDD FTA TF	Secretary, DepSec Spencer, DepSec Bird, DepSec Chester, DepSec Raby, DepSec Ritchie AS-EXB AS-GIB, GIB FAS-PCD FAS-ILD, Amba-Env, AS-ENB, ENB FAS-ISD, DG-GCB, GCB, AS-STB, STB FAS-AED FAS-PMD FAS-OTN, AS-TCB FAS-TDD, AS-APB, APB, AS-MDB, MDB ATTF, CFTF
Cc:	OGOs	AFP AGS AUSAID DEFENCE NTAC ONA PMC PSCC	Commissioner, Officers Secretary, Officers Director-General, DDG-CGR, DDG-GPD, DDG-PPI Minister Head, Officers Director-General, Officers Secretary, AS-CER, CER, FAS-INT, INT, FAS-NSD, NSD Director, Officers

~~RESTRICTED~~

VI631330L

Title: Hutt River Province: Austria
MRN: VI631330L 27/04/2006 10:59:40 AM CEDT
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Athens, Belgrade, Berlin, Budapest, Moscow, Stockholm, Warsaw, Zagreb
From: Vienna UN
From File:
References: CE525472L
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

As per reftel, on 13 February 2006 post sent Note Verbales to countries of accreditation informing them of our position on the status of the Hutt River Province. On 19 April 2006 post received a Note Verbale in reply from the Austrian MFA, stating that in 2001 Austria had received a request to recognise the Hutt River Province but a response had never been provided.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: LEGAL/Privileges & Immunities, PROTOCOL/General

ST10367H

Title: Stockholm: Monthly Priorities: February - March 2006
MRN: ST10367H 10/03/2006 03:56:57 PM CET
To: Canberra
Cc:
From: Stockholm
From File:
References:
Response: Routine, Information Only

~~RESTRICTED~~

Summary

s 22 1(a)(ii)

I. Priorities for March

REPORTING PRIORITIES

s 22 1(a)(ii)

PUBLIC AND CULTURAL DIPLOMACY

s 22 1(a)(ii)

ADMIN/FINANCE/PROPERTY

~~RESTRICTED~~

s 22 1(a)(ii)

CONSULAR/PASSPORTS

s 22 1(a)(ii)

STAFF MOVEMENTS

s 22 1(a)(ii)

SECURITY/COMMUNICATIONS

s 22 1(a)(ii)

VISITS

s 22 1(a)(ii)

II. Key activities for February

REPORTING PRIORITIES

s 22 1(a)(ii)

~~RESTRICTED~~

ST10367H

s 22 1(a)(ii)

representations to accredited countries on "Hutt River
Province"; s 22 1(a)(ii) made

PUBLIC AND CULTURAL DIPLOMACY

s 22 1(a)(ii)

ADMIN / FINANCE / PROPERTY

s 22 1(a)(ii)

CONSULAR / PASSPORTS

s 22 1(a)(ii)

STAFF MOVEMENTS

s 22 1(a)(ii)

~~RESTRICTED~~

s 22 1(a)(ii)

SECURITY/COMMUNICATIONS

s 22 1(a)(ii)

VISITS

s 22 1(a)(ii)

III. Per statistics for February 2006

s 22 1(a)(ii)

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: Embassy
Approved by: Rowe
Topics: STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT/General

~~RESTRICTED~~

CE526874L

Title: "Hutt River Province" Representative in Lebanon
MRN: CE526874L 09/03/2006 03:20:40 PM ZE10
To: Beirut
Cc:
From: Canberra (CHCH/DFAT/PMD/MAB)
From File:
References:
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

Further to emails s 22 1(a)(ii) of 7 February which advised s 47 F(1) appointed Hutt River Ambassador in Lebanon, post could draw on the material in Adminstrative Circular P0044, "Hutt River Province" and other purported "secessionist principalities", which includes suggested text to outline Australia's policy towards the Hutt River Province and help clarify its status.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Topics: PROTOCOL/Agreement & credentials

BE621228L

Title: Hutt River Province: Germany, Switzerland, Liechtenstein
MRN: BE621228L 16/02/2006 10:51:42 AM CET
To: Canberra
Cc:
From: Berlin
From File: BE06/00008
References: CE525472L
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

As requested, we have sent Third Person Notes outlining Australia's policy towards the Hutt River Province to the Foreign Ministries of Germany, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. Post has not received any inquiries on the Hutt River Province for a number of years.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: LEGAL/Privileges & Immunities, PROTOCOL/General

ST650404L

Title: Stockholm: Hutt River Province
MRN: ST650404L 14/02/2006 02:30:58 PM CET
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Athens, Belgrade, Berlin, Budapest, Moscow, Vienna UN, Warsaw, Zagreb
From: Stockholm
From File:
References: CE525472L
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

Post has contacted the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in our five accredited countries (Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) and passed on information regarding Australia's position on the "Hutt River Province".

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: LEGAL/Privileges & Immunities, PROTOCOL/General

MS621922L

Title: Hutt River Province - Moscow
MRN: MS621922L 14/02/2006 04:44:58 PM ZE3
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Athens, Belgrade, Berlin, Budapest, Moscow, Stockholm, Vienna UN,
Warsaw, Zagreb
From: Moscow
From File:
References: CE525472L
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Refer reftel, post has sent Third Person Notes to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of our accredited countries outlining Australia's policy towards the Hutt River Province, per advice in A/C P0044. Post is not aware of any Hutt River Province activities in any of our countries of accreditation.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: LEGAL/Privileges & Immunities, PROTOCOL/General

VI631053L

Title: Hutt River Province
MRN: VI631053L 14/02/2006 12:16:30 PM CET
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Athens, Belgrade, Berlin, Budapest, Moscow, Stockholm, Warsaw, Zagreb
From: Vienna UN
From File:
References: CE525472L
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

Further to reftel, post has forwarded Third Person Notes to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovakia and Slovenia on 14 February outlining Australia's policy towards the Hutt River Province. Post is not aware of any activities associated with the Hutt River Province in any of our countries of accreditation.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Topics: LEGAL/Privileges & Immunities, PROTOCOL/General

BT620243L

Title: Budapest: Hutt River Province
MRN: BT620243L 14/02/2006 10:28:09 AM CET
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Athens, Belgrade, Berlin, Budapest, Moscow, Stockholm, Vienna UN,
Warsaw, Zagreb
From: Budapest
From File:
References: CE525472L
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

As requested in reftel, post has forwarded Note Verbale to the Hungarian MFA on 10 February outlining Australia's policy towards the Hutt River Province (per advice in Admin. Circ P0044). Post is not aware of any activities currently being undertaken by Hutt River Province in Hungary.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: LEGAL/Privileges & Immunities, PROTOCOL/General

