

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2010 5:31 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: Follow up with SFRC on defense treaties

FYI.

From: Verma, Richard R
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2010 4:48 PM
To: Steinberg, James B; Donilon, Thomas E.; Sullivan, Jacob J; McDonough, Denis R.; Campbell, Kurt M; Bleich, Jeffrey L
Subject: FW: Follow up with SFRC on defense treaties

See fairly upbeat assessment on UK/Australia defense trade treaties. Looks like we could get a draft Resolution of Ratification by the end of this week. I still think ratification is a way off, however, probably well into April at the earliest. In the interim, we are pressing Kerry and Lugar for public statements of support.

From: Stout, Jennifer P
To: Verma, Richard R; Shapiro, Andrew J; Rodriguez, Miguel E; Turk, David M; Rooney, Matthew M; Schwab, Carol M; Coffee, Michael S; Williams, Joshua N; Heidema, Sarah J; Tucker, Maureen E; Haines, Avril D; Kovac, Robert S
Sent: Wed Mar 10 15:07:17 2010
Subject: Follow up with SFRC on defense treaties

Spoke to Ed Levine today to follow up on Friday's briefing, address the few take-backs we owed them, and ask about their timeline for providing us with the resolution of ratification.

First, Ed said that he thought Friday's briefing accomplished what he had hoped – that we were able to exhaust the Committee's questions and address all other outstanding concerns. Right now, the Majority staff is in the process of making final tweaks to a draft resolution of ratification. They expect to march down the hall to the Minority very soon and negotiate with them on the draft text. I expressed our wish to receive the draft resolution before POTUS leaves on his trip on the 18th, to show momentum that Senate consideration is moving forward. **Ed said that he expect the Committee to meet that timeline and hopes to provide State with an agreed upon draft resolution by the end of this week/early next week.**

Second, I asked if Senator Kerry would consider making some sort of public statement in support of the Treaties prior to the POTUS visit to Australia. **He said that was a fair request and he would kick around the idea with his colleagues of inserting a floor statement into the Congressional Record.**

Finally, I should just mention that Ed stressed twice how much he hoped that once the resolution is provided to the State, that we would be able to agree to most of the text. Obviously, I said that would depend on what it looked like. He understood, but just wanted folks to know that the heavy lifting is occurring in the Committee now (between the Majority and Minority) and once the Committee acts on it, he expects little controversy on the floor.

Jen

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