

English translation of the letter sent on August 12, 2020 from UMAM Documentation & Research to Noblesport about the teargas bombs used by the Lebanese law enforcement forces.

Nobelsport 57 Rue Pierre Charron 75008 Paris FRANCE

Beirut, 12 August 2020

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the wake of the protests that took place in downtown Beirut during the afternoon and evening of Saturday 8 August, we have been able to collect a large number of the remains of tear gas grenades used by the Lebanese law enforcement forces against protesters in the most irresponsible manner, as well as the cartridges of these devices.

Among the items that we have been able to gather from the site of the protests, notably Martyrs' Square and its surroundings, are various cardboard boxes, which indicate that the tear gas grenades used by the "Forces de Sécurité Intérieures" (Internal Security Forces) were manufactured by your company and have been exported to Lebanon via a Lebanese company, Brescia Middle East.

However, the website of said Lebanese company, Brescia Middle East, states that "the company is specialized in importing and exporting hunting guns and related ammunition."

These circumstances, linked to the tear gas bombs manufactured by your company and their irresponsible use by the Internal Security Forces at a critical juncture of the history of our country, solicit many questions that require you, out of respect for the Lebanese people, to provide clear, precise, and comprehensive answers.

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First and foremost, we unequivocally request the public release, either through a media issuance or a response to our letter, the framework of the contractual mechanism through which your company has supplied the Internal Security Forces with the aforementioned grenades and the exact role of the Lebanese company Brescia Middle East through which these weapons have been supplied.

Moreover, we ask you to specify to the Lebanese (and French) people if this material has been supplied to the Lebanese Internal Security Forces in the framework of France's assistance to said "Internal Security Forces."

Lastly, even though we have already deduced it, we call for you to share publicly or by responding to our letter, the chemical composition of the tear gas grenades that you have been exporting to Lebanon and that are being used to prevent the Lebanese people from freely expressing their urge to get rid of the corrupt clique presiding over the destiny of the country and which, by doing so, is literally putting the safety of the Lebanese people at risk—the enormous explosion of the port of Beirut being an illustration if illustrations are needed!

We kindly await your response,
UMAM Documentation & Research

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