

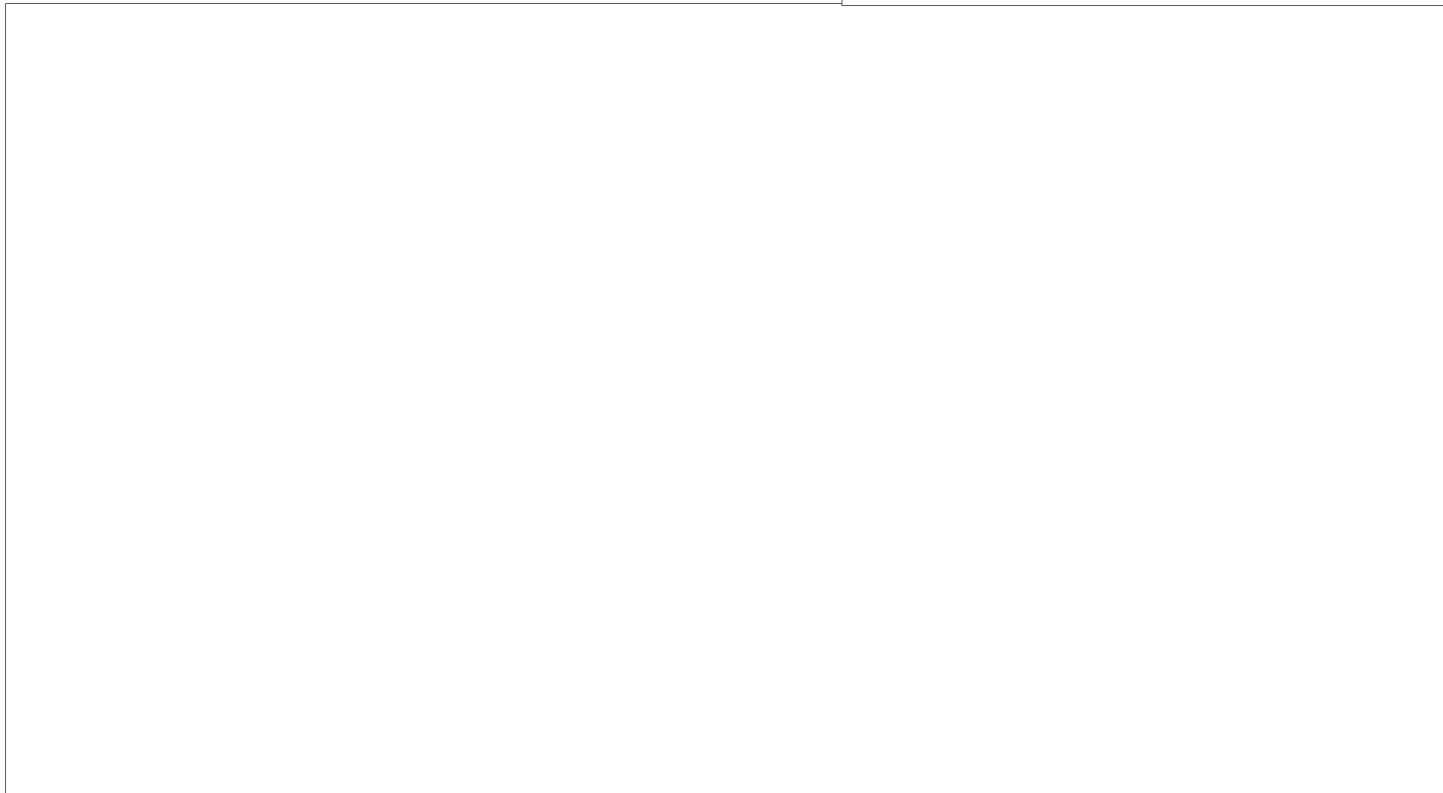
RELEASE IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D),B6

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 1, 2012 6:24 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: Conversation with Denis Robert

B1

From: Adams, Thomas C 1.4(B)
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2012 5:45 PM 1.4(D)
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Foote, Daniel L (Port-au-Prince); Merten, Kenneth H (Port-au-Prince); Kujawinski, Peter I (Port-au-Prince); Danies, Joel D; Smith, Eileen W; Bastien, Joelle-Elizabeth; Savage, Martha
Subject: Conversation with Denis Robert

