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"Rummaging in the government's attic"

Description of document: Email correspondence from Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) Board Member Victor H. Ashe to Lynne Weill, Letitia M. King, Bruce Sherman, Jeffrey Trimble and Charles Goolsby during CY 2012

Request date: 21-January-2013

Released date: 26-April-2013

Posted date: 21-July-2014

Source of document: BBG FOIA Office
Room 3349
330 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20237
Fax: (202) 203-4585

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330 Independence Ave.SW
Cohen Building, Room 3349
Washington, DC 20237

T 202.203.4550
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*Office of the General Counsel
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Office*

June 24, 2014

RE: Request Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act – FOIA #13-013

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) dated January 21, 2013. In your request, you ask for copies of email correspondence from Board Member Victor H. Ashe to Lynne Weill, Letitia M. King, Bruce Sherman, Jeffrey Trimble and Charles Goolsby during calendar year 2012.

The agency has completed its search for and review of documents responsive to your request. The agency located 2,066 pages of responsive documents, and they are included on the enclosed CD-R in PDF format. The documents are organized into eight batches of releasable materials, which is how they were made available in interim releases to other requesters seeking the same documents. As per your request, the agency did not provide you with interim releases of documents as they became available.

Due to the unexpected delay in processing your request, the agency has decided to waive all fees associated with it. Accordingly, the releasable documents contained on are provided to you free of charge.

Certain information relating to individuals has been redacted from the enclosed documents pursuant to FOIA Exemption 6 to protect their personal privacy interests; such redactions have been marked with the code (b)(6). Additionally, certain information protected by the attorney client privilege, the attorney work product privilege, or the deliberative process privilege has been redacted pursuant to FOIA Exemption 5 and marked with the code (b)(5). No other responsive information has been redacted or withheld by the agency.

This completes the agency's response to your request and it is now closed. Because information was redacted from the documents provided, you may appeal those adverse determinations. If you wish to do so, you must send your appeal within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this letter to the Chairperson, Access Appeal Committee, BBG, Suite 3349, 330 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20237. For all other inquiries, I can be reached at the address and phone numbers listed above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. T. Krog', is written over a faint, stylized graphic element.

Andrew T. Krog
FOIA and Privacy Act Officer





330 Independence Ave.SW
Cohen Building, Room 3349
Washington, DC 20237

T 202.203.4550
F 202.203.4585

*Office of the General Counsel
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Office*

April 26, 2013

RE: Request Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act – FOIA #13-013

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) dated January 21, 2013. In your request, you ask for copies of email correspondence from Board Member Victor H. Ashe to Lynne Weill, Letitia M. King, Bruce Sherman, Jeffrey Trimble and Charles Goolsby during calendar year 2012.

For purposes of assessing fees pursuant to the OMB Fee Guidelines, you have been placed in Category III, the “other requestors” category. In your request, you agreed to pay up to \$100 in processing costs. However, the Agency’s initial estimate of chargeable fees is as follows:

Estimated fees for search

Number of employees: 6	
GS-9 through GS-13 (\$20/hour): .5 hour x \$20	\$10
GS-14 and above (\$36/hour): (8 hours – 2 free) x \$36	\$216.00

Estimated fees for duplication

Number of pages: 950 (\$0.15/page): \$142.50

TOTAL ESTIMATED FEES: \$358.50

As this estimated sum exceeds the amount you initially agreed to pay, the agency is suspending further processing of this request until you provide confirmation that you will be willing to agree to pay the full search, reproduction, and review costs associated with it. If we do not receive your response within thirty (30) days from the date of this letter, we will assume that you are no longer interested in pursuing this request and it will be closed.

You may mail your reply at to me at the Office of the General Counsel, Broadcasting Board of Governors, 330 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 3349, Washington, DC 20237, or fax it to (202) 203-4585. Currently, no inquiries are accepted via E-mail.

Sincerely,

Andrew T. Krog
FOIA and Privacy Act Officer



Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 8:12 PM
To: (b) (6) BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble;
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Follow-up Letter from Rep. Rohrabacher RE: Non-Citizen Hiring

We should recognize that the congressman is not going to let this issue slide. I think it is important that Director Lobo make an appointment with the Congressman along with VOA Director Ensor to talk it thru. We should reach out to him. These letter exchanges are going nowhere. We should discuss this at Governors meeting on Friday.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Oanh Tran (b) (6)
To: BBG Board Group (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
Lynne Weil (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Dec 12, 2012 5:23 pm
Subject: Follow-up Letter from Rep. Rohrabacher RE: Non-Citizen Hiring

Dear Governors,

Rep. Rohrabacher (R-CA) has sent a follow-up letter regarding non-citizen hiring.

We will review and draft a response.

Thank you,

Suzie Carroll
Congressional Coordinator

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, November 11, 2012 10:34 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Fw: Fwd: Steve Korn on tape

I am glad you go it as you are the one I suppose who handles the pr for RFERL and you could not possibly be paid adequately for the work it has in terms of explaining Korn and his actions in my opinion.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/11/2012 8:43:52 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor --

For the past couple of days your messages have been sent to my personal e-mail account, which I don't use for work-related correspondence, and which I check only in my free time. Yesterday's messages were sent both to that address and to my BBG account. The e-mail below went only to my personal account.

These things can happen inadvertently, especially when using a device where an address comes up automatically when a name is typed in. We've all done it at some point.

Please be conscious of this development, and double-check before sending e-mail my way; I will always see it when it goes to my BBG address.

Thank you,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Sunday, November 11, 2012 8:35:16 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Steve Korn on tape

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

From: <Vhashe@aol.com>
Date: Sun, Nov 11, 2012 at 8:08 AM
Subject: Steve Korn on tape
To: (b) (6)
m.r
Cc:

This is the actual tape from Steve Korn speaking to RFERL on the Moscow personnel firings as it appeared on BBG watch. I urge you to listen to it. Draw your own conclusions. Apparently someone recorded this while Korn spoke.

<http://www.usgbroadcasts.com/bbgwatch/2012/11/11/radio-liberty-in-exile-posts-rferl-president-steven-korns-dismissive-comments-about-russian-opposition-leaders/>

However, I feel the content is stunning. As a manager myself when I was Mayor for 16 years and as Ambassador for 5 years at Embassy, it shows virtually no empathy for fired persons. He basically says it is my way or the highway. This approach can only incite fear and anger. As an American I cannot be proud of the way he is handling this. It sends the wrong message to working men and women who make up RFERL.

This approach can only leave lingering hostility towards him and his small management team. As a RFERL Board we have not faced up to the management issues we face now. Perhaps we will never face up to it and it may be that I am the only one who worries about Korn's management style which triggers so much unrest. We have not met as a Board on this. Missing is any sense of compassion or concern. They are key ingredients to a sound management approach.

Our chair, Dennis Mulhaupt, under the employment contract with Mr Korn has not done the annual evaluation after the first year of employment which passed several months ago. At least that is what Gov. Mulhaupt told me at the last September RFERL Board meeting. If he has done it since then, he did not seek views of all other Board members and/or share the results of his evaluation with the full Board. If it is done, I use this e mail to ask for a copy of it.

It may be that an RFERL audit committee meeting will occur in December and I hope all Board members will be invited to attend if such occurs. That is what I do as chair of MBN audit which is meeting November 15 and all MBN Board members can listen in if they wish.

If we continue to sidestep this building personnel/morale issue, we will continue the damage which is being done to RFERL, to its image, to freedom loving citizens and to US foreign policy.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, November 10, 2012 12:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Notice of Strategy and Budget

Hopefully it can go up in near future

Victor

In a message dated 11/10/2012 9:16:08 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor --

Michael, any edits to the draft notice that I sent your way yesterday afternoon?

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, November 10, 2012 8:55 AM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Notice of Strategy and Budget

Since there will be a public meeting of the Strategy and Budget Committee on November 15 at RFA, it should be placed on BBG web site so the public may know about it. Since Monday, Nov 12 is a holiday it may be Tues Nov 13 before it is posted unless you have a way to get it done before then. I am copying Chairman Meehan on this.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, November 10, 2012 8:56 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Notice of Strategy and Budget

Since there will be a public meeting of the Strategy and Budget Committee on November 15 at RFA, it should be placed on BBG web site so the public may know about it. Since Monday, Nov 12 is a holiday it may be Tues Nov 13 before it is posted unless you have a way to get it done before then. I am copying Chairman Meehan on this.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 09, 2012 3:25 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Updated Agenda for November 15 Meeting

I think it is Strategy not BBG but Michael Meehan needs to answer that definitely. Victor

In a message dated 11/9/2012 3:23:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

am confused. is thurs s&b cmt or general bbg meeting?

On Nov 9, 2012, at 3:06 PM, Michael Meehan wrote:

The open mtg is 2 to 3

RFA. 3 to 4.

From: Oanh Tran <(b) (6)>

Date: Fri, 9 Nov 2012 20:04:45 +0000

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)

(b) (6); Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>

(b) (6)

Subject: Updated Agenda for November 15 Meeting

Dear Governors,

Governor Meehan has proposed the below updated agenda for the November 15 meeting.

Governor Meehan has proposed that a portion of the Strategy and Budget Committee meeting will be webcast and open to public attendance (as seating capacity allows). This open portion will be scheduled from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. EST in order to announce the Agency's FY 2012 Performance and Accountability Report (PAR), which will be released the same day. In addition, Alhurra's programming initiatives would be previewed.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you have comments or questions about the proposed agenda or the proposed webcasting of a portion of the meeting to announce the PAR and showcase MBN's programming initiatives. We will then finalize the agenda and materials in order to send them to your home or office before close of business today as well as to prepare a public notice about the Strategy and Budget Committee meeting on our website.

Thank you.

Thursday, November 15
(All meetings are at RFA HQ)

11:00-3:00 Strategy and Budget Committee Meeting (Closed) (Lunch included)

- Status of FY 2013 and FY 2014 Budgets
- Burma
- Russia
- China
- Iran
- Internet Anti-Censorship
- Pangea

3:00 Strategy and Budget Committee Meeting (Open)

- 2012 Performance and Accountability Report (PAR)
- Alhurra's Programming Initiatives

4:00 RFA Board of Directors' Meeting

5:00 - 6:00 MBN Audit Committee Meeting

susan mccue | message-global | o: (b) (6) | twitter: (b) (6)

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 09, 2012 3:18 PM
To: Oanh Tran; BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Updated Agenda for November 15 Meeting

is there a MBN Board meeting that day? can Perino and McCue participate in RFA meeting? Otherwise fine with me. Will RFERL have people at Strategy and Budget to answer Russia questions as well as other folks to respond to relevant questions in their area?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/9/2012 3:10:23 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Governor Meehan has proposed the below updated agenda for the November 15 meeting.

Governor Meehan has proposed that a portion of the Strategy and Budget Committee meeting will be webcast and open to public attendance (as seating capacity allows). This open portion will be scheduled from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. EST in order to announce the Agency's FY 2012 Performance and Accountability Report (PAR), which will be released the same day. In addition, Alhurra's programming initiatives would be previewed.

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Thursday, November 15

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- Alhurra's Programming Initiatives

4:00 RFA Board of Directors' Meeting

5:00 - 6:00 MBN Audit Committee Meeting

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2012 4:16 PM
To: Oanh Tran; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Minutes of IBB Director Mtg with Entity Heads on Oct 9

While I appreciate having this, getting it only two hours before the meeting over lunch makes it impossible to read and digest before the meeting. I notice it is dated October 9. Why are we only getting it a month later?

I could have had this with the booklet I got yesterday and had time last night to digest and ask better questions.

I really wish in the future we would get these materials a day or two out before significant meetings like the one today. Susan McCue said today she was unaware of Mr. Korn's views on this.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/8/2012 12:01:47 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governance Committee members,

Attached please find draft minutes of the meeting IBB Director Lobo had with the entity heads on October 9, 2012 to garner feedback on the Board's decision to create a CEO of U.S. international broadcasting within the Board's existing statutory authority under the U.S. International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (as amended).

The draft minutes will be provided to the entity heads prior to the Committee meeting today.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2012 4:34 PM
To: Paul Kollmer; Oanh Tran; BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Status of November Meeting

Good to know this...perhaps State would be willing to offer such formal delegation..but that is an internal matter for State.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/7/2012 4:32:35 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe –

Just to clarify: I did not say that Undersecretary Sonenshine “can send a rep which counts toward a forum”. I said that if the State Department provides a formal delegation of authority from the Secretary to Mr. Cullin or another State Department representative, then Mr. Cullin or such other representative may represent the Secretary and be counted toward a quorum. My understanding is that, at this point in time, the State Department has not issued a formal delegation to anyone other than the Undersecretary.

Thanks. PKD

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2012 4:09 PM
To: Oanh Tran; BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Status of November Meeting

Paul Kollmer has stated and opined that Sec Sonenshine can send a rep which counts towards a quorum. That does not seem to be noted here. If that happens then we have a quorum when Gov Perino and McCue call in for afternoon so why would this be canceled?

But in either case, the grantee Board meetings plus MBN audit should occur and the briefings for those Governors in attendance should occur plus Gov Meehan has called a Strategy and Budget Committee meeting that day for business. We will have a full gathering of the committee membership. No one will be absent.

I feel staff should still brief Governors for those issues outlined in the proposed agenda sent out a few days ago. Grantees can still meet.

Will there be a December meeting? Or will February, 2013 be the next meeting?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/7/2012 4:01:35 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, hotran@bbg.gov writes:

Governors,

As of this afternoon, we have definitive word that Governors Lynton, Mulhaupt, and Under Secretary Sonenshine will not be able to attend the November 15 Board meeting.

Governors Meehan and Ashe have confirmed their availability to attend in person.

Governors McCue and Perino have confirmed their availability to participate by phone in the late afternoon.

Therefore, there will be no quorum for a public BBG meeting and no formal votes can be taken. The Government in the Sunshine Act does not require public observation (webcast) if no meeting takes place.

If you wish, Board members can still meet on November 15 to receive briefings by staff and to conduct RFA and MBN corporate Board meetings in the afternoon.

If the Board members who have indicated their availability on November 15 would like to hold briefings and RFA and MBN corporate Board meetings at RFA headquarters, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can prepare an amended, updated agenda.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 6:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Paul Kollmer; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Governance committee

Good to know. I frankly could not find it. When will the plan be available to the public? Do you know why grantees are not invited?

Victor

In a message dated 11/6/2012 6:03:01 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

The notice is on the website on the same page as those for previous Governance Committee meetings:

<http://www.bbg.gov/event/bbg-governance-committee-meeting-november-8-2012/>

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 6:01 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Paul Kollmer; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Governance committee

How can we have a legal meeting of Governance committee and not have it announced on BBG web site? Admittedly it is by phone. Will it be recorded? Who will take the minutes?

When will it go on the BBG web site for Thurs Nov 8 at 2 PM EST? as well as agenda? Dennis we have come too far on transparency not to announce this meeting by phone as has been done on all prior Governance Committee meetings.

It is not secret? is it?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 5:55 PM
To: Oanh Tran; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Confirming Governance Committee Meeting on Nov 8

Why are the legal counsels for the three grantees not invited to hear the IBB Director's report? Seems like the VOA and OCB legal counsel is there in the form of the deputy general counsel Paul Kollmer but not Noble, Burns or Cohen who are interim or regular general counsels for the three grantees. I think this is an error and sets up a "we versus them" scenario which can only cause long term problems. It does not build confidence. Courtesy and collegiality would suggest we include them. At least let them know the governance committee is meeting. I assume it must be announced on BBG web site even if it is by phone so they will learn of it anyway by compliance with federal regs.

I urge they be included and invited to participate. I am sure there will be questions on the IBB Director's report where Governors want the reaction of the three grantees? Why not have them there and send them the same advance copy being sent to the three Governors and already given to Gov. Lynton? This would shorten the process. Otherwise, we will have to do it at a second meeting.

With such a crowd apparently participating in this call, I have trouble believing they will not learn of it anyway.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/6/2012 5:23:49 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governance Committee members,

On Thursday, November 8, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST, the Governance Committee members will meet by phone, and we will contact each of you at the phone number previously provided to us. IBB Director Lobo and his key staff members will also join by phone.

Due to Governor Lynton's travel schedule, IBB Director Lobo and staff held a separate briefing for him this afternoon and shared with him an advanced copy of the IBB Director's plan for the creation of a CEO as directed by the Board at its September 2012 meeting.

We have sent to your home or office similar briefing materials, including a printed copy of the IBB Director's plan.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 5:38 PM
To: Oanh Tran; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6) II
Subject: Re: Confirming Governance Committee Meeting on Nov 8

I eagerly await the report in tomorrow's mail. Who will be on the call with the three Governors from the Committee on Thursday? It would be helpful to know.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/6/2012 5:23:49 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governance Committee members,

On Thursday, November 8, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST, the Governance Committee members will meet by phone, and we will contact each of you at the phone number previously provided to us. IBB Director Lobo and his key staff members will also join by phone.

Due to Governor Lynton's travel schedule, IBB Director Lobo and staff held a separate briefing for him this afternoon and shared with him an advanced copy of the IBB Director's plan for the creation of a CEO as directed by the Board at its September 2012 meeting.

We have sent to your home or office similar briefing materials, including a printed copy of the IBB Director's plan.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 4:35 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Fw: Moscow story does not end

It should go out with all other news items. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/6/2012 4:25:01 P.M. Eastern Standard Time (b) (6) writes:

Gentlemen,

Please see below for the reply from BBG Public Affairs.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 4:14:20 PM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Re: Moscow story does not end

Understood, Tish. Thanks for the quick reply.

I'll forward your note to Governor Ashe and Dick Lobo.

Lynne

From: Letitia King
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 3:48:09 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: RE: Moscow story does not end

Hi Lynne,

This is a new piece that hadn't come up in our searches for compiling the media highlights. The image is from an event that was reported on and shared in an NPR story in the Media Highlights on Oct. 18.

Yesterday we circulated a new item on the RFE/RL changes in Russia. We can fold this item in tomorrow. -
Tish

Radio Liberty To Stop AM Radio Broadcasts In Russia - NPR, October 18, 2012

But after the fall of the Soviet Union, Russian President Boris Yeltsin granted the service permission to open a Moscow bureau and broadcast within the country on AM radio. Now, after two decades of broadcasting, **Radio**

Liberty's AM signal is about to be turned off. The service will continue to be heard on shortwave, but the plan is to move most of the operation to the Internet.

Also discussed in [The Moscow Times](#)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 3:01:56 PM

To: Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo

Subject: Moscow story does not end

The Times of London has now carried a news story on the Moscow firings.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/europe/article3589956.ece>

This story continues to have legs. I am unsure why BBG daily news stories has not carried this story out of London?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 3:02 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Moscow story does not end

The Times of London has now carried a news story on the Moscow firings.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/europe/article3589956.ece>

This story continues to have legs. I am unsure why BBG daily news stories has not carried this story out of London?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 7:19 PM
To: Oanh Tran; BBG Board Group
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Re: December Board Meeting

I am available for the December meetings. Surely we will meet. If we do not meet in December and there is no quorum for November then it means we go from October 11 to mid February with NO Meeting. That is 4 months. Shame on us if we let that happen. That will be awful.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/5/2012 4:04:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, h [REDACTED] (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in December.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board, December 13 and 14 (Thursday and Friday) are designated as an *optional* meeting of the Board.

If for some reason the Board does not achieve a quorum on November 15, the Board could still meet to receive briefings by staff and hold Committee and entity meetings but there could be no formal votes taken.

Therefore, the Board, if it wishes, could consider holding a meeting in December as the next scheduled meeting after December is February 21-22, 2013.

Please let us know if you would be available for a Board meeting on Thursday, December 13 and/or Friday, December 14 in the Cohen Building.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 7:17 PM
To: Anastasia Kolobrodova; BBG Board Group; IBB Staff; Richard M. Lobo; Marie Lennon
Subject: Re: Addendum to the November 5, 2012 BBG Media Highlights

this is another stunning indictment. We need to meet to discuss these issues. We cannot go to February before we meet again. What about November 19 after OIG report?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/5/2012 5:02:49 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Below is an addendum to the November 5, 2012 BBG Media Highlights:

The Bureaucratic Attack on International Broadcasting - Heritage Foundation, November 2, 2012

By Caitlin Duvall

November 2, 2012

The recent layoff of Voice of America (VOA) employees in Russia comes at a time when U.S. international broadcasting is also losing ground to bureaucratic overkill.

Despite a continually expanding budget, many mission-critical broadcasting services are being cut, personnel are being let go, and broadcasters are being required to do more with less. Low job satisfaction within the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) has become a growing trend in recent years. Many employees attribute their dissatisfaction to accepted behaviors of underperformance from managers. Mere awareness of these and other problems has failed to bring about much-needed changes.

But perhaps the biggest problem facing U.S. international broadcasting is its very own leadership. The BBG's nine-person board, which oversees all government civilian broadcasting, was created to serve as a firewall between policymakers and broadcasters. However, as one VOA employee puts it, broadcasters "need more protection from the firewall than they need the firewall itself."

Many of the BBG members exercise little meaningful guidance to the group (if they even attend the meetings at all). The board has also been criticized for cracking down on the disclosure of “deliberative information” circulating internally. With its core mission being the promotion of America’s policy positions abroad, it seems counterproductive to stifle internal communications, especially when collaboration and exchange are essential for success.

The inefficiencies highlighted above are in need of real solutions. In order for the U.S. to effectively promote its policies abroad, Congress should consider rewriting the legislation that created the BBG in a way that ensures professional management and a transparent structure. It should also include an independent strategic overview of all broadcasting entities of the U.S. government.

A much-needed review of the BBG is underway at the State Department Office of the Inspector General, which will most likely find these solutions necessary to correcting the internal problems of U.S. international broadcasting.

In a time when the promotion of U.S. policies is sorely needed to combat a growing anti-American sentiment around the world, the U.S. should undertake reforms to improve the management practices and structures of the BBG. If not, the organization is in danger of remaining, in the words of Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK), the “most worthless organization in the federal government.”

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 2:35 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Contracting out jobs at the Edward R. Murrow Transmission Station in Gr...

I hope the answer includes views of all Governors which may differ from one another. This letter was self inflicted in my view. Andre should give more direct answers like Jeff Trimble especially when they are on webcam.

I am the only one who has been there.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/5/2012 2:20:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor –

Yes, I received the letter; Suzie Carroll's note to the Board, which we sent via Oahn, crossed with your e-mail below.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 2:08 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Contracting out jobs at the Edward R. Murrow Transmission Station in Gr...

Lynne

I do not know if you have seen this but I will look forward to seeing the response from Dick Lobo.

My views on this are that Murrow should stay open for many years and Andre Mendes answer at the recent October 11 Board meeting to my inquiry may have triggered this letter as he danced all the way around the question I asked and avoided a direct answer.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 2:18 PM
To: Oanh Tran; BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble;
Subject: Re: Letter from Reps Butterfield and Jones RE Greenville Transmitting Station

I hope all Governors are consulted on the response. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/5/2012 2:15:43 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Dick Lobo has received the attached letter from Rep. G.K. Butterfield (D-NC) and Walter B. Jones (R-NC) regarding the Edward R. Murrow Transmitting Station in Greenville, NC.

We are drafting a response.

Thank you,

Suzie Carroll

Congressional Coordinator

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 2:08 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Contracting out jobs at the Edward R. Murrow Transmission Station in Gr...
Attachments: Lobo.ltrnmanningissues.pdf

Lynne

I do not know if you have seen this but I will look forward to seeing the response from Dick Lobo.

My views on this are that Murrow should stay open for many years and Andre Mendes answer at the recent October 11 Board meeting to my inquiry may have triggered this letter as he danced all the way around the question I asked and avoided a direct answer.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6)
(b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6), (b) (6)
Sent: 11/5/2012 11:59:50 A.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Contracting out jobs at the Edward R. Murrow Transmission Station in Greenville, NC

Dear All:

Good afternoon! Attached is a letter from Congressmen Butterfield and Jones requesting information on the manning status to Mr. Lobo on the Edward R. Murrow Transmission Station.

Many thanks for your support and consideration of the Congressmen's request!

VR,

Ray

Ray Celeste Jr.

Military Legislative Assistant

Congressman Walter B. Jones

Representing the 3rd District of North Carolina

Direct Line: 202/226-5241

2333 Rayburn House Office Building

<http://jones.house.gov/>

=

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 02, 2012 8:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg by Phone on November 8, 2012

good...were you called about this before hand or not?

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

From: Susan McCue <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <(b) (6)>

(b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Nov 2, 2012 3:02 pm
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg by Phone on November 8, 2012

yes, i can call in or come in person for governance on the 8th.

On Nov 2, 2012, at 5:40 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

there is no plan here for the CEO. Who made the decision to call this meeting without asking me as one member if I could participate or not? Who called around? Dennis Mulhaupt tell me that he assumed (wrongly as it turns out) that I was contacted? Dennis also says this is a discussion meeting with no decisions to be made.

Dick Lobo, did you know about this or Jeff Trimble? Have Govs. McCue and Lynton said they can call in?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Oanh Tran <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Nov 2, 2012 12:12 pm
Subject: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg by Phone on November 8, 2012

Dear Governance Committee Members,

Attached please find a draft agenda for a telephonic meeting of the Governance Committee to be held on Thursday, November 8, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Mulhaupt.

Given the short window in which Committee members can meet, the Committee will consider the IBB Director's plan for the creation of a CEO as directed by the Board at its September 2012 meeting.

The relevant text of the Board's September 13, 2012 decision is reproduced below for your convenience.

... That the Board instruct the IBB Director, under the guidance of the Governance Committee, to develop a plan to address the following issues:

- a. The authorities that should be delegated from the Board to the CEO;
- b. The agency officers who should report directly to the CEO;
- c. The relationship of the CEO and the IBB Director;

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 02, 2012 4:14 PM
To: Oanh Tran; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg by Phone on November 8, 2012

First, I find it unfortunate that no one asked me if this time works for me. I assume Lynton and McCue were surveyed and I was not. This is not a good way Dennis for you to conduct the scheduling. When I was in DC yesterday on Nov 1 it was never mentioned to me by anyone and yet I am sure Dick Lobo, Paul Kollmer, Jeff Trimble knew it was under consideration. No one mentioned it to me. Which Governors have said they will call in?

Is this meeting notice going to be placed on the BBG web site? How can this go forward when Gov Lynton has not named the committee which the Board in September voted to create and directed him to name? Should not that committee meet first as it has recommendations to make? On October 11 he acknowledged he had not named it.

Finally, concurrent with this we learn of the terrible results from the OPM survey of morale which shows things are worst than ever. Gov. Mulhaupt says we should meet on this as governance committee. Why is that not on the agenda for discussion November 8? Which is more important the CEO or the Morale or

Also will entity heads be included along with Ensor and Garcia at governance by phone meeting? I have copied our nominated new chair on this so he is informed.

I think one hour on this topic is inadequate. It weakens the merit of the final product as it shows we did not take time in a thoughtful setting where we were all present to act.

Unhappily yours,

Victor Ashe

PS Dennis did call me a few minutes ago and said he assumed that I had been called and regretted that I had not been contacted. It was not intentional he said which I know is true from his vantage point.

It is beginning to look like December 14 will not be a Board meeting now and nothing is set for January. If this means BBG goes to February without a Board meeting then it is shameful and makes all look bad. There are really pressing issues especially with RFERL in Moscow continuing to implode and bad results from OPM.

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

From: Oanh Tran <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6)
Cc: vhashe <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Nov 2, 2012 3:12 pm
Subject: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg by Phone on November 8, 2012

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Given the short window in which Committee members can meet, the Committee will consider the IBB Director's plan for the creation of a CEO as directed by the Board at its September 2012 meeting.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2012 8:31 AM
To: [REDACTED]; Tara
Sonenshine; [REDACTED]
Cc: Lynne Weil; [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: RFE/RL turns into the media spreading Sexism, Xenophobia, Homophobia, Ra...

Dear Fellow Board members,

I am sharing this e mail with you which I just received. I do not know the person but feel it raises issues which we should all know about. Senior management at RFERL was copied on the original.

Lots is happening at RFERL which is attracting wide comment and attention. Unfortunately, it is not positive for us. I truly believe we need a RFERL Board meeting (not a briefing) as well as an RFERL audit committee meeting which has been postponed for months now.

Victor Ashe

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
Sent: 10/31/2012 8:25:13 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: RFE/RL turns into the media spreading Sexism, Xenophobia, Homophobia, Racism and Platitude

Congratulations, ladies and gentlemen, RFE/RL has quickly turned into obscene, vulgar, racial and tabloid media after its president Steve Korn declared his struggle to attract new audience. For almost three months there has been a new video project at RFE/RL, which on the outside looks like as satirical review of clumsy video recordings or unsuccessful professional video clips from Kazakhstan but, in reality, it is derision at readers and morale. Performers of the video project - young Kazakh actors themselves build their original projects based on platitude, racism, homophobia, propagating dirty sex and shoddy tabloid journalism. The group entitled Wi-Fi 25 has an odious image in Kazakhstan. They often not only use obscene language but also demonstrate sex and show genitals using their hands in their video project. Here is the typical video show that is already available in the Internet. I am sorry but I need to provide the link to this dirty product because RFE/RL has been implementing its joint project exactly with this very odious and vulgar group, using money of American taxpayers. Since their vulgar, obscene manners and moderators' smutty faces, grins and swearing words are obvious without any interpretation, it is not necessary to translate them into English.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5GRhb25xBz8>

RFE/RL has invited the group - Wi-Fi 25, which has an odious and dirty image, for cooperation and already produced their joint first three video shows. You still can find the video products on RFE/RL's website. The first video show is called "Shopaq" (which in slang means male genital organ) and was published on 2 August 2012.

Cynicism of the video project starts with the following warning caption: "Warning!!! There are dirty, swearing words in this video product. People with high morale and distinct culture are

prohibited to watch it". RFE/RL also issues this kind of warning in other two video shows, probably because it thinks that somehow they adhered the corporation's journalism ethics and laws of the USA and Kazakhstan. There are the website of RFE/RL's Kazakh service www.azattyq.org and RFE/RL logo (the torch that is supposed to represent light to people and serve them by promoting democratic values) on the left side corner of the video show's screen. However, the performers of the video show use obscene language, pouring platitude, cynicism and sexism. There is also propaganda of child violence. In those videos you can see a fight between children. At the end of video show you can also see how one of the moderators examines his zipper (XYZ). The hosts of the video show tell goodbye to RFE/RL readers with gesture meaning sex.

<http://www.azattyq.org/media/video/24664714.html>

RFE/RL and Wi-Fi 25 published the next joint video product entitled "Sol Paskal" on 3 September 2012. It is also full of sexism, filthy language and swearing words.

<http://www.azattyq.org/media/video/24696177.html>

In its third video show entitled "Agent" on 18 October, RFE/RL promotes sexism even further by showing, focusing on intimate parts of beautiful girls' seminude body and hinting that one of the hosts masturbating at the same time during moderation of the program. On the fourth minute of the show there is obvious and direct swearing words: "Fuck! you stepped on my foot...". On the seventh minute of the show you hear racism when the hosts of the video show call a representative of allegedly Latino-American race "Cacao".

<http://www.azattyq.org/media/video/24744067.html>

These are the certain examples of reforms at RFE/RL, the new president of which, Steve Korn, declared to the whole world that he will make breakthrough by introducing new digital technology. Under the external "dog and pony show" of pseudo-reforms, and (as Russian say) under Potemkin Villages, there is just a hidden cheap literary production issued at the expense of American taxpayers.

(b) (6) a journalist from Kazakhstan (I prefer to use my nickname because I have no choice other than live forever in Kazakhstan)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2012 1:50 PM
To: Oanh Tran; BBG Board Group; Libby Liu
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Letter from Khamthene Chinyavong Regarding RFA Lao Service

courtesy would suggest this also be sent to Libby Liu. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/31/2012 1:11:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

The attached letter from (b) (6) addressed to the Board arrived in the office today. This letter is very similar to the one you received last week from (b) (6).

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2012 2:00 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Strategy meeting

great

In a message dated 10/29/2012 12:01:17 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks. The BBG PA team got to work on the notice as indicated below, and it was posted this morning. I agree w/you on the importance of being timely.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2012 10:54:10 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Strategy meeting

sounds good to me as long as the turnaround is quick Victor

In a message dated 10/29/2012 9:43:29 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Meant Michael as chair of S&B. That's the S.O.P., if you'll pardon yet another abbreviation, that Tish established with committee meetings.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2012 9:29:16 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Strategy meeting

thanks. NO rain here. When you say committee chairman are you referring to Michael Meehan as chair of the Strategy committee? or the chair of the communications committee who I am not sure who she/he is.

Hope it gets up soon. Thanks for updating.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/29/2012 9:26:50 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good Monday morning, Victor --

I hope the weather is treating Tennessee gently. It's pretty wet and windy here in Washington, and we're bracing for more.

In spite of Frankenstorm and OPM's notification, Tish is back online and is asking a member of her team to turn the proposed agenda from Sunday into a notice for the website. As usual, this notice will be reviewed by the committee chairman before posting.

Not certain how long the customary process will take due to all these conditions, but I wanted to let you know we're working on it.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:48:23 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Strategy meeting

then I am not sure what the delay is in posting it except for staff not being there due to weather (which is understandable) to posting it. It is official. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/28/2012 6:35:49 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

Thanks, we have that already,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:34:23 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Strategy meeting

the needed information is the notice Oanh e mailed out an hour ago which I will forward to you. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/28/2012 6:33:23 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor --

Yes, Tish can ensure that her someone on her team posts the notice as soon as they have the needed info. They'll work with Oanh on that, as always.

Have a good evening,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:06:33 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Strategy meeting

Lynne



I trust the meeting of the Strategy and Budget committee will be posted on the BBG web site as it is meeting on November 1.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:35 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Proposed Agenda for Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting on November 1
Attachments: 20121101_SB_Tab0a_Agenda.doc

this is the official notice Victor ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: 10/28/2012 4:43:48 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Proposed Agenda for Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting on November 1

Dear Strategy & Budget Committee members,

Attached please find a proposed agenda for the Strategy and Budget Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, November 1, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. EDT. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Meehan.

Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the agenda.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:34 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Strategy meeting

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:06:33 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Strategy meeting

Lynne

I trust the meeting of the Strategy and Budget committee will be posted on the BBG web site as it is meeting on November 1.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:01 PM
To: Oanh Tran; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) | IBB Staff; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting on November 1

looks good to me. I am pleased that The Russia strategy inon the agenda and hopefully, Korn and Ragona will be on as well as Masha Gessen from Moscow. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/28/2012 4:43:48 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, h (b) (6) writes:

Dear Strategy & Budget Committee members,

Attached please find a proposed agenda for the Strategy and Budget Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, November 1, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. EDT. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Meehan.

Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the agenda.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 2:31 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: is there a BBG response to the US NEWS article by Flock

Tish and Lynne,

Would like to see the BBG response to the Flock article in US News. The mailout of news items contained a short paragraph which appeared to be a response. Thanks

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2012 5:41 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Media Highlights, October 22, 2012

thanks

In a message dated 10/22/2012 5:39:06 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hi Ambassador Ashe,

We are working with VOA on both of those possibilities.

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2012 11:34 AM
To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Media Highlights, October 22, 2012

Not sure what you mean that there are issues with the US News article which you are addressing...does that mean there will be a correction or rebuttal? Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/22/2012 11:25:20 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, pubaff@bbg.gov writes:

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

BBG Media Highlights - October 22, 2012



About Our Broadcasters

Jamming interrupts Western broadcasters - [Deutsche Welle](#), October 19, 2012

Western radio and television broadcasts to parts of the Middle East have apparently been cut off because of a targeted jamming attack. In addition to programming by Deutsche Welle, the BBC and **Voice of America** have also been affected. Also covered in [NextGov](#), [DW](#), [Digital Production](#), [Arabian Business](#), [Radio World](#)

Internet anti-censorship tools are being overwhelmed by demand - [Washington Post](#), October 21, 2012

"Every time we provide them with additional funding, those bottlenecks are alleviated for a time but again fill to capacity in a short period of time," said **André Mendes**, director of the Office of Technology, Services and Innovation at the **Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG)**, which funds some of the initiatives. "One could reasonably state that more funding would translate into more traffic and, therefore, more accessibility from behind these firewalls." Also posted in the [Independent](#)

Broadcasting Board of Governors offers buyouts, early outs - [Government Executive](#), October 19, 2012

Those eligible for buyouts include employees at **Voice of America**, the **International Broadcasting Bureau** and the **Office of Cuba Broadcasting**. BBG is offering 287 buyouts, and employees in various grades and job series throughout the agency qualify. Employees interested in a buyout must apply by Nov. 9 and leave the government by Dec. 31. BBG is offering the early retirement option to those who are eligible through Sept. 30, 2013.

Voice of America, 70 Years Later, Faces Bureaucratic Troubles - [U.S. News & World Report](#), October 19, 2012

When prominent Burmese dissident-turned-opposition politician Aung San Suu Kyi visited Washington last month, she made a stop at a nondescript WWII-era government building on Independence Avenue for an interview that would be broadcast throughout Burma. The broadcaster, **Voice of America**, has been the U.S. government's method of communication with populations abroad since 1942, when the institution broadcast anti-Nazi radio addresses to the German people in their native language.

[Note: There are issues with this article that we are addressing]

Radio Liberty Hiring New Team, Executive Says - [The Moscow Times](#), October 19, 2012

Radio Liberty is hiring dozens of staff to rebuild its operations in Russia in a modern multimedia format, a senior executive of the station's parent company **Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty** said Friday. After moving to a new bureau in Moscow, **Radio Liberty's** staff is to number 40 to 50 people, Julia Ragona, Radio Free Europe's vice president of content, distribution and marketing, told The Moscow Times.

Nobody Trusts the Iranian-American - [Huffington Post](#), October 19, 2012

He is fluent in Persian -- and can sometimes be seen on the **Voice of America** and Los Angeles-based satellite stations being interviewed about his comedy projects, including his current one: the "I Come in Peace" comedy tour where he continues on his popular theme of pointing out the stereotypes of minorities in America.

Citations of BBG Broadcasters

Cubans see the same old, same old in Sunday's election - [McClatchy Media](#), October 20, 2012

But Avila sparked a hubbub when she gave a recent telephone interview to **Radio/TV Marti**, the Miami-based U.S. government broadcaster, complaining about the lack of government services in her district. Supportive neighbors, nevertheless, endorsed her as a

candidate for re-election Sunday, she told El Nuevo Herald, and on Friday she confirmed that she remained a candidate, despite a rumor that she had been disqualified.

U.S. exploits Iran's economic woes to capture Qaeda bosses: analyst - [Al Arabiya](#), October 20, 2012

"It may be an attempt to draw in the Iranian people," Jonathan Schanzen, Vice President of Research at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies in Washington and former U.S. Treasury analyst, told **Voice of America** on Thursday.

Cambodia begins mourning period - [UPI](#), October 19, 2012

Hun Sen, who has been at the helm of Cambodian politics for more than 30 years, may welcome the death of Sihanouk, a report by **Radio Free Asia** said.

Thein Sein holds first domestic press conference - [Mizzima News](#), October 22, 2012

But earlier versions of the law reflected restrictions on foreign investment to safeguard domestic monopolies and prevent foreign takeovers of joint ventures. Some Burmese officials criticized the most recent draft of the bill as too protectionist, said a **Voice of America** (VOA) article on Sunday.

Liberia: Catholics Protest Veritas Closure - [AllAfrica](#), October 22, 2012

Last Friday, Archbishop Zeigler informed the **Voice of America** (VOA) African service program that the decision was taken due to technical problem, but did not know when it would re-open.

In the foreign-language press:

Sweden provides \$6M. humanitarian assistance to North Korea in 2012 - [NoCut News](#) (South Korean news site), Oct. 19, 2012

Swedish government sent \$6.2 million humanitarian aid to North Korea in 2012 focusing on health issues, **Radio Free Asia** reported on Oct. 18 quoting a Swedish official.

A Philippine tour company to launch tours to NK - [MBC](#) (South Korean TV news channel), Oct. 19, 2012

A Philippine-based tour company will begin tours to NK's capitol Pyongyang early next year, **Radio Free Asia** reported on Oct. 18 quoting Philippine media.

Of Interest

Twitter Gives Saudi Arabia a Revolution of Its Own - [New York Times](#), October 20, 2012

Saudi Arabia did not have an Arab Spring. But it has had a revolution of sorts. Open criticism of this country's royal family, once unheard-of, has become commonplace in recent months. Prominent judges and lawyers issue fierce public broadsides about large-scale government corruption and social neglect. Women deride the clerics who limit their freedoms. Even the king has come under attack. All this dissent is taking place on the same forum: Twitter.

Protesters storm Libyan private TV station - [AFP](#), October 21, 2012

Demonstrators stormed the offices of a private Libyan television station in Benghazi Sunday, protesting coverage of the clashes in Bani Walid, one of the last bastions of Moamer Kadhafi's regime. The demonstrators broke into the offices of Libya Al-Hurra station, wrecking the site and setting fire to an office, an AFP journalist witnessed.

Turkey's Press Freedom Crisis - [CPJ](#), October 2012

Turkish authorities are engaging in widespread criminal prosecution and jailing of journalists, and are applying other forms of severe pressure to promote self-censorship in the press, a CPJ analysis shows. CPJ has found highly repressive laws, particularly in the penal code and anti-

terror law; a criminal procedure code that greatly favors the state; and a harsh anti-press tone set at the highest levels of government. Turkey's press freedom situation has reached a crisis point.

Appease, Surrender, Abandon, and Get Nothing: Obama's NaivePolitik [op-ed]- [Forbes](#), October 21, 2012

Putin used the USA as geopolitical enemy number one (to borrow a phrase from Romney) in his own presidential campaign, vetoed all meaningful United Nations resolutions against Iran, resupplied Syria, annexed Georgian territory by force, and expelled American organizations, including **Radio Liberty** and USAID, as "foreign agents." He tightened the screws on domestic opposition and free press, threw ordinary protesters in jail, while accusing Hillary Clinton, of all people, of fomenting "mass disorder." Putin will not renew a twenty-year-old agreement on securing weapons of mass destruction.

About Us

 The Broadcasting Board of Governors is an independent federal agency, supervising all U.S. government-supported, civilian international broadcasting, whose mission is to inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy. BBG broadcasts reach an audience of 187 million in 100 countries. BBG broadcasting organizations include the Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa), Radio Free Asia, and the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (Radio and TV Marti).

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Broadcasting Board of Governors | 330 Independence Ave., SW | Washington | DC | 20237

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 20, 2012 4:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: : U.S. News piece

I was interviewed and am quoted. I have not had my views sought out on whether I feel there are issues concerning accuracy insofar as I am concerned relative to my quotes. I recognize that some of my colleagues might differ with my views on inadequate time for meetings.

I am not sure how you wish to handle item about a Governor, who according to the article, was on a blackberry while presiding. I will leave it to you as to whether you feel that was accurate or not.

Hope you have a pleasant weekend otherwise. I am headed in an hour to a UT Alabama football game where Alabama is favored I regret to say.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/20/2012 4:11:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

BBG and VOA colleagues are looking at the story together; we ask the leadership to let us know of any issues concerning accuracy, especially those who were interviewed.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 20, 2012 4:03 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: : U.S. News piece

I will be interested in knowing how BBG intends to respond to the inaccuracies which Dick Lobo says exist.

You have an incorrect e mail for Tara Sonenshine as she is at the Department of State now...no longer at Institute for Peace as this e mail suggests.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/20/2012 3:52:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Here is a link to an online article which was posted Friday evening on U.S. News.com

It will receive normal distribution Monday morning. Thought you'd like to see it first.

We are taking a close look at it since it contains a number of inaccuracies.

Dick

>
>

> <http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2012/10/19/voice-of-america-70-years-later-faces-bureaucratic-troubles>

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 20, 2012 4:04 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
[REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: : U.S. News piece

I will be interested in knowing how BBG intends to respond to the inaccuracies which Dick Lobo says exist.

You have an incorrect e mail for Tara Sonenshine as she is at the Department of State now...no longer at Institute for Peace as this e mail suggests.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/20/2012 3:52:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, [REDACTED] (b) (6) writes:

Here is a link to an online article which was posted Friday evening on U.S. News.com

It will receive normal distribution Monday morning. Thought you'd like to see it first.

We are taking a close look at it since it contains a number of inaccuracies.

Dick

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 10:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); BBG Board Group; BBG Group Aides; (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); IBB Staff; (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

not at all Victor

In a message dated 10/19/2012 6:47:23 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

i can dial in at 3 pm - is that too late?

On Oct 19, 2012, at 5:03 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

There will also be an MBN audit committee meeting that day. All Governors are welcome to attend but only Susan McCue and I are members. We will work out a time when Gov. McCue can participate. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/18/2012 10:45:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

We need to have a board meeting of RFA and MBN on Nov. 15th. Will the staff make the proper notifications to the public and other sources.

thank you.

Michael Meehan

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

From: "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com>

To: (b) (6); (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 5:31 PM

Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

Glad you can call in for the afternoon portion if it happens. Seems to me we can make this work. We look bad as a Board if this meeting falls apart.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/16/2012 5:26:33 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

with regrets, i cannot make it on nov 15. i can call in in the afternoon.

On Oct 16, 2012, at 3:52 PM, Oanh Tran wrote:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in November.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board in December 2011, the Board is scheduled to meet on November 15 and 16, and the meeting will be held at RFA headquarters.

Because Presiding Governor Lynton cannot attend the November Board meeting, Alternate Presiding Governor Mulhaupt has suggested that all BBG-related meetings to take place on Thursday, November 15, at RFA headquarters. No meetings will be scheduled on Friday, November 16.

In the event that the Board cannot achieve a quorum for a meeting on November 15, even by phone or videoconference, the Board will need to decide whether to meet in December as it is currently scheduled as an optional meeting on December 13 and 14. (The next scheduled meeting after December is February 21-22, 2013.)

Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

susan mccue | message-global | o: (b) (6) | twitter:
(b) (6)

=

susan mccue | message-global | o: (b) (6) | twitter: (b) (6)

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Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

susan mccue | message-global | o: (b) (6) | twitter: (b) (6)

=

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2012 10:27 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: change on Ashe bio

thanks much Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/17/2012 8:21:47 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Certainly. We will work on these changes.
Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2012 8:04:32 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: change on Ashe bio

Tish and Lynne,

Please add to my bio the following." Ashe serves on the audit committee of each of the three grantees which are Radio Free Europe, Radio Free Asia and is chair of the MBN audit committee."

Also add to the bio in the paragraph on National Trust for Historic Preservation." Ashe is president of the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association located in Knoxville, TN and chair of the Douglas Henry State Museum Commission located in Nashville, TN. He is also chair of the Tennessee Clean Water Network based in Knoxville, TN."

After the final sentence which lists my e mail. Please add "Ashe can receive mail at (b) (6),
(b) (6)"

Thanks for making these additions.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2012 8:05 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: change on Ashe bio

Tish and Lynne,

Please add to my bio the following." Ashe serves on the audit committee of each of the three grantees which are Radio Free Europe, Radio Free Asia and is chair of the MBN audit committee."

Also add to the bio in the paragraph on National Trust for Historic Preservation." Ashe is president of the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association located in Knoxville, TN and chair of the Douglas Henry State Museum Commission located in Nashville, TN. He is also chair of the Tennessee Clean Water Network based in Knoxville, TN."

After the final sentence which lists my e mail. Please add "Ashe can receive mail at [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED]"

Thanks for making these additions.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 8:02 PM
To: David Ensor; Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh
Attachments: With_Governor_Victor_H._Ashe.jpg

FYI from Phnom Penh

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

From: mony say <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: mony say (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, Mar 17, 2012 10:30 am
Subject: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

Dear Governor and all,

Please find attached our group photo taken during the governor's visit to our filing center on Friday. The photo credit goes to Mom Sophon, RFA.

Best Regards,

Mony

--

Mony Say
TV Unit Coordinator

Voice of America (VOA), Khmer Service
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Mobile: (b) (6)
Tel: (b) (6)
Fax: (b) (6)
Email: (b) (6)
Web: www.voacambodia.com

facebook.com/voakhmer
twitter.com/voakhmer
youtube.com/voakhmerservice

--- On Fri, 3/16/12, vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

From: vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com>
Subject: Re: A note of thanks from VOA Khmer Service in Phnom Penh
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Date: Friday, March 16, 2012, 5:28 AM

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2012 8:24 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Photos at VOA
Attachments: _MG_0223.jpg; _MG_0225.jpg; _MG_0205.jpg; _MG_0207.jpg; _MG_0227.jpg

you are free to use these on BBG web site if you wish. From my visit on March 16 to VOA in Phnom Penh.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 16, 2012 4:12 pm
Subject: FW: Photos at VOA

Dear Mr. Ensor,

Please find photos of Governor Ashe with VOA reporters in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The governor visited the office on Friday (03/16/12) at 10 AM.

(b) (6)

Director, Cambodian Service

Radio Free Asia
2025 M Street, NW
Washington DC, 20036
Work (b) (6)
Cell (b) (6)

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Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 2:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: RFE/RL, Czech Republic Announce Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship

Lobo or Michael Lynton would each be excellent

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Mar 15, 2012 2:12 pm
Subject: RE: RFE/RL, Czech Republic Announce Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship

Thanks for flagging.

Tish, you might have already had something in the works to elevate the profile of this release. But could you first please get with Martins on securing a quote? And since it would be a BBG repurposing of the release, let's think about a quote from Dick L.

Lynne

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 2:09 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: RFE/RL, Czech Republic Announce Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship

BBG should consider doing something on this too for our web site. The only criticism I have of this news release which is one i often have is that not a single human being is quoted here. STEve Korn or Dennis Mulhaupt or someone should have bene the person announcing this...not RFE/RL which is not a human being to my knowledge. Only the Czech Amb is quoted but no one from RFE.

Victor

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

From: RFERL_Communications <(b) (6)>
To: rferlcomms <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 15, 2012 12:41 pm
Subject: RFE/RL, Czech Republic Announce Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship



RFE/RL, Czech Republic Announce Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship

(WASHINGTON -- March 15, 2012) In a tribute to the life and work of Vaclav Havel, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the

Czech Republic and RFE/RL announce the launch of the Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship. The inaugural Vaclav Havel fellow, Franak Viachorka, will be in Washington for a week of training beginning on March 19, and will also be recognized at **a reception** hosted by the Czech Embassy.

Petr Gandalovic, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the U.S., described the goals of the program by invoking the legacy of his country's former president. "Havel was a playwright, dissident and political leader. He had an uncompromising belief in the power of words and the power of truth to unite people and overcome tyranny. This Fellowship carries the spirit of his convictions to places struggling against censorship where -- even in 2012 -- people are still denied the fundamental human right of free speech."

Fellowships will afford independent journalists from countries lacking a free media six months of professional, on-the-job training and development at RFE/RL's Prague headquarters. The program initially targets EU Eastern Partnership countries including Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine, and may expand to include fellows from other countries, including Afghanistan and Pakistan.

"RFE/RL has a special relationship with the Czech people," says RFE/RL president Steven Korn. "This partnership will give promising young journalists an opportunity to work for impact in their own countries without fear."

During his fellowship, Viachorka, a journalist and documentary filmmaker from Belarus, will train with RFE/RL's Belarus service, **Radio Svaboda**. His visit to Washington will also include high-level meetings with journalists, diplomats, congressional staff members, and think tanks.

Viachorka has worked as a journalist and editor for several independent publications in Belarus, including as a freelancer for the BelaPAN news agency and the independent Polish satellite TV station, Belsat. He first came to the attention of Radio Svaboda at the age of 13 when he appeared from 2001-2002 on the program "Young Voices." In 2006 he starred in the award-winning documentary, "**A Lesson of Belarusian**," which chronicles his teenage years in Aleksandr Lukashenka's Belarus. Viachorka is also the author of the European travel book "**Wanderer's Guide**" and director of the **Citizen Journalist blog**.

For more on the Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship, visit our **website** or contact havelfellowship@rferl.org.

About RFE/RL

RFE/RL is a private, independent international news organization whose programs -- radio, Internet, and television -- reach influential audiences in 21 countries, including Russia, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the republics of Central Asia. It is funded by the U.S. Congress through the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG).

###

For a look at RFE/RL behind the scenes, check out RFE/RL's "**Off-Mic**" **blog**. Or follow us on **Twitter**, **Facebook**, **Tumblr**, and **YouTube**.

Media inquiries in the U.S. can be made to Karisue Wyson in Washington at wysonk@rferl.org or +1.202.494.0388. In Europe, contact Zach Peterson in Prague at peteronz@rferl.org or +420.725.037.941.

To unsubscribe from this list please send an email to dc-response@rferl.org.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 7:40 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Mail Issues: Ticket #244322 (Victor Ashe Email)

i have gotten my fixed...I think I may have mistakenly clicked onto to the wrong icon...anyway it is now over

Thanks
FYI..RFA is not permitted to use IBB transmission facility in Thailand due to Thai govt opposition...do not wish to offend neighbors...
Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 15, 2012 5:52 am
Subject: FW: BBG Mail Issues: Ticket #244322 (Victor Ashe Email)

Good morning, Victor --

I asked our office assistant to put me in touch with the right person on the BBG technical team to address the question of why e-mails from your account kept turning up in mine as being sent by "Kee." While doing this, she discovered that Oanh had also received messages from a regular e-mail correspondent that suddenly were showing a different sender's name attached to that person's account. But it was a mere coincidence; our techies here believe the issue is not with the BBG's system.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Erika Orban
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 5:23 PM
To: Adam Belida
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: RE: BBG Mail Issues: Ticket #244322 (Victor Ashe Email)

Adam,

Very much appreciate you taking a look into this matter. Glad to hear all is well on this side of the firewall.

Best,
Erika

From: Adam Belida
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 5:19 PM
To: Erika Orban
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: BBG Mail Issues: Ticket #244322

Erika,

After reviewing the information provided, I was unable to track down why this is occurring. As far as our system is concerned, everything is setup correctly and is not responsible for causing this anomaly . I also reviewed all incoming mail

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 1:10 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Re: draft highlight on visit

excellent...also met with Michael Honnold acting PAO officer at US Embassy in Bangkok on Wednesday, March 14....will meet with DCM at both US Embassies in both Vientiane and Phnom Penh...Victor

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

From: Letitia King [REDACTED] (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Lynne Weil [REDACTED] (b) (6); [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Mar 14, 2012 12:17 pm
Subject: draft highlight on visit

Dear Ambassador Ashe,

Thanks for the update on your trip and the great pictures.

Here's a draft item for the BBG website on your stop in Thailand. We are happy to work with you and RFA to provide highlights on Cambodia and Laos as the trip proceeds.

Please let us know if you have any changes or additions.

Many thanks,

Tish

BBG Governor Victor Ashe is in Southeast Asia, visiting BBG facilities, meeting with agency staff and holding talks with U.S. embassy officials and local authorities in Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos.

In the Udon Thani province of northeast Thailand, Ashe toured a BBG transmission facility and presented 30-year and 20-year service awards to staff members.

He spoke about the BBG's mission and praised staff for its work in support of U.S. international broadcasting.

Ashe, a former U.S. ambassador to Poland, took particular interest in the activities undertaken by BBG officials to build and maintain relationships with local communities.

His next stop is Cambodia and then Laos for further consultations on Radio Free Asia and Voice of America operations.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 2:05 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Governor Ashe's Visit

this gives you an overview of my visit to the Udon Thani transmission station.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard Baltes (b) (6)
To: Mark Filipek (b) (6)
Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, Mar 13, 2012 6:50 pm
Subject: Re: Governor Ashe's Visit

No problems! The Governor met the assembled staff in our multi-purpose room shortly after arriving at the station and was kind enough to present 30 year and 20 year service awards to staff members. He spoke briefly about our mission and how much the Board appreciated the quality work they do in support of US international broadcasting and was quite sincere and personable with the staff.

He invited questions and was asked about the future of the station to which the Governor assured everyone that the Board had no intention or plan to close and he expected that the station would continue operating for quite some time.

We re-assembled on the front steps and took several pictures so the Governor has at least one image that he can place on the BBG web page when he returns. Several personal photos were taken individually with nearly every staff member lining up to get a photo with the Governor.

Then we toured the entire station. he wanted to see everything he could... He was shown the interior of one of the off-line Marconi transmitters, cooling room and power supply, the antenna switchbay and then toured the facilities maintenance building. By the end of the tour I think he managed to meet and greet each member of the staff before we went into Ban Dung for lunch.

The signage was not an issue for us as it was in Greenville, though he spoke at some length with me about the name of the Greenville station and wondered if the Thailand station had ever had a namesake. A couple months ago, I had the front wall repainted and letters on the signs regilded so our signage looked like new.

The Ambassador part of Governor Ashe took particular interest in the activities that we undertake to maintain a relationship with our local community and asked me to develop a brief narrative that he can take back to the next BBG meeting to share with the Board since none of the other members has ever been to the Thai station. I'll draft that and give it to him next week when we tour the MW station.

He pointed out that visiting the Stations was not his primary purpose in coming to SE Asia, but that he felt that it was important to meet the staff and present the flag to the troops in the field and to assure them that he and the Board value the work they do in support of our mission.

He will meet with the acting-PAO at the Embassy in the morning.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 4:50 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: photos

Oanh has information on my current trip. Tuesday I will visit the transmission station in Udon Thani...I will try to get photos to you in case you wish to run something on my visits to Laos, Thailand and Cambodia

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 6:22 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Bio and web site

In light of the committee changes to strategy and budget made on March 8 you should update the BBG web site for that committee and show at least on my bio that I serve also on that committee as well.

Thanks and have a good weekend.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 11:20 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Withdrawal from Labor/Management Forum
Attachments: Forum_mtgs.doc

to see Victor Ashe

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

From: AFGE Local 1812 <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: AFGE Local (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Mar 6, 2012 10:59 am
Subject: Withdrawal from Labor/Management Forum

Dear Board Members:

Attached for your information is a letter AFGE Local 1812 sent to Jack Welch regarding the Labor/Management Forum.

Tim Shamble

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 8:16 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Google Alert - Broadcasting Board of Governors

this is foolish on our part to take a hit on this. I feel Ms. Noonan makes valid points. Sometimes it makes more sense to change course when it is clear Congress will do it for us. When BBG voted for these cuts certainly I was not told or aware it meant Tibetan Services. Victor

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

From: Google Alerts (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 7:41 pm
Subject: Google Alert - Broadcasting Board of Governors

News

1 new result for **Broadcasting Board of Governors**

BBG Ready to Drop the Ax on Cantonese and Tibetan Services

National Review Online

By Ann Noonan In December 2011, the **Broadcasting Board of Governors** issued a proclamation in observance of Voice of America's 70th anniversary of Mandarin and Cantonese Services, boasting:

"Mandarin and Cantonese language services have been key ...

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Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 6:31 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scenic bill op-ed

thanks so much. Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letitia King (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 4:43 pm
Subject: Re: Fwd: Scenic bill op-ed

Victor, I've put Cat in touch with Scott Orr, who is lending a hand.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 4:27:36 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Scenic bill op-ed

Lynne or Tish

Can you not assist Cat McCue on the head shot of me from BBG web site?

Victor ashe

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

From: Cat McCue (b) (6)
To: 'Rayburn, Ted' (b) (6)
Cc: 'vhashe@aol.com' <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 4:26 pm
Subject: Scenic bill op-ed

Hi Ted -

We are on track to have a final op-ed to you (at around 550 words) by tomorrow at noon.

Also, I've been in touch with Victor about a current headshot but we are not having much luck tracking one down. We presume you have an older one on file you can use in a pinch? And I take it you still have Anne's from last year?

Thanks,
Cat

Cathryn McCue // Senior Communications Manager
Check out our new blog on Atlanta transportation: [JunctionATL](#)
Southern Environmental Law Center // (b) (6)
[Facebook](#) // [Twitter](#)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 2:52 PM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Victor Ashe

e mail this to Lynne Weil...her e mail is (b) (6)
Victor

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

From: Cat McCue (b) (6) >
To: (b) (6)
Cc: 'vhashe@aol.com' <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 12:06 pm
Subject: Victor Ashe

Hello -

Mr. Ashe serves on the advisory council of my organization, the Southern Environmental Law Center. I am working with Mr. Ashe on an op-ed he is co-signing with us for the Tennessean, to print Wednesday. They are looking for an updated headshot. The one on the BBG website would be great, but it's lo-resolution. Can you send me a higher-resolution image, one suitable for publication, no later than tomorrow noon?

Thank you kindly,
Cat McCue

Cathryn McCue // Senior Communications Manager

Check out our new blog on Atlanta transportation: [JunctionATL](#)

[Southern Environmental Law Center](#) // 4 (b) (6)

[Facebook](#) // [Twitter](#)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2012 7:59 AM
To: John Paul Christy
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

Thanks...I think given the nature of the work we are in...that full discussion and rebuttal, agreement, modification, self examination of all comments, criticism etc are worthwhile..even when painful.

I comment Lynne Weil for reaching out to respond to some groups/individuals who previously were not responded to in an adequate manner. We should remember that responses will not always convince but an unanswered charge often becomes true if not answered. Certainly in politics that is the case. We must be players and not spectators.

Russia is difficult. We should discuss it at RFE and BBG for VOA. Putin is no friend of democracy. Journalists have been murdered during his tenure with little apparent effort on the government's part to track down the guilty parties. What is the best way to get into Russia? How successful are we?

I am genuinely worried that the proposed budget cuts especially for Tibetan and Laos are setting our ourselves up for another congressional slap in the face. Personally, I certainly did not know about them when I voted for the budget last fall at Walter's personal urging. Not being on Strategy and Budget, I was not privy to any lengthy analysis of the budget. After the fact I learn about specific cuts which I find unfortunate and unacceptable. My view is we should proactively save these cuts before Congress makes us do it.

Strategy and Budget Committee is now down to two members only while governance has 4 members. There seems to be imbalance here in terms of numbers.

Victor Ashe

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

From: John Paul Christy (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 2, 2012 2:49 pm
Subject: RE: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

Dear Governor Ashe,

Thanks for your e-mail. I am copying in those better informed than I am on this matter in order to get you the most accurate response. Of course, I'll be happy to help in any way that I can.

Sincerely,
John Paul

John Paul Christy
Presidential Management Fellow
Office of Communications
(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2012 2:06 PM
To: John Paul Christy; David Ensor
Subject: Re: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

would like to know answers to these charges...Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2012 5:21 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Governor Traveling to Thailand

Thanks very much. I went ahead and sent her an e mail from myself on the visit for which I have country clearance.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 3/1/2012 5:19:03 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Amb Ashe,

Sorry not to have included the address in the text, I had copied you on my message below. Amb Kristie Kenney is at (b) (6)

Regards,

Nick

Nicholas J. Giacobbe, Jr.
Executive Assistant/Chief of Staff
Office of the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs
Room 5932, (b) (6)

From: Giacobbe, Nicholas J
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 09:56 PM
To: Kenney, Kristie A
Cc: 'vhashe@aol.com' <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Subject: BBG Governor Traveling to Thailand

Madame Ambassador,

Ambassador Victor Ashe, our former chief of mission in Warsaw and current BBG Governor, will be traveling to Thailand soon on official business. He asked to be put in touch with you as he begins preparing for his trip.

All the best,

Nick

Nicholas J. Giacobbe, Jr.
Executive Assistant
Office of the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs
Room 5932, (b) (6)

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 09:07 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Amb. Kenney

Happy to help, Victor. Am putting you in touch with Acting Under Secretary Stephens' executive assistant, Nick

Giacobbe, a career FSO and one of the Department's best.

Nick, Amb. Ashe would like to be in touch with the COM in Thailand; he is likely to be in the region soon.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 6:58:52 PM

To: Lynne Well

Subject: Amb. Kenney

Lynne

Could you secure for me the e mail address for Ambassador Kenney who is our Ambassador to Thailand?

Thanks. It is in regard to my upcoming trip to there plus Laos and Cambodia.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 11:33 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Amb. Kenney

well, Lynne, he is the one who declined to assist on country clearance to Burma for me I regret to say. Victor

In a message dated 2/29/2012 9:08:03 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Happy to help, Victor. Am putting you in touch with Acting Under Secretary Stephens' executive assistant, Nick Giacobbe, a career FSO and one of the Department's best.

Nick, Amb. Ashe would like to be in touch with the COM in Thailand; he is likely to be in the region soon.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 6:58:52 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Amb. Kenney

Lynne

Could you secure for me the e mail address for Ambassador Kenney who is our Ambassador to Thailand?

Thanks. It is in regard to my upcoming trip to there plus Laos and Cambodia.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 10:32 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Re organization going to Hill?

thanks for prompt response. Victor

In a message dated 2/29/2012 9:48:41 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

The answer to your question is no.

The President's FY13 budget proposal released on February 13th contained information about possible staff reductions being considered by the BBG agencywide.

We are far from sending any sort of reprogramming request that would entail any reorganization proposals.

Work is just now beginning that could lead to proposed restructuring legislation.

Let me know if you have any other questions about this matter.

Regards,

Dick

On Wed, Feb 29, 2012 at 9:07 AM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:
Dear Dick

I have been asked if BBG is sending a re organization request to the Hill in the next few days or weeks which would include the recently announced RIFs. Obviously I do not know the answer but I assume you do.

As a Governor, I certainly want to know so I can be fully informed as well as have a copy of whatever letter goes to the Hill concurrent with it going. Will this wait to our March 8 meeting or not?

Best

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 9:07 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re organization going to Hill?

Dear Dick

I have been asked if BBG is sending a re organization request to the Hill in the next few days or weeks which would include the recently announced RIFs. Obviously I do not know the answer but I assume you do.

As a Governor, I certainly want to know so I can be fully informed as well as have a copy of whatever letter goes to the Hill concurrent with it going. Will this wait to our March 8 meeting or not?

Best

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 1:45 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Thanks, and further edits?

no more to offer...also enjoyed time together

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, Feb 28, 2012 12:40 pm
Subject: Thanks, and further edits?

Dear Victor,

It was great to meet with you last week, even amid dealing with (b) (6) (b) (6). With the wide sweep of subject and the frank exchange of views, I felt our talk did me some good.

I wanted to let you know that the team has integrated your edits into the annual report. Did you have any more to offer? If not, we're close to going to press.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 12:18 PM
To: Paul Kollmer; Oanh Tran; BBG Board Group
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Mr. Kollmer, My request was to have a bylaw change drafted and presented March 8. That request was sent to you in ample time to comply with the bylaws.. I am a Board member. Whether you agree or disagree with my approach, I am entitled to have my request implemented when I asked for it. If there was a problem with doing that then I am entitled to have you as deputy legal counsel tell me why you are not doing it. You failed to honor my request and are only telling me your reason for not doing it since I have raised the issue after it is too late to do much about it as the 21 day notice requirement has passed.

As an attorney myself, I differ with your legal analysis that this can be done without a bylaw chnage. What is the basis for your rationale? On your theory the Board can do anything and ignore the bylaws. You give me the impression of making legal opinions based on your hope for certain outcomes and not on the law.

I find this whole process most disappointing.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Paul Kollmer <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Oanh Tran <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>; BBG Board Group <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Feb 24, 2012 9:21 am
Subject: RE: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Victor – Thanks for your follow-up. A by-law change is not required in order to create the presiding Governor's authorities. This can be done by Board decision. So, if we follow the Board's precedent, the Board would consider and adopt the recommendation of the Governance Committee about the authorities and roles of the Presiding Governor -- including the text of a proposed bylaw change -- at the March 8 meeting. The Board decision would go into effect immediately and could then be reflected subsequently in a formal bylaw change as a housekeeping matter. Thanks. PKD

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 11:42 PM
To: Paul Kollmer; Oanh Tran; BBG Board Group
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

How do you propose that the Board vote on a bylaw change for which it has not received a copy of 21 days in advance? I still have not seen the by law change proposal and I had asked you for it.

I had not seen the agenda until this evening when it was emailed out. The text of the by law change is simply not available even now. Current bylaws say 21 day notice...this means the full text...not just notice that the subject matter will be considered. Of course amendments are always in order both at the committee level and by the full Board. In other words the full Board cannot vote on this until April without violating the current bylaw requirement of 21 days notice.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Paul Kollmer <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Oanh Tran <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>; BBG Board Group <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 8:19 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Research Contract and Program

Thanks for your response. I understand your views. When I have had time to digest it, I will get back with further questions and comments. I appreciate your time to respond to this.

