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O 021041Z MAY 07
FM AMEMBASSY TALLINN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9787
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 2491
RUEHRA/AMEMBASSY RIGA IMMEDIATE 2897
RUEHVL/AMEMBASSY VILNIUS IMMEDIATE 6649
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE 1178

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 TALLINN 000290

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/02/2017

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [RS](#) [EN](#)

SUBJECT: ESTONIAN AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW REPORTEDLY ATTACKED

Classified By: DCM Jeff Goldstein for reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

¶1. (C) This is an urgent action request: see paragraph 5.

¶2. (SBU) On the morning of May 2, the MFA called in resident ambassadors to brief them on the security situation of Estonia's embassy in Moscow. The briefing included a readout of the April 30-May 1 visit of a delegation of Duma members to Tallinn (septel). MFA Director General for Non-European Russia, Simmu Tiik, told the meeting that Estonia considers the situation at their embassy in Moscow to be a "gross violation of the Vienna Convention and a matter for all of the EU." He termed the situation "outrageous." Demonstrators have blocked access to the embassy, and embassy officials are only able to enter and leave after asking in advance for police escort. From time-to-time the embassy is pelted with rocks and eggs, and the protesters are keeping up a barrage of loud music to prevent the Estonian staff (who live on the embassy compound) from sleeping. The protesters have told the Estonian press that they are financed by donations from private sources, but Tiik made clear the GOE believes they are financed by the GOR. (Note. Tiik also provided a list of Russian government IP addresses that had been used in a denial of service attack aimed at shutting down official Estonian government web sites. The addresses came from institutions such as the Main Division of Information Resources for States Organs of the Russian Federation, located in the old Communist Party Headquarters complex on Staraya Ploshchad, and from one official in the Administration of the President of the Russian Federation.)

¶3. (SBU) Tiik indicated that, although Foreign Minister Lavrov told Foreign Minister Paet that Russia would fulfill all its Vienna obligations, the situation on the ground is quite different. While in Tallinn, members of the Duma delegation stated that the Russian

authorities could clear away the blockade "in three minutes," but "we prefer not to do so." Security officials outside the embassy have unofficially told members of the Estonian staff that "somebody else is in charge" of the handling of the situation.

14. (SBU) During the briefing, Tiik was interrupted by word that Russian Ambassador to Moscow Marina Kaljurand, having left the embassy under police escort to attend a press conference at the headquarters of the newspaper Argumenty Fakty, had been attacked with tear gas during the press conference, and that her car, which was waiting outside the building, was surrounded by rioting youth who ripped off the Estonian flag. The MFA has also issued a press statement with this information.

15. (C) Action Request: The Estonians seem to have chosen to work through the EU to seek a resolution to the security problems at their embassy in Moscow. Post believes, however, that it is important that the U.S. support the Estonians in light of what appears to be a clear failure by the Russian government to live up to its obligation as host to provide for the security and safe working environment of a

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diplomatic mission from a country with which the U.S. is allied. Post therefore requests that the Department demarche the Russian embassy in Washington as soon as possible to remind them of their responsibilities to the diplomatic community in Moscow under the Vienna Convention.
PHILLIPS