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RELEASE IN PART B6

From:
Sent:
T o:
Subject:

Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov> Thursday, February 25, 2010 9:36 AM H FW: CHOD

FYI.

 From: Llorens, Hugo

 Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2010 9:31 AM

 To: Aguilera, Patricia; Amselem, W Lewis; Brands, William R; Carpenter, Janie M; Crowley, Philip J; Cue, Lourdes C; Doug

 Fraser
 drestrepo

 Gonzalez, Francisco J; Gonzalez, Juan S; Henshaw, Simon; Jacobson, Roberta S; Kelly, Craig A; Otero, Maria; Paul Trivelli

 Reynoso, Julissa; SES-O; Shannon, Thomas A; Sullivan, Jacob J; Swisher, Robert W;

 Valenzuela, Arturo A; Webster, Christopher W; Wolfe, David C; Zambrano, Maria Gabriela

 Subject: CHOD

ALL: As you know, yesterday PL announced and later swore-in former congressman Marlon Pascua Cerrato as Minister of Defense. PL told me late last night that he would name the new CHOD today. He said once the announcement was made, the new MOD would swear-in the CHOD. PL says that he plans to appoint General Cuellar who is Inspector General of the Armed Forces. Close in the running was Deputy CHOD General Cervantes. Cervantes's problem is that his military TIC runs out, and so would have to resign in a year. Cuellar has three more years in his TIC. PL wants to be very much the insitutionalist in dealing with the military and does not want to have to appoint a new CHOD next year when Cervantes retires. PL was able to get rid of V who undertook a huge lobbying effort to stay on as CHOD for one more year or be appointed MOD. PL also resisted appointing General Garcia Padgett who was the institution favorite for the CHOD position. Garcia Padgett was a key decision maker, along with V, in the coup.

Hugo Llorens

Ambassador U.S. Embassy Tegucigalpa, Honduras 504 236-9320 ext. 4268 B6