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ENVELOPE

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

HEADER

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241415Z AUG 09

FM (b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

TO RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC

INFO (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RHMFSS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL

RUZEHAA/CDR USEUCOM (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) VAIHINGEN GE (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RUZFMXI/CDR USTRANSCOM (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) SCOTT AFB IL

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RHMFSS/CNO WASHINGTON DC (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RUEPWDC/DA (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) WASHINGTON DC

RUEADWD/DA WASHINGTON DC (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RHMFSS/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC

RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC

RHMFSS/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RHEFHLC/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RUETIAA/DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RUEIDN/DNI WASHINGTON DC

RHMFSS/FBI WASHINGTON DC

RUCNFB/FBI WASHINGTON DC

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(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RHMFIS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RUZCISR/USCENTCOM (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) MACDILL AFB FL (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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(b)(3):10 USC 424

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RUCQSAB/USSOCOM (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) MACDILL AFB FL

RHMFIS/USSTRATCOM (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) OFFUTT AFB NE (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RULWAAA/USSTRATCOM (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) OFFUTT AFB NE

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RHEHWSR/WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM WASHINGTON DC

BT

CONTROLS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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SERIAL: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424 .

BODY

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COUNTRY: (U) ISRAEL (ISR); LEBANON (LBN) .

IPSP: (U)

(b)(3):10 USC 424

SUBJ: (b)(3):10 USC 424 ISRAEL AIR FORCE (IAF) NAMES NEW IRON DOME SHORT-RANGE ROCKET DEFENSE BATTALION COMMANDER AND BEGINS SIMULATED OPERATIONAL TRAINING (U) .

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

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DOI: (U) 20090824 .

REQS: (U)

(b)(3):10 USC 424

SOURCE:

SOURCE A.

1. (U) DESCRIPTION -- //OPEN SOURCE//OPEN SOURCE. "JERUSALEM POST", A DAILY NEWSPAPER PRINTED IN JERUSALEM, ISRAEL IN ENGLISH. SOMEWHAT RIGHT-WING, ESPECIALLY IN THE OP-ED SECTION. DATE OF SOURCE: 20090824.
2. (U) CONTEXT STATEMENT -- ARTICLE WAS LOCATED IN ONLINE EDITION UNDER HEADLINE (QUOTE) IDF MOVES ONE STEP CLOSER TO IRON DOME (UNQUOTE)

SOURCE B.

1. (U) DESCRIPTION -- //OPEN SOURCE//OPEN SOURCE. "YEDIOT AHRONOT", DAILY NEWSPAPER IN HEBREW. PRINTED IN JERUSALEM, ISRAEL. INDEPENDENT, PLURALISTIC (POSSIBLY CENTRIST). LARGEST NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION IN ISRAEL. DATE OF SOURCE: 20090824.
2. (U) CONTEXT STATEMENT -- THIS WAS BASED ON AN ENGLISH-TRANSLATED VERSION OF THE ARTICLE.

SUMMARY: (U) SEE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, TEXT PARAGRAPH 1, BELOW.

TEXT: 1. (U) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY. THE ISRAEL AIR FORCE (IAF) HAS ESTABLISHED A NEW AIR DEFENSE BATTALION TO OPERATE THE IRON DOME SHORT-RANGE ROCKET DEFENSE SYSTEM. THE NEW BATTALION COMMANDER IS LT

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COL SHABTAI ((BEN-BOHER)), A FORMER PATRIOT MISSILE BATTALION COMMANDER. NEW BATTALION OFFICERS HAVE BEGUN SIMULATED TRAINING WITH THE SYSTEMS AS WELL AS STARTED FORMULATING OPERATIONAL DOCTRINE. THE ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES (IDF) HAS ALSO LOCATED BATTERY POSITIONS ALONG THE GAZA BORDER FOR A DEPLOYMENT COMMENCING SOMETIME EARLY IN 2010.

2. (U) THE ISRAEL AIR FORCE (IAF) HAS COMPLETED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW AIR DEFENSE BATTALION THAT WILL OPERATE THE IRON DOME SHORT-RANGE ROCKET DEFENSE SYSTEM. THE NEW BATTALION IS PART OF THE IAF'S AIR DEFENSE DIVISION, RECENTLY UNDER THE NEW COMMAND OF BRIG

(b)(3);10 USC 424;(b)(6)

THE NEW
BATTALION COMMANDER IS LT COL SHABTAI ((BEN-BOHER)), WHO UNTIL RECENTLY SERVED AS THE COMMANDER OF A PATRIOT MISSILE BATTALION.

3. (U) OFFICERS FROM THE NEW BATTALION HAVE ALREADY COMMENCED TRAINING WITH THE SYSTEMS AS WELL AS BEGUN FORMULATING DOCTRINE FOR ITS OPERATION. THE SOLDIERS JOINING THE BATTALION WERE CHOSEN FROM EXISTING AIR DEFENSE DIVISION UNITS. FOR NOW, THE TRAINING IS BEING CONDUCTED WITH COMPUTER SIMULATORS AND IS CURRENTLY FOCUSING ON THE IRON DOME'S COMMAND-AND-CONTROL (C2) SYSTEMS, THE NEW RADAR SYSTEM, AND THE LAUNCHER.

4. (U) THE ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES (IDF) HAS ALSO LOCATED POSITIONS ALONG THE GAZA BORDER THAT WILL BE USED FOR BASES FOR THE SYSTEM, WHICH INCLUDES A LAUNCHER AND A RADAR SYSTEM. THE FIRST BATTERY IS EXPECTED TO BE DEPLOYED EARLY IN 2010 ALONG THE GAZA BORDER WILL CONSIST OF FOUR LAUNCHERS, EACH OF WHICH HAS 20 INTERCEPTOR MISSILES. THE SYSTEM WILL THEN BECOME OFFICIALLY OPERATIONAL IN THE MIDDLE OF 2010. AFTER COMPLETING THE DEPLOYMENT AROUND GAZA, THE IDF WILL THEN BEGIN DEPLOYING THE SYSTEM ALONG THE BORDER WITH LEBANON.

(b)(1);(b)(3);10 USC 424;Sec. 1.4(c)

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1);(b)(3):10 USC 424;Sec. 1.4(c)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

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Non Responsive Record

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act