



ALHAJ1@aol.com
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To: eckhard@un.org
cc: magas-sniffen@un.org
Subject: The Full text of al-arabiya interview..

Dear Fred,

Please find below the whole text of the interview, as accurately as humanly possible. It will be shown at 12:30 EST on Friday (During your briefing). Please feel free to e-mail it to all, at 12:30. I think the problem happened because of translation to Arabic and back translation to English.

Many thanks for making this possible. You are a dear friend to me and to Anita and we are indeed sad to lose you this summer. Thanks again for every thing. Talal and Anita Al-Haj.

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"MY SENSE IS THAT EVERYONE WILL TRY AND KEEP THE TEMPERATURE DOWN WHILST WE PRESS AND ENCOURAGE SYRIA TO PERFORM AND I THINK THE PRESSURE WILL BE RELENTLESS FROM WHERE I SIT UNTIL SYRIA PERFORMS." KOFI ANNAN

"I WOULD URGE THEM TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO COMPLY, SO THAT I CAN REPORT TO THE COUNCIL THAT THEY HAVE SATISFACTORILY PERFORMED AND THEREFORE WE WOULDN'T NEED TO GO FOR ADDITIONAL MEASURES. BUT OF COURSE IF THEY DO NOT PERFORM THE COUNCIL MAY WISH TO TAKE ADDITIONAL MEASURES. " KOFI ANNAN

AL ARABIYA TV INTERVIEW WITH KOFI ANNAN 24 FEB 2005

BY TALAL AL-HAJ

TALAL: SECRETARY GENERAL KOFI ANNAN, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THIS INTERVIEW SIR, WE ARE REALLY HONORED, THANK YOU

ANNAN: IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU

TALAL: IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU TOO SIR, THANK YOU

Q 1 TALAL AL-HAJ

THE SYRIANS HAVE ANNOUNCED, THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THEY WILL WITHDRAW FROM LEBANON IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TAIF AGREEMENT, NOW IS THERE IN YOUR MIND AN ACCEPTABLE TIMETABLE FOR SUCH WITHDRAWAL, THAT IT WOULD BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH 1559?

SECRETARY GENERAL KOFI ANNAN

I HAVEN'T STUDIED IN DETAIL THE SYRIAN ANNOUNCEMENT BUT 1559 REQUIRES THAT SYRIAN TROOPS AND SECURITY PERSONNEL BE WITHDRAWN FROM LEBANON. IF THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT IS WITHDRAWING TROOPS FROM LEBANON, WHETHER IT IS UNDER THE TAIF AGREEMENT OR ITS OWN DECISION, IS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT. THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT I AM ABLE TO REPORT TO THE COUNCIL THAT THE TROOPS HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN, THEY WILL BE SATISFIED IN THAT SENSE THAT 1559 HAS BEEN FULFILLED.

Q 2 TALAL

YOU ARE REPORTING SIR IN APRIL TO THE COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT. IS THAT SORT OF TIMEFRAME YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT. BY APRIL WHEN YOU SUBMIT YOUR REPORT TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL THAT YOU CAN TELL THE SECURITY COUNCIL THAT THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT AND THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT ARE IN COMPLIANCE?

ANNAN

YES, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE A REPORT, EITHER A COMPLETE REPORT OR A PROGRESS REPORT IF, IT DEPENDS ON THE LEVEL OF WITHDRAWAL. IF IT IS PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL I WILL HAVE TO REPORT IT, IF IT IS TOTAL WITHDRAWAL I WILL HAVE TO REPORT IT. IN ANY EVENT I WILL HAVE TO GIVE A REPORT IN APRIL AND I AM SUPPOSED TO REPORT EVERY SIX MONTHS. OF COURSE IF WE ARE ABLE TO COMPLETE THE EXERCISE AND THEREFORE FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE RESOLUTION IN APRIL I WILL SO REPORT TO THE COUNCIL.

Q 3 TALAL
THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR

ANNAN
YES, THAT IS CORRECT.

