

RELEASE IN PART B7(E)
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From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 7, 2010 6:11 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Pakistani visitors

----- Original Message -----

From: Pally, Maura M
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Sent: Sun Mar 07 17:50:25 2010
Subject: RE: Pakistani visitors

Yes. They were here on one of our IVLP programs. They had completed the DC portion of their program, which had high level meetings, including with Sen Lugar and with Holbrooke, and they were on their way to New Orleans for the second part of their program when this happened. We had a program officer traveling with them and she too went through the additional security. According to her, TSA personnel were courteous and professional and the additional screening time was approximately 10 minutes. TSA, who had been notified in advance of the delegation and the sensitivity, maintained that post-Christmas procedures mandated that all Pakistani travelers must go through secondary screening. TSA had a protocol officer present during the screenings. Our program officer said that the delegation felt they were being discriminated against since no other passengers were subjected to the additional security. A more detailed report from Brent Hartley follows:

Summary: The delegation of six FATA parliamentarians decided to suspend their IVP program as a result of being selected for secondary screening at National Airport while en route to the second stop of their program in New Orleans. After screening and after they decided to cancel the remainder of the trip, they immediately contacted Pakistani media, and the story was in the press within minutes. They are scheduled to depart for Islamabad (via Kuwait) tonight. TSA confirmed that all Pakistani air travelers must go through secondary screening in accordance with the post-Christmas enhanced screening procedures. The Young Parliamentarians IVP group remains on track, arriving in Minnesota tonight. We are waiting for confirmation that a new group scheduled to arrive today for a program on infectious diseases has checked into its hotel. End Summary.

According to the ECA escort (Diane Crow), the facts of the National Airport screening were:

- TSA had been notified in advance of the delegation's itinerary;
- All six Parliamentarians were taken aside for secondary screening, along with Ms. Crow; B7(E)
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- They all went through the full body screening machine;
- One Parliamentarian was asked to repeat the procedure twice in order to resolve an issue related to the way an article of clothing was knotted;
- The elapsed time for the party of seven (six parliamentarians and the escort officer) to be screened was less than ten minutes;
- TSA personnel were courteous and professional throughout; their protocol officer and the two senior TSA officers on duty at the airport were present to ensure all possible courtesies were extended.

As they went through the screening process, the Parliamentarians, noting that since no other passengers had been selected for secondary screening (other than the escort officer), decided that they had been treated in a discriminatory manner. They were also offended at being subjected to the full body scanner. They decided that they should end their IV program and return to Pakistan.

Immediately upon leaving the security area, the FATA Parliamentarians called family and Pakistani media contacts to inform them of their decision; the issue was in the Pakistani press within minutes. We also learned from the escort for

the Young Parliamentarians group that they called the one Pashtun member of that group to press him to leave his program as well – he declined.

Larry Schwartz and I, along with ECA and SCA/PPD officers, met with the FATA Parliamentarians for several hours this afternoon following their decision to leave early for Islamabad. Pakistani DCM Khan was there as well, and had informed Amb. Haqqani of the situation. We tried to convince them to continue the trip, or at least to spend another day in Washington to consider next steps. They declined, saying that they had no choice to return given that the incident had already been reported the press and that they had informed their families they would be returning. Tim List has been in contact with TSA throughout the afternoon and evening. Even before the screening at National Airport, TSA was aware of the sensitivity of this group – as noted above, they had their most senior officers at National present to escort the group. But they have made clear that because Pakistan is on the list of 14 countries of interest, the Parliamentarians – like any other Pakistani – must go through secondary screening for any flight, international or domestic. They will undergo a pat-down upon departure from Dulles tonight, although arrangements have been made to be screened in a private area.

Larry is with the delegation tonight at the airport, along with the ECA escort officer and TSA escorts. Larry reports they are giving interviews to GEO TV before departure.

-----Original Message-----

From: Mills, Cheryl D
Sent: Sunday, March 07, 2010 4:17 PM
To: Pally, Maura M
Subject: Fw: Pakistani visitors

See traffic - any advice in resp to her ques?

----- Original Message -----

From: H <HDR22@clintonemail.com>
To: Kennedy, Patrick F; Mills, Cheryl D
Sent: Sun Mar 07 16:10:57 2010
Subject: Pakistani visitors

Did we know they were coming? What did we do to try to expedite and avoid this?