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FULL

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
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To: H
Subject: Fw: Morning Press Highlights 10/12/I (U)

CANADA/LIBYA

Canadian Foreign Minister Baird traveled to Libya to discuss arms control with the TNC and was accompanied by several executives from large Canadian companies including Montreal engineering giant SNC-Lavalin, Alberta oil giant Suncor, and Calgary based pipeline technology firm Pure Technologies in an effort to promote Canadian business interests with Libya's post-Qadhafi rulers.

(The Globe and Mail)

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

S/ES-O Morning Press Highlights

Wednesday, October 12, 2011
 0500 EDT

MIDDLE EAST

SYRIA

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation warned Syria about the consequences of its continued use of force against anti-regime protesters and said in an October 11 statement "the use of force will only lead to more violence and bloodshed, thus exacerbating the crisis and making it more complex." (*The Daily Times*)

EGYPT

Prime Minister Sharaf said October 11 his government would only resign at the orders of the ruling military council, amid mounting anger over the government's handling of deadly protests in Cairo late Sunday which led to the death of 25 Coptic Christians. (*The Daily Star*)

SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

AFGHANISTAN/PAKISTAN

Pakistani Prime Minister Gilani offered intelligence to Afghanistan related to the investigation of former Afghan President Rabbani's assassination. (*Dawn*)

INDIA/TURKEY

Counterterrorism efforts led the agenda during bilateral October 11 talks between India and Turkey, as did the Indian vote on the UNSCR. (*The Hindu*)

EUROPE

FRANCE/TURKEY

Turkey's ruling and opposition parties united in criticizing French President Sarkozy's threat to revive a bill criminalizing any denial of Armenian genocide claims. (*Hurriyet Daily News*)

RUSSIA/EUROPEAN UNION

A group of Duma deputies appealed to the European Parliament to drop visa requirements for Russians who fly frequently into the European Union on return airline tickets. (*The Moscow Times*)

EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC

THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA/DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Sohn Hak-kyu, the leader of South Korea's main opposition Democratic Party, called October 12 for the government to improve ties with the North as Pyongyang issued a warning against propaganda leaflets sent across the border by activists. (*Yonhap News Agency*)

CHINA/VIETNAM

The two countries signed an agreement October 11 on basic principles to settle maritime issues and resolve territorial and border issues. (*Xinhua News*)

AFRICA

KENYA

While the Kenyan shilling slid to its lowest value ever against the U.S. dollar and lost a third of its value in 2011, the head of the Central Bank argued his agency had done all it could within its mandate by increasing interest rates. In his testimony before a parliamentary committee, Governor Ndung'u said other government agencies, including the Treasury, would now need to focus fiscal policies to implement necessary measures. (*Nation*)

ZIMBABWE

President Mugabe's failing health has possibly forced his Zanu-PF party to press for early elections and accelerated a plan compelling foreign firms to surrender majority shares to the government. Despite this, he has not yet loosened his grip on power. (*News24*)

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

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BRAZIL

President Rousseff proposed expanding financial assistance to include 17 million more families living in conditions of extreme poverty. The President answered critics denying the expansion of financial aid would boost the nation's birthrate. (*Latin American Herald Tribune*)

****** Morning Press Highlights alerts senior Department officials to breaking news items and is a synopsis of select media stories from around the world. It solely reflects the gist of the stories as presented in their original publications and does not contain analysis or commentary by Department sources. ******