WS610396L

Title: Warsaw: Hutt River Province
MRN: WS610396L 13/02/2006 03:36:24 PM CET
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Athens, Belgrade, Berlin, Budapest, Moscow, Stockholm, Vienna UN,
Warsaw, Zagreb
From: Warsaw
From File:
References: CE525472L
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

As requested in reftel, post has forwarded Third Person Notes to the Polish and Czech Ministries of Foreign Affairs on 13 February outlining Australia's policy towards the Hutt River Province. Post is not aware of any activities being undertaken by representatives of the Hutt River Province in either Poland or the Czech Republic.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: LEGAL/Privileges & Immunities, PROTOCOL/General

ZG650733L

Title: Zagreb: Hutt River Province
MRN: ZG650733L 13/02/2006 12:47:00 PM CET
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : Athens, Belgrade, Berlin, Budapest, Moscow, Stockholm, Vienna UN,
Warsaw
From: Zagreb
From File:
References: CE525472L
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

The post has forwarded a Third Person Note (TPN) to the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 13 February outlining Australia's policy towards the Hutt River Province. We are not aware of any activities associated with the Hutt River Province in Croatia.

As requested in CE525472L, the post has despatched a Third Person Note (TPN) to the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) on 13 February outlining Australia's policy towards the Hutt River Province.

2. For information, the post is not aware of any activities of the 'Hutt River Province' in Croatia and has not received any enquiries in respect of the issue.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Topics: LEGAL/Privileges & Immunities, PROTOCOL/General

AT615723L

Title: Hutt River Province
MRN: AT615723L 13/02/2006 09:54:43 AM ZE2
To: Canberra
Cc:
From: Athens
From File:
References: CE525472L
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

Post has forwarded to the Governments of Albania and Bulgaria the advice requested in refel in relation to the activities of the "Hutt River Province".

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: LEGAL/Privileges & Immunities, PROTOCOL/General

CE525472L

Title: Hutt River Province
MRN: CE525472L 10/02/2006 03:31:05 PM ZE10
To: Athens; Belgrade; Berlin; Budapest; Moscow; Stockholm; Vienna UN;
Warsaw; Zagreb
Cc:
From: Canberra (CHCH/DFAT/PRB)
From File:
References:
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

A member of the Australian public has written to the Government about the activities of the "Hutt River Province" in Eastern Europe, particularly Slovakia. The letter claims the Hutt River Province is attempting to appoint Consuls and sell Hutt River Province Passports. Grateful if posts could contact Governments in countries of accreditation and, drawing on the material in Administrative Circular P0044 which includes suggested text, outline Australia's policy towards the Hutt River Province to help clarify its status.

This request has been cleared by PMI and ADL.

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: LEGAL/Privileges & Immunities, PROTOCOL/General

DFAT – DECLASSIFIED
FILE: 13/10648
COPY ISSUED UNDER FOI Act 1982

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BE620803L

Title: IAB: Monthly Media Report: Berlin - July 2005
MRN: BE620803L 02.08.2005 17:06:11 CEDT
To: Canberra
Cc: RR : EU Posts, Tokyo, Washington
Ministers: Parliamentary Sec. FA
From: Berlin
From File: BE05/00054
References:
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary

s 22 1(a)(ii)

s 22 1(a)(ii)

DFAT – DECLASSIFIED
FILE: 13/10648
COPY ISSUED UNDER FOI Act 1982

35

BE620803L

s 22 1(a)(ii)

s 22 1(a)(ii)

7. Miscellaneous:s 22 1(a)(ii)

at the "Hutt River Province"s 22 1(a)(ii)

The Berliner Zeitung took a look

s 22 1(a)(ii)

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Topics: PUBLIC DIPLOMACY/Media

BI643062L

Title: Beirut: Public Diplomacy: Annual Report 04/05
MRN: BI643062L 22/03/2005 02:21:02 AM
To: Canberra
Cc:
From: Beirut
From File: 600/2
References: CE509150L, CE500867L, BI642718L
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

s 22 1(a)(ii)

B. ISSUES MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC ADVOCACY

s 22 1(a)(ii)

Post wrote to the editor of the major French language paper in Lebanon after it published a misleading article on Hutt River Province and succeeded in having the Australian Government's view recorded in a subsequent edition.

C. MAJOR ACTIVITIES

s 22 1(a)(ii)

text ends

Sent by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Prepared by: s 22 1(a)(ii)
Approved by:
Topics: CONSULAR/Services and Policy, PUBLIC DIPLOMACY/General

DFAT - DECLASSIFIED
FILE: 13/10648
COPY ISSUED UNDER FOI Act 1982

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BI621828

Title: Lebanon: Political and Economic Developments: April 2004
MRN: BI621828 07/05/2004 12:36:23 AM
To: CANBERRA (RR)
Cc: RR : ABU DHABI (RR), AMMAN (RR), BAGHDAD (RR), CAIRO (RR),
LONDON (RR), RAMALLAH (RR), RIYADH (RR), TEHRAN (RR),
TEL AVIV (RR), WASHINGTON (RR)
From: BEIRUT
From File:
References: BI5911, BI5912, BI621560
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM FILE: 410/2

START OF SUMMARY

s 22 1(a)(ii)

END OF SUMMARY

s 22 1(a)(ii)

s 22 1(a)(ii)

s 22 1(a)(ii)

Press Coverage of Australia (Underline)

8. The Lebanese French daily, L'Orient Le Jour, published an article on Hutt River Province featuring an interview with the province's "Ambassador" to Lebanon in the lead up to "independence day". The article implied Australian Government acceptance of the province's self-declared independence. The Embassy wrote to both the paper and the Foreign Ministry explaining the Government's policy. This clarification was subsequently published in the paper.

