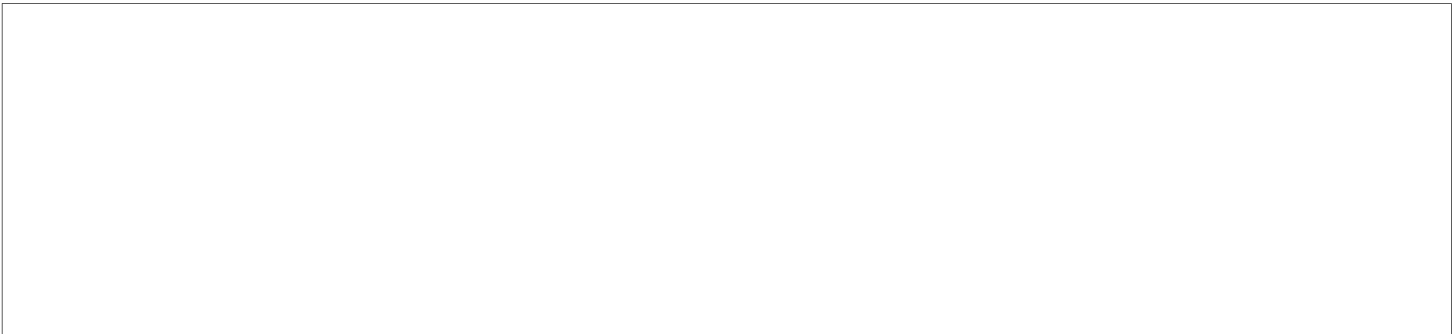


RELEASE IN
PART B5

From: McHale, Judith A <McHaleJA@state.gov>
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2010 9:02 AM
To: H
Cc: Mills, Cheryl D; DiMartino, Kitty
Subject: Iraq Communications Strategy

We are continuing to refine our communications strategy with respect to the military-to-civilian transition in Iraq and I wanted to provide you with some recommendations with regard to how we communicate State's role in that process.



B5

We are already ramping up State Department press and outreach on Iraq. Jeff Feltman visited Iraq in May and did both Iraqi and U.S. media there. He returns to Iraq in mid-June where he will do additional media. In the meantime, he is continuing his Iraq-focused media in Washington, including interviews with pan-Arab print and broadcast media last week and roundtables with U.S. and foreign press this week. DAS for Iraq Michael Corbin is doing press interviews in addition to domestic outreach trips to Los Angeles, San Diego, Nebraska, and a second visit this week to Detroit, where he is meeting with Iraqis and Iraqi-Americans, holding press interviews, and engaging members of Congress and their staff. The message has been consistent: a transition is underway from a security-focused relationship to a civilian partnership, and the State Department is at the center of that partnership.



If you agree, we will develop a media engagement strategy on Iraq for you that would include a mix of domestic and foreign press and other public events like a speech following the August 31 end of the U.S. combat mission in Iraq.



Let me know what you think.

jm