To be honest, while I think research is important and needed, I think the current proposed layoffs and reduction in services force difficult choices upon us with which reasonable people can differ. This is where we may part company on this issue as I am troubled by spending 10 million a year (\$8.8 million one year) while 200 fine employees are discharged and services like Tibetan language are reduced. I wonder if we should not cut even more in the Gallup contract for a few years to produce the savings needed to keep more of these lost jobs and Tibetan language. I feel sure Congress will take steps to halt the reduction in Tibetan language and based on what I know I would agree with Congress on that. Our priorities need further thought in my view.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>
To: BBG Board Group <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 2:56 pm
Subject: BBG Research Contract and Program

Governors,

Please see attached a memo on the BBG research program intended for internal Board use only along with related talking points for use with external audiences. The former responds to a request from Governor Ashe and the latter to any queries or comments that may come your way concerning both the new Gallup contract and the agency's research efforts overall. Bruce

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 7:59 PM
To: (b) (6) Paul Kollmer (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for the Governance Committee sessions on March 7 and 9, 2...

if that is it then that is excellent. I concur with this if it is along the lines Dennis' writes here. That is not what the title suggests...Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/22/2012 6:23:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time (b) (6) writes:

Dennis,
Precisely right.
Dick
Sent from my Verizon Black Berry

From: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6)
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 2012 14:38:27 -0800
To: Vhashe@aol.com<Vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6)

Reply To: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for the Governance Committee sessions on March 7 and 9, 2...

Victor:

I believe the intent of that item is for the committee to discuss how to provide the information which Walter asked the staff to set out in writing following the recent presentation by Paul Virtue of Baker & McKenzie on formal employee complaints (e.g. the first step is to contact the IBB director, how to contact the IG, etc.) so that the information is readily available to everyone in one place and format. I do not believe there is any further motive or purpose than that.

Best,

Dennis

From: "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com>
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 5:22 PM

Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for the Governance Committee sessions on March 7 and 9, 2...

On topic 4, third item on March 7..what is this all about? Obviously I receive the most contacts from employees which I am happy to receive. I enjoy hearing from them. Susan McCue has received many too as she takes the time to meet, talk and have coffee with many. Does not mean I always agree but I feel I am a better Governor hearing directly. Are we now dreaming up rules of the road on how to talk and listen to employees? Surely not. We all have different approaches. We are individually appointed Governors with unique backgrounds. We have actually made some progress on employee communication but morale is still at the bottom. We are working on late payments issue but we have a ways to go. We should be encouraging employees to speak to us.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:27 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Thurs afternoon after 230...Victor

In a message dated 2/21/2012 9:24:18 P.M. Eastern Standard Time (b) (6) writes:

Victor, I'll be delighted to meet with you over this or any other topic at your convenience on Thursday. Just let me know when. Once again, we appreciate your flexibility.

Thank you,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 7:21:03 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

I went to fed ex (Kinkos) to print this out but cost was going to be \$53. I declined. I do not pay that for coffee table books.

I will look at this as best I can at Cohen Bldg on Thurs..perhaps with Lynne. Also extend deadline to next week

Victor

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

From: Letitia King (b) (6)
To: BBG Board Group (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6); bbggroupaides (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Feb 21, 2012 4:52 pm
Subject: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Dear Governors,

Attached for your review is a low resolution pdf copy of the 2011 Annual Report. We would be grateful to have your feedback, any edits/suggestions/revisions by 4pm on Friday, February 24.

If you would prefer a hard copy, please let me know and we can send it via FedEx or hand-deliver as appropriate.

We look forward to your feedback.

Regards,
Tish

Letitia King
Director, Office of Public Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20237
Office (202)203-4400

Mobile: (202)557-0504

lking@bbg.gov<[REDACTED] (b) (6)>

www.bbg.gov<http://www.bbg.gov/>

Twitter: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 6:28 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

I hope to get to Cohen Bldg Thursday but I will not see it until that at mid day...in other words maybe an hour to review it...not satisfactory. Frankly this should be put off a week to allow reasonable time for Governor's reflections.

We can talk on Thurs.

Victor

In a message dated 2/21/2012 5:52:35 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

As the person who last held the pen on the draft report – for several days, I confess – I particularly appreciate your flexibility.

With the rush of preparations for the budget rollout, and then its aftermath, I was unable to take a proper look at the draft report until the end of last week. Knowing that it had already been through layers of review, and that there was a publication schedule to be met, I sent my edits to Tish on the weekend.

Your more seasoned eye is likely to turn up additional needed edits. We do appreciate your taking the opportunity to take this on while on the road.

And we will look forward to seeing you on Thursday afternoon if you do come to the Cohen building.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 5:32 PM

To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Yes I need it there...not possible to get it to me here in Knoxville by tomorrow (Wed) which would be best. In the future there should be a week turn around time...3 days just is not adequate for serious review.

Victor

In a message dated 2/21/2012 5:22:41 P.M. Eastern Standard Time (b) (6) writes:

I'll be glad to get a copy to the Park Hyatt in Washington. I wasn't aware of your travel schedule but will get the specifics so the report will be there at the hotel for you.

If you feel you need more time to review, we can certainly discuss that.

Best regards,

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:58 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Tish

this is only three days turnaround..which really is not much. I do not have the ability to print this out at my house. It is too late today to fed ex it to me in Knoxville...a printed copy. Perhaps you can have it this Thursday at the Park Hyatt in Washington at 24th and M Streets for me to review and give my thoughts. I hope to get over to the Cohen Bldg on Thursday afternoon. Must the deadline be at 4PM this Friday?

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 5:32 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

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Best regards,

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
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To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

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Victor

In a message dated 2/21/2012 4:52:24 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2012 11:22 AM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Ashe bio

thanks Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/20/2012 11:03:20 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Certainly. We will make that addition.
Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2012 10:15:23 AM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Ashe bio

Tish

Please add to my bio at the end where it says I welcome comments, my e mail address which is vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com> so anyone can contact me that way as well.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 2:25 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Susan Andross
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Rep Jones letter

I do not plan on sharing it. However, I had met with him a few weeks ago to report on my trip to the Edward Murrow facility on December 7. I do feel there should be a ceremony when the sign is installed and local media invited. I want to attend and hopefully there will be adequate notice. Hopefully, Dick Lobo can go too.

I do feel that the issue of modernizing the equipment there is a significant one which the Board should know about. Some of the equipment is over 50 years old which I saw.

Victor

In a message dated 2/18/2012 10:28:21 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

Here's the letter. It wasn't sent to the Board, and I'm pretty sure that's normal practice at the BBG.

We should have thought, though, to share it with you. But the press of events involving the budget roll-out had our full attention these last couple of weeks. Apologies for the oversight.

If the letter is to be shared outside BBG, we'll need to ask permission from his office as a courtesy.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 10:03:31 AM
To: Susan Andross; Lynne Weil
Subject: Rep Jones letter

Dear Susan and Lynne

I understand that Congressman Jones has sent BBG a letter on the Greenville facility which I visited on December 7, 2011. Dick Lobo indicates a meeting is going to be arranged for the end of this month.

I would like to see a copy of the letter....not sure whether it was copied to whole Board or not. If so, it should be sent out to all. If not, I still would like to see it as it concerns an interest of mine.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 12:31 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Rep Jones letter

My computer will not display it...perhaps when you are at the office on Tues you can forward a copy to me or Susan Andross can...was it copied to entire Board?

Victor

In a message dated 2/18/2012 12:19:34 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Wish I could, but I have it only in PDF form.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 12:13:38 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rep Jones letter

I cannot access the attachment..can you send it as part of the body of the email?

Victor

In a message dated 2/18/2012 10:28:21 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

Here's the letter. It wasn't sent to the Board, and I'm pretty sure that's normal practice at the BBG.

We should have thought, though, to share it with you. But the press of events involving the budget roll-out had our full attention these last couple of weeks. Apologies for the oversight.

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To: Susan Andross; Lynne Weil
Subject: Rep Jones letter

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I would like to see a copy of the letter.....not sure whether it was copied to whole Board or not. If so, it should be sent out to all. If not, I still would like to see it as it concerns an interest of mine.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2012 5:29 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: fyl/rep. jones

thanks for letting me know. Victor

In a message dated 2/17/2012 4:28:50 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

victor,

we're in the process of arranging a meeting with rep. jones at the end of the month to go over the greenville situation with him.

i'll provide you with details after the meeting.

dick

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 5:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Board meeting

there is always room for one. Victor

In a message dated 2/16/2012 3:49:12 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Victor. I am with you on the principle of saying yes to public attendance at the open meetings when possible.

We're checking on the logistics for the March meeting at MBN (table arrangements, camera placement, and other studio-connected matters), and I've told the person you're referring to that I hope to have an answer soon.

Best,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 2:04 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: BBG Board meeting

Lynne

I understand some persons may ask to attend our BBG meeting in March as they did for January. Walter, then chair, said Yes.

I fully agree and as long as the numbers are manageable I think BBG gains more by saying Yes than NO. Put me down as one Governor who favors attendance if possible. At some point we should move to fully open meetings so that is not an issue.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 9:44 AM
To: Letitia King; Andre Mendes; Lynne Weil
Subject: sign installed

Tish and Andre

I assume the sign for Greenville re naming it Edward Murrow is done...when will it be installed?

Are you waiting on the local government to change the road name? That should not hold by erecting the new sign.

Has the decision been made on when and whether to have a ceremony installing the sign? It would be nice to invite the living children of Edward Murrow to it. I am sure they could be found.
I look forward to hearing about this.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 7:28 PM
To: Lynne Weil; BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Michael Lynton trifecta

wonderful...Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/13/2012 7:26:36 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Our news release this weekend got the attention not only of a couple of special-interest bloggers, as noted in a Saturday e-mail to you, but also several media of note that cover the entertainment industry. I was able to locate the right reporters/editors through a knowledgeable contact in L.A., and have an idea of a few more that we might try to reach in the coming days.

But so far we're in Daily Variety, The Wrap, and AllAccess.com. And the L.A. Times has taken interest, so we'll keep an eye out for that.

Links to the stories are below, and they're all good.

Best regards,

Lynne

<http://www.wilshireandwashington.com/2012/02/michael-lynton-.html#ixzz1mJ0aP31M>

<http://www.thewrap.com/tv/article/sony-pictures-chair-michael-lynton-head-federal-broadcasting-board-governors-35346>

<http://www.allaccess.com/net-news/archive/story/102252/broadcasting-board-of-governors-names-sony-picture>

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:57 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to employees

will not share your email. We can talk tomorrow when I am back in USA...I appreciate your efforts. You can help in pointing out the pr consequences of some actions from 3rd floor which they may not always recognize.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 15:54
Subject: Re: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to employees

Thank you, Victor, for your candor -- and I promise not to share your e-mail. Would you mind keeping mine confidential, as well?

Greek is the one language service planned for elimination that will be of concern to Congress, which has restored it each time the BBG has tried to end it.

RFE/RL plans to discontinue its services in Avar, Chechen, and Circassian, and Steve Korn is addressing this with his employees tomorrow. RFE/RL has struggled to attract significant audiences for these SW broadcasts. The three languages are among dozens spoken in the region, where Russian remains the lingua franca. RFE/RL will continue to serve audiences there with Russian-language programming, including web and mobile content focused on regional news. The budget justification, which will be public tomorrow, makes this clear, and it's addressed in the in-house talking points sent to the Board on Friday.

There are changes expected in other language services, as you know, but none others eliminated altogether.

I agree that the release of a reduced budget request is bound to be upsetting and then some. And that the timing on the Hill for an actual budget bill is very much in question. But what alternative is there: Not releasing a budget?

And I understand your point about where cuts should be made. One week in, and I'm in no position to address that one.

If you feel that the tone of the draft message from the Board to employees could use some work, please share that with all on this afternoon's e-mail chain. You may not be the only one. And we're doing our best to get it right.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:25:03 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to

employees

Lynne

I am sure that this statement reflects a majority of the Board views. However, you should know that as one member for whom this statement does not reflect the full scope of his views, I feel strongly that we have lots to do to reduce waste within the agency which have not occurred in a satisfactory way in my view. I refer to sending too many people to conferences such as Delhi, Prague and walk thru in Tampa for upcoming GOP convention, handing out bonus for top level personnel at IBB/BBG while facing layoffs (the optics are terrible)...I do not feel we are making tough decisions everywhere but in selected areas. \$50 million contract for 5 years with Gallup (I feel that one should be reduced in size).

This statement references language services being eliminated. If Greek is it and the only one, that is one thing but if there are more we need to be honest about it.

Of course this budget plan probably will not become law which means the exercise creates anxiety among rank and file. Remember we look foolish when Maryjean says the computers cannot distinguish between vendors and contract employees (contractors) on late payments. For an agency which already the lowest morale around, this statement does not ease it or go far enough in "we feel your pain" in my view.

I prefer you not share this with anyone as I am simply sharing my personal views with you and offering my sympathy for the really tough job you face. I am happy to discuss this personally. Of course, I have voiced these sentiments with staff and my colleagues previously...although without winning converts..except for setting a Thanksgiving deadline to end late payments for contractors. I think some of the pain has to be shared by the top level as well.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil [REDACTED] (b) (6)

To: BBG Board Group [REDACTED] (b) (6)

CC: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] Jeffrey Trimble [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 14:21

Subject: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to employees

Dear Governors,

Attached are the latest versions of the two essential messaging documents in connection with tomorrow's budget roll-out. They are the draft news release and the draft notice from you to the employees, which is not intended for public distribution but will likely be publicized by some.

These drafts incorporate e-mailed suggestions from Governors Ashe, Perino and McCue, along with the conversation yesterday and some follow-up.

We'd like to get these items, particularly your message to employees, just right.

If you have further comments, please try to weigh in by 5 p.m. Eastern. The release will need subsequent OMB review. Last-minute edits tomorrow a.m. are

possible, but preferably would be minimal.

Many thanks,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:51 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

cannot vouch for its accuracy

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 15:43
Subject: Re: Fwd: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

Much obliged.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:31:50 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

You should see this as it may have a wider distribution list

Victor

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

From: BBG Budget Cutter <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6)
Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 14:34
Subject: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

This might be of interest ...

A former employee of the CFO says the following about (b) (6), who in charge of the contractor mess. Does a warrant of debt affect her federal standing? her security clearance? her bonus? She has fired numerous people but should she be fired?

" (b) (6) probably sabotaged (b) (6), the (b) (6) who was fired last week. It's funny how he is in charge of the (b) (6), he is still employed, yet the contractor/vendors are still not getting paid. That is the biggest problem in that office, not the travel (although still a problem). (b) (6) takes two hour lunch breaks but still has a job. (b) (6) barely ate lunch. Why does (b) (6) still have a job? I don't understand how (b) (6) (b) (6) is getting away with this...its funny how EVERYONE else seems to be the problem. Does (b) (6) even have a college degree?

(b) (6) came to BBG because he was about to get fired from DHS. . At DHS, he played around in the Travel Production system and booked a ticket to Rome. His manager

was angry. It was escalated to the CFO and (b) had to pay out of pocket. He also got in trouble because when he traveled, he stayed in Vegas an extra night and was not supposed to. Before that, he was working at CGI. He was also fired from his first job with the FDIC or Federal Reserve (one of those agencies) because he would take two hour lunch breaks and just wouldn't work. He comes to BBG and (b) (6) promotes him.

(b) (6) cannot even pay her own bills. She had a Warrant in Debt in Fairfax County Court. . Why is she managing the office when she cannot even pay her own bills?.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:41 PM
To: lynne.a.weil@gmail.com; Lynne Weil
Subject: phone

Lynne

I do not have any phone numbers for you..work, cell or a home address if I wanted to mail anything to you at your residence.

Also will Am Stephens have an assistant as you were for McHale and Stock? Is this appointment for a few months until the nominee for public diplomacy gets confirmed?

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:30 PM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Marie Lennon; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Maryjean Buhler; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

I have no idea who this is and generally do not pay attention to persons not named in their e mails. However, the accuracy or inaccuracy of this can be checked. If true, Immediate action is needed as it raises valid concerns. If not true, we need to know that as well. Maryjean surely you can find out about this. As we face a difficult week with budget cuts, we should at the top level be seen as rooting out errors, mistakes and incompetence which cost. Again, if untrue we should know that too.

Victor Ashe

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

From: BBG Budget Cutter (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 14:34
Subject: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

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(b) (6) cannot even pay her own bills. She had a Warrant in Debt in Fairfax County Court. . Why is she managing the office when she cannot even pay her own bills?.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:25 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to employees

Lynne

I am sure that this statement reflects a majority of the Board views. However, you should know that as one member for whom this statement does not reflect the full scope of his views, I feel strongly that we have lots to do to reduce waste within the agency which have not occurred in a satisfactory way in my view. I refer to sending too many people to conferences such as Delhi, Prague and walk thru in Tampa for upcoming GOP convention, handing out bonus for top level personnel at IBB/BBG while facing layoffs (the optics are terrible)...I do not feel we are making tough decisions everywhere but in selected areas. \$50 million contract for 5 years with Gallup (I feel that one should be reduced in size).

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I prefer you not share this with anyone as I am simply sharing my personal views with you and offering my sympathy for the really tough job you face. I am happy to discuss this personally. Of course, I have voiced these sentiments with staff and my colleagues previously...although without winning converts..except for setting a Thanksgiving deadline to end late payments for contractors. I think some of the pain has to be shared by the top level as well.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: BBG Board Group (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble

(b) (6)

Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 14:21

Subject: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to employees

Dear Governors,

Attached are the latest versions of the two essential messaging documents in connection with tomorrow's budget roll-out. They are the draft news release and the draft notice from you to the employees, which is not intended for public distribution but will likely be publicized by some.

These drafts incorporate e-mailed suggestions from Governors Ashe, Perino and McCue, along with the conversation yesterday and some follow-up.

We'd like to get these items, particularly your message to employees, just right.

If you have further comments, please try to weigh in by 5 p.m. Eastern. The release will need subsequent OMB review. Last-minute edits tomorrow a.m. are possible, but preferably would be minimal.

Many thanks,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 12:24 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

a small area with a free press...Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 11:26
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Whoops, I misread your second question. Greek will be closed.

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 11:24:15 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Don't know the answers to those questions. Happy to talk next week.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 11:13:22 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

good points...we will talk next week. The Donna Grace meeting with unions will be critical. Who briefs contractors? Which language services actually are closed?

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; BBG Board Group <(b) (6)>
CC: <(b) (6)>
<Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>

Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 11:09
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Gov. Ashe, thank you for the swift reply.

Please see the chart at the bottom of #11 for entity-by-entity position reductions.

Listing the many service-by-service reductions in either the news release or the Governors' statement would more than cloud the message. I believe this information will be available, though, when the Congressional Budget Justification is released; we'll post that on-line, so maybe a good solution would be to put a link to it at the end of the release and the statement.

As for the difficult, in person discussions, from our conversations this week I learned that each entity head has a self-directed schedule for briefing employees on the specifics affecting their entities. I've no involvement in that process; perhaps someone else on this list can address it.

It's worth repeating -- and we will, at every opportunity -- that everything possible will be done to limit impact on individuals through agency buyouts, early-out authority and reducing positions via attrition.

Best,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com<<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>>
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 10:41:15 AM
To: Lynne Weil; BBG Board Group
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED]

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

can we be told how many persons are actually let go by entity and section. Donna Grace is meeting Monday to brief the unions. Who briefs contractors? What is the timetable? I feel the statements raise as many questions as they answer.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil [REDACTED] (b) (6)
To: BBG Board Group [REDACTED] (b) (6)
CC: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] Jeffrey Trimble

<trimble@bbg.gov<<mailto:trimble@bbg.gov>>>; Bruce Sherman
[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 2:27
Subject: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Dear Governors,

Attached for your review are the draft messaging materials prepared by agency staff in collaboration with the network heads and communications teams across all entities. They are:

- A message from the Board to agency employees
- A news release

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 11:13 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

good points...we will talk next week. The Donna Grace meeting with unions will be critical. Who briefs contractors? Which language services actually are closed?

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; BBG Board Group (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 11:09
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Gov. Ashe, thank you for the swift reply.

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It's worth repeating -- and we will, at every opportunity -- that everything possible will be done to limit impact on individuals through agency buyouts, early-out authority and reducing positions via attrition.

Best,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 10:41:15 AM
To: Lynne Weil; BBG Board Group
Cc: BBG Group Aides; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble;
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

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Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 10:41 AM
To: Lynne Weil; BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

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Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: BBG Board Group <(b) (6)>
CC: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6)

Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 2:27
Subject: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Dear Governors,

Attached for your review are the draft messaging materials prepared by agency staff in collaboration with the network heads and communications teams across all entities. They are:

- A message from the Board to agency employees
- A news release
- Talking points on the top nine most anticipated questions, in rank order of likelihood
- Examples of ways that we are ending duplication and streamlining services
- A budget overview, strategic principles guiding BBG budgeting decisions, and a comparison across broadcast entities at the request of some of the entity heads.

Much of what is in the talking points has been pulled from existing and in some cases published agency documents for consistency. Similarities between the board statement and the news release are intentional, as are the differences. Apart from those two items, which will be distributed, please forgive any typos or formatting errors arising from the production process this week.

Your feedback will help strengthen these items so that we can most effectively convey the reasoning and goals underlying this budget request. It would be most useful if comments could be made within the next 24 hours to ensure timely incorporation into these materials.

In a separate message, Maryjean Buhler has sent you the actual budget documents.

Best regards,

Lynne W.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 7:41 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Board meeting

sure...will you be at the Innovation conference....today

while Tish is a lovely lady I have found usually more reasons not to act then to act...5 day delay in getting Walter's resignation up.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letita King <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) >
Sent: Fri, Feb 10, 2012 7:14 am
Subject: Re: Board meeting

Let's discuss.

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 7:08:20 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com; Letita King
Subject: Re: Board meeting

Thank you for flagging this, Victor!

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 6:53:22 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letita King
Subject: Board meeting

I hope BBG will post the special called Baord meeting (notice we are having it tomorrow) on web site...also next week announce whatever decision is made by the phone call meeting.
that it was called by 4 members pursuant to bylaws. All part of being transparent.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 6:53 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letita King
Subject: Board meeting

I hope BBG will post the special called Baord meeting (notice we are having it tomorrow) on web site...also next week announce whatever decision is made by the phone call meeting. that it was called by 4 members pursuant to bylaws. All part of being transparent.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 11:18 AM
To: Douglas Schuette; Richard M. Lobo; Bruce Sherman; David Ensor; Lynne Weil; Maryjean Buhler; Andre Mendes; Marie Lennon; Libby Liu; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Burma Meeting

is this where the call will be held? Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 10:31:49 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning,

Please join for a meeting on Burma in Dick's office 1:30pm tomorrow, Thursday, February 9th. This meeting will immediately precede the Governance Committee meeting that is scheduled to start at 2:00pm.

If you have any questions, please call me at (b) (6)

Thanks,
Douglas

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 12:02 PM
To: Oanh Tran; Maryjean Buhler; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FY 2012 Program Plan to Congress

is this coming to me in San Francisco? or Knoxville? is it not also going to ranking minority member as well in Senate and who gets it in the House?

Victor

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

From: Oanh Tran (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 8:57 am
Subject: FY 2012 Program Plan to Congress

Dear Governor Ashe,

Attached is a copy of the BBG's FY 2012 program plan that we sent to Chairman Leahy. The same letter was also sent to the appropriators and authorizers.

A hard copy will be included in the mailing to you via FedEx today.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks.

The briefing tomorrow was postponed on the suggestion of Leader Pelosi's staff due to a scheduling issue.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2012 5:18 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Subject: Hearing postponed or canceled

Lynne

can you tell me why the hearing tomorrow in Leader Pelosi's office was postponed or was it canceled? Was it at the request of BBG or Leader Pelosi?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2012 5:18 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Hearing postponed or canceled

Lynne

can you tell me why the hearing tomorrow in Leader Pelosi's office was postponed or was it canceled? Was it at the request of BBG or Leader Pelosi?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2012 7:37 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Briefing on Sept 26

Dear Lynne

I am writing to find out more about the briefing tomorrow on Sept 26 by BBG led by Susan McCue on the CEO legislation. Where will it be held? Was it requested by Congress and who? or an initiative of BBG?

Is it solely limited to CEO? although I assume persons can ask whatever they want. Who from BBG besides you, Suzie and Susan McCue will be going? I know Gov McCue will do an excellent job.

Do you anticipate consolidation will come up? For the record, you should note if asked that one Governor, Victor Ashe, is not favor of consolidation of the three entities. Depending on how the CEO selection process is formulated I may or may not support the creation of a new CEO as I stated Sept 13 at the Board meeting when I voted for it. That is separate in my view from consolidation (streamlining) of the three entities.

I also assume it will be primarily staffers in attendance due to the current national election campaign.

I look forward to your response and also receiving a report along with the Board as to what transpires tomorrow. When meetings like this are held, I would like to know about them instead of learning about it from the Hill.

Best wishes

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 10:26 PM
To: (b) (6); BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: VOA Beats NYT, CNN
Attachments: image001.png

congratulations...always good to get good news of success. Victor

In a message dated 9/24/2012 5:28:27 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Good news! The Online News Association announced VOA's Middle East Voices website as a winner in the 2012 Online Journalism Awards competition.

These awards honor excellence in digital journalism, and I'm proud that VOA's *Middle East Voices* has been recognized for its coverage of the Arab Spring in the awards category of "Topical Reporting, Large." We were up against tough competition in the category, including CNN, the *New York Times* and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Below is copy of our press release, which has more details.

Best,

David

David Ensor

Director

Voice of America

330 Independence Ave, SW

Washington DC 20237

(202) 203.4500

(b) (6)

VOA Website Wins Online News Association Award



2012 ONLINE JOURNALISM AWARD WINNER

HOME TRENDS PROJECTS PLACES ISSUES PODCASTS VIEWPOINTS ABOUT



SYRIA WITNESS: In Aleppo, Armenians Dodge Bullets From Both Sides

Armenians hide in basements and underground passages in Aleppo, Syria, reports that in the battle for Aleppo, long-time Christian communities are caught in the middle of a conflict that threatens to last years.



The World Reacts to Anti-Muslim Film
Probably not since the notorious Quran-burning calls by controversial Muslim pastor Terry Jones in 2010-2011 have relations been so tense.



QUICKTAK: "Userly Irresponsible" - Grand Mufti Cenk
Bogdan Stancu Stancu (Stenc) Cenk, in an exclusive interview with VOA's English Service, commented on the anti-American protests around the world.



INSIGHT: It's Not Just the Sparks That Caused This Fire in the Middle East
Precisely eleven years after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the question of U.S. relations with Islamic countries and more.



Middle East Voices website

Washington, D.C., September 24, 2012 -- *Middle East Voices*, a collaborative Voice of America social journalism project that combines traditional reporting, commentary, and the stories of people living through the Arab Spring, has been honored with a 2012 Online Journalism Award for "Topical Reporting."

The awards, which were announced Saturday at the 2012 Online News Association Conference in San Francisco, recognize excellence in digital journalism.

"The competition was very stiff, and we are so proud of what the small but dedicated team at *Middle East Voices* has been able to accomplish," VOA Director David Ensor said. "It is an excellent example of how VOA journalists are working with social media and online tools to tell stories in a meaningful way, and to help others share stories about the events that are shaping their lives," Ensor said.

Middle East Voices emphasizes audience input and engagement. The site features essays from leading thinkers and average citizens. During the final phase of the Egyptian presidential runoff election in June, radio and TV reports from Egypt were supplemented by live-tweeting from events and daily streams of stories and photos using Storify and Facebook to showcase events in real time.

"*Middle East Voices* has sought to tell the stories of the Arab Spring not simply through our own individual voices, but collaboratively, via those who are on the ground living the events," says web

reporter Cecily Hilleary. “Flickr, Facebook, and Twitter are simply a means for us to mine those voices.”

The other finalists in the “Topical Reporting, Large” site category were CNN, The New York Times and the Philadelphia Inquirer.

The finalists were selected by industry-leading journalists and digital media professionals. The winners were selected by a panel of judges at the University of Miami under the auspices of the School of Communication in Coral Gables, Florida.

For more information about this release contact Kyle King at the VOA Public Relations office in Washington at (202) 203-4959 or write to kking@voanews.com. Additional information can be found at the VOA Public Relations website at www.insidevoa.com, and at the main English language news site at www.voanews.com.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 7:53 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble;
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: record of decisions

thanks very much. See you this afternoon at 315. Victor Ashe

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

From: Paul Kollmer <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
<(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>
Sent: Wed, Sep 19, 2012 7:51 am
Subject: Re: record of decisions

Governor Ashe -- Your point is well-taken. The Board's agreement to adjourn the meeting and to pick up where it left off at the next meeting is procedural. It will be included in the meeting minutes. Thanks. PKD

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 6:34:21 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: record of decisions

Thanks for sending me and I assume the whole Board the proposed summary of the decisions made on Sept 13.

The record is less than normal due to inability of Board to complete the agenda outlined in 75 to 90 minutes. This is not meant to point fingers but to state the obvious. Hopefully this will not happen on October 11. We have now not had a serious report at the Board meeting level from entities or VOA, OCB and IBB since June 7. This is most unfortunate in my view. It makes us all look bad when we fail to complete the agenda.

However in this record of decisions, the final motion made at the meeting by me and adopted is missing. It was to postpone the unfinished agenda for Sept 13 to the October 11 meeting and to adjourn.

I request this motion duly adopted be added to the agenda published on the BBG web site. A review of the tape will reflect this.

Thanks

Victor ASHE

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 12:01 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Non disclosure

thanks for the good response.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/17/2012 9:00:09 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor, and thanks for pointing that out.

Should any news releases in the future mention the non-disclosure policy, your vote last week will be reflected accurately in them. Since I don't have an overview of agency correspondence, Jeff and Dick are copied on this note.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 5:53 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Non disclosure

Lynne

In light of my change of my vote from Yes to NO on the non disclosure policy adopted in Prague in June, I hope future correspondence and news releases will no longer indicate it was adopted unanimously. In other words the Board had a divided vote on it.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 10:39 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: difference between addendum and Media Highlights

Lynne

My records reflect you never answered this email. I look forward to a reply this month.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
To: (b) (6)
Sent: 5/7/2012 4:54:40 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: difference between addendum and Media Highlights

Lynn

Recently after I get the BBG Media Highlights which I assume goes to a large list of folks, I have received both today and Friday an addendum which contains just one news item.

My question is this...is there a different list which receives the addendum from the BBG Media highlights? or is the recipient list the same? If different why?

Second, would you send me a list of those persons receiving the Media Highlights..that is, the email addresses on the Media Highlights list? I assume it is public record.

Thanks

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 8:53 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

thank you much...Best Victor

In a message dated 9/16/2012 8:44:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I will copy you on the response tomorrow. Drafted but not yet sent.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 16, 2012, at 8:26 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Have you responded to this? If so I would like to see a copy of it?

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6),
(b) (6), vhashe@aol.com, (b) (6),
(b) (6), (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 9/12/2012 5:18:46 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Thanks for your interest, Trey.

Am looping in David Ensor. Also cc-ing VOA's (b) (6) and
(b) (6) successor, (b) (6).

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:55 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6);
vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Hey team BBG. I just wanted to circle back re: the concerns many on Capitol Hill have with VOA and which was personified with (b) (6)'s alleged comments to (b) (6)—that he doesn't say enough positive things about the UN. As we see with the VOA article copied below, VOA (again) is passing along press releases as "news" without any real journalistic analysis or pushback

or perspective on UNCTAD cheerleading for fiscal cliff-diving, centralizing control of economies, and other attacks on economic liberty. ☹

UN Says Austerity Measures Will Not Fix World Economy

<http://www.voanews.com/content/un-world-growth-austerity/1506692.html>

Lisa Schlein

September 12, 2012

GENEVA — A new United Nations report warns fiscal austerity measures have not - and will not - lead to global economic growth.

For Heiner Flassbeck, Director of UNCTAD's Division on Globalization and Development Strategies, the debate over austerity versus stimulus is over.

"Stop austerity," he said.

Flassbeck says austerity is clearly the wrong way to go. He notes private companies in Europe, Japan and the United States are saving their money and not spending because they fear the future economic outlook will continue to be bad.

"They have no expectation that their income will rise. So, if everybody saves and the government says we are doing austerity so we are going to be savers also. So, what is going to happen? The result is very simple, the economy will collapse. The only way out of the slump and to avoid a recession is more stimulus. If we do not get incentives for investment, if we do not get stimulus for investment and if we do not get better conditions for consumption, and if governments are going on with austerity, the situation can only deteriorate," Flassbeck said.

An UNCTAD report warns growth is slowing in all regions of the world. Global growth fell from more than 4 percent in 2010 to 2.7 percent last year. And UNCTAD expects a further decline to below 2.5 percent in 2012.

The report says economic expansion in developing and transition economies is expected to grow by 5 and 4 percent respectively in 2012. Although this is stronger than in the advanced economies, it notes those growth rates are also slower than previous years.

UNCTAD economists explain developing countries are doing better because they are less dependent on the large economies than they used to be, and they have more resilient domestic demand.

The report criticizes governments for following wage-compression policies. Flassbeck says the data show lowering people's wages has done nothing to bring down the rates of unemployment. He says governments must reverse these policies.

"Only the government can overcome this situation where the market gives the wrong signal. Markets give the wrong signal that wages should fall further. But, if wages should fall further, you can be sure that consumption will be falling. When consumption falls, investment falls and then growth falls," Flassbeck said.

UNCTAD economists predict there will be no significant recovery from the recession

until low-and middle-income groups earn enough money to spend on consumption. They argue that reducing the widening gap in wealth and income is not only fair, it also has social benefits and will lead to higher economic growth.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 8:26 PM
To: David Ensor; Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Have you responded to this? If so I would like to see a copy of it?

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6),
vhashe@aol.com, (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 9/12/2012 5:18:46 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Thanks for your interest, Trey.

Am looping in David Ensor. Also cc-ing VOA's (b) (6) and (b) (6)'s successor, (b) (6) (b) (6)

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Hicks, Trey (HSGAC) (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:55 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Dana Perino; (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn)
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Hey team BBG. I just wanted to circle back re: the concerns many on Capitol Hill have with VOA and which was personified with (b) (6)'s alleged comments to (b) (6) that he doesn't say enough positive things about the UN. As we see with the VOA article copied below, VOA (again) is passing along press releases as "news" without any real journalistic analysis or pushback or perspective on UNCTAD cheerleading for fiscal cliff-diving, centralizing control of economies, and other attacks on economic liberty. ☹

UN Says Austerity Measures Will Not Fix World Economy

<http://www.voanews.com/content/un-world-growth-austerity/1506692.html>

Lisa Schlein

September 12, 2012

GENEVA — A new United Nations report warns fiscal austerity measures have not - and will not - lead to global economic growth.

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"Stop austerity," he said.

Flassbeck says austerity is clearly the wrong way to go. He notes private companies in Europe, Japan and the United States are saving their money and not spending because they fear the future economic outlook will continue to be bad.

"They have no expectation that their income will rise. So, if everybody saves and the government says we are doing austerity so we are going to be savers also. So, what is going to happen? The result is very simple, the economy will collapse. The only way out of the slump and to avoid a recession is more stimulus. If we do not get incentives for investment, if we do not get stimulus for investment and if we do not get better conditions for consumption, and if governments are going on with austerity, the situation can only deteriorate," Flassbeck said.

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The report criticizes governments for following wage-compression policies. Flassbeck says the data show lowering people's wages has done nothing to bring down the rates of unemployment. He says governments must reverse these policies.

"Only the government can overcome this situation where the market gives the wrong signal. Markets give the wrong signal that wages should fall further. But, if wages should fall further, you can be sure that consumption will be falling. When consumption falls, investment falls and then growth falls," Flassbeck said.

UNCTAD economists predict there will be no significant recovery from the recession until low-and middle-income groups earn enough money to spend on consumption. They argue that reducing the widening gap in wealth and income is not only fair, it also has social benefits and will lead to higher economic growth.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 8:25 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Letter from Rep. Royce RE Parazit
Attachments: RoyceLetteronParazit8-2012.pdf

who is writing the response to this and who is suppose to sign it? Board or Ensor or who?

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Sent: 9/12/2012 7:00:03 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Letter from Rep. Royce RE Parazit

Dear Governors,

Attached is an inquiry from Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA) regarding the status of Parazit. Although the letter is dated August 7, we have just received it; a response is being drafted -- first via VOA.

We will seek Board review of the response before it is sent.

Regards,

(b)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 5:53 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Non disclosure

Lynne

In light of my change of my vote from Yes to NO on the non disclosure policy adopted in Prague in June, I hope future correspondence and news releases will no longer indicate it was adopted unanimously. In other words the Board had a divided vote on it.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:29 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: please call

I am getting several calls on recent BBG Board meeting which I need to share with you. Please call a (b) (6).

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:59 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: prepared remarks

I wonder who writes the remarks that the chair or presiding Governor gives at each BBG Board meeting. Lynne, is it done by your office or another office?

The phrase relate to the tragic murder of Ambassador Chris Stevens where it was termed a 'passing' seems more like a phrase one would use for one's grandparent as opposed to this situation where the diplomat was murdered in the line of duty.

Does anyone read these things over in advance to do a quality check? I thought it was embarrassing for Gov Mulhaupt but also embarrassing for the whole Board which was the reason I spoke up immediately following that statement. I assume since the switch of Governors presiding occurred at the last minute between Lynton and Mulhaupt that Gov Mulhaupt had not had an opportunity to read the prepared script in advance.

I would like to know which offices prepares these remarks. Please advise. What can be done in the future to prevent an unfortunate repeat like this so our communications effort is not compromised.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 4:36 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: email for new Susan Andross

and can you send me her direct phone number at Cohen?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/14/2012 12:27:34 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor –

With this message, you now have the e-mail address for (b) (6), our new Congressional Coordinator. Unfortunately, there was no opportunity to introduce (b) (6) formally to the full Board during a meeting due to the press of events during the day. However, she did have the chance to meet some of your fellow Governors individually.

(b) (6) meet Governor Ashe.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:45 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: email for new (b) (6)

What is the email for (b) (6) replacement? It would be nice if a time was made for her to meet each of the Governors or those who wish to meet her.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:42 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); Dana Perino
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Congressional update: Vietnam programming and conference travel bills

Does BBG have a position on this? How much work for BBG and RFA would be required if enacted?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6) v>
To: (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Sep 12, 2012 11:17 am

Subject: Congressional update: Vietnam programming and conference travel bills

Governors,

Below please find a message on two House-passed pieces of legislation from (b) (6), the agency's new congressional coordinator. We will follow the same system established with (b) (6)'s predecessor, (b) (6). You'll hear about key developments on the Hill from both of us, and can safely assume that if a message comes from (b) (6), I've seen or heard about it from her first.

Please note that both of these bills were adopted by voice vote, and that the reference to BBG action on programming to Vietnam is phrased as the "sense of the Congress." Should H.R. 1410 become law, we will work with the State Department on the required report.

(b) (6) thanks for tracking these two pieces of legislation, and for your quick analytical work. We can all look forward to your more-than-virtual introduction to the Board tomorrow.

Lynne

Last night, by a voice vote, the House passed an amended measure ([HR 1410](#)) to cap most future U.S. aid to Vietnam at fiscal 2011 levels until the government in Hanoi has made "substantial progress" in respecting religious freedom, property rights and human rights. The proposal includes exceptions for humanitarian assistance and aid designed to promote the rule of law, human rights and certain exchange programs.

HR 1410 includes a reference to the BBG and a few references to Radio Free Asia. It also requires an annual report from State that should include "efforts by the United States Government to promote access by the Vietnamese people to Radio Free Asia transmissions."

FROM HR 1410:

SEC. 4. UNITED STATES PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.

(a) Radio Free Asia Transmissions to Vietnam.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should take measures to overcome the jamming of Radio Free Asia by the Government of Vietnam and that the Broadcasting Board of Governors should not cut staffing, funding, or broadcast hours for the Vietnamese language services of the Voice of America and Radio Free Asia, which shall be done without reducing any other broadcast language services.

SEC. 5. ANNUAL REPORT.

(a) In General.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act and every 12 months thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Congress a report on the following:

(1) The determination and certification of the President that the requirements of subparagraphs (A) through (G) of section 3(a)(2) have been met, if applicable.

(2) Steps taken to carry out section 3(a)(1)(A), if applicable.

(3) Efforts by the United States Government to promote access by the Vietnamese people to Radio Free Asia transmissions.

Also yesterday, the House passed HR 463 by voice vote. The bill limits federal agency spending on conference travel each year through fiscal 2017 to 70 percent of the amount an agency spent in fiscal 2010 and prohibits agencies from spending more than \$500,000 to support a single conference without a "compelling purpose."

Agencies would be barred from paying the travel expenses to international conferences for more than 50 U.S.-based agency employees unless the State Department determines that attendance is in the national interest. Furthermore, agencies would be required to publish quarterly reports online detailing conferences attended by employees and their costs.

HR 4631 and Senator Coburn's amendment (SA 2060) both limit per conference spending to \$500K and cap the total number of employees traveling to international conferences at 50. However, HR 4631 would limit agency conference spending to 70 percent of 2010 levels, whereas Senator Coburn's amendment would reduce agency conference spending to 80 percent of 2010 levels.

A PDF of the bill text is attached.

(b) (6)

Congressional Coordinator
Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 3360
Washington, DC 20237

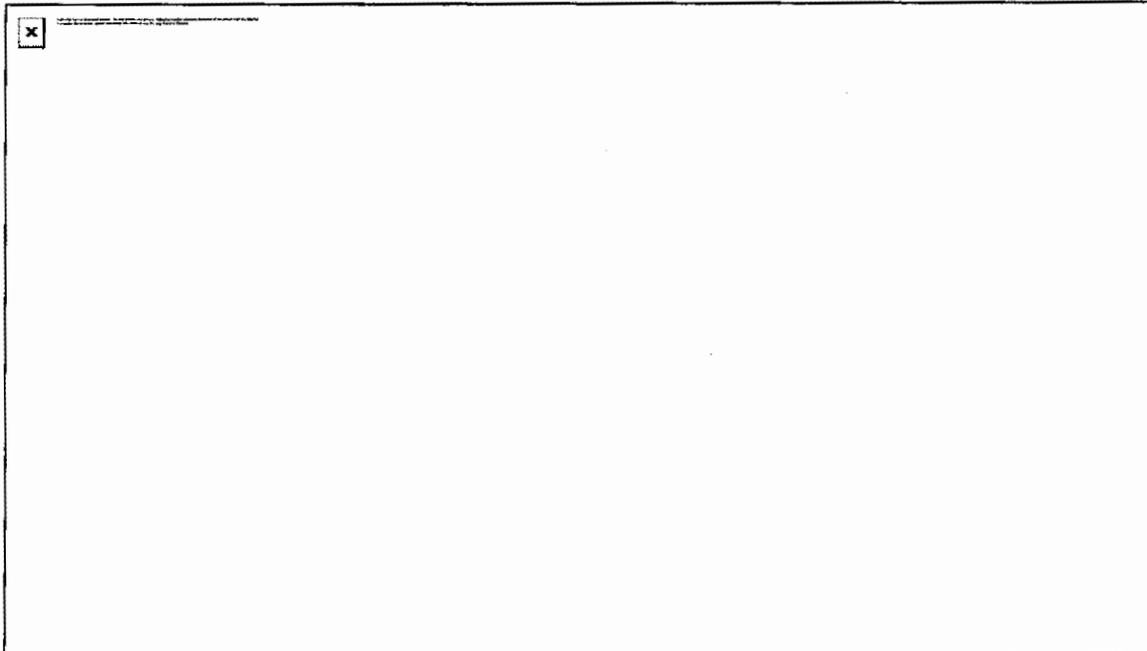
Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:47 PM
To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: EVENT: New Russian Laws – Tightening the Noose on Free Speech?

great..this should go on BBG web site if it is not already there. Victor Ashe

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

From: Letitia M. King <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Sep 12, 2012 4:27 pm
Subject: EVENT: New Russian Laws – Tightening the Noose on Free Speech?



Thank you to all who have RSVPed for our panel discussion next week on new Russian media laws. We look forward to seeing you there as we discuss the new laws and their implications. For those who have not yet RSVPed, we hope to see you at the event as well:

The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) invites you to a roundtable discussion, **New Russian Laws – Tightening the Noose on Free Speech?**

During the summer of 2012, the Russian parliament passed and President Putin signed a series of laws that will raise fines on protesters, impose limits on the Internet, make slander a criminal offense, and require nongovernmental organizations that get funding from abroad to register as foreign agents.

How repressive are these new Russian laws? What will be the rules of engagement for minority voices, human rights and civil rights activists? To what extent do these laws put at risk the work of international organizations including USAID, WHO, Amnesty International and Transparency International? What are the implications of these new political realities on U.S. relations with Russia?

Join the discussion.

Date: September 19, 2012

Time: 10:45 A.M.—12:00 P.M.

11 A.M -- 12:00 P.M Panel Discussion.

(Photo ID required for check-in.)

Location:

Broadcasting Board of Governors Headquarters
VOA Briefing Room (#1528A)
330 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20237

Moderator: **Jeffrey Trimble**, Deputy Director, International Broadcasting Bureau

Panelists:

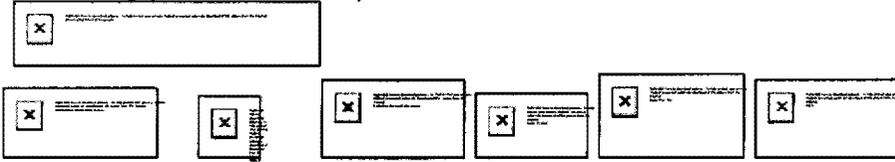
- **Susan Corke**, Director of Eurasia Programs, Freedom House
- **Vladimir Kara-Murza**, Russian journalist, historian and politician
- **Miriam Lanskoj**, Director for Russia and Eurasia, National Endowment for Democracy
- **David Satter**, Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute and Foreign Policy Institute Fellow, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies

Registration: While there is no cost to attend, registration is required. Please RSVP at <http://bbgnewrussianlawspanel.eventbrite.com/>

For more information, please call the BBG's Office of Public Affairs at (202) 203-4400 or email pubaff@bbg.gov.

*(Please use Independence Avenue Entrance)
2 blocks from Federal Center Southwest Metro (Blue & Orange lines)
3 blks. from L'Enfant Plaza Metro/Exit 7th St. and Maryland Ave., S.W.
(Yellow, Green, Blue, Orange lines)*

The Broadcasting Board of Governors is an independent federal agency, supervising all U.S. government-supported, civilian international broadcasting, whose mission is to inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy. BBG broadcasts reach an audience of 187 million in 100 countries. BBG broadcasting organizations include the Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa), Radio Free Asia, and the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (Radio and TV Marti).



Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:36 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Minutes of BBG Meeting from September 13 and follow up

Dear Mr Kollmer

(b) (5)



Best wishes for a restful weekend.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:44 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Public attendance at tomorrow's open meeting

this is good. Victor Ashe
-----Original Message-----

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Sep 12, 2012 7:36 pm
Subject: Public attendance at tomorrow's open meeting

Governors,

Seven members of the general public and a congressional staff member have signed up to attend tomorrow's open meeting. Seats have been reserved for them.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:06 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

this is becoming very embarrassing and a story which will not go away. Lynne, you and David need to get a handle on this along with David Ensor. Is this opn the agenda for discussion tomorrow?

(b) (6) I can assure you the Board seldom knows about these matters until someone like you alerts us. Thanks for keeping us informed.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <lweil@bbg.gov>
To: (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Sep 12, 2012 2:18 pm
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Thanks for your interest, (b) (6)
Am looping in David Ensor. Also cc-ing VOA's (b) (6) y and (b) (6)'s successor (b) (6).
Best regards,
Lynne

From: Hicks, Trey (HSGAC) (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:55 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Dana Perino; (b) (6)
Cc: Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn)
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Hey team BBG. I just wanted to circle back re: the concerns many on Capitol Hill have with VOA and which was personified with (b) (6) alleged comments to (b) (6) that he doesn't say enough positive things about the UN. As we see with the VOA article copied below, VOA (again) is passing along press releases as "news" without any real journalistic analysis or pushback or perspective on UNCTAD cheerleading for fiscal cliff-diving, centralizing control of economies, and other attacks on economic liberty. ☹

UN Says Austerity Measures Will Not Fix World Economy

<http://www.voanews.com/content/un-world-growth-austerity/1506692.html>

Lisa Schlein
September 12, 2012

GENEVA — A new United Nations report warns fiscal austerity measures have not - and will not - lead to global economic growth.

For Heiner Flassbeck, Director of UNCTAD's Division on Globalization and Development Strategies, the debate over austerity versus stimulus is over.

"Stop austerity," he said.

Flassbeck says austerity is clearly the wrong way to go. He notes private companies in Europe, Japan and the United States are saving their money and not spending because they fear the future economic outlook will continue to be bad.

"They have no expectation that their income will rise. So, if everybody saves and the government says we are doing austerity so we are going to be savers also. So, what is going to happen? The result is very simple, the economy will collapse. The only way out of the slump and to avoid a recession is more stimulus. If we do not get incentives for investment, if we do not get stimulus for investment and if we do not get better conditions for consumption, and if governments are going on with austerity, the situation can only deteriorate," Flassbeck said.

An UNCTAD report warns growth is slowing in all regions of the world. Global growth fell from more than 4 percent in 2010 to 2.7 percent last year. And UNCTAD expects a further decline to below 2.5 percent in 2012.

The report says economic expansion in developing and transition economies is expected to grow by 5 and 4 percent respectively in 2012. Although this is stronger than in the advanced economies, it notes those growth rates are also slower than previous years.

UNCTAD economists explain developing countries are doing better because they are less dependent on the large economies than they used to be, and they have more resilient domestic demand.

The report criticizes governments for following wage-compression policies. Flassbeck says the data show lowering people's wages has done nothing to bring down the rates of unemployment. He says governments must reverse these policies.

"Only the government can overcome this situation where the market gives the wrong signal. Markets give the wrong signal that wages should fall further. But, if wages should fall further, you can be sure that consumption will be falling. When consumption falls, investment falls and then growth falls," Flassbeck said.

UNCTAD economists predict there will be no significant recovery from the recession until low-and middle-income groups earn enough money to spend on consumption. They argue that reducing the widening gap in wealth and income is not only fair, it also has social benefits and will lead to higher economic growth.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 12:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: should cancel meeting with Sec. Clinton

I only said we should offer to cancel it...it is Secretary's decision. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/12/2012 10:00:21 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Date: Wed, Sep 12, 2012 at 9:52 AM
Subject: RE: should cancel meeting with Sec. Clinton
To: "c (b) (6)" <(b) (6)>, Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>, "Richard M. Lobo" <(b) (6)>

Got it, thank you.

Lynne

From: Cullin, Brian P [(b) (6)]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:49 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: Fw: should cancel meeting with Sec. Clinton

Would appreciate you passing on this word. Thanks BC

From: Sonenshine, Tara D
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:43 AM
To: Cullin, Brian P
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: FW: should cancel meeting with Sec. Clinton

The BBG meeting should ONLY be cancelled IF the Secretary cancels it.

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:30 AM
To: Michael Lynton; Victor H. Ashe
Cc: Richard Lobo; Jeff Trimble; Dennis Mulhaupt; Michael Meehan; Sonenshine, Tara D [REDACTED] (b) (6); Lynne Weil; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Re: should cancel meeting with Sec. Clinton

Agree

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

From: "Lynton, Michael" [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Date: Wed, 12 Sep 2012 06:18:15 -0700
To: <Vhashe@aol.com> <Vhashe@aol.com> <Vhashe@aol.com>

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Subject: Re: should cancel meeting with Sec. Clinton

I think this is right.

On Sep 12, 2012, at 5:13 AM, <Vhashe@aol.com> <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

It seems to me BBG should offer to cancel the meeting with the Secretary of State tomorrow given the tragic circumstances of the murder of our Ambassador in Libya.

Sec. Clinton has much more important issues today than BBG. We should adopt a resolution of sympathy and regret also in memory of our Ambassador and other lost American lives.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:40 AM
To: Lynne Weil;(b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble;(b) (6);
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: News from Libya

I assume it could and will cancel the meeting and understandably so. As a former Ambassador myself, I certainly relate very personally as I know we all do regardless of past experiences. Sec Clinton needs to deal with this far more than seeing us. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/12/2012 7:36:50 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

The losses of life from yesterday's demonstration in Benghazi, Libya, include U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three U.S. citizens.

We are in touch with Under Secretary Sonenshine's office and will keep you apprised as to how the news may affect your meeting with Secretary Clinton.

We are also preparing a news release.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 10:22 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: notice

great look forward to seeing what goes up. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/11/2012 8:29:27 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor --

Got the message in last evening's phone call, as well as the two subsequent e-mails.

The BBG PA team is on it this morning.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 10:00:48 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: notice

Lynne

As I mentioned today I am concerned and hopeful a correction can occur soon that the Sept 13 governance committee meeting is not listed on the BBG web site. Also the closed budget meeting is not listed as was done back on August 17.

I think we need to be more open in the meetings scheduled for Sept 13. We have always listed these committee meetings at least the ones I am on in the past.

Also I renew my suggestion that the meeting with Sec Clinton be listed as it is a significant event.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 6:35 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Sec. Clinton

Just reporting that I suggested to Lynne Weil that the upcoming meeting with Sec Clinton be posted on the BBG web site as it a laudable event and only the second one in the history of BBG with the Secretary of State and both have occurred with this current Board.

I do not know whether this will be done or not but I wanted to share my suggestion with Governors.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 5:40 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Dana Perino; (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine;
(b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Streamlining/consolidation vote

Since Congress did not agree to pass the CEO legislation this year, are we free to make changes? What are our limits? Must we submit any changes to OMB?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/10/2012 5:08:49 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe – As copy of the CEO legislation cleared by OMB and submitted by BBG to Congress earlier this year is behind Tab 1 in the Governance Committee briefing book. It is also attached hereto for your convenience. Thanks. PKD

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 2:57 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: Streamlining/consolidation vote

is there draft legislation on the CEO proposal which we can review prior to the meeting on Thursday morning?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/10/2012 2:56:24 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, s (b) (6) writes:

I'm good with that Dennis, thanks.

It makes sense politically and gives all governors ample time for additional review.

I agree, we should move to vote on a CEO for all of USIB this week.

All best,

Susan

On Sep 10, 2012, at 10:29 AM, Dennis Mulhaupt wrote:

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 09, 2012 7:07 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG September Meeting Materials

It will require a vote to hold a closed meeting. That should be noted. What is the agenda for the closed meeting? Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: BBG Board Group (b) (6) >
Cc: BBG Group Aides <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; (b) (6)
IBB Staff <(b) (6)>

Sent: Sat, Sep 8, 2012 10:27 pm
Subject: BBG September Meeting Materials

Dear Governors,

Attached please find an agenda for next week's BBG meetings on Thursday, briefing materials, minutes and entity monthly reports. I will send materials for the RFE/RL corporate meeting in a separate email.

The Governance Committee will meet on Thursday, September 13, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Also on Thursday, your meeting with Secretary Clinton is confirmed for 11:15 a.m. Transportation will be arranged to take you to and from the State Department.

Details on other BBG-related meetings throughout the day are in the attached agenda.

Following a brief closed meeting to further consider the FY 2014 budget submission, the Board will move into the open meeting which is currently scheduled for 4:45 p.m.

Briefing books for the Committee and Board meetings have been sent by FedEx to your home or office.

See you Thursday.

Regards,

(b) (6)

List of attached materials:

Meeting Agenda

Tab 1 Biographies of OIG Inspection Team

Tab 2 Draft Minutes of June 7, 2012 Meeting

Tab 3 MBN Monthly Report

Tab 4 OCB Monthly Report

Tab 5 VOA Monthly Report

Tab 6 RFA Monthly Report

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 08, 2012 6:10 PM
To: Dana Perino; Lynne Weil
Cc: Letitia King; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

I believe in full information as soon as BBG knows it. Sorry we differ. In this case there is a clear effort to adopt the consolidation of the three entities and the CEO proposal which Congress ignored at the upcoming meeting. Why else is BBG being asked to vote on something three hours after governance committee considers it?

I feel transparency is taking a back seat to other goals. Have a great weekend. Folks in Knoxville really like your work on Fox.

The communications committee was not consulted when this release was drafted so why the consultation now except to avoid dealing with it?

Best

Victor

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

From: Dana Perino <(b) (6)>
To: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; susan <(b) (6)>
Sent: Sat, Sep 8, 2012 5:44 pm
Subject: Re: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

i don't think we need to revise anything - i'd just update with one on wednesday, the day before, to drive more attention (to the few people who even see these things).

Dana Perino
(b) (6)

On Sep 8, 2012, at 5:16 PM, Lynne Weil wrote:

Hello, Victor --

Am adding Susan and Dana so that the entire Communications Committee will be aware of your concerns.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 08, 2012 5:07:26 PM

To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

this notice is very misleading. I really feel it merits revision. For example, the agenda I have for the public meeting states that the Board may vote on consolidation of the entities which you call streamlining. That is a whole lot different from simply receiving a report. As for the resolutions on anniversaries why are no specific names and years mentioned? This is usually given to me and I have heard not one word on this. I do not have a clue what I am being asked to do on this subject. Perhaps someone else is now doing it,

I urge a revised news release

Victor Ashe

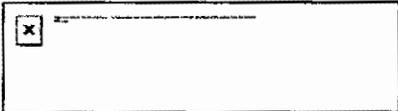
-----Original Message-----

From: Letitia King <pubaff@bbg.gov>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

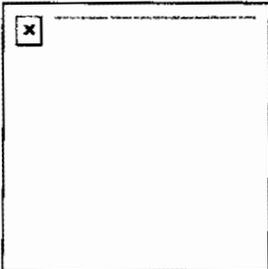
Sent: Sat, Sep 8, 2012 12:48 pm

Subject: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors



Saturday, September 8,
2012

September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors



Washington, D.C. — The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) will meet on Thursday, September 13 at BBG headquarters in Washington, D.C. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 4:45 p.m.

The Board will receive budget and distribution/technology initiatives updates, receive and consider a progress report from the Strategy and Budget Committee, receive recommendations from the Governance Committee regarding grantee administrative streamlining and hear reports from the director of the International Broadcasting Bureau and other BBG broadcast executives regarding agency activities and programming initiatives.

The BBG will also recognize the anniversaries of broadcast language services and consider resolutions honoring employees for their service.

The public may attend this meeting as seating capacity allows. Members of the public wishing to attend in person must register at

<http://bbgboardmeetingsept2012.eventbrite.com> by 10:00 a.m. on September 12. This meeting will also be available for public observation via streamed webcast, both live and on-demand, at www.bbg.gov.

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If you have questions about this E-mail newsletter send us an e-mail.

BBG | 330 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20237

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 08, 2012 7:29 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Letitia King
Subject: In the Loop

David and Lynne

I respectfully ask for an explanation of what happened to cause the recent item in the Loop about urging VOA employees to use their personal accounts to pass on VOA information.

This seems most unusual at first glance. I am sure the Board will be interested. Also it should be included in the news items which BBG sends out regularly even though it is not positive for VOA or BBG.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2012 5:07 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Interview request for you today

who actually called so I can speak to the person? also need phone number.

Victor Ashe

--- Original Message ---

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Aug 31, 2012 10:55 am
Subject: Interview request for you today

Good morning, Victor –

FOX Business has requested an interview with you concerning the Gallup contract; the producer has read the item that Helle Dale had on her Heritage blog yesterday. The program host wants to do a live, in-studio interview with you for up to five minutes sometime between 5:15 and 5:40, with a pre-interview sometime between noon and 3.

Would you like to accept this request – and if so, would you like assistance with logistics from this office?

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2012 5:00 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Interview request for you today

If they are interested I am happy to do an interview. Please give him my e mail and phone number for them to call me direct. Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Aug 31, 2012 2:38 pm
Subject: RE: Interview request for you today

Victor,

The producer called back to say they've laid out today's show and no longer have time to prepare for this segment. They may be interested in revisiting the subject next week, and will let us know.

Have a wonderful holiday weekend,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2012 10:55 AM
To: 'Vhashe@aol.com'
Subject: Interview request for you today

Good morning, Victor –

FOX Business has requested an interview with you concerning the Gallup contract; the producer has read the item that Helle Dale had on her Heritage blog yesterday. The program host wants to do a live, in-studio interview with you for up to five minutes sometime between 5:15 and 5:40, with a pre-interview sometime between noon and 3.

Would you like to accept this request – and if so, would you like assistance with logistics from this office?

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2012 3:13 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Update: Today's Teleconference - IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

Governor Lynton is handling communications here. Go ahead with your work...no rush on other for now.

Victor Ashe

---- Original Message ----

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; (b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Sep 3, 2012 3:00 pm
Subject: RE: Update: Today's Teleconference - IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

Dear Governors Ashe and Lynton:

We are planning to hold another International Broadcasting Innovation Act (IBIA) working group meeting next week (the week of September 10). Following up on my August 8 email, any guidance that you would like to share with us on the Board-CEO relationship would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks. PKD

From: Paul Kollmer
Sent: Wednesday, August 08, 2012 3:29 PM
To: (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Update: Today's Teleconference - IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

Dear Michael and Victor:

I hope that all is going well.

I am following up on the discussion during the July 31 teleconference.

We are wondering if you have had a chance to speak off line about the Board-CEO relationship and whether you wish to provide any guidance to us at this time.

Thanks. PKD

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2012 2:39 PM
To: (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Update: Today's Teleconference - IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

Dear Governors,

We will be able to connect all Governors by phone for today's IBIA briefing at 5:30 p.m. EDT.

At around 5:25 p.m. EDT, we will call out to the Governors at their home, office or cell.

Should you experience any problems during the call, please call (b) (6) at (b) (6) for assistance.

Thank you.

From: Oanh Tran

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 2:43 PM

To: (b) (6); (b) (6); Vhashe@aol.com

Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

Dear Governors,

The Board decided in January 2012 to pursue legislation for an International Broadcasting Innovation Act that would streamline U.S. international broadcasting and instructed IBB Director Dick Lobo to consult Governors Lynton and Ashe in developing a model to define the appropriate roles for the Board and CEO.

This is to confirm a briefing by phone next Tuesday, July 31, at 5:30 p.m. EDT. Governors Lynton, Ashe and McCue will participate by phone.

In the coming days, we will send a call-in number for the teleconference and materials, if any, in advance of the call.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2012 9:40 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: (b) (6) and her successor

I agree that they are completely separate to my knowledge. Victor

In a message dated 8/28/2012 9:37:21 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Yes, that was in the news last week. To my knowledge, there was no link between his decision and (b) (6).

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2012 9:33:42 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: (b) (6) and her successor

thanks I am told the current Peace Corps Director has now resigned. Victor

In a message dated 8/28/2012 9:24:41 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor.

(b) (6) currently makes \$ (b) (6). (b) (6)'s rate of pay has been set at \$ (b) (6).

And here's more complete biographical info about (b) (6) (b) (6)

[Redacted]

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Let me know if you have further questions.

Best regards,

Lynne

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

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 10:19 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Subject: Re: (b) (6) and her successor

Understood, and thanks for clarifying.

(b) (6) salary will be lower than (b) (6) I'm asking H.R. to confirm the figures first thing in the morning to ensure their accuracy before I send them to you.

Will also send you more complete info on her background. But no, (b) (6) has not been a Hill staffer.

Appreciate your note re: the Web posting.

Have a good night,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 8:23:40 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: RE: (b) (6) and her successor

Thanks for the prompt response. What is the actual annual pay for GS 14? Not being part of the permanent federal work force such descriptions do not tell me the actual pay. Also I know that within GS 15 and GS 14 are different pay ranges. I want to know (b) (6) exact pay on departure and what (b) (6) actual is that she will receive as opposed to GS number. I also look forward to a bio on (b) (6). Does she have actual congressional experience working in a Hill office as you have?

Thanks much. Thanks for changing the description of agenda for strategy and budget meeting tomorrow to be more informative.

Victor

-----Original Message-----
From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Aug 27, 2012 7:37 pm
Subject: RE: (b) (6) and her successor

Good evening, Victor --

Thanks for your interest in this matter.

We'd be glad to prepare a resolution honoring (b) (6) for the Board's consideration.

(b) (6) applied through an open, competitive process via a public advertisement. Several finalists were interviewed; I interviewed the top three along with Dick Lobo and Jeff Trimble, who approved my choice of (b) (6). The Communications Committee was kept apprised each step of the way, and said they trusted my pick.

(b) (6) is a GS-15; (b) (6) is being hired as a GS-14.

I am unaware of any arrangements involving (b) (6) after this week.

Lynne

-----Original Message-----
From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 6:08 PM
To: Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: (b) (6) and her successor

I assume there will be a resolution honoring (b) (6) at the Sept 12 BBG board meeting. If not, I request it.

I look forward to getting a bio on (b) (6). Was her hiring the result of public advertising where all could apply? How many people were in the final mix before she was chosen? Was the decision yours or your recommendation approved by the Communications committee or someone else?

What is her pay and is that more, less or the same as (b) (6) was making? Is it true that (b) (6) has been offered a consulting contract with BBG? After the end of this month?

Look forward to these questions being answered.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; Dana Perino <(b) (6)>; Tara Sonenshine <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>; (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Aug 27, 2012 5:53 pm
Subject: (b) (6) and her successor

Governors, On Thursday we'll say farewell to (b) (6) with -- by her request -- a small gathering in the late afternoon. She will receive a Career Achievement Award, a certificate marking more than 35 years of public service, a gift, and personal tributes. The festivities will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. If you'd like to send something to be read aloud, please do. We can also prepare a resolution for your next Board meeting if you'd like us to do so. (b) (6) successor, (b) (6) has just completed her service as the deputy director of congressional relations at the (b) (6). A member of the agency's senior staff, (b) (6) was responsible for developing and implementing agency legislative strategy, and her duties ran the gamut from answering minor requests for info from the Hill to drafting talking points for agency meetings with members of Congress to advocating personally for (b) (6) programs. She also managed preparation for the confirmation hearings of the agency's Director and Deputy Director. Information about (b) (6) will be sent to colleagues when she starts next Tuesday. Best regards, Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 5:34 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); Bruce Sherman;
Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

I think it is relevant to see the actual lawsuit or a summary of it. What does DOJ recommend to BBG? Also what steps are being taken to assure that the BBG contract does not suffer from the charges filed in federal court? Should we be doing business with this entity which has a major lawsuit against it for fraud by another federal agency? What is proper procedure here? What steps should the Board take to meet its fiduciary responsibility? If we continue with Gallup but Gallup is later held liable in the current charges against it, are we as Board members liable for not having suspended or canceled the contract? I am deeply concerned about this and feel we should disengage and seek research elsewhere.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/23/2012 6:04:28 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

We have added discussion of the Gallup situation to the agenda for next Tuesday's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting, and we're gathering information as quickly as possible ahead of that session in order to be able to answer your questions and recommend possible actions.

We were in contact today with DoJ and will remain so as the investigation and case develop. We also have spoken with Gallup and are arranging a meeting with them to discuss the situation and our contract.

Regards,
Jeff

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 8:15 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

We need to be briefed on what Gallup says about this, perhaps they will have someone at the meeting...what does DOJ say as well as State which may be being ripped off according to the lawsuit. We all need to know fully what is happening here. What safeguards exist in the current BBG contract with Gallup to protect BBG if wrongdoing is proven? The problem here is that the lawsuit may take 3 years to be resolved by which time the current contract has ended but BBG may not have received an honest accounting of what the taxpayers are paying for in this.

This lawsuit clearly places a cloud over it all.

When Justice joins a whistleblower suit, there must be a lot going on there and is this issue company wide at Gallup?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble <jtrimble@bbg.gov>
To: (b) (6)
Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

<(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Aug 23, 2012 6:45 am

Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

Will do.

rgds

jeff

On Aug 22, 2012, at 9:51 PM, "Michael Meehan" <(b) (6)> wrote:

> please add to the S and B agenda this Gallup issue and have the appropriate staff who handles our polling contract available to discuss this matter.

>

> thank you,

>

> Michael

>

> Michael P. Meehan CEO

> VennSquared Communications

> Washington Silicon Valley

>

> From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]

> Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 7:09 PM

> To: (b) (6); Michael Meehan; (b) (6);

(b) (6); (b) (6); s (b) (6); c (b) (6) m;

(b) (6); (b) (6)

> Subject: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

>

> In light of the news a few hours ago that DOJ has joined the whistleblower lawsuit against Gallup over false polling, I am urging this issue be added to strategy and budget meeting this Tuesday. We need to pull out of this contract and take our business elsewhere.

>

> We should not hang around spending \$8 million plus a year with Gallup hoping the lawsuit fails. BBG could be embarrassed and we ought to remove ourselves from this ASAP.

>

> I am not faulting anyone for this but rather given developments we should act prudently and quickly.