MD. 447CF6C5A93FDC431166367C7AE4BE9589F2

text ends

Sent by:

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Topics:

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN AFFS & TDE

INFO: PRIME MINISTER MIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MINISTER FOR TRADE PARL SEC TRADE MIN

MIN IND+TOURISM+RES MIN DEFENCE

AUSTRADE DEP AG FISH & FORESTRY

ASIO (C) DEP COMS IT & ARTS

DEP DEFENCE DIO

DEP FAMILY & COMM SVCS DEP IMMG MC & INDIG AFFAIRS

DEP P M AND CABINET ONA

DEP TSPT & REG SVCS DEP TREASURY

+++

ACTION: AS-MAB

INFO: SEC DEPSEC-HEWITT DEPSEC-RABY DEPSEC-MCLEAN

DEPSEC-CHESTER FOREIGN-MIN-OFFICE AS-EXB EXB SWS

FAS-AED AS-AMB AMB AS-EWB EWB AS-NSB FAS-NAD CHINA FTA-TF

AS-EAB FAS-PMD MAB AS-PIB AS-PZB IRAQ-TF FAS-SED AS-MRB

AS-MSB FAS-ILD SLA AMB-PSI AS-LGB LGB AS-IOB IOB

FAS-TDD ASIA-TTF AS-TAB AS-MDB MDB AS-APB FAS-OTN

SN-FTA SN-AGR AS-TLB TLB AS-SSB SSB AS-TIB TIB AS-AGB

FAS-ISD AMB-CT AS-ACB AS-ATB AS-STB STB AS-GCB DG-ASNO

AS-ASNO FAS-PCD AS-PMB IAB IMC AS-CNB CNB ATS REC

QLD-STATE-OFFICE NSW-STATE-OFFICE TAS-STATE-OFFICE

DDG(ACR) ETHR DDG(PGP) OREE PML

PA12029

Title: France: Monthly Media Summary December 2003: Paris Emb
MRN: PA12029 01/01/2004 12:54:38 AM
To: CANBERRA (PP)
Cc: PP : EU POSTS (RR), NOUMEA (RR)
From: PARIS EMB
From File:
References:
Response: Priority, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

START OF SUMMARY

s 22 1(a)(ii)

END OF SUMMARY

s 22 1(a)(ii)

5. The 26 December edition of "Le Monde" featured a full-page but essentially benign Therin article on the "Hutt River Province",

including its history of legal action against Australian and Western
Australian authorities during the 1970s.

s 22 1(a)(ii)

s 22 1(a)(ii)

MD. EF306E255F83CC43995BCFFF4534C0FED02C

text ends

Sent by:
Prepared by:
Approved by:
Topics:

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN AFFS & TDE
INFO: PRIME MINISTER MIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR TRADE PARL SEC FOREIGN AFF
MIN DEFENCE ASIO (C)
DEP DEFENCE DIO
OATSIA DEP IND TOURISM & RES
DEP P M AND CABINET ONA

+++

ACTION: AS-EWB
AS-IAB

INFO: SEC DEPSEC-HEWITT DEPSEC-RABY DEPSEC-OSULLIVAN
DEPSEC-CHESTER FOREIGN-MIN-OFFICE AS-EXB SWS AEU
FAS-AED AS-AMB EWB AS-NSB FAS-NAD FAS-PMD AS-PIB PIB
FAS-ILD SLA AMB-PSI AS-LGB LGB IOB FAS-TDD ASIA-TTF
AS-TAB AS-MDB FAS-OTN SN-FTA AS-TLB AS-SSB SSB AS-TIB
FAS-ISD AMB-CT AS-ACB AS-ATB ATB OSC AS-STB STB AS-GCB
FAS-PCD AS-PMB IAB IMC NSW-STATE-OFFICE VIC-STATE-OFFICE

BE602389

Title: IMAGES OF AUSTRALIA: MONTHLY MEDIA REPORT:
BERLIN: APRIL 2003
MRN: BE602389 03/05/2003 03:11:32 PM
To: CANBERRA (RR)
Cc: RR : EUROPE POSTS (RR)
From: BERLIN
From File:
References:
Response: Routine, Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

START OF SUMMARY

s 22 1(a)(ii)

END OF SUMMARY

s 22 1(a)(ii)

s 22 1(a)(ii)

9. MAJOR TRAVEL REPORTS INCLUDED s 22 1(a)(ii)
SUBSTANTIAL ARTICLES IN FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE
ZEITUNG ON THE MARGARET RIVER AREA AND THE SO-CALLED HUTT RIVER
PROVINCE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA. s 22 1(a)(ii)

MD. 5DBD4B076AA3E2C8C69F5B970DF9DE9D8DD4

text ends

Sent by:

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Topics:

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN AFFS & TDE

INFO: PRIME MINISTER MIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MINISTER FOR TRADE PARL SEC FOREIGN AFF

MIN DEFENCE DEP AG FISH & FORESTRY

ASIO (C) DEP DEFENCE

DIO DEP IMMIG MC & INDIG AFFAIRS

OATSIA DEP P M AND CABINET

ONA +++

ACTION: AS-EWB

AS-PMB

AS-IAB

DFAT - DECLASSIFIED
FILE: 13/10648
COPY ISSUED UNDER FOI Act 1982

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BE602389

INFO: SEC DEPSEC-GREY DEPSEC-RABY DEPSEC-OSULLIVAN
DEPSEC-VARGHESE FOREIGN-MIN-OFFICE AS-EXB SWS FAS-AED
AS-AMB EWB AS-NSB NSB FAS-NAD IRAQ-TF FAS-ILD SLA
AMB-PSI AS-LGB LGB AS-IOB IOB FAS-TDD ASIA-TTF AS-TAB
AS-MDB FAS-OTN SN-FTA AS-TLB TLB AS-SSB SSB AS-TIB
AS-AGB AGB FAS-ISD AMB-CT AS-ATB ATB OSC AS-STB STB
AS-GCB FAS-PCD PMB IAB IMC NSW-STATE-OFFICE
VIC-STATE-OFFICE

CH867794

Title: BEIRUT: "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" - SALE OF CITIZENSHIP
AND
MRN: CH867794 31/01/2002 06:04:21 PM
To: BEIRUT (RR)
Cc: : ABU DHABI (RR), AMMAN (RR), ANKARA (RR), ATHENS (RR),
CAIRO (RR), PARIS EMB (RR), RIYADH (RR), TEHRAN (RR)
From: CANBERRA
From File:
References: BI609869, BI609782
Response: , Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

PASSPORTS

FROM FILE 92/013961-04

START OF SUMMARY

THE HUTT RIVER PROVINCE IS NOT RECOGNISED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT - LEGALLY OR IN ANY OTHER WAY. DOCUMENTS PURPORTING TO BE "PASSPORTS" ISSUED BY THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" ARE SIMILARLY NOT RECOGNISED AS VALID TRAVEL DOCUMENTS BY AUSTRALIA. CABLE PROVIDES BACKGROUND ON THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" AND THE OVERSEAS ACTIVITIES OF THOSE PURPORTING TO BE ITS REPRESENTATIVES.

END OF SUMMARY

REFTELS REPORTED THE SALE IN LEBANON OF "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" 'PASSPORTS' AND 'CITIZENSHIP' DOCUMENTS BY A LEBANESE RESIDENT, MR
s 47 F(1) PURPORTING TO BE THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE CONSUL-GENERAL" IN BEIRUT (WE UNDERSTAND THAT FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH POST, s 47 F(1) HAS SINCE STOPPED DOING SO). POST SOUGHT ADVICE ON AUSTRALIA'S POSITION REGARDING THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" AND THE OVERSEAS ACTIVITIES OF THOSE PURPORTING TO BE ITS REPRESENTATIVES.

2. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT/NOT RECOGNISE THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE", EITHER LEGALLY OR IN ANY OTHER WAY. THE AREA OF LAND WHICH IS DESCRIBED AS THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" IS IN FACT A PRIVATELY-OWNED WHEAT-GROWING PROPERTY NORTH OF PERTH IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA. IT HAS NO SPECIAL STATUS UNDER AUSTRALIAN LAW AND REMAINS SUBJECT TO THE AUSTRALIAN CONSTITUTION AND ALL FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS.

3. THE OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY SELL SOUVENIRS AND OTHER 'NOVELTY' ITEMS, SUCH AS "STAMPS" AND "LEGAL TENDER", WHICH TRADE ON THE PROPERTY'S NOTORIETY. THOSE PURPORTING TO BE OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" HAVE ALSO BEEN CONNECTED WITH SCHEMES TO SELL "PASSPORTS", "CITIZENSHIP", "CONSULAR APPOINTMENTS", "LEGAL TENDER" AND "ROYAL TITLES". THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RECOGNISE THESE "TITLES", "APPOINTMENTS", "PASSPORTS" OR "CURRENCY" AS HAVING ANY VALIDITY IN LAW.

4. WE CONCUR WITH POST'S ACTIONS IN BRINGING AUSTRALIA'S POSITION ON

CH867794

THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" TO THE ATTENTION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS ACCREDITED TO LEBANON. SUCH ACTIONS HAVE PROVED SUCCESSFUL IN DISPELLING CONFUSION AND CURTAILING "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" ACTIVITIES IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

5. IN YOUR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, YOU SHOULD DRAW FROM THE FOLLOWING TEXT (ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR P0044 OF 20 FEBRUARY 1997 REFERS):

TEXT BEGINS

THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RECOGNISE THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE", LEGALLY OR IN ANY OTHER WAY.

THE AREA OF LAND WHICH IS DESCRIBED AS THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" IS A PRIVATELY-OWNED WHEAT-GROWING PROPERTY ON THE HUTT RIVER, NORTH OF GERALDTON IN THE STATE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA. IT HAS NO SPECIAL STATUS UNDER AUSTRALIAN LAW. IT HAS NO SEPARATE SOVEREIGNTY AND REMAINS SUBJECT TO THE AUSTRALIAN CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF AUSTRALIA.

FOLLOWING FROM ITS POLICY OF NOT RECOGNISING THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE", THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RECOGNISE THE "ROYAL TITLES" (EG. "PRINCE") NOR TITLES OF OFFICE, SUCH AS "HEAD OF STATE", "STATE MINISTER" AND "MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS" ASSUMED BY THE FAMILY OWNING THE PROPERTY. NOR DOES THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT RECOGNISE THE USE OF TERMS SUCH AS "CONSULATES" AND "PRINCIPALITY" IN RELATION TO THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE".

DOCUMENTS PURPORTING TO BE "PASSPORTS" ISSUED BY THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" ARE NOT RECOGNISED AS VALID TRAVEL DOCUMENTS BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT.

TEXT ENDS.

MD. F514F6A80DC4E54AA475F508073F98A5BF43

XC. O.CH867794

CM. s 22 1(a)(ii)

text ends

Sent by:
Prepared by:
Approved by:
Topics:

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN AFFS & TDE

ASIO (C)

AUST FEDERAL POLICE

AUST CUSTOMS SERVICE

DEP IMMIG MC & INDIG AFFAIRS

PRIME MINISTER MIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR TRADE
MIN IMM+MC+INDIG AFFS DEP ATTORNEY GENERAL NAT SURVEILLANCE
CTR

AG-PSCC DEP P M AND CABINET ONA

+++

ACTION: MAB

IOB

SEC DEPSEC-GREY DEPSEC-FAYLE DEPSEC-THOMAS DEPSEC-
RITCHIE MIN(A)

MIN(B) MIN(F) EXB FAS(AED) AMB CLC USS EUB NWS CES EUS

FAS(PMD) MEA FAS(ILD) HRI PRT LGB ADL INL FAS(PCD) CNB CCU

CON CMS PTB POS PST

BI609869

Title: SALE OF "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE CITIZENSHIP AND
PASSPORTS"
MRN: BI609869 29/01/2002 02:54:37 AM
To: CANBERRA (RR)
Cc: : ABU DHABI (RR), AMMAN (RR), ANKARA (RR), ATHENS (RR),
CAIRO (RR), PARIS EMB (RR), RIYADH (RR), TEHRAN (RR)
From: BEIRUT
From File:
References: BI609223, BI609754, BI609782
Response: , Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

START OF SUMMARY

A SENIOR MEMBER OF THE LEBANESE SECURITY SERVICE AND A JUDGE HAVE RAISED
QUESTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH POSSIBLE PROSECUTION OF THE (NOW FORMER)
HUTT
RIVER PROVINCE CONSUL-GENERAL IN LEBANON. THIS MATTER IS CONTINUING TO
OCCASION EMBARRASSMENT BECAUSE HOLDERS OF HRP PASSPORTS IN LEBANON BELIEVE
THEY ARE AUTOMATICALLY ENTITLED TO ENTER AUSTRALIA. THE POST SEEKS GUIDANCE
ON APPROPRIATE RESPONSES.

END OF SUMMARY

FURTHER TO OUR EARLIER CABLES, A LEBANESE JUDGE AND A COLONEL OF THE
NATIONAL SECURITY SERVICE WITH INTERESTS IN PROSCRIBING THE ISSUANCE
OF HRP
PASSPORTS CIRCULATING IN BEIRUT HAVE ASKED THE EMBASSY FOR GUIDANCE IN
TERMS OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

IS THERE A PLACE IN AUSTRALIA KNOWN AS THE HUTT RIVER PROVINCE?
DOES LEONARD CASLEY (AKA PRINCE LEONARD) EXIST?
ARE EITHER THE HUTT RIVER PROVINCE OR LEONARD CASLEY ISSUING DOCUMENTS,
EG
CITIZENSHIP OR PASSPORTS, IN THE NAME OF THE PROVINCE? IS THIS ACTIVITY
CONSIDERED ILLEGAL?
IS IT OCCURRING WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT?
IS THE GOVERNMENT PERMITTING SUCH DOCUMENTS TO BE CARRIED OUT OF AUSTRALIA
BY COURIER?
ARE HRP PASSPORTS REGARDED AS ILLEGAL (AS DISTINCT FROM 'DECEPTIVE'
)
DOCUMENTS?
HAS THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TAKEN ACTION IN RESPECT OF HRP PUBLICITY,
EG
CLAIMS ON ITS VARIOUS WEBSITES?
HAS THE GOVERNMENT TAKEN ACTION AGAINST THE PUTATIVE SECESSION OF THE
HUTT

RIVER PROVINCE FROM AUSTRALIA? IF NOT, CAN THIS POSITION BE TAKEN TO IMPLY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ACCORDS DE FACTO RECOGNITION TO THE PROVINCE'S SOVEREIGNTY?