Q 4 TALAL
THERE ARE CALLS LIKE BY THE FRENCH PRESIDENT CHIRAC FOR SANCTIONS IF THE SYRIANS ARE NOT COMPLYING FOR A SECOND RESOLUTION, DO YOU SUPPORT SUCH CALLS?

ANNAN
I THINK THAT WOULD BE A DECISION FOR THE COUNCIL TO TAKE. OBVIOUSLY THEY HAVE A RESOLUTION THAT THEY WANT TO SEE IMPLEMENTED, IF THEY SENSE THAT THE RESOLUTION IS NOT BEING IMPLEMENTED AND THEY WANT TO TAKE ADDITIONAL MEASURES, IT SHOULD BE UP TO THEM, SO I WILL LEAVE IT UP TO THE COUNCIL.

Q5 TALAL
WOULD YOU SUPPORT A SECOND RESOLUTION AND MAYBE EVEN UNDER CHAPTER 7, TO SHOW THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE LEBANESE THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE POSITION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL?

ANNAN
IF THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT TODAY HAS ANNOUNCED ITS INTENTION TO WITHDRAW TROOPS FROM LEBANON, WHETHER IT IS BASED ON THE TAIF ACCORD OR ITS OWN DECISION, I THINK IT IS MOVING IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RESOLUTION AND I WOULD URGE THEM TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO COMPLY, SO THAT I CAN REPORT TO THE COUNCIL THAT THEY HAVE SATISFACTORILY PERFORMED AND THEREFORE WE WOULDN'T NEED TO GO FOR ADDITIONAL MEASURES. BUT OF COURSE IF THEY DO NOT PERFORM THE COUNCIL MAY WISH TO TAKE ADDITIONAL MEASURES.

Q 6 TALAL
AND WOULD YOU SUPPORT SUCH MEASURES?

ANNAN
I WILL LEAVE THAT TO THE COUNCIL.

Q 7 TALAL
YOU HAVE SENT AN INVESTIGATING TEAM HEADED BY PETER FITZGERALD TO THE AREA AND IT HAS ARRIVED NOW. THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT SAYS THEY WILL COOPERATE, THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT SAYS ALTHOUGH THEY WILL COOPERATE BUT IT'S NOT IN CONTROL, THAT THIS TEAM WILL NOT BE IN CONTROL OF THE INVESTIGATION.

WHAT IS THE ACTUAL MISSION, THE MANDATE OF THIS INVESTIGATIVE TEAM AND WOULD THEY HAVE THE POWER FOR EXAMPLE TO INTERVIEW OFFICIALS FROM SYRIA AND LEBANON?

ANNAN

THEY WILL HAVE THE MANDATE TO DETERMINE THE CAUSES, THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACTION AND THEY ARE GOING THERE ALMOST A WEEK AFTER THE BRUTAL ASSASSINATION OF MR RAFIQ HARIRI, SO OBVIOUSLY THEY WOULD NOT FIND MUCH AT THE SITE OF THE EVENT SO THEY WILL HAVE TO **COOPERATE WITH THOSE WHO HAVE THE EVIDENCE, WHO HAVE THE ELEMENT PER FORCE** THEY WILL HAVE TO COOPERATE AND COORDINATE WITH THE LEBANESE AUTHORITIES AND WHO EVER HAS INFORMATION AND THEN DRAW THEIR CONCLUSIONS AND REPORT TO THE COUNCIL.

Q 8 TALAL

DID YOU SAY THAT THE INVESTIGATIVE GROUP WILL BE WITHIN THEIR MANDATE TO INTERVIEW SYRIAN AND LEBANESE OFFICIALS?

ANNAN

I THINK THEY WOULD TALK TO LEBANESE OFFICIALS AND THEY WOULD TALK TO ANYBODY WHO HAS INFORMATION OR EVIDENCE THAT WILL HELP THEIR WORK. SO WHETHER THEY ARE LEBANESE OR SYRIAN WHOEVER HAS EVIDENCE ONCE THEY ARE ON THE GROUND THEY WOULD WANT TO TALK TO THEM. AND I HOPE AND I WOULD URGE EVERYONE TO COOPERATE WITH THEM.

