

RELEASE IN PART B5,B6

**From:** H <hrod17@clintonemail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 22, 2010 6:08 PM  
**To:** 'feltmanjd@state.gov'  
**Subject:** Re: Baghdad staffing thoughts (PERSONNEL SENSITIVE)

This is very helpful and I will follow up w you.

B5

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

**From:** Feltman, Jeffrey D <FeltmanJD@state.gov>  
**To:** H  
**Cc:** Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>; Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>; Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Feb 22 17:56:44 2010  
**Subject:** Baghdad staffing thoughts (PERSONNEL SENSITIVE)

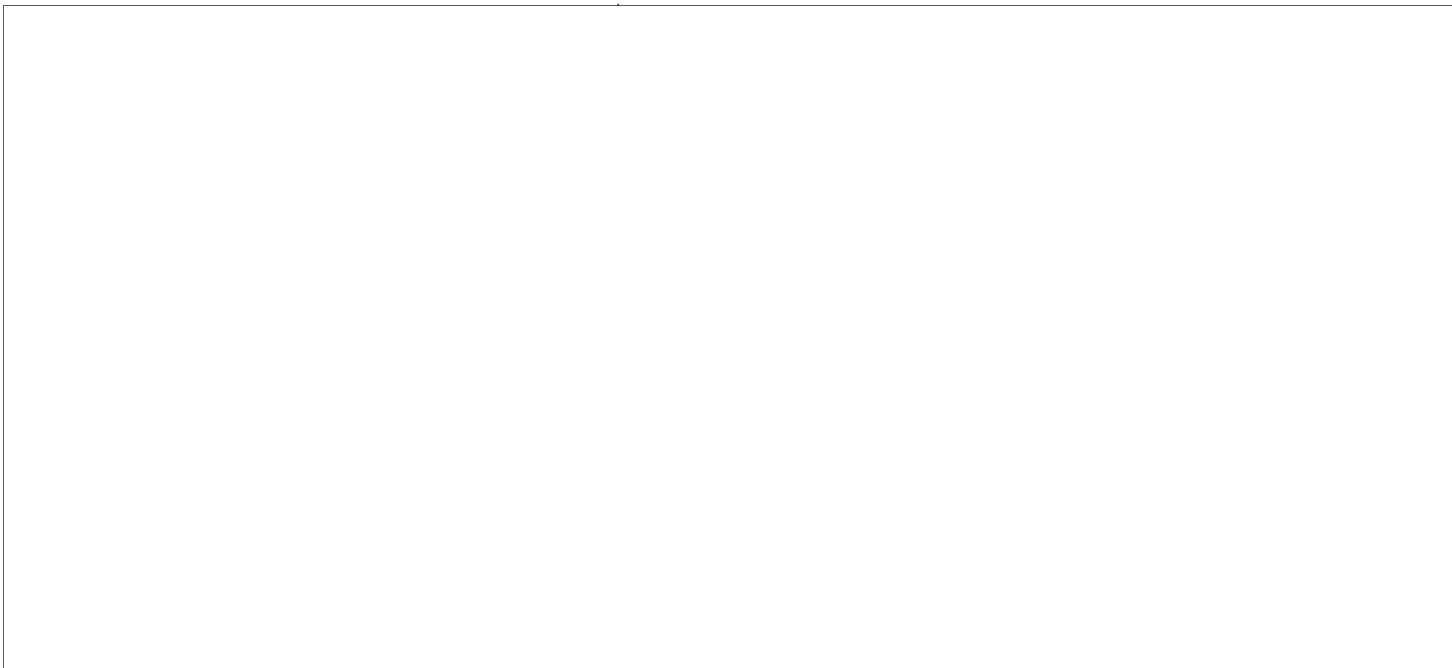
PERSONNEL SENSITIVE

Madam Secretary, given your focus on Baghdad staffing issues, I would like to raise proposals regarding two specific components: 1) Covering the period of Iraqi government formation and summer transition. 2) Selecting Chris Hill's successor.

