

February 1, 2018

Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

VIA FAX to 703-613-3007

Dear CIA FOIA Coordinator:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. subsection 552, I am respectfully requesting information as follows:

1. Any and/or all records related in any way to the change in the CIA fact book that occurred sometime on or after January 28, 2018 and February 1, 2018, for the page that appears in the Syria country page related to "Military and Security." Comparing the WayBack of the page, dated January 28, 2018 (Exhibit A") to the one as of this writing (Exhibit "B"), it appears that page changed or perhaps was populated on or about that January 28, 2018 to February 1, 2018 period. If any relevant changes relate to earlier or later dates please consider them as part of the request and provide them. I have attached the two relevant pages for your convenience. I am seeking both the programing and the policy decision making that related to the change.

2. If you claim that the PYD that appears in the February 1, 2018 page in the fact book (Exhibit "B") or any of its affiliated entities including, but not limited to, the YPG, YPJ and/or the SDF are also listed foreign terrorist organizations or affiliates of any such organization[s], please provide any and all documents upon which you based that determination. If you withhold any documents on the basis of a claimed exception to production, please produced all the responsive documents that have been made public at any time regardless of the source of the document. So to be clear, if the Department of State has acted to list the PYD and you are in possession of any publically disclosed documents related to that listing, please produce it.

3. If he subject of the PYD came up during Director Pompeo's recently reported meetings with the Russian SVR, FSB or GRU please provide all documents related to the PYD that were used or created related to in any such meeting[s].

If there are any fees for searching for, reviewing, or copying the records, please notify me before processing if the amount exceeds \$100 (On Hundred Dollars).

If you deny all or any part of this request, please cite each specific exemption you think justifies your refusal to release the information and notify me of appeal procedures available under the law.

Because the change in the world fact book evidences the change in US policy that puts US Special Operations Force service members at imminent risk of criminal liability for being

associated with the PYD (and/or PYD's associated entities) that you now claim is/are "wing[s]" of the listed Foreign Terrorist Organization the "Kurdistan Worker's Party" aka "PKK" there is pressing national security and humanitarian need to disclose it on an expedited basis. Other basis exist for your responding on an expedited basis, including but not necessarily limited to, the impairment of pending US congressional political processes that related the Congressional and presidential decisions made during both the Obama and Trump administrations to arm the PYD's military affiliates including presidential executive order[s].

In addition I have developed a respect and admiration for the SDF that nearly defeated ISIS in Syria that the CIA is presently putting at risk that threatens all Americans. Finally I believe that betrayal is a mortal sin.

If you have any questions about handling this request, you may telephone me at REDACTED . Hawaii is 5 hours behind D.C. but I will answer my phone even before the crack of dawn.

Sincerely,
REDACTED


Timothy J. Hogan
REDACTED

Attachments: Exhibits "A" & "B"

1,026 captures
12 Jan 2007 - 29 Jan 2018

https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/sy.html

Go DEC 27 JAN FEB 2017 2018 2019

VIEW 3 PHOTOS OF SYRIA



Open All | Close All

2.9 kbps 0.8 kbps

EXHIBIT "A"

Introduction :: SYRIA	+
Geography :: SYRIA	+
People and Society :: SYRIA	+
Government :: SYRIA	+
Economy :: SYRIA	+
Energy :: SYRIA	+
Communications :: SYRIA	+
Transportation :: SYRIA	+
Military and Security :: SYRIA	-
Military branches:	
Syrian Armed Forces: Land Forces, Naval Forces, Air Forces (includes Air Defense Forces), Intelligence Services (Air Force Intelligence, Military Intelligence)	
Ministry of Interior: Political Security Directorate, General Intelligence Directorate, National Police Force (2017)	
Military service age and obligations:	
18 years of age for compulsory and voluntary military service; conscript service obligation is 18 months; women are not conscripted but may volunteer to serve (2017)	
Terrorism :: SYRIA	+
Transitional issues :: SYRIA	+



EXHIBIT "B"

Islamic calligraphic text

area(s) of operation: operational primarily in Idlib Governorate, with established networks and operating paramilitary training camps; likely continues to collaborate closely with al-Kurdish Front leaders, despite public claims of severing ties; majority of members are not Syrian nationals

Ansar al-Islam (AAI):

aim(s): remove Syrian President Bashar al-ASAD from power and install Sharia

area(s) of operation: operationally active in Syria since 2011; remained operational in Aleppo as of late 2016; launches attacks on Syrian Government and security forces and pro-Syrian Government militias; some AAI factions combat ISIL, while others are aligned with ISIL

Hizballah:

aim(s): preserve Syrian President Bashar al-ASAD's regime

area(s) of operation: operational activity throughout the country since 2012; centered on providing paramilitary support to President Bashar al-ASAD's regime against armed insurgents; tens of thousands of fighters remained active in Syria as of 2017; thousands of fighters have died on the Syrian battlefield

Kata'ib Hizballah (KH):

aim(s): preserve Syrian President Bashar al-ASAD's regime

area(s) of operation: deploys combatants to Syria to fight alongside Syrian Government and Lebanese Hizballah forces

Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) (Kongra-Gel):

aim(s): establish Kurdistan, which comprises territory in northern Syria

area(s) of operation: operational in the north combating ISIL, primarily in the Kurdish-populated region known as Rojava and Syrian Kurdistan; Salih MUSLIM Muhammad leads Kurdistan Workers Party's Syrian wing, the Syrian Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD); majority of fighters inside Syria are Syrian Kurds, along with Kurds from Iran, Turkey, and Iraq

Mujahidin Shura Council in the Environs of Jerusalem (MSC):

aim(s): enhance its networks in Syria and, ultimately, destroy the state of Israel

area(s) of operation: maintains limited networks for operational planning against Israeli logistics, transferring funds, and smuggling fighters and arms through Syria from the Gaza Strip and Libya to be used against Israeli; by 2017, the majority of veteran members had defected to join other groups

Palestine Liberation Front (PLF):

aim(s): enhance its networks and, ultimately, destroy the state of Israel and establish a secular, Marxist Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital

area(s) of operation: maintains a recruitment and limited training presence in many refugee camps

FPJL-General Command (FPJL-GC):

aim(s): preserve Syrian President Bashar al-ASAD's regime

area(s) of operation: maintains a political base in Damascus; fighting since early 2012 alongside President al-ASAD's forces and Hizballah in areas where anti-regime paramilitary groups are active; currently, preserving al-ASAD's government is the group's most pressing priority; receives funds and training from the regime

Dravida Eelam Kachcham I Kavayam of Palestine Front etc.