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RELEASE IN PART B1,B5,1.4(D)

**From:** Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 11, 2010 2:16 PM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: 12/11/10 Senior Staff and Assistant Secretaries Meetings

**From:** Smith, Daniel B  
**To:** Mills, Cheryl D; Abedin, Huma; Sullivan, Jacob J  
**Sent:** Mon Jan 11 12:21:39 2010  
**Subject:** 12/11/10 Senior Staff and Assistant Secretaries Meetings

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

1206/1207

- Over the weekend, Jack noted, [redacted] of making an ERMA-like mechanism for 1207 funding [redacted]

B5

[redacted]  
[redacted] On 1207, Jack noted that the Secretary has agreed to a pilot program and we will signal that to DoD.

QDR

- We have to send our comments on the QDR to DoD today.

P Travel

- Bill noted he leaves for Moscow tomorrow then on to Madrid for a meeting with the EU Political Directors and New York for a P5+1 Political Directors meeting on Iran.

TSA Screening

- PJ said our posts are in a difficult spot in pushing back on public reaction to the TSA list of countries identified for special screening because the list has not been officially released (though it has leaked). [redacted]

[redacted] Cheryl recommended that he speak to DHS [redacted]  
[redacted]

- In the Assistant Secretaries meeting, Judith McHale noted the significant negative fallout from the screening list on our broader public diplomacy efforts in particular countries and the Muslim world at large. Johnnie Carson seconded her observations, noting that in [redacted] the addition of that country to the list has provoked strong negative reaction from both our enemies and friends alike, and could impact bilateral relations. Many [redacted] questioned why the whole country was being affected by the actions of one [redacted], noting that countries that are much larger sources of international terrorists were not included on the list.

Congressional Issues

- Rich noted a series of upcoming hearings, most stemming from the attempted Christmas bombing:
  - Senate Judiciary (1/20) – Janice Jacobs with DHS and FBI.

2. Senate Foreign Relations (1/20) – focused on counterterrorism in Yemen with Dan Benjamin and Jeff Feltman.
  3. Senate Intelligence (1/21) – Dan Benjamin.
  4. Senate and House Homeland Security (1/27?) – Janice Jacobs.
- Rich also said that David Miliband will appear before the SFRC on January 21 in the afternoon to make a statement and engage in a “dialogue,” followed by an appearance by Richard Holbrooke.
  - In addition, the WH is proposing that the Secretary and Secretary Gates appear at a breakfast briefing for Hill leaders on January 21 to rollout the new export promotion initiative. Rich suggested that if we do this, it be billed as a much broader national security breakfast briefing that would touch as well on Iran policy/sanctions, START, etc.
  - With respect to the Iran Sanctions Act, Rich reported that at a special meeting [redacted] suggested that we might not have to launch formal investigations under the Iran Sanctions Act as long as we demonstrated forward movement. [redacted]

#### Legal Issues

- [redacted]
- Harold said that Senators McCain and Graham have apparently co-authored a letter objecting to the return of GTMO detainees to a number of countries that could be problematic. Rich said that essentially Dan Fried has only been allowed to brief the Hill on our efforts once over the past year.

#### Assistant Secretaries Meeting – Highlights

##### EAP

- China has made public the test of a ground-launched interceptor – not clear if it was successful or not.

##### Climate Change

- Todd said that we are still trying to get as many countries as possible to endorse the Copenhagen Accord. May enlist the Secretary to make some calls.

##### S/SRAP

- Karzai’s seventeen new cabinet nominees include three women. For the most part, the new group is a significant improvement with a few exceptions, including the new proposed [redacted]

##### WHA

- Chavez’ devaluation of the Bolivar is a sign of increasing economic problems.

##### Somalia

- Johnnie predicted that the food situation in Somalia would deteriorate sharply over the next 30 days and could lead to significant movement of refugees into Kenya.

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Energy

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