

RELEASE IN PART
B3 INA, B6

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, July 30, 2011 1:57 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: AP/Uganda Baseball
Attachments: Uganda Little League 07-29-11.docx; Uganda Little League 07-29-11.docx

I explained why we can't be holding this bag . . .

From: Kennedy, Patrick F
Sent: Saturday, July 30, 2011 11:53 AM
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Subject: Fw: AP/Uganda Baseball

Cheryl

Initial report

Getting more specifics

Fyi - philippe has been on this since yesterday

Regards

Pat

From: Jacobs, Janice L
Sent: Saturday, July 30, 2011 11:48 AM
To: Kennedy, Patrick F
Subject: FW: AP/Uganda Baseball

fyi

From: Jacobs, Janice L
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2011 1:01 PM
To: Reines, Philippe I
Cc: Carson, Johnnie; Mull, Stephen D; Sullivan, Jacob J; Toner, Mark C; Smith, Dana S
Subject: FW: AP/Uganda Baseball

Philippe, fyi

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Echard, John E Jr
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2011 12:56 PM
To: Jacobs, Janice L

Cc: Donahue, David T; Ramotowski, Edward J; Sheaffer, Gary L; Dodds, Rebecca E
Subject: RE: AP/Uganda Baseball

We just briefed Mark Toner with the attached press guidance. He was going to get in touch with AP's Matt Lee to provide a comment using our guidance.

Press guidance is attached and background below.

Background: A Little League team from Uganda qualified to compete in the 2011 Little League World Series, reportedly the first African team to ever reach the final level of sixteen. This feat has gained considerable press attention in Africa.



B3 INA

Little League Headquarters informs us that their press statement will say only that the Department informed them the documents presented in support of the visa applications contained serious discrepancies. If asked for specifics, they will state that privacy laws prevented the Department from disclosing to them any further details.



B3 INA

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Jacobs, Janice L
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2011 12:45 PM
To: Donahue, David T; Ramotowski, Edward J; Sheaffer, Gary L; Dodds, Rebecca E
Subject: FW: AP/Uganda Baseball

Do we have background on these denials? I need to respond to Philippe.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Reines, Philippe I
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2011 11:47 AM
To: Jacobs, Janice L; Carson, Johnnie; Mull, Stephen D; Sullivan, Jacob J; Toner, Mark C; Smith, Dana S
Cc: Adler, Caroline E
Subject: AP/Uganda Baseball

Matt's going to beat Mark up on the below, what's the backstory?

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Lee, Matthew [mailto:
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2011 11:32 AM
To: Reines, Philippe I
Subject: Is HRC aware of this?

B6

For all the good work you guys do in PD, something like this happens, becomes a PR nightmare and undoes all the good will.

This is the first African team to qualify for the Little League World Series ... and State denies them visas.

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) — The U.S. State Department has denied visas to enter the United States for a youth baseball team from Uganda that qualified for the Little League World Series.

Officials at Little League headquarters in South Williamsport said Friday that the State Department did not give a reason for the decision other than that documentation provided by the team "contained discrepancies."

The Rev. John Foundation Little League team from Kampala would have become the first squad from the continent of Africa to compete in the World Series, which starts next month.

Little League president Stephen Keener said in a statement the organization would take a few days to decide how to proceed. The Uganda team had won the Middle East and Africa region tournament.

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