

RELEASE IN PART  
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**From:** Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 18, 2009 10:03 AM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: 9/18 Senior Staff Meeting

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**From:** Smith, Daniel B  
**To:** Mills, Cheryl D; Abedin, Huma; Sullivan, Jacob J  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 18 09:58:17 2009  
**Subject:** 9/18 Senior Staff Meeting

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIEDCONGRESSIONAL OUTREACH

- Jack said that all the outreach yesterday to Congresswoman Lowey seems to have had a positive impact. She still is not comfortable with the Pakistan energy reprogramming because she fears it will turn out to be a much bigger project, but apparently will not object to the immediate request for reprogramming.
- Jack noted the need for more outreach to Congressman Obey, adding that he is using the Vietnam analogy to refer to the situation in Afghanistan more and more. Anne-Marie said that this is becoming much more widespread among Democrats on the Hill, pointing especially to Senator Kerry.
- Rich raised the idea of an S call to Senator Leany to flag our concerns about cuts to food security, Pakistan FMF and Merida assistance to Mexico. Jack suggested we needed to get our priorities straight, and that he would personally press hardest on Pak FMF and Mexico. Rich said he had a 9:30 call in to Nisha Desai on Lowey's staff and that this might clarify where things stand.
- Jack questioned whether he should call Congressman Obey to discuss assistance to Palau, noting that Secretary Saizari has already weighed in. Rich agreed, but said Dan Fried is very concerned about the signal that will be sent to countries thinking of taking detainees from GTMO if assistance to Palau is cut.
- Rich reported that the Secretary's Hill briefings on refugees had gone well yesterday, and that she made progress with Senator Schumer on pressing for a resolution of the New York property issue and the opening of a State Senate liaison office.

Iran SanctionsUNDP and Iran

- I requested her to task an info memo to the Secretary on the UNDP and Iran issue to make certain she is up to speed on this.

Missile Launches

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- Bill reported that Ivo Daalder had done a good job in the NATO briefing on Missile Defense yesterday, though the Poles and Czechs remain unhappy. PA commented that the story had “turned” substantially once the President, Gates and others had weighed in. Everyone remains puzzled by the Wall Street Journal leak and whether that was deliberate. It definitely complicated things.

#### Goldstone Report

- There was discussion of the need to get the Secretary the latest guidance on Goldstone before her speech this morning. Sheba noted that Jim had concerns about our press guidance on Goldstone, noting that we are schizophrenic when it comes to the Human Rights Council mandate. On the one hand, we criticize the mandate, but on the other hand, we insist that the mandate requires the report be kept in the HRC. The best thing is to not cite the mandate as the reason for keeping the discussion in the HRC; instead, we should just note that we favor keeping the discussion there and leave it at that.

#### Legal Issues

- Harrod reported that there will likely be a settlement Monday in the Knox Case against the Palestinian Authority. [REDACTED]
- Harrod noted that Land CA would send forward a memo to S on the Abbot child custody case before the Supreme Court where we are arguing the need to adhere to the Hague Convention on Child Abductions and return a child to Chile because this is best for the child and because we are so often arguing on behalf of American parents whose children have been taken abroad.

#### Nominees

- Rich said six nominees had been reported out of the SFRC yesterday – Hormats, Posner, Lee Feinstein, Jacobson (Canada), Barry White (Norway), and Solomont (Spain).

#### Gratton

- Pich gave PA a heads-up that Scott Gratton is planning to do media interviews next week.