

U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Supplemental Statement
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended

For Six Month Period Ending June 30, 2012
(Insert date)

I - REGISTRANT

1. (a) Name of Registrant (b) Registration No. 5901
LeClairRyan, A Professional Corporation

(c) Business Address(es) of Registrant
Riverfront Plaza, East Tower
951 East Byrd Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following?

- (a) If an individual:
 - (1) Residence address(es) Yes No
 - (2) Citizenship Yes No
 - (3) Occupation Yes No
- (b) If an organization:
 - (1) Name Yes No
 - (2) Ownership or control Yes No
 - (3) Branch offices Yes No

(c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in Items (a) and (b) above.

IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4, AND 5(a).

3. If you have previously filed Exhibit C, state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period.
Yes No
If yes, have you filed an amendment to the Exhibit C? Yes No N/A
If no, please attach the required amendment.

The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.)

4. (a) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period?
 Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:
 Name Position Date Connection Ended

See Attached List

(b) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period?
 Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:
 Name Residence Address Citizenship Position Date Assumed

See Attached List

5. (a) Has any person named in Item 4(b) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal?
 Yes No

If yes, identify each such person and describe the service rendered.

(b) During this six month reporting period, has the registrant hired as employees or in any other capacity, any persons who rendered or will render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s) in other than a clerical or secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity? Yes No

Name Residence Address Citizenship Position Date Assumed

(c) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Position or Connection Date Terminated

(d) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their connection with any foreign principal during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Position or Connection Foreign Principal Date Terminated

6. Have short form registration statements been filed by all of the persons named in Items 5(a) and 5(b) of the supplemental statement?

Yes No

If no, list names of persons who have not filed the required statement.

N/A

II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has your connection with any foreign principal ended during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No
 If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal _____ Date of Termination _____

8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal(s)² during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No
 If yes, furnish th following information:

Name and Address of Foreign Principal(s) _____ Date Acquired _____

9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list foreign principal(s)² whom you continued to represent during the 6 month reporting period.

Kingdom of Morocco

10. (a) Have you filed exhibits for the newly acquired foreign principal(s), if any, listed in Item 8?

Exhibit A³ Yes No
 Exhibit B⁴ Yes No N/A

If no, please attach the required exhibit.

(b) Have there been any changes in the Exhibits A and B previously filed for any foreign principal whom you represented during this six month period? Yes No

If yes, have you filed an amendment to these exhibits? Yes No

If no, please attach the required amendment.

2. The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a) (9)). A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 208.)

3. The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form NSD-3 (Formerly CRM-157) sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

4. The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form NSD-4 (Formerly CRM-155) sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

III - ACTIVITIES

-
11. During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes No

If yes, identify each foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

See Attached

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12. During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity⁵ as defined below? Yes No

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter.

See No. 11

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13. In addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits your foreign principal(s)? Yes No

If yes, describe fully.

⁵ The term "political activity" means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

IV - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

14. (a) RECEIPTS-MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise? Yes No

If no, explain why.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies.⁶

| Date | From Whom | Purpose | Amount |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------|
| From January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 | Kingdom of Morocco | Government Relations and Legal Advice | \$25,726.00 |
| | | | <u>\$25,726.00</u> |
| | | | Total |

(b) RECEIPTS - FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received, as part of a fundraising campaign⁷, any money on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes No

If yes, have you filed an Exhibit D to your registration? Yes No N/A

If yes, indicate the date the Exhibit D was filed. Date _____

(c) RECEIPTS-THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received any thing of value⁹ other than money from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

| Foreign Principal | Date Received | Thing of Value | Purpose |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------|---------|
|-------------------|---------------|----------------|---------|

^{6, 7} A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, moneys, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fundraising campaign. (See Rule 201(e)).

⁸ An Exhibit D, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fundraising campaign and transmitted for a foreign principal.