Q 9 TALAL

THEY ARE GOING THERE TO COLLECT FACTS, THEY ARE GOING THERE TO RECONSTITUTE THE CRIME, BUT DO YOU HAVE REAL CONFIDENCE THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO PINPOINT TO THE CULPRIT WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS HEINOUS CRIME?

ANNAN

I CANNOT PREDETERMINE THAT. I THINK IT DEPENDS VERY MUCH ON THEIR WORK AND WHAT THEY FIND ON THE GROUND AND THE EVIDENCE THEY ARE ABLE TO GATHER. AND THAT JUDGEMENT WILL BE MADE AFTER THEY HAVE COMPLETED THEIR REPORT. AS TO WHETHER THEY ARE ABLE TO PINPOINT AND DETERMINE WHO ACTUALLY DID IT MAY OR MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE. BUT LET'S GIVE THEM A BIT OF TIME TO DO THEIR WORK.

Q 10 TALAL

YES. WE UNDERSTAND THIS REPORT IS FORTHCOMING WITHIN A MONTH OR SO.

ANNAN

YES, I HAVE GIVEN THEM UP TO A MONTH, WITHIN A MONTH.

Q 11 TALAL

AND AT THE SAME TIME YOUR REPORT ALSO ABOUT THE SITUATION OF THE COMPLIANCE IS COMING WITHIN A MONTH SO APRIL WILL BE A VERY BUSY MONTH IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR THIS FILE

ANNAN

THAT IS CORRECT. I HOPE PETER FITZPATRICK WHO IS GOING TO LOOK INTO THE ASSASSINATION WILL BE ABLE TO REPORT SOONER THAN MY REPORT ON 1559.

Q 12 TALAL

I WILL ASK THE QUESTION BUT I KNOW I MIGHT NOT GET AN ANSWER. CAN YOU TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT MR TERJE ROED LARSON'S TOUR IN THE AREA AND THE LETTERS HE GAVE FROM YOU TO THE BOTH PRESIDENTS LAHOUD AND BASHAR ASSAD. WHAT WAS HIS REPORT TO YOU?

ANNAN

TERJE LARSON AS YOU KNOW IS MY ENVOY ON THE ISSUE AND HE WENT TO SYRIA AND LEBANON TO DISCUSS WITH THE AUTHORITIES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 1559. I WROTE LETTERS TO THE LEADERS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. HE HAD VERY GOOD DISCUSSIONS WITH THEM AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPLEMENTING THE RESOLUTION, AND THE SERIOUSNESS THE COUNCIL AND THE WHOLE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ATTACHES TO THAT RESOLUTION, INDICATING THAT I AM GOING TO PREPARE ANOTHER REPORT IN APRIL AND WE HOPE THAT THEY WOULD TAKE SUFFICIENT ACTION FOR US TO BE ABLE TO REPORT POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS.

Q 13 TALAL

HOW WORRIED ARE YOU SIR ABOUT THE INCREASING TENSIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND SYRIA AND MIGHT LEAD TO THE SITUATION GETTING OUT OF HAND AND HOW DANGEROUS IS THIS SITUATION?

ANNAN

I HOPE THE TENSIONS WHICH EXIST CAN BE RESOLVED THROUGH DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL CONTACTS AND PRESSURE AND THAT IT NEED NOT BECOME A HOT CONFLICT IN A WAY THAT YOUR QUESTION SEEMS TO IMPLY. BUT I WOULD HOPE THAT SYRIA WITH THE SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM GOVERNMENTS IN THE REGION WILL COOPERATE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SO THAT WE ARE ABLE TO RESOLVE THE ISSUES WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT IN A PROMPT AND POLITICAL MANNER.

Q 14 TALAL

YOU ARE NOT WORRIED ABOUT THE ESCALATION OF THE TENSIONS?

