

August 10, 1985

Cable No. 402, Foreign Minister to the Ambassador to Syria Kato, 'Problem of the Release of the American Hostages (Main Points of Remarks for the Prime Minister's Special Envoy)'

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Summary:

In a letter to the President Assad of Syria, Prime Minister of Japan Nakasone describes the relationship between Japan and Syria as a growing closer and thanks Syria for their assistance in the help of the release of the American hostages held in Lebanon.

Original Language:

Japanese

Contents:

Original Scan

Translation - English

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(回覧番号) 極秘第 142 号 電 信 案

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協議先

在 シリア 加藤 大使 あて 外務大臣 発
~~総領事~~

件名 米国人人質解放問題 (総理特使発言要領)

主管・文書記号	※	大至急	至急	パターン・コード
近 1	第 402 号	普通	(優先処理)	Q557D

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外 務 省

(※印欄内は電信課記入)

(昭和五九・一・一改正)

大統領閣下、

先般安倍外務大臣が貴国を訪問した折には貴大統領閣下をはじめ貴国官民より暖かいおもてなしをいただき、感謝しております。私は安倍大臣の貴国訪問が我が国と貴国との二国間関係の増進に大きく寄与する実り多いものであったことに満足しております。

省みれば過去六ヶ月の間にシヤラ外務大臣の訪日及び安倍大臣の貴国訪問が成功裡に実現する等、日本・シリア両国関係が急速に緊密度を増しつつあることは誠に喜ばしい限りであります。特に安倍大臣の貴国訪問の際は、技術協力協定の締結、事務レベル合同委員会の設置が実現する等、関係強化の地固めが着々となされており、私としても、今後とも貴大統領閣下と協力して経済技術協力を含む各分野における両国関係の一層の強化のため尽力する決意であることをここにお伝えしたいと思えます。

また安倍大臣よりは、中東和平問題に関する貴大統領及びシヤラ外相の御見解についても詳細に報告を受けており、貴国の立場については十分承知しております。私はかねてより中東地域の平和と安定については多大の関心を有しており、今後とも中東和平問題の鍵を握る貴国との間でこの問題につき十分な意見交換を行つていく考えであります。

今秋には米ソ首脳会談開催が予定される等国際情勢は大きく動いており、更に我が国は来年の東京サミットの主催国として右会議開催のための諸般の準備を行つております。

かかる事情を背景として私は、今秋の国連総会出席に際し貴国とのかかる意見交換を踏まえ各国の指導者と中東和平問題を含む国際情勢につき突込んだ意見交換を行つていきたいと考えております。

更に私をはじめとする我が国政府及び国民は、先般のTWA機ハイジャック

事件の際貴国が米国人人質の解放に向け払われた多大の御努力を人道的見地からも高く評価しております。また安倍大臣よりは、現在もレバノンで捕われている米国人人質七名の解放に向け、貴国が最大限の努力を行つている旨の報告を受けましたが、私はかかる貴国の努力に深い敬意を表するものであります。

これら七人の米国人を含む外国人人質の解放については、困難な問題が多くあることは十分承知しておりますが、我が国としては人道的見地かにも右人質解放が一日も早く実現するよう期待しており、貴大統領閣下におかれても最大限の御努力を払われるよう心より希望する次第であります。

このように私は貴国との関係強化を重視しており、今後とも経済・技術協力を含む多くの分野にわたる両国関係の推進と中東和平問題、国際テロリズム問題等に関する両国間の意見交換の継続が不可欠と考えております。

かかる見地から、今回、中東問題全般に造詣が深く、私が最も信頼している

中山賀博大使を特使として貴国に派遣できますことは私の大きな喜びであります。私は貴大統領が中山大使とこれらの問題につき有意義な意見交換を行われるよう心より希望する次第であります。

また私は両国間の友好協力関係を更に一層発展させるため近い将来に貴大統領の訪日が実現することを心より希望する次第であります。

貴大統領閣下の益々の御壮健と貴国民の末永き御多幸をお祈り致します。

昭和六十年八月二日

(了)

日本国内閣総理大臣

中野 根 康 弘

シリア・アラブ共和国大統領

ハリー・エズ・アル・アサド

閣下

Number: 067640-001

Draft Telegram

Drafted: August 10, 1985

Primary: First Middle East Division Director

To: Ambassador to Syria Kato

From: Foreign Minister

Problem of the Release of the American Hostages (Main Points of Remarks for the Prime Minister's Special Envoy)

No. 402 Secret Urgent (Priority Processing) Q55ID

Outgoing Telegram, First Middle East Division Director's No. 401 Separate Telegram

Your Excellency the President,

I am thankful that, when Foreign Minister Abe recently visited your country, he enjoyed a warm welcome from Your Excellency the President, as well as from the officials and the people of your country. I am satisfied that Minister Abe's visit to your country was a fruitful one that greatly contributed to the promotion of bilateral relations between my country and yours.

It is a great pleasure, looking back, that in the past six months the visit of Foreign Minister Shara to Japan and that of Minister Abe to your country have successfully taken place and that bilateral relations between Japan and Syria have rapidly been growing closer. In particular, with the conclusion of a technical cooperation agreement on the occasion of Minister Abe's visit to your country, the establishment of an office-level joint commission, and such, the foundation is being progressively laid for strengthening relations. I wish to inform you that I am determined to strive to cooperate with Your Excellency the President for the further strengthening of bilateral relations in every field, including those of the economy and technology.

Also, I have received from Minister Abe a detailed report on the views of the President and Foreign Minister Shara concerning the issue of peace in the Middle East and am now fully aware of your country's position. Having for some time had a great interest in the peace and stability of the Middle East, I intend henceforth to engage in a full exchange of views regarding this issue with your country, which holds the key to peace in the Middle East.

This autumn there is going to be much movement in the international situation, with the scheduled holding of the US-Soviet Summit and such. Moreover, our country will be the host nation of the Tokyo Summit next year. As such, we are preparing to host this meeting.

With such a situation as background, on the occasion of my attending the United Nations General Assembly this autumn, I would like to engage in an in-depth exchange of views with the leaders of various countries regarding the international situation, including the issue of peace in the Middle East, in taking into consideration the exchanges of views conducted with your country.

Furthermore, Japan, the Japanese people, and I greatly appreciate from a humanitarian point of view the great efforts made by your country for the release of the American hostages in the TWA hijacking incident. Also, having received from Minister Abe a report on the utmost efforts of your country for the release of the seven American hostages now held in Lebanon, I express my deep respect for your country's efforts.

I am fully aware of the many difficult problems regarding the release of the foreign hostages, including these seven Americans, but Japan hopes from a humanitarian point of view that the release of these hostages will be realized as soon as possible. I sincerely hope for the utmost cooperation from Your Excellency the President.

Therefore, I attach great importance to the strengthening of relations with your country and think it indispensable that, henceforth, we promote relations between our two countries in many fields, including those of the economy and technology, and continue exchanges of views between our two countries on such issues as those of peace in the Middle East and international terrorism.

From such a viewpoint, it is my great joy to be able to send at this time Ambassador Yoshihiro Nakayama, who has a profound knowledge of the issues of the Middle East and my utmost confidence, to your country as my special envoy. I sincerely hope that you and Ambassador Nakayama will conduct a meaningful exchange of views regarding these issues.

I also sincerely hope that you will realize in the near future a visit to Japan in order to develop even further the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

I pray for the continued health of Your Excellency the President and the lasting happiness of your country's people.

[TN: following text crossed out]

August 2, 1985

Prime Minister of Japan

Yasuhiro Nakasone

President of the Syrian Arab Republic

His Excellency Hafez Al-Assad