

RELEASE IN
PART B5, B6

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 6:16 AM
To: H
Cc: Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Fw: 5-2 Photos to be published by Der Spiegel tomorrow

From: Singh, Vikram J
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Abedin, Huma
Sent: Sat Mar 19 02:15:33 2011
Subject: Fw: 5-2 Photos to be published by Der Spiegel tomorrow

Please make sure S is not caught off guard by this. This is an old story, and the perpetrators are locked up pending trial, but the photos will be a disaster (even if it's the Army taking questions.)

We have a few hours to go.

V-

From: Davidson, Philip S
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2011 05:25 PM
To: DeHart, James P; Carnie, Amy
Cc: Lenderking, Timothy A; Feldman, Daniel F; Singh, Vikram J; Ruggiero, Frank J; Amiri, Rina; Rubin, Barnett R; Bommer, Ashley F; Simon, Jessica L; Haq, Nayyera; Hall, Caitlin G
Subject: FW: 5-2 Photos to be published by Der Spiegel tomorrow

Jim/Amy – The Der Spiegel photos – long pending - hit the internet tomorrow. As a reminder, the backstory is below. DoD has the lead per NSS/State/DoD/JS discussion this afternoon.

I am unaware of the NSS and OSD/PA coordination that's gone on at bottom to facilitate these phonecalls.

P.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2011 3:02 PM
To: Mattis, James N Gen MIL USMC USCENTCOM CCCC-CCCC
Cc: Allen, John R LtGen MIL USMC USCENTCOM CCDC-DCDR; Jones, Michael D MG MIL USA USCENTCOM CCDC-COS; Donegan, Kevin M RADM MIL USN USCENTCOM CCJ3-A; [REDACTED]
Nixon, James C BG MIL USA USCENTCOM CCJ3-A; [REDACTED]

Subject: 5-2 Photos to be published by Der Spiegel tomorrow

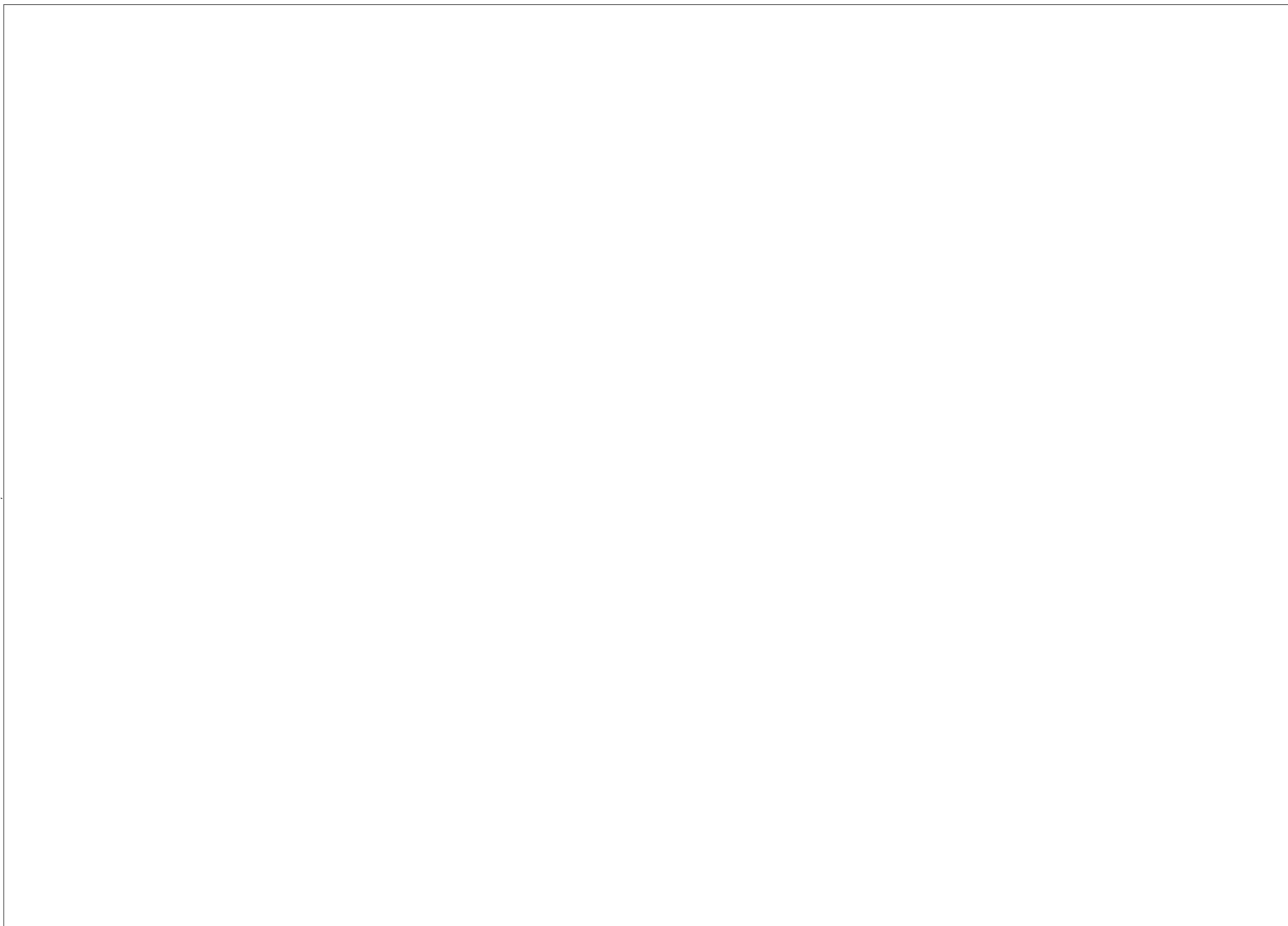
Sir,

As mentioned on SIPR this morning, we expect the German magazine, "Der Spiegel" to post offensive photos online tomorrow at approximately 1600-1700 hrs EST, relative to Soldiers from 5-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team (5-2 SBCT) and their 2009 deployment to Afghanistan. Five of these Soldiers were charged with murder for killing Afghan citizens, and are expected to go to trial in the March-May timeframe.

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The Department of the Army is the PA lead for this story, and is coordinating their efforts with OSD, CENTCOM, DOS, and ISAF. Army will respond to the photo release with a statement that is still being approved. If queried, CENTCOM and all others defer media to Army PA.

We do not know the exact photos or number that Der Spiegel will publish -- they have revealed that one of the photos is allegedly of a Soldier holding up the decapitated head of an Afghan who he has killed. Der Spiegel is expected to release a hardcopy version of this story in their Monday magazine.



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A total of 12 Soldiers from 5-2 SBCT have been charged with 76 different charges. Of the 12 Soldiers, 5 are for premeditated murder, eight for drugs, and eight for assaulting another Soldier. The charges include "wrongfully photographing and possessing visual images of human casualties."

Vr/



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