ANNAN

MY SENSE IS THAT EVERYONE WILL TRY AND KEEP THE TEMPERATURE DOWN WHILST WE PRESS AND ENCOURAGE SYRIA TO PERFORM AND I THINK THE PRESSURE WILL BE RELENTLESS FROM WHERE I SIT UNTIL SYRIA PERFORMS.

Q 15 TALAL

HOW DO YOU VIEW SIR THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE JOINT FRONT BETWEEN SYRIA AND IRAN LAST WEEK.

ANNAN

YES I READ ABOUT THAT IN THE PAPERS BUT I DON'T HAVE THE DETAILS OF IT AND SO I REALLY DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THAT MEANS.

Q 16 TALAL

IS IT A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT? (ANNAN SMILES)

ANNAN

I THINK IT DEPENDS ON WHERE YOU SIT. IT DEPENDS ON WHERE YOU SIT, BUT I WOULD NEED TO KNOW A BIT MORE ABOUT WHAT IS BEHIND THAT STATEMENT OR THAT ANNOUNCEMENT.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

Q 17 TALAL

THE PALESTINIANS SIR, THEY HAVE FORMED A GOVERNMENT WITH ABOUT 7 OR 8 NEW FACES, ONE OF THEM IS MR NASER AL KIDWA, YOUR FRIEND AND OURS, HE IS THE FOREIGN MINISTER, YOUR REACTION SIR?

ANNAN

I THINK NASER AL KIDWA WILL MAKE A VERY GOOD FOREIGN MINISTER. HE IS EXPERIENCED HE KNOWS THE WORLD, HE HAS LOTS OF CONTACTS AROUND THE WORLD, HE IS VERY ARTICULATE AND SOMEONE WHO CARES PASSIONATELY ABOUT PALESTINE AND ITS DREAMS

AND SO I THINK HE IS GOING TO WORK VERY EFFECTIVELY AND VERY ACTIVELY.

I SHOULD ALSO SAY THAT I AM VERY PLEASED WITH THE WAY THE PALESTINIANS HAVE HANDLED THE TRANSITION IN THE POST-ARAFAT TRANSITION. MANY PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD HAVE BEEN WORRIED FOR A LONG TIME AND KEPT ASKING THEMSELVES WHAT HAPPENS WHEN CHAIRMAN ARAFAT IS NO LONGER WITH US, AND THEY HAVE MANAGED IT EFFECTIVELY, DEMOCRATICALLY AND OF COURSE NOW THEY HAVE A NEW GOVERNMENT SO I WISH THE PRESIDENT, THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF PALESTINE EVERY SUCCESS AND I WISH THEM WELL.

Q 18 TALAL

ARE YOU OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND THE NEW STEPS TOWARDS PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS A WHOLE?

ANNAN

I THINK THERE IS AN OPENING, THERE IS A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY WHICH I HOPE ALL PARTIES WILL SEIZE. THE MEMBER OF THE QUARTET ARE DETERMINED TO RE-ENERGIZE THE PROCESS, THE U.S. HAS BECOME VERY ACTIVELY ENGAGED AND PRIME MINISTER SHARON'S DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM GAZA IN COORDINATION WITH THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY AND WE HOPE IN CONFORMITY WITH THE ROADMAP WILL OFFER US A CHANCE TO REALLY PROPEL THE PROCESS FORWARD.

Q 19 TALAL

ON IRAQ SIR, THE IRAQIS ARE ASKING WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF U.N. PERSONNEL FOR EXAMPLE IN ERBIL AND BASRA AND ALL OVER THE COUNTRY TO HELP WITH THE CONSTITUTION WRITING, WITH THE ELECTIONS, WITH THE NEW PARLIAMENT NEXT WINTER.

