

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2010 5:10 PM
To: H
Cc: Mills, Cheryl D
Subject: FW: Wikileaks - OSD/PA meeting with Michael Gordon of NYT

FYI

From: Wilson, Douglas HON OSD PA [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2010 5:03 PM
To: 'Govashiri, Ferial'; [REDACTED] Sullivan, Jacob J; Crowley, Philip J; Morrell, Geoff Mr OSD PA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Turner, Shawn; Vietor, Tommy; Gibbs, Robert L.; McDonough, Denis R.; DL-NSC-IRAQ; Donilon, Thomas E.; Spence, Matthew J.; Jensen, Robert R.; Hammer, Michael A.; Blinken, Antony J.; Carney, James F.; Holtz, Greta C (NEA); Frayne, Philip A; LoGerfo, Gregory D (Baghdad); [REDACTED]; Bodde, Tanya L (Baghdad); Meagher, Zita E; [REDACTED]; Harley, Dorarette M (Baghdad); [REDACTED]
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B6

Per our SVTC this morning, here's a readout of the meeting we just concluded with Michael Gordon of the New York Times:

- First NYT stories will appear on the Web Friday after 9pm, and will be in Saturday edition.
- Gordon said that NYT was not "the major news player" for Wikileaks, and that their focus was much more on European publications
- He said "there's nothing in there that changes his understanding of the Iraq War" (he's writing a book on it)
- He confirmed the 5-6 themes we've been discussing that will be the focus of NYT stories:
 - o More on civilian casualties than has been public so far
 - o More on detainee abuse than has been public so far
 - o Iranian involvement in Iraq
 - o More on contractors than has been public so far - although on this one, he didn't seem like there would be any great surprises here
 - o A small report on the US hikers
- In addition, Gordon identified two others:
 - o The "surrender to the helicopter" issue, which is the focus of a story his colleague is working on -- and, apparently, the focus of other news stories (he said this a couple of times)
 - Kurdish-Arab tensions, and the US role in deconflicting those tensions. Gordon said that for him, this was the most important topic

long-term - but he also said this will be of much less interest to European papers doing stories

- NYT has adhered to the process followed after their first meeting at the WH (when the Af/Pak documents were released), and has gone to great efforts to redact names, as well as information regarding force protection and intelligence
- It's clear there are additional media preparing stories, including Le Monde and UK's Channel 4. He made no mention of Al Jazeera.