

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHLOA5573 1521304-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 011304Z JUN 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
OSRI: RUEHLO
DTG: 011304Z JUN 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6519
INFO: ////
SUBJ: WINFIELD HOUSE - A/FBO TEAM VISIT

POST WAS VISITED BY THE FBO WINFIELD HOUSE PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS ON MAY 26-29. THE PROJECT TEAM HELD PROGRESS REVIEW AND COORDINATION MEETINGS WITH THE GENERAL CONTRACTOR, THE

TEXT:
UNCLAS LONDON 005573

DEPARTMENT FOR A/AS KENNEDY, FBO DAS
THOMASSON, EUR/EX DIR HAYS

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: ABLD, AMGT
SUBJECT: WINFIELD HOUSE - A/FBO TEAM VISIT

POST WAS VISITED BY THE FBO WINFIELD HOUSE PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS ON MAY 26-29. THE PROJECT TEAM HELD PROGRESS REVIEW AND COORDINATION MEETINGS WITH THE GENERAL CONTRACTOR, THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGER, THE ASBESTOS ABATEMENT SUBCONTRACTOR, AND POST MANAGEMENT. POST IS PLEASED TO REPORT AS FOLLOWS:

1. CONSTRUCTION IS PROCEEDING AS ANTICIPATED. MOST OF THE PREVIOUSLY KNOWN ASBESTOS HAS BEEN REMOVED, AND DEMOLITION IS UNDERWAY.

2. DURING THE PROCESS OF ABATEMENT, WHICH COINCIDED WITH REMOVAL OF DECORATIVE WOOD PANELS AND WOOD FLOORS, ADDITIONAL ASBESTOS WAS DISCOVERED. FBO'S ON-SITE ASBESTOS ABATEMENT COORDINATOR IS CONDUCTING FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS AS MORE WALLS AND FLOORS ARE OPENED DURING DEMOLITION. A PRELIMINARY SCOPE OF WORK FOR ADDITIONAL ABATEMENT AS BEEN PREPARED AND REVIEWED BY THE TEAM AND THE GENERAL CONTRACTOR. AT THIS POINT, FURTHER INVESTIGATION, IT APPEARS THAT THE AMOUNT OF NEWLY DISCOVERED ASBESTOS MAY EXCEED, BY AS MUCH AS 50%, THE PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED QUANTITY. A MODIFICATION TO THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT IS REQUIRED, AND SHOULD BE ISSUED BEFORE THE INITIAL ABATEMENT IS COMPLETED ON JUNE 12 IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE THE IMPACT TO THE SCHEDULE. BECAUSE THE AMOUNT OF NEWLY IDENTIFIED ASBESTOS MAY BE SUBSTANTIAL, ADDITIONAL FUNDING WILL BE

REQUIRED IN THIS FISCAL YEAR TO KEEP THE PROJECT ON SCHEDULE.

3. THE CONTRACTOR INFORMED THE TEAM THAT THE SITE WAS CLOSED FOR THREE DAYS DUE TO THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT EARLIER THIS MONTH, AT THE REQUEST OF THE WHITE HOUSE ADVANCE TEAM AND THE SECRET SERVICE, TO ALLOW THE GROUNDS TO BE USED BY THE PRESIDENT'S HELICOPTER.

4. THE TEAM BRIEFED THE AMBASSADOR ON THE PROJECT'S STATUS AND CURRENTLY UNRESOLVED ISSUES. THE AMBASSADOR WAS ADVISED THAT BECAUSE OF THE ADDITIONAL ASBESTOS, THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT, AND FUTURE EVENTS THAT MAY BE HELD ON THE GROUNDS, THERE MAY BE SOME IMPACT TO THE SCHEDULE, BUT THAT THE ORIGINAL MOVE-IN DATE OF AUGUST 1, 1999 MAY NOT BE AFFECTED.

5. ALL OTHER ASPECTS OF THE RENOVATION PROJECT ARE PROCEEDING AS PLANNED.

EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS ITS THANKS FOR THE TREMENDOUS EFFORT THAT HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY FBO PROJECT MANAGER JAIME SALCEDO, BERLIN PROJECT DIRECTOR ROBERT MCKINNIE, AND PROJECT ARCHITECT KEVIN SPENCE. EMBASSY STAFF LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE FBO TEAM TO MAINTAIN THE NECESSARY DRIVE REQUIRED TO MOVE FORWARD EXPEDITIOUSLY TO COMPLETION, SUCH A LARGE AND COMPLEX PROJECT.

LADER

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

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