ANNAN

LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT THE UN IS PREPARED TO PLAY IT'S ROLE TO THE FULLEST. WE WANT TO IMPLEMENT THE MANDATE THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS GIVEN US BUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE TO ALLOW US TO BE ABLE TO PERFORM. WE WILL BE PREPARED TO WORK WITH THEM ON THE CONSTITUTION IF THEY ASK US, AND OF COURSE WITH THE REFERENDUM AND THE ELECTIONS LATER THIS YEAR. WE HAVE PRESENCE IN ERBIL ALREADY AND WE ARE LOOKING AT ESTABLISHING A PRESENCE IN BASRA ALSO BUT HOW MANY STAFF WE WILL PUT ON THE GROUND AND THEIR ABILITY TO MOVE FREELY AROUND THE COUNTRY AND UNDERTAKE OTHER PROJECTS IN RECONSTRUCTION AND HUMANITARIAN INSTITUTION BUILDING WILL VERY MUCH DEPEND ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SECURITY SITUATION.

Q 20 TALAL

THE IRAQIS ARE COMPLAINING SIR THAT THERE IS NO TRANSPARENCY IN FINANCIAL DEALINGS, THAT FOR EXAMPLE THE PAUL VOLCKER INVESTIGATION IS BEING PAID FOR WITH THEIR MONEY. THAT 12 MILLION HAS BEEN PAID TO THE IAEA FOR FURTHER SUPERVISION OF THE IRAQI NUCLEAR FILE, THEY SAY THEY NEED MORE TRANSPARENCY IN THE UN DEALING WITH THEIR FINANCIAL AFFAIRS. AND THAT IT IS NOT FAIR THAT THE CORRUPTION INVESTIGATION IN THE OIL FOR FOOD PROGRAM IS BEING FINANCED BY THE IRAQI PEOPLES' MONEY. WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THAT.

ANNAN

I THINK WHAT WE HAVE TO MAKE CLEAR HERE THE RESOLUTION HAS SET UP THESE REGIMES, ALSO SET ASIDE WHAT WE CALL THE 2.2 ACCOUNT FOR ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE PROGRAM. WE LOOKED AT THIS WHOLE ISSUE HOW WE FUND VOLCKER COMMITTEE AND OF COURSE IN THE SCHEME OF THINGS THAT WORK, AUDITORY WORK, AUDITING WORK, INVESTIGATING WORK IS PART OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE

PROGRAM AND SO IT IS NOT ILLOGICAL TO USE THAT ACCOUNT TO PAY FOR THE WORK THAT THE COMMITTEE IS DOING.

AS REGARDS THE ATOMIC AGENCY, THE COUNCIL HAS NOT REALLY TAKEN A DECISION TO END THEIR MANDATE AND THIS IS AN ISSUE THAT IS STILL BEFORE THE COUNCIL AND THEY WILL HAVE TO TAKE SOME FIRM DECISION TO EITHER END IT OR MODIFY ITS MANDATE. UNTIL THAT IS DONE THE IAEA HAS A RESPONSIBILITY.

Q 21 TALAL

ON IRAN SIR, THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT IT IS RIDICULOUS TO SAY THAT THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARING TO ATTACK IRAN BUT THAT ALL OPTIONS ARE STILL ON THE TABLE. DO YOU AGREE SIR THAT ALL OPTIONS SHOULD BE STILL ON THE TABLE

ANNAN

I THINK, I WAS HAPPY TO HEAR THE PRESIDENT REASSURE THE REGION AND EUROPE THAT HE HAS NO PLANS OF ATTACKING IRAN BUT IF YOU ARE TRYING TO SOLVE THE KIND OF PROBLEM THEY ARE DEALING WITH I THINK YOU NEED TO HAVE OPTIONS ON THE TABLE, TO PRESS AHEAD TO BE ABLE TO SOLVE THE CONFLICT AND SO THEY SHOULD LOOK AT OTHER OPTIONS FOR A SOLUTION.

