

David Ensor

From: richard m lobo <(b)(6)>
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 10:44 AM
To: David Ensor, Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Fwd: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Dana Perino <(b)(6)>
Date: Mon, Jul 30, 2012 at 10:37 AM
Subject: Fwd: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?
To: "Richard M. Lobo" <rlobo@bbg.gov>, Lynne Weil <lweil@bbg.gov>

folks - i believe this issue needs addressed in a more robust way.

Dana Perino
(b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hicks, Trey (HSGAC)" <Trey_Hicks@hsgac.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?
Date: July 30, 2012 10:31:45 AM EDT
To: Lynne Weil <lweil@bbg.gov>, Susan Andross <sandross@bbg.gov>
Cc: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b)(6)>, (b)(6) <(b)(6)>, (b)(6) <(b)(6)>, (b)(6) <(b)(6)>, "Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn)" <Jeremy_Hayes@coburn.senate.gov>

Hi Susan and Co. Thanks for the conference call last week. We certainly agree that it is not desirable to work in an environment where one is physically threatened or harassed. That is why we want to make sure that the threats posed by Mr. Lee to VOA staff were so significant and sufficiently documented that they outweigh the public diplomacy debacle of a U.S. "free press" agency appearing to silence a U.S. journalist at the UN of all places.

Furthermore, it is not too far of a stretch to see a connection between the investigation of Mr. Lee and reports by Mr. Lee documenting the alleged conflict of interest of the UNCA president, Giampaolo Pioli. One could see the attempts to give Mr. Lee the boot as retaliation for Mr. Lee daring to document and expose the scandal.