

UNCLASSIFIED

August 3, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bureau of Political-Military Affairs – R. Clarke Cooper, Assistant Secretary

FROM: OIG – Sandra Lewis, Assistant Inspector General for Inspections

SUBJECT: Review of the Department of State’s Role in Arms Transfers to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, ISP-I-20-19 and ISP-S-20-19A--Request for Redactions

OIG has completed its review of the Department’s Role in Arms Transfers to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates and is preparing to issue the final report. OIG’s report consists of two portions: an unclassified report and a classified annex. The unclassified report is attached here for your review and action and the classified annex is awaiting your review and action on ClassNet. As described below, OIG is providing the report (both the unclassified and classified portions) for the Department’s final redaction review and, accordingly, will not accept or incorporate any additional technical comments or written responses provided by the Department.

By **5:00 PM on Wednesday, August 5, 2020**, please submit to [REDACTED] (for the unclassified portion) and [REDACTED] (for the classified annex) redacted versions of the report, which will be distributed to Congress (full report) and posted to OIG’s public website (unclassified portion), as appropriate and consistent with OIG’s statutory obligations. It is important that you return redacted versions of both portions of the report by the deadline. Because a full and accurate understanding of OIG’s findings requires that the two portions be read in conjunction with one another, a delay in providing the redacted version of one portion will delay the issuance of the other portion.

When applying redactions to the report text, please indicate the basis for each of the Department’s redactions. Because Congress is permitted to receive Sensitive But Unclassified information as well as information otherwise subject to an exemption under the Freedom of Information Act, should the Department seek to withhold any information contained in the unclassified report from Congress, OIG requests that you provide separate, redacted versions of the report: one for release to the public and a second version for release to Congress.

Please note that the only redactions being made to the report are those claimed by the Department. OIG will assume no responsibility for disclosures of information contained in the report for which the Department has not applied a redaction. Please ensure that information in the report—including information referenced in the Department’s own management response—is properly and consistently redacted to preclude inadvertent disclosure.

Upon receipt of the Department’s redactions to both portions of the report, OIG will transmit to the Department the final report and compliance instructions for the recommendation contained in OIG’s classified annex. In accordance with OIG’s standard practice, the report will then be distributed to Congress (full report) and posted to the public OIG website within two business days (unclassified portion of the report).

Should you have any questions, please contact [REDACTED] Acting Director, Quality Division, at

Attachment: Report