Q 22 TALAL

BUT HE MEANT THE MILITARY OPTION IS STILL ON THE TABLE, DEFINITELY

ANNAN

WHY WOULD THAT BE ON THE TABLE IF HE HAS SAID

Q 23 TALAL

BUT HE SAID ALL, HE SAID ALL OPTONS THAT INCLUDES THE MILITARY ONES

ANNAN

BUT BEFORE THAT I THOUGHT HE HAS SAID IT WOULD BE RIDICULOUS TO ATTACK IRAN, AND SO YEA WHICH I INTERPRET TO MEAN SHORT, EXCEPT FOR THE MILITARY OPTION, EVERY OTHER OPTION IS ON THE TABLE. WHEN I LOOK AT, WHEN I READ THE STATEMENT TOGETHER THAT'S THE WAY I WOULD READ IT

Q 24 TALAL

IS THE SITUATION IMPROVING IN SUDAN, OR ARE WE STILL IN DIRE STRAITS

ANNAN

I THINK THE SITUATION IN DARFUR IS STILL VERY DIFFICULT THE SECURITY SITUATION HAS NOT IMPROVED THAT MUCH IN THE SOUTH THE HUMANITARIAN WORKERS ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY GAINING ACCESS TO SOME OF THE NEEDY AND OF COURSE WITHOUT ACCESS IT MEANS YOU CANNOT HELP THEM, YOU CANNOT GIVE THEM THE SUPPLIES THEY NEED AND THEIR SITUATION BECOMES THAT MUCH MORE PRECARIOUS

SO WE HAVE APPEALED TO BOTH SIDES TO HONOR THE CEASEFIRE AND ALLOW THE HUMANITARIAN WORKERS TO CARRY ON AND AT THE SAME TIME RE-ENERGIZE THE PEACE PROCESS BUILDING ON THE NORTH-SOUTH AGREEMENT IN NIVAISHA TO FIND A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT TO DARFUR, AND OFCOURSE WE ARE ENCOURAGING THE GOVERNMENT TO HAVE A NATIONAL DIALOGUE, BRINGING IN ALL THE OPPOSITION, ALL THE PARTIES AND EVENTUALLY APPLY THE NIVAISHA FORMULA FOR OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY AND PACIFY SUDAN BECAUSE YOU CANNOT TALK OF PEACE IN SUDAN WHEN DARFUR IS AT WAR.

Q 25 TALAL

CONCERNING THE OIL FOR FOOD PROGRAM SIR, YOU SAID THIS LAST YEAR WAS ANNUS HORRIBLIS. YOU SAID THAT, THE QUEEN SAID THAT ONCE AS WELL IN ENGLAND. AND WHAT I AM TRYING TO SAY IS, IS THIS YEAR IS PROVING A LITTLE BIT BETTER OR IS IT STILL BAD NEWS AND HOW WORRIED ARE YOU SIR ABOUT THE INTERIM REPORT COMING FROM PAUL VOLCKER CONCERNING YOUR DEALINGS AND YOUR SON'S DEALING WITH THE OIL FOR FOOD PROGRAM?

ANNAN

I THINK WE ARE EXPECTING THE REPORT I HOPE NEXT MONTH AND AS I SAID I AWAIT THAT REPORT WITH A CLEAR CONSCIENCE AND WE WILL SEE WHAT THE REPORT SAYS.

Q 26 TALAL

DO YOU FEEL LET DOWN BY YOUR SON SIR, IN MANY WAYS I MEAN HE COMPROMISED YOUR SITUATION, HONESTLY

ANNAN

LET'S WAIT TILL WE SEE THE FULL REPORT, THE FULL REPORT. BUT WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT ANNUS HORRIBLIS IT IS DIFICULT TO SAY THAT THIS YEAR IS GOING TO BE BETTER, BECAUSE REMEMBER I SAID I WAS RELIEVED THAT THIS HORRIBLE YEAR HAS ENDED ON THE 20TH OF DECEMBER, AND THEN THE TSUNAMI CAME SIX DAYS LATER, AND OF COURSE YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE IS IN STORE FOR US BUT I HOPE IT WILL BE BETTER YEAR.

TALAL

I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST SIR AND A MUCH BETTER YEAR.

ANNAN

THANK YOU SIR