

RELEASE IN
PART B6

From: McHale, Judith A <McHaleJA@state.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2010 7:47 AM
To: H
Subject: Re: Al Jazeera English/follow-up

----- Original Message -----

From: H <HDR22@clintonemail.com>
To: McHale, Judith A
Cc: Crowley, Philip J; 'cheryl.mills' <> <cheryl.mills >
Sent: Tue Jan 19 07:19:47 2010
Subject: Re: Al Jazeera English/follow-up

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We need coordinated response which requires monitoring media. I'm copying PJ so the two of you can discuss before 9:15 mtg.

----- Original Message -----

From: McHale, Judith A <McHaleJA@state.gov>
To: Crowley, Philip J <CrowleyPJ@state.gov>; Somerset, Ann D <SomersetAD@state.gov>; DiMartino, Kitty <DiMartinoK@state.gov>; Duguid, Gordon K (Special Use Only) <duguidgk@state.gov>; McDonough, Denis R. <> <denis.mcdonough@state.gov > <denis.mcdonough@state.gov>; Ramamurthy, Pradeep <> <> Rhodes, Benjamin J. <> <> Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>; Sreebny, Daniel <SreebnyD@state.gov>
Sent: Tue Jan 19 06:00:49 2010
Subject: FW: Al Jazeera English/follow-up

Fyi, from AJE. Important that we continue to aggressively and immediately challenge inaccurate stories at the highest levels.

jm

From: Tony Burman <>
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2010 2:39 AM
To: McHale, Judith A
Cc: Pelton, Erin; Hood, Joey R
Subject: Al Jazeera English/follow-up

Dear Judith-

Thank you for the note regarding Gordon Duguid. I passed it on to our group in Haiti, and they had already heard from one of your State Dept colleagues about him. You may have heard that he was interviewed on Al Jazeera English late yesterday (about the airport situation), and this was broadcast throughout several of our newscasts during the evening, including our flagship AJE 'Newshours'.

I'm glad we talked about these concerns. After our call, I was able to track down the AJE news report that was the source of your frustration. It was the one which included references to the 'green zone', 'Baghdad' and 'soldiers carrying guns'. Overall, I too found the report unsatisfactory and we have put in steps internally that will hopefully ensure this kind of thing doesn't happen again. I am very sympathetic to the pressure-cooker environment everyone is dealing with in Haiti at the moment, but I thought our team's references in this particular case were gratuitous and uncalled for.

I obviously think there was a valid angle to cover on Sunday – ie: the complaints by the governments of Brazil and France, as well as Medecins Sans Frontieres about the handling of the airport. And I'm sure you too saw this story in all the major newspapers, including The New York Times and Washington Post on Monday. I have been told that our team did try to get US Military (and UN) reaction in Port-au-Prince early Sunday for this story and was rebuffed. That was unfortunate, particularly since I note that the US Military gave a response to The New York Times reporter. I'm glad that, eventually and possibly due to your intervention, they became available to us.

I am not suggesting that this justifies the flaws in our piece, but it didn't help. I acknowledge the openness now of the State Department and Pentagon in Washington to engage with Al Jazeera on stories such as these, but I don't think this is always evident in the field by US Military representatives (and other US officials). I look forward to doing what I can to improve this situation.

But I repeat my earlier request that you and your colleagues keep this particular incident in perspective.

I know that this report was been sent around perhaps as an 'example' of AJE coverage, but – if so- I think that would be unfair and inaccurate. This was one news report out of a dozen broadcast on AJE from Haiti on Sunday (and nearly a hundred since the earthquake happened.) and it did not dominate our coverage by any means.

As you know, we interviewed PJ Crowley about this situation – and our report – later on Sunday and this interview was featured prominently in our AJE Newshours. We also eventually got access to Christopher Loundermon, the US Navy Spokesman for Joint Task Force Haiti.

Yesterday (Monday) we included interviews with Brig-General Berger of the US Marine Corps as part of our prime time Newshours in Europe/the Middle East (9pm Doha, 1pm ET) and, later, during our prime time Newshour from the Americas (9pm ET, 5am Doha Tuesday). These programs also included interviews with Lt.-Gen. Keen of US Southern Command and, as I mentioned, Gordon Duguid from your Department.

In the future, the quickest way to reach me is via email/blackberry [redacted] or – as I mentioned – my personal cell number [redacted] Email is perhaps quicker since I often turn down my phone in meetings.

Thank you and best wishes,

Tony

Tony Burman | MANAGING DIRECTOR

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From: McHale, Judith A [mailto:McHaleJA@state.gov]
Sent: Monday, January 18, 2010 3:58 PM
To: Tony Burman

Cc: Duguid, Gordon K (PACE); Duguid, Gordon K (Special Use Only)

Subject: FW: gordon duguid

Tony:

Here's the information for Gordon. Please feel free to contact him at any time. If you want, and if possible, he may be able to arrange for your crew to go out with one of the teams delivering relief supplies bearing in mind that things are very fluid there.

JM

From: Duguid, Gordon K (PACE) [mailto:duguidgk2@state.gov]

Sent: Monday, January 18, 2010 7:32 AM

I am using both of my email accounts. Duguidgk@state.gov at the desk and duguidgk2@state.gov for blackberry

Lanlines are not working, but the telephone at my desk is

My cell phone # is . Cell phones not receiving calls yet but can get text messages.

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