My Canadian counterpart at their MFA, Denis Robert, called me today,



Tom Classified by DAS, A/GIS, DoS on 10/30/2015 ~ Class: CONFIDENTIAL ~ Reason: 1.4(B), 1.4(D) ~ Declassify on: 01/31/2037

From: Denis.Robert
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2012 10:41 AM
To: Adams, Thomas C
Subject:

B6

Bonjour,

it was nice talking to you this morning. Please find below the statement Minister Baird made during his trip to Haiti last January 16.

Denis R.

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

**TRANSCRIPTION/TRANSCRIPTION
NEWS CONFERENCE/CONFÉRENCE DE PRESSE**

Transcription prepared by Media Q Inc. exclusively for DFAIT
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DATE/DATE: January 16, 2012 1:30 p.m.

LOCATION/ENDROIT: Teleconference, Ottawa, Ontario

PRINCIPAL(S)/PRINCIPAUX: Joseph Lavoie, Press Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs; The Honourable John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs

SUBJECT/SUJET: Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird Holds a News Conference to Discuss His Trip to Haiti to Meet with President Michel Martelly and Prime Minister Garry Conille for Discussion on Topics Including Governance Improvements and Earthquake Recovery.

Joseph Lavoie: Hello, everyone. This is Joseph Lavoie here, Press Secretary for the Minister. Thank you very much for being patient. We apologize for the short delay. Merci à tous pour nous avoir rejoint aujourd'hui. The Minister is standing by. He's in the middle of a busy day in Port-au-Prince with the parliamentary delegation, including his colleagues Dominic LeBlanc and Héléne Laverdière. I will turn it over to the Minister who can provide a short statement and then we will open it up for a couple calls. Minister.

Hon. John Baird: Merci beaucoup. Thank you very much for being with us. I was pleased to day to visit Haiti and to meet with President Michel Martelly and Prime Minister Conille. I conveyed to them Canada's continued support for their government and the Haitian people. During these meetings, I took the opportunity to underscore Canada's continued concern with the political stability in Haiti, combatting corruption, support for an independent judiciary and the establishment of a capable and professional police force are key for the long-term development of this country.

These challenges have hampered Haitian development over the last 25 years. The earthquake of two years ago only compounded pre-existing problems. I am pleased to see Haiti's leaders demonstrating the political will to tackle these tough challenges. I also made clear to the Haitian leadership that the Canadian government does not support the re-establishment of the Haitian Army. I expressed concern and I had a good dialogue with them on this issue and got their perspective which was helpful.

And I will this afternoon have the opportunity to visit a police commissariat, a facility that Canada's helping to rebuild. We are proud of the Canadian police officers, Canadian Forces, Corrections officers supporting the development and professionalisation of the Haitian National Police to help improve the safety and security of the Haitian people. Prior to this afternoon I will hold discussions with Canadian companies working here in Haiti. Employment and job creation and economic growth are the top priority for the Haitian government and Canada's committed to working with them and the private sector to help facilitate investment in Haiti.

I was pleased to be joined today in the typical nonpartisan style that has always defined my political career by a number of members of parliament, including the NDP's Héléne Laverdière, the Liberals' Dominic LeBlanc who are both critics as well as my Parliamentary Secretary Bob Dechert. I hope this trip and their discussions were informative as we look to help build a brighter and more prosperous Haiti.

Thank you very much. Merci beaucoup. J'étais prêt à pris vos questions.

Joseph Lavoie: I'll leave it to Lee, the operator, to provide instructions on how to leave questions behind or to pose a question, rather. Operator, can I ask you to provide instructions on how to leave a question?

Operator: Thank you. We will now take questions from the telephone lines. If you have a question and you are using a speaker phone, please lift your handset before making your selection. If you have a question, please press star 1 on your telephone keypad. If at any time you wish to cancel your question, please press the pound sign. So please, once again, press star 1 at this time if you have a question and there will be a brief pause while the participants

register for questions. Thank you for your patience. The first question is from Campbell Clark from The Globe and Mail. Please go ahead.