

RELEASE IN PART  
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**From:** Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 6, 2010 11:02 AM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Imp from Bill Burns

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

**From:** Burns, William J  
**To:** Abedin, Huma; Wells, Alice G  
**Sent:** Wed Oct 06 11:00:27 2010  
**Subject:** Baghdad

Madam Secretary,

Glad to talk if you have time enroute to WH. Bottom line pts from Baghdad meetings today:

-- Allawi focused for moment on SOL-Kurds-Iraqiya coalition. Hasn't dismissed ISCI option, but concerned that Adel "too small" and about Kurdish reaction. Ready to engage when Jim J presents paper on Maliki power-sharing offers to Kurds ... has talked to Barzani and will see him Oct 11 ... willing to join in 4x2 talks afterward.

-- Maliki firm on limiting Sadrists and openness to inclusive coalition with Iraqiya.

-- Abd Al-Mahdi still pursuing Iraqiya coalition, believes he could broaden Shia support, but acknowledges that Iraqiya has drawn back from finalizing agreement.

-- Zebari sees key as energizing Allawi to engage, and test Maliki's seriousness.

-- Talibani worried about keeping his job, not reassured when I repeated that we had no specific candidates for specific positions.

[Redacted signature area]

All best,

Bill

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