⁹ Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

15. (a) **DISBURSEMENTS-MONIES**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you

(1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes No

(2) transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes No

If no, explain in full detail why there were no disbursements made on behalf of any foreign principal.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

| Date | To Whom | Purpose | Amount |
|------|---------|---------|--------|
|------|---------|---------|--------|

See Attached

\$566.96

Total

(b) DISBURSEMENTS-THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you disposed of anything of value¹⁰ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

| Date | Recipient | Foreign Principal | Thing of Value | Purpose |
|------|-----------|-------------------|----------------|---------|
|------|-----------|-------------------|----------------|---------|

(c) DISBURSEMENTS-POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

During this 6 month reporting period, have you from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value¹¹ in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

| Date | Amount or Thing of Value | Political Organization or Candidate | Location of Event |
|------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
|------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|

N/A

^{10, 11} Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks" and the like.

V - INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. (a) During this 6 month reporting period, did you prepare, disseminate or cause to be disseminated any informational materials?¹²
 Yes No

If Yes, go to Item 17.

(b) If you answered No to Item 16(a), do you disseminate any material in connection with your registration?
 Yes No

If Yes, please forward the materials disseminated during the six month period to the Registration Unit for review.

17. Identify each such foreign principal.

Kingdom of Morocco

18. During this 6 month reporting period, has any foreign principal established a budget or allocated a specified sum of money to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes No

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount, and indicate for what period of time.

19. During this 6 month reporting period, did your activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

- Radio or TV broadcasts
- Magazine or newspaper
- Motion picture films
- Letters or telegrams
- Advertising campaigns
- Press releases
- Pamphlets or other publications
- Lectures or speeches

Other (specify) Powerpoint

Electronic Communications

- Email
- Website URL(s): _____
- Social media websites URL(s): _____
- Other (specify) N/A

20. During this 6 month reporting period, did you disseminate or cause to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

- Public officials
- Newspapers
- Libraries
- Legislators
- Editors
- Educational institutions
- Government agencies
- Civic groups or associations
- Nationality groups
- Other (specify) N/A

21. What language was used in the informational materials:

- English
- Other (specify) _____

22. Did you file with the Registration Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

23. Did you label each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act? Yes No

12 The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

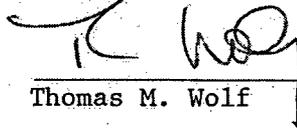
VI - EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Print or type name under each signature or provide electronic signature¹³)

July 30, 2012



Thomas M. Wolf

¹³ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

SHORT-FORM REGISTRATION INFORMATION SHEET

The Department records list active short-form registration statements for the following persons filed on the date indicated by each name. If a person is not currently functioning in the same capacity directly on behalf of the foreign principal, please indicate the date of termination in Item 5 of the supplemental statement.

Short Form List for Registrant: LeClairRyan, A Professional Corporation

| <u>Last Name</u> | <u>First Name</u> | <u>Registration Date</u> |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Anderson | David E. | 11/01/2011 |
| Wolf | Thomas M. | 12/17/2008 |

