

RELEASE IN
PART B5

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 9:37 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: 9/23 Senior Staff

From: Smith, Daniel B
To: Mills, Cheryl D; Abedin, Huma; Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Wed Sep 23 09:32:53 2009
Subject: 9/23 Senior Staff

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Turkish-Secret Service Incident

- Pat noted that DS is following up with the Secret Service on the incident involving PM Erdogan's detail yesterday. The story has broken in the Turkish media and apparently Fox News is carrying it. Secret Service insists their folks did nothing wrong during the episode at the Clinton Global Initiative yesterday when the Secret Service detail refused to let the Prime Minister enter the event which was under lockdown for the President's departure. The Secret Service has offered an additional agent to help advance, but the Turks are apparently insisting on a replacement of the whole detail. DS is working the issue with Secret Service, but Pat suggested we refer all press inquiries to the Secret Service.

Public Affairs

- In addition to the Turkish incident, PA anticipates questions on the latest developments with Zelaya in Honduras, and the issue with Qaddafi's tent in Bedford, New York (where local authorities have apparently blocked the set up).

Afghanistan/Pakistan

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- Rich noted that Gibbs will apparently announce publicly plans to send interagency teams to the Hill to brief on the strategy review.

D (S) Trip to Asia

- Sheba reported that Jim is in New York today for meetings on the Balkans and with the Turkish Cypriot FM, will be back this evening to host the Council on Competitiveness Dinner, and then leaves for a one-week trip to Asia on Friday.

Legal Issues

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- Harold noted the leak in today's Washington Post of the new higher standards for invoking "state secrets" to avoid disclosure of national security documents. He thinks the story is not bad, but that critics will still feel the new policy does not go far enough.

Legislative Issues

- Rich reported that five of the six pending nominees were confirmed last night, including Hormats, Posner, Feinstein (Poland), White (Norway) and Jacobson (Canada). Senator Grassley has a hold on Solomont related to his time as Chair of the Board the Corporation for National and Community Service.
- Kerry/Lugar/Berman could pass the Senate today by unanimous consent. This new bill is a compromise, but contains all we have sought.
- SFRC and HFAC have asked for the Secretary and Ambassador Holbrooke respectively to testify on October 7. Clearly, Rich noted, we can't have both on the Hill on the same day, but it's also not clear the W/H wants this testimony to take place in early October in any event.
- Defense Appropriations Bill will face a slew of pro and anti-McChrystal amendments, Rich noted.