2. THE LEBANESE VIEW IS THAT, IF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT IS PERMITTING (IN THE BROADEST SENSE OF THE WORD) THE HRP TO EXIST AND TO SELL CITIZENSHIP/PASSPORTS ABROAD, THE NATIONAL LEGAL SYSTEM WOULD BE HARD PRESSED TO SHUT DOWN THE CURRENT SCAM.

3. LOCAL AUTHORITIES SYMPATHETIC TO AUSTRALIA HAVE STRESSED THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE WILL BE DONE TO PROSCRIBE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HRP IN LEBANON. HOWEVER, ENFORCING AND POLICING SUCH A BAN WILL BE DIFFICULT IF 'PRINCE LEONARD' NOMINATES A REPLACEMENT CONSUL-GENERAL IN LEBANON WITH IMPUNITY.

4. THE POST WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR GUIDANCE, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE QUESTIONS POSED, AS TO HOW TO TREAT THE ISSUE OF THE HRP'S ACTIVITIES IN LEBANON. THE MATTER CONTINUES TO OCCASION EMBARRASSMENT BECAUSE HOLDERS OF HRP PASSPORTS BELIEVE THEY ARE AUTOMATICALLY ENTITLED TO ENTER AUSTRALIA.

MD. 411461457856A8AF21CC3785E68C4E4557DB

XC. O.B1609869

CM. s 22 1(a)(ii)

text ends

Sent by:
Prepared by:
Approved by:
Topics:

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN AFFS & TDE

ASIO (C)

AUST FEDERAL POLICE

AUST CUSTOMS SERVICE

DEP IMMG MC & INDIG AFFAIRS

PRIME MINISTER MIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR TRADE

MIN IMM+MC+INDIG AFFS DEP ATTORNEY GENERAL NAT SURVEILLANCE
CTR

AG-PSCC DEP P M AND CABINET ONA

+++

ACTION: MAB

IOB

SEC DEPSEC-GREY DEPSEC-FAYLE DEPSEC-THOMAS DEPSEC-
RITCHIE MIN(A)

MIN(B) MIN(F) EXB FAS(AED) AMB CLC USS EUB NWS CES EUS

FAS(PMD) MEA FAS(ILD) HRI PRT LGB ADL INL FAS(PCD) CNB CCU

CON CMS PTB POS PST

B1609782

Title: SALE OF "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" CITIZENSHIP AND
PASSPORTS
MRN: B1609782 22/01/2002 10:22:24 PM
To: CANBERRA (RR)
Cc: : ABU DHABI (RR), AMMAN (RR), ANKARA (RR), ATHENS (RR),
BERLIN (RR), BRUSSELS (RR), CAIRO (RR), PARIS EMB (RR),
RIYADH (RR), TEHRAN (RR)
From: BEIRUT
From File:
References: B1609223, B1609754
Response: , Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

START OF SUMMARY

THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE CONSUL-GENERAL IN LEBANON" HAS NOW RELINQUISHED HIS POST. WE BELIEVE THE SCAM, THAT HAD LED TO SOME LEBANESE CITIZENS PAYING THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS US FOR "CITIZENSHIP" AND "PASSPORTS" AND THEN DEMANDING VISAS TO AUSTRALIA, HAS EFFECTIVELY BEEN STOPPED. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR.

END OF SUMMARY

1. THE "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" (HRP) "CONSUL-GENERAL IN LEBANON", s 47 F(1) HAS WRITTEN TO THE HRP'S REPRESENTATIVE IN FRANCE RELINQUISHING HIS ROLE AND RETURNING HIS HRP "DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT". A COPY OF THE LETTER HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO PMOC AND ONFORWARDED TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATING THE MATTER. WE BELIEVE THIS DEVELOPMENT WAS A DIRECT RESULT OF DIALOGUE WITH AUTHORITIES OVER GROWING EMBARRASSMENT TO THE EMBASSY, ARISING FROM THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HRP IN BEIRUT, AND A MEETING WITH s 47 F(1) ON 17 JANUARY.
2. THE REMOVAL OFS 47 F(1) FROM THE HRP'S NETWORK IN EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST SHOULD CURTAIL THE SALE OF HRP DOCUMENTS IN LEBANON AND THE FACILITY OF MIDDLEMEN TO EXTORT THE HUGE SUMS (UP TO US DOLLARS 6,000 FOR A SINGLE "PASSPORT") REPORTED TO THIS OFFICE.
3. PROSCRIPTION OF THIS ACTIVITY SHOULD ALSO PUT AN END TO HRP "PASSPORT" HOLDERS DEMANDING VISAS TO AUSTRALIA OR ELSEWHERE.
4. IT IS POSSIBLE THE SECURITY AUTHORITIES WILL PRESS AHEAD WITH THEIR OWN ENQUIRIES AND ULTIMATELY PROSECUTE s 47 F(1) OR OTHERS IN LEBANON FOR OBTAINING MONEY BY DECEIT.
5. AS FAR AS WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ASCERTAIN, THE HRP'S ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION HAVE, IN THIS CASE, BEEN LIMITED TO LEBANON. HOWEVER, s 47 F(1) TOLD PMOC HE UNDERSTOOD THE HRP "AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE" WAS EAGER TO EXPLORE OTHER MARKETS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

s 33(a)(iii)

BI609782

s 33(a)(iii)

MD. 35D2EC357C4599283938F9CC363786FF640D

XC. O. BI609782

CM. s 22 1(a)(ii)

text ends

Sent by:
Prepared by:
Approved by:
Topics:

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN AFFS & TDE

AUST CUSTOMS SERVICE

DEP IMMG MC & INDIG AFFAIRS

PRIME MINISTER MIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR TRADE

MIN IMM+MC+INDIG AFFS DEP ATTORNEY GENERAL ASIO (C)

AUST FEDERAL POLICE NAT SURVEILLANCE CTR AG-PSCC

DEP P M AND CABINET ONA +++

ACTION: MAB

IOB

SEC DEPSEC-GREY DEPSEC-FAYLE DEPSEC-THOMAS DEPSEC-
RITCHIE MIN(A)

MIN(B) MIN(F) EXB FAS(AED) AMB CLC USS EUB NWS CES EUS

FAS(PMD) MEA FAS(ILD) HRI PRT LGB ADL INL FAS(PCD) CNB CCU

CON CMS PTB POS PST

BI609754

Title: LEBANON - SALE OF "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE PASSPORTS"
MRN: BI609754 18/01/2002 06:42:54 AM
To: CANBERRA (RR)
Cc: : ABU DHABI (RR), AMMAN (RR), ANKARA (RR), ATHENS (RR),
BERLIN (RR), BRUSSELS (RR), CAIRO (RR), PARIS EMB (RR),
RIYADH (RR), TEHRAN (RR)
From: BEIRUT
From File:
References:
Response: , Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

O.BI609223OF 21 NOVEMBER 2001 REFERS.