Attachment - 4a

| Last Name | First Name | Middle Name | Job title | Last Day of Employment |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
| O'Toole | Edward | L | Associate | 1/14/2012 |
| Pustel | Helen | B | Associate | 1/14/2012 |
| Beadle | Peter | W | Officer | 1/14/2012 |
| Hoening | Peter | | Shareholder | 1/14/2012 |
| Semprevivo | Phillip | C | Shareholder | 1/14/2012 |
| Presta | Anthony | | Associate | 2/3/2012 |
| Smith | Katherine | Tanner | Officer | 2/17/2012 |
| Herbert | Ronald | P | Shareholder | 2/17/2012 |
| Satterwhite | Kimberly | A | Shareholder | 2/17/2012 |
| DiBattista | Jason | C | Officer | 2/24/2012 |
| Beneda | Lili | Fay | Associate | 2/29/2012 |
| Rubens | Jonathan | T | Officer | 2/29/2012 |
| Wellons | Hugh | B | Officer | 3/2/2012 |
| Rizzo | Jill | K | Associate | 3/6/2012 |
| Williams | E. | Kenneth | Shareholder | 3/15/2012 |
| Pomfret | Kevin | D | Officer | 3/16/2012 |
| Ryan | Dennis | M | Shareholder | 3/30/2012 |
| Tross | Jonathan | F | Associate | 3/31/2012 |
| Sipe | Maynard | L. | Associate | 4/2/2012 |
| Shetterly | Daryl | E | Officer | 4/2/2012 |
| Dobbin | Ashley | C | Officer | 4/11/2012 |
| White Burgos | Susan | C | Associate | 4/13/2012 |
| Clower | Randolph | V | Associate | 4/17/2012 |
| Trimmer | Christina | Davidson | Associate | 4/27/2012 |
| Boyd | Tara | R | Officer | 5/1/2012 |
| MacHarg | Michael | P. | Officer | 5/1/2012 |
| Farley | Ryan | P | Shareholder | 5/1/2012 |
| Anthony | Keith | J | Associate | 5/3/2012 |
| Gissy | Leah | S. | Officer | 5/8/2012 |
| Anwari | Deeba | | Associate | 5/14/2012 |
| Smith | Robert | B. | Officer | 5/18/2012 |
| Leshine | Bruce | Howard | Shareholder | 5/18/2012 |
| Halpin | Brian | J | Officer | 5/21/2012 |
| Lucey | Gerald | F. | Officer | 5/25/2012 |
| Mitchell | Jeffery | K | Shareholder | 5/25/2012 |
| Pedersen | Shelley | J | Associate | 6/1/2012 |
| Demoura | Kenneth | J | Officer | 6/1/2012 |
| Kiker | Dennis | R. | Officer | 7/1/2012 |

Attachment 4b - ALL OF THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW ARE U.S. CITIZENS

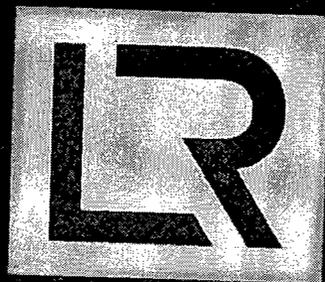
| Last Name | First Name | Middle Name | Job title | City | State | Date of hire/rehire |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------|---------------------|
| Cooper | Massie | | Associate | Richmond | VA | 1/1/2012 |
| Rodman | Lindsay | | Associate | New York | NY | 1/1/2012 |
| Sheldon | Justin | | Associate | Richmond | VA | 1/1/2012 |
| Cohn | Thomas | A | Officer | New York | NY | 1/1/2012 |
| Scheibe | Karen | M | Officer | Lorton | VA | 1/1/2012 |
| Norman | William | D | Shareholder | Marblehead | MA | 1/1/2012 |
| Nied | Joel | R | Officer | Virginia Beach | VA | 2/6/2012 |
| Butler | Thomas | E | Shareholder | Garden City | NY | 2/14/2012 |
| Wheeler | Brian | S | Officer | Blacksburg | VA | 2/15/2012 |
| Efstratis | Harry | P | Associate | San Francisco | CA | 2/16/2012 |
| Williams | Claudia | L | Associate | Rodeo | CA | 2/16/2012 |
| Van Zandt | Peter | J | Shareholder | San Francisco | CA | 2/16/2012 |
| Filardo | Thomas | | Officer | Hewlett | NY | 3/1/2012 |
| Herzog | Ronald | S | Officer | New Rochelle | NY | 3/1/2012 |
| Cho | Janet | W | Associate | Midlothian | VA | 3/26/2012 |
| White | Edward | T | Officer | Richmond | VA | 3/26/2012 |
| Harbuck | Benjamin | P | Associate | Tuckahoe | NY | 3/30/2012 |
| Voikov | Michael | L | Shareholder | Bethesda | MD | 4/1/2012 |
| Kellermann | Patrick | M | Associate | Washington | DC | 5/1/2012 |
| Margiano | Lauren | R | Associate | Glen Head | NY | 5/7/2012 |
| Berman | Ralph | | Officer | West Orange | NJ | 5/7/2012 |
| Bielik | Linda | C | Officer | Hoboken | NJ | 5/7/2012 |
| Lawrence | Andrea | J | Officer | Livingston | NJ | 5/7/2012 |
| Cozier | Barry | A | Shareholder | Bronx | NY | 5/7/2012 |
| Drago | Scott | M | Shareholder | Rye | NY | 5/7/2012 |
| Mitchell | Cynthia | J | Shareholder | New York | NY | 5/7/2012 |
| Zuckerman | Adrian | | Shareholder | Chester | NJ | 5/7/2012 |
| Maready | Dorothy | Karen | Associate | Dublin | CA | 5/16/2012 |
| Harris | Bridget | M | Shareholder | Piedmont | CA | 5/16/2012 |
| Harris | L. Randolph | | Shareholder | Piedmont | CA | 5/16/2012 |
| Echikson | Thomas | G | Officer | Potomac | MD | 5/21/2012 |
| Dubon | William | B | Associate | Boston | MA | 5/25/2012 |
| Kennedy | Jessica | N | Associate | Boston | MA | 5/25/2012 |
| Ognibene | Charles | A | Shareholder | Dover | MA | 5/25/2012 |
| Grant | Michael | T | Associate | Needham | MA | 6/25/2012 |
| Brener | Robert | J | Officer | North Caldwell | NJ | 6/27/2012 |

