

RELEASE IN  
FULL

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**From:** Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 3, 2012 7:06 PM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: Chen Guangcheng says China not honoring agreement, wants to meet U.S. diplomats

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**From:** Hammer, Michael A  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 03, 2012 06:54 PM  
**To:** Mills, Cheryl D  
**Subject:** RE: Chen Guangcheng says China not honoring agreement, wants to meet U.S. diplomats

CBS ran it as their lead story: Scott Pelley anchor: lead in: Today we have a clearer picture of how Chen ended up at the Embassy setting off a "diplomatic crisis."

Chen's "fate is confused." Gave details of how the US rescued him and then gave him up. Called this case straight out of Hollywood with a race to Embassy with Chinese secret police in pursuit. Used significant footage of the Locke interview including his recounting of the operation to bring him into the Embassy, which he called a Mission Impossible movement (evading police and Embassy guards). Story then reported how Chen was returned to Chinese authorities yesterday after they promised he would be safe.

Today, Chen asked the Secretary to take him out of China on his plane. Chen was patched though to the congressional hearing.

Locke made clear that during the 6 days of negotiations, Chen did not want to go to US. He reiterated that after he spoke with his wife he made the decision on his own to leave Embassy. Locke insists no one forced him to leave. For now Chinese have Chen and US not allowed to see him.

Report then turned to **Holly Williams of Sky News** who interviewed Chen by phone:

Chen reported that he could not make calls, but people could call him. She said he sounded worried, tired, and anxious for safety of family, but warm and friendly. When asked why he changed his mind, Chen said at the time he decided to stay he didn't have all the information. Now he has it and senses certain things so he changed my mind. Chen claims local officials broke into his home armed with sticks and installed surveillance cameras. **He did not blame US officials for not doing more.**

Chen said if he could speak to the President and the Secretary he would ask them to take concrete action to protect his family.

Concluded with: The Chinese government has not made comment, is embarrassed, angry, and sees this as unwanted American interference.

Note - Will include this in our next media summary

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**From:** Hammer, Michael A  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 03, 2012 6:38 PM  
**To:** Mills, Cheryl D  
**Subject:** RE: Chen Guangcheng says China not honoring agreement, wants to meet U.S. diplomats

ABC ran it as the second story: Hillary's Choice, will Chen get to leave with the Secretary. All eyes on Secretary Clinton a champion of human rights. What will she do? Secretary has said nothing since Chen changed his mind and wants to

leave. Chen a symbol of Hrs abuses in China. Chen re-united with family at a hospital but today kept away from US officials . Bob Fu interviewed – Chen in danger. Chen did not know his wife was threatened. Chen called Hearing saying he wanted to leave China. Interview with Locke: we want to sit down with him sot discuss what he wants to do. ABC closed with: Should the U.S have turned him over to Chinese in first place and what can US do now?

Nothing on being “abandoned.” Monitoring other network news. I’ll be sending the next media summary, including all the networks’ news and any other coverage at 8 pm tonight.

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**From:** Mills, Cheryl D  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 03, 2012 6:30 PM  
**To:** Hammer, Michael A  
**Subject:** Re: Chen Guangcheng says China not honoring agreement, wants to meet U.S. diplomats

Thank you

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**From:** Hammer, Michael A  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 03, 2012 06:23 PM  
**To:** Mills, Cheryl D  
**Subject:** RE: Chen Guangcheng says China not honoring agreement, wants to meet U.S. diplomats

Yup – connected with Andrea Mitchell, we’re good with her, she is doing a piece. Focused on Locke interview and Chen’s desire to leave China. Will say it is up to Chinese to let him go. Also reached Martha Raddatz, ABC. Doing more calls.

