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Sent: Sunday, November 28, 2010 11:57 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: (AP) McCain: Time to discuss `regime change' in DPRK

From: Jackson, Christine P
To: NEWS-Korea; NEWS-Mahogany
Cc: SES-O_Shift-II; SES-O_OS
Sent: Sun Nov 28 11:23:28 2010
Subject: (AP) McCain: Time to discuss `regime change' in DPRK

WASHINGTON (AP) - Sen. John McCain said it was time to discuss "regime change" in DPRK, but the former Navy combat pilot didn't say how he advocates changing the government in the repressive and secretive dictatorship. McCain said he was not suggesting military action against the North. He said the Chinese, the DPRK's closest ally, should rein in its neighbor, and he accused Beijing of failing to play a responsible role in either the Korean peninsula, where tensions are high because of a recent attack by the North, or the world stage. "The key to this, obviously, is China," McCain said on "State of the Union" on CNN. "And, unfortunately, China is not behaving as a responsible world power. It cannot be in China's long-term interest to see a renewed conflict on the Korean peninsula." The Arizona Republican added: "They could bring the North Korean economy to its knees if they wanted to. And I cannot believe that the Chinese should, in a mature fashion, not find it in their interest to restrain North Korea. So far, they are not." McCain said the Chinese government's call for emergency talks was a "fine first step," but he questioned whether DPRK would stop its long history of confrontation without significant penalties. "I think it's time we talked about regime change in North Korea, and I do not mean military action, but I do believe that this is a very unstable regime," McCain said.