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MENA Bulletin

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Ankara

Flash Bulletin

Ankara - 23 April 2023
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Subject: Large Weapons Cache Intercepted in Northern Syria
Type: Weapons Smuggling
Status: Guarded

Event:
An exceptionally large convey of Iranian weapons were intercepted by Interpol agent Jack Valentine near the Syrian town of Al Bab. In light of the history of Iranian arms shipments to Lebanon over that past decade, it is believed that cache of weapons were head to Hezbollah operative in Southern Lebanon.

Worthy of note is the size of the shipment and sophistication of weapons which included 100 Meraj-532 (suicide drones), 15 Panha 2091 (Attack Helicopters), and 75 Raad 2 (tanks) along with an abundance of mobile artillery, rifles and ammunition. This is a suspicious amount and typology of weapons headed to Hezbollah operatives indicating either an imminent attack or an alternative destination.

Action: It is recommended that surveillance operations be increased in the region. This should include an uptick in SATINT, ELNET and HUMINT in southern Lebanon. This office also recommends increased interagency cooperation with Interpol.

Cost Est. Nominal

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