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**From:** H

RELEASE IN PART B6

**Sent:** 5/19/2011 10:36:22 PM +00:00

**To:** Huma Abedin <Huma@clintonemail.com>

**Subject:** Fw: thank you! & two thoughts

Pls print.

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

From: Jackie Newmyer [mailto: ]

Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2011 06:30 PM

To: H

Subject: thank you! & two thoughts

B6

Dear Secretary Clinton,

Your themes in recent speeches and interviews have me thinking about two issues. First, while the Arab Spring has created huge opportunities, I'm not sure that anyone has been able to develop a strategy for the United States in the greater Middle East that, consistent with your remarks, meets the following conditions:

- 1) is not a clumsy neocon democracy installation effort;
- 2) is flexible and acknowledges that many dynamics in the region are unfolding independently of our actions; and
- 3) balances other priorities (e.g., maintaining peace and stability outside the Middle East) in an era of budget constraints.

Implementation of such a strategy might entail the creation of an elite branch of the diplomatic corps that has attributes of the special operations forces community but is optimized for outreach rather than for paramilitary activities. "Outreach" could mean cultivating relationships with a variety of different actors in some cases, and in other cases it could mean helping people on the ground use technology and/or organize themselves.

Second, under your leadership the State Department seems to be way ahead of the rest of the government in taking low-cost steps to improve the access of people in places like China to information that all citizens should have about their own countries. For instance, State publishes transcripts of joint media appearances not just in English but also in other relevant languages. Is there any way that this could be done for Defense, too? Just yesterday at a Pentagon press conference with Adm. Mullen, PLA Gen. Chen Bingde said:

"Through my visit over the past couple of days in the United States I am surprised by the sophistication of the U.S. military, including its weapons and equipment and doctrines and so on... The per capita GDP of the United States is 12 times that of China. So if we spend our money, which is much less than that of the United States, to buy weapons and equipment to challenge the United States, the Chinese people simply would say 'no'."

These statements were not reported in official mainland Chinese-language news outlets. A few snippets appeared in two Chinese-language business outlets known for enjoying a measure of editorial independence, but basically, only Chinese people who can not only navigate to US websites but also read English could gain access to Chen's remarks. As you know, this creates pernicious space for saying one thing to foreigners and something totally different to domestic audiences. Neither VOA nor Radio Free Asia produces such translated transcripts, as far as I know. Perhaps this is a job for an NGO.

Thank you again, and All best, Jackie

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**Message Headers:**

[Redacted]

From: H <HDR22@clintonemail.com>  
To: Huma Abedin <Huma@clintonemail.com>  
Date: Thu, 19 May 2011 18:36:22 -0400  
Subject: Fw: thank you! & two thoughts

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