

RELEASE IN PART
B5,B6

From: Jacob Lew [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2009 1:26 PM
To: H
Cc: Lew, Jacob J
Subject: Re: Followup

B6

Sorry for not responding sooner -- only now checking [redacted] I see my email at lewjj@state.gov on the blackberry.

B6

B5

Had a conversation with Spratt today where he was almost contrite and said that he was being pushed hard by members of his caucus and leadership, as well as the President in a mtg at the WH this week. He said that Pelosi, Obey and he were committed to fixing and making us whole.

I talked with Kerry today about his amendment to restore our funding and he said that Conrad would oppose but not ask others to vote against it. He thought he had a chance.

I told him that we continued to support the President's budget and that the two budget resolutions would not permit the rebuilding of our civilian presence along with other foreign policy objectives and that we supported efforts to restore the funding now or later in the appropriations process. He undertood that we did not want to get actively involved between him and Conrad.

All in all, a better budget day today in Islamabad than last Wed in DC.

Had a full day in Pakistan, including good meetings with PM and later with Finance Minister. They understand that they need to have a strategic plan that our aid and international aid fits into. I will follow up with Richard on the UN question when I talk to him later or tomorrow. I will see Kai Eide before I leave on Sat night and Richard should see him when he arrves. I think that series of visits to Pakistan will actually keep them focussed on getting the strategic plan ready for when we present our budget proposals to Congress -- they will concentrate on areas that direct support the strategic objective of pusing back extremism along with functions where the absorptive capacity is greatest. They will probably phase requests over time based on the asborbtive capacity. Kerry is coming next week.

We leave for Kabul in the morning. Hope the trip is going well.

On Mon, Mar 30, 2009 at 2:20 PM, H <hdr22@clintonemail.com> wrote:

One idea Gates and Gen Jones support is trying to do a holistic "national security" budget. I think this is worth exploring at the deputies level. What's your reaction?

Also, have you and Holbrooke decided how we will deliver the Af-Pak aid? We want our govt and Americans to be in charge but probably w a UN lead.