

From: Diane Reynolds
Sent: 4/18/2009 9:49:21 PM +00:00
To: H <HDR22@clintonemail.com>
Subject: Fw: Thought

RELEASE IN PART B6

From Coco
xx

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

From: coco ferguson
To: Diane Reynolds
Sent: Sat Apr 18 15:18:45 2009
Subject: Thought

B6

Dear Chelsea,

I've been reflecting on your question about what we can do for Roxana. A thought has come to mind.

While speaking out strongly against injustice, as your mother did today, my hope is that the US does not rise to the bait dangled by hard line elements in Iran through their harsh sentence for Roxana.

Given the divergence between Iranian Foreign Ministry and judiciary officials, who said that Roxana would be released, and her harsh and rapid sentence in the Revolutionary Court, I conclude that there's a power struggle in Iran between those who want to start down the path to rapprochement and those who are threatened by the plan. Roxana is a pawn in the middle.

Small groups of hard liners, operating through parallel systems like the Revolutionary Courts have a long history of using hostage tactics to bring down Western figures - be it the US Embassy, or the British sailors. I think Roxana's sentencing is partly an attempt by hard liners to back your mother into a corner.

I've been very impressed by your mother and the President's refusal to play that game, and their determination slowly to push ahead with engagement, while calling attention to human rights abuses. Signals that Roxana's imprisonment is unacceptable, but that spanners like this aren't going to derail the US longer term Iran strategy, would send a powerful message that would make life safer for her and others like her. If small groups think they can dictate Iran policy through manipulating vulnerable individuals, we're in for a long haul.

It seems that the State Department is ahead of this curve, which I find reassuring.

Coco

PR_RIM_PAGER_TX_FLAG: false

PR_RIM_MSG_REF_ID: 514878938

PR_RIM_MSG_FOLDER_ID: -5

PR_RIM_DELETED_BY_DE

VICE:

PR_RIM_MSG_ON_DEVICE true

_3_6:

PR_RIM_MSG_STATUS: 1