START OF SUMMARY

HOLDERS OF 'HUTT RIVER PROVINCE PASSPORTS' AND 'CITIZENSHIP CERTIFICATES' CONTINUE TO APPROACH THE POST SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT VISAS FOR AUSTRALIA. EXTENSIVE ENQUIRIES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCIES, HAVE LED TO THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE 'PROVINCE'S' AGENT IN LEBANON. IN A MEETING TODAY PMOC REITERATED THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO RECOGNISE EITHER THE PROVINCE OR ITS PASSPORTS CIRCULATING IN LEBANON. THE AGENT NOW UNDERSTANDS THE EMBASSY'S POSITION AND HAS UNDERTAKEN TO WRITE TO PURCHASERS EXPLAINING THAT THE DOCUMENTS ARE NOT VALID.

END OF SUMMARY

1. PMOC HAS PURSUED THIS MATTER WITH LEBANESE MFA AND NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCIES, IN PARTICULAR BECAUSE OF THE EMBARRASSMENT TO AUSTRALIA IN BEING SEEN TO CONDONE THE 'HUTT RIVER PROVINCE'S' (HRP'S) ACTIVITIES IN LEBANON AND MISINFORMATION BEING PEDALLED ABOUT THE 'RIGHT' OF HOLDERS OF HRP DOCUMENTS TO BE GRANTED AUSTRALIAN VISAS.
2. THE ORGANISER OF THE HRP'S ACTIVITIES IN LEBANON, s 47 F(1) BORN LEBANON s 47 F(1), A RETIRED CUSTOMS OFFICIAL FROM THE BE KAA VALLEY, WAS IDENTIFIED BY POLICE AND SELF-REFERRED FOR INTERVIEW BY PMOC TODAY. s 47 F(1) CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY SECURITY OFFICIALS AND CLAIMED HE WANTED TO 'CLARIFY' HIS ROLE IN ACQUIRING HRP DOCUMENTS FOR LEBANESE CITIZENS. s 47 F(1) FURNISHED A HRP 'DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT' (NO. 17, ISSUED 21 JUNE 2001) THAT DESCRIBED HIM AS 'CONSUL-GENERAL IN LEBANON'. s 47 F(1) CLAIMED HE WORKED UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE HRP AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, A MR s 47 F(1) A FRIEND. HOWEVER THE LATTER HAS NEVER SOUGHT ACCREDITATION IN LEBANON. s 47 F(1) CLAIMED HIS OWN LETTERS OF CREDENTIAL WERE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING SENT FROM THE HRP. HE ALSO FURNISHED A FAX FROM 'PRINCE LEONARD' AUTHORISING HIM TO CHARGE A DOLLARS US1,200 'FEE' FOR CITIZENSHIP AND PASSPORT ISSUE, PLUS COURIER (DOLLARS US42) AND CURRENCY EXCHANGE (DOLLARS US130) CHARGES. s 47 F(1) WAS AWARE SOME INDIVIDUALS IN BEIRUT HAD PAID UP TO DOLLARS US5,000 FOR HRP PASSPORTS, BUT ASSERTED THESE HAD BEEN ACQUIRED THROUGH MIDDLEMEN WHO HAD PROMOTED HRP CITIZENSHIP IN LEBANON BUT GROSSLY INFLATED THE FEES.

3. WE UNDERSTAND THE MFA HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY DOCUMENTATION FROM THE HRP AND DOUBT THE MINISTRY WOULD DO OTHER THAN REFUSE TO RECOGNISE THEM, IN THE EVENT THEY WERE RECEIVED. WE WILL FOLLOW UP EARLIER WRITTEN ADVICE TO THE MFA AND EMBASSIES IN BEIRUT CONCERNING THE MATTER.

4. PMOC REITERATED THAT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RECOGNISE THE HRP OR (EX POST FACTO) PASSPORTS OR CITIZENSHIP DOCUMENTS IN ITS NAME.

s 47 F(1) CLAIMED HRP 'PASSPORTS' WERE NOT FORGERIES, IN THE STRICT SENSE OF THE WORD, HOWEVER PMOC POINTED OUT THAT THEY WERE 'DECEPTIVE' BECAUSE THEY CARRIED WORDS SUCH AS 'PASSPORT' AND 'INDEPENDENT SOVEREIGN STATE', ADJACENT TO ONE ANOTHER AND THAT THEY WERE BEING SOLD AS LEGITIMATE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS OF A GENUINE STATE.

5. IN A BIZARRE DEVELOPMENT, s 47 F(1) TABLED A COPY OF WHAT APPEARED TO BE A VERY HIGHLY CLASSIFIED, UNDATED (POSSIBLY WRITTEN IN 1989), 'DEPARTMENT OF TERRITORIES' MINISTERIAL BRIEFING REGARDING THE HRP. THE ALLEGED BRIEFING (WHICH SHOWED SIGNS OF HAVING BEEN REMOVED FROM A LEVER ARCH FILE) INDICATED THE HRP WAS CONSIDERED A LEGAL ENTITY AND THAT ITS 'PASSPORTS' WERE VALID. PMOC REITERATED THAT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DID NOT RECOGNISE THE HRP, LEGALLY OR IN ANY OTHER WAY. HOWEVER THE FACT THAT THE HRP IS EQUIPPING ITS REPRESENTATIVES WITH SUCH AN INSTRUMENT IS OF REAL CONCERN AND POSSIBLY CONTRAVENES THE OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT.

6. LEBANESE AUTHORITIES APPEAR BEMUSED BY THE FACT THAT THE HRP APPEARS STILL TO BE TOLERATED BY THE AUSTRALIAN AUTHORITIES. SOME OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD PMOC ITS CONTINUED EXISTENCE IS BEING INTERPRETED IN SOME QUARTERS AS DE FACTO RECOGNITION.

7. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTERVIEW, s 47 F(1) UNDERTOOK TO WRITE TO ALL HRP 'PASSPORT' GRANTEES AND ADVISE THEM THAT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT RECOGNISES NEITHER THE HRP NOR ITS CITIZENSHIP OR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS. WE HAVE BEEN PROMISED A COPY. HOWEVER, WE FULLY EXPECT LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO PURSUE s 47 F(1) ACTIVITIES WITH A VIEW TO PROSCRIBING HIS HRP ROLE IN LEBANON.

MD. 8C6AA3827A4120F7949A662BD929E6FC18B8

XC. O.BI609754

CM. s 22 1(a)(ii)

text ends

Sent by:
Prepared by:
Approved by:
Topics:

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN AFFS & TDE

AUST CUSTOMS SERVICE

DEP IMMIG MC & INDIG AFFAIRS

PRIME MINISTER MIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR TRADE
MIN IMM+MC+INDIG AFFS DEP ATTORNEY GENERAL ASIO (C)
AUST FEDERAL POLICE NAT SURVEILLANCE CTR AG-PSCC
DEP P M AND CABINET ONA +++

ACTION: MAB

IOB

SEC DEPSEC-GREY DEPSEC-FAYLE DEPSEC-THOMAS DEPSEC-
RITCHIE MIN(A)

MIN(B) MIN(F) EXB FAS(AED) EUB NWS CES EUS FAS(PMD) MEA

FAS(ILD) HRI PRT LGB INL FAS(PCD) CNB PTB

B1609223

Title: LEBANON - FRAUDULENT SALE OF "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE
PASSPORTS"
MRN: B1609223 22/11/2001 07:47:36 AM
To: CANBERRA (RR)
Cc: : ABU DHABI (RR), AMMAN (RR), ANKARA (RR), ATHENS (RR),
BERLIN (RR), BRUSSELS (RR), CAIRO (RR), COPENHAGEN (RR),
LONDON (RR), OTTAWA (RR), PARIS EMB (RR), RIYADH (RR),
TEHRAN (RR), THE HAGUE (RR), WASHINGTON (RR)
From: BEIRUT
From File:
References:
Response: , Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED UPDATE

AND AUSTRALIAN VISA SERVICES

START OF SUMMARY

WE HAVE BECOME AWARE OF A NEW SCAM INVOLVING "HUTT RIVER PROVINCE
PASSPORTS" AND THE FRAUDULENT PROFFERING OF AUSTRALIAN VISA SERVICES
IN BEIRUT. THE DOCUMENTS ARE BEING USED TO OBTAIN VISAS AND AIRLINE
TICKETS TO DESTINATIONS THAT REQUIRE TRANSITS THROUGH WESTERN CITIES.
PMOC IS LIAISING WITH LEBANESE AUTHORITIES REGARDING SPECIFIC
ALLEGATIONS AND PROVIDING ADVICE TO EMBASSIES RECEIVING THE DOCUMENTS
IN CONNECTION WITH TRAVEL PLANS. MAJOR CARRIERS HAVE ALSO BEEN
NOTIFIED.

END OF SUMMARY

FOR AS, UNAUTHORISED ARRIVALS AND DETENTION BRANCH, BORDER PROTECTION
BRANCH, INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION BRANCH, DIMA, DFAT, AFP, ASIO

1. WE HAVE BECOME AWARE THAT DOCUMENTS ISSUED IN THE NAME OF THE
"HUTT RIVER PROVINCE" ARE CIRCULATING IN BEIRUT AND ARE BEING USED
BY THE BEARERS TO SEEK (AND IN SOME CASES, OBTAIN) VISAS FOR OTHER
COUNTRIES. s 33(a)(iii)

2. THE AMBASSADOR HAS ALSO BEEN GIVEN INFORMATION ABOUT "HUTT
RIVER PROVINCE" DOCUMENTS FOR SALE IN THE ORDER OF USD8,000. THE
ALLEGATIONS ARE BEING INVESTIGATED.

3. IT IS ALLEGED THE VENDORS OF THESE SERVICES ALSO OFFER TO
PROCURE AUSTRALIAN TRANSIT VISAS FOR TRAVEL TO THE "HUTT RIVER
PROVINCE". ONE INFORMATION SOURCE INDICATED HE WAS TOLD THE
"AGENT" IN DORA, A LEBANESE SUBURB, WOULD MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH
IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA WHO WOULD, IN TURN,
FACILITATE A MEETING WITH THE AMBASSADOR IN BEIRUT TO FINALISE VISA
ISSUANCE, THE ENTIRE PROCESS TAKING NO LONGER THAN

UPDATE

BI609223

45 DAYS. THE HOLDERS CLAIMED THEY HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY APPLIED FOR AUSTRALIAN VISAS, INDEED THEY HAD BEEN ACTIVELY DISCOURAGED FROM APPROACHING THE EMBASSY. (A COUPLE HAVE DONE SO, THIS WEEK, AND HAVE BEEN GIVEN CORRECTIVE ADVICE.) IT WOULD APPEAR THE 'AGENT' HAS COPIES OF AUSTRALIAN VISITOR VISA APPLICATIONS AND IS AWARE OF SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTATION THE EMBASSY REQUIRES IN SUPPORT OF VISA APPLICATIONS. GIVEN THE HIGH VISA APPLICATION RATE AT THE POST THIS IS NOT SURPRISING.

4. PMOC MET WITH RELEVANT OFFICIALS IN THE MFA TODAY AND OUTLINED THE HISTORY OF THE 'HUTT RIVER PROVINCE'. THE OFFICIALS CONCERNED WERE VAGUELY AWARE OF THE SCAM, HAVING RECEIVED INFORMATION A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO AND DECIDED TO APPROACH THE EMBASSY FOR ADVICE.

s 33(a)(iii)

1 PMOC ADVISED INTERLOCUTORS THAT DOCUMENTS PURPORTING TO BE 'PASSPORTS' ISSUED BY THE 'HUTT RIVER PROVINCE' ARE NOT RECOGNISED AS VALID TRAVEL DOCUMENTS BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND THAT ANY TRAVELLER SEEKING TO ENTER AUSTRALIA ON THE BASIS OF A 'HUTT RIVER PROVINCE' DOCUMENT WOULD BE REFUSED IMMIGRATION CLEARANCE AND REMOVED FROM AUSTRALIA.