Attachment 11

| DATE | SERVICES RENDERED |
|----------|--|
| 05/11/12 | Communications with Kristi Way, Chief of Staff to Congressman Eric Cantor |
| 05/17/12 | Travel to Washington, D.C. and meet with Kristi Way, Chief of Staff and Michael Lowry, Legislative Director for Congressman Cantor regarding Morocco as model for MENA democracy and Morocco's autonomy plan for Western Sahara |
| 05/21/12 | Communications with Mary Noonan, staff of House Africa Subcommittee Chair Chris Smith and Brooke Bennett, staff to Subcommittee member Tim Griffin |
| 05/24/12 | Communications with staff of House Africa Subcommittee members Fortenberry and Marino (Diana Tasnadi and Matt Minora) |
| 05/25/12 | Communications with Matthew Satterly, staff of House Africa Subcommittee member Buerkle |
| 05/31/12 | Individual meetings with Diana Tasnadi, staff to Congressman Fortenberry, Brooke Bennett and Stephen Chandler, staff to Griffin and Congresswoman Buerkle regarding Morocco as model for MENA democracy and Morocco's autonomy plan for Western Sahara |
| 06/07/12 | Meeting: Matt Minora, senior staff to Congressman Marino, member of the House Subcommittee on Africa regarding Morocco as model for MENA democracy and Morocco's autonomy plan for Western Sahara |
| 06/26/12 | Meetings with the following foreign relations staff for the following Congressmen (all members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee): Michael Zachariades for Congressman Gus Bilirakis, Baker Elmore for Congressman Joe Wilson, Nathaniel Gately for Congressman Connie Mack, Elaine Acevedo for Congresswoman Renee Ellmers, Mary O'Keefe for Congressman Dan Burton, and Scott Cullinane for Congressman Dana Rohrabacher regarding Morocco as model for MENA democracy and Morocco's autonomy plan for Western Sahara |
| 06/28/12 | Meeting with the following foreign relations staff for the following Congressmen (all members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee): Elise Conner with Congressman Bill Johnson, Richard Weghorst with Congresswoman Jean Schmidt, Andy Taylor with Congressman Michael McCaulk, and Issac Fong with Congressman Mike Kelly regarding Morocco as model for MENA democracy and Morocco's autonomy plan for Western Sahara |