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Iraqi government formation period and summer transition

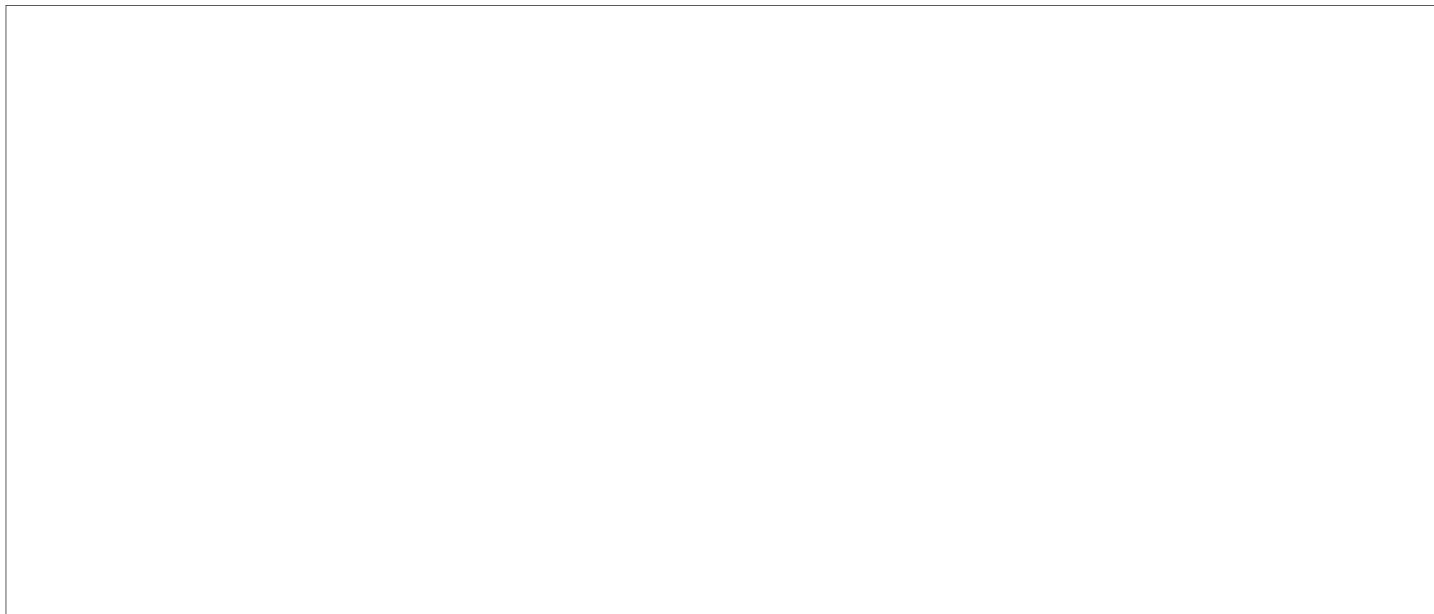
The Iraqi government formation process will move into full gear in late March, approximately two weeks after the March 7 elections when the official election results will be certified. Embassy Baghdad (with a large number of Arabic-speaking officers) and USF-I will work with Iraqi leaders to promote the formation of an inclusive cabinet that doesn't cross any U.S. red lines. I propose Washington staffing support for the field as follows:



In addition, of course, we would have Washington phone calls, strategic communications messaging, diplomatic outreach to Iraq's neighbors and beyond, and VIP visits to help with the government formation process. But I have

concentrated on what we would do to augment staffing in the field in ways that I hope will bolster Washington confidence in our efforts.

Chris Hill's successor



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Given your meeting tomorrow with the Vice President where Iraq staffing may come up, I wanted to send you these thoughts quickly. With the exception of NEA PDAS Ron Schlicher, I have not had the opportunity to talk to Bill Burns or others about these ideas.



B5

-- Jeff

Jeffrey Feltman

Assistant Secretary  
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