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**From:** Mills, Cheryl D  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 03, 2012 5:46 PM  
**To:** Hammer, Michael A  
**Subject:** FW: Chen Guangcheng says China not honoring agreement, wants to meet U.S. diplomats

**Mike**

**I assume you are adding this to the push out for the evening news too ?**  
**cdm**

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**From:** Toiv, Nora F  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 03, 2012 05:03 PM  
**To:** Sullivan, Jacob J  
**Subject:** Chen Guangcheng says China not honoring agreement, wants to meet U.S. diplomats

## The Washington Post

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# Chen Guangcheng says China not honoring agreement, wants to meet U.S. diplomats

By **Keith B. Richburg**, Thursday, May 3, 3:17 PM

BEIJING — Blind activist Chen Guangcheng, in a telephone interview early Friday, said he voluntarily left the U.S. Embassy in Beijing to see his family and get treatment at a nearby hospital, but he said the Chinese

government so far is not honoring an agreement to fully restore his freedom and allow American diplomats in to see him.

“I left the U.S. Embassy on my own free will,” Chen told a Washington Post news assistant who reached him by telephone shortly after midnight. “I wasn’t tricked into leaving. If I didn’t want to leave, I could have stayed, and no one would have forced me to leave.”

Chen said he left the embassy to be reunited with his wife and children at the hospital. “The U.S. Embassy helped me a lot,” Chen said. “I really appreciate their help. They did a good job. But I don’t think the Chinese side is obeying the agreement well.”

“My biggest wish right now is that the agreement concerning me is fulfilled well,” Chen told the Post. “The agreement includes more than three points, including the U.S. side being able to visit me regularly, and China should guarantee my rights as a citizen.”

“I didn’t have a chance to see the U.S. officials today,” Chen said, referring to Thursday. “We had phone conversations, but they were quite short. We didn’t discuss real issues on the phone.” U.S. officials on Thursday expressed frustration that American diplomats, along with an American doctor, had been prevented from visiting Chen in the hospital.

Chen also expressed concern for his extended family members left behind in Linyi city, in eastern Shandong province. He said armed thugs have now taken over his farmhouse in Dongshigu village, and he was concerned about his mother and brother, with whom he has not been able to speak.

“The situation in my home is still really terrible,” Chen said. “So I don’t think the agreement is being fulfilled well by the Chinese side.”

Chen said he was visited at the hospital by a Chinese official with the last name who said he was a representative from the Communist Party central committee. “He asked me the situation in my hometown and clearly expressed that they are going to investigate,” Chen said. “I want to believe him. But at the same time, I need to observe what they do in the end.” He added, “I can’t judge yet.”

The conversation lasted about 15 minutes, and Chen sounded relaxed, cheerful and full of energy — a sharp contrast to earlier interviews on Thursday when he was reported to have sounded frightened. He said he was being treated well at Chaoyang hospital and that he and his family received three meals, all on time. He said he, his wife and two children were together in one room and that no one was there watching over them.

Chen said he is still recovering from a cracked bone he suffered from climbing over a wall during his dramatic escape from house arrest on April 22. He also said he received a colonoscopy and a biopsy Thursday and was awaiting the results. He said he hoped that his wife, Yuan Weijing, can also get a full medical exam because she received scars from brutal beatings at the hands of local thugs in their home village.

Chen said he would like to travel to the United States, but only temporarily, to rest and perhaps study. But he said he did not want to remain in the United States permanently — and he chastised journalists who he said had misinterpreted his words. “Many reporters misquoted me, and even wrote things I never said,” Chen told The Post.

“It’s not a one-time-only decision,” Chen said of his desire to leave China for the United States. “It doesn’t mean I won’t come back. As a free person, I believe I am endowed with the right to leave China when I want to and come back anytime I want.”

**“In the past seven years, I didn’t have a real weekend,” Chen said. “I was very stressed. I want to relax. I want to rest more. Maybe I will study something there because in the past seven years, I didn’t have chance to enrich my knowledge.”**

**He said he also wanted to continue “to promote social progress and judiciary system improvement in China.”**

**“The society must become more and more fair in the future,” Chen said. “It’s just a matter of time. It depends on how many people make efforts, and how big the efforts we make.”**

**Washington Post researcher Zhang Jie in Beijing contributed to this report.**

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