| Attorney | Worked Date | Amount | Description |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------|---|
| BILLING, A | 01/27/2012 | \$ 10.25 | Overnight Express Mail - Vendor: Federal Express - Recipient: Daniel B. Pickard, Tessa Capel Tracking Number: 797996938593 |
| Anderson, David E. | 05/17/2012 | \$ 64.00 | Travel - Ground Transportation Train/Subway/Metro - David E. Anderson, May 17, Government of Morocco Meeting with clients |
| Anderson, David E. | 05/17/2012 | \$ 5.00 | Travel - Parking/Tolls Parking - David E. Anderson, May 17, 2012 Meeting - Government of Morocco Parking at Amtrak Station |
| Anderson, David E. | 05/22/2012 | \$ 2.05 | Computerized Legal Research |
| Anderson, David E. | 05/22/2012 | \$ 192.00 | Computerized Legal Research - Out of Contract Charges. |
| Anderson, David E. | 06/07/2012 | \$ 7.00 | Travel - Parking/Tolls Parking - David E. Anderson, Jun 07, 2012 Meeting in Alexandria re: Government in Morocco Parking |
| Anderson, David E. | 06/07/2012 | \$ 117.66 | Travel- Mileage Mileage - David E. Anderson, Jun 07, 2012 Meeting regarding government in Morocco Round trip from RIC to Alexandria |
| Anderson, David E. | 06/26/2012 | \$ 5.00 | Travel - Ground Transportation Train/Subway/Metro - David E. Anderson, Jun 26, Meeting in D.C. regarding Morocco Amtrak Station parking |
| Anderson, David E. | 06/26/2012 | \$ 64.00 | Travel - Ground Transportation Train/Subway/Metro - David E. Anderson, Jun 26, Meeting to discuss Government of Morocco Amtrak - Round trip from RIC to WAS |
| Anderson, David E. | 06/28/2012 | \$ 25.00 | Business Meals Dinner - David E. Anderson, Jun 28, 2012 Meeting in D.C. regarding Morocco Dinner at Center Cafe |
| Anderson, David E. | 06/28/2012 | \$ 5.00 | Travel - Ground Transportation Train/Subway/Metro - David E. Anderson, Jun 28, Meeting in D.C. regarding Morocco Amtrak Station parking |
| Anderson, David E. | 06/28/2012 | \$ 10.00 | Travel - Ground Transportation Taxi - David E. Anderson, Jun 28, 2012 Meeting to discuss Government of Morocco Alexandria Office |
| Anderson, David E. | 06/28/2012 | \$ 28.00 | Travel - Ground Transportation Train/Subway/Metro - David E. Anderson, Jun 28, Meeting to discuss Government of Morocco Amtrak from RIC to ALX |
| Anderson, David E. | 06/28/2012 | \$ 32.00 | Travel - Ground Transportation Train/Subway/Metro - David E. Anderson, Jun 28, Meeting to discuss Government of Morocco Amtrak from WAS to RIC |
| | | \$ 566.96 | |

Attachment 15(a)



Morocco: An Update

This information is distributed by David E. Anderson on behalf of the Kingdom of Morocco. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

May 2012

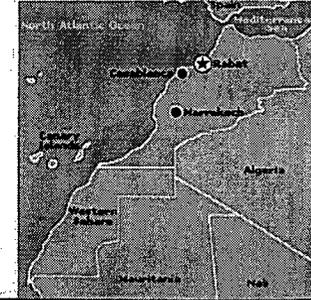


LECLAIR RYAN

Introduction

May 2012

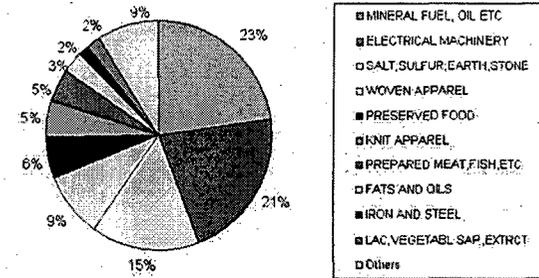
Background



- Oldest ally of the U.S. (recognized U.S. government in 1777).
- Key ally of U.S. for international security. Has actively collaborated with U.S. intelligence and military for decades.
- The U.S. State Department describes Morocco as “a moderate Arab state that maintains close relations with Europe and the United States” and actively “supports the search for peace and moderation in the Middle East.”

