

RELEASE IN PART B1,1.4(D),B5

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2009 11:04 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: 8/27 Senior Staff and Regional Bureaus Meetings

From: Smith, Daniel B
To: Mills, Cheryl D; Abedin, Huma; Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Thu Aug 27 10:54:39 2009
Subject: 8/27 Senior Staff and Regional Bureaus Meetings

Sensitive But Unclassified

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Pakistan

- New York Times reporter Eric Schmitt is about to run with a story on Pakistani export control violations, based apparently on briefings to the Hill.

[REDACTED] In the subsequent regional bureaus meeting, Holbrooke's office reported that Schmitt has given us a noon deadline for any additional input.

[REDACTED] Rich did note that the case will make it harder to resist stronger export controls for Pakistan.

1.4(D)
B1
B5U.S.-EU Summit

- Derek noted that the U.S.-EU Summit in Washington is tentatively scheduled for November 2-3, which conflicts with the Forum for the Future in Morocco that the Secretary has already agreed to attend. Derek added that Phil Gordon is attempting to shift the Summit dates slightly to allow the Secretary to participate in at least part of the Summit.

Afghanistan

- Harold raised today's New York Times article on allegations that former Afghan Defense Minister and likely new Vice President Marshall Fahim has been involved in drug trafficking and had been subject to Leahy vetting under the Bush Administration could raise not only public relations but also legal issues. Harold indicated he would be looking into the legal ramifications.

Honduras

- The action memo to the Secretary on assistance to Honduras has still not come forward. Derek noted that he hoped to have the joint strategy memo on elections to the Secretary today.

Public Affairs

- PJ said that he anticipated more questions about Honduras and whether the Secretary will attend Senator Kennedy's funeral and/or burial.

Regional Bureaus Meeting -- Highlights

Israel's Qualitative Military Edge

- Ellen Tauscher noted that the Majority leader had spoken to Defense Minister Barak about the QME report and had used our points. Jim said he thought Israeli concerns were less about the report itself than about the issue of F-15 sales.

Colombia DCA

- Jim told WHA he thought references to "transnational crime" in connection with the Colombia DCA were not helpful – they raised yet again the idea that this might have a regional focus. He asked that this term not be used.

Counter-Narcotics Money to Venezuela

- Jim questioned WHA's proposal to offer counter-narcotics funding to Venezuela, questioning whether Venezuela would accept our money and how this would play on the Hill. He asked WHA and P to take another look at this.

Australian Energy Project

- David Goldwyn briefed on the Australian Government's approval of a large liquefied natural gas project on Barrow Island involving a number of innovative environmental mitigation efforts, including underground carbon storage capture.

Sri Lanka



B5

EAP Issues

- Indonesia – Curt Campbell said that the Indonesia stop for the President's Asia trip is "in trouble" because of scheduling. He said he would send a note to the Secretary on this, urging that she intervene. 

 PRM and IO agreed.

- Korea -- Curt asked Jim to host a meeting before next Tuesday's DC on Korea to make sure that before Steve Bosworth goes out to 6-Party capitals, we actually have something to say. Jim agreed.
- Senator Webb – Curt reported that Scot Marciel had met with Senator Webb for a de-brief on his visit to Burma. Jim said he would like to pay a call on Webb as well.

B5

