United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 28, 2022

Case No: FL-2020-00006

American Oversight
Daniel McGrath
1030 15th Street NW, B255
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. McGrath:

We refer to our letter dated June 28, 2022, regarding the release of certain Department of State ("Department") material under the Freedom of Information Act (the "FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Department identified an additional record responsive to your request. After reviewing the record, we have determined that the record may be released in part.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made redactions, the applicable FOIA exemptions are marked on the record. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released and is enclosed.

This concludes the processing of your request. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Trial Attorney, Josh Abbuhl at (202) 616-8366 or at Joshua.Abbuhl@usdoj.gov. Please refer to civil action number 19-cv-3058, and FOIA case number FL-2020-00006 in all correspondence regarding this case.

Sincerely,

Diamonece Hickson
Acting Chief, Litigation and Appeals Branch
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

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The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

(b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:

- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
- 1.4(b) Foreign government information
- 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
- 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
- 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
- 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
- 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
- 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction

(b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency

(b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:

ARMSEXP	Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c)
CIA PERS/ORG	Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g)
EXPORT CONTROL	Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c)
FS ACT	Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004
INA	Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f)
IRAN	Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505

(b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information

(b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product

(b)(6) Personal privacy information

(b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:

- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
- (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
- (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
- (D) disclose confidential sources
- (E) disclose investigation techniques
- (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual

(b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions

(b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

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Released in Part

From:	"Taylor, William B" (b)(6)
To:	Kent, George P (b)(6) Freden, Bradley A (b)(6) Croft, Catherine M (b)(6)
CC:	Kvien, Kristina A (b)(6) (b)(6)
Subject:	RE: Memo to S re Revised CAATSA 232 Guidance
Date:	Mon, 12 Aug 2019 12:46:56 -0400

Excellent – thanks

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kent, George P
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2019 4:47 PM
To: Freden, Bradley A; Taylor, William B; Croft, Catherine M
Cc: Kvien, Kristina A; (b)(6)
Subject: Memo to S re Revised CAATSA 232 Guidance

DECLASSIFIED by David Noble, Senior Reviewer, 05/17/2022

Attached. Please not for wide distro.

S has been out of DC since last Thursday – believe he is in Kansas still today. Back tomorrow.

Official
This message is ~~**CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN**~~ when separated from ~~**SECRET**~~ attachment(s)
Classified By: Brad Freden - Director, Office:EUR/EE, Agency:U.S. Department of State
Declassify On: 8/12/2044
Reasons: (Derived) Classification derived from previous message(s)

From: Taylor, William B
Sent: Sunday, August 11, 2019 3:34 AM
To: Kent, George P; Croft, Catherine M; Freden, Bradley A
Cc: Kvien, Kristina A; (b)(6)
Subject: RE: EUR Staff Meeting Notes for August 8, 2019

Any idea what this said or any guidance that came back?

The NS2 memo went up to S, and we hope for guidance today.

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

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From: EUR-StaffAssistants
Sent: Friday, August 09, 2019 12:30 AM
To: EUR-Staff-Meeting-Notes-DL
Subject: EUR Staff Meeting Notes for August 8, 2019

EUR Staff Meeting Notes
Thursday, August 8, 2019
This informal summary may contain errors or omissions and is intended for internal EUR use only.

SBO Michael Murphy:

- Acting A/S Reeker is on home leave this week. He will return to the office August 12 then depart August 15 for official travel.
- New A/PDAS Maureen Cormack starts on Monday, August 12. Thanks to all for your support since February.
- There will be an EUR Town Hall on Tuesday, August 13.
- Tandberg calls with NSC and OSD restart today; the goal is to keep them operational. Special Assistant (b)(6) will reach out to NSC, OSD, and Directors and DASes on the agenda and meeting materials.
- There is a lot of high-level travel and meetings coming up, such as Romanian President Iohannis's White House meeting on August 20, POTUS's trip to Denmark and Poland, and VPOTUS's trip to Iceland, the UK, and Ireland. Keep an eye out for last-minute taskers.
- The NS2 memo went up to S, and we hope for guidance today. Thanks to all who worked on this.

DAS George Kent:

- This week is the 11th anniversary of Russia's invasion of Georgia. (b)(5) (b)(5) Spox decided to do a topper instead. (b)(1) (b)(1) Zelenskyy also went to Turkey and met with Erdogan.
- Azerbaijan courts upheld a tax fine against RFE/RL.
- APNSA Bolton decided to visit Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus (b)(1); (b)(5) August 28-30 between G7/France and Warsaw.

