

RELEASE IN FULL

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**From:** Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2012 12:34 PM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** FW: Obama, explained: Chess master - or pawn

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**From:** Toiv, Nora F  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 08, 2012 11:50 AM  
**To:** Mills, Cheryl D  
**Subject:** Obama, explained: Chess master - or pawn

**BEHIND THE CURTAIN - JAMES FALLOWS cover story in The Atlantic, "Obama, explained: Chess master - or pawn?":** "Like [Bill] Clinton and unlike George W. Bush, Barack Obama is said to be a night owl. But in the wee hours, Clinton would be on the phone, playing cards with friends, gabbing ... Obama is more likely to be spending time with papers or a book, or even to be online - prowling through the same blogs and news sites as the rest of us ...

"**Shortly after William Daley** ... succeeded Emanuel, ... he came to Obama with his initial report. You are reeling, he said ... Part of the problem is that the team around you is not good enough. To raise your game, you have to surround yourself with the best people available. There have to be changes. Obama thought about it, and reportedly called Daley back in a few days later. 'I like my team,' he said. 'I am comfortable with who I have around me. Just so there's no miscommunication, I'm saying that I like this team.' (The White House declined to comment on the episode)." **Online soon**