

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2010 5:54 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: The Comfort and Chile

Fyi

From: Smith, Daniel B
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Toiv, Nora F; Kennedy, Patrick F
Sent: Wed Mar 03 11:35:16 2010
Subject: The Comfort and Chile

Cheryl,

You had mentioned this morning that the Secretary was interested in the possible deployment of the Comfort to Chile. I asked my staff to check with WHA to see if this was something they were working. I'm told that because of the need to resupply the Comfort in Baltimore and consequent travel time, the concern is that it will not provide near-term medical assistance. USAID/OFDA is supporting the deployment of the Air National Guard's Expeditionary Medical Support (EMEDS) unit, composed of 57-person medical team, six tents, and medical equipment and supplies to treat up to 3,000 patients. According to USAID/OFDA staff at U.S. Southern Command, the EMEDS will likely be located in BioBío Region, northwest of most-affected Concepción city. The EMEDS is capable of providing laboratory, radiology, pharmacy, and dental services to affected individuals. In addition, the EMEDS has the long-term care capacity for up to 10 medical or surgical patients at a time.

Please let me know, however, if we need to press the Comfort option. Dan