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NOTE FOR SECRETARY CLINTON

RELEASE IN PART B5

FROM: S/SRAP – Ashley Bommer and Vikram Singh

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON AF/PAK MOBILE INITIATIVES

As you know, we have been trying to make progress on two critica: Afghanistan through mobile technology:

- First, secure cell phone towers in contested areas:
 - The Taliban has long ordered telecom companies to powe cell towers every night in contested areas. In this week's Newsweek reported a Taliban commander saying, "All the raids came between midnight and dawn. We found out the were finding us by tracing our cell phone calls, and by giving away our location. So we forced the cell comparisons from 6pm to 7am. We still worry about bombers, but we are suffering fewer American night they just don't have the intelligence they used to have are willing to cooperate with them and betray us."
- Second, corruption and absenteeism that demoralize and weaker
 - Officers are under paid (their bosses skim about 30% off the they then often have to travel for a week to take their cash home to their families. During this time they are vulnerable because gangs target government workers around pay dec

We are making great strides in both areas through mobile initiative part of our Communication and Counter Propaganda strategy.

Earlier this year, we proposed countering the Taliban by moving ce Forward Operating Bases, where they would be protected. For the part

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months, with your support, we conducted meetings with the military companies and relevant ministries. This week, Rear Admiral Greg Strategic Communication Director, confirmed that towers would be RC South and East (ISAF and US Forces Afghanistan Action Plan Attachments:

1. ISAF memo on cell plans

2. Recent Economist Report on Telecoms in Emerging Markets

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