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**From:** Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 11, 2011 8:46 AM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: Update 3: Former Governor Richardson Meets With MFA Officials (SBU)

More of same

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**From:** Jacobson, Roberta S  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 10, 2011 11:04 PM  
**To:** Mills, Cheryl D; Shannon, Thomas A (P); Burns, William J; Sullivan, Jacob J  
**Cc:** Mandojana, Marcos C; Simpson, Mordica M; Corneille, Faith; Reynoso, Julissa; Brennan, Peter M  
**Subject:** Fw: Update 3: Former Governor Richardson Meets With MFA Officials (SBU)

VFM Dagoberto Rodriguez called Julissa Reynoso tonight, saying the Cuban government was offended by Richardson's public language on Gross as a hostage and characterization of GOC, and thus would not let him see Gross or discuss issue further. They said they had been "very encouraged" by the list of subjects for potential discussion Richardson had outlined and couldnt understand why he had been so negative publicly. Rodriguez asked if Richardson had USG backing for remaining in Cuba.

Julissa stressed repeatedly that Richardson was a private citizen and we did not control or "back" him.

1. List Richardson conveyed was same as we've said on table for more than a year.
2. The Cubans reached out to Richardson, decided they didn't like what they heard and thus are stiffing him.
3. And are then annoyed they can't control him and want us to do it.

Julissa or Peter will close loop w/Richardson about Rodriguez call, Richardson waiting to hear back from Cardinal. I doubt more will come of this, and I do not believe there is more to be done in this channel. Roberta.

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**From:** Mendez, Luis F  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 10, 2011 09:38 PM  
**To:** SES\_DutyDeputies; S\_SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; R\_Special Assistants; PA FO Group; Operations Center; CA-Staffers Mailbox; CA-OCS-Duty; CA-OCS-Duty-Principals; DRL-FO-DL; Ops\_Targeted\_Alerts\_WHA\_DL  
**Cc:** DS Command Center; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Update 3: Former Governor Richardson Meets With MFA Officials (SBU)

B6

(SBU) The Office of Cuban Affairs reports Governor Richardson met with Cuban MFA officials the evening of September 10. An official read a note to Gov. Richardson, conveying the Cuban government did not appreciate Gov. Richardson's public comments describing Alan Gross as a hostage, adding this was the reason why he was not permitted to see Gross. In addition, the note said Richardson had no further role to play in Cuba.

(SBU) Richardson met earlier September 10 with Cardinal Jamie Ortega, who expressed frustration the Obama administration had not improved relations with the Cuban government as promised. However, the Cardinal promised to reach out immediately to a close contact of President Raul Castro, who could facilitate a meeting between the President and Gov. Richardson.

The Cardinal also said he would raise a possible meeting with Mr. Gross.

(SBU) The Office of Cuban Affairs reports Richardson remains willing to stay in Havana to see how these events play out.

**From:** MendezLF@state.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, September 09, 2011 12:28:17 PM  
**To:** SES\_DutyDeputies@State.gov; S\_SpecialAssistants@state.gov; D-B@State.gov; D-N@State.gov; Poffice@State.gov; R\_SpecialAssistants@State.gov; PAFOGroup@State.gov; OperationsCenter@State.gov; CA-Staffers-Mailbox@State.gov; CA-OCS-Duty@State.gov; CA-OCS-Duty-Principals@State.gov; DRL-FO-DL@State.gov; Ops\_Targeted\_Alerts\_WHA\_DL@State.gov;  
**CC:** DS.Command.Center@State.gov; #whsr@nss.eop.gov;  
**Subject:** Update 2: Former Governor Richardson To Remain In Cuba (SBU)

(SBU) The Office of Cuban Affairs reports former New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson will not depart until he has an opportunity to meet with Alan Gross. Former Gov. Richardson had planned to leave September 10.

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**From:** McCoyRB@state.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, September 09, 2011 12:37:37 AM  
**To:** Miyahiratk@state.gov; SES\_DutyDeputies@State.gov; S\_SpecialAssistants@state.gov; D-B@State.gov; D-N@State.gov; Poffice@State.gov; R\_SpecialAssistants@State.gov; PAFOGroup@State.gov; OperationsCenter@State.gov; CA-Staffers-Mailbox@State.gov; CA-OCS-Duty@State.gov; CA-OCS-Duty-Principals@State.gov; DRL-FO-DL@State.gov; Ops\_Targeted\_Alerts\_WHA\_DL@State.gov;  
**CC:** DS.Command.Center@State.gov; #whsr@nss.eop.gov;  
**Subject:** Update 1: Richardson Denied Meetings with President Castro and Alan Gross (SBU)

(SBU) The Office of Cuban Affairs reports FM Rodriguez told former Gov. Richardson that President Castro would not meet with him. He added Richardson would not be allowed to visit Alan Gross.

Richardson plans to speak to President of the National Assembly Alarcon in a further effort to seek meetings with Castro and Gross.

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**From:** Miyahiratk@state.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 08, 2011 7:46:46 PM  
**To:** Miyahiratk@state.gov; SES\_DutyDeputies@State.gov; S\_SpecialAssistants@state.gov; D-B@State.gov; D-N@State.gov; Poffice@State.gov; R\_SpecialAssistants@State.gov; PAFOGroup@State.gov; OperationsCenter@State.gov; CA-Staffers-Mailbox@State.gov; CA-OCS-Duty@State.gov; CA-OCS-Duty-Principals@State.gov; DRL-FO-DL@State.gov; Ops\_Targeted\_Alerts\_WHA\_DL@State.gov;  
**CC:** DS.Command.Center@State.gov;   
**Subject:** Cuban FM Provides No Clear Signals on Alan Gross Case (SBU)

(SBU) Former New Mexico Gov. Richardson met for three hours with Cuban FM Rodriguez, who raised the possibility of setting up two separate meetings September 9 for Richardson with President Castro and Alan Gross. Rodriguez also complained the Obama Administration had not done enough to improve bilateral ties.

B6