Background Note: Morocco, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, U.S. Department of State (April 20, 2011) www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/5431.htm.

Background cont.



- Morocco was one of the first Arab and Islamic states to condemn the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the United States. Morocco has been the target of terrorist attacks by Al Qaeda in the Maghreb (AQIM) and other terrorist organizations.
- Significant trading partner of U.S., especially in agricultural products, but also phosphates, telecommunications, perfumes, clothing, etc.

Leadership



King Mohammed VI, 48 years old, has been on the throne since 1999. He is a major voice for peace and moderation throughout both the Arab world and Africa.

- A direct descendant of Mohammed, he has the title "Commander of the Faithful" and is acknowledged by Muslims throughout the world as an important voice for moderate Islam.
- To fight extremism in Morocco, the King has launched a series of religious reforms that aim to put an end to militant ideologies coming mostly from the east. He has initiated a training course to form Imams and Mourchidate (women preachers) to promote a very tolerant Islam. At the same time, he launched religious TV and radio channels to cultivate appreciation of Islam based on tolerance, understanding and respect of other religions.

Leadership cont.



- The King has played a significant role in the Middle East peace process. For example, as President of the Jerusalem Committee, he has been a voice against violence and promoted use of the Jerusalem Fund Agency to achieve economic development benefitting both Muslim and Christian Palestinians.
- The King has promoted policies and programs for social and economic development in Sub-Saharan Africa, especially through development of their infrastructure.
- The King has worked to give a new impetus to the Maghreb Union and to create a common market that will benefit all countries in North Africa (the Maghreb).

Reforms from the Throne



- Focusing on education, economic development and trade in order to make Morocco a significant player in the international community.
- Pushing the country toward greater democracy, while being careful not to create a backlash from Islamic fundamentalists.
- In consultation with religious scholars, women NGOs and political parties, initiating a new family law to make women equal to men before the law, which serves as a model for similar legislation in other Arab countries.
- Strengthening civil liberties and human rights, including religious freedom.
 - The King established a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to investigate human rights abuses under the reign of his father, Hassan II, and to indemnify the victims of such abuses.
 - There has long been a strong Jewish community in Morocco and the King has promoted a moderate Arab position vis-à-vis Israel.
 - The Moroccan constitution guarantees freedom of religion.

Reforms from the Throne cont.



- Creating a model for progress and reform as a Muslim nation. After the Arab Spring of 2011, which saw large but peaceful demonstrations for reform, the King proposed significant constitutional reforms. They passed overwhelmingly in a referendum and resulted in new elections Nov. 25, 2011, after which the King appointed Abdelilah Benkirane from the winning PJD, a moderate Islamist party, as the new prime minister. (Before the recent reforms, the King chose the prime minister as he saw fit.)
- Council on Foreign Relations Fellow in Residence Joel D. Hirst writes that Morocco is a “shining star in the Arab Spring” and that the “example of an increasingly liberal Morocco” could “represent the future.”

Morocco – An Arab Spring Success (June 27, 2011) www.cfr.org/morocco/morocco----arab-spring-success/p25373.

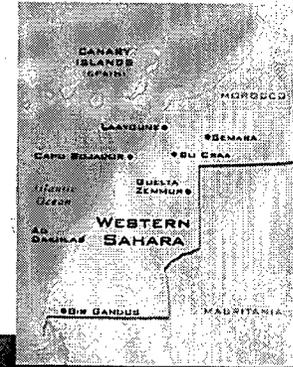


LECLAIR RYAN

Western Sahara

May 2012

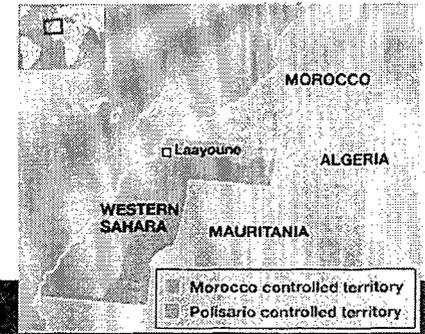
Western Sahara (WS) is No. 1 Issue



Vital to Moroccan security...