>

> Victor Ashe

>

>

>

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 5:56 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Letitia King;
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

thanks much Victor

In a message dated 8/24/2012 5:52:48 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Will do.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 5:51:22 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Letitia King;
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

Monday August 27 works for me. I am sure Ensor is securing costs for me too for VOA?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/24/2012 5:48:51 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I will. Can we provide them on Monday? My CFO is gone for the day and the other person is with the exact numbers is getting a Sunday special on the conventions ready. Carlos

Carlos Garcia-Perez
Director
Office of Cuba Broadcasting
Miami, FL

On Aug 24, 2012, at 5:22 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

thanks...please give me precise numbers attending and rough cost for each convention.
Travel to Tampa would be less for OCB I assume

Victor

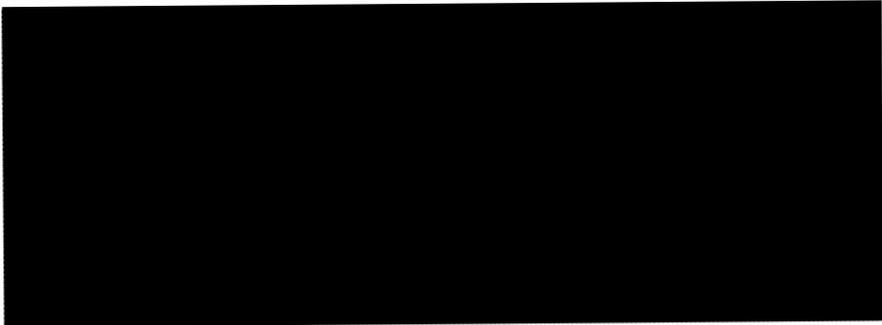
In a message dated 8/24/2012 5:20:21 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time,
(b) (6) writes:

Good point. I believe the head count is 15 but will confirm and inform accordingly. Thank you. Carlos

Carlos Garcia-Perez
Director
Office of Cuba Broadcasting
Miami, FL

On Aug 24, 2012, at 5:04 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Carlos



From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

then let me know what VOA and OCB are doing
. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/24/2012 12:11:35 P.M.
Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

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Best regards,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 11:48 AM
To: (b) (6); Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

many people are we sending to each for entities and VOA/OCB?

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

From: Letitia King <pubaff@bbg.gov>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Sent: Fri, Aug 24, 2012 11:38 am

Subject: BBG Bringing Political Conventions
to the World

**Friday, August 24,
2012**

<image001.jpg>

BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

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<image003.jpg>

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 5:10 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

David

What is the cost for 75 persons to each convention? \$3000 per person for \$225,000 per convention for \$450,000 for both or a different amount? I do not need or seek an exact amount but a ball park figure which I assume you considered when you decided on 75 instead of 90 or 98 as in 2008.

I am not asking you to defend as I assume you would naturally defend what you directed to happen. However, it is fair and legitimate for me as a Governor to ask what the cost is especially when BBG issues a news release on it without numbers of personnel or cost involved. Once one knows the cost then one is in a better position to assess and evaluate.

I am only asking the questions you would have asked when you were a distinguished working journalist. I still believe you are distinguished.

No one should be surprised I am asking. I am asking Carlos Garcia the same. And the entity heads.

Victor

In a message dated 8/24/2012 3:54:16 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6).com writes:

Victor,

In 2008, VOA sent 90 to Minneapolis and 98 to Denver. (The Denver number was higher because of the late add of the outdoor venue on the final night which required more technical people). This year we cut the numbers back to 75 per convention. As the item below notes this is one of the best opportunities VOA gets—every four years--to provide civics lessons, if you will, on American democracy. Twenty language services will be represented on location. All services will use material from Central News journalists at the conventions. I am pleased to defend this appropriate use of funds—the kind of coverage that is in effect called for by the VOA Charter.

David

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

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Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 11:48 AM
To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

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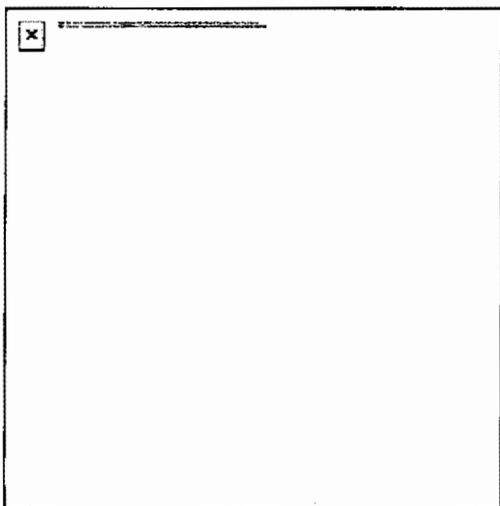
-----Original Message-----

From: Letitia King <pubaff@bbg.gov>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Aug 24, 2012 11:38 am
Subject: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World



**Friday, August 24,
2012**

BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World



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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 5:04 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

Carlos

My question is how many persons from OCB are covering each convention...not how important it is to be there or not be there. I do feel it is significant to be present. Please tell me how many from OCB are going to Tampa and Charlotte and approximate cost. That is what I want to know. I assume naturally you would defend whatever it is you decided to send.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/24/2012 4:25:52 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good afternoon to all of you. As with VOA this is a great opportunity to provide as David stated "civic lessons... on American democracy." It is part of our mission and a tremendous opportunity to report on the democratic process in this country. Whether the Cuban people decide to adopt a similar process will ultimately be up to their free will, when it is free, but at the very least we provide information that will be useful to their future. I am also ready to defend the use of these funds. Thank you for your time and consideration. Carlos

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 3:53 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

Victor,

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Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King
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Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 11:48 AM
To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

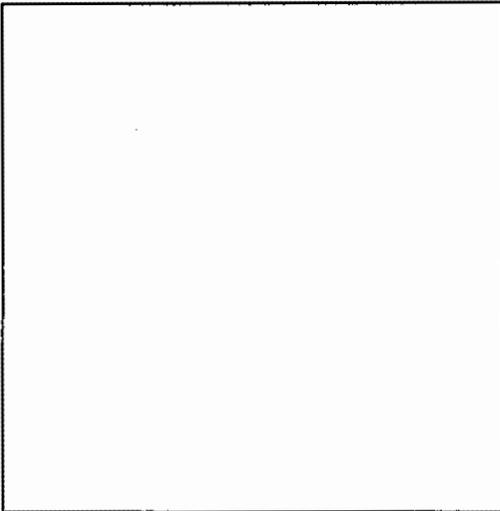
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From: Letitia King <pubaff@bbg.gov>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Aug 24, 2012 11:38 am
Subject: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:51 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: thanks

thanks for more complete explanation of our agenda on Tues Aug 28 going on website for Strategy and Budget.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King
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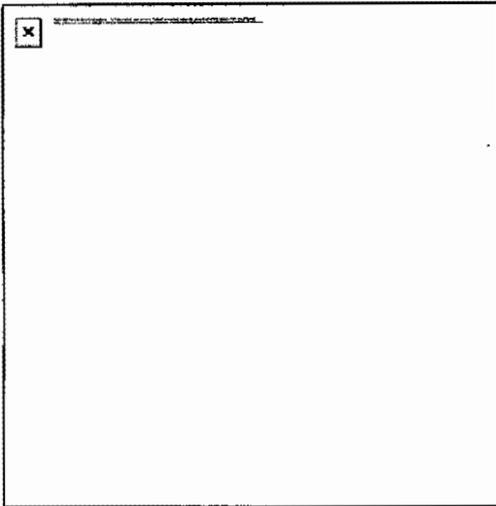
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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:04 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Incomplete description of strategy meeting

I eagerly await the outcome of that discussion. I now have the agenda by fed ex and it is broader than what is on web site. Who is in on the discussion?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/24/2012 12:15:37 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

Wanted to let you know that we received your e-mail below, and the point you raised been under discussion. More later.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 8:30 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Incomplete description of strategy meeting

This morning I looked at the BBG website and noticed the description of the upcoming strategy and budget committee meeting for August 28. It seems to fall short of listing all the topics we are in fact discussing.

For example, there will be discussion of PNN as directed by motion in the August 17 BBG board meeting and Parazit. There will be discussion of the Gallup contract and the DOJ lawsuit against Gallup. There will be discussion of further budget items. I think this should be added to the public description of this committee meeting. What is there now is inadequate in my view in terms of transparency and giving the public an idea of what the committee will actually discuss for 2.5 hours. I see no valud reason for omitting these topics.

I look forward to hearing from you on whether any changes will be made.

Victor

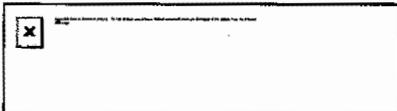
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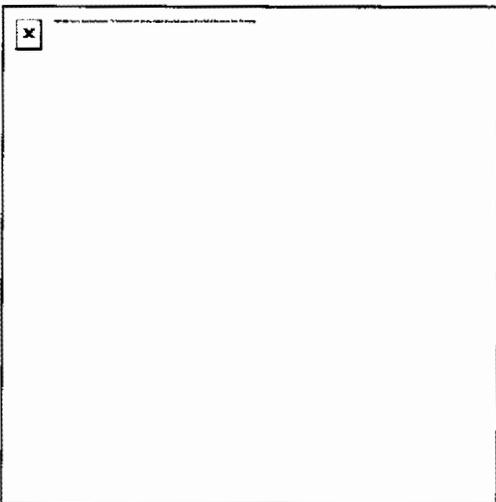
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Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 8:30 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Incomplete description of strategy meeting

This morning I looked at the BBG website and noticed the description of the upcoming strategy and budget committee meeting for August 28. It seems to fall short of listing all the topics we are in fact discussing.

For example, there will be discussion of PNN as directed by motion in the August 17 BBG board meeting and Parazit. There will be discussion of the Gallup contract and the DOJ lawsuit against Gallup. There will be discussion of further budget items. I think this should be added to the public description of this committee meeting. What is there now is inadequate in my view in terms of transparency and giving the public an idea of what the committee will actually discuss for 2.5 hours. I see no valid reason for omitting these topics.

I look forward to hearing from you on whether any changes will be made.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 7:07 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

This makes sense and seems like a prudent approach. Ultimately, I believe we should just disengage from Gallup as there seems to be risk and potential exposure here. Another firm ought to do the research which is not distracted by litigation and whistleblower issues.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) >; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Aug 23, 2012 6:04 pm
Subject: RE: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

Dear Governors,

We have added discussion of the Gallup situation to the agenda for next Tuesday's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting, and we're gathering information as quickly as possible ahead of that session in order to be able to answer your questions and recommend possible actions.

We were in contact today with DoJ and will remain so as the investigation and case develop. We also have spoken with Gallup and are arranging a meeting with them to discuss the situation and our contract.

Regards,
Jeff

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 8:15 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6); (b) (6); Dana Perino; (b) (6); (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

We need to be briefed on what Gallup says about this, perhaps they will have someone at the meeting...what does DOJ say as well as State which may be being ripped off according to the lawsuit. We all need to know

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 2:14 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Strategy

please send it to me when it goes up...Hopefully in the future we can do it more than 5 days out. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/23/2012 2:08:27 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Yes, the team has been working up a notice to post on the site. Should be done soon.

Thanks,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 10:49:15 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Strategy

are there plans to post the notice of the Strategy and Budget Committee meeting on website for this Tues August 28?

I realize it is closed. However, I feel in the interest of openness it should be listed.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2012 4:06 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: IBIA Working Group members

I assume (b) (6) is departing. Will anyone replace her? Does (b) (6) attend by phone or in person?

In a message dated 8/1/2012 1:32:25 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Here's the requested list of participants in the IBIA Working Group. We have been joined periodically by other IBB/BBG staff as needed for advice, but these are the regular members.

Please let me/Paul know if you have any questions.

Thank you again for participating in yesterday's briefing and providing your views.

Best regards,

Lynne

IBB

Susan Andross

Maryjean Buhler

Paul Kollmer-Dorsey

Lynne Weil

VOA

John Lennon

OCB

Irv Rubenstein

RFE/RL

Dale Cohen

RFA

Bernadette Birns

MBN

Anne Noble

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 11:01 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

I have not been told when the board will be briefed on this but have formally asked for a briefing. Also I asked oanh to ask you to call me today relative to tomorrow phone call on IBIA...I am out 1230 to 1430 today..otherwise available on land line at (b) (6)

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: Hicks, Trey (HSGAC) (HSGAC) <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) >
Cc: (b) (6) >; vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Dana Perino <(b) (6)>; Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn) (Coburn) <(b) (6)>; David Ensor (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Jul 30, 2012 10:47 am
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Adding David Ensor.Trey, thank you for your note. We will confer here and get back to you and Jeremy.Lynne From: Hicks, Trey (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 10:32 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com; Dana Perino; Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn)
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

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 (b) (6) 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 (b) (6).

(b) (6) and reports by (b) (6) documenting the alleged conflict of interest of the UNCA president (b) (6). One could see the attempts to give (b) (6) the boot as retaliation for (b) (6) daring to document and expose the scandal. There are several things that concern me about statements made by Mr. Ensor during last week's conference call: Ensor misleading information – One of the three incidences Mr. Ensor cited that justified Redisch's email happened AFTER Redisch sent his email. Mr. Ensor stated that a Lebanese "Muslim" [note: why does his religion matter?] journalist was told by (b) (6) "If you know what's good for you, you won't show your face around here anymore."o I have UN Security documentation that shows this took place on July 5th—two weeks after Redisch sent his email.o The signed statement the Lebanese Journalist (b) (6) made to UN Security does not corroborate what Mr. Ensor quoted to us on the phone.o Mr. Ensor left out the context of this incident as well. I am told that the UNCA report did not include the perspective from (b) (6).

(b) (6)—that he was totally cut out of the process. According to the UN Security report, Mr. Lee approached (b) (6) on the 5th to ask for sources UNCA used to make some of their findings (the footnotes of the report stated that one could request this from UNCA). According to UN Security documents, (b) (6) told (b) (6) he deleted all (b) (6)'s email requests for this information and refused to hand it over to M (b) (6). This resulted in (b) (6) and M (b) (6) a cussing at each other, according to UN Security. (b) (6) filed his statement with UN Security as did (b) (6), but UN Security made no finding that there were threats made by either party. Claiming VOA wastes tax dollars is not threatening – Another of the incidences cited by Mr. Ensor involves Ms.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 10:48 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

This is most troubling and I have asked that the Board consider the matter and be briefed on it. Mr. Ensor did call and talk with me.

This email conflicts with several statements mr. Ensor made. I am not saying who is right or wrong. The problem is that BBG does not have a time set aside for a board meeting until sep 13/14 which is a long ways off. I hope there might be a briefing on it at least by phone before then but my views on this may be in the minority. I strongly believe we should place as much as possible in the open even when it is inconvenient unless precluded by law.

I have added dick lobo to this response as I have been told he will make a report to the board but I do not know when that will occur.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Hicks, Trey (HSGAC) (HSGAC) <(b) (6)>
To: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Cc: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>; Vhashe <Vhashe@aol.com>; danaperino <(b) (6)>; Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn) (Coburn) <(b) (6)> <(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Jul 30, 2012 10:31 am
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

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 (b) (6) 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 (b) (6).

(b) (6) and reports by (b) (6) documenting the alleged conflict of interest of the UNCA president (b) (6). One could see the attempts to give (b) (6) the boot as retaliation for (b) (6) daring to document and expose the scandal. There are several things that concern me about statements made by Mr. Ensor during last week's conference call:
Ensor misleading information – One of the three incidences Mr. Ensor cited that justified Redisch's email happened AFTER Redisch sent his email. Mr. Ensor stated that a Lebanese "Muslim" [note: why does his religion matter?] journalist was told by (b) (6) "If you know what's good for you, you won't show your face around here anymore."

o I have UN Security documentation that shows this took place on July 5th—two weeks after Redisch sent his email.

o The signed statement the Lebanese Journalist (b) (6) made to UN Security does not corroborate what Mr. Ensor quoted to us on the phone.

o Mr. Ensor left out the context of this incident as well. I am told that the UNCA report did not include the perspective from Mr. Lee—that he was totally cut out of the process. According to the UN Security report (b) (6) approached (b) (6) on the 5th to ask for sources UNCA used to make some of their findings (the footnotes of the report stated that one could request this from UNCA). According to UN Security documents, (b) (6) told (b) (6) he deleted all (b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2012 7:40 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: IBIA working group

Thanks for this information. I do feel it is important given the issue being discussed that we share all with the IBIA group and secure a common view, if possible, on these matters. Certainly whatever comes out of the July 31 phone call should be shared with the IBIA group and their reaction sought.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/27/2012 1:15:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

Paul has been on the road to where his father lives; we just spoke. We'd like to emphasize that the IBIA working group has discussed the role of Board and the CEO, and new recommendations have not been developed since the group's last meeting.

Per Paul's note below, this briefing follows the Board's directive in January to "consult with Governors Ashe and Lynton in developing a model to define the appropriate roles for the Board and CEO." So on Tuesday we'll summarize group's deliberations on this topic to date, including areas where we have not yet reached consensus. Once we have completed the briefing and received your input, we'll follow up with the IBIA working group to refine the restructuring model further.

Please let me know if you have other questions that you'd like to discuss by phone. I hesitate to call out of the blue, given that you are still recovering from surgery.

Best regards,

Lynne

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2012 10:27 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: RE: IBIA working group

(b) (6)

It seems that the answer to my question is that the IBIA working group has not seen these latest recommendations based in part on their deliberations. I do feel this working group should see them and I for one want their individual comments in order to educate myself more fully. Therefore, it is my suggestion and request that they be shared soon with the working group so they can get back to us.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

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

From: Paul Kollmer <(b) (6)>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; <(b) (6)>; susan <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>

Sent: Thu, Jul 26, 2012 10:55 pm

Subject: RE: IBIA working group

Dear Victor -- I greatly appreciate your emails.

The purpose of Tuesday's call is follow through on the Board's instruction from its January 2012 decision on the IBIA. That decision instructs the IBB Director to consult with you and Governor Lynton "in developing a model to define the appropriate roles for the Board and the CEO". The full text of that part of January decision is set forth below. The entire IBIA decision is reproduced in the briefing package that we have produced for Tuesday's telecon and which will be delivered to you shortly.

TEXT OF THE IBIA BOARD DECISION FROM JANUARY 2012: The position of Chief Executive Officer of United States International Broadcasting (the "CEO"), reporting to the Board of Governors, shall be created.

The CEO will be empowered to provide day-to-day executive leadership for United States international broadcasting and should have management authority over the federal and non-federal elements of United States international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight. The IBB Director is instructed to consult with Governors Ashe and Lynton in developing a model to define the appropriate roles for the Board and CEO.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 3:34 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: RE: Documents

Who will be on the phone call? Will entity heads be included? If not, who will be on the call? not sure who this should be directed to? Perhaps dick lobo or michael Lynton?

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Jul 26, 2012 2:20 pm
Subject: RE: Documents

Victor,

Per our e-mail exchange yesterday, the team here is pulling together materials in order to get them to you and the other Governors copied on this e-mail before the week is done. These will include the most up-to-date info on the IBIA working group's efforts and recommendations on the topic at hand.

Separately, the team is preparing a complete package of IBIA working group papers for the entire Board.

Looking back on the correspondence that transpired while I was away in mid-June, I found that a lot of the discussion concerned how the Board's non-disclosure policy applies to IBIA working group materials. I saw nothing there about an issue with sharing the materials with any Board member.

Thank you for your efforts to straighten these matters out.

Wishing you a speedy recovery,

Lynne

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 11:21 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Documents

Perhaps they are on their way today but I have not heard anything about when and or which materials I will receive in advance of the July 31 call. It would be helpful and considerate to me to advise when and what is being sent and when.

I have specifically asked for copies of working materials sent to the ITIA committee since its creation...those could be sent to me today and allow me time to review them here at hospital as I recover from hip surgery. If there is an issue here

about sharing them with me and I only raise this as Mr Kollmer and Ms Weil have not been responsive to my requests for these materials which requests I first raised 6 weeks ago then I should be advised and told why.

I need to get these by fed ex on sat....otherwise it will be Monday and my review time is reduced to an inadequate period.

I do not wish to be difficult and wish all the best but I do wish to be a well informed BBG member.

I can take calls at (b) (6) if anyone wishes to call to discuss.

Victor ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 3:28 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: RE: Documents

Thanks very much...please have sent saturday delivery fed ex so I am sure to get them sometime on sat.

Victor ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Jul 26, 2012 2:20 pm

Subject: RE: Documents

Victor,

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Wishing you a speedy recovery,

Lynne

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 11:21 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6)
Subject: Documents

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I can take calls at (b) (6) if anyone wishes to call to discuss.

Victor ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 11:21 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Documents

Perhaps they are on their way today but I have not heard anything about when and or which materials I will receive in advance of the July 31 call. It would be helpful and considerate to me to advise when and what is being sent and when.

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I do not wish to be difficult and wish all the best but I do wish to be a well informed BBG member.

I can take calls at (b) (6) if anyone wishes to call to discuss.

Victor ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 1:54 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Call on July 31

Not sure if you meant to leave Susan McCue off.....however,thanks for the update but BBG could send now the drafts and materials previously circulated to IBIA committee which you and others have served on. That way I have time to read and digest the matters and better prepared to ask questions....surely as a Governor I am entitled to see these documents. I am happy to have other materials on the topic as well but as a minimum I want to see what the study materials at staff level have been as this Act has been conceived.

If the decision is made not to share this with me, please advise why.
But I remain hopeful that all will agree that I am entitled to see them

Who will actually be on the call?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Jul 25, 2012 1:11 pm
Subject: RE: Call on July 31

Victor,

We had a meeting this morning to discuss that very matter. Materials will be sent to you and the other Governors before the week is out.
Everyone wants to ensure that this meeting is meaningful and productive.

Lynne

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 10:20 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Call on July 31

Will I be receiving any materials and agenda for upcoming phone for junky 31 at 530 pm?

I specifically want to see the drafts of materials and proposed bill being considered. I have previously asked for them and they have not been sent I regret to say. Please advise if this will be sent or not.

A meaningful contribution by me requires getting up to speed on staff work and papers from the working group which Mr. Kollmer has led.

I look forward to a meaningful discussion.

Victor ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 12:42 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Strategy

Does your office plan to post on BBG web site notice of strategy and budget committee meeting for August 2 with note that it is closed?

That normally happens....maybe I have missed it

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 10:20 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Call on July 31

Will I be receiving any materials and agenda for upcoming phone for junky 31 at 530 pm?

I specifically want to see the drafts of materials and proposed bill being considered. I have previously asked for them and they have not been sent I regret to say. Please advise if this will be sent or not.

A meaningful contribution by me requires getting up to speed on staff work and papers from the working group which Mr. kollmer has led.

I look forward to a meaningful discussion.
Victor ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 4:04 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil;
(b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Subject: Re: IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

What briefing papers will be sent to us to read in advance so we can study and prepare? I know that there have been staff meetings going on this matter but I have requested and not received for over two months copies of the drafts....in order for the July 31 discussion to be productive, I need to see them prior to the meeting.

Please advise who will be on the phone with lobo, Lynton and me?

Victor ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6) v>; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>
Sent: Tue, Jul 24, 2012 2:45 pm
Subject: IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

Dear Governors, The Board decided in January 2012 to pursue legislation for an International Broadcasting Innovation Act that would streamline U.S. international broadcasting and instructed IBB Director Dick Lobo to consult Governors Lynton and Ashe in developing a model to define the appropriate roles for the Board and CEO. This is to confirm a briefing by phone next Tuesday, July 31, at 5:30 p.m. EDT. Governors Lynton, Ashe and McCue will participate by phone. In the coming days, we will send a call-in number for the teleconference and materials, if any, in advance of the call. Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2012 7:37 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: August Board Meeting

August 14 or 15 or 16 work for me...not August 13.....victor -----Original Message-----

From: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Jul 20, 2012 6:09 pm
Subject: RE: August Board Meeting

Governors, thanks for your initial feedback on BBG meeting dates.

To be clear: we won't be in a position for the full Board to vote on the budget proposal on August 2. We'll have preliminary discussions with the Strategy and Budget Committee on that day (and as Gov. Meehan indicated, all Governors are welcome to join).

Given that Governors Ashe and McCue already have indicated that August 9 or 10 aren't good, would early the following week -- Monday, August 13 or Tuesday, August 14 -- be better for all?

Please let (b) (6) know about your availability on August 13 and 14. Upon receipt of information on your availability, (b) (6) will send a follow-up email to confirm the meeting date and time.

Rgds
Jeff

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2012 5:45 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: August Board Meeting

Not sure how we do both BBG and strategy and budget same day....ok for aug 2. Not as ok for aug 9 and 10. Could do following week.. For full BBG board meeting. .victor

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6) >
To: Susan McCue <(b) (6)>; Dick Lobo (b) (6) v>
Cc: BBG Group (b) (6) v>; BBG Group Aides (b) (6) v>; (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6); Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) | (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>; (b) (6)>; (b) (6)>; (b) (6)
(b) (6) >
Sent: Fri, Jul 20, 2012 5:41 pm

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2012 12:09 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Trey. Thanks for your inquiry....I have been in hospital in Knoxville recovering from hip replacement surgery...things are in change as (b) (6) is retiring soon and Lynne Weil is looking for a successor....meanwhile David Ensor has hired (b) (6) as a new VOA congressional relations person....this might be a matter for him to jump right into once he comes to work. I am concerned this has not been resolved by now one way or the other.

I have also requested this whole issue be placed on next BBG board meeting agenda for discussion but our deputy general counsel, Paul Kollmer, feels that discussion should be in private as he argues it is a personnel matter. I do not agree with him on that so I do not know how this aspect of the matter will play out.. To me this is already a public matter and congressional persons are interested in what is happening...again, I do not know how this will ultimately play out...personally, I think BBG and VOA need to get answers quickly and resolve the matter....sorry it has taken so long.

We do not have a firm date for next BBG Board meeting other than mid Sept....there might be a phone or teleconferencing meeting in August..but nothing definite has been set.

Best

Victor Ashe

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

From: Hicks, Trey (HSGAC) (HSGAC) <(b) (6)>
To: Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn) (Coburn) <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Cc: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>; Vhashe <Vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Susan McCue <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Jul 20, 2012 10:03 am
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Hi guys---any updates for us? Still trying to figure out why Mr. Redisch did what he did. Was there justification for the USG trying to shut down a reporter at the UN? Can we see the emails in question? Thanks!
From: Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn)
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 12:04 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Dennis Mulhaupt; Vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6); Hicks, Trey (HSGAC); Susan McCue
Subject: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?
Importance: High

Lynne, This case below is troubling to me and to Trey Hicks who is the lead investigator on this issue for the Homeland Security and Government Affairs committee. I am cc'ing the Governors that I have current emails for, please ensure they all see this. I would like to know that the Board is looking at this and can convey to Congress that Mr. Redisch's claims and accusations regarding another reporter are amply supported by documentation. Thank you, Jeremy
From: Hicks, Trey (HSGAC)
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 9:58 AM

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 6:19 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Revised draft response to Rep. Rohrabacher

Dear Jeff

Thanks for the revised letter. I decline to sign it and disagree with much stated in the letters. I feel BBG has taken a step backwards and it sends the wrong signal. BBG has taken a serious public relations hit and our standing with the Congress has been diminished in my view. It seems to me that BBG is now saying to the world do as we say not as we do.

The letter should reflect that one Governor disagrees with the new protocol. Since apparently there is not going to be a July 24 Board meeting, discussion and further questions will appear on the next Board agenda whenever that meeting is held at my request. Furthermore the governance committee is scheduled to consider the new policy but again that meeting has been postponed to an unknown date.

The fact that this did not go to governance may be legal but it is hardly exemplary or a model to follow. In fact, I was the one Board member omitted to much of the prior discussion of the item before the Board meeting. Deputy legal counsel Kollmer failed to answer several of my inquiries on it prior to the Board meeting in Prague. It appeared to me that he was avoiding discussion with me. In fact, the item was not even listed on the agenda for the Board meeting which was sent out 6 days prior to the meeting. Then the whole agenda of the meeting was re-arranged without Board input just hours prior to the meeting in Prague.

On other issues dealing with openness, BBG Board has failed to have a serious in depth discussion on the CEO legislation which is being pushed on the House side of the Congress at the present time. The actual legislation has not been shared with all Board members.

There are meeting on the Innovation Act but Ms. Weil has failed to provide me a copy of what is being discussed despite requests by me for it.

I deeply regret having to say all of this and be the one Governor raising issues but I must in terms of meeting my fiduciary responsibility. However, we fooling ourselves if some think the issue will fold and vanish. I continue my highest respect and affection for all.

I trust all will have a wonderful weekend.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/13/2012 4:17:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Attached and pasted in below is an updated draft response to Congressman Rohrabacher's June 26 letter questioning the intent of the Agency's policy on deliberative information, which you approved during your June 7 meeting.

This updated draft – changes from the earlier version are highlighted in italics in the text below, and in red in the attachment – reflects suggestions from Governor Ashe.

The response will go to the Congressman's office on Monday.

Regards,

Jeff

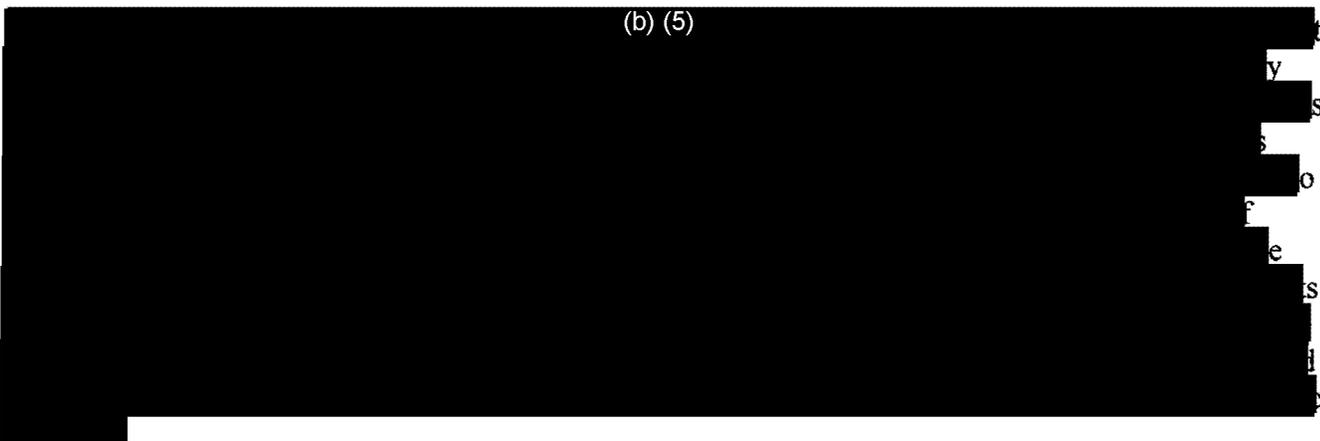
The Honorable Dana Rohrabacher

U.S. House of Representatives

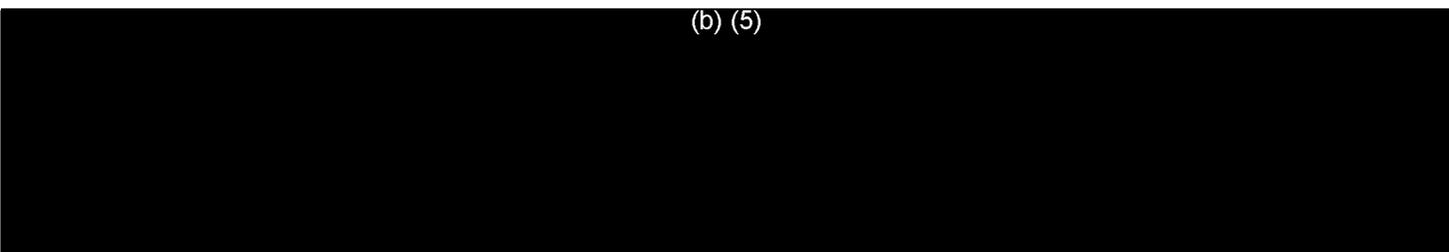
Dear Congressman Rohrabacher:

Thank you for your letter dated June 26, 2012.

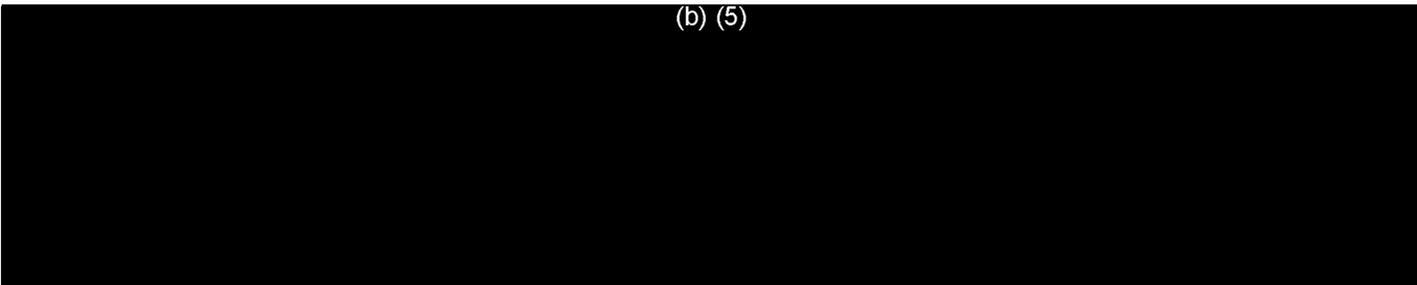
(b) (5)



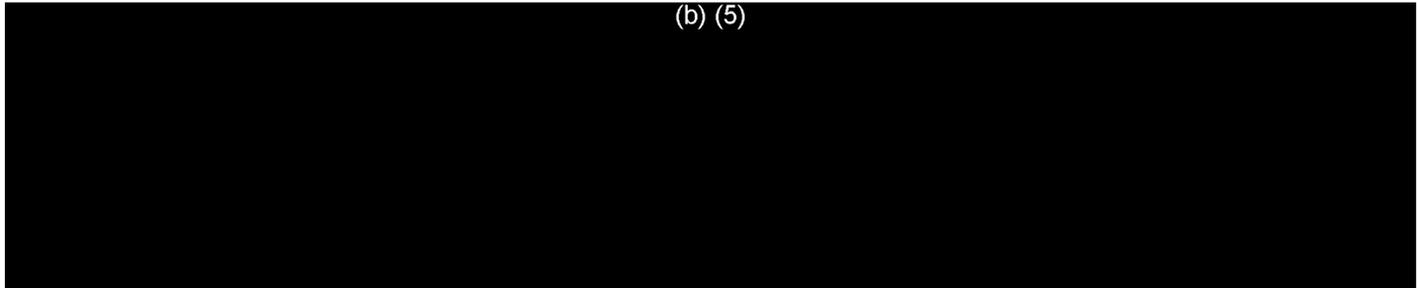
(b) (5)



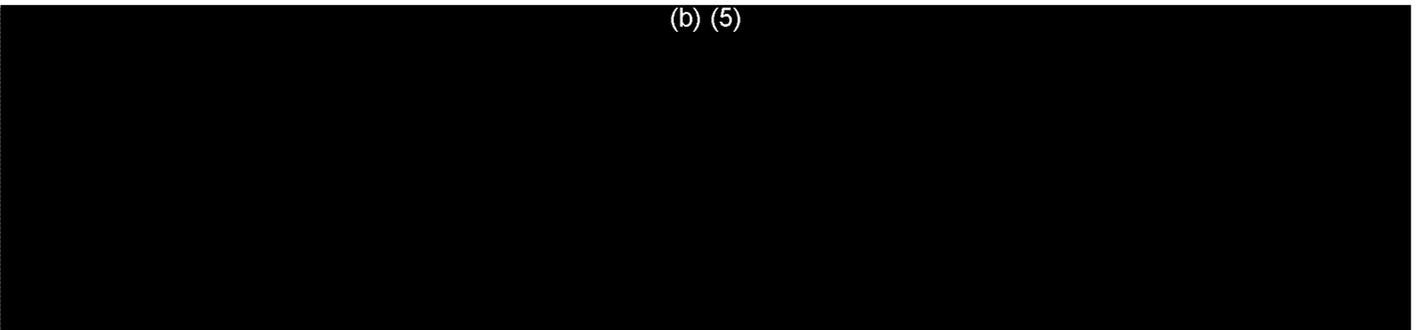
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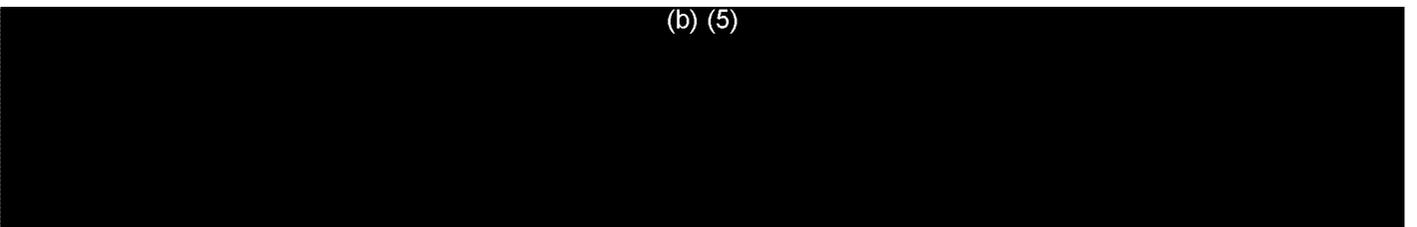
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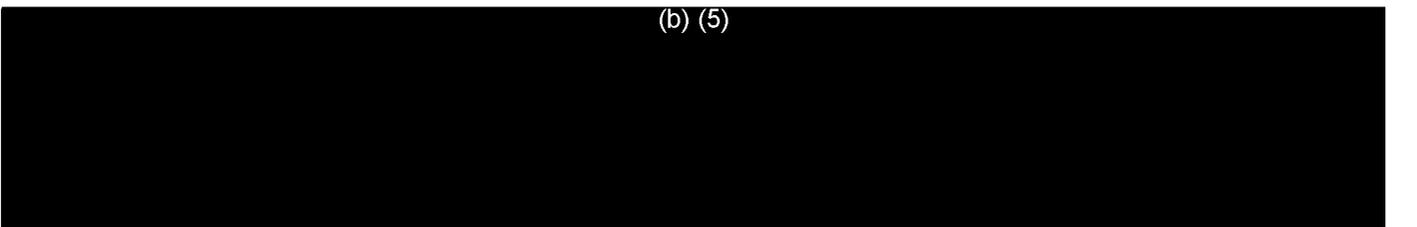
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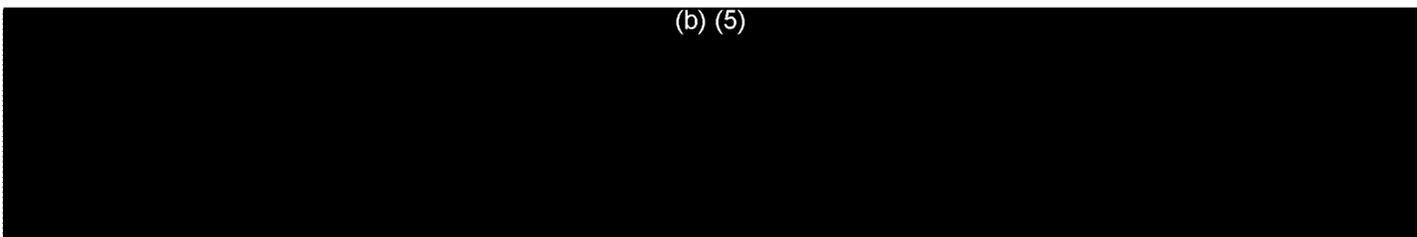
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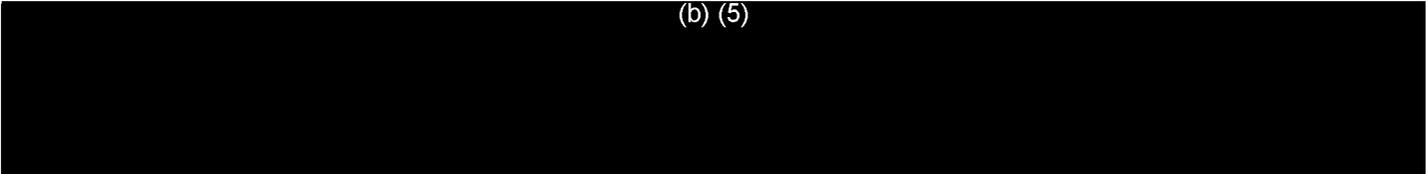
(b) (5)

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(b) (5)

A large black rectangular redaction box covering several lines of text.

(b) (5)

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Thank you for your attention to this matter. Given the seriousness of this issue, and the extent to which we believe the Board's intent has been misinterpreted by others, we would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 5:53 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Congresswoman Lofgren and Sanchez

I am not signing the Rohrabacher letter as I do not agree with it. To even remotely suggest I concur is in error. It has become a public relations blunder for BBG and harmful to our image in my view. I trust staff will be careful in pointing out the Board is not unanimous on this issue. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/13/2012 4:18:09 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor –

The letter was held until a decision could be taken about the meeting on the 24th, since you had requested that a sentence be added referencing that meeting.

As you can see, we're planning to send it on Monday, after one last review by the Board.

Still a little perplexed about the reference to Rep. Sanchez ... Can you shed any light on that?

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 9:55 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Congresswoman Lofgren and Sanchez

Has the response been sent to Congressman Rohrabacher yet? I would like to see it

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 9:19 pm
Subject: Re: Congresswoman Lofgren and Sanchez

Good evening, Victor --

Thank you for inquiring about the follow-up to Rep. Lofgren's letter. This is one of the matters I asked about on my first day back at work. The Communications Committee is considering a draft response; the whole Board will be looped in.

Could you please clarify the reference to Rep. Sanchez?

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2012 10:21:03 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Congresswoman Lofgren and Sanchez

Several weeks ago a letter from Congresswoman Lofgren and Congresswoman Sanchez on entity consolidation was sent to BBG which was then distributed to the Board. We were told a letter would be drafted and circulated prior to being sent back to the two members.

I have not seen a draft and am writing to secure a copy so I can comment on it. I believe the letter is several weeks old so a reply is certainly due to both members.

I look forward to seeing it. can someone tell me where the draft stands??

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, December 30, 2012 8:19 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Korn statement

Lynne

I have seen the statement you have drafted. While I appreciate your efforts, I have several thoughts.

1-it is too long. Also he resigns to RFERL Board not to BBG as he works for RFERL. We do not need his bio.

2-There are not two people in the world who would think we are happy with his service. I think a simple direct acceptance of his resignation is best.

While the statement should not criticize him, it is useless and deceptive to praise him when we have differed so strongly with his performance...need I go over the old white guys e mail, the cute high school intern statement, the 41 firings in Moscow, ignoring the Fly American Law, the criticism from David Kramer at the Russia panel Dec 13...best to move on with a short statement simply stating when his last day is and wishing him well. No one will believe that we were pleased with his record..

3-Obviously a Board majority can do as it wishes but in all fairness to you Lynne, I will tell the media if asked that his departure was necessary for the well being of Radio Free Europe. I will not be part of a statement praising Mashe Gessen at this point nor do I plan to attack her. I am neutral on her until I know the final outcome on the 41 fired persons. My criticism of Korn has been public for months now. I am not now praising him.

I do not want to blindside you or dennis....rather be direct on where I stand.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 28, 2012 8:58 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: News release

glad it went out...too bad...sad that RFERL did not take the lead on this as it might have helped in terms of healing

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Dec 27, 2012 1:54 pm
Subject: News release

Victor,

As discussed. Thanks again for taking my call while on vacation. Enjoy it!

Lynne

From: Letitia King
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 1:50:45 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: BBG Journalists Worldwide Honored in 2012 for Skill, Talent and Courage

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BBG Journalists Worldwide Honored in 2012 for Skill, Talent and Courage

December 27, 2012

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RFE/RL Azerbaijani Service correspondent Khadija Ismayilova was honored by the International Women's Media Foundation.

Washington, DC - Journalists all around the world who work under the direction of the Broadcasting Board of Governors were recognized for their skill, talent and courage with dozens of awards from groups involved with media and the public interest in 2012.

BBG journalists received accolades from the New York Festivals, the Association for International Broadcasting (AIB), the Society of Environmental Journalists, the South East Europe Media Organization and many other organizations.

Michael Lynton, presiding governor of the board overseeing the agency, said, "The Board is proud of all the men and women who work for the BBG, sometimes at great personal risk, to bring the light of truth to the darkest corners of the world. But we take special pride in those whose efforts are noted by recognized centers of excellence in the areas of journalism, media freedom and human rights. They alone deserve the honors, but we are delighted to share in celebrating their achievements."

Voice of America

Innovative uses of online media garnered recognition for several Voice of America journalists. VOA's Jessica Beinecke, host and creator of the online English-Chinese teaching program, *OMG! Meiyu* received the 2012 AIB Founders Award. Arash Sigarchi of VOA's Persian Service received the Deutsche Welle International Blog Award, which highlights online writing that champions the open exchange of ideas and freedom of expression, for his personal blog, *Window of Anguish*. And VOA's *Middle East Voices*, which combines traditional reporting, commentary, and the stories of people living through the Arab Spring, was honored with the Online Journalism Award for topical reporting.

The 2012 Clarion Award for a television feature story/segment went to VOA reporter Carolyn Presutti, photographer/editor Michael Burke and photographer Mike Kornely, for their report, *The Falling Man*, based on one of the most controversial images from the September 11th, 2001 terror attack in New York.

And Elez Biberaj, the Director of VOA's Eurasia Division and former head of the VOA Albanian Service, received a Presidential Medal of Gratitude from Albanian President Bamir Topi.

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

Journalists for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty who work under difficult and sometimes dangerous conditions received a measure of encouragement with recognition by regional and international groups. RFE/RL Azerbaijani Service correspondent Khadija Ismayilova was honored by the International Women's Media Foundation with its Courage in Journalism Award, and Dovletmyrat Yazkuliye, a correspondent for RFE/RL's Turkmen language service, won a Hellman/Hammett grant for his fearless reporting in Turkmenistan, one of the world's most closed societies.

The Institute of War and Peace Reporting honored journalists from RFE/RL's Armenian Service for their work on women's rights issues. The Moscow Helsinki Group recognized former RFE/RL Russian Service correspondent Kristina Gorelik for her human rights reporting. Former RFE/RL Russian Service correspondent Elena Vlasenko was a finalist for the Andrei Sakharov Award for Journalism as an Act of Conscience; certificates for this award were issued to finalists and the news organizations that published their work. Lyudmilla Telen received the Honor, Dignity & Professionalism award from the Russian Union of Journalists for her work, starting in the 1970s and 1980s with Komsomolskaya Pravda newspaper and later with RFE/RL and Sovershenno Sekretno.

The Champion of Tolerance Award from the United Nations Development Programme and the Georgian Public Defender's Office this year went to RFE/RL's Georgian Service. And Radio Farda journalist Vahid Pour Ostad was highly commended by the AIB for his report *Enferadi* (Solitary Confinement).

Middle East Broadcasting Network

The South East Europe Media Organization recognized Alhurra correspondent Bashar Fahmi and his cameraman, Cüneyt Ünal, with its 10th Annual Human Rights Award. The two disappeared while working in Syria August 20. Ünal was later released, but there has been no official word on Fahmi's whereabouts. The BBG continues to call on authorities in Syria to provide information about him.

Radio Sawa was honored with gold, silver and bronze medals at the New York Festivals Radio Program & Promotion Awards®. The broadcaster received the gold and bronze medals for its coverage of the Egyptian Revolution and a silver medal for its coverage of violence in Misratah, Libya.

Alhurra TV's Senior Broadcast Designer, Ahamed Batcha K., received a gold award for best original logo design for *Musawat* (Arabic for Equality), and a silver award for best use of Arabic typography at the PromaxBDA Arabia Awards. The Pan Arab Web Awards Academy honored Radio Sawa with its Facebook Interactive Award, and Afia Darfur was highly commended at the AID awards.

Radio Free Asia

Radio Free Asia also was recognized with multiple awards at the New York Festivals Radio Program & Promotion Awards®. The Uyghur Service's Shohret Hoshur received a gold medal for a story called "*Hear the Children Cry Freedom*," which chronicled the hardships faced by four Uyghur youths. The Korean Service's Jung Min Noh, Won Hee Lee, Jinseo Lee were named as finalists for their stories about North Korean refugees, families separated during the Korean War and the potential for

Korean unification.

At the Hong Kong Human Rights Press Awards, RFA's video documentary series on human trafficking, *An Invisible World - The Lives of Slaves in Modern Asia*, won first place in the online content category, and its Cantonese language service received a merit award for a story on the humiliation of a Chinese rights advocate. The awards are sponsored by the Foreign Correspondents Club, Amnesty International, and the Hong Kong Journalists Association. The series was also recognized as "highly commended" by the AIB.

Office of Cuba Broadcasting

TV Martí was nominated for Emmy Awards for its audio design work and for programs Estado de SATS and Hacia La Democracia.

The Broadcasting Board of Governors is an independent federal agency, supervising all U.S. government-supported, civilian international broadcasting, whose mission is to inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy. BBG broadcasting organizations include the Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa), Radio Free Asia, and the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (Radio and TV Martí).

BBG | 330 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20237 | 202.203.4400

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Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 1:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Tried to reach you

call me at the Hyatt..jeff has the phone number room 5309..will be there to 2 PM your time...or after 5 your time...it is787 area code...Jeff has Hyatt number here in Puerto Rico. or tyr my cell phone in a few minutes

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6) .gov>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Sent: Thu, Dec 27, 2012 9:37 am

Subject: Tried to reach you

Hello, Victor --

I hope you had a great holiday weekend and a peaceful Christmas.

If you see a couple of "missed call" messages on your phone from today, that was me. I wanted to update you on the matter you raised last week about awards reportedly given to former RFE/RL staff; it took a while to verify the info given time differences between DC and Moscow, but in the end, the process has lent itself to a very productive outcome benefiting the whole agency.

I was hoping to discuss it with you before we issue the news release, and it was my understanding from colleagues that you took part in a group phone call this morning. Sorry to have missed you.

Since you are vacationing at the moment -- as am I -- I'll look forward to catching up with you at a convenient time, perhaps next week.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 24, 2012 2:41 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Defiant Turkmen Reporter Wins Free Speech Award

if they can do one for this person which seems merited then surely they should do one for the two RFERL Moscow journalists who were fired but won awards prior to being fired while employed at RFERL.

Victor

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Sent: 12/24/2012 2:38:08 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Defiant Turkmen Reporter Wins Free Speech Award



RadioFreeEurope
RadioLiberty

PRESS ROOM

Defiant Turkmen Reporter Wins Free Speech Award

(WASHINGTON -- December 24, 2012) Dovletmyrat Yazkuliyeu, a correspondent for RFE/RL's Turkmen language service, received a 2012 Hellman/Hammitt grant for his fearless reporting in Turkmenistan, one of the world's most closed societies.

Yazkuliyeu was recognized for his reporting, in defiance of an official information blackout, on an explosion in Abadan, near the capital of Ashgabat in July 2011 and its aftermath, including the government's failure to provide assistance to victims. In retaliation, security officials threatened him with criminal charges for "disseminating defamatory information" and "causing domestic unrest." He was later imprisoned on fabricated charges that he and other observers believe were further intended to impugn his character and silence him.

In a statement to RFE/RL this past weekend, Yazkuliyeu said, "This award is the highest moral support. I also regard it as evidence that international institutions recognize those who fight for truth".

RFE/RL president Steven Korn commended Yazkuliyeu, calling the prize "a tribute to Dovlet's courage and his contribution to the public interest in Turkmenistan." He added, "It is also a summons to rights advocates everywhere to redouble our efforts to promote and protect media freedom."

Turkmenistan has the second-worst ranking in Freedom House's 2012 Freedom of the Press report and has numbered among the "Worst of the Worst" countries for freedom overall in the monitoring group's surveys of the last several years.

Yazkuliyeu's imprisonment in September 2011 drew public expressions of outrage from human rights advocates, international organizations, foreign governments and members of the U.S. House and Senate.

He was released by presidential pardon in October 2011, although charges against him have not been dropped.

The Hellman/Hammett grants are awarded by Human Rights Watch to journalists, bloggers, essayists, poets, playwrights and other writers for their commitment to free expression and their courage in the face of persecution.

#

About RFE/RL's Turkmen Service

RFE/RL's Turkmen Service reports regularly on social issues and trends unreported by other Turkmen media. Radio Azatlyk's coverage of issues such as homelessness, poor housing construction, and travel bans for Turkmen citizens have sparked government action to improve facilities and social services, while its reporting on human rights issues has helped bring about the release from prison of activists and journalists.

About RFE/RL

RFE/RL is a private, independent international news organization whose programs -- radio, Internet, and television -- reach influential audiences in 21 countries, including Russia, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the republics of Central Asia. It is funded by the U.S. Congress through the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG).

###

For more on RFE/RL's journalism and journalists, check out our "Impact" page. Or follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Media inquiries in the U.S. can be made to Karisue Wyson in Washington at wysonk@rferl.org or +1.202.457.6917. In Europe, contact Joanna Levison in Prague at levisonj@rferl.org or +420.602.612.705.

To unsubscribe from this list please send an email to dc-response@rferl.org

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 5:32 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Moscow awards

great..but I assumed the holidays would effectively delay it to Dec 26 at earliest but if you can do it earlier terrific...it is the right call. It is a small step towards healing. I assume RFERL does not oppose it...Gessen, Ragona or Korn but I do not know.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/21/2012 5:28:28 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

We will aim to post it next week, irrespective of religious observances, as soon as we have the facts straight.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 5:09 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble;(b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Moscow awards

does this mean after Christmas (like Wed or Thurs) which would congratulate them?

Victor

In a message dated 12/21/2012 5:07:20 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

It has taken several people in three time zones --both within this agency and outside -- to determine the facts involving the recognitions to which (b) (6) has drawn the Board's attention, as well as the additional information that he e-mailed to you today.

We have been working with RFE/RL on a news release. Unfortunately, the information is incomplete. And given the hour in Prague, we do not expect to have everything in place today. But we will aim to post a release next week.

In the meantime, I return your cordial holiday greetings and wish you a peaceful weekend.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 10:50 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Moscow awards

wonderful

In a message dated 12/21/2012 10:47:56 A.M. Eastern Standard Time (b) (6) writes:

I promise that you will hear from me again today.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 10:45 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Moscow awards

I look forward to hearing from all and hopefully sometime today if possible.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/21/2012 9:17:24 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor --

Thank you for the heads-up that you intend to issue a statement if the agency does not.

A bit of insight into how agency news releases regarding the grantees have been done until now: We do not control the grantees' websites. And if a grantee has not issued a release about a matter concerning its programming or personnel -- or worked in tandem with the agency on a release -- then the BBG has not issued one, either.

So if, for instance, the former head of an RFA language service were to receive an award, we would either elevate RFA's news release through BBG Public Affairs or work with RFA on a release.

This doesn't have to remain the case. I appreciate your reasoning, and am interested in hearing more views. Since not everyone who is relevant to this conversation is in the office yet or copied on this e-mail, let me come back to you with more thoughts a little later.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]

Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 7:32 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6);

(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: Moscow awards

Lynne

I have seen the e mails with you from (b) (6) on the awards given in Moscow to two former journalists at RFERL in Moscow for their work when they were employed at RFERL. They received the significant Sakharov awards. The people in question are (b) (6) and (b) (6).

Apparently there has not been recognition by RFERL or BBG on this. Despite these two persons no longer working for RFERL, when they did work there they had an excellent record and obviously with these awards it was recognized by others.

Does BBG plan to issue a statement or recognize their achievements on our web site or RFERL web site? If Dan Austin for example received an award for his VOA work we would recognize it despite him no longer working at VOA.

If not, I am inclined to make a statement alone congratulating them and wishing them well but it would be more significant if it came from the whole BBG. I cannot think of a reason not to do it and it might be a giant step towards healing and reconciliation which is needed in Moscow at this time. Also coming at this season of the year it seems even more appropriate. As you recall I asked Ms Gessen what her strategy to win back the disaffected was last week. This seems to me to be a small step in that direction.

Michael Lynton recently has asked me to share my possible public statements with you before I do them and in this case I am willing to forgo one if BBG or RFERL does something. However, in the absence of a BBG or RFERL statement I feel something positive about them ought to be said by at least one individual Board member unless someone can give me a good reason not to do so. I welcome feedback on this from my colleagues and management.

Happy Holidays

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 5:09 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Moscow awards

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Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 10:50 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Moscow awards

wonderful

In a message dated 12/21/2012 10:47:56 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

I promise that you will hear from me again today.

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From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 10:45 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)

(b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Moscow awards

I look forward to hearing from all and hopefully sometime today if possible.

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Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 7:32 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: Moscow awards

Lynne

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Happy Holidays

Victor Ashe

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To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Moscow awards

good question? Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/21/2012 10:29:11 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

jeff, are that sakharov awards like our pulitzers?

On Dec 21, 2012, at 9:02 AM, Lynne Weil wrote:

Good morning, Victor --

Thank you for the heads-up that you intend to issue a statement if the agency does not.

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Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
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Happy Holidays

Victor Ashe

(b) (6) [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

=

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 5:32 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Moscow awards

great..but I assumed the holidays would effectively delay it to Dec 26 at earliest but if you can do it earlier terrific...it is the right call. It is a small step towards healing. I assume RFERL does not oppose it...Gessen, Ragona or Korn but I do not know.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/21/2012 5:28:28 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

We will aim to post it next week, irrespective of religious observances, as soon as we have the facts straight.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 5:09 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Moscow awards

does this mean after Christmas (like Wed or Thurs) which would congratulate them?

Victor

In a message dated 12/21/2012 5:07:20 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

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Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 10:50 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6)

(b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Moscow awards

wonderful

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Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 10:45 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)

(b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Moscow awards

I look forward to hearing from all and hopefully sometime today if possible.

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Happy Holidays

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2012 9:47 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: call

At your convenience please call me (b) (6) today if possible.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 8:10 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO Draft Report - BBG: Additional Steps Needed to Address Overlap in Int...

I would also like to have a copy of the draft. You can fed ex to me here in Knoxville. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/18/2012 8:08:43 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

can i get a copy of the draft ?

On Dec 18, 2012, at 6:46 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Hopefully the Board will be consulted on the response. I believe we should have a phone call to go over what all this means and the full implications.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/18/2012 6:23:11 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Last Friday, we received a copy of the GAO draft report, "Broadcasting Board of Governors – Additional Steps Needed to Address Overlap in International Broadcasting."

As you will recall, the GAO began this engagement at the request of the Chair and Ranking Member and joined by other members of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the Federal Workforce. GAO's brief from its Congressional sponsors was to "examine the extent to which (1) BBG language services overlap with one another and (2) BBG broadcasts in the same languages as other international broadcasters."

While the draft report references efforts pursuant to the agency's strategic plan and budget requests to reduce overlap, its rather simplistic mandate and its methodology in quantifying the extent of overlap, as presented in GAO's summary findings, are misleading. GAO finds that "nearly two-thirds of the BBG's language services – offices that produce content for particular languages and regions – overlap with another BBG service by offering programs to the same countries in the same languages." GAO cites the cost of supporting these programs at about \$149 million – nearly 20 percent of the agency's total budget. Over the next few weeks, staff will be working with GAO to refine portions of its draft report and ask for modifications in its methodology to avoid "headlines" that will be misleading outside the context of the full report.

GAO's draft report also contains two recommendations for the BBG:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

We will review and provide comments to the GAO by January 11. The final report will be a public document, and will include the BBG's formal comments in an appendix to the report.

Because the current report status is "restricted to official use only," we must safeguard it to prevent its improper disclosure. Please let us know if you are interested in receiving a copy of this draft report and we will send it to you.

The draft report includes this direction from GAO: "This draft report is being provided to obtain advance review and comment. It has not been fully reviewed within GAO and is subject to revision. Recipients of this draft must not, under any circumstances, show or release its contents for other than official review and comment. It must be safeguarded to prevent improper disclosure. This draft and all copies remain the property of, and must be returned on demand to, the Government Accountability Office."

Thank you.

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 6:47 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: OIG Notification - Audit of BBG Compliance with Improper Payments Informa...

Someone needs to translate this into English and tell us what is really going on here. What has occurred to trigger this?

Victor

In a message dated 12/18/2012 6:25:36 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

The Board and IBB Director Lobo just received the attached OIG notification regarding a new audit entitled, "Audit of Broadcasting Board of Governors Compliance with the Improper Payments Information Act."

We will provide additional information about the audit as we receive it.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 6:47 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO Draft Report - BBG: Additional Steps Needed to Address Overlap in Int..

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 3:16 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Proposed statement on events in Russia

I do not concur with support for Masha Gessen at this stage. My hope is that the Board directed review by Jeff Trimble will include an assessment of Gessen and whether she is the right person to lead RFERL in Moscow or outside Russia if Putin removes RFERL from Russia which I think is more likely than not over the next year or so.

However, I find it disappointing and offensive that the current RFERL leadership has not provided the materials which the Strategy and Budget Committee requested on Gessen. That includes a copy of her contract and salary information. Information on the search process which produced her. To date the information has been withheld. This was the subject of a strong conversation between Korn and Gov. Meehan in November before a large number of persons at RFA headquarters on M Street.

Jeff Trimble needs to look at the current programming under Gessen, how the fired employees are treated and strategy to win back dissidents to like RFERL again. We need to give a statement to Jeff as to what he needs to do. He also needs to complete it by April (not 6 months from now).

If a majority of the Board insists on backing Gessen then it seems to me that the Board has tacitly condoned the 41 firings in Moscow as I have been told that Gessen played a significant role in these firings. Trimble needs to review how her role as a paid consultant to RFERL prior to her becoming Moscow director may have impacted the decision to terminate these people and then quickly hire 11 to 13 of her people to fill some of those positions. I will not in good conscience sign off on a statement in support of Gessen. Her future at RFERL is still to be determined in my opinion. Endorsing her at this stage is putting the cart before the horse. If a majority of the Board issues such a statement, I will issue an opposing view respectfully differing.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/18/2012 2:29:59 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Presiding Governor Lynton requested that we circulate this statement for Board consideration, to be released in the Board's name:

"We wish to reiterate our support for Masha Gessen's leadership as the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Russian Service Director. The review of the situation mandated by the Board will include an assessment of RFE/RL's operations in Russia and the events of the past few months in order to draw lessons as we reaffirm our historic mission and continue to work to strengthen the service in the months and years ahead."

Please let us know your views.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 17, 2012 6:18 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Senator Inouye

this is very sad and yes we should send a letter of condolences to his widow.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/17/2012 6:17:02 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

As you may have seen from news coverage*, Senator Daniel Inouye has passed away. We will be monitoring further coverage to establish the means by which to send a condolence note to his family if you would like to do that.

During Senator Inouye's hospitalization, Senator Patrick Leahy has been fulfilling his leadership duties, including floor-managing current appropriations legislation. There has been no announcement of a successor to Senator Inouye as chairman of the Appropriations Committee.

Lynne

Hawaii Sen. Daniel Inouye dies at age 88

By Chris Cillizza , Updated: December 17, 2012

Hawaii Democratic Sen. Daniel Inouye has died at age 88, his office confirmed Monday night.

His last word, according to a statement released by his staff, was "Aloha".

Inouye has been hospitalized since early December due to respiratory problems. His cause of death was "respiratory complications".

Inouye had served in the Senate since 1962 and represented Hawaii since 1954. He served as the Senate pro tempore — the designation for the chamber's longest serving Senator — and the person third in line to the presidency. He also chaired the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee at the time of his death.

As the Post's Jason Horowitz wrote in a 2010 profile of Inouye:

“More than any other statesman in the history of these volcanic islands — more than Kamehameha the Great, who united them into a kingdom in 1810, or Gov. John Burns, who led the political revolution that established Democratic Party rule here in 1954 — Inouye, 86, has ruled over Hawaii.”

Immediately following Inouye's death, his colleagues took to the Senate floor to remember him. “His service to the Senate will be with the greats of this body,” said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (Nev.).

Inouye's seat will be filled by an appointment by Gov. Neil Abercrombie (D). He will pick from three finalists provided by the state Democratic Party. State law requires that Inouye must be replaced by a senator from the same political party. Inouye's seat is up for a full term in 2016.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, December 15, 2012 12:57 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Secretary Clinton injured

very sorry.

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Sat, Dec 15, 2012 12:25 pm
Subject: Secretary Clinton injured

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate
Release

December 15, 2012

2012/1993

STATEMENT BY PHILIPPE REINES, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

While suffering from a stomach virus, Secretary Clinton became dehydrated and fainted, sustaining a concussion. She has been recovering at home and will continue to be monitored regularly by her doctors. At their recommendation, she will continue to work from home next week, staying in regular contact with Department and other officials. She is looking forward to being back in the office soon.

###

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 14, 2012 7:10 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

no need to make this complicated....just establish public forum and a time limit for agenda.

I did it for 16 years at city council. It becomes routine pretty fast

Victor
-----Original Message-----
From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Dec 14, 2012 6:59 pm
Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

I am glad that the Board today decided to consider this matter. We will research and recommend policy options for the Governance Committee to review after the holidays as requested below.

Best regards to all,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, December 14, 2012 6:13 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

agree..should have a time limit 3 to 5 mins each....Victor

-----Original Message-----
From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Dec 14, 2012 5:03 pm
Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Lynne (and team) can you give thoughts over the holidays about how to structure public comments in the future? With some ideas in hand, we'll convene the Governance Cmt to recommend a policy for the full board.

We should have one in place for the next meeting.
Thanks all, and if I do not see you before the New Year, have a safe, peaceful and inspiring holiday break.
Susan

On Dec 13, 2012, at 9:00 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

If she wants to speak...fine with me...suggest a 4 or 5 minute limit for future and this one.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <lweil@bbg.gov>

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6); [vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>](mailto:vhashe@aol.com); (b) (6)

(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

(b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble <jtrimble@bbg.gov>; (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Dec 13, 2012 4:02 pm

Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Hello, (b) (6)

I am unaware of any further discussion among the Governors on this topic since your November 30 exchange about it with the recipients of this e-mail chain. Should there be a decision, I will be happy to let you know.

Looking forward to seeing you tomorrow,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2012 4:43:21 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6); (b) (6)

(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynne:

My reservation to attend tomorrow's meeting has been confirmed. I have arrived in DC.

I am most hopeful that by now there has been a decision made about permitting me or not permitting me to provide a 3 minute comment during tomorrow's meeting. Please let me know.

Thank you.

All the best,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6) v

To: (b) (6)

CC: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com;

(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Date: Fri, 30 Nov 2012 15:30:10 +0000

Hello, (b) (6)

Thank you for the additional information, which will further inform the discussion.

As indicated below, the choice was not mine alone and involved consultation with Board leadership. Now that all of the Governors have been engaged on the matter, I'll be back in touch with you on their decision when it is made.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 10:17 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynn:

What a shame. If the BBG invites the public, why not allow for comment? Are there any specific rules within the BBG that prevent public comments at meetings?

Here are some links to show that the public's verbal comments are welcome at other federal agency meetings.

This is a link to the meeting regulations for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission:
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/brochures/br0297/br0297.pdf>

This is a link to a meeting announcement for Department of Health and Human Services Meeting of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS:
<http://aids.gov/federal-resources/pacha/meetings/2010/june-2010-meeting-notice.pdf>

It's my understanding that one benefit of the Sunshine Act was so that government wouldn't hold "***closed door, we're not doing anything good and we don't want anyone to know that***" type meetings.

I'd like to request the proper channels through which I can appeal your decision to deny a 3-minute comment at the BBG's December 14, 2012 Full Board Meeting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)
[Redacted signature block]

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:
Date: Thu, 29 Nov 2012 18:01:54 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

Thanks again for your ongoing interest in US international broadcasting.

Sorry it took a little while to get back to you, but since the request from a member of the public to make remarks at the open meeting has no precedent that anyone here is aware of, I needed to check with several people, including Board leadership.

Unfortunately, the press of regular business at open Board meetings does not leave time for speaking requests from the public. There is an opportunity at periodic "town hall" type meetings. This board has held one such meeting and is working to identify the next available date.

When the notice is posted for the Board's December 14 open meeting in keeping with the Government in the Sunshine Act, there will be the usual opportunity for members of the public to attend as observers on a first-come, first-served basis. As a courtesy, I will flag the notice for your attention when BBG Public Affairs posts it. As you know, members of the public are invited to observe at these meetings.

If you have input you'd like to offer, I'm happy to facilitate that with the Board.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 11:21 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:

Good morning (b) (6)

I've received your request and am checking on the process from this end. I hope to get back to you by the end of the day.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 9:01 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject:

Dear Lynne:

This is a request to attend and to speak for 3 minutes at the upcoming BBG Full Board Meeting on December 14, 2012.

Please let me know how to proceed with this request or to whom else I should direct this request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)
[Redacted signature block]

(b) (6)

(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynne:

My reservation to attend tomorrow's meeting has been confirmed. I have arrived in DC.

I am most hopeful that by now there has been a decision made about permitting me or not permitting me to provide a 3 minute comment during tomorrow's meeting. Please let me know.

Thank you.

All the best,

(b) (6)
[Redacted signature block]

From: lweil@bbg.gov
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com;
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting
Date: Fri, 30 Nov 2012 15:30:10 +0000

Hello, (b) (6)

Thank you for the additional information, which will further inform the discussion.

As indicated below, the choice was not mine alone and involved consultation with Board leadership. Now that all of the Governors have been engaged on the matter, I'll be back in touch with you on their decision when it is made.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 10:17 AM
To: Lynne Well
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynn:

What a shame. If the BBG invites the public, why not allow for comment? Are there any specific rules within the BBG that prevent public comments at meetings?

