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Overnight Brief

Saturday, September 03, 2011 0530 EDT

LIBYA UPDATE

(U) Brazilian Foreign Minister Patriota said recognition of the Transitional National Council was "not necessary at this stage" and added the UN would determine the legitimate representative of Libya at the upcoming General Assembly. (Xinhua News)

TURKEY THREATENS ISRAELI SOLDIERS WITH LEGAL ACTION

(SBU) The Turkish Embassy in Washington claimed Turkey would seek to prosecute Israeli soldiers and officials responsible for the deaths of nine Turkish activists during the May 2010 flotilla raid, according to press. Embassy Ankara comments the immediate loss of political, diplomatic, intelligence, and military cooperation between two close U.S. allies has far more significance than the prospect of international legal action. (Ops/Embassy Ankara e-mail, Haaretz)

CIS LEADERS TO DISCUSS INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

(SBU) Presidents from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) will also discuss organizational development during the meeting in Dushanbe, media report. Embassy Moscow comments Russia will use the summit to deepen economic and political integration in the region, resolve disputes, and further cement its military presence. Russia views the volatile Central Asian region as both an integral part of its national security and as a buffer zone between itself and Afghanistan. (Ops/Embassy Moscow e-mail, RIA Novosti)

RUSSIAN BILLIONAIRE EXPLORES CANDIDACY FOR 2012 ELECTION

(SBU) Mikhail Prokhorov said he might run for president in March 2012 if his Right Cause Party does well in the December parliamentary poll, media report. Embassy Moscow notes Prokhorov's party is struggling to find support and adds even if the Right Cause Party wins representation in parliament, Prokhorov's candidacy would be an ornamental imitation of political pluralism in an increasingly flawed electoral system. (Ops/Embassy Moscow e-mail, RIA Novosti)

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