5. PMOC WILL CONTINUE TO LIAISE WITH THE MFA, LEBANESE POLICE AND IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES REGARDING NEW INFORMATION THAT COMES TO LIGHT. IN THE MEANTIME, A NOTE HAS BEEN SENT TO THE MFA AND DETAILS PROVIDED TO ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS ACCREDITED IN LEBANON, AS WELL AS MAJOR CARRIERS. THE ISSUE WILL BE HIGHLIGHTED IN ANTI-FRAUD MEETINGS AND COMPLIANCE TRAINING.

COMMENT

6. THIS SCAM IS SIMILAR TO OTHERS PREVIOUSLY INVESTIGATED BY PMOC, INVOLVING (USUALLY POOR) UNEDUCATED ASPIRANTS TO PERMANENT RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA BEING ATTRACTED BY PROMISES OF QUICK AND EASY VISAS FOR WHICH THEY MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE QUALIFY.

7. IN A SEPARATE (BUT NOT DISSIMILAR) CASE RECENTLY, A LEBANESE SOURCE PROVIDED INFORMATION ABOUT AN ORGANISER WHO HAD PROMISED TO OBTAIN THREE VISAS TO AUSTRALIA, FOR USD5,700 EACH. AFTER A JOINT DIMA/AFP INTERVIEW AND FOLLOWING A BRIEFING TO THE JUDICIARY POLICE BY THE AFPLO SEARCH WARRANTS WERE EXECUTED ON TWO PREMISES IN TRIPOLI THAT RESULTED IN THE SEIZURE OF THREE PASSPORTS AND THE ARRESTS OF TWO ORGANISERS. AMONGST DOCUMENTS SEIZED WAS A PHOTOCOPY OF A LEGITIMATE AUSTRALIAN VISA. NO COPYING FACILITIES WERE INCLUDED IN THE SEIZED ASSETS. THE MATTER WAS REFERRED TO THE JOINT PEOPLE SMUGGLING TEAM IN AUSTRALIA AS THE BROTHER OF ONE OF THE DETAINEES (THE VISA HOLDER) IS AN AUSTRALIAN RESIDENT. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THE SCAM (WHICH IS STILL BE INVESTIGATED BY POLICE) HAD ANY HIGHER PURPOSE THAN SECURING PAYMENT OF LARGE FEES BY NAIVE PASSPORT HOLDERS WHO KNEW THE ORGANISERS WERE ACTING ILLEGALLY BUT BELIEVED THEY COULD DELIVER RESULTS.

MD. FACEADFFD93368B5A2A32F78A430453A0324

XC. O.BI609223
CM. s 22 1(a)(ii)

text ends

UPDATE

Sent by:
Prepared by:
Approved by:
Topics:

++THIS DOCUMENT HAS AN AMENDED TEXT OR DISTRIBUTION++

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN AFFS & TDE

ASIO (C)

AUST FEDERAL POLICE

AUST CUSTOMS SERVICE

DEP IMMG & MC AFFAIRS

PRIME MINISTER MIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR TRADE

MIN IMMIG+MC AFFAIRS DEP ATTORNEY GENERAL NAT SURVEILLANCE
CTR

AG-PSCC DEP P M AND CABINET ONA

+++

ACTION: MAB

IOB

SEC DEPSEC-GREY DEPSEC-FAYLE DEPSEC-THOMAS DEPSEC-
RITCHIE MIN(A)

MIN(B) MIN(F) EXB FAS(AED) AMB CLC USS EUB NWS CES EUS

FAS(PMD) MEA FAS(ILD) HRI PRT LGB ADL INL FAS(PCD) CNB CCU

CON CMS PTB POS PST

UPDATE

BS600564

Title: HUTT RIVER: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS REQUEST - IVORY
COAST
MRN: BS600564 28/06/2001 02:57:26 AM
To: CANBERRA (RR)
Cc:
From: BRUSSELS
From File:
References:
Response: , Information Only

UNCLASSIFIED

START OF SUMMARY

WE HAVE RECEIVED REQUESTS FROM THE EMBASSY OF THE IVORY COAST FOR
INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF THE HUTT RIVER 'PRINCIPALITY'.

END OF SUMMARY.

THE FOLLOWING TWO NOTES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE EMBASSY OF THE
IVORY COAST (EMBASSY TRANSLATION):

QUOTE

1.
THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE IVORY COAST PRESENTS ITS
COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA AND HAS THE HONOUR TO KINDLY
REQUEST DOCUMENTATION ON THE GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, POPULATION AND
LEGAL STATUS OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF HUTT RIVER.

(CLOSING COURTESY PARAGRAPH).

2.
THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE IVORY COAST PRESENTS ITS
COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA IN BRUSSELS AND HAS THE
HONOUR TO REQUEST INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF
HUTT RIVER, AN INDEPENDENT STATE SINCE 1970 WHICH IS SEEKING TO
ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE IVORY COAST. THE SAID
PRINCIPALITY IS, APPARENTLY, SITUATED IN AUSTRALIA AND HEADED BY HIS
HIGHNESS PRINCE LEONARD.

(CLOSING COURTESY PARAGRAPH).

UNQUOTE.

2. WE INTEND TO REPLY ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES :

THE EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE REPUBLIC OF
THE IVORY COAST AND HAS THE HONOUR TO ADVISE THAT HUTT RIVER IS A
PART OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA. IT DOES NOT HAVE THE
INDEPENDENT STATUS SUGGESTED BY THE PERSON CALLING HIMSELF 'HIS
HIGHNESS PRINCE LEONARD':

HUTT RIVER DOES NOT, THEREFORE, QUALIFY AS A STATE UNDER THE VIENNA
CONVENTION AND IN VIEW OF THIS, IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR THE

BS600564

REPUBLIC OF THE IVORY COAST TO ACCEDE TO THE REQUEST FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH HUTT RIVER.

IT IS SUGGESTED THAT IF THE REPUBLIC OF THE IVORY COAST REPLIES TO
THE CORRESPONDENCE IT HAS RECEIVED FROM HUTT RIVER, CLEAR MENTION BE
MADE OF THE ABOVE ADVICE FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT.

(CLOSING COURTESY PARAGRAPH) .

MD. 97DED62DED8BC39030EB4F592255D183B3A8

XC. O.BS600564

CM. s 22 1(a)(ii)

text ends

Sent by:
Prepared by:
Approved by:
Topics:

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN AFFS & TDE

+++

ACTION: PRB

EUB

MAB

SEC DEPSEC-SPENCER DEPSEC-DAUTH DEPSEC-FAYLE DEPSEC-THOMAS

MIN(B) MIN(D) EXB DCA PPI FAS(AED) EUS FAS(PMD) AFR FAS(ILD)

LGB ADL FAS(PCD)