

RELEASE IN PART B5

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2009 10:08 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: 9/17 Senior Staff and Regional Bureaus Meetings

FYI

From: Smith, Daniel B
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2009 3:41 PM
To: Mills, Cheryl D; Abedin, Huma; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: 9/17 Senior Staff and Regional Bureaus Meetings

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

I have been in meetings most of the day, but wanted you all to have a quick synopsis of this morning's meetings.

Mike Lowrey

- Jack said that Congresswoman Lowrey was upset over a number of things, including no heads-up on problems with Armorguard, no notification on decision to attend UNDP Board meetings headed by Iran, and reprogramming of money from education and other things to energy projects in Pakistan. There was a great deal of subsequent discussion of the UNDP issue and we are trying to get more details on why this was not raised to the attention of Principals. In addition, Harold noted that there is a requirement that we send a report to the Hill within 30 days of a decision not to abide by the prohibition on attending meetings chaired by a state sponsor of terror.

Missile Defense

- Mike Port noted a series of calls being made to the Hill on missile defense. In the subsequent meeting, Phil Gordon said that our delegation had completed meetings in Warsaw and Prague and was on the way to Brussels to brief NATO. The Warsaw meetings did not go well, but the Poles were restrained in public comments, while the Prague meetings went better, but the Czechs had immediately delivered a headline to the press – "U.S. cancels missile shield in Central Europe, Russians happy." Phil was off to brief the Hill, but expected a fairly difficult time there.

DeMint Holds

- Mike reported that Rich had spoken to Senator DeMint but had made no progress in getting him to lift holds on Shannon and Valenzuela. Jim Steinberg will call DeMint to follow up.

Sri Lanka War Crimes Report

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Goldstone Report

- We are trying to get all the clearances on the strategy paper for the Secretary on the Goldstone Report. Meanwhile, Jack noted that the Israelis are pressing hard for a stronger U.S. public response against the report.

Afghanistan/Pakistan

- Apparently, [redacted] Hill briefings on Afghanistan and Pakistan yesterday went very badly. Senator Reid said that it was the "worst briefing" he had had in 25 years. They were very upset that Petraeus, McChrystal and Holbrooke were not there, and that they had not received the McChrystal Report in advance.

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