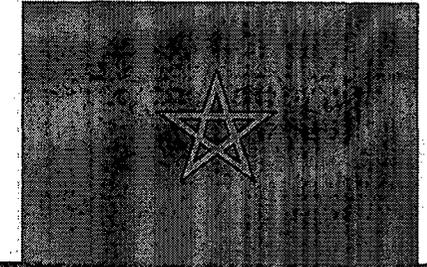
- The size of Colorado with about 500,000 inhabitants. Mostly flat desert, it is one of the least densely populated regions of the world.
- WS was tied to Morocco for several centuries before Spain made it a colony in 1884.
- Spain essentially abandoned WS in 1975, and tens of thousands from Morocco moved into the region.

Western Sahara (WS) cont.



- The leftist regimes of Cuba and Algeria spurred a local nomadic tribe, which had previously migrated among WS, Mauritania, Mali and Algeria, to assert a claim of “independence” for WS under the name “Polisario.”
- Armed conflict 1975-1991. Since then, a ceasefire.
- Polisario maintains refugee camps in Algeria and has come under increasing international criticism for its severe human rights abuses against those interred in the camps.
- In contrast to Algeria, which refuses inspection of its refugee camps, Morocco has always given access to international and local human rights NGOs and diplomats to visit and assess the human rights situation in WS.

Western Sahara (WS) cont.



- Morocco has invested billions of dollars in WS to promote education, housing, and economic development.
- Morocco spends about 2% of its GDP maintaining the security of WS.
- As a compromise between total incorporation and total independence, Morocco proposed in 2007 an autonomy plan whereby WS would choose its own leaders and make its own laws, with Morocco maintaining responsibility for security and foreign affairs. Between the competing proposals, Morocco's offers the broadest extension of the franchise to those with legitimate ties to the region.

Western Sahara (WS) cont.



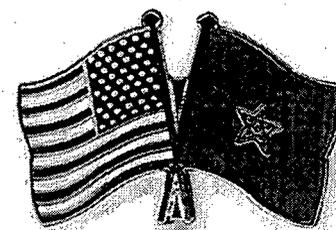
- Morocco can never allow—nor would any other country in its position allow—WS to become an “independent state,” because as such it would be incredibly weak, a failed state from Day One, and a magnet for terrorism, drug trafficking, human trafficking and other evils.
- Since 9/11, a branch of al-Qaeda known as al-Qaeda in Islamic Maghreb (“AQIM”) has moved into Algeria and the Sahel (just south of WS).
 - AQIM has aligned with the Polisario and used members of the Polisario to carry out kidnappings and terrorist attacks in the region.
- Recent instability in Mali, where 2/3 of the country has fallen into the hands of various rebel groups, has led to an even greater presence of AQIM in the northern part of that country, near WS.

Western Sahara (WS) cont.

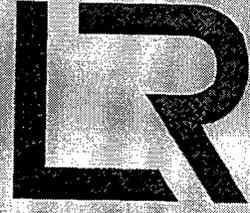


- An “independent” WS would inevitably lead to further expansion of al-Qaeda in the region.
- The UN has had the WS issue before it for decades and has not helped to move closer to a resolution.
- Although the separatist movement was largely manufactured by Cuba and Algeria, and Morocco would probably win a referendum, it is crystal clear that, for obvious security reasons,
 1. Morocco could never allow WS to become an “independent state,”
 2. the U.S. could not afford to have WS become an “independent state,” and
 3. no nation that cares about international security should want WS to become an “independent state.”

Western Sahara (WS) cont.



- The U.S. could help its ally Morocco by pushing the U.N. to accept the autonomy plan for WS.
- This would greatly diminish the destabilizing effect of the Algerian-supported separatist movement and would allow the region to make dramatic strides in economic development.
- The current uncertainty and destabilization that accompany the threat of “independent statehood” have prevented greater investment and development in the region, which would be the best protection against terrorism.



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Thank you