

**RELEASE IN PART
B5,B6**

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 7:57 PM
To: H
Cc: Abedin, Huma; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Fw: Releasing S statement at re pascual 7pm

Fyi

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

From: Hammer, Michael A
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 07:53 PM
To: Mills, Cheryl D; Klevorick, Caitlin B
Cc: Pascual, Carlos (Mexico City); Reines, Philippe I; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: RE: Releasing S statement at re pascual 7pm

It is out.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman

For Immediate Release
March 19, 2011
2011/426

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY CLINTON

It is with great regret that I announce that Ambassador Pascual has asked President Obama and me to accept his resignation as our ambassador to Mexico

For the past year and a half, Ambassador Pascual has been an architect and advocate for the U.S.-Mexico relationship, effectively advancing the policies of the United States on behalf of the President and this Administration. He has collaborated tirelessly with his Mexican counterparts to lay the foundation for a cross-border renewable energy market, to open negotiations on the management of oil and gas reserves that span U.S. and Mexican territory, and to build a new border strategy to advance trade while staunching illicit flows. Carlos has also engaged U.S. and Mexican business to build markets that have helped make Mexico the number two destination of U.S. exports.

Ambassador Pascual worked with the Mexican government to integrate human rights into our respective policies and engagement; he also partnered to enhance the human and cultural connections that underpin the friendship between the people of Mexico and the United States. Carlos partnered with his counterparts to reach beyond the Merida Initiative's initial focus on disrupting cartels to building institutions for the rule of law in Mexico and engaging Mexican civil society in advancing their security. These ties, grown and strengthened throughout his tenure, will serve both our nations for decades.

Within the U.S. Government, Carlos embraced a "whole of government" approach to addressing one of our most important bilateral relationships, winning the respect and cooperation of our foreign service, military and law

enforcement agencies. The President and I are particularly grateful to Carlos for his efforts to sustain the morale and security of American personnel after tragic shootings in Mexico that killed four people from our extended family in the past year.

Carlos has relayed his decision to return to Washington based upon his personal desire to ensure the strong relationship between our two countries and to avert issues raised by President Calderon that could distract from the important business of advancing our bilateral interests. It is with great reluctance that President Obama and I have acceded to Carlos's request. Prior to returning to assuming his new responsibilities at the State Department, the President and I have asked Carlos to stay in Mexico to help us organize an orderly transition.

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This email is UNCLASSIFIED

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

From: Mills, Cheryl D
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 7:35 PM
To: Klevorick, Caitlin B; Hammer, Michael A
Cc: Pascual, Carlos (Mexico City); Reines, Philippe I; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Re: Releasing S statement at re pascual 7pm

Or just:

We cannot speak for President Calderon. Ambassador Pascual decided to resign as ambassador to ensure the continuance of strong relationship between the United States and Mexico, as well as the ability for our countries to focus on the most important aspects of our bilateral relationship without distraction.

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

From: Klevorick, Caitlin B
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 07:27 PM
To: Hammer, Michael A; Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Pascual, Carlos (Mexico City); Reines, Philippe I; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Re: Releasing S statement at re pascual 7pm

An alternative say below send wapo link otr to reporters or tell them otr.

We cannot speak for President Calderon and would refer you public reporting on the matter. Ambassador Pascual decided to resign as ambassador to ensure the continuance of strong relationship between the United States and Mexico, as well as the ability for our countries to focus on the most important aspects of our bilateral relationship without distraction.

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

From: Hammer, Michael A
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Pascual, Carlos (Mexico City); Klevorick, Caitlin B; Reines, Philippe I; Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Sat Mar 19 19:26:52 2011
Subject: RE: Releasing S statement at re pascual 7pm

Ok - standing by

This email is UNCLASSIFIED

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

From: Mills, Cheryl D
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 7:27 PM
To: Hammer, Michael A
Cc: Pascual, Carlos (Mexico City); Klevorick, Caitlin B; Reines, Philippe I; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Re: Releasing S statement at re pascual 7pm

I want to use caitlin's last iteration which does not paraphrase calderon - caitlin can you send?

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

From: Hammer, Michael A
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 07:22 PM
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Pascual, Carlos (Mexico City); Klevorick, Caitlin B; Reines, Philippe I; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: RE: Releasing S statement at re pascual 7pm

OK - releasing statement now, will forward when out, also the approved press guidance. CDM - just confirming that we did not/not take any of Jim's suggested edits to PG, right?

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

From: Mills, Cheryl D
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 7:21 PM
To: Hammer, Michael A
Cc: Pascual, Carlos (Mexico City); Klevorick, Caitlin B; Reines, Philippe I; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Re: Releasing S statement at re pascual 7pm

Let's go

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

From: Anderson, Brooke [mailto:]
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 03:39 PM
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: McDonough, Denis R. ; Hammer, Michael A
Subject: RE: Releasing S statement at re pascual 7pm

B6

B5

B

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

From: Mills, Cheryl D [mailto:MillsCD@state.gov]
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 3:36 PM
To: Anderson, Brooke
Cc: McDonough, Denis R.; Hammer, Michael A
Subject: Releasing S statement at re pascual 7pm

Advise if any issues - otherwise hope other news of day keeps this to a mexico rather than int'l story