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| RELEASE IN PART B6 |
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From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Sunday, January 27, 2013 8:27 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Letter for Chief of Staff Cheryl D. Mills

From: EDWARD J. PERKINS [mailto:]
Sent: Sunday, January 27, 2013 08:12 AM
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: ToivNF@state.gov <ToivNF@state.gov>
Subject: Letter for Chief of Staff Cheryl D. Mills

B6

Ms Cheryl D. Mills
Chief of Staff to The Secretary of State
Office of The Secretary
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Chief of Staff Mills:

You will recall that about one year ago Ambassador Ruth Davis and I approached you concerning the Rangel and Pickering Programs. You very graciously took our concerns under advisement and ensured that proposed cuts in the numbers of these important programs were not undertaken.

As you leave the Department, we want to thank you again for protecting these programs and for your attention to diversity issues in general. Your concern has made a tremendous difference and demonstrates your larger commitment to the overall growth of our nation and attendant society which certainly results in large measure from diversity.

It is duly noted that during Secretary Clinton's and your tenure African American officers have been assigned as chiefs of mission in broader geographical areas outside of Africa, which has not been traditional in the Department. We are certainly aware that this is due in large measure to your diligence in ensuring that lists for ambassadorships and other high level Department jobs include minorities. You have helped to create a level playing field, for which we are very grateful.

Diversity does not just happen in a natural sense. We appreciate your constant role in making it happen in the Department of State. Consequently, we are really sad to see you go. We wish you Godspeed in your future endeavours. We hope that you will brief your replacement on the importance of the Pickering and Rangel Programs. We also hope that you will emphasize to that person the importance of

the Chief of Staff's role in ensuring that diversity remains a priority in the Department.

Once more, we wish you Godspeed in your future endeavours, and please be assured of our very highest regards.

Very Sincerely,

**Edward J. Perkins
Ambassador (Ret.)**

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B6