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
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Today

CNN: Marine amphibious unit led by the USS Iwo Jima into Lebanon "evac embassy"?

By: CNN on: 14.07.2006 [21:30] (53 reads)



IWO JIMA is a large deck amphibious assault ship with a crew of three thousand Sailors and Marines. She resembles a small aircraft carrier and is designed to put troops on hostile shores. The IWO JIMA carries a Marine Battalion Landing Team with all their rolling stock and equipment, a Marine Air Wing, Landing Craft Air Cushion Vehicles, and is a primary command and control ship with state of the art combat systems. Participants would get the chance to see the ship operate a sea and watch Sailors and Marines in the daily performance of their duties.

(2609 bytes) [c]

CNN: Marine amphibious unit led by the USS Iwo Jima into Lebanon "to evac embassy"?

U.S. developing plans to evacuate citizens from Lebanon
Americans can either call or register at a State Department Web site

Friday, July 14, 2006; Posted: 3:45 p.m. EDT (19:45 GMT)

WASHINGTON (CNN) — The fighting that erupted in Lebanon has prompted the Pentagon to develop scenarios for evacuating American citizens, estimated to number around 25,000, military sources told CNN.

The rapid widening of the Mideast conflict this week has created great concern in the U.S. government, which doesn't want Americans in Lebanon caught in the middle of a shooting war.

Such moves would start small, if they happen at all, the sources said. There has been no immediate request for help and no order to move any military personnel.

The State Department has set up a Middle East Task Force to coordinate policy and share information. Defense Department officials are part of the team to talk about any possible plans for American evacuation — a customary move, said State Department spokesman Sean McCormack.

While "contingency planning" is being done, no evacuations were under way, McCormack told reporters. Americans were being asked to stay in contact with the American Embassy

Americans in Lebanon can call the following numbers for information: 1-202-501-4444

from overseas, or 1-888-407-4747 in the United States. U.S. citizens can register with the embassy online at <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/>.

The developing of scenarios has been complicated by the fact that Israel bombed the Beirut International Airport during its operations in Lebanon.

The airport would have been the logical place for Americans to depart Lebanon.

Sources said that in one scenario, the Pentagon would find another air field and work with the Lebanese government on an agreement where U.S. aircraft could come in and evacuate a relatively small number of U.S. Embassy workers.

A second option would be moving a **Marine amphibious unit led by the USS Iwo Jima** into the area, with the carrier and unit remaining offshore.

The group is currently in the Red Sea on exercises with Jordan, but could be moved into the Mediterranean Sea off the Lebanese coast.

Such a scenario — which would take some time to pull off — would be used only if the a large evacuation operation was needed, and it would come only at the ambassador's request, the sources said.

CNN's Barbara Starr and Elise Labott contributed to this report.

<http://www.cnn.com/2006/POLITICS/07/...on.us.citizens>

2 comments

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Article and comments

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These idiot sponsors of the Zionists should be fought by all means.

by cosmo on 14.07.2006 [21:57]

no need to be nice to those supporting the bloody Zionsits with Greenbacks and weaponry.

Just see to it that they get what they deserve,

This is what Israel want

by pdove on 14.07.2006 [22:07]

Fuck Lebannon with US.

Will Lebannon people regret that they ousted their big brother and supporter Syria? They are so naive Israel will live with it in peace.

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