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I'd like to request the proper channels through which I can appeal your decision to deny a 3-minute comment at the BBG's December 14, 2012 Full Board Meeting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)
[Redacted signature block]

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:
Date: Thu, 29 Nov 2012 18:01:54 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

Thanks again for your ongoing interest in US international broadcasting.

Sorry it took a little while to get back to you, but since the request from a member of the public to make remarks at the open meeting has no precedent that anyone here is aware of, I needed to check with several people, including Board leadership.

Unfortunately, the press of regular business at open Board meetings does not leave time for speaking requests from the public. There is an opportunity at periodic "town hall" type meetings. This board has held one such meeting and is working to identify the next available date.

When the notice is posted for the Board's December 14 open meeting in keeping with the Government in the Sunshine Act, there will be the usual opportunity for members of the public to attend as observers on a first-come, first-served basis. As a courtesy, I will flag the notice for your attention when BBG Public Affairs posts it. As you know, members of the public are invited to observe at these meetings.

If you have input you'd like to offer, I'm happy to facilitate that with the Board.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 11:21 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:

Good morning, (b) (6)

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Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 9:01 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject:

Dear Lynne:

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Please let me know how to proceed with this request or to whom else I should direct this request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)
[Redacted signature block]

(b) (6)
[Redacted footer line]

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2012 9:00 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

If she wants to speak...fine with me...suggest a 4 or 5 minute limit for future and this one.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 13, 2012 4:02 pm
Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Hello, (b) (6)

I am unaware of any further discussion among the Governors on this topic since your November 30 exchange about it with the recipients of this e-mail chain. Should there be a decision, I will be happy to let you know.

Looking forward to seeing you tomorrow,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2012 4:43:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynne:

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I am most hopeful that by now there has been a decision made about permitting me or not permitting me to provide a 3 minute comment during tomorrow's meeting. Please let me know.

Thank you.

All the best,

(b) (6)
[Redacted signature block]

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com;
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting
Date: Fri, 30 Nov 2012 15:30:10 +0000

Hello, Ann –

Thank you for the additional information, which will further inform the discussion.

As indicated below, the choice was not mine alone and involved consultation with Board leadership. Now that all of the Governors have been engaged on the matter, I'll be back in touch with you on their decision when it is made.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 10:17 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynn:

What a shame. If the BBG invites the public, why not allow for comment? Are there any specific rules within the BBG that prevent public comments at meetings?

Here are some links to show that the public's verbal comments are welcome at other federal agency meetings.

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<http://aids.gov/federal-resources/pacha/meetings/2010/june-2010-meeting-notice.pdf>

It's my understanding that one benefit of the Sunshine Act was so that government wouldn't hold "*closed door, we're not doing anything good and we don't want anyone to know that*" type meetings.

I'd like to request the proper channels through which I can appeal your decision to deny a 3-minute comment at the BBG's December 14, 2012 Full Board Meeting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)
[Redacted signature block]

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)

Subject: RE:

Date: Thu, 29 Nov 2012 18:01:54 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

Thanks again for your ongoing interest in US international broadcasting.

Sorry it took a little while to get back to you, but since the request from a member of the public to make remarks at the open meeting has no precedent that anyone here is aware of, I needed to check with several people, including Board leadership.

Unfortunately, the press of regular business at open Board meetings does not leave time for speaking requests from the public. There is an opportunity at periodic "town hall" type meetings. This board has held one such meeting and is working to identify the next available date.

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If you have input you'd like to offer, I'm happy to facilitate that with the Board.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 11:21 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:

Good morning, (b) (6)

I've received your request and am checking on the process from this end. I hope to get back to you by the end of the day.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 9:01 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject:

Dear Lynne:

This is a request to attend and to speak for 3 minutes at the upcoming BBG Full Board Meeting on December 14, 2012.

Please let me know how to proceed with this request or to whom else I should direct this request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

(b) (6) [Redacted]

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2012 7:26 AM
To: Letitia King; (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Burma

thanks much Victor

In a message dated 12/11/2012 6:06:22 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Just want to confirm the change was made yesterday following the clarification.

Regards,
Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:20 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Cc: Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Burma

probably but as a news item it makes more sense to refer to a one hour and 15 min visit as a visit ...hope it is changed.

Victor

In a message dated 12/10/2012 4:18:25 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

this is probably a semantic issue

it was indeed a substantive visit - but our request for the meeting was made in courtesy of being allowed in the country

(b)

On 12/10/12 4:11 PM, Lynne Weil wrote:

The Director of RFA's Burmese Service described it as a courtesy visit in an e-mail last week. If that is incorrect, we can change it on the BBG Website to "visit."

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 4:09 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Burma

the story on the meeting with the President of Myanmar (Burma) is also misleading in describing it as a courtesy meeting...perhaps this has been changed. However, the three of us met for an hour and 15 minutes...that was a serious discussion of numerous issues...a courtesy visit suggests a photo opt and 15 mins which this was not at all. Urge it be corrected.

Victor Ashe

--
(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2012 4:46 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

very important that we do so...Thanks Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/11/2012 1:32:36 A.M. Eastern Standard Time (b) (6) writes:

We'll discuss in full during this week's meetings.

Dick

Sent from my iPad

On Dec 11, 2012, at 1:17 AM, Michael Meehan (b) (6) wrote:

Let's put on the agenda for this week the need to reopen the polling contact. Thx.

From: (b) (6)
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2012 22:42:10 +0000
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

Governors,

We have learned that The Gallup Organization (GALLUP) was suspended from doing business with the Federal Government on December 6, 2012 by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA ("the Suspending Official"). GALLUP was notified by certified mail, but has not yet indicated that it knows about the suspension. Nevertheless, we anticipate that there could be press reports concerning the suspension soon.

We will provide additional information about this matter during Governors' Briefing this Friday morning.

The Suspending Official's action indicates there is evidence that immediate action is necessary to protect the Government's interest. GALLUP's suspension is effective throughout the Executive Branch, including BBG. Under the law, contractors suspended are excluded from receiving contracts and Executive Branch agencies are precluded from soliciting offers from or awarding contracts to, or consenting to subcontracts with these contractors, unless the Agency determines that there is a compelling reason to do so.

A contractor suspension endures for a temporary period, pending the completion of investigations and any ensuing legal proceedings, unless sooner terminated by the Suspending Official. If legal proceedings are not initiated within 12 months after the date of the suspension notice, the suspension shall be terminated unless the Assistant Attorney General requests its extension, in which case it may be extended for an additional 6 months.

What this means for BBG?

BBG may continue its existing contract with GALLUP, but may not issue task orders under the contract unless the Agency finds that there is a compelling reason to do so.

Based on input from the Director of Strategy and Development, the Office of General Counsel and the Agency's Procurement Executive, I believe that there is a compelling reason to continue to issue task orders for research to Gallup on an interim basis. The International Broadcasting Act mandates BBG to conduct audience research, which is used to evaluate and assess the impact of BBG-sponsored broadcasting activities, which is also required by law. To replace GALLUP as a source of research, BBG will have to initiate a new procurement activity, a competitive process which is governed by the Federal Acquisition Regulations (the FAR), and could take 3 – 5 months (but may take up to a year) to conclude.

Because of the statutory mandate for research and the important programmatic role of audience research in BBG's activities, I have determined, as IBB Director, that there is a compelling reason to continue to award task orders for research to GALLUP under its existing contract until an alternate source of research can be responsibly procured. The Agency will begin work forthwith on a new procurement to replace GALLUP.

If GALLUP's suspension is terminated during the pendency of the new procurement activity, BBG would have adequate justification to cancel the new procurement if it were in the Agency's interest to do so.

Dick

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:45 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

This is what makes it hard to understand why BBG gives them a waiver...because it would require extra work for us...and delay research....not sure I understand the logic here. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/10/2012 9:43:10 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

It sure seems like something serious if Homeland Security has suspended them across the entire Executive Branch. Has this happened before to other outside vendors as established as Gallup? Are there other polling companies with the international reach of Gallup that could be quickly considered? Many questions - we can discuss Thurs/Fri. Thanks

On Dec 10, 2012, at 9:36 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Fully agree with Gov. Meehan. While I do not mean to be critical of Director Lobo, I would have preferred that he had waited on his finding until the Board had met with him and talked it over. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/10/2012 7:16:56 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Let's put on the agenda for this week the need to reopen the polling contact. Thx.

From: (b) (6)
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2012 22:42:10 +0000
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

Governors,

We have learned that The Gallup Organization (GALLUP) was suspended from doing business with the Federal Government on December 6, 2012 by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA ("the Suspending Official"). GALLUP was notified by certified mail, but has not yet indicated that it knows about the suspension. Nevertheless, we anticipate that there could be press reports concerning the suspension soon.

We will provide additional information about this matter during Governors' Briefing this Friday morning.

The Suspending Official's action indicates there is evidence that immediate action is necessary to protect the Government's interest. GALLUP's suspension is effective throughout the

Executive Branch, including BBG. Under the law, contractors suspended are excluded from receiving contracts and Executive Branch agencies are precluded from soliciting offers from or awarding contracts to, or consenting to subcontracts with these contractors, unless the Agency determines that there is a compelling reason to do so.

A contractor suspension endures for a temporary period, pending the completion of investigations and any ensuing legal proceedings, unless sooner terminated by the Suspending Official. If legal proceedings are not initiated within 12 months after the date of the suspension notice, the suspension shall be terminated unless the Assistant Attorney General requests its extension, in which case it may be extended for an additional 6 months.

What this means for BBG?

BBG may continue its existing contract with GALLUP, but may not issue task orders under the contract unless the Agency finds that there is a compelling reason to do so.

Based on input from the Director of Strategy and Development, the Office of General Counsel and the Agency's Procurement Executive, I believe that there is a compelling reason to continue to issue task orders for research to Gallup on an interim basis. The International Broadcasting Act mandates BBG to conduct audience research, which is used to evaluate and assess the impact of BBG-sponsored broadcasting activities, which is also required by law. To replace GALLUP as a source of research, BBG will have to initiate a new procurement activity, a competitive process which is governed by the Federal Acquisition Regulations (the FAR), and could take 3 – 5 months (but may take up to a year) to conclude.

Because of the statutory mandate for research and the important programmatic role of audience research in BBG's activities, I have determined, as IBB Director, that there is a compelling reason to continue to award task orders for research to GALLUP under its existing contract until an alternate source of research can be responsibly procured. The Agency will begin work forthwith on a new procurement to replace GALLUP.

If GALLUP's suspension is terminated during the pendency of the new procurement activity, BBG would have adequate justification to cancel the new procurement if it were in the Agency's interest to do so.

Dick

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:37 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

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Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2012 22:42:10 +0000
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Dick

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:34 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

This is most disturbing and suggests the Board needs to consider the matter this week. I feel the IBB Director should seek advice from the Board on this matter and not act without our advice.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/10/2012 5:42:48 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

We have learned that The Gallup Organization (GALLUP) was suspended from doing business with the Federal Government on December 6, 2012 by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA ("the Suspending Official"). GALLUP was notified by certified mail, but has not yet indicated that it knows about the suspension. Nevertheless, we anticipate that there could be press reports concerning the suspension soon.

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Dick

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:21 PM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Cc: Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Burma

probably but as a news item it makes more sense to refer to a one hour and 15 min visit as a visit ...hope it is changed.

Victor

In a message dated 12/10/2012 4:18:25 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

this is probably a semantic issue

it was indeed a substantive visit - but our request for the meeting was made in courtesy of being allowed in the country

(b) (6)

On 12/10/12 4:11 PM, Lynne Weil wrote:

The Director of RFA's Burmese Service described it as a courtesy visit in an e-mail last week. If that is incorrect, we can change it on the BBG Website to "visit."

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 4:09 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Burma

the story on the meeting with the President of Myanmar (Burma) is also misleading in describing it as a courtesy meeting...perhaps this has been changed. However, the three of us met for an hour and 15 minutes...that was a serious discussion of numerous issues...a courtesy visit suggests a photo opt and 15 mins which this was not at all. Urge it be corrected.

Victor Ashe

--
(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Burma

that would be incorrect...it was a visit...Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/10/2012 4:11:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

The Director of RFA's Burmese Service described it as a courtesy visit in an e-mail last week. If that is incorrect, we can change it on the BBG Website to "visit."

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
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To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Burma

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Victor Ashe

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Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2012 5:19 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: correction on caption

Tish and Lynne

While I appreciate the article on BBG on the meeting I had along with Libby Liu with the President of Myanmar (Burma) it is probably not appropriate to refer to us by our first name on a news item like that which was done in the second sentence of the article.. Better to refer to Ms. Liu and Mr. Ashe. Also David Ensor, Director of VOA attended that meeting as well which should be noted.

Also would be good to have item on our meeting with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on Monday Dec 3 in Naypyihaw (sp) at her home there which also included Gov Meehan and Gov McCue. Since these two persons represent the different political views within the country, it is important to show we saw both of them. If you need a photo I am sure Ms. Liu or John Estrella or dan Meredith can get it to you. Even without photo, you can run an item on it.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 7:19 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Letter to two NC congressmen

why was it not shared with the Board prior to being sent as was done with letters to Congressman Rohrbacker? oversight or new policy? I think it always good to send these congressional letters out to Board members at same time as they go to Hill especially if they have not been shared with the Board in advance.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 5:17 pm
Subject: FW: Letter to two NC congressmen

Dear Victor,

I was happy to know you had a successful visit to Burma, and I'll look forward to hearing more about the trip upon your return.

In the meantime, I wanted you to know that we were able to resolve the matter I mentioned in an earlier e-mail (see below) involving thorough fact-checking of the information for the letter to Congress regarding the Murrow facility, and that letter went to the Hill. It will be included in the briefing books that Oanh and her team are sending to Board members tomorrow, but in the meantime I've attached a copy for you.

Wishing you a safe trip home,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 6:13 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Subject: RE: Letter to two NC congressmen

I completely agree, both from the point of view of this agency and my previous job at State, which has a large legislative affairs team and still sometimes sees long delays in responding to incoming correspondence.

But as a former senior congressional staffer serving the chairmen of two foreign affairs committees, I also expected Executive Branch agencies to be thorough and accurate in their replies.

Appreciate your making the distinction between my team's effort and the source of the delay. We'll get it done a.s.a.p.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 6:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Suzie Carroll
Subject: Re: Letter to two NC congressmen

I think it is important to be timely in answering congress...three weeks is pushing it in my view...not to be critical of you or your team but it should not take too long.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/29/2012 5:46:15 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good evening, Victor –

Apparently an internal fact-checking process involving more than one office is taking some time, but Suzie is staying on top of it. She received an update today, and is working to ensure that an accurate response is sent soon.

We'll send the final version to the Board.

Best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]

Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 5:30 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Subject: Letter to two NC congressmen

Lynne

Any idea when the letter from Congressmen Jones and Butterfield will be answered as it has been about three weeks now from when it arrived.

Thanks for letting me know. Will it be circulated to Board members?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 4:38 PM
To: Lynne Weil;(b) (6)
Subject: Murrow station letter

Lynne and Dick

You indicated the Murrow Station inquiry letter from the two NC Congressmen would be circulated to the Board prior to being answered. Wonder if it is still being reviewed or what. It has been 4 weeks since the letter arrived and was shared with Board? Will Board get to see it prior to being answered?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 4:25 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Governance committee

great

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

From: Letitia King <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 3:28 pm
Subject: RE: Governance committee

Dear Ambassador Ashe,

Hope your trip is going well and you have enjoyed Burma. It looks from the pictures VOA sent along like there was quite a signing ceremony. Glad you could make it.

On your question, we have the Board meeting and Governance Committee meetings on the BBG website. We have not publicized internal panels in the past such as China and Indonesia in recent months. Individual entity board meetings are up to the entities themselves to handle.

Thanks so much and look forward to seeing you next week.

Tish

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 1:23 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Governance committee

is anything being carried on the BBG web site on the Governance committee meeting on Dec 13 at 430 and RFERL Board meeting Dec 14 at 0800?

or the panel on Russia (even if all are closed?)

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 1:23 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Governance committee

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Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 8:02 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed quote

I like Michael's revision even better...should name each of the three Governors who are here...plus Ensor and Liu.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 7:29 am
Subject: Re: Proposed quote

They signed off on the quote a little while ago, but Michael has since offered a revision:

"The leadership of BBG, RFA and VOA are committed to helping the people of Burma open up a free media during this historic time of democratic transition," said the BBG delegation. "On the heels of last months historic visit by President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton, BBB board members and staff have been on the ground in discussions with the government officials, leaders such as Aung San Suu Kyi, media companies and citizens look to expand the free flow of information within Burma. Today's signing is another step to reach even more of the Burmese people through satellite television."

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 7:51:13 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed quote

OK with me if OK with Michael and Susan...need to hear from them. Mention RFA Libby Liu was there too.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 6:51 am
Subject: Proposed quote

Good morning, Victor --

I hear the trip is going well. Can't wait to know details when you all return.

There will be a news release out of today's SkyNet signing ceremony, timed to go

out just afterward (in the wee hours in DC). It's still a work in progress, but we have this proposed joint statement from Susan, Michael and you:

"During this pivotal time, it is especially important that the Burmese people receive up-to-the minute, objective news and information. We welcome this opportunity to help foster a fresh perspective."

Does that look all right to you?

Thanks,

Lynne

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Does that look all right to you?

Thanks,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 7:34 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: FYI: Lowey Wins Race for Top House Democratic Appropriator

thanks...does Kay Granger stay as chair?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Tue, Dec 4, 2012 7:32 pm
Subject: Re: FYI: Lowey Wins Race for Top House Democratic Appropriator

That has yet to be decided. Given Rep. Jackson's recent resignation, we can expect a few new Members on the subcommittee next year. I will keep you posted as additional assignments are made.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 7:24:26 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FYI: Lowey Wins Race for Top House Democratic Appropriator

who replaces her on the subcommittee as making member? Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
Sent: Tue, Dec 4, 2012 6:30 pm
Subject: FYI: Lowey Wins Race for Top House Democratic Appropriator

Governors,

Wanted you to be aware that Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY) has been selected as the top Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee for the 113th Congress. The current ranking member, Norm Dicks (D-WA), is retiring at the end of this session.

For the past several years, Mrs. Lowey has served as the ranking member or chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations which has oversight of the BBG's annual appropriation.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Lowey Wins Race for Top House Democratic Appropriator

By Kerry Young, CQ Roll Call

Rep. Nita M. Lowey of New York will become the top Democrat on the Appropriations Committee in the 113th Congress, beating out a colleague with more seniority in a vote Tuesday before the House Democratic Steering Committee.

Lowey, who will be the first woman to hold the post, won the initial round of the contest over Rep. Marcy Kaptur of Ohio. An aide said the vote was 36-10. Kaptur earlier on Tuesday told reporters that she and Lowey had a "gentleladies' agreement" to abide by the decision of the steering committee and not contest the vote before the whole caucus.

She succeeds veteran appropriator Rep. Norm Dicks, D-Wash., who is retiring at the end of the current Congress.

Going by seniority, Kaptur would have ascended to the top spot on the panel, which she has served on for 22 years. But she had a couple of limiting factors: She is a consistent opponent of expanding abortion rights and in the past has had a rocky relationship with Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

Lowey is third in seniority on the panel and fits more neatly into leadership, with her past tenure leading the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. She was also expected to have the support of Pelosi.

Lowey also argued she has more leadership experience on Appropriations, having served as the chairwoman of the State-Foreign Operations panel in the 110th and 111th Congresses. While Kaptur had been a senior Democrat on the Agriculture Appropriations panel, she gave up her seniority there several years ago to switch to a more junior post on the Defense panel. In doing so, she gave up a chance at being a subcommittee chairwoman, or cardinal, when the Democrats held the House.

On the Republican side, Rep. Harold Rogers of Kentucky will return as chairman.

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 4:24 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on December 13, 2012

One question,,,,are entity heads plus Ensor and Garcia being notified of this and invited to attend meeting?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Dec 4, 2012 4:13 pm
Subject: Draft Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on December 13, 2012

Dear Governance Committee Members,

Attached please find a draft agenda for the Governance Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, December 13, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Mulhaupt.

Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the draft agenda.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 4:17 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on December 13, 2012

seems OK...Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
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Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 11:06 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

I think we should develop a method by which this can be accommodated. If the BBG meetings are public then it should not be hard to let interested citizens who pay for BBG speak. There should be a time limit. Five minutes seems reasonable per person with a requirement to sign up on a first come basis. Other federal agencies do this. I do not think it would be difficult and would send positive signals as to our interest in hearing from not just employees but citizens in general. My experience with this over the years has been positive.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>; vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Nov 30, 2012 10:30 am
Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Hello, (b) (6)

Thank you for the additional information, which will further inform the discussion.

As indicated below, the choice was not mine alone and involved consultation with Board leadership. Now that all of the Governors have been engaged on the matter, I'll be back in touch with you on their decision when it is made.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 10:17 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynn:

What a shame. If the BBG invites the public, why not allow for comment? Are there any specific rules within the BBG that prevent public comments at meetings?

Here are some links to show that the public's verbal comments are welcome at other federal agency meetings.

This is a link to the meeting regulations for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission:
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/brochures/br0297/br0297.pdf>

This is a link to a meeting announcement for Department of Health and Human Services Meeting of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS:
<http://aids.gov/federal-resources/pacha/meetings/2010/june-2010-meeting-notice.pdf>

It's my understanding that one benefit of the Sunshine Act was so that government wouldn't hold "***closed door, we're not doing anything good and we don't want anyone to know that***" type meetings.

I'd like to request the proper channels through which I can appeal your decision to deny a 3-minute comment at the BBG's December 14, 2012 Full Board Meeting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

CC: (b) (6)

Subject: RE:

Date: Thu, 29 Nov 2012 18:01:54 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

Thanks again for your ongoing interest in US international broadcasting.

Sorry it took a little while to get back to you, but since the request from a member of the public to make remarks at the open meeting has no precedent that anyone here is aware of, I needed to check with several people, including Board leadership.

Unfortunately, the press of regular business at open Board meetings does not leave time for speaking requests from the public. There is an opportunity at periodic "town hall" type meetings. This board has held one such meeting and is working to identify the next available date.

When the notice is posted for the Board's December 14 open meeting in keeping with the Government in the Sunshine Act, there will be the usual opportunity for members of the public to attend as observers on a first-come, first-served basis. As a courtesy, I will flag the notice for your attention when BBG Public Affairs posts it. As you know, members of the public are invited to observe at these meetings.

If you have input you'd like to offer, I'm happy to facilitate that with the Board.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil

Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 11:21 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: RE:

Good morning, (b) (6)

I've received your request and am checking on the process from this end. I hope to get back to you by the end of the day.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 9:01 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject:

Dear Lynne:

This is a request to attend and to speak for 3 minutes at the upcoming BBG Full Board Meeting on December 14, 2012.

Please let me know how to proceed with this request or to whom else I should direct this request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)



Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 6:19 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Letter to two NC congressmen

we concur on this in terms of timeliness. Obviously I have not seen the response. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/29/2012 6:14:17 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

I completely agree, both from the point of view of this agency and my previous job at State, which has a large legislative affairs team and still sometimes sees long delays in responding to incoming correspondence.

But as a former senior congressional staffer serving the chairmen of two foreign affairs committees, I also expected Executive Branch agencies to be thorough and accurate in their replies.

Appreciate your making the distinction between my team's effort and the source of the delay. We'll get it done a.s.a.p.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 6:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Letter to two NC congressmen

I think it is important to be timely in answering congress...three weeks is pushing it in my view...not to be critical of you or your team but it should not take too long.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/29/2012 5:46:15 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good evening, Victor --

Apparently an internal fact-checking process involving more than one office is taking some time, but Suzie is staying on top of it. She received an update today, and is working to ensure that an accurate response is sent soon.

We'll send the final version to the Board.

Best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]

Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 5:30 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Subject: Letter to two NC congressmen

Lynne

Any idea when the letter from Congressmen Jones and Butterfield will be answered as it has been about three weeks now from when it arrived.

Thanks for letting me know. Will it be circulated to Board members?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 6:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Letter to two NC congressmen

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Lynne

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Thanks for letting me know. Will it be circulated to Board members?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 5:27 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I think an update is in order since we last discussed it in October or perhaps it was September...not sure exactly,

Victor

In a message dated 11/29/2012 5:23:04 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

We would be happy to discuss BBG research/Gallup issues further, in private, if the Board leadership wishes.

As to why the OIG at State is taking so long I cannot answer.

Dick Lobo

On Thu, Nov 29, 2012 at 5:05 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

I think we should discuss this in private when we meet on December 13-14. I am surprised the OIG inquiry may take another 3 to 4 months when it already has had it for two months and I was told at the start it would be 2 to 3 months but now appears to be 4 to 6 months...why is the time period doubled?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/29/2012 3:58:21 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Govenors,

I asked Paul Kollmer-Dorsey to prepare the enclosed document.

It is self-explanatory.

Please note it is not for public distribution.

Dick Lobo

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 5:06 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I think we should discuss this in private when we meet on December 13-14. I am surprised the OIG inquiry may take another 3 to 4 months when it already has had it for two months and I was told at the start it would be 2 to 3 months but now appears to be 4 to 6 months...why is the time period doubled?

Victor Ashe

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I asked Paul Kollmer-Dorsey to prepare the enclosed document.

It is self-explanatory.

Please note it is not for public distribution.

Dick Lobo

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 12:04 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble;
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Rep. Royce Wins Foreign Affairs Chairmanship

should do the same for the ranking member when he/she is chosen as Congressman Berman was defeated. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble <jtrimble@bbg.gov>; (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, 27 Nov 2012 17:08
Subject: Rep. Royce Wins Foreign Affairs Chairmanship

Governors,

As you are aware, Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA) had expressed interest in serving as the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in the 113th Congress. This afternoon, it became official. Please see the article below for more information.

We will work on drafting a congratulatory letter from the Board to Mr. Royce.

Best,
Suzie

Royce Wins Foreign Affairs Chairmanship
By Emily Cadei, CQ Roll Call

California Republican Ed Royce will be the new chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in the next Congress, according to a GOP leadership aide.

As anticipated, the 10-term congressman from Orange County defeated Rep. Christopher H. Smith, R-N.J., for the post in a Republican caucus vote on Tuesday. The current chairwoman, Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla., is stepping down due to House GOP term limits.

Royce currently chairs the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade and plans to continue to emphasize oversight of U.S. counterterrorism programs. He is also a member of the House Financial Services Committee and hopes to tap that expertise to help shape U.S. trade and export control policies from the helm of Foreign Affairs.

Though a conservative, Royce is not considered to be as polarizing as Ros-Lehtinen, who has been a harsh critic of the Obama administration's foreign policies, particularly related to the Middle East, Cuba and the United Nations.

Democrats will also have a new face leading the committee's minority, after Rep. Howard L. Berman, D-Calif., lost reelection in November. Rep. Eliot L. Engel, D-N.Y., is the favorite to win the ranking member post.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2012 11:59 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: FYI

thanks for letting me have this. RFA at its Nov 15 Board meeting reviewed this and did not come to the same conclusion. The review was in depth.

However, it is what the Congressman feels so we must look hard at it.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
CC: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Tue, 27 Nov 2012 22:02
Subject: FYI

Rep Rohrabacher believes "abrupt dismissal" of Radio Free Asia Tibetan director was "for political reasons."

Posted: 27 Nov 2012 05:27 AM PST



Tibet Sun, 20 Nov 2012, Lobsang Wangyal: "Radio Free Asia (RFA) has dismissed Nagpo Jigme, its director of Tibetan Language Service, without revealing the reasons for his sacking. Npo has been director of the Radio Free Asia Tibetan Service since its inception 16 years ago. Jamyang Norbu, author, intellectual, and prominent supporter of Tibetan independence, also had his contract terminated by RFA, a few months ago. It is speculated that pressure from the Central Tibetan Administration in Dharamshala is responsible for the recent removal of the long-time Director. On being asked by Tibet Sun about the reasons for Ngapo's dismissal, RFA's Media Relations Manager Rohit Mahajan replied in an email: '... Speculation that Mr Ngapo's employment was terminated for political reasons is categorically untrue,' and that reports of Ngapo was escorted from the building by security personnel are false. ... In a letter to Radio Free Asia President Libby Liu on 15 November inquiring about Ngapo's dismissal, US Congressman Dana Rohrabacher expressed concerns about censorship in the radio service. Rohrabacher wrote, 'I have reason to believe that he was terminated for political reasons.'"

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, November 18, 2012 1:47 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: PAR Report

thanks for this. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/18/2012 12:21:14 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors, on Friday we posted the Agency's annual Performance and Accountability Report on the BBG website:

<http://www.bbg.gov/about-the-agency/research-reports/performance-accountability/>

We are printing hard copies and will have them available on Monday, should you wish to have one.

We previewed the annual audience numbers -- one performance measure in the PAR -- in a press event and release, and at this past week's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting. The full report is an integrated presentation of the Agency's program performance, financial accountability, and managerial effectiveness and is intended to assist Congress, the President, and the public in assessing the BBG's performance during FY 2012.

Much hard work by many employees goes into this report. Special thanks goes to Senior Management Analyst Theresa Beatty as the lead author.

Please contact us with any questions or comments.

Regards
Jeff

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2012 5:29 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: December meeting

thanks much. I appreciate you following up so well.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Nov 15, 2012 5:24 pm
Subject: December meeting

Victor,

Good seeing you today, and thanks again for our short discussion.

FYI, Oanh awaits final confirmation from Presiding Governor Lynton regarding December 14; as soon as she has that, we'll post the customary notice about the meeting date.

Once the Board has agreed to an agenda, we'll update the notice on the website to reflect that.

All the best,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2012 8:49 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: December, 2012 meeting missing from calendar

Lynne

Do you know something I do not know namely that the December BBG meeting is canceled as it is NOT listed on the list of upcoming BBG meetings. Only yesterday I received a request for my travel plans for the December meeting?

Should it not be listed on the web site? to my knowledge it has not been canceled.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2012 2:42 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: thanks for call

Appreciate the call on BBG meetings going up on BBG web site for now to end of May, 2013. Hope the December meeting actually happens. Perhaps a Town Hall meeting then too as there has not been one all of 2012.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2012 2:42 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: thanks for call

Appreciate the call on BBG meetings going up on BBG web site for now to end of May, 2013. Hope the December meeting actually happens. Perhaps a Town Hall meeting then too as there has not been one all of 2012.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2012 2:28 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Annual Global Audience Estimate

I always think it would be a good/nice idea to include those Governors on a conference call to the Hill where several Governors are acquainted so anyone wishing to listen could do so. This apparently is not done but I want to suggest it.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>; IBB Staff <(b) (6)>
(b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Sent: Wed, Nov 14, 2012 1:11 pm
Subject: BBG Annual Global Audience Estimate

Governors,

Attached and below, please find a news release about the BBG's annual global audience estimate that is about to go out; it will be familiar already to the members of the Communications Committee.

The news release and supporting documents, also attached, were prepared to coincide with a just-completed conference call that Dick Lobo and Bruce Sherman held with key Hill staffers, public diplomacy bloggers and other interested stakeholders. The conference call on the BBG's global audience estimate is done annually as a precursor to release of the Performance Accountability Report (PAR).

As you may recall, the PAR goes to the White House and Congress and is made available to the public each November 15; this year's PAR will be delayed by a day due to complications involving Superstorm Sandy. It will be released this Friday, Nov. 16.

Should you have any questions regarding the PAR or the global audience estimate released today, Bruce Sherman is standing by. The PAR is to be discussed during tomorrow's open meeting of the Strategy and Budget Committee.

Lynne

BBG Measures Audience Growth in Key Markets

Washington, D.C. – U.S. government-funded, civilian international broadcasters reached an estimated 175 million people per week on a variety of media platforms in 2012, including large audiences in countries that are key priorities for U.S. foreign policy, the Broadcasting Board of Governors announced today.

The figure, which reflects the combined viewership and listenership of Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Radio and TV Martí, Radio Free Asia and the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa), is a net decrease of 12 million from last year's record total as detailed in the BBG's annual Performance Accountability Report. While this drop likely reflects actual loss in overall audience, some of it may also be attributable to a change in research providers and resulting changes in the survey questionnaire, both of which occurred during FY 2012.

"Reliable and high-quality research informs our strategies, which in turn helps us fulfill our critical mission of reaching marketplaces around the globe, such as Afghanistan, Iraq, and Pakistan," said BBG Presiding Governor Michael Lynton. "This agency is committed to evaluating and assessing

performance through a rigorous research program as required by law. And as audience preferences change, we will continue to innovate on all platforms -- radio, TV, the Internet and social media."

Audiences grew substantially in Iran, where more than 10 million people watch or hear BBG programs, and in other key countries including Libya, and Ethiopia. The largest change was in Indonesia, where audience numbers dropped by 17.4 million, from 38 million to 21 million people, in part due to a potential overestimate in 2011. Among other countries that saw audience declines were Egypt, Nigeria, and Burma, as these markets became more competitive and open; in Haiti, where surge broadcasts instituted after the 2010 earthquake diminished; and in Russia, where government media regulations have curtailed distribution.

BBG broadcasts reached significant audiences in other important markets, including 75 percent of the adult population in Afghanistan, 75 percent in the Somaliland and Puntland regions of Somalia, 67 percent in Iraq, 30 percent in Libya, and 27 percent in the FATA region of Pakistan. In FY 2012, the BBG enhanced its distribution network, adding new FM transmitters in key cities in Libya and Afghanistan.

Consistent with the practice of other international broadcasters, the BBG measures and reports unduplicated audience; each individual, regardless of how many programs watched or listened to, or media platforms used, is counted only once. This is a conservative approach to quantifying the audience and in keeping with the mission of BBG to inform and engage people, rather than count individual interactions with them.

Other indices of impact -- such how trustworthy audiences find BBG programming and how much the broadcasts increase their understanding, the scope or quality of an individual's consumption of BBG programming, the level of social media engagement, website page views, file downloads or media citations of BBG news coverage -- are important factors considered for program and strategic planning purposes.

Radio and TV are increasingly close in terms of reach by platform, with radio reaching more than 95 million people per week and television measures in at 92 million people. The Internet audience was between 12 and 13 million, with the largest online audiences measured in Iraq, at 2.7 million.

The audience estimate includes research conducted within the past five years in over 70 countries and territories and surveys representing 2.8 billion people in markets around the globe. The 2012 Performance and Accountability Report will be available to download on Nov. 16.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2012 2:31 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: BBG meetings

I gather that I am correct these dates are not listed. If am mistaken, please advise. It is a matter of public record that the Board has adopted all of these dates and would appear in the minutes of each of the meetings. Therefore, it would be hard to understand why they would not appear under future meetings on the BBG web site until such time (as has occurred with November 15) that the meeting is canceled.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/12/2012 2:15:17 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks for offering your personal views, Victor. I'll discuss them with the IBB's senior management team tomorrow, when the office is open.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2012 1:59:03 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: BBG meetings

Perhaps I am missing it on the BBG web site and you can direct me but I cannot located the Meetings set for December, February, March, April and May. The last 4 were approved by full Board vote in October.

If they are there, please send me the link to them.

Also there does not seem to be mention that the BBG November 15 full Board meeting has been canceled. Since it previously appeared as a meeting date and now has vanished, there ought to be some verbage as to why it is not occurring or it simply is not occurring in the interest of transparency and full explanation.

Just my personal views

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2012 1:59 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
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Just my personal views

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 4:39 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

I should point out that the Board as a Board has voted to meet November 15. Only a Board vote can cancel what the Board has voted to do. If it appears a quorum is not present and some wish to cancel the November 15-16 meeting, then a called Board meeting or a notational vote is needed to cancel the meeting. This decision cannot be arrived at informally or by the IBB Director with one or two Governors concurring with him. I urge Governors to consider an alternative date if the 15th and 16th do not work. I could attend earlier in the week or come Nov 19 or 20 if that worked. That too requires a Board vote.

Who is going to be our new interim replacement for Maryjean Buhler?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/16/2012 4:00:01 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in November.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board in December 2011, the Board is scheduled to meet on November 15 and 16, and the meeting will be held at RFA headquarters.

Because Presiding Governor Lynton cannot attend the November Board meeting, Alternate Presiding Governor Mulhaupt has suggested that all BBG-related meetings to take place on Thursday, November 15, at RFA headquarters. No meetings will be scheduled on Friday, November 16.

In the event that the Board cannot achieve a quorum for a meeting on November 15, even by phone or videoconference, the Board will need to decide whether to meet in December as it is currently scheduled as an optional meeting on December 13 and 14. (The next scheduled meeting after December is February 21-22, 2013.)

Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 4:06 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

I am available. If the full BBG board cannot meet due to 5 persons not being present (I assume Lynton cannot even attend by phone?)

However, the RFA Board can meet with 4 members present which is a quorum for RFA and Governance can meet if Ashe, McCue and Mulhaupt are present. I hope these groups will meet even if BBG lacks 5 persons for its quorum. Governance has failed to meet now since May..almost five months. RFE audit has not met for months either. MBN may need to meet as well.

Victor Ashe

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Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

| Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 6:40 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom

thanks for your call and action you plan on taking. Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letitia King (b) (6) >
Sent: Thu, Oct 11, 2012 6:12 pm
Subject: RE: BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom

Hello, Victor –

I'm on a conference call with the State Department. Will call you soon. (b) (6) >

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 6:09 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom

I would like to discuss a statement here which is inaccurate as it relates to me. I would appreciate being called.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Letitia King <pubaff@bbg.gov>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Oct 11, 2012 5:16 pm
Subject: BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom

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BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom

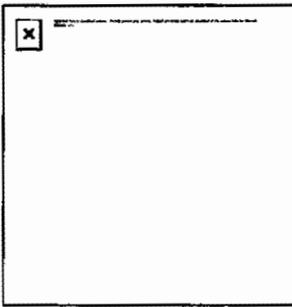
October 11, 2012



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Michael Lynton

The Broadcasting Board of Governors today expressed its enduring outrage over persistent attempts to stifle the free flow of news and information through satellite jamming, intimidation and the detention of journalists in Iran, Syria, Cambodia, Ethiopia and elsewhere.

During the BBG's Oct. 11 meeting, Presiding Governor Michael Lynton condemned the jamming of BBG satellite signals in Iran and said BBG journalists

are encountering new impediments to free reporting almost daily.

"Just yesterday, Radio Free Asia and Voice of America reporters were summoned to a meeting with officials in a blatant attempt to discourage objective reporting on the Cambodian government," Lynton said. As reported by Reuters, AFP and others, RFA and VOA...are among the few radio stations in Cambodia considered free of government influence."

The Board also expressed concern about the cases of Marthe van der Wolf, a VOA reporter in Ethiopia who was forced by local police to erase recordings of a protest rally, and Gulnur Raqifqizi Kazimova, a Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) freelancer who was prohibited from taking pictures in Azerbaijan.

Members of the Board renewed their condemnation of recent illegal jamming of BBG Persian broadcasts to Iran that also affected many other BBG radio and TV programs around the globe, including broadcasts in Arabic, Georgian, Armenian, Bosnian, and Korean.

"The Board calls on Iran to cease disrupting broadcast signals, and to respect the well-established international agreements that prohibit jamming," Lynton said.

The Board also noted that Monday marked 50 days since the capture of Alhurra TV journalist Bashar Fahmi and his cameraman Cüneyt Ünal in Syria, and renewed its demand that the pair be released.

Fahmi and Ünal were last heard from on August 20, when they were reporting from Aleppo, Syria. On August 26th, Ünal appeared on Syrian television, but the Syrian government said it has no information on Fahmi.

Lynton spoke at length of recent Russian legislative steps that have imposed restrictions on freedom of expression, including a law that is forcing RFE/RL programs off of the organization's last AM affiliate in Moscow. He noted, "This board strongly objects to the tightening stranglehold on the free flow of information taking place today in Russia." Lynton reiterated Governors' support for Steve Kom's leadership of RFE/RL in its efforts throughout the region.

The BBG recognized the David Burke Distinguished Journalism Awards winners. This year's winners are: Mukarram Khan Aatif of the VOA's Deewa Radio; Karen Caballero of Radio and TV Marti; Sailab Mahsud of RFE/RL's Radio Mashaal; RFA's Korean Service; and Mohamed Moawad and Lamia Rezgui Bouroga of the Middle East Broadcasting Networks' Radio Sawa.

Several events at the meeting honored the legacy and ongoing work of the Voice of America.

BBG in the Media



Gov. Susan McCue honors Leo Sarkisian, standing him to every country in Africa.

Board members enjoyed a presentation honoring VOA Ethnomusicologist Leo Sarkisian, the creator of Music Time in Africa, VOA's oldest English-language music program. They presented a resolution expressing the agency's appreciation to Sarkisian, who retired recently after a career that spanned more than half a century and took

The Board also recognized the 20th anniversary of VOA's Kurdish Service and the 50th anniversary of its Swahili Service.

Discussion at the meeting included the BBG's expanded broadcasting reach in China via the Telstar satellite and other developments intended to modernize and extend the reach of the agency and its media worldwide.

Public documents related to this meeting will be posted here, and video of this meeting will be available on-demand shortly.

For more information, please call the BBG's Office of Public Affairs at 202-203-4400, or e-mail publicaffairs@bbg.gov.

The Broadcasting Board of Governors is an independent federal agency, supervising all U.S. government-supported, civilian international broadcasting, whose mission is to inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy. BBG broadcasts reach an audience of 187 million in 100 countries. BBG broadcasting organizations include the Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa), Radio Free Asia, and the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (Radio and TV Marti).

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Broadcasting Board of Governors | 330 Independence Ave., SW | Washington | DC | 20237

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 7:04 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Town Hall meeting

Yes I will raise it. I know you are happy to make it work. But we must commit to do it.

Victor

In a message dated 10/9/2012 6:37:07 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, jtrimble@bbg.gov writes:

Victor, greetings. We are prepared to facilitate a Town Hall meeting whenever the Board chooses to have one, given factors such as the availability of Governors to participate and how it would fit into the tight timing of Board meeting days.

You might raise this with the Governors this week; we'll be guided by whatever you all decide.

Hope you had a good trip to Georgia – incredibly exciting, dynamic situation there.

Regards

Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, October 07, 2012 12:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Town Hall meeting

Lynne and Jeff

Since the Town Hall meeting at Cohen is not being held this next week as tentatively planned when do you anticipate one being held as I am told Cohen Bldg employees look forward to the outreach this represents?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 6:39 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from IBB Director Lobo RE October Board Meeting

I will be there but again I feel we are not doing the work we signed up for. I do not enjoy saying this but we need to have a governance committee meeting. There are important topics to discuss in the morning which will not be discussed. RFE audit committee needs to meet.

Will we have a two day meeting in November?

Victor ashe

In a message dated 10/9/2012 4:10:00 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

It appears a few Governors have new scheduling conflicts this Thursday, October 11, and will require moving the meetings to the morning.

After consulting with Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt, they suggest that the Board meet this Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in Governors' Briefing which would include an OIG briefing with the Governors only, and hold the BBG open meeting from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There will be no meetings after 11:30 a.m. Also, the strategy and budget briefing is being postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date at Governor Meehan's request.

In order to ensure a quorum for the BBG open meeting, please advise us of your availability from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. by COB today.

With your input, we will amend the Federal Register notice for the BBG open meeting in order to maximize notice to the public.

Dick

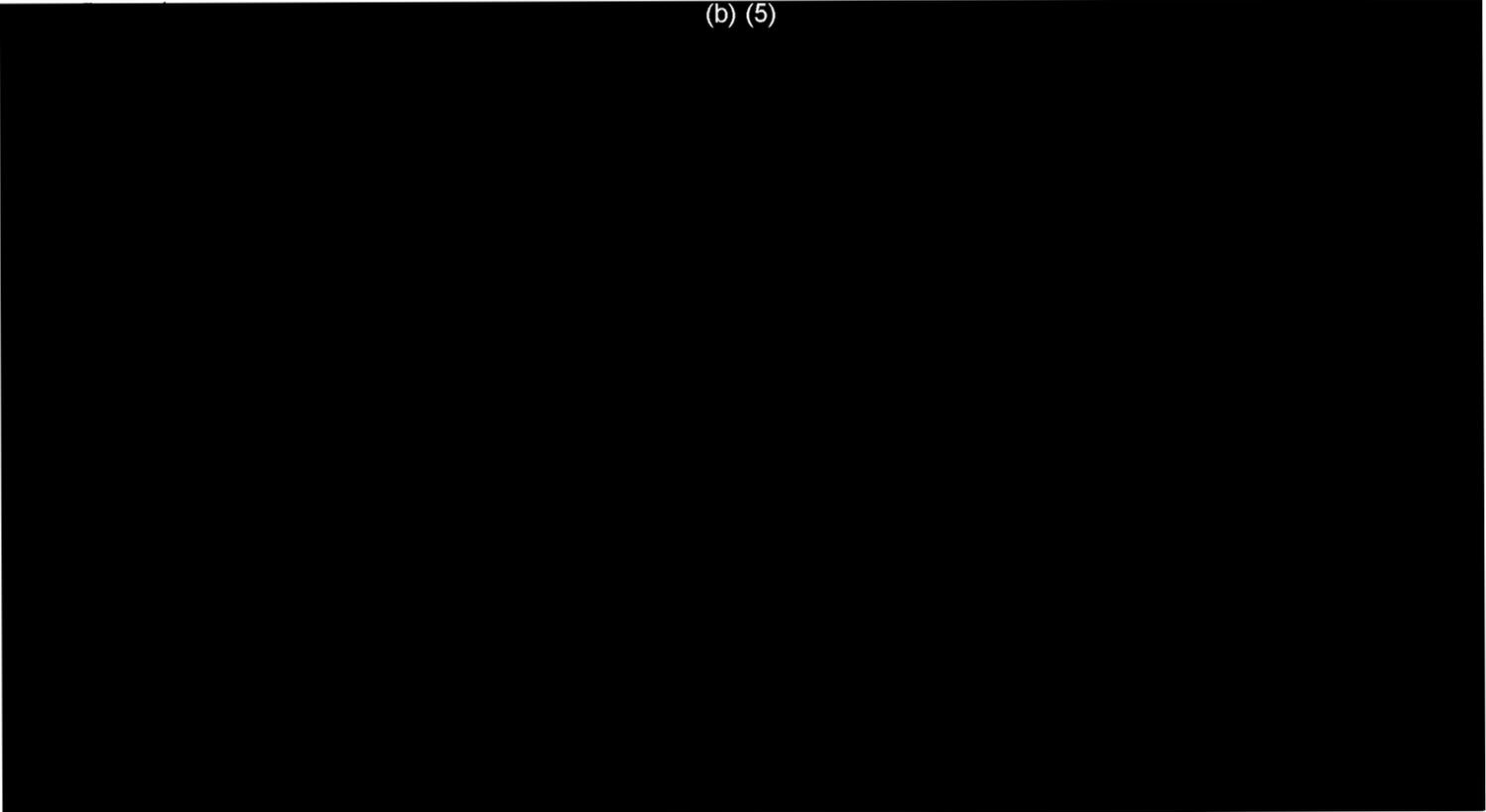
Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 3:23 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble;
Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Foe BBG Board mtg - Russia/FM - why can't USG install RFE/radio transmitters on US Emb/Consulate properties (Moscow, St. Pete, Yekat, etc?)

all good points. This is being driven by Steve Korn and his immediate group in Prague. It has certainly generated public discussion in a way I never realized and we need to revisit it in my opinion.

Victor Ashe

(b) (5)



Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 07, 2012 12:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Town Hall meeting

Lynne and Jeff

Since the Town Hall meeting at Cohen is not being held this next week as tentatively planned when do you anticipate one being held as I am told Cohen Bldg employees look forward to the outreach this represents?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:16 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6);
Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Fw: Letter to BBG from Alexander Orlov Sokolsky
Attachments: CUSIBMail.png

this is a serious issue which has legs. It is not going away. I look forward to the call tomorrow.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/4/2012 9:54:38 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Got a dozen of these overnight and will in the MidEast. A campaign is well underway. Whats the plan?

I know Dennis has a call teed up fo Friday and i know we need a full response push back here.

Thanks

Michael.

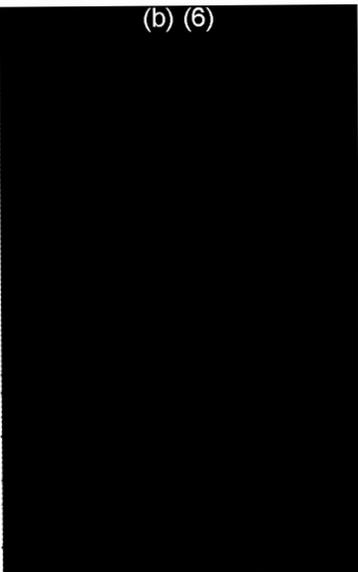
From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 08:48 AM
To: (b) (6); vhashe Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Susan McCue
(b) (6); (b) (6) <(b) (6)>; Dana Perino
(b) (6); Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>; Michael Meehan
Subject: Letter to BBG from Alexander Orlov Sokolsky

Dear Governors and Secretary Sonenshine,

Since we have emailed you the letter from (b) (6), she has informed us that 27 of her colleagues attached their signatures to her letter. We include their names here:

(b) (6) letter was signed by former RFE/RL staffers who share the author's opinions (27 signatures):

(b) (6)



Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 11:36 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Google Alert - Broadcasting Board of Governors

none at this hour

In a message dated 10/3/2012 9:34:13 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Happy to help. What kind of support do you need at this hour?

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 8:46:45 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Google Alert - Broadcasting Board of Governors

this is on google. I am being called by media on this matter. Victor Ashe

From: googlealerts-noreply@google.com
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 10/3/2012 8:41:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Google Alert - Broadcasting Board of Governors

News 2 new results for **Broadcasting Board of Governors**

Ruling rejects agency claims on layoffs at Broadcasting Board of Governors

Washington Post

An independent agency has rejected the **Broadcasting Board of Governors'** (BBG) appeal of a ruling that it improperly fired 16 employees, in part by using a reduction in force to cover more sinister reasons. The Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) ...

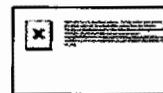
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Alhurra Journalist and Cameraman Remain Missing

RadioFreeEurope/RadioLiberty

The **Broadcasting Board of Governors** (BBG) has called on the Syrian government to release all information it possesses about the journalists, and requested third-party access. "We know that Fahmi and Ünal were together when they were captured in Syria," ...

[See all stories on this topic »](#)



RadioFreeEurope/RadioLiberty

Tip: Use a minus sign (-) in front of terms in your query that you want to exclude. [Learn more.](#)

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[Create another alert.](#)

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 11:37 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Jamming of Signals into Iran, News Release Being Distributed

there must be a Board resolution. Victor

In a message dated 10/3/2012 9:37:18 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

Good evening, Victor --

As Tara and Brian can attest, and Andre can fill in the details when appropriate, the BBG is, indeed, speaking with State about the matter.

One can imagine that with your background in foreign policy, all the bases would be covered in any subsequent Board briefing. Meantime, we'll get to work on a resolution -- in each sense of the word.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 8:42:45 PM
To: (b) (6); BBG Board Group
Cc: BBG Group Aides; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Jamming of Signals into Iran, News Release Being Distributed

we need to more than a statement although a resolution should be added to Board agenda this October 11 updated to reflect more recent developments if they occur.

BBG should meet with relevant folks at State on this too. We need a report on this October 11.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/3/2012 6:29:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

As of today, we've seen a spike in the jamming of a number of our satellite signals to Iran. TSI, VOA and RFE/RL are working very closely to track the interference and respond accordingly in order to continue to reach audiences. VOA's Persian Service and RFE/RL's Radio Farda are the principal victims, though other languages on those satellite carriers are affected.

We believe raising public awareness of the jamming is important. Pasted below is the news release we are distributing to provide news of the situation.

We will continue to work aggressively to respond to the signal interference and will keep you informed.

Dick

BBG Condemns Jamming of Broadcasts to Iran

Washington, DC – October 3, 2012 – U.S. international broadcasting signals to Iran are once again being jammed, possibly in connection with street demonstrations and arrests there, and the Broadcasting Board of Governors has condemned the resumption of interference in its programming for Iranians.

“The jamming of news delivered by satellite into Iran is an outrage, a deplorable violation of well-established international agreements,” said International Broadcasting Bureau Director Richard M. Lobo. “Freedom of information is a universal human right as well as an essential component for the health of any nation.”

The practice of deliberate interference with broadcast signals, known as “jamming,” is prohibited under rules of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

The most recent interference began on Wednesday, October 3, and affected both video and audio signals of the Voice of America’s Persian Service and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty’s Radio Farda.

The jamming coincided with reports of street demonstrations and mass arrests of Iranians protesting falling currency exchange rates. Both VOA and RFE/RL report that, in some instances, interference starts just before newscasts, and ends just afterwards.

The jamming affected three satellite transponders operated by Eutelsat and those most popular among Iranian viewers: HotBird 13B, Eutelsat 25A and Eutelsat 7A. Viewers said the signals reappear intermittently, and that less-popular satellites are not impacted.

The interference has affected other U.S. international broadcasting programs on the Eutelsat satellites, including Georgian, Armenian and Balkan-language broadcasts.

VOA and RFE/RL programs continue to be broadcast on diverse media platforms, including digital audio and video streams on other satellite paths and on the Internet.

In February 2012, the ITU called upon the world's nations to take "necessary actions" to stop intentional interference with satellite transmissions. -- <http://www.bbg.gov/press-release/new-pressure-on-jammers-of-international-broadcasts/>

Related -- <http://www.bbg.gov/press-release/international-broadcasters-call-for-end-of-satellite-jamming/>

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 3:36 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King
Subject: Re: OCB / FLRA RIF Litigation

I cannot tell if you plan to bring the final decision to the BBG Board for a vote or whether you plan to act on your own? Which is it?

I believe this is serious enough to come to the full Board for a vote on whether to proceed with an appeal or halt the process. I am eager to have your recommendation as well as the deputy general counsel and Carlos Garcia.

We should be sensitive to those persons who were terminated and it is now three years later. We should be sensitive to how this impacts the agency too. We should consult with DOJ on this. We should consult with plaintiffs to determine their interest in a settlement and what it would be. We should be advised what the current financial exposure is today, October 3 and what it could be two years from now if the appeals proceed and fail. In other words the plaintiffs win.

While this is not our personal money it is the public's money and we must be sensitive to this.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
To: BBG Board Group <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; <(b) (6)>;
<(b) (6)>; <(b) (6)>; Bruce Sherman <basherma@bbg.gov>;
<(b) (6)>; <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; <(b) (6)>
<(b) (6)>; <(b) (6)>
Cc: <(b) (6)>
Sent: Wed, Oct 3, 2012 10:29 am
Subject: OCB / FLRA RIF Litigation

Governors,

Some of you have inquired about recent coverage concerning last week's decision of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) to uphold an arbitrator's decision against the Agency in connection with the Agency's 2009 reduction-in-force at OCB.

Our staff has not yet finished reviewing and digesting the case, nor have we formulated any formal response. It should be noted that the fact that the FLRA affirmed the arbitrator's decision does not necessarily mean that either the arbitrator or the FLRA decided the case correctly on the merits. There are more than a few cases where agencies have successfully challenged FLRA decisions.

The BBG has sixty days in which to respond and it is extremely important for the Agency to analyze the case carefully before deciding how to proceed. There are a number of issues at play in the OCB RIF case that go beyond the issue of possible financial exposure or reinstatement of employees, including substantive issues that may affect other RIFs that may be contemplated in the budgetary decisions that the Board has made. I plan to make a decision on how to proceed based on a sober analysis of the merits of the case. Like you, I of course share the desire to do what is in the best interest of the Agency and its employees. I will certainly take your concerns into account and will consult closely with the OCB Director as well as our Labor and Employee Relations team.. At the appropriate time, I will brief the Board on how best to proceed.

In the meantime, it would be advisable for individual Governors to refrain from discussing the case with BBG Union members or officials. If you are contacted by the media, please consult with our communications team before commenting. Such outreach can be affirmatively harmful to the Agency's interests because it can unnecessarily embolden the stance taken by other stakeholders in this important litigation and may complicate or undermine the Agency's

litigation and settlement posture. I appreciate your understanding of and compliance with this point.

Dick Lobo

In your October 1 email regarding these matters, you cite a saying by the late Tennessee Governor McWherter. Allow me to cite a couple of quotes regarding teamwork as it should apply to any organization, including the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

"Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." – Vince Lombardi

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." – Henry Ford

"No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent." – John Donne

Thank you,
Dick Lobo

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 1:51 PM

To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble;(b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: October 11 BBG agenda

Dear Mr Kollmer,

Pursuant to the BBG bylaws I want to add several topics to the October 11 agenda and should there not be an October 11 meeting then whenever the next BBG Board meeting does occur.

The topics I wish to add are as follows:

- 1-consideration of the non disclosure policy and how potential violations are handled..what process exists and what rights the accused have?
- 2-setting meeting dates for January, February, March, and April 2013 as well as meeting at RFA which has not happened in 2012..also setting date for Meeting at OCB in Miami
- 3-discussion of morale and contract employees
- 4-statement on union membership by employees that membership and activities in an union for all employees shall not be basis for discrimination by management in the workplace.

I believe I am meeting the notice requirement set out in BBG bylaws.

On another subject, I do not when governance committee is set to meet on October 11 or what its agenda may be. I do not know if RFE audit committee will meet October 11 or not and what its agenda may be.

Victor Ashe

BBG BY-LAWS 2.11 AGENDAS

Where practicable, agendas for regular meetings shall be developed beginning thirty (30) days prior to each meeting and distributed electronically to each Governor at least fourteen (14) days prior to each meeting. The Director of the International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB Director) shall propose agenda items for plenary Board meetings to the Chair based on discussions with individual Governors. Individual Governors may designate specific agenda topics and/or resolutions.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, October 01, 2012 10:48 AM

To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft October BBG Meetings Agenda

To my fellow Governors and staff,

Thanks for sending this schedule. I am very disappointed that my requests listed as item VII in the Governor's briefing are not listed for the public meeting as I had requested them be discussed at the full BBG Board meeting and my request was filed with the deputy general counsel in a timely manner as provided by the bylaws. No one has the right to move a Governor's request from the Board meeting to the private session. This is directly contrary to my request and I ask that this be adjusted to be included at the BBG meeting. Surely we will abide by our bylaws.

Second, it is virtually unheard of in a setting such as ours to place approval of the minutes from the prior meeting at the end of the agenda. Such action always comes at the first of the meeting and that has been our BBG practice since we all joined the Board on June 30, 2010. Item F on the agenda should be Item A and each renumbered accordingly.

To be honest, this does not appear to be the result of checking with all the Governors. Certainly I was not consulted and I had asked for several items on the discussion list including (b) (6) from the prior meeting which is now missing. While it is good for Gov Lynton to review the proposed agenda, why not consult with all of us first before it is made up and sent out? This would produce a more collegial approach.

Third, given that the day ends at 315 PM in the afternoon, it is now abundantly and sadly clear that the governance committee could have met but for reasons Chairman Mulhaupt has not shared with me, he has decided not to hold the meeting which he said at the Sept 13 full BBG meeting he would hold to deal with issues referred Sept 13 to governance such as unions. Why? The same holds for his decision for the RFE audit committee not to meet that same day due to lack of time. Well, this schedule shows there is time. What is missing is the will to meet and honor the pledge made in mid September in a public setting. There is time from 0730 to 0830 and with planned adjournment at 315 there would be time to meet from 315 to 6 PM if people are willing to work.

In Tennessee, our late Gov Ned McWhertter when he was Speaker of the Tenn House and I was a minority party member under his leadership, he often told the 99 members when some wanted to adjourn early without finishing the day's business the following: "You should not hire out, if you are not willing to work." Enough said.

BBG faces serious issues which are not receiving attention. RFE faces serious programming issues and management style questions not to mention issues involving fiduciary responsibility and the best answer is to dodge discussion of them. Transparency is jettisoned here.

This is not good. It reflects poorly on all. I urge reconsideration and a response. I am back in USA on Wednesday evening and happy to talk to any Governor or anyone else about this.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Oanh Tran <(b) (6)>

To: BBG Board Group <bbggroup@bbg.gov>

Cc: BBG Group Aides <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; (b) (6)

<(b) (6)>; cullinbp <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)> <(b) (6)>

(b) (6) <(b) (6)>; IBB Staff <(b) (6)>; (b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Oct 1, 2012 9:45 am

Subject: Draft October BBG Meetings Agenda

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a draft agenda for all BBG-related meetings to be held next Thursday, October 11, in the BBG-IBB Conference Room of the Cohen Building from 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. EDT. This draft agenda has been reviewed and approved by Presiding Governor Lynton.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: October 11

The BBG web site might want to give the time of the October 11 meeting and that it is on webcam. Also that persons wishing to attend in person can contact you or Lynne Weil to secure admission.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 8:08 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: October 11 meeting

thanks to you too for updating this Victor

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

From: Letitia King <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Oct 2, 2012 7:16 am
Subject: Re: October 11 meeting

Thanks for flagging this item to update.
We will be sure to take care of it.
Tish

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 6:54:52 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: October 11 meeting

It seems strange that the BBG November meeting is a headline event on teh BBG web site on front page but no mention is made of the upcoming October 11 Board meeting. Why?

It seems to me the October 11 meeting should be highlighted along with the November meeting. Hope this is changed and I look forward to your comments.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 6:55 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: October 11 meeting

It seems strange that the BBG November meeting is a headline event on teh BBG web site on front page but no mention is made of the upcoming October 11 Board meeting. Why?

It seems to me the October 11 meeting should be highlighted along with the November meeting. Hope this is changed and I look forward to your comments.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 30, 2012 2:19 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: good photo which is somewhat inaccurate

seems like a good idea to clarify and be totally accurate Victor

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

From: Letitia King (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6) >
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Sun, Sep 30, 2012 1:44 pm
Subject: Re: good photo which is somewhat inaccurate

Certainly we can clarify. As I recall, the piece is in reference to the family of broadcasters not the location but it is fine to clarify further.

Regards,
Tish

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 30, 2012 12:43:02 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: good photo which is somewhat inaccurate

The nice photo of Govs. Meehan, McCue and me on the BBG web site speaks of Aung San Suu Kyi's visit to BBG. It is true she visited the Cohen Bldg and Gov Meehan and I were present.

However, the photo which is on the BBG web site was actually taken at Radio Free Asia as the background poster clearly identifies. Gov McCue was present at RFA but was not able to be at the Cohen Bldg that day. It seems to me that the caption of this specific photo should state that it was taken at RFA and not at BBG. There is no reference to RFA being the site of this precise photo.

What do you think?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 30, 2012 12:43 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: good photo which is somewhat inaccurate

The nice photo of Govs. Meehan, McCue and me on the BBG web site speaks of Aung San Suu Kyi's visit to BBG. It is true she visited the Cohen Bldg and Gov Meehan and I were present.

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What do you think?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 9:59 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); Letitia King; (b) (6); (b) (6);
Subject: Re: Russia

Dear Dennis

I have had thought further about this since my last e mail and prefer a Board meeting over a briefing but feel either is better than nothing. However, the occasion should be more than RFE management giving us their view. We should have private time for Governors to discuss this maong ourselves (obviously OIG would be there if they wish). We also need to have contact with one or more the dissidents signing the letter which has become so public. There needs to be outreach here.

We are faced with a serious morale and public perception issue at the very least. However, there could be more and duty is to ascertain in an objective way all sides so a factual determination can be made. A briefing by staff is only a start not an ending to this crisis for RFE in Moscow. If this turns out to be staff only and that ends it, then we have failed.

Your email suggests that it is all "misinformation and misconceptions." I am not sure we have enough knowlege to reach that conclusion any more than we have enough information to state that RFE management erred in full or in part. I urge you to be more neutral and even handed as chair until we hear all the facts.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Michael Lynton <(b) (6)>; Susan McCue <(b) (6)> Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Dana Perino <(b) (6)> Tara Sonenshine <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6); (b) (6) <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) (b) (6); (b) (6) <(b) (6)>; Richard Lobo <(b) (6)>; Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Sep 27, 2012 6:26 pm
Subject: Russia

Colleagues:

I believe it would be worthwhile to have a briefing on where things stand with respect to the reorganization of RFERL's Russian Service that is being forced on us by the changes in Russian law. This will be a followup to the report given by Steve and his colleagues at the RFE board meeting a few weeks ago. There is a significant amount of misinformation and misconceptions about what we are actually doing and our plans going forward.

Within the next several days, we will organize a call-in briefing for those who are interested in participating. RFE management will update us on the current state of affairs and answer any questions you may have. As soon as this can be organized, we will be back to you.

Best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 9:50 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Letitia King; Lynne Weil;
(b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Medal Awards Ceremony

Send same info to me as you send to Susan? Dick, why not move this to October 11 at 0800 since Board meetings will not start until 0900 or 0930.
We have time to do this at mid day as well.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Susan McCue <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
<(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Sep 28, 2012 9:15 am
Subject: Re: Medal Awards Ceremony

I'll be in LA through Oct 10 and sorry to miss this. Can you send info on who won what?

On Sep 28, 2012, at 1:19 AM, <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

I would love to come but unfortunately do not appear able at this time to change my schedule. Too bad this is not being done on October 11 when many Board members would be there and could attend. It appears that the Board is not using the full day on October 11 for BBG meetings.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
To: BBG Short List <(b) (6)>
Cc: BBG Group Aides <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Sep 27, 2012 5:07 pm
Subject: Medal Awards Ceremony

Governors,

We will hold our Medal Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, October 10, at 12 noon here in the Cohen Building auditorium.

It would be an honor to have you join this special occasion honoring our federal employees for outstanding service. The winners are selected through a process that encourages peer-to-peer nomination.

You would be welcome to make brief remarks congratulating the winners and join me, David and Carlos to present the certificates to the winners. We aim to keep the ceremony to an hour and will have a light reception following.

Please let me know if you can join us for this happy occasion.

Regards,
Dick

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 9:32 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

It should be determined as Michael mentions when Miami and Prague would occur., I recommend March for Miami and June for Prague.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>; bbggroup <(b) (6)>
Cc: groupaides <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Sep 28, 2012 3:21 am
Subject: Re: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

any sense of when we do the miami and prague meetings in this proposed 2013 schedule.

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

From: "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com>
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 9:41 AM
Subject: Re: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

all dates work for me although surely there will be new Governors at some point. I must ask the inconvenient question as to whether my colleagues plan on two day meetings in 2013 as there have not been any in 2012 and this October 11 all grantee board meetings have disappeared as have BBG committee meetings. I wonder if the OIG doing its review is the reason this has happened so they would not see any more deliberations. Or some do not want to face the important issues the committees have. Also which Governors were consulted on the October 11 reduced schedule...certainly not me. Victor Ashe

-----Ursprüngliche Mitteilung-----

Von: (b) (6)
An: BBG Board Group <(b) (6)>
Cc: BBG Group Aides <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); IBB Staff <(b) (6)>; (b) (6)
Verschickt: Mi, 26 Sept 2012 11:13 pm
Betreff: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

Dear Governors,

Below are proposed dates for BBG meetings in calendar year 2013. These dates have been cleared by Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 1:19 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Letitia King; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
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Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: BBG Short List <(b) (6)>
Cc: BBG Group Aides <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); Letitia King <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
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You would be welcome to make brief remarks congratulating the winners and join me, David and Carlos to present the certificates to the winners. We aim to keep the ceremony to an hour and will have a light reception following.

Please let me know if you can join us for this happy occasion.

Regards,
Dick

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 3:42 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

all dates work for me although surely there will be new Governors at some point. I must ask the inconvenient question as to whether my colleagues plan on two day meetings in 2013 as there have not been any in 2012 and this October 11 all grantee board meetings have disappeared as have BBG committee meetings. I wonder if the OIG doing its review is the reason this has happened so they would not see any more deliberations. Or some do not want to face the important issues the committees have. Also which Governors were consulted on the October 11 reduced schedule...certainly not me. Victor Ashe

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Von: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
An: BBG Board Group <(b) (6)>
Cc: BBG Group Aides <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>

Verschickt: Mi, 26 Sept 2012 11:13 pm

Betreff: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

Dear Governors,

Below are proposed dates for BBG meetings in calendar year 2013. These dates have been cleared by Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt.

We plan to propose these dates for your consideration at the October Board meeting. Among issues the Board will need to determine is how many times you wish to meet as a full Board during the year.

Thank you.

Year 2013:

January – No Meeting

February 21-22 (Thursday, Friday)

March 20- 21 (Wednesday, Thursday)

April 10-11 (Wednesday, Thursday)

May 16-17 (Thursday, Friday)

June 19-20 (Wednesday, Thursday)

July 10-11 (Wednesday, Thursday)

August – No Meeting

September 19-20 (Thursday, Friday)

October 16-17 (Wednesday, Thursday)

November 6-7 (Wednesday, Thursday)

December 11-12 (Wednesday, Thursday)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 1:46 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Thank you letter from Rep. Rohrabacher

I think it should say that the Board is still deciding what its final recommendations on reform may be as a final vote has not been taken and there was discussion on this at Miami BBG meeting on April 20 where opinions were divided. Gov. Meehan announced his NO vote on consolidation without it impacting the total BBG packager as opposed to three entities.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/27/2012 1:42:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Absolutely. Below is a draft response to the Congressman for your comment:

Dear Congressman Rohrabacher:

I greatly appreciate your letter regarding the Board's recent discussions about effectively reaching the people of China and Tibet. We agree that U.S. public diplomacy efforts involving these key audiences should be a high priority, and the Broadcasting Board of Governors will remain in touch with you and your staff as we explore all of our options within the current budget environment.

