

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2010 10:50 AM
To: H
Subject: FW: Sargsyan message to Gul

FYI.

From: Gordon, Philip H
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 10:09 AM
To: Steinberg, James B; Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: Scanlon, Amy B
Subject: Sargsyan message to Gul

Jim: Sargsian sent this nice message to Gul as he crossed into Turkish airspace today. Understand Gul plans to reciprocate. Should at least help the atmosphere. Separately, the two sides have (more or less) agreed to enter the cone of silence starting today. Will see how long it lasts.

Jake – might want to share this with S.

09.02.2010

President Serzh Sargsyan sent a message to the President of the Republic of Turkey Abdullah Gul.

The message states,

“Excellency,

Passing through Turkish airspace, I send my greetings to you and the people of neighboring Turkey.

Our initiative, aimed at the normalization of the Armenian-Turkish relations, holds attention of the international community. This is a historic moment, indeed, and it is recognized not only by us, but also by the global community. Efforts of the countries engaged in the region, aimed at the improvement of bilateral relations, are indispensable. I am confident that it wouldn't be possible to move forward without their support. At the same time, I believe no matter how interested friendly states might be in a positive resolution of the impasse, there are certain things that can be done only by our two nations.

Mr. President,

I hope you will agree that the Armenian and Turkish peoples assign the main task of getting rid of the stereotypes regarding each other and establishment of the atmosphere of mutual trust to their respective governments. We can achieve results only if there are trust, resolve, and unfaltering stance. A situation when words are not supported by deeds gives rise to mistrust and skepticism, providing ample opportunities to counteract for those, who oppose the process. We should be mindful of the fact that in this particular case, the time is working not for but against the process.

If until now we have been able to bring our bilateral relations up to a level which made the prospects of building normal relations between our two countries more tangible and discernible, now the time has come to manifest determination to make next major step and leave to the coming generations a stable and secure region.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest esteem.”