

From: Huma Abedin [Huma@clintonemail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 01, 2009 11:32:52 AM
To: 'humamabedin'
Subject: PrintFw: Follow up

B6

RELEASE IN
PART B6

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

From: H
To: Huma Abedin
Sent: Wed Jul 01 10:21:12 2009
Subject: Fw: Follow up

Pls print.

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

From: jkeane <jkeane >
To: H
Cc: Lauren Jiloty <jilotylc@state.gov>
Sent: Wed Jul 01 09:53:02 2009
Subject: Follow up

Hillary

Great talking to you yesterday < >

Failed to discuss a concern I have about Iraq. The security we established has enabled significant political progress, particularly the provincial elections in January, which fundamentally strengthens and changes how the Iraq people relate to their government and, in general, the maturation of the political process. Certainly watching the Council of Representatives check some of Maliki's grab for increased power is a welcome development.

Yet, there are significant challenges ahead: the territorial dispute between the Sunni Arabs and Kurds, resolution of Kirkuk, oil revenue sharing, a final reconciliation with the Sunnis and Maliki's strongman tendencies. This is work where USG can play a vital role in assisting the GOI and the key constituencies to work toward common goals for the betterment of Iraq. And they are achievable; how far the Iraqis have come since 2006 is nothing short of remarkable. It could not have been done without our help.

I am concerned that the GOI and other key Iraq influencers believe the USG is no longer committed to their long term development and stability (I also pick it up from Sunni Arab leaders in the region). Believe they draw this conclusion, primarily from POTUS remarks about Iraq which carry far more emphasis on ending the war than a long term strategic partnership with Iraq. Notwithstanding, how we entered the Iraq war and the three years of a failed strategy, which helped to divide our nation, there is a real strategic opportunity in front of us, that involves our support for a democratic, stable Iraq that is aligned with the US. The Strategic Framework Agreement (which both govts signed) pretty much lays this out and is a far more significant document than the Status of Forces, which, by necessity, is narrow in scope. The SFA is about a long term relationship which goes well beyond our current military one and appropriately involves a political, diplomatic, economic and cultural relationship. This agreement should be followed up with substantive implementation by both governments, but it won't happen unless we push it. Its a fact, the Iraqis want to be our partner but it is also true they have choices if that doesn't materialize, and it is this reality which concerns thoughtful leaders in and outside of Iraq. The Iranians understand this and are threatened by a US/Iraq partnership which helps to realize the democratic and human rights aspirations of the Iraq people.

One of the failings of incoming administrations is their inability to accept, at times, the success of their predecessors as they are so preoccupied with the failures. The Bush team failed to accept Bosnia and Kosovo for what they were: foreign policy successes, by the Clinton team, that stabilized southern Europe after 4 debilitating wars in the region. Preoccupied with "nation building" as a failed Clinton strategy and their desire to do the minimum to avoid dependency of the host nation on USG, it lead the Bush team to a grossly under resourced Afghanistan that we are just beginning to address after 8 years and a similar mismatch in Iraq which came dangerously close to strategic failure.

Am afraid the Obama team is doing the same in Iraq as it fails to come to grip with the success of Iraq, due largely to Bush's "surge" decision, and is somewhat paralyzed by the previous investment in an opposing strategy. As such, we are failing to forge a strong relationship with our Iraqis partners, to help them to move through their challenges and to continue to stand with them as a strategic partner. They are the only Arab Muslim state which genuinely elects its leaders. This is a dagger to the heart of the extremists in the region and it offers so much hope and potential for so many in the autocratic and, in some cases, repressed regimes.

Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch, Inc.

I realize Afghanistan, Iran, North Korea and the ME are on the front burner but we should not fail to seize the opportunity that Iraq offers; to enhance regional stability and a genuine buffer against the tyrannical Iranian regime.

Great talking to you and look forward to seeing you soon. All the best, Jack

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

HA 09/01/2015