Your interest in, and support for, the Board's proposals for structural and strategic reforms at the BBG is also appreciated. I understand from my fellow board member, Enders Wimbush, that you discussed some of these proposals during your meeting earlier this month. Some may require heavy lifting. The Board will need the assistance of interested, seasoned Members of Congress such as yourself to help establish the optimal structures and guidelines to strengthen the agency and its programs, and to make the most of its modest resources.

Let me assure you of the Board's commitment to assist the free flow of accurate information to people around the world – especially those who live in environments of censorship and repression. We look forward to working with you in the months ahead.

Most sincerely,

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 1:37 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Thank you letter from Rep. Rohrabacher

I would also want to see the draft letter when it is ready. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/27/2012 11:28:53 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Very positive. Please let me see the draft response when it is ready. Tks. sew/

From: Susan Andross <(b) (6)>
Date: Friday, April 27, 2012 10:44 AM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>, (b) (6)
<(b) (6) Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)> v>
Subject: Thank you letter from Rep. Rohrabacher

Governors,

Please see the attached letter from Rep. Dana Rohrabacher to Governor Lynton, received by the agency today.

The letter thanks the Board for agreeing to revisit proposed reductions to the Tibetan and Cantonese Services, and for maintaining a "multi-platform posture" in broadcasting to China.

The Congressman also references the "major and desperately needed reforms" that the Board hopes to implement, and expresses his readiness to be part of that process.

A draft response for Presiding Governor Lynton's consideration is in the works.

Thanks,

Susan

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 1:39 PM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions

It should also reflect that I disagree with it being published on the web site as written. I have said that several times now. I feel there should be changes and they are not being adopted. Therefore, my dissent should be noted on the web site.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/27/2012 11:57:29 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks, Victor. I greatly appreciate your perspective.

The Record of Decisions will reflect that you voted "no" on the decision to identify professional advisers for the consolidation (as reflected in the draft that Oanh sent to you).

The minutes will also reflect the various views of the Governors expressed at the meeting.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 10:59 AM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions

Appreciate hearing from you. In interest of completeness, I think the web site should reflect that one Governor, Victor Ashe, disagreed with the content in one specific area. It was not an unanimous decision.

BBG always makes a point of projecting both sides of an issue. It would be a shame not to do it here.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/27/2012 10:30:22 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor –

I wanted to follow up with you regarding the Record of Decisions for the April 20 meeting, which we are going to publish today on the BBG website. As discussed in our previous exchange, we are planning to include in the minutes of the meeting the motions and other procedural maneuvers that were made at the meeting, although these will not be part of the Record of Decisions to be published today.

I spoke with Dennis yesterday and he is agreeable to having a discussion concerning the recording of the Board's decisions and the minuting of Board meetings as part of the May 24 Governance Committee meeting. Hopefully, this will provide any needed clarity regarding how the Record of Decisions and meeting minutes should be handled going forward.

We will circulate a proposed agenda for the meeting next week – including also other items that you have identified, such as FOIA and the handling of settlement agreements.

Thanks. PKD

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 1:37 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
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A draft response for Presiding Governor Lynton's consideration is in the works.

Thanks,

Susan

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 1:37 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Thank you letter from Rep. Rohrabacher

Thanks. I had gotten my copy yesterday when I was in his office. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/27/2012 11:15:41 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Please see the attached letter from Rep. Dana Rohrabacher to Governor Lynton, received by the agency today.

The letter thanks the Board for agreeing to revisit proposed reductions to the Tibetan and Cantonese Services, and for maintaining a "multi-platform posture" in broadcasting to China.

The Congressman also references the "major and desperately needed reforms" that the Board hopes to implement, and expresses his readiness to be part of that process.

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 10:59 AM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions

Appreciate hearing from you. In interest of completeness, I think the web site should reflect that one Governor, Victor Ashe, disagreed with the content in one specific area. It was not an unanimous decision.

BBG always makes a point of projecting both sides of an issue. It would be a shame not to do it here.

Victor Ashe

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Victor –

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We will circulate a proposed agenda for the meeting next week – including also other items that you have identified, such as FOIA and the handling of settlement agreements.

Thanks. PKD

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 9:41 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: travel

My hope is that BBG sets a high standard without waiting on Congress to tell us what that standard should be when we know thru common sense in most cases what it should and should not be. I am pleased you are working on this. Money saved here can help save some language services. Also we need to make sure we do not send too many persons to the same conference such as NAB in Las Vegas and the 2011 Delhi conference where 12 attended and total costs exceeded \$85,000 in travel. Far fewer persons could have sufficed I suspect. It will take someone of your status to enforce it. The important thing is that you in your leadership position are pursuing this. I look forward to your report to the Board at our Prague meeting.

We should be able to report to Congress on what BBG did on our own before Congress made it the law.

Thanks for your efforts.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)> Lynne Weil (b) (6); (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Apr 26, 2012 9:02 pm
Subject: RE: travel

Victor, thank you for your email of April 24.

As you know, we've been working hard to review and improve our travel policies and practices, and were doing so well in advance of the GSA scandal. Agency travel costs dropped more than 4 percent from FY 2010 to FY 2011, and in FY 2012 we estimate travel spending will be down more than 7 percent from 2010. In FY 2013, the agency's proposed budget reduces travel spending 20 percent from FY 2010 levels.

As I've assured you already, we'll continue to work to control travel and conference costs.

This said, we are an international agency with assets around the globe. Travel is necessary to oversee and improve management of our operations.

I'm confident that our agency can comply with the letter and spirit of Senator Coburn's amendment – which (b) (6) (b) (6) detailed earlier today in an email – should Congress pass it into law.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:45 PM
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: travel

Senator Coburn of Oklahoma succeeded today in a report published on Roll Call found at www.rollcall.com in major changes for all federal agencies on travel and attendance at conferences including posting items on their web sites.

This occurred in the wake of the GSA scandal. I personally believe Susan Andross should secure a copy of the proposed changes and BBG should move on its own to implement these changes which may be legislated into law. We should not wait on Congress telling us what to do. BBG should be proactive on this.

We have our own BBG experience of 12 persons going to Delhi, India last year. In some past years as many as 17 persons have attended the NAB (National Association of Broadcasters) annual meeting in Las Vegas. One person has racked up over \$100,000 in costs for international flights in little over one year. Perhaps there are wonderful explanations for all of this but I doubt it. BBG needs to set an example and the Coburn amendment which the Senate adopted can point the way.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 11:12 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

Yes there are rabbits. And Elvis visits there from time to time. Victor

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

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Apr 25, 2012 9:59 pm
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

Are there really rabbits in the Cohen building? Or did I miss something? sew/

On Apr 25, 2012, at 9:42 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

I do not intend to carry out an argument with you. I have given my views and they are what they are. Michael Meehan made an excellent point which is that it is all on webcam. It is what it is. Let it stand and forget worrying about a record of decisions. Meehan is a person of common sense. The webcam is there for the world to see and ponder. Go do something else more worthwhile than pursuing this rabbit..

Victor Ashe

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

From: Paul Kollmer <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); BBG Board Group <(b) (6)>
Cc: BBG Group Aides <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Wed, Apr 25, 2012 9:34 pm
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

Victor --

So, just to be clear, you are saying that an individual Governor's decision not to put a proposal forward for a vote of the Board should be reflected as a decision of the Board?

Thanks. PKD

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 9:04:10 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

It is hard to believe congressional notification would occur when the Board has not voted on the consolidation plan. That is called putting the cart in front of the horse.

I disagree with your decision on what is included in the Record of Minutes and believe you do not have the right to do this on your own authority without Board approval. I request this matter go before the governance committee on May 24 and not appear on the BBG web site as you propose. If you proceed anyway, then I request that the record of minutes reflect that on this single issue one Board member, Victor Ashe, disagrees.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Paul Kollmer <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)> BBG Board Group <(b) (6)>
Cc: BBG Group Aides <(b) (6)> | (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6) v>; (b) (6) (b) (6) Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
Sent: Wed, Apr 25, 2012 1:20 pm
Subject: RE: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

Victor –

Thank you for your concurrence with our proposal to treat the motions that preceded the grantee consolidation decision as part of the minutes of the last meeting and not as part of the Record of Decisions.

I understand your feeling about Governor Mulhaupt's decision not to include, as part of the decision element before the Board, a recommendation that Congressional notification should be prepared.

But, we have never treated the decision of an individual Governor to withdraw (or rather not to put forward) a proposed decision element as a "Board decision". I am not sure how we can construe one Governor's forbearance of an action as a decision of the Board. So, our plan is to include that also in the meeting minutes (if at all) and not in the Record of Decisions.

I would also note for your consideration that this point is probably moot because the Board has already directed the IBB Director to prepare Congressional notification about the prospective consolidation. The language of the January 2012 decision (available on the BBG website) is as follows:

The Board also directs the IBB Director, as soon as practicable, to prepare and transmit any Congressional notification that may be required to implement the Board's intentions as stated in this decision.

Thanks. PKD

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 7:44 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

part of the substance of the decision was that the third portion of the divided question was withdrawn by the sponsor. That should go in the substance of the Board's decision. I concur in the other part of what you say as long as the total procedural process is reflected in the full minutes. However, the record of decisions should reflect that part of the recommendation on consolidation as it relates to congressional notification was not adopted by the Board but actually withdrawn on motion of the sponsor. I feel that should be included in the record of decisions which will go immediately on the web site while the other full minutes will wait until June.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/24/2012 10:39:27 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor -- These procedural moves will be noted in the minutes of the meeting (along with other procedural motions). We will prepare the full minutes for the Board's consideration at the next meeting and capture the back-and-forth that you have noted.

In this document, we are trying to capture the substance of the Board's decisions so that we can put it on the website tomorrow. Is the substance ok?

Thanks. PKD

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:27:30 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil;

Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

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That is my memory of what actually happened and this record of decisions should be modified to reflect the entirety of the procedure before it goes on the BBG web site.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/24/2012 6:43:40 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a proposed Record of Decisions from the April Board meeting.

Please let us know if you have any comments by noon tomorrow, April 25, so that we can post the Record of Decisions on the BBG website.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 9:15 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Funds for May 2 program

look forward to it. Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Apr 25, 2012 7:09 pm
Subject: Funds for May 2 program

Dear Victor,

I look forward to spending as much time as you like tomorrow afternoon on progress toward the tentatively-titled International Broadcasting Innovation Act. You mentioned there are other topics to discuss; I'll budget my time accordingly.

In anticipation of one part of that meeting, here's the budget authorization for the transmitter re-dedication next week. The authorization request was made only after the combined team in DC and NC established what was possible to achieve at a reasonable cost among the ideas you sent our way during the previous two weeks, and it was subsequently approved by IBB/BBG senior leadership even as further follow-up on those ideas was done. As I mentioned in that e-mail this past Saturday a.m., estimates of various items went down in some cases and up in others amid that follow-up -- but the overall cost is as discussed, and it remains within the authorized amount.

The second page includes the notional program, which closely hues to what we talked about by phone with Tish and (b) (6)

This event budget doesn't include the sunk costs of the signage -- which, as we discussed on a couple of occasions, exceeded \$6000. The back-and-forth on the extent of the signage took place before I arrived at this agency; in keeping with policy, those costs are coming out of a separate fund. If you wish, I'll obtain a list of those costs before we meet.

See you tomorrow at 2:30.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 9:04 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6);
Subject: Lynne Weil
Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

It is hard to believe congressional notification would occur when the Board has not voted on the consolidation plan. That is called putting the cart in front of the horse.

I disagree with your decision on what is included in the Record of Minutes and believe you do not have the right to do this on your own authority without Board approval. I request this matter go before the governance committee on May 24 and not appear on the BBG web site as you propose. If you proceed anyway, then I request that the record of minutes reflect that on this single issue one Board member, Victor Ashe, disagrees.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Paul Kollmer <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)> BBG Board Group <(b) (6)>
Cc: BBG Group Aides <(b) (6)> | (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)> Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Wed, Apr 25, 2012 1:20 pm
Subject: RE: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

Victor -

Thank you for your concurrence with our proposal to treat the motions that preceded the grantee consolidation decision as part of the minutes of the last meeting and not as part of the Record of Decisions.

I understand your feeling about Governor Mulhaupt's decision not to include, as part of the decision element before the Board, a recommendation that Congressional notification should be prepared.

But, we have never treated the decision of an individual Governor to withdraw (or rather not to put forward) a proposed decision element as a "Board decision". I am not sure how we can construe one Governor's forbearance of an action as a decision of the Board. So, our plan is to include that also in the meeting minutes (if at all) and not in the Record of Decisions.

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Thanks. PKD

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Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 7:44 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

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Thanks. PKD

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:27:30 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

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Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 8:49 AM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: tomorrow

I do not have the time...does state need date of birth or Social security for me to get inside the bldg? Look forward to it. Victor

In a message dated 4/25/2012 8:21:27 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

It is set.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 8:01 AM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: tomorrow

Tara

Any luck on scheduling a meeting tomorrow. I am free 0930 to 1145 and can work around in afternoon from 130 to 330. I do have a Lynne Weil meeting at 230 at Cohen but I could push it back if needed to another time.

otherwise I am in DC On Mon May 7 and Monday May 14.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 7:44 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6);
Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

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Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:27:30 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

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Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:46 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: travel

Senator Coburn of Oklahoma succeeded today in a report published on Roll Call found at www.rollcall.com in major changes for all federal agencies on travel and attendance at conferences including posting items on their web sites.

This occurred in the wake of the GSA scandal. I personally believe (b) (6) should secure a copy of the proposed changes and BBG should move on its own to implement these changes which may be legislated into law. We should not wait on Congress telling us what to do. BBG should be proactive on this.

We have our own BBG experience of 12 persons going to Delhi, India last year. In some past years as many as 17 persons have attended the NAB (National Association of Broadcasters) annual meeting in Las Vegas. One person has racked up over \$100,000 in costs for international flights in little over one year. Perhaps there are wonderful explanations for all of this but I doubt it. BBG needs to set an example and the Coburn amendment which the Senate adopted can point the way.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:28 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

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Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 4:28 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Murrow May 2 event

Tish

this is super. The web cam could be available on BBG web site like BBG Board meetings.

Urge you to find out who represents the major papers like Raleigh and Durham in Pitt County and invite them to event as they would be interested as would area TV from those cities.

Victor

In a message dated 4/24/2012 4:17:09 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

We have reached out to the Reflector and just confirmed that they are sending a reporter. Not sure about an advance story but we can see.

Separately, you asked about a webcam for the event. We are getting a video tape recording of the event which we will be glad to make available online once it is available. We are also working with a local photographer for still photos.

Regards,

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 3:46 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Murrow May 2 event

thanks so much. Encourage you to reach out to the Greenville Reflector which is local paper for them to do an advance story on the event so the public will know. Al Clark is city editor. Victor

In a message dated 4/24/2012 11:46:59 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good Morning Ambassador Ashe,

We are pleased to have Congressman Jones' confirmation. (b) (6) was also in touch with his district office yesterday and we distributed an additional set of invitations this morning per their request.

We are happy to send the updated invitation information to all the governors.

Thanks again for the update.

Regards,

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 7:34 PM

To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil

Subject: Murrow May 2 event

Tish

It seems to me it is time to show Congressman Jones as more than invited to the May 2 event but that he is attending and speaking...his office assures me he is coming. In fact he and I are dining before the event.

Also, can someone can an invitation to me as to what was actually sent out? I think it would be nice if all Governors got one even though they may not be able to attend.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 4:16 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: 4 PM on April 26

tell tish to call each of local media in Greenville area. Reflector newspaper there did not know about it when I spoke to the Editor there this morning. If told about it they would do an advance story on it.

I told them I could make Casey Murrow available for an interview the day before the event.

Am told it is 45 mins from hotel to site dedication.

Victor

In a message dated 4/24/2012 4:05:23 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Yes, (b) is on the committee payroll, answering directly to Rep. Rohrabacher, for whom he is a trusted advisor.

I'll have a note pad handy on Thursday.

Tish is keeping everyone in the loop on media for next week's event.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:19 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: 4 PM on April 26

I gather from your bio on (b) that he is on the Committee staff and not technically on the Congressman's staff but he of course works for the congressman who chairs one of the subcommittees. Is that correct?

I have several matters I wish to discuss on Thurs so a notepad might be useful although your memory is usually very good.

On Murrow is Tish dealing direct with local newspaper?

Victor

In a message dated 4/24/2012 9:13:52 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Yes, the times are right. Glad to know that you received that Saturday e-mail, which also included my perspective on another topic in reply to your message on Friday night.

Once in a while the agency's e-mail system gets gremlins -- it happened to some people over the weekend, from what I saw of others' e-mail traffic, so I've taken to checking up on receipt of important messages.

(b) (6) can be reached at (b) (6). Your appointment with him on Thursday at 4 is in 2300 Rayburn. Per your request below, I've given him your cell number.

(b) (6)

Thanks for confirming our 2:30 meeting. We can stick around the office or go for coffee -- at about that time of day I'm usually ready for a boost!

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 2:39:46 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: 4 PM on April 26

I have down 230 for you in your office...4PM for (b) (6). I do not have a phone or bio for him yet.

or address in Rayburn Bldg. Victor

In a message dated 4/23/2012 10:35:28 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor --

Am in between meetings at the mo, so this'll be quick.

Timing for Thurs. and other matters are in the e-mail sent your way about 10:30 Saturday a.m. Did you receive that?

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 7:21:43 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: 4 PM on April 26

Is the congressional appointment firm for this Thurs at 4? Can you send me place date time and a phone number in case I need to call ahead. Also you can share my cell number with their office if they need to call me.

What time works best for you and I to meet on Thurs?

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 3:46 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
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| Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:10 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Phone and address for Scott

Can you forward me phone and address for 4PM meeting on April 26 with (b) (6)

Are we still on for 230PM?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 7:34 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Murrow May 2 event

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Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 3:52 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: April 26

thanks...let me know time. Victor

In a message dated 4/23/2012 3:51:59 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I think we are getting you set up for Thursday.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 3:51 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: April 26

Tara

If April 26 does not work out for the meeting then Monday May 13 works well for me. Thanks for trying to get it done.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2012 10:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: \$10000

Lynne,

In your statement at BBG today you mentioned a \$10,000 cost for Murrow...you had not shared with me previously.

While you were nice to mention my role in the Murrow rededication on May 2, it seemed over the top to mention my name 5 to 7 times within two minutes. I was not sure what you were trying to accomplish with that. Several persons commented to me on it and wondered what it was all about. It went beyond complimentary.

However, I am formally asking for a breakout of the specific costs of the Murrow May 2 dedication. Please send the specific costs to me. Let me know when we will meet on April 26.

Sincerely

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 10:26 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Time-sensitive: Miami Herald

yes for Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) v>
To: (b) (6) <(b) (6)> vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Apr 18, 2012 7:58 pm
Subject: Time-sensitive: Miami Herald

Dennis, Victor, Enders --

Per the memo for the Miami Herald editorial board meeting, we had been asked to provide the paper with the names of all who will attend tomorrow's post-prandial meeting by COB today. Their security people need this info in advance, and normally the logs for the next day are completed in the evening.

Today I bought us some time by telling them that members of the group were arriving on different flights. But it would be helpful if you could let me know this evening whether you plan to make the trek across town tomorrow; we can then not only provide the final names to the Herald (other participants have already confirmed), but also ensure that there will be enough seats in the van for all.

Many thanks, and welcome to Miami!

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 8:18 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Name change

looks good. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/16/2012 8:12:48 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

Per your request, I've formatted the resolution for your review (see attached).

Please let me know if you have any changes.

Thanks.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 2:56 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Name change

I have personally been to Ayutthaya 4 times over 30 years...none of these issues mentioned are current. Mendes backs this change as do staff there.

Victor Aswhe

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

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)> Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Apr 16, 2012 12:36 pm
Subject: RE: Name change

Thanks, Victor. We will have the text ready for the meeting. PKD

Honestly, I had never heard of Ayutthaya before receiving your email. So I looked it up on Wikipedia. It was indeed that ancient capital of Thailand and is currently a UNESCO heritage site. But I also read that some bad things happened there as well. (I've reproduced the entry from Wikipedia below.) The resolution says the name change would be well-received in Thailand but I just wanted you to know about this other negative historical information in case anyone might ask about it.

Ayutthaya (full name **Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya**, Thai: พระนครศรีอยุธยา, pronounced [pʰráʔ náʔkʰɔːn síː ʔājútʰājāː]; also spelled "Ayudhya") city is the capital of Ayutthaya province in Thailand. Located in the valley of the Chao Phraya River. The city was founded in 1350 by King U Thong, who went there to escape a smallpox outbreak in Lop Buri and proclaimed it the capital of his kingdom, often referred to as the Ayutthaya kingdom or Siam. Ayutthaya became the second Siamese capital after Sukhothai. Its remains, characterized by the prang (reliquary towers) and gigantic monasteries, give an idea of its past splendour.^[1] It is estimated that Ayutthaya by the year 1600 CE had a population of about 300,000, with the population perhaps reaching 1,000,000 around 1700 CE, making it one of the world's largest cities at that time.^[2] In 1767, the city was destroyed by the Burmese army, resulting in the collapse of the kingdom. The Ayutthaya historical park is the ruins of the former capital of the Kingdom of Siam.^[3] It is the site of mass murder, rape and enslavement of Siamese people and destruction of the Ayutthaya city,^[3] its art and buildings by the Burmese in 1767, which is recognized internationally as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2012 5:02 PM
To: Paul Kollmer; Richard M. Lobo; Andre Mendes
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Name change

Mr. Kollmer

Here is a resolution I plan to add to the Board agenda on April 20 as a follow up to my visit to Thailand which I have discussed and cleared with Andre Mendes. It would establish the name of the current BBG transmission station known as the Bangkok station as Ayutthaya Transmission Station as that more clearly reflects its actual location. Ayutthaya is the ancient capital of Thailand. I request you have it reprinted and distributed to Governors at the meeting.

The resolution goes as follows

Whereas the Broadcasting Board of Governors has a transmission station in the Kingdom of Thailand previously known as the Bangkok transmission station

Whereas this station which has been in existence over 40 years is actually located close to the ancient capital of Thailand known as Ayutthaya, the name of the station should be officially changed to reflect its location which name change would be well received in Thailand

Therefore be it resolved by the Broadcasting Board of Governors that the Bangkok transmission station shall be named the Ayutthaya transmission station effective immediately and so described in future descriptions of it by BBG

Call me if there are questions. I am copying Dennis Mulhaupt on this as he will be presiding.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 2:49 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Letter from (b) (6)

given who has written this, I think the signer should be Michael Lynton or Dick Lobo...but in all honesty, I actually agree with her on several points. Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: (b) (6) <(b) (6)> BBG Board Group <(b) (6)>
Cc: BBG Group Aides <(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) (b) (6)
Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Apr 16, 2012 10:45 am
Subject: RE: Letter from (b) (6)

Thanks, (b) (6) I'm checking in with VOA leadership about progress on a draft response, as discussed when the electronic copy arrived.

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 10:34 AM
To: BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Letter from (b) (6)

Dear Governors,

The attached letter from (b) (6) just arrived to our office this morning.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 7:47 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: sure you will want to get to the bottom of this

she told me that Fed ex said the letter could not be delivered which seems strange....but you ought to talk directly to her.

Victor

In a message dated 4/15/2012 9:42:44 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) v writes:

Victor,

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and for your confidence in me. I've wanted to see the mystery of this mis-delivery solved since Friday, when it first arose.

(b) (6) forwarded to you our Friday e-mail exchange stating that when Fed-Ex phoned that morning to ask for a room number for this delivery, our office gave explicit instructions on how to get the package to us, info that is given to all delivery companies. We also provided two phone numbers for them to call in case of any issues.

That afternoon, when the item still had not arrived, we phoned Fed-Ex's headquarters. Customer Service had no record of a package for me.

I suggested to (b) (6) that she use the tracking number to find out where her package had gone. I trust that when she and I are back in touch tomorrow, the question will be resolved.

And together with colleagues, I'll look into how the agency's FOIA procedures are made public.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2012 2:48:51 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: sure you will want to get to the bottom of this

Lynne

I asked (b) (6) several questions about this. She says your name was on the Fed EX delivery to the Cohen Bldg...but apparently Fed Ex was not able to deliver it.

Not your fault but obviously something which needs to be checked out and find out why Fed Ex cannot deliver a package addressed to you at 330 Independence Ave. The same would apply to anyone else who has an office at BBG such as (b) (6) to name a few people.

I urge a process for FOIA request be posted on our web site.

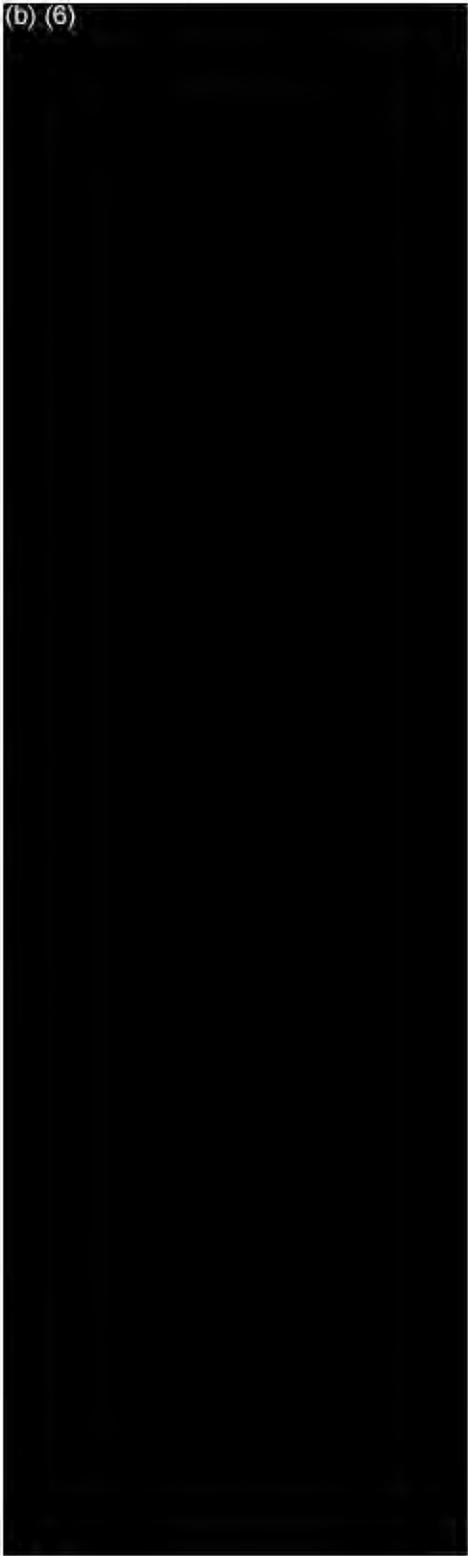
Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2012 2:35 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Names to get annual report

please send the BBG annual report to the following persons please

(b) (6)



(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the majority of the text in the top left corner of the page.

Let me know when they go out please.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2012 2:33 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fed ex delivery

Lynne

(b) (6) has been e mailing me too about her letter on a FOIA request which was sent FEd Ex on April 12 but which apparently is not being delivered to the BBG offices at Cohen Bldg. This seems most strange and makes us look bad in terms of receiving mail (this would not involve security measures)...does BBG not have a process to receive mail sent by Fed Ex? We certainly should. Frankly, we should place on our web site for information on FOIA how one sends a Fed EX letter should that be the preferred method of delivery for the requester.

We should set a standard for delivery. To your knowledge, do we have a place on the BBG web site to explain how to file FOIA requests...if not we should. if so, is it well placed and easy to navigate?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2012 1:39 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: annual report

thanks so much Victor

In a message dated 4/15/2012 11:01:03 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning!

Glad to hear the report reached you. I suspect by now you will have seen Lynne's note to all the governors about the annual report. She explains the idea of giving governors a small supply for you to pass along to contacts you make along your way. We are pleased to handle any mail delivery you might like. Just send along the addresses and we will make sure they are sent out!

Enjoy the rest of the weekend!

Regards,

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2012 8:39:45 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: annual report

Tish

perhaps there was a misunderstanding as I recently got 20 copies of the BBG annual report. I had only wanted 2 or 3. It is true I had inquired about sending 10 to 15 copies out to interested observers but I had thought and hoped BBG would do that. I do not have the resources here as I do not have an office but operate out of my house.

I will bring the extra copies back to DC on April 25-26 as I do not need them. Can your office mail out copies to a list of 10 to 15 if I give you the names and addresses? Please advise

Thanks

sorry for confusion.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2012 5:57 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Addendum to BBG Media Highlights, April 13, 2012

what answer went out? Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: 4/13/2012 10:20:48 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Addendum to BBG Media Highlights, April 13, 2012

In a post published on April 12, 2012 on the Heritage Foundation's Foundry blog site, Helle Dale criticizes the distribution of cuts in the FY2013 budget proposal for the BBG. We are working to address several misstatements in this piece.

—
BBG Budget: Voice of America Slashed, Fewer Broadcasters, More Bureaucrats

Helle Dale

April 12, 2012 at 1:30 pm

The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) recently released its 2013 budget request, which slashes Voice of America (VOA) funding by more than \$17 million while increasing funding for major bureaucratic offices inside the International Broadcasting Bureau. A reprioritization is clearly necessary. *(article continued below chart)*

INCREASING MANAGEMENT FUNDING WHILE SERVICES CUT

BBG proposes to cut VOA's funding by more than 9 percent (\$17.096 million) while increasing funding for IBB's major bureaucratic offices.

Funding for IBB management	FY 2011/FY 2012	FY 2012 PROPOSED INCREASE	RESULT
Director's Office	\$5.91 million	\$0.113 million (\$6.023 million in total)	+2 percent
Office of General Counsel	\$2.224 million	\$0.032 million (\$2.256 million in total)	+1.4 percent
Office of Chief Financial Officer	\$14.432 million	\$0.36 million (\$14.792 million in total)	+2.5 percent
Office of Contracting and Procurement	\$2.869 million	\$0.18 million (\$3.049 million in total)	+6.3 percent

TOO LITTLE ON CHINA

BBG's strategic vision and planning is seriously unbalanced.

Country/Language	China Mandarin, Cantonese, Tibetan, Uyghur (VOA and RFA)	Afghanistan Pashto and Dari (VOA and RFE/RL)	Arabic (MBN and RFE/RL)	Iran Persian (VOA and RFE/RL)	Tajikistan (RFE/RL)	Ethiopia (VOA)
Budget	\$34.59 million	\$29.6 million	\$129.25 million	\$34.42 million	\$1.57 million	\$2.18 million
Target Population	1,338 million	28.4 million	174 million (15 Arabic nations)	73.2 million	7.5 million	82.8 million
Average \$ per Capita	\$0.026	\$1.02 (39 times)	\$0.74 (29 times)	\$0.47 (18 times)	\$0.21 (8 times)	\$0.026 (same as China)

RFE/RL= Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

MBN= Middle East Broadcasting Networks

This disturbing trend focuses on making U.S. international broadcasting a global media service, with digital media distribution at the hub, much like the Internet-focused CNN model. At the same time, actual broadcasting services are being cut, resulting in lost viewers and listeners who, since they often have no Internet access, are deprived of trustworthy and important news sources.

Additionally, the BBG budget request reveals a continuing problem with strategic priorities. In China, the U.S. target audience is over 1.33 billion people. For this huge number of people, we spent around \$34.6 million in broadcasting efforts in 2010. This works out to less than \$0.03 per person per year. In Tajikistan, we spent \$1.57 million to reach 7.5 million people, or \$0.21 per person. We should not be spending more than eight times as much per capita on public diplomacy broadcasting in Tajikistan than in China. China's public diplomacy efforts are rapidly growing, yet in 2010 we spent 18 times as much per capita in Iran, 29 times as much per capita in outreach to Arab speakers, and 39 times as much per capita in Afghanistan.

Of course, the Middle East and other Muslim countries are important strategic targets for U.S. broadcasting. Perhaps instead of cutting over \$17 million from VOA in 2013, that money and more could be wisely spent on broadcasting to China. An added emphasis on broadcasting in China will let the U.S. respond to China's messaging blitz.

Instead of increasing funding to bureaucratic offices and cutting back on VOA, the opposite should be done. Cutting back on bureaucracy and increasing funding to successful broadcasts will allow the U.S.'s message to reach more people at lower cost, which is always a win-win.

<http://blog.heritage.org/2012/04/12/bbg-budget-voice-of-america-slashed-fewer-broadcasters-more-bureaucrats/>

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 10:15 AM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: BBG Media Highlights, April 13, 2012

Media Highlights - April 13, 2012 - [View in Your Browser](#) * [View previous Media Highlights](#)

About Our Broadcasters

Declassified U.S. Government Documents About RFE, RL Posted Online - [RFE/RL](#), April 12, 2012

A diverse set of declassified U.S. Government documents that provide important insight on the first 23 years of **Radio Free Europe** and **Radio Liberty** has just been posted to the website of the Woodrow Wilson Center's "Cold War International History Project."

Also covered in Wilson's Center's posting: [e-Dossier No. 32 - Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty](#)

Loose lips sink ships [op-ed by Arnaud de Borchgrave] - [UPI](#), April 13, 2012

Unforeseen geopolitical pressures are edging the United States and its allies closer to the exit gates. Mullah Omar has also been listening to **Voice of America** and BBC radio broadcasts about U.S. plans for "the last U.S. offensive of the war."

Media Citations of BBG Broadcasters

Suu Kyi party finds lawmakers' oath unacceptable - AP via [Boston Globe](#), April 12, 2012

Win Tin, a senior NLD member, told U.S.-funded **Radio Free Asia** that Suu Kyi had discussed the matter with Thein Sein when they met Wednesday. It wasn't clear what step she would take regarding the oath.

The Annals of Chicken Diplomacy - [The Atlantic](#), April 12, 2012

A new voluntary service, according to a report in **RFE/RL**, now allows teachers and even some doctors to receive part of their salary in Serbian chickens. Of course, like most "voluntary" programs in Uzbekistan, it is nothing of the sort -- and **RFE/RL** quotes plenty of people saying they were given the live animals against their will.

The Deadly Folly of Nuclear Power Overhead - [Huffington Post](#), April 12, 2012

The U.S. is also developing nuclear-powered rockets. Ad Astra, headed by former astronaut Franklin Chang-Diaz, is working on what it calls a Variable Specific Impulse Magnetoplasma Rocket or VASMIR to be powered by a nuclear reactor. It would provide a "faster trip" to Mars, says Chang-Diaz, according to a **Voice of America** article last year, could be used "for missions to the International Space Station or to retrieve or position satellites in Earth orbit."

Guinea Bissau: Country Rocked By Apparent Coup Attempt - [AllAfrica](#), April 13, 2012

Guinea-Bissau's military has taken control of the ruling party headquarters and national radio station on Thursday night as shots and rocket fire were heard in the capital, according to eyewitnesses speaking to **Voice of America** (VOA).

In the foreign-language press:

Gulf Talks hosts al-Sarraf - [Alaan](#) (Kuwaiti web newspaper) April 12, 2012

Alhurra's Gulf Talks, hosted and produced by Sulaiman Al-Hattian, interviewed the Kuwaiti journalist Ahmed al-Sarraf. The interview focused on religion and the Arab Spring in addition to the amendment of the Kuwaiti constitution.

Al-Maliki cancels arms deal to purchase 420 armored vehicles from Ukraine - [Moheet](#) (Egypt-based news website) April 12, 2012

Moheet cited **Radio Sawa** for its interview with Hakim al-Zamili, a member of the Iraqi parliament's security and defense committee, regarding the Iraqi government's decision to cancel arms deal with Ukraine. Al-Zamili said "Ukraine violated the terms and conditions of the contract."

Clinton: Iran must address international nuclear concerns - [Sada Elbalad](#) (Egyptian online newspaper) April 12, 2012

Sada Elbalad cited statements aired on **Radio Sawa** from the Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton regarding Iran's nuclear program. Clinton, speaking yesterday at a meeting of the Group of Eight foreign ministers, said the talks provide an opportunity for Iran to "address seriously the international community's concerns about its nuclear program." Clinton added that it is urgent that the Iranians come to the table to establish an environment conducive to achieving concrete results through a sustained process.

Sada Elbalad (Egyptian online newspaper) April 12, 2012

Sada Elbalad cited statements aired on **Radio Sawa** from the White House press secretary Jay Carney regarding Syria's new pledge to comply with the peace plan proposed by U.N.-Arab League Envoy Kofi Annan. "What is important to remember is that we judge the Assad regime by its actions and not by their promises," Carney said.

Armed groups attack Shia villages in Bahrain - Ismailia (Egyptian daily newspaper) April 11, 2012

Bahrainis wielding knives and sticks attacked Shia villagers in Bahrain. Al-Wefaq, the Gulf kingdom's largest Shia opposition group, said the attackers were in civilian clothes and beat up the residents of Shia villages. Al-Wifaq added that the attackers were stopping cars and asking passengers where they lived in order to determine what sect they belonged to. Al-Wifaq concluded that the security forces did not carry out their duty. They did not disperse the assailants or prevent them from attacking citizens, **Radio Sawa** reported.

Santorum withdraws from race for GOP nomination - Al Youm Al Sabe'a (Egypt-based news website) April 11, 2012

Rick Santorum announced that his pursuit of the Republican presidential nomination is officially over. Santorum said that the reason he was bowing out now had to do with the worsening illness of his 3-year-old daughter who suffers from a rare, life-threatening genetic condition, **Radio Sawa** reported.

Philippines and China agree to diplomatically resolve naval standoff - Akhbar Al Youm (Egypt-based news website) April 11, 2012

The Philippine government said Wednesday it agreed with China to diplomatically resolve a tense standoff involving a Philippine warship and two Chinese surveillance vessels in the disputed South China Sea. The agreement came after the meeting between Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert Del Rosario and Chinese Ambassador Ma Keqing, **Radio Sawa** reported.

Indian embassy In Washington evacuated after bomb threat - Lebanon Files (Lebanese news website) April 11, 2012

Lebanese Files cited statements aired on **Radio Sawa** from the State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland regarding the evacuation of the Indian embassy in Washington, D.C. after receiving a bomb threat. "I can confirm that there was a bomb threat at the Indian embassy in Washington earlier today. Appropriate law enforcement personnel responded immediately," Victoria Nuland said.

Iraqi police arrest 11 suspected al-Qaeda militants - Al Mashhad (Egyptian daily newspaper) April 10, 2012

Iraqi forces have arrested 11 alleged al-Qaeda members said to be responsible for attacks in the southern province of Basra that killed dozens of people. Major General Faisal al-Ebadi, police chief of Basra, said the detainees were responsible for attacks, including one in January against Shi'ite pilgrims that left 53 people dead, **Radio Sawa** reported.

Of Interest

Failed Launch Is Setback for North Korea's New Leader - [New York Times](#), April 13, 2012

The North's two previous attempts to put a satellite into orbit both failed, according to American officials, but both times the government insisted that the satellites were circling the earth and broadcasting songs about its great leaders. This time, it had to admit to failure, analysts said, because of the presence of so many foreign reporters and because neighboring countries were watching the much-anticipated launch more closely than ever.

New Independence in Afghan Media - [Internews](#), April 12, 2012

Reaching over 10 million Afghans in urban and remote areas across the country, Salam Watandar, Afghanistan's national radio news network, launched this week as an independent local Afghan non-profit organization, an important milestone in the country's development of a robust, independent media sector

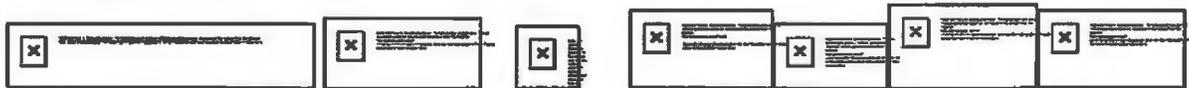
Related: [Afghan National Radio Network Launches as Independent NGO](#)

Movie Review: Hipsters - [Boston Globe](#), April 13, 2012

In other words, "Hipsters" is "Swing Kids" set on the other side of the Nazi-Soviet pact. It's also "American Graffiti," with the **Voice of America** substituted for Wolfman Jack – and "West Side Story," with the hipsters and Young Communist League filling in for the Sharks and Jets — and (why not?) "Moulin Rouge," thanks to a general Baz Luhrmann shamelessness.

Thank you for subscribing to the BBG Media Highlights. If you wish to discontinue getting our newsletter, you can [Unsubscribe here](#). If you have been forwarded this e-mail and wish to receive the BBG Media Highlights in the future, [Subscribe here](#). For an archive of recent editions of the BBG Media Highlights, click [here](#).

The Broadcasting Board of Governors is an independent federal agency, supervising all U.S. government-supported, civilian international broadcasting, whose mission is to inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy. BBG broadcasts reach an audience of 187 million in 100 countries. BBG broadcasting organizations include the Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa), Radio Free Asia, and the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (Radio and TV Marti).



Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2012 4:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: FW: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Lynne and Mr (b) (6)

I am forwarding to you an e mail I received from (b) (6) on what she considers to be weaknesses in the FOIA requests procedure by BBG. I feel she raises valid points.

I do not take sides on why she seeks the information she seeks but I do firmly support BBG having a process in place which expedites FOIA requests consistent with President Obama's 2009 executive order for openness. The President was on point when he issued this order early in his administration. What worries me is that not all agencies are adhering to the spirit as well as the letter of it.

We have discussed this previously. You have turned it over to (b) (6). He is professional young man but I wonder if you have indicated to him the importance of securing quick responses. Have you had the system checked on packages Fed ex'd to BBG. Deos he realize he has backing at the highest levels to act quickly?

I formally request the deputy general consul office to respond directly to the e mail (b) (6) sent me and copy me on it. Do we need to have a discussion on this at the April 20 BBG Board meeting?

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 4/14/2012 10:03:20 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: FW: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Ambassador Ashe:

I'd like to share with you some recent emails detailing the difficulty I've experienced filing a FOIA request at the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

On Thursday, I sent an email Freedom of Information letter to the Broadcasting Board of Governors. In order to comply with the BBG's rules, I sent a hard copy to them via Fed-Ex.

Among my surprise that somehow the Fed-Ex letter did not arrive, I am concerned that my FOIA request was questioned as to why it was even made, and why the (b) (6) did not request a FOIA on the BBG Governors' travels.

On this end, I'll follow up with Fed Ex to see what happened to the letter. It's bewildering that an organization funded to provide global communication doesn't have a simple streamline method of receiving or transmitting written communications ... this month they have no procedure in place to receive a package from Fed Ex, and last month their legal department had no procedure in place to attach a document to an email.

Thank you for any help you may be able to provide.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 3:26 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: Murrow station

very please with how staff is going on this and the nice way they have taken my suggestions while implementing it themselves. Victor

In a message dated 4/13/2012 3:24:35 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

victor,

forgive my tardiness in replying...

thanks for the nice words. it's turning out to be a nice event...i was a bit skeptical at first...

delighted we're able to pull it off. appreciate you making the suggestion and then letting us handle it from there...

i have a grown son living in asheville...too bad he's not close enough to visit on this trip.

have a terrific weekend.

dick

On Fri, Apr 13, 2012 at 7:55 AM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:
Dick

Just want to tell you how pleased I am with the way the forma re dedication of the Edward Murrow facility is moving. I got an excellent briefing from Tish and Lynne Thursday. Casey Murrow coming from Vermont at his own expense is a wonderful development and will give added significance to the occasion. I hope the media outreach stresses his participation. Glad you will be there. That sends a strong signal.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 2:29 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: REMINDER: Cuba policy briefing

I will not be there in person but am happy to call in. Victor

In a message dated 4/13/2012 2:27:13 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

For those who are planning to attend this briefing: Please let me know today by COB, and if you don't have a State Department-issued ID badge, kindly provide your date of birth, driver's license number, and state/district where the license was issued.

For those who are unable to attend, but would like to phone in: We're working on getting an answer.

For all others: We can plan a catch-up session in Miami as needed.

Best,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:19 PM
To: 'Vhashe@aol.com'; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: RE: Cuba policy briefing

I'll ask on behalf of all whether call-ins can be done.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:18 PM

To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Cuba policy briefing

can I call in? I am in Tennessee and cannot travel to DC that day but certainly interested.

let me know a number if I can call in. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/12/2012 12:09:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

We have an offer from the State Department for a briefing on U.S.-Cuba policy and related communications matters ahead of the meeting in Miami. Given the quick turn-around and the briefers involved, there wasn't a lot of flexibility in terms of timing. The meeting takes place next Monday, April 16, at 3.

Senior BBG staff will be on hand; those Governors who are unable to attend – particularly due to travel issues/costs-- can receive a recap afterward at your convenience, either by phone or in person in Miami.

There will also likely be participation from the office of U/S Sonenshine.

Please let me know if you can attend. I'd like to give my former colleagues at State a head-count by tomorrow COB.

And kindly keep this information confidential; involve schedulers or any others only as needed.

Many thanks,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 7:55 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Murrow station

Dick

Just want to tell you how pleased I am with the way the former dedication of the Edward Murrow facility is moving. I got an excellent briefing from Tish and Lynne Thursday. Casey Murrow coming from Vermont at his own expense is a wonderful development and will give added significance to the occasion. I hope the media outreach stresses his participation. Glad you will be there. That sends a strong signal.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 7:23 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Fw: View from the East

If you will send me the January memo again, I will give you a response. Please send. I regret that my failure to respond was taken as full agreement.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/13/2012 12:44:22 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Perhaps my email wasn't clear. I know that my email yesterday said that I have reason to believe that the situation in most, if not all, of our other bureaus is equally bad. That did not mean that "the situation is bad, but I don't intend to do anything about it". The list of needs and priorities to which I referred included ALL of our bureaus, not just the ones I have visited thus far. Indeed, as I explained, we are moving to replace all of our computers in Bishkek, although I have not yet visited there (I am planning a visit there and to some other Central Asian bureaus during the summer). Again, if you had the impression that I am only concerned about the bureaus I have visited, then that is a failure of explication, not intent.

As to your point about Iran, we do not have a bureau there and we never have. I have, however, made it clear internally, ad nauseum, that Iran, together with Af/Pak and Russia are our three most important priorities. We do not intend to give Af/Pak and Iran (or any other of our broadcast territories) to VOA, or to anyone else.

As to why I chose to visit these particular bureaus first, the rationale for that was set forth in my email to the Board of January 16 to which I referred at least twice in yesterday's email. In that regard, I point out that I received no comments about that earlier email from you or any other Board member at any time since January 16.

As I am sure you recall, the January email set forth in some detail my plans about where I wanted to take the company based upon my observations over the first six months of my tenure. Yesterday's email was a bit of an update of the earlier email, but focused on bureaus.

As to your concern about which countries are the farthest east, let me assure you that I actually am pretty good at geography. I know well the relative locations of Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Georgia and Armenia. The concept of looking East was set forth in my January 16 email and was a reference to the fact that my predecessor put more emphasis and resources into our image in Washington than I intend. I said that, given our limited resources, I believe we must put as much of our resources into our broadcast region as we can. In this regard I would note that all of the countries in question are east of Washington (as well as Prague).

I trust you will find this note responsive to the points raised in your email.

Steve

Sent from Lotus Traveler

Vhashe@aol.com --- Re: Fw: View from the East ---

From: Vhashe@aol.com
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Date: Fri, Apr 13, 2012 4:02 AM
Subject: Re: Fw: View from the East

Where is the emphasis on Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan?. Armenia and Georgia are not nearly as important as these three nations? Is RFE simply giving these three nations to VOA and walking away under this plan? If so, tell us.

You talk of going East but Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan are further east than Armenia and Georgia. Just what is (b) (6) definition of east and west here?

The truth is that RFE took a huge cut in 1996 and has never recovered. It would appear that RFE tries to do too much in too many places with too little. Russia is important but the new Putin may well figure out a way to block RFE from growth in Russia.

I worry that (b) (6) has decided not to visit other nations where RFE operates and has limited his visits to what he has seen. What other trips to areas served by RFE are planned by (b) (6) if any? His concern for the plight of employees in Moscow and safety at the Baku office are well taken. However, what has moved Georgia and Armenia to the forefront when other nations in the same 'east' neighborhood are far more critical to US interests.

I look forward to a response and discussion on this. Choices must be made and they need to add up in terms of American interests.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/12/2012 12:23:46 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

Steve asked that I resend his message below, which bounced back the last time.

Regards,

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded by (b) (6) on 04/12/2012 06:21 PM -----

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded by (b) (6) 04/12/2012 06:00 PM -----

From: (b) (6)

To: (h) (6), (b) (6), vhashe@yahoo.com, (b) (6), (b) (6)

(b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (6)

Date: 04/12/2012 04:38 PM

Subject: View from the East

<FON-Your data has been truncated. =

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 10:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Fw: View from the East

Where is the emphasis on Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan?. Armenia and Georgia are not nearly as important as these three nations? Is RFE simply giving these three nations to VOA and walking away under this plan? If so, tell us.

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(b) (6)

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From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); vhashe@yahoo.com; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Date: 04/12/2012 04:38 PM
Subject: View from the East

All: In my email to you of January 16, 2012 I told you that I believe that when our limited resources force us to choose between looking east or looking west, we must look east toward our region. To fulfill our mission of

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 5:44 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: cheap rooms

suggest you book less expensive rooms at Marriott now...while you would not qualify for senior rate, (b) (6) would. You and (b) (6) would qualify for govt rate. If you wait too long the cheap rooms disappear like cheap seats on the airlines.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:18 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Cuba policy briefing

can I call in? I am in Tennessee and cannot travel to DC that day but certainly interested.

let me know a number if I can call in. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/12/2012 12:09:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

We have an offer from the State Department for a briefing on U.S.-Cuba policy and related communications matters ahead of the meeting in Miami. Given the quick turn-around and the briefers involved, there wasn't a lot of flexibility in terms of timing. The meeting takes place next Monday, April 16, at 3.

Senior BBG staff will be on hand; those Governors who are unable to attend – particularly due to travel issues/costs-- can receive a recap afterward at your convenience, either by phone or in person in Miami.

There will also likely be participation from the office of U/S Sonenshine.

Please let me know if you can attend. I'd like to give my former colleagues at State a head-count by tomorrow COB.

And kindly keep this information confidential; involve schedulers or any others only as needed.

Many thanks,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 11:38 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

Happy to wait...but your email correctly senses my true interest here. Was not aware (b) (6) is involved nor (b) (6). This is news for me. However, speaking only for myself, I want to see copies of all letters sent to BBG only which relates to policy or Governors unless you tell me this is too heavy a volume to be practical. This particular issue is solved due to the fame of (b) (6). It might not happen for a lesser know correspondent but hwo has relevant and valid concerns. Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Lynne Weil (b) (6); Letitia King (b) (6) (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6)
<(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Apr 12, 2012 8:04 am
Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Victor, (b) (6) oversees the mail operation and (b) (6) is most familiar with procedures and practices that ensure that correspondence reaches the Governors. (b) (6) were not on the email trail yesterday in which you were asking about the (b) (6) letter. (b) (6) returns today from vacation and we can provide a report on this matter.

This is an extremely busy time, with follow-up to this week's Committee meeting and preparation for next week's Board meetings, so we will appreciate your patience as we juggle the many demands on staff.

Rgds
Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 7:19 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I do want a full report as to what happened to the (b) (6) letter as well as policies in general...not so much because of her but because I would like to know how a letter addressed to BBG only is handled. I also want to know if BBG ever got her letter addressed to BBG. This is something I know Lynne and Tish will want to be up to speed on as well.

I am the only Governor to have ever visited the mail room in the basement of Cohen Bldg.

Jeff. you are the first responder who seems to know something about how this is handled.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 10:29:34 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

There are well-established procedures for receiving, recording and distributing incoming mail to BBG. The IBB has a fully functioning Secretariat. We can provide a full report on these procedures and practices if you wish. Security scanning procedures implemented across the federal government after the anthrax attacks often delay receipt of mail sent by standard post.

Rgds
Jeff

On Apr 11, 2012, at 8:41 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

this is ridiculous that we do not know how mail addressed to BBG and no one is handled...I am sure there is mail weekly with only that on it. Someone at top level should know the answer. Sorry if someone is offended.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:54:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

And (b) (6) has been on leave since April 2. I should imagine that another member of the support staff is handling incoming mail in her stead. We should look into that tomorrow.

Lynne

From: Letitia King
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:52 PM
To: Lynne Weil; vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

In my experience, such snail mail correspondence has been scanned and transmitted via email by (b) (6) to the Board. I believe there was a letter from Rohrbacher distributed that way not long ago.

Regards,
Tish

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:46:56 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Dear Victor,

I'd be happy to help, but I don't know how the mail is handled in this agency.

Am looping back in the people who've worked here for a while and who might have missed the earlier message. There have been issues with the e-mail system on and off today.

And if your source does offer a copy of the letter that you can share, we'll be happy to coordinate a response right away.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

again what happens to mail at Cohen Bldg only addressed to BBG..who gets it? some human must see it.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:09:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Victor – we'd appreciate seeing it.

You have an extraordinary source.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:30 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

My source who has not shared the letter says it was dated April 4 on her personal stationery. It was sent to Broadcasting Board of Governors at Cohen Bldg...no further address in terms of a name. What happens to mail sent in general to BBG but not to the chair, a specific Governor or IBB Director? Who gets it and what happens?

If I get a copy, I will forward it to you.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 5:23:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

To our knowledge, the BBG Office of Public Affairs has received no communication from (b) (6) widow of the late (b) (6) concerning the BBG.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: (b) (6)

I have been told that (b) (6), widow of the late Congressman (b) (6), has written a letter to BBG on the Tibetan and Mandarin language cutbacks.

I have not seen it. Does anyone know about this and who has it? When will it be distributed to Board members?

as a general procedure, when a letter comes in to BBG, are they then sent to BBG Board members if address to BBG in general? At what point do they get forwarded?

As one Member only, I want to see them all as quickly as they arrive.

Victor Ashe

Thank you, Dana.

The letter has been converted here to Adobe format, which should work on most systems.

I recommend that any response to (b) (6) be copied to (b) (6), who has been running the foundation named for her late father, and who sent the letter to (b) (6) by e-mail.

Suggestion: That VOA begin drafting something in coordination with the agency's Office of Strategy and Development, as well as that of the CFO, to be approved as usual after that. As Dana noted, under the circumstances the turnaround time won't be inordinate.

Looping in Bruce and (b) (6) here, along with the chiefs of staff at VOA and the IBB.

I further suggest that as this effort gets under way the Governors not be subjected to process-related messages, but that they be copied on the final version per normal procedures.

Have a good night, all.

(b) (6)

From: Dana Perino [mailto:(b) (6)]

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:08 PM

To: vhashe@aol.com

Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); (b) (6)

(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

(b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

i just tried to open the letter - it comes up just as characters - so i'll read it when i can. And though i am having to do this from nyc and with a different working situation than i had before, i don't see why there would need to be anything directed toward Lynne when there could be a perfectly reasonable explanation for where the letter went or an unintentional oversight...it has only been 7 days, 1 of which was an observed holiday for many, 2 of which were weekend days. From what I can tell, everyone's doing more with less and doing it pretty darn well.

On Apr 11, 2012, at 8:49 PM, [Vhashe@aol.com](mailto:vhashe@aol.com) wrote:

(b) (6), head of one of the unions, sent the (b) (6) letter to me two hours ago which I am forwarding. Hopefully, all can access the letter. Clearly, it was addressed to Broadcasting Board of Governors and no one else (or an individual) and no one at top management has a clue where the letter dated April 4 is within the Cohen bldg or even if it got there. I do not know how (b) (6) had the letter as my original source on this was not him.

It seems to me that top management needs to know how mail addressed to BBG only is handled and someone needs to read it, and share with Governors items like this from significant and distinguished private citizens. Governors need to know how mail so addressed is handles. Mrs (b) (6) was more than Congressman (b) (6) spouse. She was his right hand and worked unpaid in his office every day. She knows foreign policy.

Lynne is new on the job but this will be a learning experience for all of us.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/11/2012 6:33:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

Victor:

Just in case this letter was not shared with the Board members.

(b) (6)

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

From: (b) (6)
Date: Tue, Apr 10, 2012 at 10:18 AM

Here you go.

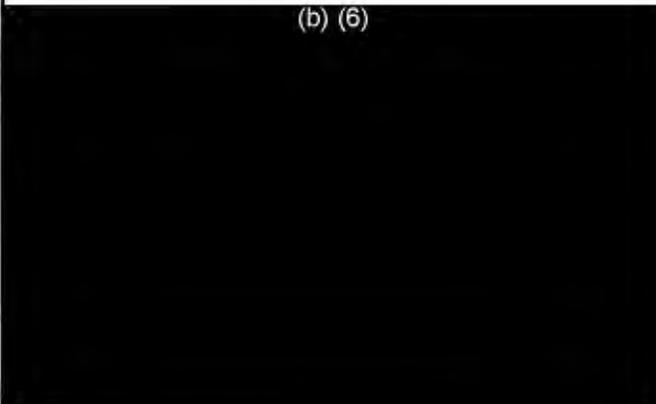
All the best,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

President

(b) (6)



Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 7:19 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I do want a full report as to what happened to the (b) (6) letter as well as policies in general...not so much because of her but because I would like to know how a letter addressed to BBG only is handled. I also want to know if BBG ever got her letter addressed to BBG. This is something I know Lynne and Tish will want to be up to speed on as well.

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Tish

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Lynne

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To: Lynne Weil
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To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

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As one Member only, I want to see them all as quickly as they arrive.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:38 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Bruce Sherman;
(b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

(b) (6) sent the (b) (6) letter to me in a different format which I believe is readable. I am forwarding it to all. Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/11/2012 9:30:04 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Re: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

It doesn't look as nice this way but here it is.

(b) (6)

April 4, 2012
Members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Avenue
Washington, DC 20237
To Whom It May Concern:

I write in support of Voice of America radio and television broadcasting, particularly to China, Tibet and Russia. In addition, I write in support of the efforts of the Committee for U.S. International Broadcasting. The CUSIB works to ensure that U.S. government-funded broadcasts promote respect for human rights and freedom of the press, especially in nations where these basic freedoms are under attack.

I write to you on a personal basis to express dismay that Voice of America radio and television broadcasts to Russia ceased in 2008. I am deeply concerned that although last year's proposed cuts of VOA Mandarin and Cantonese radio and television programs were halted, this year's proposal includes the elimination of VOA Cantonese services and VOA Tibetan Radio Services, at a time when there is significant unrest in Tibet. I urge you to continue the Cantonese and Tibetan broadcasts, and to restore them to Russia.

I well remember as a girl in Nazi-occupied Hungary, how every Sunday afternoon my family would draw the shades, close the curtains, and gather around the shortwave radio, pressing our ears close so that we could catch each precious word of freedom and hope that poured out of that radio receiver like manna from heaven. We had to strain to hear over the static caused by Nazi attempts to block the signal, but we were grateful to do so, because these words of truth were pure gold in the ubiquitous mire of Nazi propaganda. The VOA and BBC broadcasts were our one connection to freedom, our one connection to hope, and our lifeline that gave the resistance the courage to endure to the end. The VOA broadcasts fanned the fires of resistance in the brave underground fighters who sought to destroy the brutal Nazi totalitarianism from within. To cut off the VOA broadcasts would have been to cut off the very legs of the resistance. The same is true today in nations ruled by totalitarian regimes.

Now, the people of China and Tibet are suffering at the hands of a brutal, heartless regime. They also cannot speak openly without fear of punishment. The Chinese Communist Party seeks to maintain complete control over the information available to the people of China and Tibet. The CCP blocks the Internet and controls the flow of information, distorting the truth and promoting distrust of America. VOA has been the voice of freedom and democracy in China for 70 years. It is highly respected, even venerated, in China. Human rights activists like Chinese Nobel Peace Prize laureate Liu Xiaobo and Chinese campaigner for women's rights Chen Guangcheng

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:30 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

all excellent points from Lynne...however, we should all know the process by which mail addressed to BBG only is handled once it reaches the Cohen Bldg as apparently we do not know.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 9:18:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Dana.

The letter has been converted here to Adobe format, which should work on most systems.

I recommend that any response to (b) (6) be copied to (b) (6), who has been running the foundation named for her late father, and who sent the letter to (b) (6) by e-mail.

Suggestion: That VOA begin drafting something in coordination with the agency's Office of Strategy and Development, as well as that of the CFO, to be approved as usual after that. As Dana noted, under the circumstances the turnaround time won't be inordinate.

Looping in Bruce and (b) (6) here, along with the chiefs of staff at VOA and the IBB.

I further suggest that as this effort gets under way the Governors not be subjected to process-related messages, but that they be copied on the final version per normal procedures.

Have a good night, all.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:54 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: Talking tomorrow?

call me at 130 on my cell...I do not regard this as a final call on this subject nor do I expect all issues to be resolved...more of an update than anything else.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 8:05:58 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

Tish,

If Gov. Ashe says yes, this locks us into talking with him exactly at that time. We may want to keep the option open to speak with him later -- that was my understanding of your suggestion that we speak with him after lunch. There could be matters on which we need to touch base with others.

But that's ok; we can update him more than once as needed, and provide a short briefing the first time.

If he says no to 1:30, please just ask whether sometime later in the day would work, without specifying a time. As you can see by my calendar, there is one fixed obligation on it in the afternoon -- but typically, other things get slotted into my calendar on the fly on any given day.

Lynne

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

From: Letitia King
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 7:44 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Talking tomorrow?

Dear Ambassador Ashe,

We would be glad to update you on planning for the May 2 program. Would you be available to talk by phone at 1:30 tomorrow?

Please let us know.

Many thanks and have a good evening.

Tish

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:11 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

we should note on web site that Casey Murrow is on the May 2 program. When can Tish King brief me on details of program?

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:09:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Victor – we'd appreciate seeing it.

You have an extraordinary source.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:30 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

My source who has not shared the letter says it was dated April 4 on her personal stationery. It was sent to Broadcasting Board of Governors at Cohen Bldg...no further address in terms of a name. What happens to mail sent in general to BBG but not to the chair, a specific Governor or IBB Director? Who gets it and what happens?

If I get a copy, I will forward it to you.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 5:23:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

To our knowledge, the BBG Office of Public Affairs has received no communication from (b) (6) (b) (6) widow of the late (b) (6) concerning the BBG.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: (b) (6)

I have been told that (b) (6), widow of the late Congressman (b) (6), has written a letter to BBG on the Tibetan and Mandarin language cutbacks.

I have not seen it. Does anyone know about this and who has it? When will it be distributed to Board members?

as a general procedure, when a letter comes in to BBG, are they then sent to BBG Board members if address to BBG in general? At what point do they get forwarded?

As one Member only, I want to see them all as quickly as they arrive.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:11 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

You may wish to write the daughter at the (b) (6) Foundation as it may have been produced there. (b) (6) I refer to.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:09:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Victor – we'd appreciate seeing it.

You have an extraordinary source.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:30 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Anne Lantos

My source who has not shared the letter says it was dated April 4 on her personal stationery. It was sent to Broadcasting Board of Governors at Cohen Bldg...no further address in terms of a name. What happens to mail sent in general to BBG but not to the chair, a specific Governor or IBB Director? Who gets it and what happens?

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Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 8:49 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Congressman Jones

The BBG web site lists Cong Jones as invited...is he not confirmed...I thought the date was built around him. Should invited not be removed if he is confirmed...it suggests his attendance is a maybe

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 11:35 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

water

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Apr 9, 2012 10:04 pm
Subject: Re: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

That's very kind of you. Probably for those two sandwiches and a couple of sodas the cost will be \$15, plus tax. Yours might be \$8 or so; (b) (6) handling menu and ordering details, (b) (6) collecting the cash.

Btw, what's your drink preference on this particular occasion? \$2 more.

Grand total \$25-ish.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 9:45:30 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

happy to chip in full cost

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Apr 9, 2012 9:44 pm
Subject: Re: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

Got it. Please pay (b) (6) the amount that she requests tomorrow at lunch. It will include tax plus a couple of bucks to cover lunch for U/S Sonenshine and her CoS, Nick Giacobbe; the whole group is chipping in.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 9:41:50 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

sandwich..whole wheat bread is best but whatever works Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Apr 9, 2012 9:38 pm
Subject: Re: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

Salad only, or sandwich? If the latter, what type of bread?

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 9:11:25 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

chicken salad is great...no tomatos...let me know what i owe..Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Apr 9, 2012 5:16 pm
Subject: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

Dear Victor,

We're now looking for sandwich and drink orders for the 12:30 lunch with U/S Sonenshine. If you wish to join in the sandwich order, make your selection from [this menu](#) and respond to (b) (6) as soon as possible.

See you tomorrow,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 9:46 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

happy to chip in full cost

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Apr 9, 2012 9:44 pm
Subject: Re: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

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Sent: Mon, Apr 9, 2012 9:38 pm
Subject: Re: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

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Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 9:11:25 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

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From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) v>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Apr 9, 2012 5:16 pm

Subject: Sandwich orders for tomorrow

Dear Victor,

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See you tomorrow,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 11:56 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I am happy to take him to dinner on May 1..the night before. good rates at Courtyard Marriott

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: Letitia King (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Apr 9, 2012 10:14 am
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

Great news! Thank you, Tish, for your diligent efforts.

Let us know when Mr. (b) (6) has purchased his ticket and provided his itinerary. And let's you and I confer on related details.

Lynne

From: Letitia King
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 10:00:04 AM
To: Lynne Weil; vhashe@aol.com; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: (b) (6)

Hi All,

Thought I'd update you that (b) (6) says he think he CAN come to the May 2 program in NC. Neither of his sons can make it.

Naturally, I invited him to speak on the program and suggested, depending on his schedule, that our delegation would be pleased to have lunch with him following the program at the station.

Given that he is traveling some distance, that seemed the hospitable idea but I realize the travel schedules are still being finalized.

Dashing off to join a conference call and will share any updates.

Thanks,

Tish

Letitia King
Director, Office of Public Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20237

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 12:08 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Cost

The Murrow dedication is a one time event with a US Congressman. Few Board members are more sensitive to cost than me. But we should not be stupid on this. And remember we still 12 to 14 persons when 4 or 5 would do for a conference in Delhi, India...I turned down business class on my recent trip to Asia which I qualified for to same \$3000.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 11:46 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Google Alert - Victor Ashe

Well I will pay his travel personally if that is what holds him from attending....frankly given the waste in our current travel contract this is peanuts. Prague trip costs \$3600 when I could buy it direct for \$1800 but (b) (6) says I cannot do it due to travel contract.....also keep staff travel to Miami BBG meeting down as well as to Prague...what are actual costs?

Victor

In a message dated 4/6/2012 8:59:15 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Costs are mounting for this project.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 8:55:43 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Google Alert - Victor Ashe

Yes I got Tish...too bad no one has been able to talk directly to (b) (6) ...I will try myself. Can we pay his travel to get there??? Victor

In a message dated 4/6/2012 8:53:34 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor --

Tish indicated in a message to you last evening that it would be corrected. Same message had info re: Casey and other Murrows. There were issues with BBG e-mail last evening. Did you receive Tish's?

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 8:50:25 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Google Alert - Victor Ashe

hope this is corrected as this google item lists me as mayor of Nashville....not Knoxville

From: googlealerts-noreply@google.com
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/5/2012 8:07:13 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Google Alert - Victor Ashe

Blogs 1 new result for Victor Ashe

[Join the BBG in Rededicating the Edward R. Murrow Transmitting ...](#)

By sorr

Victor Ashe, BBG Governor, former Ambassador to Poland and former mayor of Nashville. Richard M. Lobo, award-winning media executive and journalist and Director of the International Broadcasting Bureau. Edward R. Murrow's legacy as a ...
BBG

This once a day Google Alert is brought to you by Google.

[Delete](#) this alert.

[Create](#) another alert.

[Manage](#) your alerts.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2012 7:35 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: thanks for billing

Lynne and Tish

The BBG item on Edward Murrow dedication needs revamping as I was the Mayor of Knoxville not Nashville.

Has anyone called (b) (6) and asked him personally to attend. I do not a response to my e mail. If he declines for whatever reason, I would ask for a grandchild or in lieu thereof a letter from (b) (6) on behalf of the family can be read at the occasion as well as framed and placed in the lobby.

Let me know what happens on this

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2012 12:40 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Contractors

The current Deputy General Counsel report mentions a RFI for POV services. This is news to me. I wonder if it is news to the contractors to whom governance committee and management have been reaching out to.

