

RELEASE IN PART B6

**From:** Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2011 3:29 PM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: Spot Assessment: "She Hit a Home Run"

Nice

**From:** Hoagland, Richard E  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2011 02:40 PM  
**To:** Munter, Cameron P; Grossman, Marc I  
**Cc:** Ruggiero, Frank J; Feldman, Daniel F; Jones, Beth E (S/SRAP); Abedin, Huma; Sullivan, Jacob J; Nuland, Victoria J; Lenderking, Timothy A; Miller, Thomas S; Moss, Mitchell R; Stroh, Mark E; Pratt, Jonathan G; Kofmehl, Scott  
**Subject:** Spot Assessment: "She Hit a Home Run"

Ambassadors:

I went to the NYT dinner this evening iho Bill Keller. Guests included Chairman of the Dawn [media] Group (and brother of the PK PermRep at the UN), Islamabad Bureau Chief for the Jang/Express [media] group, Time Magazine, Associated Press, Reuters, ABC-TV, BBC World Service, McClatchy/The Guardian, and eminent [liberal, i.e., pro-American] pundits like [redacted] and former [redacted], as well as senior bureaucrats, a smattering of socialites, and others.

All agreed that **Secretary Clinton hit a home run with her public program.** [redacted] said, "The mother-in-law moment [at the town hall] was iconic because everyone saw that her delight and laughter were genuine. Everyone said, 'Oh, she's like us! She understands us!'" [redacted] said, "Two words reverberated in her press conference with Foreign Minister Khar: *respect* and *sovereignty*. You found the right vocabulary. Across the board, everyone [in this admittedly liberal gathering] agreed that Secretary Clinton was *genuine* and *honest*."

The dissenting voice was [redacted] Folding his napkin ever smaller, he said, "Every time you say something awful about us in public, you diminish the [military] space we have to work with you. Even when we want to help, you work against us. You reduce our space to work together every time you make us look bad. If you want us to be your enemy, as Bruce Reidel wrote, then simply tell us. We know how to adjust without you."

I want to emphasize that this was a **liberal** group, disposed to be pro-American. But these were also the voices of influence who want to be pro-American but have in recent months felt besieged.

One thing that was remarkable to me was that **no one** sidled up for a read-out on the core areas of substance conflict. All – to a woman and man – raved about the Secretary's perfect pitch in her public engagements.

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