DAS Matt Palmer:

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- The U.S.-Turkey mil-mil talks reached agreement on a safe zone in northeast Syria. (b)(5) (b)(5) The Turkish media favorably covered this development; U.S. media has been relatively quiet.

(b)(5)

(b)(1)

DAS Matt Boyse:

- The USAGM Board voted unanimously to relaunch RFE/RL service to Hungary. (b)(5)

(b)(1)

(b)(5)

EUR/SCE – (b)(6)

- NDI is briefing SCE on its regional activities today.
- The EU Head of Mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina Lars-Gunnar Wigemark is being replaced by the Austrian ambassador to Albania Johann Sattler. (b)(1)

(b)(1)

EUR/ERA – (b)(6)

- The G7 call sheet is with S.
- We are trying to deconflict EU and POTUS receptions scheduled for the same night during UNGA high-level week. ERA has a proposed compromise in the works.
- ERA is preparing for Amb. Sondland's Washington visit during the week of August 12. He will meet with Acting A/S Reeker.

(b)(5)

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EUR/PGI – (b)(6)

(b)(1); (b)(5)

EUR/PRESS – (b)(6)

- EUR was one of the first bureaus to put forward innovative video messaging ideas to Spox; thanks to those who contributed.
- PRESS is meeting with EB and ENR press offices today to discuss messaging for the NS2 announcement.
- SBO Murphy will do a backgrounder with NBC on the Arctic today, August 8.
- Any engagement with think tanks, as a speaker or on a panel - even off the record or Chatham House rules - needs to be cleared by GPA, through EUR Press. If you aren't sure whether you need clearance, check with EUR Press.

EUR/ACE – (b)(6)

(b)(5)

EUR/RUS – (b)(6)

- An authorized demonstration in Moscow is scheduled for August 10.
- Acting A/S Reeker is scheduled to visit Moscow on August 28-31. Amb. Volker is visiting at a similar timeframe. Moscow City Duma elections will be held September 8.

EUR/PRA – Matt Hardiman:

(b)(1)

EUR/PD – Gordon Duguid:

- Kudos to Embassy Kyiv for bringing NBA coaches to visit for youth training sessions. This led to new contacts and cooperation proposals within the youth ministry and NGOs.

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- Russian media is amplifying Amnesty International's warning about travel to the United States.

EUR/WE – (b)(6)

- APNSA Bolton will be in London on August 11-13 to meet the new government.

(b)(1)

- Thanks to the UK team for preparing British FS Raab's visit.

EUR/SEHI – (b)(6)

- A response is coming to the senators' letter to Poland.
- The Dutch railway company began the claimant application process August 5 for compensation to Jewish, Roma and Sinti survivors of deportations to death camps during WW2. (b)(1)
(b)(1)

Hails:

- **EUR/CARC:** (b)(6), Georgia desk.
- **EUR/CARC:** (b)(6), Armenia desk.
- **EUR/FO:** (b)(6) Staff Assistants.
- **EUR/SCE:** (b)(6) Croatia/Montenegro desk.
- **EUR/WE:** (b)(6) Deputy Director
- **EUR/WE:** (b)(6) Benelux desk.
- **EUR/WE:** (b)(6) UK desk.
- **EUR/WE:** (b)(6) senior Germany desk.

Farewells:

- **EUR/CE:** (b)(6) Czech Republic and Slovakia desk, is headed to Bratislava via FSI.
- **EUR/EE:** (b)(6) Ukraine economic team lead, is headed to Minsk.

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- **EUR/ERA:** (b)(6), regional energy officer, will be a Pearson Fellow in Senator Grassley's office.
- **EUR/NBA:** (b)(6) Norway desk, is headed to Stockholm.
- **EUR/PGI:** (b)(6) Foreign Affairs Officer, is headed to Tirana.
- **EUR/RUS:** (b)(6) Russia economic team lead, is headed to Bern.
- **EUR/SCE:** (b)(6) Croatia/Montenegro desk, is headed to Sofia.
- **EUR/SE:** (b)(6) Deputy Director, is headed to Rome.
- **EUR/WE:** (b)(6) Acting Deputy Director, is headed to Leipzig.

Official - Sensitive
~~SECRET//NOFORN~~
Classified By: Philip T. Reeker - Acting Assistant Secretary, Office:EUR, Agency:U.S. Department of State
Declassify On: 8/8/2044
Reasons: OCA: 1.4 b, d

Sender:	"Taylor, William B" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kent, George P (b)(6) Freden, Bradley A (b)(6) Croft, Catherine M (b)(6) Kvien, Kristina A (b)(6) (b)(6)

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