The BBG Board should be fully consulted on this as well as contractors themselves. Perhaps they know it. Would this save money? Would it further remove them from feeling a part of BBG? We should discuss this in Miami.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2012 9:05 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Tara Sonenshine to visit the BBG

I will be in DC on April 10 and hope to be present for part of this visit to Cohen. Glad she is coming.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/4/2012 9:04:03 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

The new Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, Tara Sonenshine, has accepted an invitation from the BBG to come by the Cohen Building early in her tenure. She plans to attend the Board's meeting this month at OCB, but has also welcomed the chance to visit the agency's headquarters as well as the vaunted home of VOA.

This she will do next Tuesday, April 10, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The program agreed upon with the State Department will be:

11 a.m. to noon – reception with light refreshments, VOA Briefing Room.

Among the invitees will be the language service heads and senior congressional staff who handle public diplomacy issues.

Noon to 12:30 – Tailored tour taking in historic aspects of the building as well as state-of-the-art studios. Possible TV interview, to be worked out with VOA; tape would be shared across entities.

12:30 to 1:30 - Informal lunch, pre-ordered individually for those who choose to participate. Details to follow.

The program will end in time for a brief break before the 2 p.m. Strategy and Budget Committee meeting.

With apologies for the rather short notice, please let us know whether you plan to attend part or all of this event.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 5:11 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6);
Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

I assume there will be a full and complete discussion of the budget to be submitted to OMB. I trust Maryjean Buhler will submit to the committee a budget which includes consolidation of the three entities and one which does not include consolidation. so we can consider both approaches. I would like to see areas of proposed savings in our July 31 meeting. I hope the three entities are invited to be represented so they can respond to questions along with VOA and OCB.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/13/2012 3:34:11 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Please be advised that a meeting of the Strategy and Budget Committee has been scheduled for July 31, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

A draft agenda will be sent to you in the coming days.

Thanks.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 9:41 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Swahili

I am always happy and honored to participate in employee recognitions. They are the backbone of VOA.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Jul 13, 2012 9:30 am
Subject: RE: Swahili

And it is kind of you to take the time to provide that extra recognition.

We contacted the photog assigned to the presentation to ask for an electronic version of the pic, to be posted on BBG.gov as soon it arrives. Should be this a.m.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 9:23 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Swahili

Wonder if the BBG web site will include a photo from the 50th anniversary of Swahili language service plaque presentation which I made at VOA request. Will indicated it might happen so I thought I would e mail. These are wonderful folks who would appreciate the recognition.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 9:55 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Congresswoman Lofgren and Sanchez

Has the response been sent to Congressman Rohrabacher yet? I would like to see it

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 9:19 pm
Subject: Re: Congresswoman Lofgren and Sanchez

Good evening, Victor --

Thank you for inquiring about the follow-up to Rep. Lofgren's letter. This is one of the matters I asked about on my first day back at work. The Communications Committee is considering a draft response; the whole Board will be looped in.

Could you please clarify the reference to Rep. Sanchez?

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2012 10:21:03 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Congresswoman Lofgren and Sanchez

Several weeks ago a letter from Congresswoman Lofgren and Congresswoman Sanchez on entity consolidation was sent to BBG which was then distributed to the Board. We were told a letter would be drafted and circulated prior to being sent back to the two members.

I have not seen a draft and am writing to secure a copy so I can comment on it. I believe the letter is several weeks old so a reply is certainly due to both members.

I look forward to seeing it. can someone tell me where the draft stands??

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 10:00 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

I will try to be there July 27 as well as at Strategy and Budget whenever it is held. cannot make July 17 as it is the day after I have surgery in Knoxville.

Victor

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

From: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>
To: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> > BBG Board Group <(b) (6).gov>
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Jul 12, 2012 9:54 am
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

Dear Colleagues,

Budget update. I have been able to secure a meeting at OMB on Tuesday, July 17th at 11 am in Washington. If any of you are in town and interested in attending please let me know. Our goal is to make a case about 5-10 percent cuts and what it does to our agency.

I am hopeful to schedule a meeting of the Strategy and Budget Committee in the next couple of weeks. We can make it a committee of the whole and have any board member, who wishes for a deeper dive into the 2014 budget and an update on the 2013 budget status participate by phone or in person. I know the staff has been sending us update materials.

China. On Friday July 27th, we have assembled several outside experts to convene in Washington that morning. It's part of an effort to bring outside voices into our internal discussions about a comprehensive approach to USIB in China. Board members are encouraged to join by phone or in person on the 27th. It's with this input that I am hopeful we can advance a more comprehensive strategy that leverages all of USIB assets in Asia.

Iran. The staff is still working on recruiting panelist. I am hope for us to have conducted a similar effort before the September board meeting and our 2014 budget submission. Stay tuned.

If you are interested in participating directly in the Budget committee meeting, please let me know and we will work to accommodate your schedule. The staff needs our guidance and as Dick points out, September is too late to start.

Best,

Michael

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 9:42 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

It is important that materials which were going to be assembled for July 24 be sent to all Governors anyway so we can have time to review them in adequate time but that does not replace the need for a meeting of the relevant committees to discuss and look into issues. Budget must be considered in depth.
Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6) gov>
To: BBG Board Group <(b) (6) by>
Cc: (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 6:04 pm
Subject: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

Dear Governors,

In April, the Board voted to change the previously selected date for the July 2012 meeting and asked Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt to choose a new date. Having canvassed the Board, they selected July 24 as the best available option.

As that date approaches, it has become apparent that many Governors' attendance cannot be assured. Some of you are available only at limited times -- or perhaps not at all -- on July 24. Guaranteeing a quorum under these conditions would not be possible.

For this reason, Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt have agreed to postpone the July meetings of the Board and Governance Committee. They will suggest an alternate date.

While most of the work on the July agenda may be safely deferred until the scheduled September meeting, it is critical for the Board to discuss the proposed FY 2014 budget sometime in early August by telephone or videoconference. We will be back in touch as soon as possible with a proposed date.

Finally, a number of Governors have pointed out the importance and complexity of the key issues requiring detailed discussion before any votes could take place. The postponement will provide time for you to review any materials sent in advance.

Dick Lobo

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 9:34 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

this really should happen but committee meetings need to occur. There has to be serious discussion of the budget...not 30 minutes and no strategy and budget before hand.

If it goes to August then is consolidaiton being voted on by phone or conference? and no goverance committee prior to that?

Victor ashe

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

From: Susan McCue (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 9:31 pm
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

i can get to video in NYC. maybe Dana and i can do together from NYC?

On Jul 11, 2012, at 9:23 PM, <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

This is very disappointing even if understandable. I strongly feel that as many as possible should meet in august to discuss in person (not by phone) these critical issues. Strategy and Budget surely should meet prior to a vote on the budget. Just reading papers without persons there to respond and have a dialogue back and forth among Governors is a poor way to run a \$700 million plus budget. I am available all of August to august 27. I am not available sept 1 to 9 due to previously planned business.

It is stunning to me that we would vote on the budget or consolidation without a face to face meeting preceded by committee meetings such as governance and strategy and budget. Gov Mulhaupt and I have a perfect attendance record. Others have different schedules but we should try to co-ordinate our agendas to meet as a group. otherwise we look less than diligent in my view.

I plan on being in Washington July 24-25 and will visit more areas of the Cohen Bldg where I have not previously been or it was over a year ago.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
To: BBG Board Group (b) (6) (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 6:04 pm
Subject: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

Dear Governors,

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Finally, a number of Governors have pointed out the importance and complexity of the key issues requiring detailed discussion before any votes could take place. The postponement will provide time for you to review any materials sent in advance.

Dick Lobo

susan mccue

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 6:59 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft July BBG Meetings Agenda

In looking over the agenda, I have several more questions and concerns.

First, can someone let at least the Governors know what the classified session on July 24 between 1045 and 1 PM will cover in terms of topics so we can be thinking about it. Simply saying it is classified does not give a clue as to what might be discussed. If the powers that be do not want this whole list to know, then perhaps send it to Governors only. I do not feel we should have a classified session unless there is some heads up to Governors as to what it is about.

Second, I do not understand how we can vote on the budget when strategy and budget committee has not met to go over the budget. No one has briefed me on its contents. When will we receive information on the budget? However, I thought it was and is the role of the Strategy and budget committee to go over the budget before the full Board considers it. Am I mistaken? It seems Strategy and Budget does not have a meeting planned. Going over the budget should take more than the 30 minutes allotted on July 24. Only having 30 minutes for this without a strategy and budget committee meeting makes the Board appear less than diligent in its discharge of its duties. As one Governor, I have not been briefed on the budget and feel allocating 30 minutes only is totally inadequate for a budget of over \$700 million.

Third, I wish to register a protest that my request for discussion of the non disclosure protocol is placed virtually last on the agenda of the full Board behind congratulatory resolutions. I requested this in a timely manner. It seems to me that items requested by Governors should have a higher priority than what is being given to this issue which has triggered much public discussion and questions. The reality is that the Board has failed to conclude its full agenda at the last two meetings. Placing this item last if that happens at this meeting almost guarantees that the Board does not reach it and a thoughtful discussion does not occur on this significant issue.

Fourth, I feel entity heads and network heads should be allowed to attend all of the Governor's briefing not simply as directed.

Hopefully, someone can answer these concerns. Mr. Kollmer, Mr. Lobo, Gov, Lynton or others.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/10/2012 1:07:48 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a draft agenda for all BBG-related meetings to be held on Tuesday, July 24, in the BBG-IBB Conference Room of the Cohen Building. This draft agenda has been reviewed and approved by Presiding Governor Lynton.

A Governance Committee meeting is scheduled from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. EDT. Committee members (Chair Mulhaupt, Ashe, McCue and Lynton) are confirmed for attendance, but we urge other Governors to participate as the Committee will, among other issues, examine the grantee consolidation plan and make a recommendation to the plenary Board.

As Jeff mentioned to you on June 28, the Board needs to decide on grantee consolidation – a decision with significant implications for the FY 2014 budget process. In addition, the Board must consider, provide guidance, and adopt the key elements of the Agency's FY 2014 budget proposal in a closed meeting because of the need to preserve the confidentiality of pre-decisional budget information per OMB guidelines. That said, in a separate email per usual procedures, we will circulate a notice to the Board with a request to close a portion of the Board meeting.

Given the importance of these issues, it is anticipated that the Governors' Briefing morning session (starting at 10:45 a.m. EDT) would be attended by Governors, key staff and network heads.

Please note that a BBG open meeting is planned in the afternoon from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT. Following the open meeting, Governors' Briefing would continue, including a substantial discussion about the Agency's digital/on-line programs per Governor McCue's request.

We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the BBG open meeting.

Thank you.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2012 10:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Congresswoman Lofgren and Sanchez

Several weeks ago a letter from Congresswoman Lofgren and Congresswoman Sanchez on entity consolidation was sent to BBG which was then distributed to the Board. We were told a letter would be drafted and circulated prior to being sent back to the two members.

I have not seen a draft and am writing to secure a copy so I can comment on it. I believe the letter is several weeks old so a reply is certainly due to both members.

I look forward to seeing it. can someone tell me where the draft stands??

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 9:34 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Letter from Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (b) (6)

I trust the draft will be circulated among the Board prior to sending to Congressman Rohrabacher as there are clear differences among Governors on this. I feel the Congressman has raised several valid points which are hard to defend, explain or justify. Even today my good friend Dick Lobo is engaged in non disclosure with me by declining to respond to my repeated e mails asking for a copy of the memo prepared for him with my name on it relative to labor issues and the memo which I sent a few weeks ago to all Governors. This memo prepared for Mr. Lobo was in his stack of materials at the June 7 Prague meeting where he sat next to me and it was at the top of the pile. When I asked to see it that day in order to better understand BBG management's position on labor negotiations he declined to share it and has ignored several e mails from me since then on this issue. My name is in the headline on the memo but he withholds it from me. Hard to understand this one and certainly something Congressman Rohrabacher would find less than transparent. As a Governor I along with all other interested Governors are entitled to see it. Mr. Lobo in my view has no legal basis to withhold it especially since it was prepared to assist him in responding to anticipated questions I might ask but which the press of other business prevented us from reaching.

Sincerely yours,
Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/26/2012 3:27:20 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

The attached letter from Rep. Dana Rohrabacher regarding the BBG's non-disclosure policy just arrived in our office.

We will draft a response.

Regards,

Oanh

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 10:32 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

(b) (6) will do an able job. She will be missed. This matter needs closure. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/26/2012 10:29:11 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks re: Europe. How could I not?

As you might have seen late yesterday, (b) (6) is staying on top of the VOA matter -- in consultation with senior VOA and IBB/BBG leadership, including me -- and informing the Board. Agreed that this is a serious matter requiring close attention and prompt response.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 10:05:14 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Keep me current. Enjoy Europe. Victor

In a message dated 6/25/2012 4:35:49 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

VOA and BBG staff are working to get complete information to the congressional staff who requested it.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 4:28:16 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Lynne

This is to be taken seriously as I am sure you are doing. Answers are needed soon. Who handles this in DC while you are away or can you do it from where you are? Perhaps David Ensor can help here as it relates to VOA.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/25/2012 4:18:07 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

FYI (see article copied below and highlights).

Lynne, please send the emails in question once you have obtained copies. My direct is (b) (6). Thanks. T

<http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/303940/time-us-take-stand-press-freedom-un-brett-d-schaefer>

Time for the U.S. to Take a Stand for Press Freedom at the U.N.

By Brett D. Schaefer

June 25, 2012 3:22 P.M.

There is a disturbing new wrinkle in the troubling effort to oust Matthew Russell Lee of Inner City Press from the United Nations Correspondents Association. Voice of America, whose reporter Margaret Basheer was one of the original journalists lodging the complaint about Lee to UNCA, has intensified the confrontation, officially requesting that Stephane Dujarric, head of the U.N.'s News & Media Division, review Lee's press accreditation.

Worse, this taxpayer-supported operation is urging the U.N. to rescind Lee's accreditation. The U.S. mission should intervene to block this press-chilling maneuver.

The effort to drop Lee from UNCA's membership is disappointing, but that membership is not a prerequisite for being a credentialed member of the U.N. press corps. U.N. press credentials are granted by the UN Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit (MALU). By asking that Lee's U.N. press credentials be reviewed, VOA is seeking to deny him entirely the ability to access the U.N. as a member of the media. Since Inner City Press focuses almost exclusively on the U.N., it is no exaggeration to say that this would cripple Lee's ability to do his job.

Ostensibly, VOA is making the request because it considers Lee "disruptive and unprofessional." Furthermore, the letter states, "his behavior is impeding the freedom VOA's correspondent and others need in order to report what they see and know from the United Nations." VOA does not accuse Lee of physically threatening anyone, but of sending numerous "borderline harassing" e-mails that make reporters "uncomfortable." Apparently, all the hard-bitten reporters are off covering other beats.

Richard Grenell, who served as the United States Spokesman at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations for eight years, sees different motivations behind the complaint: fear of competition and a desire to protect the U.N. from Lee's inquiries.

The UN press corps functions as the 194th member of the United Nations. There are some amazingly dedicated and tough reporters at the UN, but they are overshadowed by the majority who have their own priorities when covering the UN. These types protect the UN system and those that support it.

Matt Lee from InnerCityPress wrote constantly about issues that nobody else covered. He forced me to work harder and keep up with arcane issues or new angles. He isn't playing the UN reporters' game and so they will use their institutional power to oust him. His small but constant operation is taking on the diplomatic hierarchy, and those that fear being exposed as non-journalists are going to fight hard against him. I hope the leadership of Bloomberg News, Reuters and the taxpayer funded Voice of

America take notice of their reporters' actions at the UN to muscle out a tenacious and aggressive reporter who keeps scooping them.

On the U.N.'s World Press Freedom Day this past May, Secretary Hillary Clinton stated, "When a free media is under attack anywhere, all human rights are under attack everywhere." It is very hard to square that firm support for freedom of the press with a U.S.-government-funded broadcaster like VOA seeking to oust an American journalist from the U.N. because he makes a reporter uncomfortable and doesn't act as they would like him to act.

Unlike journalists in many other countries, Lee's life isn't under threat. But his livelihood is. The U.S. Mission should remind the U.N. that Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights defends freedom of expression and the media. It is just as relevant in the corridors of Turtle Bay as it is elsewhere.

From: Lynne Weil [mailto:lweil@bbg.gov]

Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 12:16 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); yhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Hello, Jeremy --

Thanks for your note. VOA is aware of this issue. I'll turn to colleagues there for the latest information, and will get back to you.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn)
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 12:03:46 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6) yhashe@aol.com; (b) (6) Hicks, Trey (HSGAC);
(b) (6)
Subject: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Lynne,

This case below is troubling to me and to Trey Hicks who is the lead investigator on this issue for the Homeland Security and Government Affairs committee. I am cc'ing the Governors that I have current emails for, please ensure they all see this.

I would like to know that the Board is looking at this and can convey to Congress that Mr. Redisch's claims and accusations regarding another reporter are amply supported by documentation.

Thank you,

Jeremy

Jeremy Hayes
Legislative Assistant
Senator Tom Coburn, M.D.

From: Hicks, Trey (HSGAC)
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 9:58 AM
Subject: VOA supporting censorship of media at UN?
Importance: High

Good Journalism at the U.N.?

By Brett D. Schaefer

June 18, 2012 12:00 P.M.

With all the corruption at the United Nations, you might think that the United Nations Correspondents Association (UNCA) would have better things to do than pick a fight with a single reporter. But you would be wrong.

Matthew Lee is the only reporter for Inner City Press, a Bronx-based nonprofit group known mainly for investigations of financial institutions and advocacy for the poor. Lee has broken a number of stories about the U.N., but now he himself is the story. In fact, he could become the first journalist ever expelled from UNCA.

Last week, UNCA announced that it would investigate Lee for unethical and unprofessional behavior. Few reporters with knowledge of the situation wish to comment on the record, but journalists both inside and outside the UNCA say the situation is one in which personal animosity has overridden professional judgment.

Regarded as abrasive by some of his colleagues, Lee has had volatile arguments with other UNCA reporters, and has frequently complained about other journalists' failing to credit him for breaking news. He has also written stories accusing the UNCA president, Giampaolo Pioli, of a conflict of interest involving Sri Lanka. These personal disputes lie at the heart of the UNCA investigation.

UNCA is a self-governing body. Thus, whether Lee remains a member is entirely up to the organization. UNCA membership is not a prerequisite for obtaining U.N. press credentials, which are granted by the U.N. Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit (MALU) — so Lee's expulsion would not automatically deprive him of U.N. access. According to the Guidelines on Media Access at United Nations Headquarters:

The United Nations Department of Public Information as well as the Safety & Security Service reserve the right to deny or withdraw accreditation of journalists from media organizations whose activities run counter to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations or who abuse the privileges so extended or put the accreditation to improper use or act in a way not consistent with the principles of the Organization or established journalism ethics and standards.

A MALU spokesperson acknowledged that the U.N. has rescinded press credentials in the past, but she added that UNCA's investigation of Lee would not directly influence MALU.

Lee's grammar and style are often unusual, and he sometimes fails to observe journalistic niceties. Although these traits are not uncommon among small media outlets, some journalists have expressed concern that they — along with an unfavorable UNCA decision — could allow the U.N. to deny Lee's reapplication for press credentials on the basis that his actions are inconsistent with "established journalism ethics and standards." His current credentials expire in August.

It would not be first time that Lee has been targeted. Inner City Press was scrubbed from Google News in 2008, allegedly at the behest of the U.N. At the time, UNCA came to Lee's defense. But that was before his recent clashes with that organization and its members.

And Turtle Bay officialdom could be receptive to their new opinion of him. Lee is probably the U.N.

Department of Public Information's least-favorite journalist because he is persistent, is willing to ask uncomfortable questions, and has cultivated an impressive network of sources within the U.N. In short, he's a pain in their neck at every press briefing.

Lee is also unusual in that he focuses on the inner workings of the U.N. — stories that are off the radar of larger news outlets. For instance, Lee broke the story about the discovery of 40 pounds of cocaine in a diplomatic pouch in the U.N. mailroom. He reported that Ibrahim Gambari, a special representative for Darfur of the African Union and the U.N., had greeted Sudanese president Omar al-Bashir at a wedding even as Bashir stood indicted on charges of genocide, and he wrote of the opulent home Gambari built in Darfur at U.N. expense. He has exposed irregularities with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in North Korea, and his coverage of a UNDP-funded program of forced disarmament in Uganda led to that program's suspension.

Other reporters readily admit that Lee's reporting is valuable. "He may not always get it right, but Matthew covers the U.N. like no one else, often scooping much larger news organizations," the *New York Post*'s Benny Avni says. "Matthew digs into how it works — and often into how it doesn't."

Claudia Rosett, journalist-in-residence at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, notes: "Matthew Russell Lee has broken a series of important stories over the years — stories that without his efforts might have gone unnoticed." Off the record, other reporters shared similar views with me.

Inner City Press has been a member of UNCA for five years, and all that time Lee's U.N. press credentials have routinely been renewed. Thus, both UNCA and MALU have repeatedly affirmed Inner City Press's status as a legitimate member of the media. I spoke with UNCA journalists who expressed the view that, regardless of what UNCA decides, Lee should retain his press credentials.

The U.S. mission to the U.N. has a role to play in this imbroglio. It should not intervene in internal UNCA deliberations, but it absolutely should stand firm in protecting the principle of freedom of the press. Media coverage of the U.N. is too shallow as it is. It would suffer more if reporters like Matthew Lee were denied access. The U.S. government should make clear to the U.N. that it supports Lee and other controversial journalists trying to retain their press credentials.

— *Brett D. Schaefer is the Jay Kingham Fellow in International Regulatory Affairs at the Heritage Foundation.*

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 5:18 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Lynne

I trust you will share that information with me as a very interested Governor. Who is handling this matter on the ground in DC while you are away? Is it Tish or someone else? Thanks for your efforts.

Victor

In a message dated 6/25/2012 4:35:49 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

VOA and BBG staff are working to get complete information to the congressional staff who requested it.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 4:28:16 PM
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Ostensibly, VOA is making the request because it considers Lee "disruptive and unprofessional." Furthermore, the letter states, "his behavior is impeding the freedom VOA's correspondent and others need in order to report what they see and know from the United Nations." VOA does not accuse Lee of physically threatening anyone, but of sending numerous "borderline harassing" e-mails that make reporters "uncomfortable." Apparently, all the hard-bitten reporters are off covering other beats.

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From: Hicks, Trey (HSGAC)
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 12:35 PM
To: 'Lynne Weil'; Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn)
Cc: (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Thanks Lynne—we are primarily interested in copies of the emails that are referenced in the email sent to the UN Media Division by Steve Redisch.

Our Committee has jurisdiction to study the relationship between the US and international organizations we are a member of—and the work of (b) (6) has been essential in breaking a slew of scandals and mismanagement and other problems at the UN. We have used him for at least one of our hearings in the past re: the lack of internal controls at the UN. It would be a shame to lose this resource—which is why we must review the validity of Redisch's claims.

Thanks for your prompt response with copies of the emails in question between Lee and VOA reporters.

From: Lynne Weil [mailto:lweil@bbg.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 12:16 PM
To: Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn)
Cc: (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

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Lynne

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Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 12:03:46 PM
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Jeremy

Jeremy Hayes
Legislative Assistant
Senator Tom Coburn, M.D.

From: Hicks, Trey (HSGAC)

Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 9:58 AM

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Importance: High

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By Brett D. Schaefer

June 18, 2012 12:00 P.M.

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And Turtle Bay officialdom could be receptive to their new opinion of him. Lee is probably the U.N. Department of Public Information's least-favorite journalist because he is persistent, is willing to ask uncomfortable questions, and has cultivated an impressive network of sources within the U.N. In short, he's a pain in their neck at every press briefing.

Lee is also unusual in that he focuses on the inner workings of the U.N. — stories that are off the radar of larger news outlets. For instance, Lee broke the story about the discovery of 40 pounds of cocaine in a diplomatic pouch in the U.N. mailroom. He reported that Ibrahim Gambari, a special representative for Darfur of the African Union and the U.N., had greeted Sudanese president Omar al-Bashir at a wedding even as Bashir stood indicted on charges of genocide, and he wrote of the opulent home Gambari built in Darfur at U.N. expense. He has exposed irregularities with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in North Korea, and his coverage of a UNDP-funded program of forced disarmament in Uganda led to that program's suspension.

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— *Brett D. Schaefer is the Jay Kingham Fellow in International Regulatory Affairs at the Heritage Foundation.*

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 10:15 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

thanks so much Victor

In a message dated 6/26/2012 10:10:39 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, indeed we will draft, for your consideration, a resolution to honor (b) (6). She has been a dedicated, invaluable employee, and leaves very big shoes to fill.

We're still working to plan a reception or another event to mark (b) (6)'s departure, and will keep you informed as those plans are firmed up.

Regards

Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 10:43 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: (b) (6)

I hope a resolution will be prepared to present to the BBG Board at its next meeting honoring (b) (6) for her years of service. I would like to be listed as one of the sponsors but I assume the entire Board would want to join as sponsors.

Also if a reception or farewell is planned for her in July I would like to know about it in case I could personally attend although I will be limited due to anticipated hip surgery.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 7:26 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

This is somewhat surprising development that the Whistle blower item was omitted given that Mr Kollmer attended the BBG meeting and was asked by me to read back the amendment so the whole Board would know what they were voting on.

I am sure it was not intentional by Mr. Kollmer and I was pleased to bring this to his attention and have it corrected. It reminds us all of the need to be careful, cautious and inclusive.

However, what this correction process indicates clearly is that the unseemly haste and secrecy in which this was considered without going to governance committee, changing texts up to the last few hours before the meeting, not being listed on the first BBG agenda sent out, absence of any serious discussion among impacted parties prior to the meeting has resulted in errors occurring. I suspect we will find more issues as time goes along which will require remedies. While I will participate in solving these problems, I find it all so unnecessary had settled procedures been followed and we could be devoting our time to other matters.

Hope all have a good weekend coming up.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Paul Kollmer (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Jun 14, 2012 1:04 pm
Subject: RE: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

Dear Governors:

Having reviewed the video of last week's Board meeting, I wish to confirm Governor Ashe's observation that reference to the Whistleblower Protection Act was erroneously left out. We will, therefore, replace the last paragraph of the version of the policy which I sent out to you last night with the text below (changes underlined) and republish the corrected resolution on the BBG website.

Again, please accept my apologies for this oversight.

Thanks. PKD

This policy does not affect (i) the Agency's requirements to comply with the Government in the Sunshine Act and shall be implemented in a manner consistent with its provisions; or (ii) the rights of any individual under the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989.

From: Paul Kollmer
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:23 AM
To: 'Vhashe@aol.com'; (b) (6) BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

CullinBP@state.gov; Maryjean Buhler

Subject: RE: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

Victor – As I mentioned, we are checking the videotape and will send out a corrected version if necessary. Any mistakes in the transcription of the decisions are my responsibility alone and I apologize in advance if any were made. They were not intentional. Thanks. PKD

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:01 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

The Board clearly adopted amendment one which I made a point of identifying as amendment one and the second amendment was the one Michael Meehan and I discussed along with you. That became the second amendment identified as amendment two. I do not understand why the Whistleblower amendment is missing. I believe that Gov Meehan made the motion and I may have seconded it. However, I am not sure. What I am sure about is that a Whistleblower amendment was adopted. I believe I asked you to repeat the actual language which you did.

I was not aware that Lynne Weil was checking as she has not responded to more than one e mail from me but I am glad to hear she will be responding between now and July 7 when she returns to Cohen Bldg.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 9:51:11 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor –

Thank you very much for your email. I am having the videotape of the meeting reviewed to determine whether, and in what form, an amendment to the proposed resolution regarding whistleblowing was actually adopted by the Board. If we missed something, I apologize in advance and thank you for bringing it to my attention. If there was a mistake, we will correct it. If not, I will come back with an explanation.

Regarding Lynne Weil, ever the professional, Lynne has been checking her blackberry while on vacation and has had access to this email.

Thank you. PKD

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:43 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

In reading this so called protocol, I do not see the amendment relating to Whistleblowers included here. This was the amendment which states this protocol would not compromise or diminish the federal Whistleblower Act. That was the first amendment adopted in June 7 in Prague. Can Mr Kollmer send the document as amended twice to everyone on this list? We should be sent the entire policy out not just what is stated in part.

As I stated at the meeting, I will be guided by my conscience in complying with this. I feel the protocol was hurriedly and poorly drafted with many items not clear.

I see where Ms Weil is copied on this but I understand she is away on a 3 to 4 week vacation and not due back until July 7. Can someone make sure she sees this?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/13/2012 7:02:49 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors:

As you know, at its last meeting, the Board adopted a Policy Regarding Non-disclosure of Deliberative Information. The text of the policy, which is set forth below, was adopted unanimously by the Board.

The policy states, in part, that "information pertaining to . . . legislative proposals that are developed for the consideration of the Board, as determined by the Chair or Presiding Governor, subject to the Board's further review" constitutes "deliberative information" which Board members have agreed they are obligated not to disclose, in accordance with the terms of the policy.

Please note that Governor Lynton, in his capacity as Presiding Governor, has clarified that materials related to the International Broadcasting Innovation Act (IBIA), the legislative initiative which the Board voted to pursue in January 2012, are subject to the non-disclosure policy. A copy of the Governor Lynton's email is set forth below.

Thanks. PKD

Paul Kollmer-Dorsey
Deputy General Counsel and Board Secretary

POLICY REGARDING NON-DISCLOSURE OF DELIBERATIVE INFORMATION

For the purposes of this policy:

"The Board" refers to the Members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

"Deliberative information" means any non-public information, either tangible records or otherwise, exchanged between two or more Board members, or between Agency staff members and Board members. Deliberative information is information pertaining to (1) budgetary matters that are determined to be pre-decisional under Office of Management and Budget guidelines; (2) legislative proposals that are developed for the consideration of the Board, as determined by the Chair or Presiding Governor, subject to the Board's further review; and (3) such other matters as the plenary Board may determine, based on the recommendation of the Governance Committee. Purely factual information that is otherwise publicly available or an individual Board member's own opinion that does not reflect the Board's deliberative processes is not deliberative information.

Each member of the Board has a duty to keep deliberative information privileged and confidential. More specifically, each member of the Board is obligated not to disclose:

1. The substance of deliberative information or the status of discussions about it;
2. Positions of other Board members regarding deliberative information or their individual comments about it;
3. Documents prepared to provide the Board with deliberative information or to memorialize any aspect of such deliberative information, or any subsection of documents that contain such deliberative information; or
4. The identity of Board members or staff members who provide deliberative information to and/or prepare deliberative information for the Board.

The obligation not to disclose deliberative information continues even after a final decision is publicly announced, and such information remains protected until authorized for release by the Board. Deliberative information should only be released after consultation with the Agency's Office of General Counsel regarding the implications of waiving the deliberative process privilege for release and upon an official Board resolution providing the authority to do so.

Disclosure of deliberative information is a serious matter and constitutes both mismanagement and misconduct. The unauthorized disclosure of official non-public information is prohibited by 5 CFR 2635.703, and employees engaging in the unauthorized disclosure of deliberative information may be subject to punishment or discipline.

This policy does not affect the Agency's requirements to comply with the Government in the Sunshine Act and shall be implemented in a manner consistent with its provisions.

From: Lynton, Michael (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2012 10:25 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Application of Nondisclosure Policy to International Broadcasting Innovation Act - related materials

Paul,

Materials related to the IBIA are subject to the non-disclosure policy.

best,
Michael

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:37 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

I am sorry you feel that way. We certainly handled it well in Tennessee which has strong open meetings and open records laws. We made progress and got the public's business done. I think this is an over reaction on your part to my views but again, I respect your point of view while disagreeing with it.

I think this dialogue by e mail is helpful in airing our thoughts.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 10:34:17 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Why even have a board if the point is to undermine its discussions? Why not just appoint very American to the board? We could just all be fitted with cameras and let everyone know what we're thinking at all times. That's be great. I don't get enough air time.

Dana Perino
(b) (6)

On Jun 14, 2012, at 10:31 AM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

Dana,

I respect your views and admire you greatly. However, I differ with you as this is a public body and this does not involve national security. That is why I feel the full Board at its next meeting should discuss this in great depth than we have to date.

I have spent 16 years as Mayor operating under the open records and open meetings laws of Tennessee. At times it was inconvenient but always important for the taxpayers to understand how and why we as public officials arrived at decisions. Government works best when the public has a front row seat. The public should be able to see how we arrive at our decisions in my view.

Sorry we differ.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 10:27:24 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

for crying out loud YES these emails should be confidential - it's work product, deliberative - we are discussing an issue not a final product.

Dana Perino
(b) (6)

On Jun 14, 2012, at 10:25 AM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

Mr. Kollmer is this series of e mails confidential and not subject to disclosure? There is no notice on this which states either way. I am not suggesting any actions by you were intentional. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 10:23:40 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor – As I mentioned, we are checking the videotape and will send out a corrected version if necessary. Any mistakes in the transcription of the decisions are my responsibility alone and I apologize in advance if any were made. They were not intentional. Thanks. PKD

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:01 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne

Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

The Board clearly adopted amendment one which I made a point of identifying as amendment one and the second amendment was the one Michael Meehan and I discussed along with you. That became the second amendment identified as amendment two. I do not understand why the Whistleblower amendment is missing. I believe that Gov Meehan made the motion and I may have seconded it. However, I am not sure. What I am sure about is that a Whistleblower amendment was adopted. I believe I asked you to repeat the actual language which you did.

I was not aware that Lynne Weil was checking as she has not responded to more than one e mail from me but I am glad to hear she will be responding between now and July 7 when she returns to Cohen Bldg.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 9:51:11 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time,
(b) (6) writes:

Victor --

Thank you very much for your email. I am having the videotape of the meeting reviewed to determine whether, and in what form, an amendment to the proposed resolution regarding whistleblowing was actually adopted by the Board. If we missed something, I apologize in advance and thank you for bringing it to my attention. If there was a mistake, we will correct it. If not, I will come back with an explanation.

Regarding Lynne Weil, ever the professional, Lynne has been checking her blackberry while on vacation and has had access to this email.

Thank you. PKD

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:43 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

In reading this so called protocol, I do not see the amendment relating to Whistleblowers included here. This was the amendment which states this protocol would not compromise or diminish the federal Whistleblower Act. That was the first amendment adopted in June 7 in Prague. Can Mr Kollmer send the document as amended twice to everyone on this list? We should be sent the entire policy out not just what is stated in part.

As I stated at the meeting, I will be guided by my conscience in complying with this. I feel the protocol was hurriedly and poorly drafted with many items not clear.

I see where Ms Weil is copied on this but I understand she is away on a 3 to 4 week vacation and not due back until July 7. Can someone make sure she sees this?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:18 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil;
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

Mr. Kollmer and Gov. Lynton,

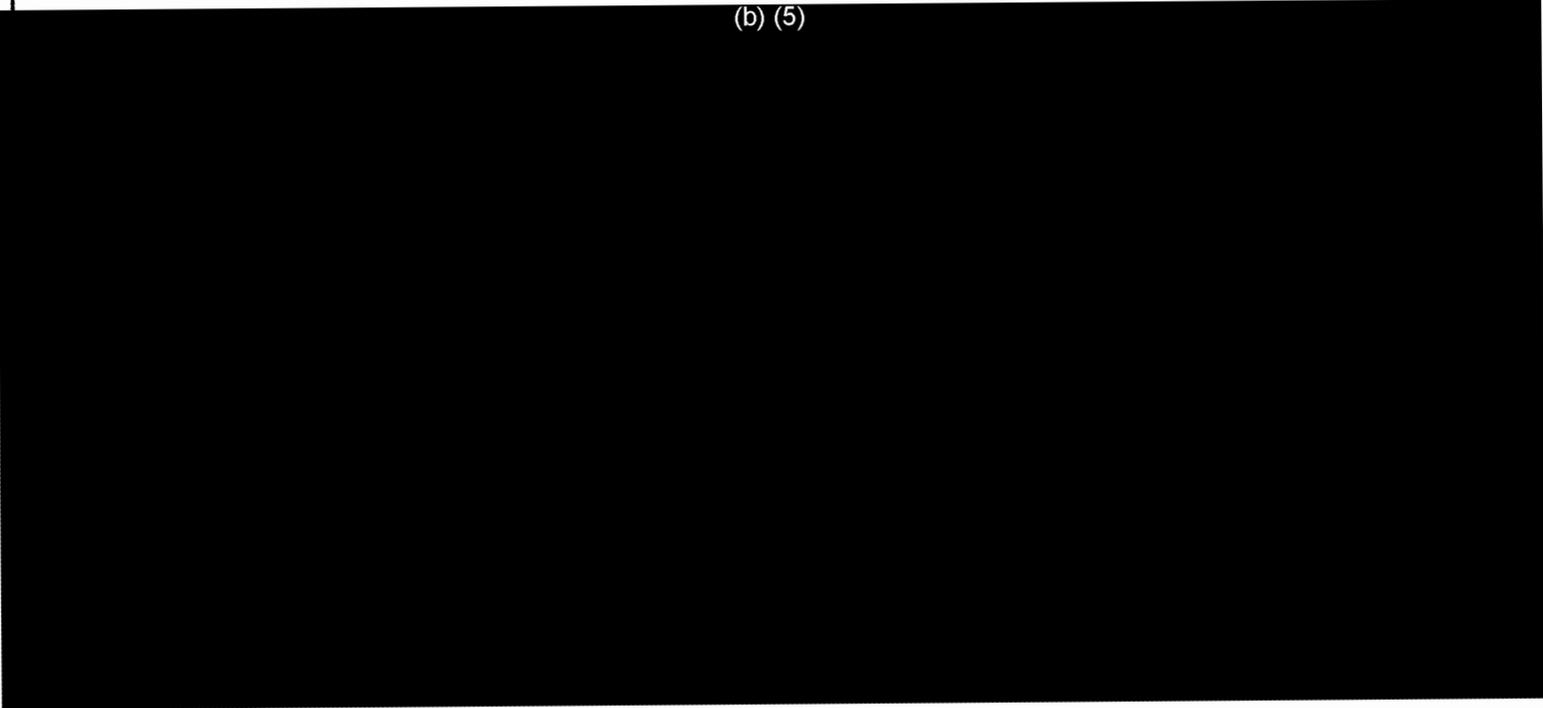
I suggest that in the future all messages covered under this process of non disclosure be clearly identified as such on each e mail so there is clarity here. Also indicate what appeal exists for those Governors who may disagree as to its confidentiality.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 10:08:12 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

SUBJECT TO ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE -- ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

(b) (5)



Respectfully,

PKD

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:12 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil;
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

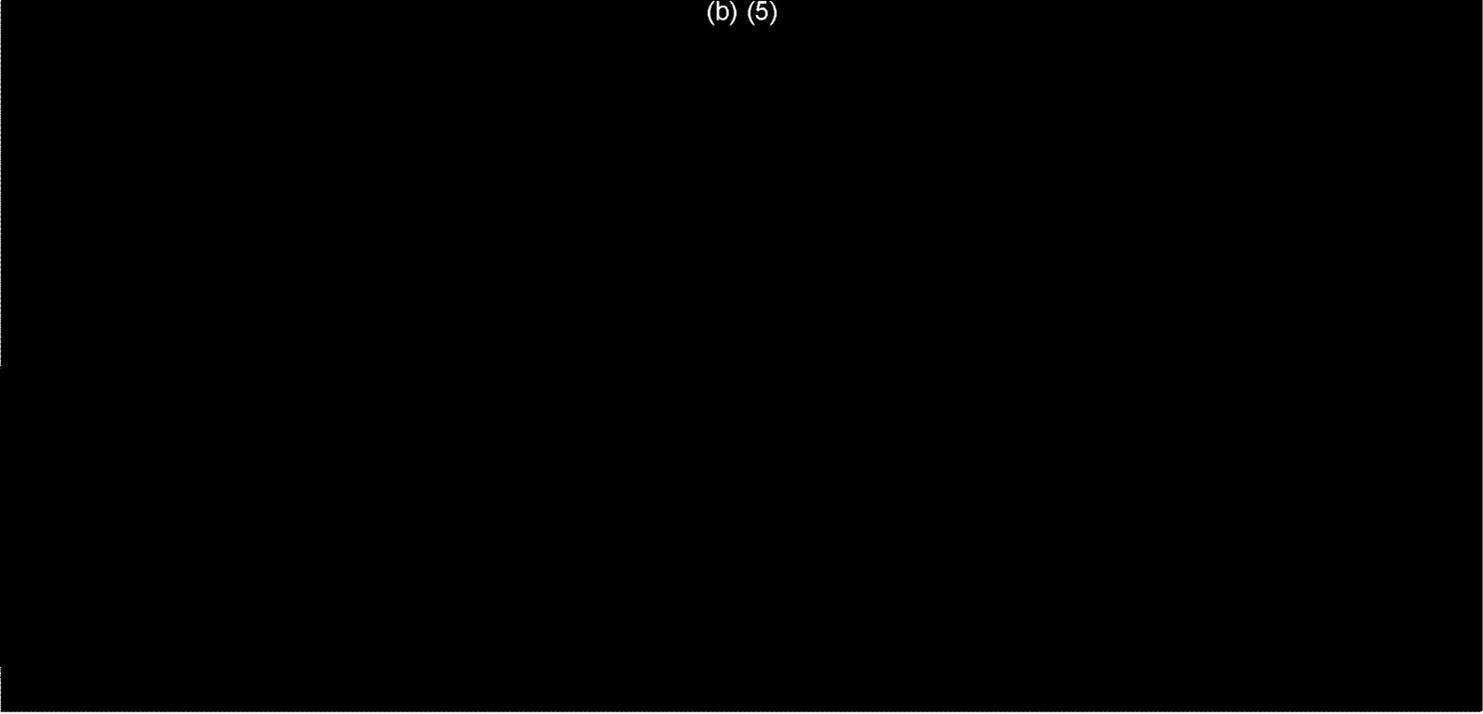
If I disagree with this opinion which I do, what is my appeal right? to the full Board? Please advise.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 10:08:12 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

SUBJECT TO ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE -- ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

(b) (5)



Respectfully,

PKD

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:01 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil;
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

The Board clearly adopted amendment one which I made a point of identifying as amendment one and the second amendment was the one Michael Meehan and I discussed along with you. That became the second amendment identified as amendment two. I do not understand why the Whistleblower amendment is missing. I believe that Gov Meehan made the motion and I may have seconded it. However, I am not sure. What I am sure about is that a Whistleblower amendment was adopted. I believe I asked you to repeat the actual language which you did.

I was not aware that Lynne Weil was checking as she has not responded to more than one e mail from me but I am glad to hear she will be responding between now and July 7 when she returns to Cohen Bldg.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 9:51:11 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor –

Thank you very much for your email. I am having the videotape of the meeting reviewed to determine whether, and in what form, an amendment to the proposed resolution regarding whistleblowing was actually adopted by the Board. If we missed something, I apologize in advance and thank you for bringing it to my attention. If there was a mistake, we will correct it. If not, I will come back with an explanation.

Regarding Lynne Weil, ever the professional, Lynne has been checking her blackberry while on vacation and has had access to this email.

Thank you. PKD

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:43 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil;
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2012 8:56 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Innovation Act

Dear Mr Kollmer and Ms Weil

I am writing to ask to be placed on the mailing list for all items sent to the various members of the Innovation Act on Broadcasting Committee which last met May 31 in DC.

As you know I am a BBG Board member but also delegated along with Governor Lynton to review the duties of the proposed CEO and new Board created by such an Act and I would be better informed and able to carry out my assignment if I am fully informed by receiving this information. There might also be times where I could attend the periodic meetings as well.

I recognize that Governor McCue is the lead Governor but all of us are involved. Let me know if this can and will be done.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 08, 2012 12:34 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); S (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: POLITICO Breaking News

Dick,

BBG seldom deals with national security and you know it. That is a real stretch based on your wish. The email you sent relates to a clear political battle at the presidential level which does not involve BBG unless you insist on injecting it into our deliberations.

The manner in which this was considered on June 7 by deliberating bypassing the governance committee and insuring that I received as little notice as possible was a text book study on how to reduce adequate consideration of the issue. Fairness would have dictated that adequate notice be given and committee hear the matter so all 7 Governors would have had equal consideration.

I assume the governance committee did not meet as I am a member of it and certain BBG members wanted to make sure I did not see the proposal a few days out and would have zero time to respond. In fact mention of consideration of it was omitted from the first agenda sent out.

As it was the Board adopted two obvious amendments to correct the hasty and ill considered manner in which it was drafted. You would be mistaken to take my vote for the amended resolution as an endorsement of it. The whole process was unfortunate in my view and did not reflect well on best practices to adopt policy.

I will continue to speak out on issues which I feel merit discussion.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Victor Ashe

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

From: richard m lobo <(b) (6)>
To: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>; Michael Lynton <(b) (6)>; Susan McCue <(b) (6)>; Tara Sonenshine <(b) (6)>; Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
CC: (b) (6); Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, 8 Jun 2012 17:22
Subject: Fwd: POLITICO Breaking News

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "POLITICO Breaking News" <breakingnews@politico.com>
Date: June 8, 2012 4:27:21 PM GMT+01:00
To: <(b) (6)>
Subject: POLITICO Breaking News

Reply-To: "POLITICO subscriptions" <reply-fe9315727c6d077c76-65921_HTML-232044013-1041082-0@politicoemail.com>

POLITICO Breaking News

Responding to criticism over a series of national security leaks, President Barack Obama told reporters at the White House Friday he has "zero tolerance for these kinds of leaks and speculation."

"We have mechanisms in place where if we can root out people who've leaked, they will suffer consequences," Obama said.

He rejected the accusation from some Republican members of Congress that the leaks were being done in service of his re-election campaign.

"The notion that my White House would purposefully release classified national security information is offensive. It's wrong," Obama said.

For more information... <http://www.politico.com>

=====
To unsubscribe, <http://dyn.politico.com/unsubscribe.cfm?email=dicklobo@gmail.com&uuid=3B379379-1C23-CEB9-1491C9C13982E6B7&alertID=1>
=====

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2012 5:24 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: delay on (b) (6)

Lynne

I really feel the delay on answering the (b) (6) letter is far too long now and you should get out an answer for the Board unless you have been instructed not to do so. I cannot come up with credible excuses at this stage for not having answered it.

I mentioned it at the Miami meeting in April never thinking the Prague meeting may occur without an answer.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2012 5:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - Reply to Rohrabacher Letter

We also owe (b) (6) a response to her letter sent on April 4. It is almost two months since it was sent and no answer to a distinguished American lady.

The letter to Congressman Rohrabacher was a start but I regret that the letter prepared for Gov. Lynton failed to address head on his statement that BBG proceedings are opaque and are tone deaf to congressional intent. The letter never mentions it in the Lynton response which is most unfortunate.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: BBG Board Group (b) (6) >
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Jun 1, 2012 2:05 pm
Subject: Message from Lynne Weil - Reply to Rohrabacher Letter

Governors,

Attached is a reply from Presiding Governor Lynton to Rep. Rohrabacher after the latter sent a letter to the Chair and Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee for Foreign Operations indicating concerns about VOA broadcasting in Mandarin, as well as other issues.

IBB/BBG and VOA executive staff worked together and with the Communications and Outreach Committee, as well as Governor Lynton, on the reply.

For your reference, the letter from Rep. Rohrabacher is also attached.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 3:40 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - Research Briefings at Gallup

I would like to be added to all e mails on briefings should I be able and wish to attend. Perhaps other Governors wish that too but I am not speaking for them. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/30/2012 1:44:03 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

The expected location for each event is Gallup's headquarters, but that depends in part on the dates.

A number of parties are involved, and this is a season when vacations and other travel plans intervene, so the dates for July, August and September are in flux.

The Communications Committee received word of a tentative July date (the 31st), but that might change.

We intend to hold all the briefings in the morning.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 11:08 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - Research Briefings at Gallup

I would like to know the dates and times plus location of these briefings in case I am able to attend. While I am not on the Communications Committee, I request copies of the material you sent them so I can be better informed and such sharing prevents stove piping from occurring. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
<(b) (6)>; Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>; (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, May 30, 2012 9:52 am
Subject: Message from Lynne Weil - Research Briefings at Gallup

Governors --

We're about to launch a project involving public presentation of new audience research results from several countries.

Spearheaded by the BBG's Strategy and Development Office, together with BBG Public Affairs and the team at Gallup, this roll-out of audience data and information about the media environment is envisioned as a series starting in June. Research from Iran would be first in the line-up, on June 12, to be followed by other key countries monthly through September. The location will be at Gallup headquarters.

We expect only modest media interest, but stakeholders such as think tanks, NGOs and academia would likely take note. Through this proposed series, we expect to broaden awareness and understanding of our work in priority global media markets. News releases and any coverage by media would add up to a winning narrative about our programs' reach and impact that we could re-package in the fall for other purposes, including briefings on the Hill.

The Communications and Outreach Committee has been briefed on this proposed series. The public notice for the first event will be issued shortly.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 3:28 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Travel

I agree with this. Please place on agenda and show requested by Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/30/2012 1:03:38 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

In collaboration with (b) (6) and (b) (6) we have drafted the attached resolution regarding the Coburn Amendment to limit spending on government-sponsored conferences and travel.

Please send us any comments at your earliest convenience.

With your approval, we'll include this draft resolution in the briefing book for the Board.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 10:42 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Travel

that appears to be a reasonable approach. (b) (6) might be prepared to tell us where this stands in the legislative process. Dick Lobo might want to share with us any issues BBG/IBB has with implementing this.

I do want it on the June 7 agenda in the manner you suggest.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 11:08 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - Research Briefings at Gallup

I would like to know the dates and times plus location of these briefings in case I am able to attend. While I am not on the Communications Committee, I request copies of the material you sent them so I can be better informed and such sharing prevents stove piping from occurring. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
<(b) (6)>
Sent: Wed, May 30, 2012 9:52 am
Subject: Message from Lynne Weil - Research Briefings at Gallup

Governors --

We're about to launch a project involving public presentation of new audience research results from several countries.

Spearheaded by the BBG's Strategy and Development Office, together with BBG Public Affairs and the team at Gallup, this roll-out of audience data and information about the media environment is envisioned as a series starting in June. Research from Iran would be first in the line-up, on June 12, to be followed by other key countries monthly through September. The location will be at Gallup headquarters.

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The Communications and Outreach Committee has been briefed on this proposed series. The public notice for the first event will be issued shortly.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2012 5:16 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Updated Schedule & Agendas for June Meetings

are there no meetings in Prague on June 7 in the morning? Free time? Dinner each evening? What is Friday, June 8?

In a message dated 5/25/2012 5:12:06 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Attached is an updated schedule and agendas for the June 6-8 BBG meetings.

Here are key highlights:

Wednesday, June 6

- 2:30 pm Prague/8:30 am DC: RFE/RL Board of Directors' Meeting
- 3:30-6:00 pm Prague/9:30 am-Noon DC: Strategy & Budget Briefing (all Governors; network heads also will participate)

Thursday, June 7

- 1:00 pm Prague/7 am DC: Governors-Only Session
- 2:00 pm Prague/8 am DC: Governors' Briefing (including discussions of the IBIA and Grantee Consolidation)
- 4:00 pm Prague/10 am DC: Broadcasting Board of Governors' Open Meeting
- 6:15 pm Prague/12:15 pm DC: MBN Board of Directors' Meeting
- 6:30 pm Prague/12:30 pm DC: Meeting Adjourned

Have a nice weekend!

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 2:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - House Likely to Vote on Smith-Mundt Today

excellent Victor

In a message dated 5/18/2012 1:22:38 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

The House has passed the NDAA -- and with it, Rep. Thornberry's Smith-Mundt measure.

Many thanks to (b) (6) and the team in the GC's office for your diligent work on this key Board priority.

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 12:11:28 PM
To: Vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Message from Lynne Weil - House Likely to Vote on Smith-Mundt Today

Victor,

The legislation was introduced in the House last Friday, deemed in order by the Rules Committee yesterday, and approved on the House floor today. The Communications Committee has been kept apprised each step of the way.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 11:54 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - House Likely to Vote on Smith-Mundt Today

Was this amendment offered in committee or on the House floor?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/18/2012 11:36:29 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

We have news about the measure introduced last Friday by Rep. Mac Thornberry to ease the legal restrictions on domestic dissemination of materials produced with public diplomacy funding – which, taken together, are commonly known as Smith-Mundt.

Mr. Thornberry's Smith-Mundt measure has just been adopted as an amendment to this year's National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The NDAA is one of the authorization bills that almost always passes both houses of Congress and becomes law. A member of the Armed Services Committee, Mr. Thornberry offered his legislation as an amendment to that bill.

The House is scheduled to vote on the NDAA later today.

For the past year and a half, in keeping with the consistent directives of the Board in support of legislation easing Smith-Mundt restrictions, the IBB/BBG executive team has been working on this measure with Mr. Thornberry's staff and colleagues at State. This work intensified during the last two months as the Congressman began finalizing the bill and seeking support from fellow House members. We are pleased to bring you this update.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 12:13 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - House Likely to Vote on Smith-Mundt Today

good

In a message dated 5/18/2012 12:11:35 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

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Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
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Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 5:11 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Media Highlights and Addenda

certainly, appreciate your thoughts and concur. Victor

In a message dated 5/17/2012 4:53:20 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

Thank you for the clarification below, and for our subsequent exchange.

There is nothing sensitive or confidential about the information in the message at the start of this chain. While it was meant to be between me, you, and the three of your fellow Governors who comprise the Communications Committee (along with the IBB Director, copied on your note to me this morning, and his deputy), on reflection I support your sharing that original message as you see fit. This is one case where the contents of an e-mail alone can do no conceivable harm if made public; what others might do with it is beyond our control.

I share your belief in transparency, and truly do appreciate your asking for my view on this matter. The one thing I ask in return is that when you pass it along, you share the entire original message at the start of this chain, the better to preserve the full context and flow.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 11:25 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Media Highlights and Addenda

My question is whether you have a problem with me sharing this outside BBG? As I have been asked about it, I do not see any reason not to share it but thought I would ask first as a courtesy. If you prefer not I would like to know the reason. If it is a valid compelling reason, I will honor it. As you know I am strong believer in transparency. Who I might share it with is not relevant in my view although one is a congressional staffer. As we all know once an e mail starts to circulate it can easily reach a larger circle. The real issue is whether this is being asked to be withheld by you as BBG communications director from anyone outside the current circle and not a BBG employee? I await your response. I reserve the right to make my own decision in the final analysis but wanted to secure your input first. I am certainly willing to consider your thoughts carefully. Other Governors were included as you made your own decision to add them..for which I have no objection nor do I have a problem with you sharing my e mail on this with anyone anywhere.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/17/2012 10:46:03 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

Thank you for asking, but could you please first clarify? I've shared this internal procedural information only with your fellow Board members – specifically, the Communications Committee – and with the IBB Director (who was copied on your inquiry yesterday a.m.), along with his deputy. Who did you have in mind?

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 10:34 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Media Highlights and Addenda

I assume you have no problem with me sharing this with others as you shared it with others and there does not appear to be any pre decisional matter here. But thought I would ask first.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/16/2012 6:11:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

Thank you for your recent inquiries about the articles selected for daily distribution by the BBG Public Affairs staff in cooperation with our colleagues at VOA, OCB and the grantees. Since the members of the Communications Committee may take interest in this discussion, I'm cc-ing them on this note along with Dick L., who was copied on your message to me this morning, and adding Jeff T.

As mentioned in previous e-mails to you, Tish and I have been talking about how the Media Highlights and Addenda are done; these discussions include internal process and personnel matters -- who handles what, and how -- that don't bear detailing here. To answer your questions about the differences between these two communications tools and who receives them:

The Media Highlights are available through the BBG website for public subscription and are sent to journalists, analysts, academics and other stakeholders with their permission.

The Highlights include coverage of U.S. international media as operated by and through the BBG; select press pickups of news coverage by VOA, OCB and the grantees; and other items of interest. This roundup is intended to showcase the effectiveness and positive impact of U.S. international media. In recent months, we've integrated more foreign press coverage as translations have become available.

These items are posted daily on BBG.gov as well as via links through an internal employee blog that's accessible to all in the agency. Lately the BBG Public Affairs team has considered adding the Highlights to the in-house announcements for all agency employees; this could serve as a means of demonstrating impact and reinforcing good work. When other media cite one of our services as a source, or make reference to what we do, it proves that our reach goes beyond our own readers, listeners and viewers. However, the in-house announcements can be voluminous and more frequent at some times than others, and that's a disincentive to reading them amid the many competing demands on the time of our colleagues. But we plan to explore and to test possible alternative approaches.

The Addenda go to an internal audience of senior managers and those who are the subject of any particular coverage, including Governors. They are used variously to provide background, provoke discussion and, as needed, to flag an item that may require a response, though we have done the latter less in recent weeks since an item from the Addenda was leaked to a blog and distorted to create an unfortunate and patently untrue story.

Over the years, the press clips/Media Highlights have evolved from manually intensive labor that involved cutting and pasting and photocopying to a form that takes full advantage of current electronic media's features. After the Media Highlights migrated from the page to electronic format, available for subscription by anyone who chooses to do so, they began to reach a much broader audience. The agency and its grantees have the opportunity through this means to put our best foot forward.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 1:54 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Media Highlights and Addenda

sure..

Victor

In a message dated 5/17/2012 12:32:51 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you for being more explicit. Would you mind if I reply a little later? I'm juggling time-sensitive tasks, a pending personnel conversation, and a significant planning meeting.

Appreciate your willingness to consider my thoughts carefully. Let me gather them and express them with equal care.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
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To: Lynne Weil
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Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 6:32 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Answers to Questions Raised by Governor Ashe

Dear Mr. Lobo,

Before responding to follow up on this, I am writing to ask re-consideration of your statement that this response is not intended for distribution as I have several members of Congress and key staff who are interested in knowing the answers to the questions I posed to you. Why would you suggest to me not to share these replies to the members of Congress who would vote on the proposed CEO legislation? What benefit does that secure? Who is on the bbggroup? is it Governors only? You have included one Board member's staff at State on this as well as two of your staffers? Lynne Weil and Jeff Trimble also?

It seems you are setting a wider list of those entitled to this for yourself but then trying to restrict what I can share with relevant stakeholders? Are you saying there is simply no one I could share and discuss this with and honor your statement of non distribution? It is a little clearer to me now why Congressman Rohrabacher states only yesterday on May 15 that BBG is opaque in its decision making. That is not a criticism that BBG should be proud of. Rather we should work to be more open.

While I appreciate your honesty in saying you made the decision to omit entity heads and VOA/OCB heads from the distribution list of the prior memo, I think it was an unfortunate decision. It creates division and stove piping within BBG. You are not a BBG Board member. It seems to me that the Board should make that decision or at least the presiding Governor in the absence of the full Board not you as IBB Director. You work for the Board. The Board and each member does not work for you (and I do not intend any personal criticism of you here but simply stating the obvious). I trust you will decide that I am free to share this with at least congressional members and their staff if not others. I await a response with reasons.

While you are correct that there was an unanimous vote on the CEO matter in January, I think you would also agree that it is no longer unanimous view due my opposition at the present time pending further review and information. Your correspondence should reflect (as does the Lynton-Mulhaupt memo) that one Governor does oppose the legislation being discussed and promoted at this time. It would be misleading to suggest that the unanimous vote in January today reflects the total Board view as it does not.

I trust you have a productive trip to Germany.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/16/2012 5:46:44 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

The IBB/BBG executive staff appreciates the guidance and views that you have provided during the last 11 days on the potential new opportunity to help you create an empowered CEO position, one of the key reform goals among those that the Board had frequently discussed since it was seated in July 2010, and ratified with a unanimous vote in January.

As Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt indicated Monday (see below), a number of legitimate questions and issues have been raised about how the CEO position will be implemented and how it will work in practice, and the Board will have ample opportunities to discuss and decide these issues in due course.

Several such questions arose in e-mails sent by Governor Ashe last week. On Friday late afternoon we were optimistic about being able to get to all of them on Monday. But upon review, it emerged that some of the questions needed to be answered by Board members themselves, some had been addressed in our e-mails to the Board, and some seemed to be apparent from the legislative proposal and section-by-section analysis that were sent to the Board. It took some time to sort all of that out, which we were not able to do on Monday, the executive team's busiest day of the week due to the strategy, budgetary and planning meetings that are required to run this agency on a daily basis. Thank you for your patience.

Here, verbatim, are questions raised by Governor Ashe that were not addressed in any of the e-mails from Board members or from the IBB/BBG executive team, and the replies to those questions:

Q. Should this proposal be enacted what happens to Dick Lobo? Does he simply depart the Cohen Bldg? What is the effective date planned for the abolition of his position? Is it planned that Mr. Lobo simply moves over to become this new CEO? How long would he be in such a position? The proposed legislation converts the role of the IBB Director into that of a CEO, to be fired or hired by the Board. It goes into effect 30 days after the legislation is signed into law; from then on, the Board would be empowered to make its own choices. On more than one occasion during the Board's discussions about the creation of a CEO, and particularly since the Board unanimously ratified this as a key priority for agency reform in January, I have indicated that I do not wish to be considered a candidate for the CEO position.

Q. What selection process is planned for the BBG Board to implement for choosing the new CEO? What are the listed qualifications for this person? Who will lead this effort on the Board? The legislative proposal empowers the Board to decide these matters in due course.

Q. Will not this CEO have less accountability to Congress than at present? The position of CEO does not currently exist. When it does, the person in this position will have to answer to Congress to the same extent that the IBB Director currently does.

Q. What happens to the unions now representing public employees? The union for RFA? Nothing. No change in either case.

Q. Does this not make the BBG Board somewhat impotent by placing such huge power in the hands of a CEO and Board members in the minority can have information withheld from them by the CEO saying the full Board has to direct it, . not one or two members? The proposed legislation frees the Board to determine which of its authorities it wishes to delegate to the CEO.

Q. Which non delegable powers are transferred to this CEO? The legislation as proposed frees the Board to delegate its authorities to the CEO as it sees fit.

Q. I do not see any standards for the occupant of the CEO position to meet as a condition of employment? No requirement for annual evaluation or statement on who and how it would be done. These are matters that are left to the Board to decide; the legislative proposal is silent on them so that the Board can set the standards and conditions of employment.

Q. Who made the decision to exclude the VOA/OCB heads as well as the three grantees heads from this e mail chain? Why will no one own up to that decision? Why are rank and file employees not asked their views? Is OMB getting a copy of this? I made the decision based on OMB guidance dating to late 2009. Formal approval of the creation of an empowered CEO position in January came after extensive consultations and discussions with a number of relevant stakeholders, both inside and outside the agency, including Members of Congress and congressional staff – and, it should be noted on several occasions with the executives heading VOA, OCB, and the grantees. The President’s 2009 directive on transparency and open government, together with the Office of Management and Budget memorandum on its implementation, make clear that pre-decisional matters that are either before OMB or about to come before OMB, and in particular those “relating to legislative, budgetary, administrative, and regulatory materials,” should remain confidential – and that the directive should not be “construed to suggest that the presumption of openness precludes the legitimate protection of information whose release would... breach confidentiality, or damage other genuinely compelling interests.” The White House continues to support the proposed agency reforms that the Board approved unanimously in January; OMB’s review of the legislative proposal to create a CEO should help the Board identify any issues.

In the meantime, I and members of the Board alike remain very concerned that Governor Ashe violated the confidentiality of discussions among Governors by e-mailing to the entity heads the May 8 note about this legislative opportunity that was addressed to the Board and topped with a message asking all recipients not to share it further. That this message and others to the Board were subsequently leaked so that they would appear online is a further violation.

As with the previous messages on this topic, this e-mail is being sent to you only and is not intended for further distribution.

Dick Lobo

Director, International Broadcasting Bureau

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 6:55 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Message from Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt

To: Richard Lobo

CC: BBG Governors

From: Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt

You have asked for the Board's comments and guidance on offering the proposed CEO draft legislation to the House Foreign Affairs Committee for review and possible inclusion in a bill now under consideration. We are responding to this request in our roles as the Presiding Governor and Chair of the Governance Committee.

Based on the facts as outlined below and a number of conversations with Board colleagues, and absent specific contrary instructions expressed by a majority of Governors (as outlined below), please move forward with this initiative.

The entire Board has more than once approved the concept of an empowered CEO, to be achieved through legislation as appropriate. We discussed the need for and the means to create a BBG CEO position for almost a year and a half before unanimously and formally approving it in January 2012. In fact, it was one of the first issues and priorities that we discussed after being seated in July 2010. Formal approval this January came after extensive consultations and discussions with a number of relevant stakeholders, both inside and outside the agency, including Members of Congress and

Congressional staff and on several occasions with the executives heading VOA, OCB, and the grantees. We also note that most of these five executives have repeatedly expressed support for this initiative. To our knowledge, not one of them has spoken out in opposition to it (unlike the case of the potential grantee merger, where one of three people heading the grantees has expressed opposition to that separate plan).

It is therefore clear that the Board has already approved the creation of a CEO. When your team identified a potential opportunity to implement this decision through draft legislation being prepared in Congress now, quite appropriately the Board was informed of this opportunity, starting with the Communications Committee 10 days ago. When asked, a majority of Board members then indicated they were comfortable with this specific approach, and they directed staff to proceed. Only one Governor expressed a negative opinion on proceeding and has raised questions and concerns; you have affirmed that you will provide answers and information to address them. In the interval, the legislative proposal was provided to the Board several days ago. A number of legitimate questions and issues have been raised about how the CEO position will be implemented and how it will work in practice, some of them by Governor Ashe. The Board will discuss and decide these issues in due course. Again, it is clear that a majority favors moving ahead without delay on the basic issue of creating the position, whether through legislation or otherwise. If individual Governors have a contrary view, please let us and the entire Board know as soon as possible. If a majority expresses a definitive contrary view at this time, the entire Board will revisit this matter. Of course, Congress will consider this provision carefully and it will be fully vetted through the legislative process.

We wish to thank you and your senior colleagues, particularly Lynne Weil, for your excellent and useful work in bringing this important opportunity to the Board's attention.

Michael Lynton

Presiding Governor

Dennis Mulhaupt

Chair, Governance Committee

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 4:27 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil Regarding Rohrabacher Letter

Dear Colleagues,

Having read the May 15 letter from Congressman Rohrabacher carefully, I commend it to all to read equally carefully as it is direct and pointed. It should be a serious cause for concern on a broader scale than just the issue at hand which is broadcasting in Cantonese, Mandarin and Tibetan. It concludes by saying "BBG has shown itself to be opaque in its decision making and incredibly tone deaf to Congressional priorities." Those words go to the actual conduct of BBG business and its congressional relations.

This letter comes after the meeting a few weeks ago which our esteemed colleague, Enders Wimbush, had with the Congressman which Gov Wimbush later described as positive to our Board. Obviously, something has happened. I do not feel that simply sending a return letter to the Congressman saying what Ms. Weil said in her cover letter to us is adequate. We as a Board need to discuss this and see where we can do better or run the risk of facing more troubled waters in our relations with key members of Congress. Even when members of Congress disagree, they should not feel our process is opaque or that we are tone deaf to their priorities. We need more than a letter going to the Congressman. We need some Governors actually visiting and letting him know that we "get it." and really mean it.

We need to be more transparent than we have been. I would urge that we open our committee meetings to the public along with the full Board meetings to the extent permitted by law. I would urge as I stated earlier that if the majority of the Board is pushing a CEO thru legislation that the reasons and efforts be posted on our web site starting with the Lynton-Mulhaupt memo to Dick Lobo. we should not be opaque. When Congress two or three years in a row adds almost the same language to legislation giving direction on Mandarin, Cantonese and Tibetan language broadcasts, staff should accept it and we as a Board must honor it.

I invite a discussion on this.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, May 16, 2012 12:07 pm
Subject: Message from Lynne Weil Regarding Rohrabacher Letter

Governors,

Rep. Rohrabacher sent the attached letter to the Chair and Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee for Foreign Operations indicating his concern about restructuring of VOA broadcasting in Mandarin, as well as other issues. His office copied the letter to us.

IBB/BBG and VOA executive staff are working together on a draft reply. It will address the implication that VOA contravened the FY '12 Appropriations report language by pursuing its new Mandarin television strategy, and will demonstrate why that implication is inaccurate. It will also speak to the Congressman's preference for a five-minute news

update during repeat broadcast hours, given current budget realities, as well as his concern about VOA's expectation of a small reduction in the East Asian and Pacific Division in FY '13, on which no final decision has been made. And it will lay out how the Office of Performance Review stepped up its "spot checks" of several key language services, now on a biweekly basis, after Rep. Rohrabacher expressed doubts about quality control and program review; this matter arose just after Gov. Wimbush's meeting with the Congressman, and we are working to keep his staff apprised.

We'll ensure that all Governors see the final version.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 7:31 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Annette Lantos

Lynn

What is the schedule to responding to the letter sent in April from (b) (6)? If my memory is correct, it is now 4 weeks old? We should make it a point to be more punctual in responding even if told there is no rush.

In this case, the letter reached the wire services and was publicized. The BBG response could receive similar coverage. Since it was addressed to the Board will it be signed by Gov. Lynton or who?

