

RELEASE IN PART  
B6

**From:** Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 29, 2012 2:37 PM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** FW: Ms. Marie Colvin

**From:** Bernier-Toth, Michelle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 29, 2012 2:32 PM  
**To:** 'sheldonwhitehouse' [redacted]  
**Cc:** Mills, Cheryl D; Kennedy, Patrick F  
**Subject:** RE: Ms. Marie Colvin

Dear Senator Whitehouse,

My apologies for not responding sooner to your message last night. We've received very sensitive information, the key elements of which we have been allowed to share only with the family given our contacts' security concerns. While we very much appreciate the offer by you and former Senator Specter to intervene with the Syrian leadership, we concluded that such outreach would be better left to Kofi Annan in his new capacity as UN/Arab League Special Envoy for Syria. The humanitarian situation is part of Annan's mandate, and we do not want to risk crossing wires with that effort. We were also concerned that the regime might misinterpret outreach by others as a USG attempt to open a channel of communication.

I hope this is useful, and please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions.

Best,  
 Michelle

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

**From:** sheldonwhitehouse [redacted] [mailto:sheldonwhitehouse@state.gov] [redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2012 9:26 PM  
**To:** Bernier-Toth, Michelle  
**Cc:** Mills, Cheryl D; Kennedy, Patrick F  
**Subject:** Fw: Ms. Marie Colvin

Any news? I can't understand why no one contacted Senator Specter after I put you all in touch. He has known the Assads for twenty years. How about the Russians?  
 Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

**From:** AS <[redacted]>  
**Date:** Tue, 28 Feb 2012 14:51:50 -0600  
**To:** sheldonwhitehouse [redacted] sheldonwhitehouse [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Ms. Marie Colvin

No word from the Administration.  
 - Arlen

B6

*Kathleen E. Harvey*

on behalf of

**Arlen Specter**

Attorney-at-Law

1525 Locust Street

Nineteenth Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-735-4200

[Redacted]

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**From:** sheldonwhitehouse [Redacted] [sheldonwhitehouse [Redacted]

**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2012 1:29 PM

**To:** AS

**Subject:** Re: Ms. Marie Colvin

Tell Arlen thank you. They tried to get in again today, and turned back because of danger in the neighborhood.

Has the State Department actually talked to him about this?

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

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**From:** AS <[Redacted]>

**Date:** Mon, 27 Feb 2012 11:26:18 -0600

**To:** sheldonwhitehouse [Redacted] <sheldonwhitehouse [Redacted]>

**Subject:** Ms. Marie Colvin

Good afternoon, Senator.

Please see the attached correspondence.

Thank you.

*Kathleen E. Harvey*

on behalf of

**Arlen Specter**

Attorney-at-Law

1525 Locust Street

Nineteenth Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-735-4200

[Redacted]