
Subject:

FW: Voice of America issue...

From: Stratman, Sam [mailto:Sam.Stratman@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Friday, June 01, 2012 9:33 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Subject: FW: Voice of America issue...

Lynne, great meeting yesterday....

Small wrinkle overnight....If the attached story is accurate about the work of VOA correspondent on this peer review panel at the UN, it has the potential to kick up a storm up here. For my part, I think it's terrible judgment on the part of your correspondent to participate, but, alas, I alert you only as a courtesy with no intention of trying to hammer down the firewall.

Warmest regards,

From:

Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2012 6:35 PM

To: Stratman, Sam

Cc:

Subject: RE: Voice of America issue...

Here is what Lee posted on his site. On the one hand, I don't like the idea of getting involved in an intra-press squabble, but on the other, Lee has broken a lot of key stories over the years and his oversight, while idiosyncratic, has been relentless.

UN Move to Expel ICP Led by 5 Big Media, For Ban Ki-moon, France, Lanka

By Matthew Russell Lee

UNITED NATIONS, May 29 -- Four hours after UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon's Peacekeeping chief Herve Ladsous refused on camera to answer Inner City Press' questions about documented charges that his Department introduced cholera into Haiti, and has Sri Lanka alleged war criminal general Shavendra Silva as an adviser, representatives of five media organizations presented charges to eject Inner City Press.

Video of Ladsous' refusal to answer is here, Minute 28:10.

The subsequently disclosed five signers of the charge letter to set up a "board of examination" to "investigate" Inner City Press with the goal of expelling the Press include not only Louis Charbonneau of Reuters and Timothy Witcher of Agence France Presse (as explained below, a major Ladsous supporter or tool).