I am also waiting on a response to my inquiry to you and Tish King on Media Highlights and Addendums as well as the e mailing list.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 9:45 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6); Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt

Dear Colleagues

I am responding to the joint memo sent to Dick Lobo by Governor Mulhaupt and Lynton. While I respect the difference of opinion which exists here, I also profoundly differ. There is an absence of discussion on the points I have raised. I feel the public process is enhanced when there is debate in a public setting on these issues. Tax dollars are involved. The memo references that I would receive answers from Mr. Lobo on the questions I raised. His email to me and copied to the full Board said I would receive them Monday (today). Unless they arrive in the next two and half hours, I have not received them on Monday. I do not know when or if I will receive them. All Governors should have responses to their questions. I look forward to the Lobo response.

Since the Lynton-Mulhaupt memo refers to the legislative process as being one in which this proposal will be fully vetted, I assume this is an assertion that the legislative process should work its way and hear from all interested citizens on all sides of this issue. I believe the legislative process should include public hearings on this which, in my view, did not happen in an adequate way on our Board. I do not feel there should be a rush to judgment.

I trust that prior e mails on this subject including the Lynton-Mulhaupt e mail should be posted on the BBG web site and it should be public that BBG is pursuing this. This is no longer pre-decisional given this memo. The decision has been now been made by memo and without a Board meeting/discussion. It seems to me that this is now in the public arena and the discussion on the topic should be fully public even if it is not in a Board setting. I welcome the thoughts of others.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, May 14, 2012 6:56 pm
Subject: Message from Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt

To: Richard Lobo

CC: BBG Governors

From: Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt

You have asked for the Board's comments and guidance on offering the proposed CEO draft legislation to the House Foreign Affairs Committee for review and possible inclusion in a bill now under consideration. We are responding to this request in our roles as the Presiding Governor and Chair of the Governance Committee.

Based on the facts as outlined below and a number of conversations with Board colleagues, and absent specific contrary instructions expressed by a majority of Governors (as outlined below), please move forward with this initiative.

The entire Board has more than once approved the concept of an empowered CEO, to be achieved through legislation as appropriate. We discussed the need for and the means to create a BBG CEO position for almost a year and a half before unanimously and formally approving it in January 2012. In fact, it was one of the first issues and priorities that we

discussed after being seated in July 2010. Formal approval this January came after extensive consultations and discussions with a number of relevant stakeholders, both inside and outside the agency, including Members of Congress and Congressional staff and on several occasions with the executives heading VOA, OCB, and the grantees. We also note that most of these five executives have repeatedly expressed support for this initiative. To our knowledge, not one of them has spoken out in opposition to it (unlike the case of the potential grantee merger, where one of three people heading the grantees has expressed opposition to that separate plan).

It is therefore clear that the Board has already approved the creation of a CEO. When your team identified a potential opportunity to implement this decision through draft legislation being prepared in Congress now, quite appropriately the Board was informed of this opportunity, starting with the Communications Committee 10 days ago. When asked, a majority of Board members then indicated they were comfortable with this specific approach, and they directed staff to proceed. Only one Governor expressed a negative opinion on proceeding and has raised questions and concerns; you have affirmed that you will provide answers and information to address them. In the interval, the legislative proposal was provided to the Board several days ago. A number of legitimate questions and issues have been raised about how the CEO position will be implemented and how it will work in practice, some of them by Governor Ashe. The Board will discuss and decide these issues in due course. Again, it is clear that a majority favors moving ahead without delay on the basic issue of creating the position, whether through legislation or otherwise. If individual Governors have a contrary view, please let us and the entire Board know as soon as possible. If a majority expresses a definitive contrary view at this time, the entire Board will revisit this matter. Of course, Congress will consider this provision carefully and it will be fully vetted through the legislative process.

We wish to thank you and your senior colleagues, particularly Lynne Weil, for your excellent and useful work in bringing this important opportunity to the Board's attention.

Michael Lynton
Presiding Governor

Dennis Mulhaupt
Chair, Governance Committee

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 5:18 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
dmulhaupt@yahoo.com; (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6);
(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft CEO legislation, with analysis

Dear Mr. Lobo,

Having comments and guidance from the Board without a Board meeting and discussion back and forth is fundamentally wrong and contrary to a common sense approach to restructuring. Basically, the Board is being led into an approach which can only breed suspicion and opposition because starting with you and other staff, we have been consigned to secrecy under the guise of confidentiality and pre-decisional discussion without the Board itself voting to do this. I am sad and disappointed that people cannot see the foolishness of this approach.

Now you are asking other Governors to make comments so I will not be the only one to comment. Perhaps over the weekend, my colleagues will respond in the depth that I have responded as opposed to "I am for it" or "It has my support." It merits serious discussion but at this point is not getting it.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/11/2012 4:50:28 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

We hope you've found time to review the message below and the materials that were attached to it.

Thus far we've received comments and questions from Governor Ashe to which I will respond Monday.

We welcome your further comments and guidance before sending this proposal to the Hill.

Dick Lobo

On Thu, May 10, 2012 at 6:07 PM, Lynne Weil (b) (6) wrote:

Governors,

Early in its tenure, the current Board identified as a key shortcoming in the agency's structure the lack of an empowered chief executive. For many months thereafter, the Board considered the means by which to address this shortcoming. At its January 2012 meeting, the Board voted to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting in the context of a proposed International Broadcasting Innovation Act.

As explained to you over the past few days, we've identified an opportunity to implement this front-end goal of the IBIA in the current Congress, rather than the 113th as originally envisioned: adding a provision to a foreign affairs authorization bill now being prepared in the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Conversations with key HFAC majority staff indicate that this initial window of opportunity is open only for a brief time. Opportunities to refine the proposed provision will arise throughout the legislative process.

We appreciate the guidance that you have given since Tuesday afternoon, as well as earlier feedback from the Communications Committee, and we have accordingly redrafted the proposed provision creating the position of a CEO. Most importantly, this revised draft no longer includes language regarding the relationship between the CEO and the grantees, to be settled later upon further consideration by the Board. Please note that this proposed provision enables the Board to decide the CEO's responsibilities, authorities and compensation, as well as to hire or fire the incumbent, who would answer directly to the Board.

We now seek your further comments before sending this proposal to the Hill.

As currently drafted, the legislation:

- Authorizes the Board to hire, fire, and fix the compensation of a CEO answering directly to the Board.
- Authorizes the Board to delegate certain of its authorities to the CEO, which the CEO would exercise subject to the supervision of the Board.
- Converts the IBB Director position into the CEO position, preserving the journalistic firewall by eliminating the requirement that the position be Presidentially-appointed and Senate-confirmed.
- Clarifies that the VOA and OCB Directors report to the CEO.

The provision and a section-by-section analysis are attached.

Please note: We're sending this message, which contains confidential and pre-decisional information, only to the recipients visible in the To: and Cc: lines. This message, as was the case with the IBB/BBG staff's previous e-mails during the past two days regarding the opportunity to create the CEO position, is not intended for further distribution.

We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

Director of Communications and External Affairs

Broadcasting Board of Governors

Governors,

Early in its tenure, the current Board identified as a key shortcoming in the agency's structure the lack of an empowered chief executive. For many months thereafter, the Board considered the means by which to address this shortcoming. At its January 2012 meeting, the Board voted to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting in the context of a proposed International Broadcasting Innovation Act.

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We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

Director of Communications and External Affairs

Broadcasting Board of Governors

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 11:25 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft CEO legislation, with analysis

The last time I answered an e mail from Lynne Weil (2 days ago) which was critical of the process I got an e mail back from Dick Lobo stating she was acting as his direction so perhaps I should address this e mail back to Dick Lobo as well as Lynne Weil.

First, let the record reflect my views that this whole discussion should be out in the public and at an open BBG Board meeting...not here online where we are told by a non Board member that this is predecisional and not for distribution. This inhibits my ability (and all other Governors) to reach out to friends, attorneys and others who are qualified and knowledgeable in the international media field as well as Senators and Members of the House whose views I respect. Who made this decision? It certainly was not done by a Board vote. Am I precluded from talking to congressional staffers about this? Who is making decisions which impacts my right to discuss this without consulting with me first?

Second, who made the decision to exclude the VOA/OCB heads as well as the three grantees heads from this e mail chain? Why will no one own up to that decision? Why are rank and file employees not asked their views? Is OMB getting a copy of this? I see that Paul Kollmer is now added when he was not on the first round of e mails last Tuesday?

Third, I find it contrary to the spirit if not the letter of the President's 2009 executive order on transparency that this is hidden and we are being asked to be party to a major congressional action by stealth since this is window of opportunity is only open a brief time according to this e mail. Who said that? Who is Lynne Weil dealing with at House Foreign Affairs Committee (majority or minority or both) or is it a Board member or someone else doing the discussions? This process is opaque and under the radar screen. Frankly Congress should hold hearings on a proposal this significant. BBG should be posting this proposal on our web site like the consolidation proposal has been posted and seek public comment? Why is there this rush to judgment without any public seeking of the public's views?

I suppose we will not have a BBG discussion on this..certainly not at a public meeting as most BBG meetings are. I formally request that when this proposal goes to the Hill that you indicate it is not unanimous and that I oppose the process by which this has been created.

I will send additional comments on the content after sleeping over this tonight.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/10/2012 6:21:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Early in its tenure, the current Board identified as a key shortcoming in the agency's structure the lack of an empowered chief executive. For many months thereafter, the Board considered the means by which to address this shortcoming. At its January 2012 meeting, the Board voted to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting in the context of a proposed International Broadcasting Innovation Act.

As explained to you over the past few days, we've identified an opportunity to implement this front-end goal of the IBIA in the current Congress, rather than the 113th as originally envisioned: adding a provision to a foreign affairs authorization bill now being prepared in the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Conversations with key HFAC majority staff indicate that this initial window of opportunity is open only for a brief time. Opportunities to refine the proposed provision will arise throughout the legislative process.

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- Clarifies that the VOA and OCB Directors report to the CEO.

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We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

Director of Communications and External Affairs

Broadcasting Board of Governors

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 4:03 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Letitia King
Subject: Consolidation report comments

I would like to receive copies of all comments sent in to the BBG web site from the e mail given from the posted consolidation report posted on the web site.

Have many have come in so far?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 2:36 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: July meeting in error

Thanks for your response on this.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/11/2012 2:22:58 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks, Victor. Tish is off today. I'll ask a member of her team to address this matter asap.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 2:02:22 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: July meeting in error

The current web site shows a July 12-13 meeting date which I understand has been or will soon be changed to July 24-25. If you are waiting on formal Board action to change it, I suggest at least showing on the web that consideration is being given to changing the meeting date by 12 days or so the viewing public can be informed that the July 12-13 date may not hold and is likely to be moved.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 5:00 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: media lists

Lynn

I know you have been busy but I wanted to remind you of my earlier e mail from a few days ago asking about the differences if any between the BBG media highlights and the Addendum which comes out less often? I have not gotten a response.

Nor have I have gotten a response as to the list of recipients (e mail addresses) of those on the Media Highlights list of which I am one.

I look forward to hearing from you. or at least being told if this is a complicated request which requires more time to answer.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 9:44 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

Dear Enders,

It would be more constructive if you could share your thinking on the CEO position and this stealth approach to legislation as opposed to saying "thank you." Enders, you have a history with international broadcasting. While we may differ, your views should be aired and discussed. We should be able to respond.

Dick Lobo has frankly missed the point on much of this. There is no assault on Lynne Weil but there has been disagreement with what she has been directed to do. She has been around a long time and knows the process.

I have no plans to retreat from my advocacy of openness. I urge you to engage in full discussion. Read the President's executive order on openness.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/9/2012 7:26:31 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Dick.

S. Enders Wimbush
Sent from my iPhone

On May 9, 2012, at 6:43 PM, "richard m lobo" (b) (6) > wrote:

Victor,

This assault on Lynne is both needless and baseless. The staff clears major initiatives involving the Board through me, and in this case is not asking Governors to undertake a notational vote by some other name. Lynne and her team, together with colleagues in the General Counsel's office and IBB/BBG top management, are trying to facilitate implementation of a key decision that the Board made in January 2012: to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting.

At the end of this email are the relevant portions of the Record of Decisions and the adopted Minutes from the January meeting. In two distinct decisions the Board voted both to move ahead on grantee consolidation and to pursue legislation to restructure U.S. International Broadcasting, including through the creation of a CEO.

Spotting a good opportunity to implement this Board decision in the coming months -- rather than a year or more from now as anticipated given the realities of congressional action this year -- Lynne was simply trying to inform Governors of this new legislative vehicle and to develop a sense of whether they feel comfortable with hitching a ride. She was brought on three months ago in part because she has the experience and skills to identify and act on such opportunities.

E-mail responses that we have received so far suggest that most Board members feel the staff should move forward as suggested yesterday.

Lynne and the team she has assembled have been working flat out since Friday to offer you and your fellow Governors timely and complete information, the chance to weigh in at the well in time to take the next step, and then -- based on Board feedback -- to lay out clearly a legislative proposal for the Board to review.

I am concerned as well that you have yet again violated the confidentiality of discussions among Governors -- this time by e-mailing to the entity heads yesterday's note addressed to the Board, which was topped with a message asking all recipients that it not be shared further,

There has been no objection among the Governors -- or, for that matter, the staff -- to having a pre-decisional discussion about the legislative opportunity that has presented itself. We are happy to facilitate that discussion and will be in a position to show the Governors what the legislation would look like.

Dick Lobo

Director, International Broadcasting Bureau

Excerpts from January 2012 Record of Decisions and Meeting Minutes

From the Records of Decisions: "The position of Chief Executive Officer of United States International

Broadcasting (the "CEO"), reporting to the Board of Governors, shall be

created. The CEO will be empowered to provide day-to-day executive leadership for United States international broadcasting and should have management authority over the federal and non-federal elements of United States international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight.”

From the approved Minutes of the January meeting: “The Board directed the IBB Director to work with IBB staff and outside experts, and with Governor McCue, in order to develop a draft IBIA for the Board’s further consideration. The draft legislation should have the following attributes: An organization reflecting the optimal mix of federal and non-federal assets; a creation of a Chief Executive Officer of United States International Broadcasting (the “CEO”), reporting to the Board of Governors, empowered to provide day-to-day executive leadership for United States international broadcasting and should have management authority over the federal and nonfederal elements of United States international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight.”

Also from the January Board meeting Minutes:

“Governor McCue remarked that this proposal presents an exciting, historical time for U.S. international broadcasting, and that the drafting of legislation will be done in a partnership and team effort going forward. Governor Ashe expressed his support for the proposal and noted that, in his view, efforts should be made to achieve savings, regardless of the amount, and that it makes sense to consolidate in an effort to improve the quality of service and delivery of service to places where the governments censor or deny access

to accurate and objective information. Governor Ashe said consolidation, if done properly, is a

good step forward for the Agency in light of the new era, especially in communications and

technology. Governor Ashe also said if the consolidation is not done properly, it would cause

him to change his position and strongly oppose it. The devil is in the details. Governor Ashe

said he reserved the right to change his views if the implementation is not well executed. Acting

Under Secretary Ann Stock commented that the Board had a very constructive, long, thoughtful,

deliberative process and that the off-site briefing helped the Board come up with a plan to move

forward.

The Board then voted to restructure of United States international broadcasting, including

consolidating the three BBG-sponsored grantees and seeking legislation that would include

establishing a Chief Executive Officer to manage the enterprise.”

On Wed, May 9, 2012 at 2:12 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Dear Ms Weil,

The more I have thought about this series of e mails the more troubled I am about it because this is really a notational vote being carried out under another name by you as a staffer and not at the request of a Board member or IBB Director so the requirements of a notational vote do not have to be met. I refer to one member voting no and asking for a Board meeting to consider the matter as happened with RFE when Governor Meehan declined to vote Yes for some staff changes. We held a RFE Board meeting and had a discussion on it.

In Miami on April 20 we openly did not vote on consolidation of the three entities. The CEO position was mentioned in open session as it related to the entities and we voted to place that plan on the BBG web site and seek public comments which is now underway.

Yesterday, May 8 we are asked in an e mail from you to vote on you moving this forward to secure CEO legislation by the form of a straw poll online. The Board has not discussed this as a Board with all participating. We have not voted on it. Governor Lynton said there would not be a vote on consolidation on April 20. Now we are asked to move forward on a key component of the proposed US Innovation Act without discussion among Board members. This is not

transparent. It is contrary to the spirit if not the letter of President Obama's executive order of 2009 on transparency. It is also a bad way to operate. Open discussion among Board members with all or most present produces a better product than short one sentence answers that say "I support it" without acknowledgment of the many issues surrounding such a move...some which I raised in the open session in Miami.

I feel this current process violates BBG bylaws on a notational vote which is what this straw poll really is. Is the BBG Board simply not going to discuss what the CEO position and selection process is all about in a Board setting?

I am perplexed that the entity heads and VOA/OCB heads have been omitted from this e mail chain when it directly impacts many of them. Again, not a good way to operate. Why are they left out?

I wonder why Paul Kollmer, deputy general counsel, was not included on the e mail chain given the policy matter that the Board is being asked to consider. I think the BBG Board should be told precisely what the White House and HFRC were told as referenced in earlier e mail by you, Ms. Weil.

I formally request the Board meet to discuss and vote on this and exercise my right as a Board member to request such when a notational vote fails to receive unanimous consent.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/9/2012 8:41:47 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you for weighing in.

And a big thanks to all for so readily contributing views, especially to the Communications Committee members for your guidance in written and oral comments prior to the launch of this chain yesterday.

We've been reviewing the draft provision as all of these views have come in over the past few days. When the revisions are completed, we'll send it your way for further discussion -- at the start, by e-mail for your convenience (especially those currently not in DC, or even in this time zone) and to help the team here to capture all comments and keep our records straight. But of course, in addition to that, we can also work out a time for a phone call as some have indicated, and as your schedules allow.

Lynne

From: Sonenshine, Tara D

Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 8:23:45 AM

To: vhashe@aol.com; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); s J

Subject: RE: New opportunity to create a CEO position

I am supportive.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 4:20 PM

To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);

(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

(b) (6); (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

Dear Colleagues,

This is a very short time frame to consider (received less than 2 hours ago) for something which in my view merits substantive Board discussion. We should not just exchange e mails saying we 'fully support' or 'oppose' but rather discuss in a Board setting (at least by phone) the pros and cons of this.

Why are the three entity heads not included on this e mail as well as Carlos Garcia and David Ensor? I urge they be added to the e mail chain and this discussion not occur without them.

While we have discussed the CEO matter conceptually, what Lynn describes here seems to go far beyond what we discussed previously in Board settings. I have previously voiced concerns about what the process is for picking a new CEO, term of office, salary, job qualifications as well as placing this unknown person in charge of the three non federal private corporate entities.

I personally feel the President should be able to appoint the BBG CEO and he/she should serve at the pleasure of the President with Senate confirmation. Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation gives the CEO status a Board appointment could not do.

I urge a Board meeting or conference call. Lynn, you state you want to be sure that the points you outline are consistent with a majority of the Board. I assume that means 5 Governors saying Yes. To date two have said Yes, I am saying No for now pending discussion.

I am also surprised that the House and Senate would consider moving something this significant without public hearings and input. I feel it is wrong to endorse this while at the same time we are now seeking public input on the BBG web site on consolidation. That is why BBG posted the consolidation report on our web site. Why are we seeking public input if at the same time BBG staff is moving to implement a major part of the consolidation before the public input comment period concludes? It means public input really does not matter when some of us feel public input really does matter.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/8/2012 2:03:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

This confidential message is being sent to you only, with the knowledge of the White House; it is pre-decisional in nature and not intended for further distribution.

Please take the time today if you can to read and react to the info below, which concerns the establishment of a CEO for U.S. international broadcasting -- a key agency reform priority that the Board approved in January and deliberated for a year before that. This is a fast-moving opportunity to implement a front-end goal of the International Broadcasting Innovation Act in the current Congress, rather than the 113th as originally envisioned.

In recent days, we've been in touch with majority staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which is close to completing work on a draft foreign affairs authorization bill that could include a provision to create the empowered CEO position to be filled by a candidate chosen by the Board rather than a political appointee.

We're looking at a very narrow window of opportunity here. We have the next few days, to get a provision into the draft bill before it's shared with the minority, and then maybe a few days afterward for any adjustments before the next legislative step. Further adjustments are possible after that.

We're polishing some draft language for your consideration. The language would:

- Eliminate the requirement that the IBB Director be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.
- Convert the IBB Director position into that of Chief Executive Officer of USIB, reporting to the Board.
- Enable the Board to hire, fire, fix the compensation of, and evaluate the CEO.
- Provide the board the flexibility to delegate some of its own authorities to reflect and support a new CEO's operational role.
- Clarify that the VOA and OCB directors report to the CEO of USIB.

- Require each grantee to report to and follow the directives of the CEO as necessary to implement the Board's strategic plan. The CEO would not act as the direct leader of the grantees, but would have authority to make sure that the grants provided by the Board are expended in accordance with the Board's formal decisions.

This language will have to be minimalist for several reasons -- not least, to better the chances of passage into law. With strong bipartisan support, the House already passed a bill creating a CEO position in 2002 and again in a different form in 2004. But the current CEO provision won't be done until we're sure that the points above are consistent with your aims and those of a majority of the Board. So please let us know your views soon.

Fyi, committee staff on both sides of the aisle say they want to craft a foreign affairs package that is bipartisan and free of new budgetary implications, as this provision would be. The bill will also include several administrative provisions requested by the BBG, such as clarifying agency authority to hire non-citizens, which the agency has sought in the past.

Work continues on the IBIA independent of this new effort, should you decide to proceed with it.

We received confirmation from the White House today that there continues to be support for both the idea of a board-appointed CEO and for the kind of agency streamlining measures that you have been discussing.

Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 9:34 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

I respect your right to disagree. That is part of our system. However, why were the entity heads and VOA/OCB heads excluded from this e mail chain? You have not answered that. This can only create distrust. Frankly, Dick, by what right do you have the authority to declare an e mail is not to be shared with the colleagues you work with? This new CEO would have impact over them and you do not want this discussed? Have you failed to read and implement the President's 2009 executive order on transparency?

If this was a directive from you then you should have sent it out not Lynn Weil.

Your e mail does not respond to the basic question which I raised which is why this is not a notational vote? You do not respond to the basic and fundamental issue of whether the BBG Board should discuss this specific issue. I am formally requesting it and no one has responded.

Can I as a Board member inquire of Senators and members of Congress as to what they think about this? Saying this is only for the Board members and we cannot ask others including my own Senator his views is appalling?

Dick, BBG has the worst morale of all federal agencies. We need to see real progress turning this around. We need to see a more inclusive style and more transparent.

This CEO proposal being pushed by stealth is not the right way to achieve success.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/9/2012 6:44:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

This assault on Lynne is both needless and baseless. The staff clears major initiatives involving the Board through me, and in this case is not asking Governors to undertake a notational vote by some other name. Lynne and her team, together with colleagues in the General Counsel's office and IBB/BBG top management, are trying to facilitate implementation of a key decision that the Board made in January 2012: to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting.

At the end of this email are the relevant portions of the Record of Decisions and the adopted Minutes from the January meeting. In two distinct decisions the Board voted both to move ahead on grantee consolidation and to pursue legislation to restructure U.S. International Broadcasting, including through the creation of a CEO.

Spotting a good opportunity to implement this Board decision in the coming months -- rather than a year or more from now as anticipated given the realities of congressional action this year -- Lynne was simply trying to inform Governors of this new legislative vehicle and to develop a sense of whether they feel comfortable with hitching a ride. She was brought on three months ago in part because she has the experience and skills to identify and act on such opportunities.

E-mail responses that we have received so far suggest that most Board members feel the staff should move forward as suggested yesterday.

Lynne and the team she has assembled have been working flat out since Friday to offer you and your fellow Governors timely and complete information, the chance to weigh in at the well in time to take the next step, and then -- based on Board feedback -- to lay out clearly a legislative proposal for the Board to review.

I am concerned as well that you have yet again violated the confidentiality of discussions among Governors -- this time by e-mailing to the entity heads yesterday's note addressed to the Board, which was topped with a message asking all recipients that it not be shared further,

There has been no objection among the Governors -- or, for that matter, the staff -- to having a pre-decisional discussion about the legislative opportunity that has presented itself. We are happy to facilitate that discussion and will be in a position to show the Governors what the legislation would look like.

Dick Lobo

Director, International Broadcasting Bureau

Excerpts from January 2012 Record of Decisions and Meeting Minutes

From the Records of Decisions: "The position of Chief Executive Officer of United States International Broadcasting (the "CEO"), reporting to the Board of Governors, shall be

created. The CEO will be empowered to provide day-to-day executive leadership for United States international broadcasting and should have management authority over the federal and non-federal elements of United States international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight.”

From the approved Minutes of the January meeting: “The Board directed the IBB Director to work with IBB staff and outside experts,

and with Governor McCue, in order to develop a draft IBIA for the Board’s further consideration. The draft legislation should have the following attributes: An organization reflecting the optimal mix of federal and non-federal assets; a creation of a Chief Executive Officer of United States International Broadcasting (the “CEO”), reporting to the Board of Governors, empowered to provide day-to-day executive leadership for United States international broadcasting and should have management authority over the federal and nonfederal elements of United States international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight.”

Also from the January Board meeting Minutes:

“Governor McCue remarked that this proposal presents an exciting, historical time for U.S. international broadcasting, and that the drafting of legislation will be done in a partnership and team effort going forward. Governor Ashe expressed his support for the proposal and noted that, in his view, efforts should be made to achieve savings, regardless of the amount, and that it makes sense to consolidate in an effort to improve the quality of service and delivery of service to places where the governments censor or deny access to accurate and objective information. Governor Ashe said consolidation, if done properly, is a good step forward for the Agency in light of the new era, especially in communications and technology. Governor Ashe also said if the consolidation is not done properly, it would cause him to change his position and strongly oppose it. The devil is in the details. Governor Ashe

said he reserved the right to change his views if the implementation is not well executed. Acting Under Secretary Ann Stock commented that the Board had a very constructive, long, thoughtful, deliberative process and that the off-site briefing helped the Board come up with a plan to move forward.

The Board then voted to restructure of United States international broadcasting, including consolidating the three BBG-sponsored grantees and seeking legislation that would include establishing a Chief Executive Officer to manage the enterprise.”

On Wed, May 9, 2012 at 2:12 PM, <(b) (6)> wrote:
Dear Ms Weil,

The more I have thought about this series of e mails the more troubled I am about it because this is really a notational vote being carried out under another name by you as a staffer and not at the request of a Board member or IBB Director so the requirements of a notational vote do not have to be met. I refer to one member voting no and asking for a Board meeting to consider the matter as happened with RFE when Governor Meehan declined to vote Yes for some staff changes. We held a RFE Board meeting and had a discussion on it.

In Miami on April 20 we openly did not vote on consolidation of the three entities. The CEO position was mentioned in open session as it related to the entities and we voted to place that plan on the BBG web site and seek public comments which is now underway.

Yesterday, May 8 we are asked in an e mail from you to vote on you moving this forward to secure CEO legislation by the form of a straw poll online. The Board has not discussed this as a Board with all participating. We have not voted on it. Governor Lynton said there would not be a vote on consolidation on April 20. Now we are asked to move forward on a key component of the proposed US Innovation Act without discussion among Board members. This is not transparent. It is contrary to the spirit if not the letter of President Obama's executive order of 2009 on transparency. It is also a bad way to operate. Open discussion among Board members with all or most present produces a better product than short one sentence answers that say "I support it" without acknowledgment of the many issues surrounding such a move...some which I raised in the open session in Miami.

I feel this current process violates BBG bylaws on a notational vote which is what this straw poll really is. Is the BBG Board simply not going to discuss what the CEO position and selection process is all about in a Board setting?

I am perplexed that the entity heads and VOA/OCB heads have been omitted from this e mail chain when it directly impacts many of them. Again, not a good way to operate. Why are they left out?

I wonder why Paul Kollmer, deputy general counsel, was not included on the e mail chain given the policy matter that the Board is being asked to consider. I think the BBG Board should be told precisely what the White House and HFRC were told as referenced in earlier e mail by you, Ms. Weil.

I formally request the Board meet to discuss and vote on this and exercise my right as a Board member to request such when a notational vote fails to receive unanimous consent.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/9/2012 8:41:47 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you for weighing in.

And a big thanks to all for so readily contributing views, especially to the Communications Committee members for your guidance in written and oral comments prior to the launch of this chain yesterday.

We've been reviewing the draft provision as all of these views have come in over the past few days. When the revisions are completed, we'll send it your way for further discussion -- at the start, by e-mail for your convenience (especially those currently not in DC, or even in this time zone) and to help the team here to capture all comments and keep our records straight. But of course, in addition to that, we can also work out a time for a phone call as some have indicated, and as your schedules allow.

Lynne

From: Sonenshine, Tara D
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 8:23:45 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com; Lynne Weil; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
[REDACTED] (b) (6)
CC: [REDACTED] (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: RE: New opportunity to create a CEO position

I am supportive.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 4:20 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6); [REDACTED] (b) (6)
CC: [REDACTED] (b) (6); [REDACTED] (b) (6); [REDACTED] (b) (6); [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

Dear Colleagues,

This is a very short time frame to consider (received less than 2 hours ago) for something which in my view merits substantive Board discussion. We should not just exchange e mails saying we 'fully support' or 'oppose' but rather discuss in a Board setting (at least by phone) the pros and cons of this.

Why are the three entity heads not included on this e mail as well as Carlos Garcia and David Ensor? I urge they be added to the e mail chain and this discussion not occur without them.

While we have discussed the CEO matter conceptually, what Lynn describes here seems to go far beyond what we discussed previously in Board settings. I have previously voiced concerns about what

the process is for picking a new CEO, term of office, salary, job qualifications as well as placing this unknown person in charge of the three non federal private corporate entities.

I personally feel the President should be able to appoint the BBG CEO and he/she should serve at the pleasure of the President with Senate confirmation. Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation gives the CEO status a Board appointment could not do.

I urge a Board meeting or conference call. Lynn, you state you want to be sure that the points you outline are consistent with a majority of the Board. I assume that means 5 Governors saying Yes. To date two have said Yes, I am saying No for now pending discussion.

I am also surprised that the House and Senate would consider moving something this significant without public hearings and input. I feel it is wrong to endorse this while at the same time we are now seeking public input on the BBG web site on consolidation. That is why BBG posted the consolidation report on our web site. Why are we seeking public input if at the same time BBG staff is moving to implement a major part of the consolidation before the public input comment period concludes? It means public input really does not matter when some of us feel public input really does matter.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/8/2012 2:03:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

This confidential message is being sent to you only, with the knowledge of the White House; it is pre-decisional in nature and not intended for further distribution.

Please take the time today if you can to read and react to the info below, which concerns the establishment of a CEO for U.S. international broadcasting -- a key agency reform priority that the Board approved in January and deliberated for a year before that. This is a fast-moving opportunity to implement a front-end goal of the International Broadcasting Innovation Act in the current Congress, rather than the 113th as originally envisioned.

In recent days, we've been in touch with majority staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which is close to completing work on a draft foreign affairs authorization bill that could include a provision to create the empowered CEO position to be filled by a candidate chosen by the Board rather than a political appointee.

We're looking at a very narrow window of opportunity here. We have the next few days, to get a provision into the draft bill before it's shared with the minority, and then maybe a few days afterward for any adjustments before the next legislative step. Further adjustments are possible after that.

We're polishing some draft language for your consideration. The language would:

- Eliminate the requirement that the IBB Director be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.
- Convert the IBB Director position into that of Chief Executive Officer of USIB, reporting to the Board.
- Enable the Board to hire, fire, fix the compensation of, and evaluate the CEO.
- Provide the board the flexibility to delegate some of its own authorities to reflect and support a new CEO's operational role.
- Clarify that the VOA and OCB directors report to the CEO of USIB.
- Require each grantee to report to and follow the directives of the CEO as necessary to implement the Board's strategic plan. The CEO would not act as the direct leader of the grantees, but would have authority to make sure that the grants provided by the Board are expended in accordance with the Board's formal decisions.

This language will have to be minimalist for several reasons -- not least, to better the chances of passage into law. With strong bipartisan support, the House already passed a bill creating a CEO position in 2002 and again in a different form in 2004. But the current CEO provision won't be done until we're sure that the points above are consistent with your aims and those of a majority of the Board. So please let us know your views soon.

Fyi, committee staff on both sides of the aisle say they want to craft a foreign affairs package that is bipartisan and free of new budgetary implications, as this provision would be. The bill will also include several administrative provisions requested by the BBG, such as clarifying agency authority to hire non-citizens, which the agency has sought in the past. Work continues on the IBIA independent of this new effort, should you decide to proceed with it.

We received confirmation from the White House today that there continues to be support for both the idea of a board-appointed CEO and for the kind of agency streamlining measures that you have been discussing.

Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 9:23 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

It would be helpful Enders given your extensive background in international broadcasting if you would explain why you feel as you do. Just saying thank you or I concur really adds little to the discussion.

You have opinions which should be shared. The absence of a BBG meeting on this issue is appalling. It is so non inclusive. This is being steam rolled.

Enders, do you agree that the entity heads and VOA/OCB heads should be omitted from the e mail chain?

I deeply regret that you do not want a full and candid discussion on this.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/9/2012 7:26:31 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Dick.

S. Enders Wimbush
Sent from my iPhone

On May 9, 2012, at 6:43 PM, "richard m lobo" (b) (6) wrote:

Victor,

This assault on Lynne is both needless and baseless. The staff clears major initiatives involving the Board through me, and in this case is not asking Governors to undertake a notational vote by some other name. Lynne and her team, together with colleagues in the General Counsel's office and IBB/BBG top management, are trying to facilitate implementation of a key decision that the Board made in January 2012: to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting.

At the end of this email are the relevant portions of the Record of Decisions and the adopted Minutes from the January meeting. In two distinct decisions the Board voted both to move ahead on grantee consolidation and to pursue legislation to restructure U.S. International Broadcasting, including through the creation of a CEO.

Spotting a good opportunity to implement this Board decision in the coming months -- rather than a year or more from now as anticipated given the realities of congressional

action this year -- Lynne was simply trying to inform Governors of this new legislative vehicle and to develop a sense of whether they feel comfortable with hitching a ride. She was brought on three months ago in part because she has the experience and skills to identify and act on such opportunities.

E-mail responses that we have received so far suggest that most Board members feel the staff should move forward as suggested yesterday.

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I am concerned as well that you have yet again violated the confidentiality of discussions among Governors – this time by e-mailing to the entity heads yesterday's note addressed to the Board, which was topped with a message asking all recipients that it not be shared further,

There has been no objection among the Governors – or, for that matter, the staff -- to having a pre-decisional discussion about the legislative opportunity that has presented itself. We are happy to facilitate that discussion and will be in a position to show the Governors what the legislation would look like.

Dick Lobo

Director, International Broadcasting Bureau

Excerpts from January 2012 Record of Decisions and Meeting Minutes

From the Records of Decisions: “The position of Chief Executive Officer of United States International

Broadcasting (the “CEO”), reporting to the Board of Governors, shall be created. The CEO will be empowered to provide day-to-day executive

leadership for United States international broadcasting and should have management authority over the federal and non-federal elements of United States international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight.”

From the approved Minutes of the January meeting: “The Board directed the IBB Director to work with IBB staff and outside experts, and with Governor McCue, in order to develop a draft IBIA for the Board’s further consideration. The draft legislation should have the following attributes: An organization reflecting the optimal mix of federal and non-federal assets; a creation of a Chief Executive Officer of United States International Broadcasting (the “CEO”), reporting to the Board of Governors, empowered to provide day-to-day executive leadership for United States international broadcasting and should have management authority over the federal and nonfederal elements of United States international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight.”

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“Governor McCue remarked that this proposal presents an exciting, historical time for U.S. international broadcasting, and that the drafting of legislation will be done in a partnership and team effort going forward. Governor Ashe expressed his support for the proposal and noted that, in his view, efforts should be made to achieve savings, regardless of the amount, and that it makes sense to consolidate in an effort to improve the quality of service and delivery of service to places where the governments censor or deny access to accurate and objective information. Governor Ashe said consolidation, if done properly, is a

good step forward for the Agency in light of the new era, especially in communications and

technology. Governor Ashe also said if the consolidation is not done properly, it would cause

him to change his position and strongly oppose it. The devil is in the details. Governor Ashe

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forward.

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Victor Ashe

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Lynne

From: Sonenshine, Tara D
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 8:23:45 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: New opportunity to create a CEO position

I am supportive.

From: [Vhashe@aol.com](mailto:vhashe@aol.com) [mailto:[Vhashe@aol.com](mailto:vhashe@aol.com)]
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 4:20 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);

(b) (6) (b) (6)
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I personally feel the President should be able to appoint the BBG CEO and he/she should serve at the pleasure of the President with Senate confirmation. Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation gives the CEO status a Board appointment could not do.

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Sincerely yours,

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Governors,

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In recent days, we've been in touch with majority staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which is close to completing work on a draft foreign affairs authorization bill that could include a provision to create the empowered CEO position to be filled by a candidate chosen by the Board rather than a political appointee.

We're looking at a very narrow window of opportunity here. We have the next few days, to get a provision into the draft bill before it's shared with the minority, and then maybe a few days afterward for any adjustments before the next legislative step. Further adjustments are possible after that.

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- Clarify that the VOA and OCB directors report to the CEO of USIB.
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Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 12:26 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

I think the right decision has been made. I did share with all five my original reply to you giving my reasons for opposing going forward on the CEO position at this time after receiving your e mail stating it would be sent to all. Victor

In a message dated 5/9/2012 12:22:07 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you for asking, Victor. It was not an oversight. Kindly do not share. The note is not for further distribution.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 9:42 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

any problem in sharing this with Ensor, Garcia and the three entity heads since I assume it was an oversight not sending it to them in the first place? Have not done it yet.

Victor

In a message dated 5/8/2012 2:03:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

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political appointee.

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We're polishing some draft language for your consideration. The language would:

- Eliminate the requirement that the IBB Director be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.
- Convert the IBB Director position into that of Chief Executive Officer of USIB, reporting to the Board.
- Enable the Board to hire, fire, fix the compensation of, and evaluate the CEO.
- Provide the board the flexibility to delegate some of its own authorities to reflect and support a new CEO's operational role.
- Clarify that the VOA and OCB directors report to the CEO of USIB.
- Require each grantee to report to and follow the directives of the CEO as necessary to implement the Board's strategic plan. The CEO would not act as the direct leader of the grantees, but would have authority to make sure that the grants provided by the Board are expended in accordance with the Board's formal decisions.

This language will have to be minimalist for several reasons -- not least, to better the chances of passage into law. With strong bipartisan support, the House already passed a bill creating a CEO position in 2002 and again in a different form in 2004. But the current CEO provision won't be done until we're sure that the points above are consistent with your aims and those of a majority of the Board. So please let us know your views soon.

Fyi, committee staff on both sides of the aisle say they want to craft a foreign affairs package that is bipartisan and free of new budgetary implications, as this provision would be. The bill will also include several administrative provisions requested by the BBG, such as clarifying agency authority to hire non-citizens, which the agency has sought in the past.

Work continues on the IBIA independent of this new effort, should you decide to proceed with it.

We received confirmation from the White House today that there continues to be support for both the idea of a board-appointed CEO and for the kind of agency streamlining measures that you have been discussing.

Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 9:42 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

any problem in sharing this with Ensor, Garcia and the three entity heads since I assume it was an oversight not sending it to them in the first place? Have not done it yet.

Victor

In a message dated 5/8/2012 2:03:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

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Please take the time today if you can to read and react to the info below, which concerns the establishment of a CEO for U.S. international broadcasting -- a key agency reform priority that the Board approved in January and deliberated for a year before that. This is a fast-moving opportunity to implement a front-end goal of the International Broadcasting Innovation Act in the current Congress, rather than the 113th as originally envisioned.

In recent days, we've been in touch with majority staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which is close to completing work on a draft foreign affairs authorization bill that could include a provision to create the empowered CEO position to be filled by a candidate chosen by the Board rather than a political appointee.

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Fyi, committee staff on both sides of the aisle say they want to craft a foreign affairs package that is bipartisan and free of new budgetary implications, as this provision would be. The bill will also include several administrative provisions requested by the BBG, such as clarifying agency authority to hire non-citizens, which the agency has sought in the past.

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Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 8:44 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Travel

Dennis, You are totally right on this. Mr. Kollmer should draft a resolution which incorporates the Coburn proposal but expands it along the lines you suggest. There is time to do this.

Victor

In a message dated 5/8/2012 8:39:01 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor:

From my perspective, that is fine and makes good sense but I think our travel policy should be considerably broader and more transparent than that called for by Sen Coburn and should apply to everyone in the agency, whether attending a conference or not.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Date: Tue, 8 May 2012 20:28:55 -0400 (EDT)
To: (b) (6) v>
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Travel

Mr. Kollmer

I am requesting that the June 7 or 8 BBG meeting contain a resolution from me directing that BBG implement the travel policies on conferences which Senator Coburn recently proposed to the US Senate and which the Senate adopted unanimously. (b) (6) has a copy of it.

I would like for the BBG to be proactive here and move doing the right thing now in an area where there haven been problems in other agencies. The Coburn amendment would apply to all agencies.

If you have questions about this please advise. I believe I am giving this to you in adequate time to prepare it and submit it to the full Board.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 4:46 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

Dear Colleagues,

Not sure if the recent e mail I sent on this subject when thru to all. So I am e mailing again. If this is a second copy for you I apologize. However, this is a very short time frame (I have only had Lynn's email for less than 3 hours) to consider such a significant proposal which merits substantive Board discussion.

This proposal which Lynn outlines goes beyond the CEO concept which we have previously discussed and I think the full BBG Board should discuss this prior to making a recommendation to Congress. I am troubled about extending this to the non federal private corporate entities which Congress created.

I am surprised and disappointed that the three entity heads are not included on this e mail nor are Carlos Garcia or David Ensor and all are impacted. I hope future e mails bring them into it.

I have previously voiced concerns about the CEO position and how he/she will be chosen, qualifications to be set, salary to be paid, term of office and authority. In my view they should be fleshed out prior to making a recommendation.

In Miami we decided to post the consolidation report on the BBG web site and seek public input. That is going on now. To then move to push this CEO concept into law before we have completed receiving public input calls into question our sincerity in asking for public input on this part of the consolidation report if we are going to act without it.

I also feel the CEO should be a Presidential appointee with Senate confirmation as that process gives the person who holds the position more status than a Board choice would give.

If Lynn is seeking to know where all stand, it seems almost immediately two Governors have said they 'fully support.' I vote No pending further discussion. It is important that the full Board talk this over and include the entity heads as well as VOA and OCB.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/8/2012 2:03:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

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empowered CEO position to be filled by a candidate chosen by the Board rather than a political appointee.

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Fyi, committee staff on both sides of the aisle say they want to craft a foreign affairs package that is bipartisan and free of new budgetary implications, as this provision would be. The bill will also include several administrative provisions requested by the BBG, such as clarifying agency authority to hire non-citizens, which the agency has sought in the past.

Work continues on the IBIA independent of this new effort, should you decide to proceed with it.

We received confirmation from the White House today that there continues to be support for both the idea of a board-appointed CEO and for the kind of agency streamlining measures that you have been discussing.

Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 4:20 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

Dear Colleagues,

This is a very short time frame to consider (received less than 2 hours ago) for something which in my view merits substantive Board discussion. We should not just exchange e mails saying we 'fully support' or 'oppose' but rather discuss in a Board setting (at least by phone) the pros and cons of this.

Why are the three entity heads not included on this e mail as well as Carlos Garcia and David Ensor? I urge they be added to the e mail chain and this discussion not occur without them.

While we have discussed the CEO matter conceptually, what Lynn describes here seems to go far beyond what we discussed previously in Board settings. I have previously voiced concerns about what the process is for picking a new CEO, term of office, salary, job qualifications as well as placing this unknown person in charge of the three non federal private corporate entities.

I personally feel the President should be able to appoint the BBG CEO and he/she should serve at the pleasure of the President with Senate confirmation. Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation gives the CEO status a Board appointment could not do.

I urge a Board meeting or conference call. Lynn, you state you want to be sure that the points you outline are consistent with a majority of the Board. I assume that means 5 Governors saying Yes. To date two have said Yes, I am saying No for now pending discussion.

I am also surprised that the House and Senate would consider moving something this significant without public hearings and input. I feel it is wrong to endorse this while at the same time we are now seeking public input on the BBG web site on consolidation. That is why BBG posted the consolidation report on our web site. Why are we seeking public input if at the same time BBG staff is moving to implement a major part of the consolidation before the public input comment period concludes? It means public input really does not matter when some of us feel public input really does matter.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

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Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2012 4:55 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: difference between addendum and Media Highlights

Lynn

Recently after I get the BBG Media Highlights which I assume goes to a large list of folks, I have received both today and Friday an addendum which contains just one news item.

My question is this...is there a different list which receives the addendum from the BBG Media highlights? or is the recipient list the same? If different why?

Second, would you send me a list of those persons receiving the Media Highlights..that is, the e mail addresses on the Media Highlights list? I assume it is public record.

Thanks

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 8:07 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Governance committee

there may also be a strategy and budget committee meeting on May 23 but a firm has not been set to my knowledge.

Victor

In a message dated 5/6/2012 8:05:23 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks, Victor, got it. Will get on it on Monday.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 7:57:11 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Governance committee

Lynne and Tish

Perhaps I did not find it but the May 24 governance committee meeting from 0900 to 1130 ought to be listed on BBG web site as occurring even though it may not be open to public...Find with me to be open but it is not my call.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 7:57 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Governance committtee

Lynne and Tish

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Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 2:56 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: wrong photo of April 20

Very good answer...and all understandable. The idea of a photo is a good one. The other photos in the carousel are really quite good. It is easy to not notice that the current photo is not from the real Miami meeting and while no one else may notice it is still not the real meeting, updating it to include a real photo of the actual Miami meeting makes sense. I think the carousel idea is sound and ought to continue. Thanks for checking it all out. I thought you could easily handle this and it looks like you have done so.

Victor

In a message dated 5/6/2012 2:48:27 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

A good thought, Victor, thank you. Hadn't noticed that until you pointed it out. And I wanted to get the complete story from the BBG PA team before replying to you.

The photo was posted when advance notice of the April 20 meeting went on-line -- posting a photo alongside text is one way to draw attention to the latter.

BBG PA's long-standing practice has been to convert the web page with the advance notice for a given meeting into the location for storing relevant documents and archived video after that meeting. Without having easy access to a photo of the Board in action in Miami, the team simply added the documents and video, and left the old photo up.

Through Tish, I've asked that the team create a screen grab from the video of the April 20 meeting and post that one instead. I'm also asking colleagues at OCB whether any stills were taken; if so, we'll use one of those. In either case, the swap normally would happen on Monday.

In the meantime, the "carousel" where this item appears at the top of the homepage includes several other, compelling pieces about the agency's work, each of which is on-screen briefly as it cycles through. Hopefully folks will pay attention to those.

Thanks,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, May 05, 2012 4:32:08 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: wrong photo of April 20

Lynne and Tish

I am sorry to point out that the current photo on the BBG web site page of the April 20 Board meeting is not the April 20 Board meeting in Miami but another one as it shows Michael Lynton and Dana Perino at the meeting along with me. I wish, of course, that they could have attended the meeting.

While it does not state precisely that this photo was of that Miami meeting, the implication is that they were there. It seems to me that if BBG is going to run a photo of a Board meeting next to the language which points the way to hear and see the tape of a specific meeting (namely, the April 20 meeting) then the photo should be from the

meeting being promoted and not a different one as two of the three people in the photo were not at the meeting and did not appear on the tape/video.

I know this was not intentional but in the interest of truth in advertising either there should be a photo from the actual meeting or a disclaimer that the photo is from a different meeting than April 20. Just a thought.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 2:54 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Dear Ambassador Ashe:

I got the fuller answer and understand. will send a brief reply separately Victor

In a message dated 5/6/2012 2:52:18 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Just answered under separate cover with cc to Tish, per your original message. Needed to get the full story first.

Thanks for your good wishes.

Best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 7:53:53 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Dear Ambassador Ashe:

On a totally different matter, would like to know your thinking on the photo on the BBG web site with the April 20 Miami Board meeting which is not actually that meeting but a different one. Should not we run photos which are accurate and unique to that Board meeting or identify the photo as being a different meeting. I e mailed you about this yesterday and assume it falls with you and Tish King.

My inquiry is not meant to embarrass anyone but rather to prevent an embarrassment from occurring. Have a good weekend and enjoy the day.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/6/2012 7:24:01 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor (b) (6) and (b) (6) --

Victor, I've forwarded this query to others for further info. We'll get back to you.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 1:17:59 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Dear Ambassador Ashe:

Dear David and Lynne,

I was sent this by (b) (6) who had copied (b) (6) on it. I do not know whether this is true or not and am forwarding it to you to respond to. However, now that I am alerted to this question, I would as a Board member like to know whether it is correct or not and if so, why. Given the current situation in

China, it does not seem to be a wise move but perhaps there are reasons to justify it. On the other hand, perhaps it is not correct and a denial can easily put the matter to rest. Please advise.

Victor Ashe

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
CC: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Sent: 5/5/2012 6:52:26 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Dear Ambassador Ashe:

Dear Ambassador Ashe:

In regard to the Chen Guangcheng case, I was just informed by a media source that:

"as of May 6th, radio listeners in China will be deprived of information about this case because the BBG will be shutting down a block of its radio broadcasts to China. This is the usual BBG shell game: while pretending to honor the Congress's request to keep VOA China on the air, they're already cutting the radio broadcasts. I'd call it contempt of Congress but the BBG calls ita holistic solution...."

Can you please confirm or deny this, or advise how this can even be possible?

Thank you always.

Best,
[REDACTED] (b) (6)

=

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 2:08 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Rumor regarding China service

David

Thanks for your call today and your explanation of what is going on which like many things provides new light to the point that there is some grey here.

You indicated that Maryjean said there had been congressional oversight approval but it was oral. If correct, you should get the approval in writing as I assume the request was in writing. This whole issue is very volatile and when it involves Congress, oral approvals are just that and a written approval is much stronger. My personal advice would always be to rely on a written approval for a change in this area of activity.

Thanks for your prompt and frank response.

Victor

In a message dated 5/6/2012 1:07:26 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

We are not reducing our eight hours a day of Mandarin radio, but there is a staff assignment change today which probably is the source of this misunderstanding. I will call you shortly to provide details.

David

Sent from my iPad

On May 6, 2012, at 12:32 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

What I sent to Lynne Weil and David Ensor is exactly what I got as a formal inquiry to me as a Board member. You have answered it as being false and that should be the end of it. I felt an obligation to seek a reply since I was formally asked about it and certainly did not know whether it was true or false. As for seeking the source of rumors, I found a long time that is often not a productive area of inquiry as it seldom produces truthful answers. You are free to pursue it.

In this case, the rumor has been pronounced false by you. I am glad it is false and it has been resolved within hours. The Cohen Bldg is often the source of rumors just as it was on the content of the private meeting you convened in Miami on April 19 to discuss a topic we were not to discuss outside that room and I heard about it 4 hours later at the Doral. I shared this discovery with you and others the next day.

Have a great weekend.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/6/2012 10:43:23 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

I am responding to the email you sent to David Ensor and Lynne Weil at 1:17am this (Sunday) morning.

The CUSIB rumor you passed along with respect to reductions in service to China which were to take place today is absolutely false.

It would seem that you might be interested in inquiring about the source of erroneous information such as this.

Regards,

Dick Lobo

Sent from my iPad

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, May 05, 2012 4:32 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: wrong photo of April 20

Lynne and Tish

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Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2012 11:28 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6);
Subject: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Re: Scheduling Corporate Board Meetings?

Hopefully the RFE office on Connecticut can set up the video or teleconferencing participation for Washington Governors for Prague as it worked incredibly well when Steve Korn and I participated in presenting some awards a few months back. The technical equipment is there and seems to work well and they are used to doing it. Both for RFE as well as BBG meetings. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/4/2012 10:22:47 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
and I may be video'ing in as well, assuming that is an option ?

On May 4, 2012, at 10:20 AM, (b) (6) wrote:

My schedule is not clear if I can physically be in Prague. I will join by phone as needed from DC if I cannot travel. I don't plan on an RFA meeting for June.
Thanks.

Michael.
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: (b) (6)
Date: Fri, 4 May 2012 13:39:21 +0000
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6); (b) (6)
vhashe@aol.com<vhashe@aol.com>;
(b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Scheduling Corporate Board Meetings?

Dear Governors,

As we're into planning for the June Board meeting at RFE/RL headquarters in Prague, kindly let us know at your earliest convenience whether we should plan for any corporate meetings of the grantees.

Currently, a meeting of the RFE/RL Board of Directors is tentatively scheduled for June 8 (mid-morning in Prague).

Should there be other corporate meetings, staff will schedule these meetings in the afternoon in Prague so that participants from Washington can participate by video conference at RFE/RL's Washington office (morning hours in DC).

Thank you.

(b) (6)



Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 4:15 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Fw: 43 Page Document... - D's Entropy and Empathy Edition

Lynne, this is why you are paid the big bucks (just kidding). I really was not planning on responding beyond acknowledging receipt of it and saying I would think it all over carefully as I do not have the time or knowledge. Furthermore, I do not speak for BBG but am only one member. I would not want my response to be considered anything more than one individual Board member. You have a different role from me on this one as you are the BBG person on communications.

You are a specialist in these matters and here I trust your judgment.

again, good job yesterday in Greenville and glad you are back safely to the Cohen Bldg.

victor

In a message dated 5/3/2012 3:28:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor --

How were you thinking of responding to this e-mail? It's a lot to digest.

Best,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 9:09 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Good event

To all

It would be hard to see how the Murrow re dedication could have been better yesterday..from weather to minister to talks to crowd to enthusiasm of band and music, it all came together and it will be a lasting memory for that community and IBB/BBG archives.

Many thanks to staff both on site and in Washington for making it go. Dick, your remarks were well researched and your comments on your Cuban heritage well taken. Andre, your comments on listening to short wave in Communist Portugal (for the few years that occurred) were well taken and you presided well. Good television coverage from local area too.

All in all a great event which only occurred because all pulled together to make it happen. A well spent sum of money whatever the final costs may be. I was honored to be there.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 7:31 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO study

Thanks for sending the information. I noticed it was dated March 2 but the full BBG Board was not told about the GAO study until this week..the week of May 1...almost two months after the original notice of March 2. Even in our Miami meeting this was not discussed in open or private session. What was the reason for the delay in providing such important information? GAO doing a study is not an everyday event but significant especially in terms of our congressional relations and oversight. I feel this two month delay in notice to the full BBG Board needs some explanation.

Jeff, is there any additional information in writing from GAO since March 2 on this study and review?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) v>
To: (b) (6) BBG Board Group (b) (6) >
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil (b) (6) Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Tue, May 1, 2012 3:39 pm
Subject: RE: GAO study

Governors, colleagues – as Dick wrote last evening, the GAO has begun a study in cooperation with this agency that looks at the proposals and strategy for streamlining U.S. international media.

In its notification to the agency of the engagement (attached here, and pls not for further distribution), the GAO referenced the multiple international broadcast entities that BBG oversees and noted challenges and opportunities identified by both the Board and others for streamlining U.S. international media.

The study is in its very early days. (b) (6), working with (b) (6), is the agency lead contact. The agency met with the GAO staff in late March for an initial "entrance" discussion. At that time, the GAO stressed that they were in the "design phase" of the study, and would be working on their methodology and the scope of the report. As yet the GAO has not fully defined the scope of the project or its methodology, and these could change with time. They are in a "data collection" stage in the project, after which they will confer with interested parties on the Hill to agree on the overall approach of the study. We'll learn more as they enter more deeply into discussions with us. The GAO does not expect to finish its report until this autumn.

So far, the GAO has expressed an interest in the new strategic plan and agency implementation of it, stating that they do not take issue with what we have done, but are interested in how we derived the plan. They have asked for extensive background information related to the development of the strategic plan, such as the convening of expert panels, SWOT analysis, and other research. Going forward, the GAO's researchers will want to speak with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity.

The lead staff member of the GAO group, (b) (6), will attend the rededication event at Greenville. Her purpose is to see a BBG transmitting station.

We view this study as an opportunity to make the GAO - and its ultimate audience and client, Congress - aware of the agency's robust efforts to operate more efficiently and effectively amid the current budget environment.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2012 6:38 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble;(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil;
(b) (6); Bruce Sherman;(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO study

Should this not be announced publicly and placed on BBG web site? Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/30/2012 6:33:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors, colleagues, a message from Dick Lobo:

I wanted to make sure you know that the GAO has begun a study in cooperation with this agency that looks at the proposals and strategy for streamlining U.S. international media. To begin, they are talking with us about the challenges related to overlap and coordination.

As they start the project, the GAO's researchers will be speaking with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity. At this time, the GAO has not fully defined the scope of the project or its methodology. We'll learn more as they enter more deeply into discussions with us.

The GAO study was requested by Senators Akaka (D-Hawaii) and Johnson (R-Wisconsin), who serve as Chair and Ranking Member, respectively, on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the Federal Workforce. The GAO is also looking at other Federal programs, including democracy assistance, assistance to Afghanistan, and food aid.

We view this study as an opportunity to make the GAO - and its ultimate audience and client, Congress - aware of the agency's robust efforts to operate more efficiently and effectively amid the current budget environment. We will keep you informed as this study progresses.

Dick L.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 7:25 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: cost for Vegas

I think it can show that travel for Govs has decreased. Victor

In a message dated 4/29/2012 2:49:26 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor --

Since my role at the BBG doesn't include keeping track of colleagues' and governors' travel costs, I'm cc'ing this message to Dick and Jeff so they can work with the right people on the team to provide the available info.

I'll also share with them the message to (b) (6) and (b) (6) referenced in yours below.

See you in NC this week.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 2:32:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: cost for Vegas

I would like to know what the cost of the Las Vegas trips were for recent the NAB convention and who went? Is there a program for the Vegas NAB conference available?

Also what was the cost of the Miami Board meeting as I assume costs were reduced thru teleconferencing? This would be Governors and staff who went including myself.

I had been sent your response to (b) (6) and suggested they follow up with these questions but then felt I should ask directly for this.

see you in Greenville.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 2:28 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: NGO/media inquiry

as I emailed (b) (6), might ask for copy of the program in Vegas, the names of the 8 persons who went and what actual cost of each person was? total is probably around \$15,000.

Might ask cost of travel to Miami BBG meeting for Governors, and staff who went?

Victor

In a message dated 4/23/2012 9:51:40 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, a (b) (6) writes:

Dear Lynne:

Do you have any idea if there has been any progress made with my FOIA travel request?

I also have an NGO/media inquiry and would like to know if you can please provide some basic answers right away to a few questions:

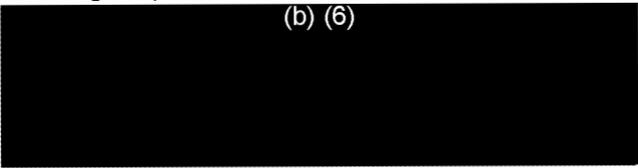
1. We are interested to know how many VOA and IBB persons were sent to Las Vegas for recent NAB (National Association of Broadcasters meeting). What was the total projected cost of sending all these employees to Las Vegas? How many days did they spend there? At which hotel (hotels) did they stay?
2. We've heard that Richard Lobo is planning a trip to Europe and Jeff Trimble is planning a trip to the Middle East. What is the purpose of these trips? What countries do they plan to visit and for how long? What is the total cost of each travel?
3. Why is so much money being spent on travel when broadcasting services are being cut?
4. Shouldn't these top officials be in DC to oversee China strategy, the proposed controversial merger, and other urgent matters?

For the sake of accuracy, I would greatly appreciate if you could please reply to me via email instead of by phone to answer these questions.

Thank you for your help with these inquiries.

Best regards,

(b) (6)



Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 9:02 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Tripoli problem

Enders, my friend, this can happen right now if the person who leads the organization in questions simply picks up the phone and calls the other head such as Ensor, Conniff, Garcia, and Liu or the other way around. There is no barrier to this. I think all wish to assist and cooperate. Regular meetings between all heads should be resumed.

Consolidation of the three grantees still has many unanswered questions such as documenting the costs and savings. Savings of \$10 million seem modest in a budget of \$730 million...less than 2 percent savings.

To date the selection process for a new CEO for the three grantees has NOT been revealed. It is unclear what qualifications he/she must have. Congressional review of this selection such as Senate Confirmation has been omitted.

These are all worthy subjects for BBG debate and should precede a decision to consolidate when there are many unknowns.

Happy weekend. I am off to church here in Knoxville.

Victor

In a message dated 4/29/2012 8:47:32 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

And it is clear from the unprecedented amount of cooperation already taking place, unknown in the days when I ran one of the radios, that everyone understands why cooperation across networks is essential. But knowing cannot always translate to doing when so many barriers to full cooperation exist, or when different networks have other or more immediate priorities.

Steve's larger point is that had we had a single CEO at the center of this activity, the chances of this opportunity being lost would have diminished. Someone has to be empowered to direct the various USIB assets into focus and cooperation operationally on pressing national interests, and this has to happen immediately when a pressing issue arises, not just when the board meets to when the network heads gather. This leader cannot be a part time board like the BBG, which has no operational responsibility in any case. Every good business, and virtually all other international broadcasters, grasp this, including, I will wager, the Chinese, the Russians, and those other competitors who increasingly will best us on the basis of sheer spending power if we do not get our act together.

Steve has done us a service by highlighting a problem that goes straight to the heart of USIB's weakness. It was not meant as criticism of anyone, but of the dysfunction in our organizational model, which wastes vast amounts of taxpayer assets while failing to meet the strategic objectives for which USIB is intended.

sew/

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 29, 2012, at 8:16, "Brian Conniff" <(b) (6)> wrote:

> I don't want to leave anyone with the mistaken impression that MBN does not cooperate with the other broadcasters. Nothing could be further from the truth. Over the past year we have supported our sister broadcasters as much as possible within resource limits. Libya has been a difficult country to cover because of the lack of reliable and professional journalists. We have gone through a number of reporters over the course of the last year. Our current reporter splits his time between Benghazi and Tripoli. Our priority has been covering the rising tide of violence between the different tribal factions which puts Libya's future in doubt. Just recently he

>
> From: Vhashe@aol.com
> Date: Sat, 28 Apr 2012 19:39:11 -0400 (EDT)
> To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
> (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
> (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6);
> (b) (6) v>
> Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
> Subject: Re: Fw: Tripoli problem

>
> this should be shared with Brian Conniff and others too as it involves MBN and criticism of MBN. This type of issue could be resolved easily right now by you Steve letting the Board know and/or Lobo and asking for his involvement. You could have told the 6 Board members present in Miami only 8 days ago about this and we could have discussed it with David Ensor and Brian Conniff present. I assume you knew about it then as the story broke on April 5 according to the e mail.

>
> Frankly I am disappointed that this was not bumped up to you Steve much earlier and then you should have picked up the phone and called Ensor and Conniff as well relative Governors if you thought it merited action.

>
> Consolidation has many unanswered questions and missing documentation on cost and savings which I raised on April 20 at the BBG Board meeting. Even a so called streamlined organization which you favor will have these issues too. As Gov Meehan pointed out, this consolidation does not impact VOA so the VOA issue mentioned here would not be solved by merger of grantees.

>
> Cooperation and/or sharing may be an issue today but the current structure can solve if the relevant people raise it to the right people like the April 20 BBG Board meeting or you calling Ensor and/or Conniff direct when those below you were unable to make the progress they desired. Is this trial still going on and is there still time for VOA/MBN to participate? Do Ensor and Conniff agree with Steve Korn's assessment of the merit of the story? That is why I have copied them on this e mail. Cooperation and sharing would suggest that you let MBN and VOA know of your unhappiness when you are e mailing the entire BBG Board and IBB Director Lobo so they can respond.

>
> Sincerely yours and thanks for letting us know,

>
> Victor Ashe

>
> Bottom

>
> In a message dated 4/28/2012 10:41:33 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
> All: for those of you who think who there will be little editorial/newsgathering benefit to the merger of the grantees, consider the email below. For those of you who think that cooperation and sharing of resources is easy to achieve voluntarily, you might also consider the email below. Food for thought.

>
> Cheers,
> Steve

> ----- Forwarded by Steven Korn/CZ/RFERL on 04/28/2012 04:26 PM -----

>
> From: (b) (6)
> To: (b) (6)
> Cc: (b) (6)
> (b) (6)
> Date: 04/25/2012 04:10 PM
> Subject: Tripoli problem

>
>
> Steve,

>
> For several weeks we are trying to get help from our BBG bros in covering an important trial in Tripoli. More than 20 Russian, Ukrainian and Belarusian citizens are charged with assisting Quadaffi regime and may face death sentence. Officials in our broadcast countries used to deny any knowledge of the trial but later had to

acknowledge it. It stirred significant public interest.

>

> We don't have correspondents in Libya. We asked several times our colleagues in Washington to help us. We acted through the Central newsroom. Our Washington Bureau Chief, (b) (6), raised the issue with Al Hurrah, Sawa, MBN. The answer was – "they're "aware of the story but not covering it at this time." (b) (6) also reached out to VOA and was told they have no plans to cover.

>

> I discussed the issue with the BBG staffers while on a visit in Washington in mid-April. They explained that they do not have executive powers.

>

> We broke the story on April 5; since that time we have received no assistance in any form. The story would have been unique for our audiences and would have directly benefitted Rus, Bel, Ukr services in RFE/RL and Rus, Ukr services in VOA.

>

> The trial is still going on.

>

> rgrds

>

> (b) (6)

>

>

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 7:53 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Letitia King
Subject: Re: Fw: Tripoli problem

Steve

It is food for thought and I think a good place to start is for the grantee heads along with VOA and OCB heads to start regular meetings over breakfast or lunch when BBG meets or by teleconference. This used to happen and has dropped off in the past year for whatever reason I understand.

In specific instances like this, then using the phone to call MBN or VOA or them calling RFE if it is the other way around makes sense. This can happen now. We do not have to wait on the consolidation issues being resolved.

Have a good weekend and we all look forward to May and the wonderful weather. The Murrow Transmission facility dedication is this Wednesday and should be a great event thanks to efforts of Tish King, Lynne Weil, local staff, Congressman Jones and local officials in Pitt County.

Victor

In a message dated 4/29/2012 4:00:14 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dennis' response is spot on. I could not have said it better myself. As to raising this in Miami, that would have been tough to do, since I was only told about it this past week during a meeting I held with language service directors to prepare for a series of meetings Dick is chairing on the 2014 budget.

Regarding my failure to copy David and Brian, mea culpa. It was inadvertent. I didn't even realize it until Dick pointed it out to me late last night (my time). I had planned to send them a copy this morning (my time). So thank you for forwarding a copy to them.

Nothing in my email was intended as a criticism of MBN or VOA. I am confident that there are plenty of instances where RFE/RL has failed to provide our sister organizations with material that they needed. The point here is that organizations (and people) respond to the incentives which are provided to them. Unless and until the incentives are changed, one cannot expect the behavior to change. This was, is, and always will be a feature of human nature.

As I said, this was only intended as food for thought in your ongoing deliberations on the future structure of USIB.

Sent from Lotus Traveler

Dennis Mulhaupt --- Re: Fw: Tripoli problem ---

From: "Dennis Mulhaupt" <(b) (6)>
To: "Victor Ashe" <vhashe@aol.com>, "Steve Korn" <(b) (6)>, "Michael Lynton" <(b) (6)>, "Enders Wimbush" <(b) (6)>, "Susan McCue" <(b) (6)>, "Michael Meehan" <(b) (6)>, "Dana Perino" <(b) (6)>, "Tara Sonenshine" <(b) (6)>, "Richard Lobo" <(b) (6)>, "Jeff Trimble" <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>

Date: Sun, Apr 29, 2012 2:39 AM
Subject: Re: Fw: Tripoli problem

resources is easy to achieve voluntarily, you might also consider the email below. Food for thought.

Cheers,
Steve

<FONT color=#800080 size=-Your data has been truncated. =

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 1:49 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: christian Science Monitor

There is an article critical of BBG in christian Science Monitor. I did not receive my usual daily list of articles which I normally get from BBG today? Is it on the list?

Is a reply being planned?

On another subject, where is the response to (b) (6) and the (b) (6) at Heritage?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 8:02 PM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh
Attachments: With_Governor_Victor_H._Ashe.jpg

FYI from Phnom Penh

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, Mar 17, 2012 10:30 am
Subject: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

Dear Governor and all,

Please find attached our group photo taken during the governor's visit to our filing center on Friday. The photo credit goes to (b) (6), RFA.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

TV Unit Coordinator

Voice of America (VOA), Khmer Service
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Mobile: (+855) 12 282638
Tel: 023 986791
Fax: 023 992219
Email: (b) (6)
Web: www.voacambodia.com

facebook.com/voakhmer
twitter.com/voakhmer
youtube.com/voakhmerservice

--- On Fri, 3/16/12, vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

From: vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com>
Subject: Re: A note of thanks from VOA Khmer Service in Phnom Penh
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)

Date: Friday, March 16, 2012, 5:28 AM

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2012 8:24 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Photos at VOA
Attachments: _MG_0223.jpg; _MG_0225.jpg; _MG_0205.jpg; _MG_0207.jpg; _MG_0227.jpg

you are free to use these on BBG web site if you wish. From my visit on March 16 to VOA in Phnom Penh.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 16, 2012 4:12 pm
Subject: FW: Photos at VOA

Dear Mr. (b) (6),

Please find photos of Governor Ashe with VOA reporters in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The governor visited the office on Friday (03/16/12) at 10 AM.

