

RELEASE IN PART B3
INA, B5

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 2, 2009 11:56 AM
To: H
Subject: FW: 11/2 Senior Staff and Assistant Secretaries Meetings

From: Smith, Daniel B
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2009 11:32 AM
To: Mills, Cheryl D; Abedin, Huma; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: 11/2 Senior Staff and Assistant Secretaries Meetings

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

S Travel

- Cheryl mentioned, close hold, possible addition of another stop on the Secretary's current trip, noting that it might delay her return by a day. There was discussion of what this meant for U.S.-EU Summit events, but Jim seemed to think he could cover for the Secretary.

Somalia

- Cheryl noted that there had been a series of conversations over the weekend on food assistance to Somalia after WFP balked at the conditions for our assistance, indicating that they could not get assistance to those in need without paying Al-Shabaab. [Redacted]

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Afghanistan

- [Redacted]

Trade Policy

- [Redacted]

Internet Freedom Speech

- Annemarie raised the Secretary's proposed speech on internet freedom. This led to a broader discussion of the issue, with Jim in particular pointing to [Redacted] Cheryl said she would set up a meeting to discuss this further.

Congressional Issues

- Senators Kyle and Sessions as part of the National Security Working Group would like to go to Geneva for the START negotiations from Nov. 11-13. Thus far, no indications any Democrats would join. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

- On the Australia and UK Defense Trade Treaties, there was supposed to be a hearing this week [Redacted]
[Redacted] Now looking at November 10, [Redacted]
[Redacted]
- The House will overwhelmingly pass a resolution tomorrow condemning the Goldstone Report.
- We have a continuing resolution until December 18. There are 7 appropriations bills left, including ours. Two will likely pass on their own, and State's will be combined with 4 others in a "minibus" bill.
- Cheryl has a briefing on food security tomorrow.
- Senator Kyle has asked that we change our travel advisory for Honduras in light of the settlement. H has asked CA for background, but everyone agreed it had never been changed for political reasons, only in response to conditions on the ground.

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Public Affairs

- Ian said we would be coordinating closely with the White House on political developments in Afghanistan [Redacted]
[Redacted]
- Ian also expects questions about whether our position on Israeli settlements has changed. [Redacted]
[Redacted]

Legal Issues

- Harold said he would like to talk to the Secretary about [Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted] Cheryl said she wanted to speak with folks to confirm.

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Assistant Secretaries Meeting Highlights

Afghanistan

- S/SRAP noted that there will not be a second round of voting, but that notwithstanding the fact that the Election Commission has declared Karzai the winner, Abdullah apparently has 72 hours to appeal. Once that is resolved, inauguration will be in 30 days.

Pakistan

- S/SRAP also noted that the Secretary's trip to Pakistan is resonating in interesting ways. Many in the press and public are asking why they don't get the sort of frank discussion she provided from their politicians. Meanwhile, Parliamentarians are asking why they don't have an opportunity to speak to their own officials in the way they met with the Secretary.

Honduras

- Tom Shannon credited the Secretary's 40 minute telephone call with Micheletti for turning things around in the negotiations last week. He noted that afterwards Micheletti had remarked that he had not known the Secretary

had such a limited vocabulary because she kept repeating "restitution" over and over. The critical fact about the deal that was reached, Tom noted, is that it is now rooted in the Honduran Parliament. It will not all be smooth, but whatever happens it will have the blessing of the key democratic institution. Meanwhile, the Verification Commission will consist of two Hondurans, former Chilean President Lagos and U.S. Secretary of Labor Solis, who will travel to Honduras tomorrow. There are complaints about the agreement from various forces, including Chavez and the Wall Street Journal, but overall it is a real success. We are moving now to release money for monitoring of the November 29 elections and encouraging others to send monitors. The historical significance is that for the first time in Latin America a disruption of government of this sort has been resolved through internal dialogue. It serves as a nice counterpoint to the efforts of Chavez and Ortega to subvert democratic institutions.

Bolivia

- Maria Otero said last week's discussion here with the Bolivians on ways to rebuild the bilateral relationship had been productive. There will be a follow-on meeting in La Paz later this month.

Africa Issues

- Johnnie Carson noted that a senior-level Ethiopian delegation will be in town Thursday to review bilateral relations.
- In his recent trip, Johnnie stopped in Uganda and met with President Museveni to discuss human rights, the LRA and other issues. He noted that Uganda is poised to be a major oil exporters, with proven reserves in excess of 2 billion barrels.
- In Kenya, Johnnie underscored our support for the Kofi Annan reform agenda and said [REDACTED]

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