

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 2:02 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Secretary Clinton on Yemen

Fyi

From: Feierstein, Gerald M (Sanaa)
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 12:16 AM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: Wells, Alice G; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Dibble, Elizabeth L; Seche, Stephen A; McVerry, James A.; Mimnaugh, Maureen; Richard, Elizabeth (Sanaa); Madeley, Minta E (Sanaa)
Subject: RE: Secretary Clinton on Yemen

Jake: Please let the Secretary know that her comments on Yemen were spot on and extremely timely. Having her on the record yesterday with this statement was a big help in pushing back against the spate of remarks regarding election delays. I'm seeing the Foreign Minister in a few minutes and will use her comments for effect.

Cheers,
Jerry

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Madeley, Minta E (Sanaa)
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 7:24 AM
To: Sanaa Country Team
Subject: Secretary Clinton on Yemen

These remarks were widely quoted in press today as being the most strongly-worded U.S. comments regarding President Saleh leaving the country: <http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2012/01/180848.htm>

Remarks With President Alassane Ouattara After Their Meeting

Remarks

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Secretary of State

Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

January 17, 2012

QUESTION: ...And Madam Secretary, if I could, could I just ask you about Yemen as well? There are reports the election may be postponed and that al-Qaida has overrun a city south of Yemen, south of Sana'a. But what is the U.S. doing to help stabilize the country politically and security-wise?

SECRETARY CLINTON:With respect to Yemen, as you are well aware, the instability in Yemen is of great concern, first and foremost, to the Yemeni people, but to the region and to the world. It remains a great challenge. There has been agreements with respect to the way forward that have not been fulfilled. We regret that the president has thus far failed to comply with his own commitments to leave the country and to permit elections to go forward, that could give the people a chance to be heard and be represented. We remain focused on the threat posed by al-Qaida in Yemen, and we continue to work with our partners there and elsewhere to ensure that al-Qaida does not gain a foothold in the Arabian Peninsula through actions that would undermine the stability of Yemen and the region.

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