

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2011 8:25 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: WaPo + Wiki - Syria next

Fyi

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

From: Hammer, Michael A
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2011 07:22 AM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I
Subject: WaPo + Wiki - Syria next

Guys - WaPo plans to report for Friday on Wikicables that cover our support for democracy/human rights in Syria. NEA (Tamara) and DRL (Posner) are extremely concerned that WaPo's identifying any groups we have supported will endanger lives in Syria and we have made our case to WaPo. WaPo is considering only reporting the names of those organizations outside Syria that are public and already known to the Syrian government and may report only that we support pro-democracy activities generically and not get into the specifics which concern us most. Still, NEA worries that WaPo will overcrank that we have been working for regime change and we anticipate it will be a bad story as it will allow the Syrians to blame outside forces (us) for their internal problems and use it to try to justify an even tougher crackdown.