

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 7, 2011 6:53 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: WH Statement on Iran's Blockage of Virtual Embassy Tehran

Fyi

From: Fogarty, Daniel J
Sent: Wednesday, December 07, 2011 05:52 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: Wells, Alice G; S_SpecialAssistants
Subject: WH Statement on Iran's Blockage of Virtual Embassy Tehran

Jake:

FYSA – attached below is the WH press statement on Iran's blockage of our virtual embassy website.

Thanks,

Dan

From: Wooster, Henry T
Sent: Wednesday, December 07, 2011 5:49 PM
To: NEA-IRAN-DL
Cc: NEA-FO-DL; Grantham, Chris W; Sawyer, Julie L; Wells, Alice G; S_SpecialAssistants; Ryu, Rexon Y; Catalano, Elisa
Subject: Statement by the Press Secretary on Iran's Blockage of Virtual Embassy Tehran

From: White House Press Office [mailto:noreply@messages.whitehouse.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 07, 2011 5:18 PM
To: Pelton, Erin
Subject: Statement by the Press Secretary on Iran's Blockage of Virtual Embassy Tehran

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 7, 2011

Statement by the Press Secretary on Iran's Blockage of Virtual Embassy Tehran

We condemn the Iranian government's efforts to deny their people the freedom to access America's recently launched Virtual Embassy Tehran. Through this action, the Iranian government has once again demonstrated its commitment to build an electronic curtain of surveillance and censorship around its people. The Iranian government's systematic efforts to deny information to its citizens – to control what the Iranian people see and hear – is doomed to fail in a 21st century when technology is empowering citizens around the globe.

The United States remains steadfast in our commitment to a dialogue with the Iranian people based upon mutual interests, mutual respect, and admiration for a great and ancient civilization. The Iranian government should explain to its own people why it fears their ability to access the information that they choose.

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