(b) (6)

Radio Free Asia
2025 M Street, NW
Washington DC, 20036

(b) (6)

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Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 2:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: RFE/RL, Czech Republic Announce Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship

Lobo or Michael Lynton would each be excellent

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Letitia King <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 15, 2012 2:12 pm
Subject: RE: RFE/RL, Czech Republic Announce Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship

Thanks for flagging.

Tish, you might have already had something in the works to elevate the profile of this release. But could you first please get with Martins on securing a quote? And since it would be a BBG repurposing of the release, let's think about a quote from Dick L.

Lynne

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 2:09 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: RFE/RL, Czech Republic Announce Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship

BBG should consider doing something on this too for our web site. The only criticism I have of this news release which is one i often have is that not a single human being is quoted here. STEve Korn or Dennis Mulhaupt or someone should have bene the person announcing this...not RFE/RL which is not a human being to my knowledge. Only the Czech Amb is quoted but no one from RFE.

Victor

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

From: RFERL_Communications <(b) (6)>
To: rfercomms <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 15, 2012 12:41 pm
Subject: RFE/RL, Czech Republic Announce Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship



RFE/RL, Czech Republic Announce Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship

(WASHINGTON -- March 15, 2012) In a tribute to the life and work of Vaclav Havel, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the

Czech Republic and RFE/RL announce the launch of the Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship. The inaugural Vaclav Havel fellow, Franak Viachorka, will be in Washington for a week of training beginning on March 19, and will also be recognized at **a reception** hosted by the Czech Embassy.

Petr Gandalovic, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the U.S., described the goals of the program by invoking the legacy of his country's former president. "Havel was a playwright, dissident and political leader. He had an uncompromising belief in the power of words and the power of truth to unite people and overcome tyranny. This Fellowship carries the spirit of his convictions to places struggling against censorship where -- even in 2012 -- people are still denied the fundamental human right of free speech."

Fellowships will afford independent journalists from countries lacking a free media six months of professional, on-the-job training and development at RFE/RL's Prague headquarters. The program initially targets EU Eastern Partnership countries including Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine, and may expand to include fellows from other countries, including Afghanistan and Pakistan.

"RFE/RL has a special relationship with the Czech people," says RFE/RL president Steven Korn. "This partnership will give promising young journalists an opportunity to work for impact in their own countries without fear."

During his fellowship, Viachorka, a journalist and documentary filmmaker from Belarus, will train with RFE/RL's Belarus service, **Radio Svoboda**. His visit to Washington will also include high-level meetings with journalists, diplomats, congressional staff members, and think tanks.

Viachorka has worked as a journalist and editor for several independent publications in Belarus, including as a freelancer for the BelaPAN news agency and the independent Polish satellite TV station, Belsat. He first came to the attention of Radio Svoboda at the age of 13 when he appeared from 2001-2002 on the program "Young Voices." In 2006 he starred in the award-winning documentary, "**A Lesson of Belarusian**," which chronicles his teenage years in Aleksandr Lukashenka's Belarus. Viachorka is also the author of the European travel book "**Wanderer's Guide**" and director of the **Citizen Journalist blog**.

For more on the Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship, visit our **website** or contact havelfellowship@rferl.org.

About RFE/RL

RFE/RL is a private, independent international news organization whose programs -- radio, Internet, and television -- reach influential audiences in 21 countries, including Russia, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the republics of Central Asia. It is funded by the U.S. Congress through the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG).

###

For a look at RFE/RL behind the scenes, check out RFE/RL's "**Off-Mic**" **blog**. Or follow us on **Twitter**, **Facebook**, **Tumblr**, and **YouTube**.

Media inquiries in the U.S. can be made to Karisue Wyson in Washington at wysonk@rferl.org or +1.202.494.0388. In Europe, contact Zach Peterson in Prague at peteronz@rferl.org or +420.725.037.941.

To unsubscribe from this list please send an email to dc-response@rferl.org.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 7:40 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Mail Issues: Ticket #244322 (Victor Ashe Email)

i have gotten my fixed...I think I may have mistakenly clicked onto to the wrong icon...anyway it is now over

Thanks
FYI..RFA is not permitted to use IBB transmission facility in Thailand due to Thai govt opposition...do not wish to offend neighbors...
Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 15, 2012 5:52 am
Subject: FW: BBG Mail Issues: Ticket #244322 (Victor Ashe Email)

Good morning, Victor --

I asked our office assistant to put me in touch with the right person on the BBG technical team to address the question of why e-mails from your account kept turning up in mine as being sent by (b) (6). While doing this, she discovered that (b) (6) had also received messages from a regular e-mail correspondent that suddenly were showing a different sender's name attached to that person's account. But it was a mere coincidence; our techies here believe the issue is not with the BBG's system.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 5:23 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: RE: BBG Mail Issues: Ticket #244322 (Victor Ashe Email)

(b) (6)

Very much appreciate you taking a look into this matter. Glad to hear all is well on this side of the firewall.

Best,
(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 5:19 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: BBG Mail Issues: Ticket #244322

(b) (6)

After reviewing the information provided, I was unable to track down why this is occurring. As far as our system is concerned, everything is setup correctly and is not responsible for causing this anomaly. I also reviewed all incoming mail

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 1:10 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: draft highlight on visit

excellent...also met with Michael Honnold acting PAO officer at US Embassy in Bangkok on Wednesday, March 14....will meet with DCM at both US Embassies in both Vientiane and Phnom Penh...Victor

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

From: Letitia King (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Mar 14, 2012 12:17 pm
Subject: draft highlight on visit

Dear Ambassador Ashe,

Thanks for the update on your trip and the great pictures.

Here's a draft item for the BBG website on your stop in Thailand. We are happy to work with you and RFA to provide highlights on Cambodia and Laos as the trip proceeds.

Please let us know if you have any changes or additions.

Many thanks,

Tish

BBG Governor Victor Ashe is in Southeast Asia, visiting BBG facilities, meeting with agency staff and holding talks with U.S. embassy officials and local authorities in Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos.

In the Udon Thani province of northeast Thailand, Ashe toured a BBG transmission facility and presented 30-year and 20-year service awards to staff members.

He spoke about the BBG's mission and praised staff for its work in support of U.S. international broadcasting.

Ashe, a former U.S. ambassador to Poland, took particular interest in the activities undertaken by BBG officials to build and maintain relationships with local communities.

His next stop is Cambodia and then Laos for further consultations on Radio Free Asia and Voice of America operations.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 2:05 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Governor Ashe's Visit

this gives you an overview of my visit to the Udon Thani transmission station.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, Mar 13, 2012 6:50 pm
Subject: Re: Governor Ashe's Visit

No problems! The Governor met the assembled staff in our multi-purpose room shortly after arriving at the station and was kind enough to present 30 year and 20 year service awards to staff members. He spoke briefly about our mission and how much the Board appreciated the quality work they do in support of US international broadcasting and was quite sincere and personable with the staff.

He invited questions and was asked about the future of the station to which the Governor assured everyone that the Board had no intention or plan to close and he expected that the station would continue operating for quite some time.

We re-assembled on the front steps and took several pictures so the Governor has at least one image that he can place on the BBG web page when he returns. Several personal photos were taken individually with nearly every staff member lining up to get a photo with the Governor.

Then we toured the entire station. he wanted to see everything he could... He was shown the interior of one of the off-line Marconi transmitters, cooling room and power supply, the antenna switchbay and then toured the facilities maintenance building. By the end of the tour I think he managed to meet and greet each member of the staff before we went into Ban Dung for lunch.

The signage was not an issue for us as it was in Greenville, though he spoke at some length with me about the name of the Greenville station and wondered if the Thailand station had ever had a namesake. A couple months ago, I had the front wall repainted and letters on the signs regilded so our signage looked like new.

The Ambassador part of Governor Ashe took particular interest in the activities that we undertake to maintain a relationship with our local community and asked me to develop a brief narrative that he can take back to the next BBG meeting to share with the Board since none of the other members has ever been to the Thai station. I'll draft that and give it to him next week when we tour the MW station.

He pointed out that visiting the Stations was not his primary purpose in coming to SE Asia, but that he felt that it was important to meet the staff and present the flag to the troops in the field and to assure them that he and the Board value the work they do in support of our mission.

He will meet with the acting-PAO at the Embassy in the morning.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 4:50 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: photos

(b) (6) has information on my current trip. Tuesday I will visit the transmission station in Udon Thani...I will try to get photos to you in case you wish to run something on my visits to Laos, Thailand and Cambodia

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 6:22 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Bio and web site

In light of the committee changes to strategy and budget made on March 8 you should update the BBG web site for that committee and show at least on my bio that I serve also on that committee as well.

Thanks and have a good weekend.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 11:20 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Withdrawal from Labor/Management Forum
Attachments: Forum_mtgs.doc

to see Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; michael_lynton (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Mar 6, 2012 10:59 am
Subject: Withdrawal from Labor/Management Forum

Dear Board Members:

Attached for your information is a letter AFGE Local 1812 sent to (b) (6) regarding the Labor/Management Forum.

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 8:16 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Google Alert - Broadcasting Board of Governors

this is foolish on our part to take a hit on this. I feel (b) (6) makes valid points. Sometimes it makes more sense to change course when it is clear Congress will do it for us. When BBG voted for these cuts certainly I was not told or aware it meant Tibetan Services. Victor

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

From: Google Alerts <googlealerts-noreply@google.com>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 7:41 pm
Subject: Google Alert - Broadcasting Board of Governors

News

1 new result for **Broadcasting Board of Governors**

[BBG Ready to Drop the Ax on Cantonese and Tibetan Services](#)

National Review Online

By Ann Noonan In December 2011, the **Broadcasting Board of Governors** issued a proclamation in observance of Voice of America's 70th anniversary of Mandarin and Cantonese Services, boasting:

"Mandarin and Cantonese language services have been key ...

[See all stories on this topic »](#)

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[Delete](#) this alert.

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Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 6:31 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scenic bill op-ed

thanks so much. Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letitia King (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 4:43 pm
Subject: Re: Fwd: Scenic bill op-ed

Victor, I've put (b) (6) in touch with (b) (6) who is lending a hand.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 4:27:36 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Scenic bill op-ed

Lynne or Tish

Can you not assist (b) (6) on the head shot of me from BBG web site?

Victor ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: 'vhashe@aol.com' <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 4:26 pm
Subject: Scenic bill op-ed

Hi Ted -

We are on track to have a final op-ed to you (at around 550 words) by tomorrow at noon.

Also, I've been in touch with Victor about a current headshot but we are not having much luck tracking one down. We presume you have an older one on file you can use in a pinch? And I take it you still have (b) (6) from last year?

Thanks,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 2:52 PM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Victor Ashe

e mail this to Lynne Weil...her e mail is (b) (6)
Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: 'vhashe@aol.com' <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 12:06 pm
Subject: Victor Ashe

Hello -

Mr. Ashe serves on the advisory council of my organization, the Southern Environmental Law Center. I am working with Mr. Ashe on an op-ed he is co-signing with us for the Tennessean, to print Wednesday. They are looking for an updated headshot. The one on the BBG website would be great, but it's lo-resolution. Can you send me a higher-resolution image, one suitable for publication, no later than tomorrow noon?

Thank you kindly,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2012 7:59 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

Thanks...I think given the nature of the work we are in...that full discussion and rebuttal, agreement, modification, self examination of all comments, criticism etc are worthwhile..even when painful.

I comment Lynne Weil for reaching out to respond to some groups/individuals who previously were not responded to in an adequate manner. We should remember that responses will not always convince but an unanswered charge often becomes true if not answered. Certainly in politics that is the case. We must be players and not spectators.

Russia is difficult. We should discuss it at RFE and BBG for VOA. Putin is no friend of democracy. Journalists have been murdered during his tenure with little apparent effort on the government's part to track down the guilty parties. What is the best way to get into Russia? How successful are we?

I am genuinely worried that the proposed budget cuts especially for Tibetan and Laos are setting our ourselves up for another congressional slap in the face. Personally, I certainly did not know about them when I voted for the budget last fall at Walter's personal urging. Not being on Strategy and Budget, I was not privy to any lengthy analysis of the budget. After the fact I learn about specific cuts which I find unfortunate and unacceptable. My view is we should proactively save these cuts before Congress makes us do it.

Strategy and Budget Committee is now down to two members only while governance has 4 members. There seems to be imbalance here in terms of numbers.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil <lweil@bbg.gov>; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Letitia King; (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 2, 2012 2:49 pm
Subject: RE: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

Dear Governor Ashe,

Thanks for your e-mail. I am copying in those better informed than I am on this matter in order to get you the most accurate response. Of course, I'll be happy to help in any way that I can.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2012 2:06 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

would like to know answers to these charges...Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2012 5:21 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Governor Traveling to Thailand

Thanks very much. I went ahead and sent her an e mail from myself on the visit for which I have country clearance.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 3/1/2012 5:19:03 A.M. Eastern Standard Time (b) (6) writes:

Amb Ashe,

Sorry not to have included the address in the text, I had copied you on my message below. Amb Kristie Kenney is at (b) (6)

Regards,

Nick

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 09:56 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: 'vhashe@aol.com' <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Subject: BBG Governor Traveling to Thailand

Madame Ambassador,

Ambassador Victor Ashe, our former chief of mission in Warsaw and current BBG Governor, will be traveling to Thailand soon on official business. He asked to be put in touch with you as he begins preparing for his trip.

All the best,

(b) (6)

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 09:07 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Amb. Kenney

Happy to help, Victor. Am putting you in touch with Acting Under Secretary Stephens' executive assistant, (b) (6)

(b) (6) a career FSO and one of the Department's best.

(b) (6) Amb. Ashe would like to be in touch with the COM in Thailand; he is likely to be in the region soon.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 6:58:52 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Subject: Amb. Kenney

Lynne

Could you secure for me the e mail address for Ambassador Kenney who is our Ambassador to Thailand?

Thanks. It is in regard to my upcoming trip to there plus Laos and Cambodia.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 11:33 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Amb. Kenney

well, Lynne, he is the one who declined to assist on country clearance to Burma for me I regret to say. Victor

In a message dated 2/29/2012 9:08:03 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Happy to help, Victor. Am putting you in touch with Acting Under Secretary Stephens' executive assistant (b) (6) (b) (6) a career FSO and one of the Department's best.

Nick, Amb. Ashe would like to be in touch with the COM in Thailand; he is likely to be in the region soon.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 6:58:52 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Amb. Kenney

Lynne

Could you secure for me the e mail address for Ambassador Kenney who is our Ambassador to Thailand?

Thanks. It is in regard to my upcoming trip to there plus Laos and Cambodia.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 10:32 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Re organization going to Hill?

thanks for prompt response. Victor

In a message dated 2/29/2012 9:48:41 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

The answer to your question is no.

The President's FY13 budget proposal released on February 13th contained information about possible staff reductions being considered by the BBG agencywide.

We are far from sending any sort of reprogramming request that would entail any reorganization proposals.

Work is just now beginning that could lead to proposed restructuring legislation.

Let me know if you have any other questions about this matter.

Regards,

Dick

On Wed, Feb 29, 2012 at 9:07 AM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:
Dear Dick

I have been asked if BBG is sending a re organization request to the Hill in the next few days or weeks which would include the recently announced RIFs. Obviously I do not know the answer but I assume you do.

As a Governor, I certainly want to know so I can be fully informed as well as have a copy of whatever letter goes to the Hill concurrent with it going. Will this wait to our March 8 meeting or not?

Best

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 9:07 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re organization going to Hill?

Dear Dick

I have been asked if BBG is sending a re organization request to the Hill in the next few days or weeks which would include the recently announced RIFs. Obviously I do not know the answer but I assume you do.

As a Governor, I certainly want to know so I can be fully informed as well as have a copy of whatever letter goes to the Hill concurrent with it going. Will this wait to our March 8 meeting or not?

Best

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 1:45 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Thanks, and further edits?

no more to offer...also enjoyed time together

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, Feb 28, 2012 12:40 pm
Subject: Thanks, and further edits?

Dear Victor,

It was great to meet with you last week, even amid dealing with my husband's health issues. With the wide sweep of subject and the frank exchange of views, I felt our talk did me some good.

I wanted to let you know that the team has integrated your edits into the annual report. Did you have any more to offer? If not, we're close to going to press.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 12:18 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; [REDACTED] (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

I find this whole process most disappointing.

Victor Ashe

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

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; [REDACTED] (b) (6); [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Feb 24, 2012 9:21 am
Subject: RE: Draft March Meetings Agenda

(b) (5)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 11:42 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

(b) (5)

Victor Ashe

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

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 8:19 AM
To: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Research Contract and Program

Thanks for your response. I understand your views. When I have had time to digest it, I will get back with further questions and comments. I appreciate your time to respond to this.

To be honest, while I think research is important and needed, I think the current proposed layoffs and reduction in services force difficult choices upon us with which reasonable people can differ. This is where we may part company on this issue as I am troubled by spending 10 million a year (\$8.8 million one year) while 200 fine employees are discharged and services like Tibetan language are reduced. I wonder if we should not cut even more in the Gallup contract for a few years to produce the savings needed to keep more of these lost jobs and Tibetan language. I feel sure Congress will take steps to halt the reduction in Tibetan language and based on what I know I would agree with Congress on that. Our priorities need further thought in my view.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 2:56 pm
Subject: BBG Research Contract and Program

Governors,

Please see attached a memo on the BBG research program intended for internal Board use only along with related talking points for use with external audiences. The former responds to a request from Governor Ashe and the latter to any queries or comments that may come your way concerning both the new Gallup contract and the agency's research efforts overall. Bruce

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 7:59 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble [REDACTED] (b) (6)
(b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for the Governance Committee sessions on March 7 and 9, 2...

if that is it then that is excellent. I concur with this if it is along the lines Dennis' writes here. That is not what the title suggests...Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/22/2012 6:23:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, [REDACTED] (b) (6) writes:

Dennis,
Precisely right.
Dick
Sent from my Verizon Black Berry

From: Dennis Mulhaupt [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 2012 14:38:27 -0800
To: Vhashe@aol.com<Vhashe@aol.com> [REDACTED] (b) (6)

ReplyTo: Dennis Mulhaupt [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for the Governance Committee sessions on March 7 and 9, 2...

Victor:

I believe the intent of that item is for the committee to discuss how to provide the information which Walter asked the staff to set out in writing following the recent presentation by [REDACTED] (b) (6) Virtue of Baker & McKenzie on formal employee complaints (e.g. the first step is to contact the IBB director, how to contact the IG, etc.) so that the information is readily available to everyone in one place and format. I do not believe there is any further motive or purpose than that.

Best,

Dennis

From: "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com>

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 5:22 PM

Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for the Governance Committee sessions on March 7 and 9, 2...

On topic 4, third item on March 7..what is this all about? Obviously I receive the most contacts from employees which I am happy to receive. I enjoy hearing from them. Susan McCue has received many too as she takes the time to meet, talk and have coffee with many. Does not mean I always agree but I feel I am a better Governor hearing directly. Are we now dreaming up rules of the road on how to talk and listen to employees? Surely not. We all have different approaches. We are individually appointed Governors with unique backgrounds. We have actually made some progress on employee communication but morale is still at the bottom. We are working on late payments issue but we have a ways to go. We should be encouraging employees to speak to us.

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:27 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Thurs afternoon after 230...Victor

In a message dated 2/21/2012 9:24:18 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, I'll be delighted to meet with you over this or any other topic at your convenience on Thursday. Just let me know when. Once again, we appreciate your flexibility.

Thank you,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 7:21:03 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

I went to fed ex (Kinkos) to print this out but cost was going to be \$53. I declined. I do not pay that for coffee table books.

I will look at this as best I can at Cohen Bldg on Thurs..perhaps with Lynne. Also extend deadline to next week

Victor

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

From: Letitia King (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Feb 21, 2012 4:52 pm
Subject: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Dear Governors,

Attached for your review is a low resolution pdf copy of the 2011 Annual Report. We would be grateful to have your feedback, any edits/suggestions/revisions by 4pm on Friday, February 24.

If you would prefer a hard copy, please let me know and we can send it via FedEx or hand-deliver as appropriate.

We look forward to your feedback.

Regards,
Tish

Letitia King
Director, Office of Public Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20237
Office (202)203-4400



Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 6:28 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

I hope to get to Cohen Bldg Thursday but I will not see it until that at mid day...in other words maybe an hour to review it...not satisfactory. Frankly this should be put off a week to allow reasonable time for Governor's reflections.

We can talk on Thurs.

Victor

In a message dated 2/21/2012 5:52:35 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

As the person who last held the pen on the draft report – for several days, I confess – I particularly appreciate your flexibility.

With the rush of preparations for the budget rollout, and then its aftermath, I was unable to take a proper look at the draft report until the end of last week. Knowing that it had already been through layers of review, and that there was a publication schedule to be met, I sent my edits to Tish on the weekend.

Your more seasoned eye is likely to turn up additional needed edits. We do appreciate your taking the opportunity to take this on while on the road.

And we will look forward to seeing you on Thursday afternoon if you do come to the Cohen building.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 5:32 PM

To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Yes I need it there...not possible to get it to me here in Knoxville by tomorrow (Wed) which would be best. In the future there should be a week turn around time...3 days just is not adequate for serious review.

Victor

In a message dated 2/21/2012 5:22:41 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

I'll be glad to get a copy to the Park Hyatt in Washington. I wasn't aware of your travel schedule but will get the specifics so the report will be there at the hotel for you.

If you feel you need more time to review, we can certainly discuss that.

Best regards,

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:58 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Tish

this is only three days turnaround..which really is not much. I do not have the ability to print this out at my house. It is too late today to fed ex it to me in Knoxville...a printed copy. Perhaps you can have it this Thursday at the Park Hyatt in Washington at 24th and M Streets for me to review and give my thoughts. I hope to get over to the Cohen Bldg on Thursday afternoon. Must the deadline be at 4PM this Friday?

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 5:32 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Yes I need it there...not possible to get it to me here in Knoxville by tomorrow (Wed) which would be best. In the future there should be a week turn around time...3 days just is not adequate for serious review.

Victor

In a message dated 2/21/2012 5:22:41 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

I'll be glad to get a copy to the Park Hyatt in Washington. I wasn't aware of your travel schedule but will get the specifics so the report will be there at the hotel for you.

If you feel you need more time to review, we can certainly discuss that.

Best regards,

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:58 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Tish

this is only three days turnaround..which really is not much. I do not have the ability to print this out at my house. It is too late today to fed ex it to me in Knoxville...a printed copy. Perhaps you can have it this Thursday at the Park Hyatt in Washington at 24th and M Streets for me to review and give my thoughts. I hope to get over to the Cohen Bldg on Thursday afternoon. Must the deadline be at 4PM this Friday?

Victor

In a message dated 2/21/2012 4:52:24 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2012 11:22 AM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Ashe bio

thanks Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/20/2012 11:03:20 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Certainly. We will make that addition.
Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2012 10:15:23 AM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Ashe bio

Tish

Please add to my bio at the end where it says I welcome comments, my e mail address which is vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com> so anyone can contact me that way as well.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 2:25 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Rep Jones letter

I do not plan on sharing it. However, I had met with him a few weeks ago to report on my trip to the Edward Murrow facility on December 7. I do feel there should be a ceremony when the sign is installed and local media invited. I want to attend and hopefully there will be adequate notice. Hopefully, Dick Lobo can go too.

I do feel that the issue of modernizing the equipment there is a significant one which the Board should know about. Some of the equipment is over 50 years old which I saw.

Victor

In a message dated 2/18/2012 10:28:21 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

Here's the letter. It wasn't sent to the Board, and I'm pretty sure that's normal practice at the BBG.

We should have thought, though, to share it with you. But the press of events involving the budget roll-out had our full attention these last couple of weeks. Apologies for the oversight.

If the letter is to be shared outside BBG, we'll need to ask permission from his office as a courtesy.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 10:03:31 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Rep Jones letter

Dear (b) (6) and Lynne

I understand that Congressman Jones has sent BBG a letter on the Greenville facility which I visited on December 7, 2011. Dick Lobo indicates a meeting is going to be arranged for the end of this month.

I would like to see a copy of the letter....not sure whether it was copied to whole Board or not. If so, it should be sent out to all. If not, I still would like to see it as it concerns an interest of mine.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 12:31 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Rep Jones letter

My computer will not display it...perhaps when you are at the office on Tues you can forward a copy to me or (b) (6)
Andross can...was it copied to entire Board?

Victor

In a message dated 2/18/2012 12:19:34 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Wish I could, but I have it only in PDF form.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 12:13:38 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rep Jones letter

I cannot access the attachment..can you send it as part of the body of the email?

Victor

In a message dated 2/18/2012 10:28:21 A.M. Eastern Standard Time (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

Here's the letter. It wasn't sent to the Board, and I'm pretty sure that's normal practice at the BBG.

We should have thought, though, to share it with you. But the press of events involving the budget roll-out had our full attention these last couple of weeks. Apologies for the oversight.

If the letter is to be shared outside BBG, we'll need to ask permission from his office as a courtesy.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 10:03:31 AM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Rep Jones letter

Dear (b) (6) and Lynne

I understand that Congressman Jones has sent BBG a letter on the Greenville facility which I visited on December 7, 2011. Dick Lobo indicates a meeting is going to be arranged for the end of this month.

I would like to see a copy of the letter....not sure whether it was copied to whole Board or not. If so, it should be sent out to all. If not, I still would like to see it as it concerns an interest of mine.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2012 5:29 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: fyl/rep. jones

thanks for letting me know. Victor

In a message dated 2/17/2012 4:28:50 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

victor,

we're in the process of arranging a meeting with rep. jones at the end of the month to go over the greenville situation with him.

i'll provide you with details after the meeting.

dick

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 5:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Board meeting

there is always room for one. Victor

In a message dated 2/16/2012 3:49:12 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Victor. I am with you on the principle of saying yes to public attendance at the open meetings when possible.

We're checking on the logistics for the March meeting at MBN (table arrangements, camera placement, and other studio-connected matters), and I've told the person you're referring to that I hope to have an answer soon.

Best,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 2:04 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: BBG Board meeting

Lynne

I understand some persons may ask to attend our BBG meeting in March as they did for January. Walter, then chair, said Yes.

I fully agree and as long as the numbers are manageable I think BBG gains more by saying Yes than NO. Put me down as one Governor who favors attendance if possible. At some point we should move to fully open meetings so that is not an issue.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 9:44 AM
To: Letitia King; (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: sign installed

Tish and Andre

I assume the sign for Greenville re naming it Edward Murrow is done...when will it be installed?

Are you waiting on the local government to change the road name? That should not hold by erecting the new sign.

Has the decision been made on when and whether to have a ceremony installing the sign? It would be nice to invite the living children of Edward Murrow to it. I am sure they could be found.
I look forward to hearing about this.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 7:28 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Michael Lynton trifecta

wonderful...Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/13/2012 7:26:36 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Our news release this weekend got the attention not only of a couple of special-interest bloggers, as noted in a Saturday e-mail to you, but also several media of note that cover the entertainment industry. I was able to locate the right reporters/editors through a knowledgeable contact in L.A., and have an idea of a few more that we might try to reach in the coming days.

But so far we're in Daily Variety, The Wrap, and AllAccess.com. And the L.A. Times has taken interest, so we'll keep an eye out for that.

Links to the stories are below, and they're all good.

Best regards,

Lynne

<http://www.wilshireandwashington.com/2012/02/michael-lynton-.html#ixzz1mJ0aP31M>

<http://www.thewrap.com/tv/article/sony-pictures-chair-michael-lynton-head-federal-broadcasting-board-governors-35346>

<http://www.allaccess.com/net-news/archive/story/102252/broadcasting-board-of-governors-names-sony-picture>

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:57 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to employees

will not share your email. We can talk tomorrow when I am back in USA...I appreciate your efforts. You can help in pointing out the pr consequences of some actions from 3rd floor which they may not always recognize.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 15:54
Subject: Re: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to employees

Thank you, Victor, for your candor -- and I promise not to share your e-mail. Would you mind keeping mine confidential, as well?

Greek is the one language service planned for elimination that will be of concern to Congress, which has restored it each time the BBG has tried to end it.

RFE/RL plans to discontinue its services in Avar, Chechen, and Circassian, and Steve Korn is addressing this with his employees tomorrow. RFE/RL has struggled to attract significant audiences for these SW broadcasts. The three languages are among dozens spoken in the region, where Russian remains the lingua franca. RFE/RL will continue to serve audiences there with Russian-language programming, including web and mobile content focused on regional news. The budget justification, which will be public tomorrow, makes this clear, and it's addressed in the in-house talking points sent to the Board on Friday.

There are changes expected in other language services, as you know, but none others eliminated altogether.

I agree that the release of a reduced budget request is bound to be upsetting and then some. And that the timing on the Hill for an actual budget bill is very much in question. But what alternative is there: Not releasing a budget?

And I understand your point about where cuts should be made. One week in, and I'm in no position to address that one.

If you feel that the tone of the draft message from the Board to employees could use some work, please share that with all on this afternoon's e-mail chain. You may not be the only one. And we're doing our best to get it right.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:25:03 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to

employees

Lynne

I am sure that this statement reflects a majority of the Board views. However, you should know that as one member for whom this statement does not reflect the full scope of his views, I feel strongly that we have lots to do to reduce waste within the agency which have not occurred in a satisfactory way in my view. I refer to sending too many people to conferences such as Delhi, Prague and walk thru in Tampa for upcoming GOP convention, handing out bonus for top level personnel at IBB/BBG while facing layoffs (the optics are terrible)...I do not feel we are making tough decisions everywhere but in selected areas. \$50 million contract for 5 years with Gallup (I feel that one should be reduced in size).

This statement references language services being eliminated. If Greek is it and the only one, that is one thing but if there are more we need to be honest about it.

Of course this budget plan probably will not become law which means the exercise creates anxiety among rank and file. Remember we look foolish when (b) (6) says the computers cannot distinguish between vendors and contract employees (contractors) on late payments. For an agency which already the lowest morale around, this statement does not ease it or go far enough in "we feel your pain" in my view.

I prefer you not share this with anyone as I am simply sharing my personal views with you and offering my sympathy for the really tough job you face. I am happy to discuss this personally. Of course, I have voiced these sentiments with staff and my colleagues previously...although without winning converts..except for setting a Thanksgiving deadline to end late payments for contractors. I think some of the pain has to be shared by the top level as well.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

CC: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Bruce

Sherman (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 14:21

Subject: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to employees

Dear Governors,

Attached are the latest versions of the two essential messaging documents in connection with tomorrow's budget roll-out. They are the draft news release and the draft notice from you to the employees, which is not intended for public distribution but will likely be publicized by some.

These drafts incorporate e-mailed suggestions from Governors Ashe, Perino and McCue, along with the conversation yesterday and some follow-up.

We'd like to get these items, particularly your message to employees, just right.

If you have further comments, please try to weigh in by 5 p.m. Eastern. The release will need subsequent OMB review. Last-minute edits tomorrow a.m. are

possible, but preferably would be minimal.

Many thanks,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:51 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

cannot vouch for its accuracy

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 15:43
Subject: Re: Fwd: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

Much obliged.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:31:50 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

You should see this as it may have a wider distribution list

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 14:34
Subject: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

This might be of interest ...

A former employee of the CFO says the following about (b) (6) who in charge of the contractor mess. Does a warrant of debt affect her federal standing? her security clearance? her bonus? She has fired numerous people but should she be fired?

" (b) (6) probably sabotaged (b) (6) the travel manager who was fired last week. It's funny how he is in charge of the financial system that pays vendors, he is still employed, yet the contractor/vendors are still not getting paid. That is the biggest problem in that office, not the travel (although still a problem). (b) (6) takes two hour lunch breaks but still has a job. (b) (6) barely ate lunch. Why does (b) (6) still have a job? I don't understand how (b) (6) (b) (6) is getting away with this...its funny how EVERYONE else seems to be the problem. Does (b) (6) even have a college degree?

(b) (6) came to BBG because he was about to get fired from DHS. . At DHS, he played around in the Travel Production system and booked a ticket to Rome. His manager

was angry. It was escalated to the CFO and (b) (6) had to pay out of pocket. He also got in trouble because when he traveled, he stayed in Vegas an extra night and was not supposed to. Before that, he was working at CGI. He was also fired from his first job with the FDIC or Federal Reserve (one of those agencies) because he would take two hour lunch breaks and just wouldn't work. He comes to BBG and (b) (6) promotes him.

(b) (6) cannot even pay her own bills. She had a Warrant in Debt in Fairfax County Court. . Why is she managing the office when she cannot even pay her own bills?.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:41 PM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: phone

Lynne

I do not have any phone numbers for you..work, cell or a home address if I wanted to mail anything to you at your residence.

Also will Am Stephens have an assistant as you were for McHale and Stock? Is this appointment for a few months until the nominee for public diplomacy gets confirmed?

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:30 PM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

I have no idea who this is and generally do not pay attention to persons not named in their e mails. However, the accuracy or inaccuracy of this can be checked. If true, Immediate action is needed as it raises valid concerns. If not true, we need to know that as well. (b) (6) surely you can find out about this. As we face a difficult week with budget cuts, we should at the top level be seen as rooting out errors, mistakes and incompetence which cost. Again, if untrue we should know that too.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 14:34
Subject: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

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Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:25 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to employees

Lynne

I am sure that this statement reflects a majority of the Board views. However, you should know that as one member for whom this statement does not reflect the full scope of his views, I feel strongly that we have lots to do to reduce waste within the agency which have not occurred in a satisfactory way in my view. I refer to sending too many people to conferences such as Delhi, Prague and walk thru in Tampa for upcoming GOP convention, handing out bonus for top level personnel at IBB/BBG while facing layoffs (the optics are terrible)...I do not feel we are making tough decisions everywhere but in selected areas. \$50 million contract for 5 years with Gallup (I feel that one should be reduced in size).

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Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) Bruce Sherman Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 14:21

Subject: Time-sensitive: Penultimate draft of news release, Board message to employees

Dear Governors,

Attached are the latest versions of the two essential messaging documents in connection with tomorrow's budget roll-out. They are the draft news release and the draft notice from you to the employees, which is not intended for public distribution but will likely be publicized by some.

These drafts incorporate e-mailed suggestions from Governors Ashe, Perino and McCue, along with the conversation yesterday and some follow-up.

We'd like to get these items, particularly your message to employees, just right.

If you have further comments, please try to weigh in by 5 p.m. Eastern. The release will need subsequent OMB review. Last-minute edits tomorrow a.m. are possible, but preferably would be minimal.

Many thanks,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 12:24 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

a small area with a free press...Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 11:26
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Whoops, I misread your second question. Greek will be closed.

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 11:24:15 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Don't know the answers to those questions. Happy to talk next week.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 11:13:22 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

good points...we will talk next week. The (b) (6) meeting with unions will be critical. Who briefs contractors? Which language services actually are closed?

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) Bruce Sherman (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 11:09
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Gov. Ashe, thank you for the swift reply.

Please see the chart at the bottom of #11 for entity-by-entity position reductions.

Listing the many service-by-service reductions in either the news release or the Governors' statement would more than cloud the message. I believe this information will be available, though, when the Congressional Budget Justification is released; we'll post that on-line, so maybe a good solution would be to put a link to it at the end of the release and the statement.

As for the difficult, in person discussions, from our conversations this week I learned that each entity head has a self-directed schedule for briefing employees on the specifics affecting their entities. I've no involvement in that process; perhaps someone else on this list can address it.

It's worth repeating -- and we will, at every opportunity -- that everything possible will be done to limit impact on individuals through agency buyouts, early-out authority and reducing positions via attrition.

Best,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 10:41:15 AM
To: Lynne Weil; BBG Board Group
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

can we be told how many persons are actually let go by entity and section. (b) (6) (b) (6) is meeting Monday to brief the unions. Who briefs contractors? What is the timetable? I feel the statements raise as many questions as they answer.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil [REDACTED] (b) (6)
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
CC: [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo [REDACTED] (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble [REDACTED] (b) (6) <OV>>; Bruce Sherman [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 2:27
Subject: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Dear Governors,

Attached for your review are the draft messaging materials prepared by agency staff in collaboration with the network heads and communications teams across all entities. They are:

- A message from the Board to agency employees
- A news release

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 11:13 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

good points...we will talk next week. The Donna Grace meeting with unions will be critical. Who briefs contractors? Which language services actually are closed?

Victor

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From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6); Michael Meehan (b) (6)

Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 11:09
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To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

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Victor Ashe

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From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6); (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6); (b) (6)

Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 2:27
Subject: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Dear Governors,

Attached for your review are the draft messaging materials prepared by agency staff in collaboration with the network heads and communications teams across all entities. They are:

- A message from the Board to agency employees
- A news release
- Talking points on the top nine most anticipated questions, in rank order of likelihood
- Examples of ways that we are ending duplication and streamlining services
- A budget overview, strategic principles guiding BBG budgeting decisions, and a comparison across broadcast entities at the request of some of the entity heads.

Much of what is in the talking points has been pulled from existing and in some cases published agency documents for consistency. Similarities between the board statement and the news release are intentional, as are the differences. Apart from those two items, which will be distributed, please forgive any typos or formatting errors arising from the production process this week.

Your feedback will help strengthen these items so that we can most effectively convey the reasoning and goals underlying this budget request. It would be most useful if comments could be made within the next 24 hours to ensure timely incorporation into these materials.

In a separate message, (b) (6) has sent you the actual budget documents.

Best regards,

Lynne W.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 7:41 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Board meeting

sure...will you be at the Innovation conference....today

while (b) is a lovely lady I have found usually more reasons not to act then to act...5 day delay in getting Walter's resignation up.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letita King (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Feb 10, 2012 7:14 am
Subject: Re: Board meeting

Let's discuss.

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 7:08:20 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com; Letita King
Subject: Re: Board meeting

Thank you for flagging this, Victor!

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 6:53:22 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letita King
Subject: Board meeting

I hope BBG will post the special called Baord meeting (notice we are having it tomorrow) on web site...also next week announce whatever decision is made by the phone call meeting.
that it was called by 4 members pursuant to bylaws. All part of being transparent.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 6:53 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letita King
Subject: Board meeting

I hope BBG will post the special called Baord meeting (notice we are having it tomorrow) on web site...also next week announce whatever decision is made by the phone call meeting. that it was called by 4 members pursuant to bylaws. All part of being transparent.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 11:18 AM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Burma Meeting

is this where the call will be held? Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 10:31:49 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning,

Please join for a meeting on Burma in Dick's office 1:30pm tomorrow, Thursday, February 9th. This meeting will immediately precede the Governance Committee meeting that is scheduled to start at 2:00pm.

If you have any questions, please call me at (b) (6)

Thanks,
(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 12:02 PM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FY 2012 Program Plan to Congress

is this coming to me in San Francisco? or Knoxville? is it not also going to ranking minority member as well in Senate and who gets it in the House?

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 8:57 am
Subject: FY 2012 Program Plan to Congress

Dear Governor Ashe,

Attached is a copy of the BBG's FY 2012 program plan that we sent to Chairman Leahy. The same letter was also sent to the appropriators and authorizers.

A hard copy will be included in the mailing to you via FedEx today.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 9:15 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Progress on date for Murrow dedication

Any headway on getting a date to dedicate the Edward Murrow Transmission station in Greenville, NC? April is upon us.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 7:54 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: News and Events

apparently it came out a few years ago...just caught my eye. WW II issues interest me and having been in Poland the Holocaust was front and center unfortunately.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 29, 2012 7:29 am
Subject: Re: Fwd: News and Events

Thank you for thinking of that, Victor.

I'm unaware of a direct relationship between my family and Jiri Weil -- and in fact, until today was unaware of this author. Both books sound intriguing, so thanks, as well, for this opportunity to learn something new.

The name Weil derives from a Middle German word meaning small valley. Found throughout Europe, people named Weil or Weill (as in Kurt -- sadly, also not a direct relative) can in many cases trace their ancestry to the Alsace and nearby southern Germany, where several geographic features and population centers bear names featuring the word, including Weiltal and Weil-am-Rhein, two towns in Swabia that I've noted while driving by.

The name is unusual but not unheard-of in the United States -- there's the Swiss watch-maker that advertises in glossy magazines, as well as a locally well-known and now retired judge named Weil in San Francisco. And of course there's also Sanford Weill of Citibank; I sure wish I were related to him!

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 4:12:05 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: News and Events

Lynne. I wonder if the Jiri Weil who wrote this book, Life with a Star is related to you or your husband's family? I just noticed the book which is for sale at Daunt's which is a well known Bookstore in London.

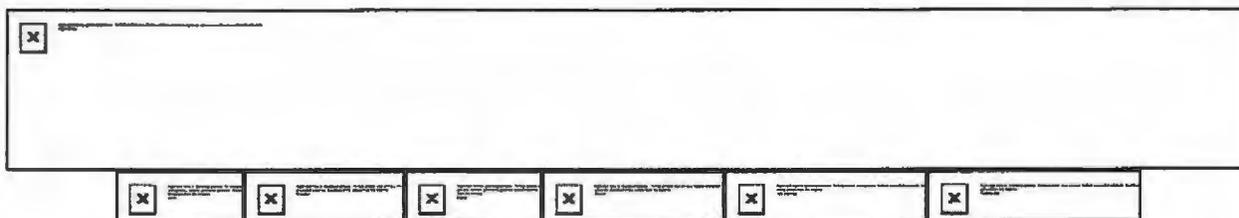
Victor

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

From: Daunt Books <orders@dauntbooks.co.uk>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 29, 2012 4:01 am
Subject: News and Events

You're receiving this email because you are subscribed to the Daunt Books e-Newsletter.

Having trouble reading this email? [View it on your browser.](#)



MARCH 29, 2012

News

Last year, we uncovered and published Jiri Weil's neglected classic, *Mendelssohn is on the Roof*, a biting satire of the bureaucratic machinery of tyranny. At the end of this month, we will be publishing a second of Weil's novels; one which can almost be read as a companion novel to the first.

In *Life With A Star* we are exposed to the mind-numbing tedium of terror. Josef Roubicek, a former bank clerk, struggles against the daily impossibilities of life under a regime which has rendered him unemployed and undesirable. Like the resistance mounted in Hans Fallada's *Alone in Berlin*, the steps taken to undermine the stranglehold of the system are tiny but not insignificant, and heroism is distilled to the capacity to hope when all hope is lost.

This is a quiet, haunting novel, with the power to transfix and astonish. We hope you will be as moved by this intriguing author as we have been.

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Books of the month



The Chemistry of Tears

Peter Carey
Hardback

[More info »](#)



Land's Edge

Tim Winton
Hardback

[More info »](#)



Life With A Star

Jiri Weil
Paperback

[More info »](#)



How To Survive The Titanic: Or The Sinking of J. Bruce Ismay

Frances Wilson
Paperback

[More info »](#)

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Events

Claudia Roden: The Food of Spain

Wednesday, 4th April in Marylebone (please call 020 7224 2295 for tickets)

Ed Vulliamy: The War is Dead, Long Live the War. Bosnia: the Reckoning

Thursday, 12th April in Chelsea (please call 020 7373 4997 for tickets)

Iain Sinclair in conversation with Craig Taylor

Tuesday, 17th April in Hampstead (please call 020 7794 8206 for tickets)

Jerry White in conversation with Sarah Bakewell

Wednesday, 18th April in Marylebone (please call 020 7224 2295 for tickets)

Justin Cartwright

Tuesday, 24th April in Hampstead (please call 020 7224 2295 for tickets)

[Back to top](#)

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 1:53 PM
To: Paul Kollmer; Richard M. Lobo; Bruce Sherman; m [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Gallup contract

I do want to see and read the Gallup Contract. Please advise how I can best do this. I am in Washington on Thursday, March 29.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 11:01 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: 3:30

yes..call (b) (6). Victor

In a message dated 3/27/2012 9:06:10 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor --

Sorry but the evening event -- a small dinner to talk nonproliferation and the nuclear summit with (b) (6) -- precluded making a phone call. And it went late.

Minor adjustment on this end today: Would 3;30 work for you?

Best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 6:42:57 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: delay

Yes, or you can call this evening up to 10. Victor

In a message dated 3/26/2012 6:31:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Voctor,

Sorry, but I got caught in the vortex of planning meetings and follow-ups that so often take up much of each Monday here. Am now en route to an evening event. Can we talk tomorrow at 2:30?

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 3:27 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: delay

why not call me now and you and I can talk? tomorrow I am tied up all morning and available after 2...Victor

In a message dated 3/26/2012 3:26:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I'm sorry, but later today won't work.

How about 9:30 or 10 tomorrow?

On a different topic, I have a call in to Rep. Rohrabacher's office.

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 3:08:39 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com; Me
Subject: Re: delay

Thanks for the heads-up.

I'll check with Dick's office.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 2:13:34 PM
To: lynne.a.weil@gmail.com; Lynne Weil
Subject: delay

I can no longer do a 430 call but can do it at 5PM or 515..would that work today?

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 6:49 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

Lynne

While I am glad to talk to Dick too at any time, you can always call me direct on these issues..especially if you feel I have a misperception. Victor

In a message dated 3/25/2012 5:46:59 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks. It's about your e-mail to me and my supervisor, Dick Lobo, on Friday early a.m. DC time concerning the Gallup contract that reflected poorly on the public affairs response to the (b) (6) inquiry. Among other things, the e-mail indicated that the only answer (b) (6) had received to her inquiry was from (b) (6) in the GC's office.

It also contains a misperception that we're hoping to discuss with you.

We'll call after 4.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 5:05:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

best to call in late afternoon after 4...what is topic?

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sun, Mar 25, 2012 4:49 pm
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

Thanks. We were not familiar with your travel plans.

No urgency; tomorrow's fine. Mondays are always a slew of meetings, so may we call you?

Welcome back,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 4:36:53 PM

To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil

Subject: Not there on Friday

I was still in Bangkok on Friday and only today landed in Chicago where I got your voice mail. That is why I did not respond. Can call this afternoon or Monday.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 6:43 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: delay

Yes, or you can call this evening up to 10. Victor

In a message dated 3/26/2012 6:31:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

Sorry, but I got caught in the vortex of planning meetings and follow-ups that so often take up much of each Monday here. Am now en route to an evening event. Can we talk tomorrow at 2:30?

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 3:27 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: delay

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How about 9:30 or 10 tomorrow?

On a different topic, I have a call in to Rep. Rohrabacher's office.

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 3:08:39 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com; Me
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I'll check with Dick's office.

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To: lynne.a.well@gmail.com; Lynne Weil
Subject: delay

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Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 6:32 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

glad to discuss. My real problem is more with the (b) (6) letter. Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sun, Mar 25, 2012 5:46 pm
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

Thanks. It's about your e-mail to me and my supervisor, Dick Lobo, on Friday early a.m. DC time concerning the Gallup contract that reflected poorly on the public affairs response to the (b) (6) inquiry. Among other things, the e-mail indicated that the only answer (b) (6) had received to her inquiry was from (b) (6) in the GC's office.

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Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 11:18 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

it is 1017 in morning where I am on Saturday

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 24, 2012 10:17 am
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Got it. Thanks, and good night.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 11:10:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

subject would be Tibetan language service, Chinese language, establishing regular communications with BBG Board

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 24, 2012 9:57 am
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Many thanks, very helpful.

Please let me know if there is a subject to be supplied when we make the meeting request; this is often more effective than simply asking to meet -- which, as you may imagine, lots of people do. Your name/position alone may be reason enough, but if you'd like to signal a subject matter, say the word.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 10:53:53 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

free from 3 to 430 on March 29...all day on April 9 and morning of April 10.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 24, 2012 9:01 am
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

We'll check with his office first thing on Monday. Are you free all of all three days, or are there times when you're not available?

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:53:59 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

I would like to meet with the Congressman. Do you prefer I call to set it up or your office do it? It will need to be March 29 or April 9 or 10.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6), Michael Meehan, (b) (6), Dana Perino, (b) (6), Richard M. Lobo, (b) (6), Jeffrey Trimble, (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:49 pm
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Understood, and I appreciate the reasoning offered.

Today we secured a date and time for Enders' meeting with Mr. R.. He/we will be able to provide the Board a readout at the April 19-20 meeting. If you choose to meet with this member independently, I'd be happy to share your readout with them, as well -- though you'd be in a better position to do so, of course.

I'll ask for the info for Mr. R's office on Monday. Since I'd delegated the arrangement-making and advised/supervised as needed, I don't have it.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:00:47 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Lynne

I often meet with members of Congress on my own. I asked about Cong. Rohrabacher. I do want to meet him. Should I just contact him on my own? If so, I do not mind and please send me his point of contact on his staff? I really do not want to wait to late April. I will gladly tell you what happens at the meeting.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6) (h) (6) Michael Meehan (b) (6) Dana Perino
(b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 2:09 pm

Subject: Re: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

Dear Victor,

(b) (6) drafted the response that was just shared with the Board. We reviewed it before it went to Rep. Rohrabacher.

Basically, it thanks him for his interest/support, indicates that his proposal will be studied by a committee of Governors engaged in strategy (i.e. the one you've just joined), and, as an important point of reference, VOA and RFE/RL have programming to the region.

Re: a meeting, Enders is familiar with Mr. R, and we have a request in to the latter's office for the two of them to get together again soon (aiming for April).

It would be best from the agency's p.o.v. to make the most of Governors' time by strategic planning of meetings with selected members of Congress, according to our goals and their positions, coordinated through the Communications Committee. I hope you don't mind my copying them on this reply.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 9:22:27 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Subject: Re: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

Good evening, Victor, and thank you for your interest in this matter.

I'll get back to you on all of the below tomorrow after some consultations.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 7:41:20 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

Of course I want to see the response to the congressman..who will sign it? I think we should place it on the agenda at next Board meeting so we can show we are taking it seriously.

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Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Mar 21, 2012 7:25 pm
Subject: Fw: Rohrabacher letter

Fyi

Can you imagine getting into the middle of that hornets nest?

Yikes

(b) (6)
Radio Free Asia

From: (b) (6)
Date: Wed, 21 Mar 2012 19:22:49 -0400 (EDT)
To: (b) (6); <(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:56 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

well in this case we will get to read about it. As you know I am a huge supporter of disclosure. I think FOIA is very weak in terms of disclosure and what I lived with as Mayor of Knoxville. Unless it is national security, I usually fall on disclosure side of issue. Given the size of this contract, openness is even more relevant. Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:51 pm
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I'm not sure, but they do have more than one project under way at any given time. Taking that and other factors into account, I'm in no position to judge the pace of that office's work.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:24:31 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I got those e mails which I appreciate. It is now a month later. Seems progress is slow and unclear whether effort is being made to remove proprietary information and release the rest?

Surely some parts of the contract can be released.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>; (b) (6);
(b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); Bruce
Sherman <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:22 pm
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

Stand by, please, for two e-mail chains dating to mid- and late February that may be instructive here.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 8:54:39 PM
To: (b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:23 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Until BBG asks Gallup about this and gets their response the reasons for delay remain uncertain. Why not remove the proprietary information and release the rest of the contact?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6); Letitia King <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6); Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:19 pm
Subject: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Per previous message, am sharing this first of two e-mail chains on this matter.

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2012 2:16:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information

Dear Lynn:

Thank you for your note, and for helping with a FOIA request.

Best,
(b)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: request for information
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 2012 20:06:39 +0000

Dear (b)

It was good to talk with you, albeit briefly, on Tuesday. I'm glad that you were able to find the basic information about the research contract on-line.

As promised, I've checked with all the right people here, some of whom were away from the office last week, to see what more is available. Thanks for your patience regarding this request.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:27 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Gallup contract

Lynne and Dick

FYI Ann Noonan and her group are asking for a copy of the Gallup contract. (b) (6) sent one of the usual it will cost you and it takes time to answer responses which I think is the wrong answer for a \$50 million contract. That is not pocket change.

Regardless of the reason for wanting it, it ought to be public and even posted on our web site...unless I am missing something here.

Instead of taking a beating on being slow to respond and there is a media event with Gallup soon, why not be forthcoming and let them have it as well as anyone else? Slow walking this creates more issues than releasing it.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 2:19 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: Trip Update

You should state that I met with the Vice Minister of Information of the Laotian government..not just an official. The Bangkok facility is actually 80 miles outside Bangkok.

In Phnom Penh, I visited both RFA and VOA offices..not just VOA. I also met with Human Rights NGOs and independent journalists in Cambodia. (b) (6) was not just someone I met with in Phnom Penh but rather he accompanied me to all meetings and was with me the whole time there.

This should clarify this further.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 2:12 pm
Subject: RE: Trip Update

Gov. Ashe,
Thanks for the clarifications. Here is the revised draft.

(b)

BBG Gov. Victor Ashe wraps up his tour of Southeast Asian broadcast facilities this week with a series of meetings in Thailand, including stops at the offices of Radio Free Asia and Voice of America in Bangkok. Earlier, Ashe visited the Bangkok transmitter plant where he met with staff and delved into the plant's history. Ashe, a former U.S. ambassador to Poland, expressed a keen interest in the facility's history, which dates to the Vietnam conflict. He suggested renaming the facility, which is not located in Bangkok, but near Ayutthaya north of the capital city.

During the 10-day trip, Ashe's itinerary has included stops at BBG facilities, meetings with agency staff and talks with U.S. embassy officials and local authorities in Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos.

In the Udon Thani province of northeast Thailand, Ashe toured a BBG transmission facility and presented 30-year and 20-year service awards to staff members.

At Voice of America offices in Phnom Penh, Ashe toured the facilities and met with staff, including (b) (6), director of the RFA's Cambodian Service.

The first BBG member to visit Laos, Ashe met there Laotian officials about the possibility of allowing RFA correspondents in Laos. He also met with U.S. embassy officials and Laotian journalists.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 2:05 PM
To: (b) (6); Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Trip Update

(b)

In Vientiane I did not meet with RFA staff as there is NOT any RFA staff in Laos. We are not allowed. I did meet with Vice Minister of Information and raised the issue of RFA having correspondents in Laos as RFA does in Cambodia. I was told the government was willing to discuss it. I felt that was a positive start. I did meet with the Deputy Chief of Mission in Vientiane, (b) (6) and several Laotian journalists.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 2:05 PM
To: (b) (6); Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Trip Update

(b)

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thought I should clarify this.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Letitia King (b) (6); Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 1:34 pm
Subject: Trip Update

Hi Gov. Ashe,

Here's the latest update to the item about your trip for bbg.gov. I wanted to run it past you before I publish.

Thanks,

(b)

BBG Gov. Victor Ashe wrapped up his tour of Southeast Asian broadcast facilities with a stop at the BBG's Thailand transmission facility, where he met with staff and delved into the plant's history.

Ashe, a former U.S. ambassador to Poland, expressed a keen interest in the facility's history, which dates to the Vietnam conflict, as well as current operations in the region.

During the 10-day trip, Ashe's itinerary has included stops at BBG facilities, meetings with agency staff and talks with U.S. embassy officials and local authorities in Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos.

In the Udon Thani province of northeast Thailand, Ashe toured a BBG transmission facility and presented 30-year and 20-year service awards to staff members.

In Phnom Penh, Ashe toured the Voice of America facilities and met with staff, including (b) (6), director of the RFA's Cambodian Service.

The first BBG member to visit Laos, Ashe met there with RFA staff, U.S. embassy officials and Laotian officials.

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 1:38 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Trip Update

I continue meetings on Friday in Bangkok as well going to RFA and VOA offices in Thailand's capital city as well as meeting with various South Asian correspondents.

please add that..then I finish the tour.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Letitia King <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 1:34 pm
Subject: Trip Update

Hi Gov. Ashe,

Here's the latest update to the item about your trip for bbg.gov. I wanted to run it past you before I publish.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

BBG Gov. Victor Ashe wrapped up his tour of Southeast Asian broadcast facilities with a stop at the BBG's Thailand transmission facility, where he met with staff and delved into the plant's history.

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The first BBG member to visit Laos, Ashe met there with RFA staff, U.S. embassy officials and Laotian officials.

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 7:54 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

I do not have a clue on what you suggest but I am sure you can get it to happen

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 7:07 am
Subject: Re: Fwd: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

Nice pic! Thanks, and much obliged for the ones sent last night.

Perhaps there's a way to do this so that such photos are available for our use without being sent as attachments -- especially if there's a large batch. We'll work on that, and let you know if there's a user-friendly solution.

Best,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 6:52:46 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

You may want this too. Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: lking <(b) (6)>; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) >
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 6:38 am
Subject: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

Trish,

Greetings from Bangkok. Earlier today Governor Ashe visited the IBB Bangkok Transmitter plant north of Bangkok near Ayuttaya to tour the site and meet with staff. During our visit, we took a group photo in front of the station. Governor Ashe asked me to forward this image to you so that it could be posted on the BBG web page. The Station email server is off line so I am sending this photo to you from my hotmail account. Since our email service is off line, I am also unable to verify your email address. Hopefully, I have addressed this to you correctly.

regards

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 18, 2012 7:58 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: Murrow facility

thanks much

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>
Sent: Sun, Mar 18, 2012 7:55 pm
Subject: RE: Murrow facility

Hello, Victor –

We're in touch with Congressman Jones about his schedule, and his office tells us that we should have an answer by Wednesday COB. As soon as the date is set, you'll be the first to know.

Best,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 18, 2012 7:40 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Murrow facility

Has a date been set for the dedication? I know BBG/IBB is working with Congressman Jones. I need to know as I would like to attend and would need to make flight reservations.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 18, 2012 7:40 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Murrow facility

Has a date been set for the dedication? I know BBG/IBB is working with Congressman Jones. I need to know as I would like to attend and would need to make flight reservations.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 10:43 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Letitia King
Subject: Re: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

I am the first BBG member as well as RFA member to visit Laos where I am at present. Thanks

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Letitia King (b) (6) v>
Sent: Sat, Mar 17, 2012 8:49 pm
Subject: Re: Fwd: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

Thank you, Victor. On Monday we'll add the photo and caption to our ongoing, on-line coverage of your trip.

Safe travels,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 8:02:10 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

FYI from Phnom Penh

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, Mar 17, 2012 10:30 am
Subject: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

Dear Governor and all,

Please find attached our group photo taken during the governor's visit to our filing center on Friday. The photo credit goes to (b) (6), RFA.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)

--
(b) (6)

TV Unit Coordinator

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 9:15 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Progress on date for Murrow dedication

Any headway on getting a date to dedicate the Edward Murrow Transmission station in Greenville, NC? April is upon us.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 7:54 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: News and Events

apparently it came out a few years ago...just caught my eye. WW II issues interest me and having been in Poland the Holocaust was front and center unfortunately.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) v>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 29, 2012 7:29 am
Subject: Re: Fwd: News and Events

Thank you for thinking of that, Victor.

I'm unaware of a direct relationship between my family and Jiri Weil -- and in fact, until today was unaware of this author. Both books sound intriguing, so thanks, as well, for this opportunity to learn something new.

The name Weil derives from a Middle German word meaning small valley. Found throughout Europe, people named Weil or Weill (as in Kurt -- sadly, also not a direct relative) can in many cases trace their ancestry to the Alsace and nearby southern Germany, where several geographic features and population centers bear names featuring the word, including Weithal and Weil-am-Rhein, two towns in Swabia that I've noted while driving by.

The name is unusual but not unheard-of in the United States -- there's the Swiss watch-maker that advertises in glossy magazines, as well as a locally well-known and now retired judge named Weil in San Francisco. And of course there's also Sanford Weill of Citibank; I sure wish I were related to him!

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 4:12:05 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: News and Events

Lynne. I wonder if the Jiri Weil who wrote this book, Life with a Star is related to you or your husband's family? I just noticed the book which is for sale at Daunt's which is a well known Bookstore in London.

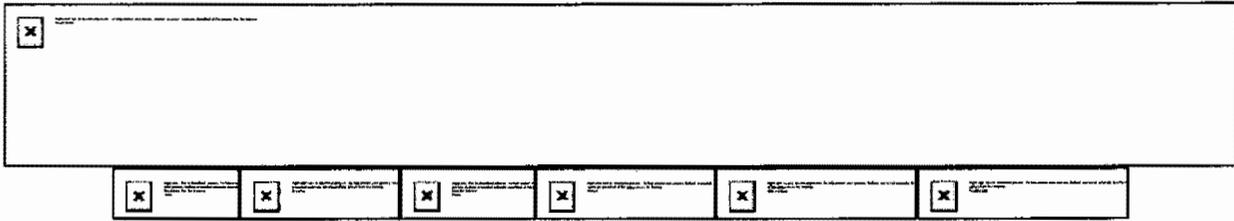
Victor

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

From: Daunt Books <orders@dauntbooks.co.uk>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 29, 2012 4:01 am
Subject: News and Events

You're receiving this email because you are subscribed to the Daunt Books e-Newsletter.

Having trouble reading this email? [View it on your browser.](#)



MARCH 29, 2012

News

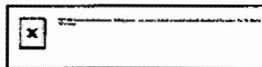
Last year, we uncovered and published Jiri Weil's neglected classic, *Mendelssohn is on the Roof*, a biting satire of the bureaucratic machinery of tyranny. At the end of this month, we will be publishing a second of Weil's novels; one which can almost be read as a companion novel to the first.

In *Life With A Star* we are exposed to the mind-numbing tedium of terror. Josef Roubicek, a former bank clerk, struggles against the daily impossibilities of life under a regime which has rendered him unemployed and undesirable. Like the resistance mounted in Hans Fallada's *Alone in Berlin*, the steps taken to undermine the stranglehold of the system are tiny but not insignificant, and heroism is distilled to the capacity to hope when all hope is lost.

This is a quiet, haunting novel, with the power to transfix and astonish. We hope you will be as moved by this intriguing author as we have been.

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Books of the month



The Chemistry of Tears

Peter Carey
Hardback

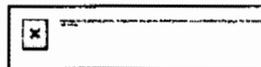
[More info »](#)



Land's Edge

Tim Winton
Hardback

[More info »](#)



Life With A Star

Jiri Weil
Paperback

[More info »](#)



How To Survive The Titanic: Or The Sinking of J. Bruce Ismay

Frances Wilson
Paperback

[More info »](#)

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Events

Claudia Roden: The Food of Spain

Wednesday, 4th April in Marylebone (please call 020 7224 2295 for tickets)

Ed Vulliamy: The War is Dead, Long Live the War. Bosnia: the Reckoning

Thursday, 12th April in Chelsea (please call 020 7373 4997 for tickets)

Iain Sinclair in conversation with Craig Taylor

Tuesday, 17th April in Hampstead (please call 020 7794 8206 for tickets)

Jerry White in conversation with Sarah Bakewell

Wednesday, 18th April in Marylebone (please call 020 7224 2295 for tickets)

Justin Cartwright

Tuesday, 24th April in Hampstead (please call 020 7224 2295 for tickets)

[Back to top](#)

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 1:53 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Gallup contract

I do want to see and read the Gallup Contract. Please advise how I can best do this. I am in Washington on Thursday, March 29.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 11:01 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: 3:30

yes..call 865 523-6573. Victor

In a message dated 3/27/2012 9:06:10 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor --

Sorry but the evening event -- a small dinner to talk nonproliferation and the nuclear summit with (b) (6) v (b) (6) -- precluded making a phone call. And it went late.

Minor adjustment on this end today: Would 3;30 work for you?

Best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 6:42:57 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: delay

Yes, or you can call this evening up to 10. Victor

In a message dated 3/26/2012 6:31:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Voctor,

Sorry, but I got caught in the vortex of planning meetings and follow-ups that so often take up much of each Monday here. Am now en route to an evening event. Can we talk tomorrow at 2:30?

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 3:27 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: delay

why not call me now and you and I can talk? tomorrow I am tied up all morning and available after 2...Victor

In a message dated 3/26/2012 3:26:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) y writes:

I'm sorry, but later today won't work.

How about 9:30 or 10 tomorrow?

On a different topic, I have a call in to Rep. Rohrabacher's office.

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 3:08:39 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com; Me
Subject: Re: delay

Thanks for the heads-up.

I'll check with Dick's office.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 2:13:34 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: delay

I can no longer do a 430 call but can do it at 5PM or 515..would that work today?

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 6:49 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

Lynne

While I am glad to talk to Dick too at any time, you can always call me direct on these issues..especially if you feel I have a misperception. Victor

In a message dated 3/25/2012 5:46:59 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

Thanks. It's about your e-mail to me and my supervisor, Dick Lobo, on Friday early a.m. DC time concerning the Gallup contract that reflected poorly on the public affairs response to the (b) (6) inquiry. Among other things, the e-mail indicated that the only answer (b) (6) had received to her inquiry was from (b) (6) in the GC's office.

It also contains a misperception that we're hoping to discuss with you.

We'll call after 4.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 5:05:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

best to call in late afternoon after 4...what is topic?

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sun, Mar 25, 2012 4:49 pm
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

Thanks. We were not familiar with your travel plans.

No urgency; tomorrow's fine. Mondays are always a slew of meetings, so may we call you?

Welcome back,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 4:36:53 PM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6); Lynne Weil

Subject: Not there on Friday

I was still in Bangkok on Friday and only today landed in Chicago where I got your voice mail. That is why I did not respond. Can call this afternoon or Monday.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 6:43 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: delay

Yes, or you can call this evening up to 10. Victor

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Lynne

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To: vhashe@aol.com; Me
Subject: Re: delay

Thanks for the heads-up.

I'll check with Dick's office.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 2:13:34 PM
To: lynne.a.weil@gmail.com; Lynne Weil
Subject: delay

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To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: delay

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Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 6:32 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

glad to discuss. My real problem is more with the (b) (6) letter. Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sun, Mar 25, 2012 5:46 pm
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

Thanks. It's about your e-mail to me and my supervisor, Dick Lobo, on Friday early a.m. DC time concerning the Gallup contract that reflected poorly on the public affairs response to the (b) (6) inquiry. Among other things, the e-mail indicated that the only answer (b) (6) had received to her inquiry was from (b) (6) (b) in the GC's office.

It also contains a misperception that we're hoping to discuss with you.

We'll call after 4.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 5:05:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

best to call in late afternoon after 4...what is topic?

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sun, Mar 25, 2012 4:49 pm
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

Thanks. We were not familiar with your travel plans.

No urgency; tomorrow's fine. Mondays are always a slew of meetings, so may we call you?

Welcome back,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 4:36:53 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Not there on Friday

I was still in Bangkok on Friday and only today landed in Chicago where I got your voice mail. That is why I did not respond. Can call this afternoon or Monday.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 11:18 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

it is 1017 in morning where I am on Saturday

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 24, 2012 10:17 am
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Got it. Thanks, and good night.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 11:10:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

subject would be Tibetan language service, Chinese language, establishing regular communications with BBG Board

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 24, 2012 9:57 am
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Many thanks, very helpful.

Please let me know if there is a subject to be supplied when we make the meeting request; this is often more effective than simply asking to meet -- which, as you may imagine, lots of people do. Your name/position alone may be reason enough, but if you'd like to signal a subject matter, say the word.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 10:53:53 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

free from 3 to 430 on March 29...all day on April 9 and morning of April 10.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6) v>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 24, 2012 9:01 am
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

We'll check with his office first thing on Monday. Are you free all of all three days, or are there times when you're not available?

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:53:59 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

I would like to meet with the Congressman. Do you prefer I call to set it up or your office do it? It will need to be March 29 or April 9 or 10.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6) v>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; Dana Perino <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:49 pm
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Understood, and I appreciate the reasoning offered.

Today we secured a date and time for Enders' meeting with Mr. R.. He/we will be able to provide the Board a readout at the April 19-20 meeting. If you choose to meet with this member independently, I'd be happy to share your readout with them, as well -- though you'd be in a better position to do so, of course.

I'll ask for the info for Mr. R's office on Monday. Since I'd delegated the arrangement-making and advised/supervised as needed, I don't have it.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:00:47 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Lynne

I often meet with members of Congress on my own. I asked about Cong. Rohrabacher. I do want to meet him. Should I just contact him on my own? If so, I do not mind and please send me his point of contact on his staff? I really do not want to wait to late April. I will gladly tell you what happens at the meeting.

Victor

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From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6) v>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6) Michael Meehan <(b) (6) >; Dana Perino

(b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6) >; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6) >

Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 2:09 pm

Subject: Re: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

Dear Victor,

(b) (6) drafted the response that was just shared with the Board. We reviewed it before it went to Rep. Rohrabacher.

Basically, it thanks him for his interest/support, indicates that his proposal will be studied by a committee of Governors engaged in strategy (i.e. the one you've just joined), and, as an important point of reference, VOA and RFE/RL have programming to the region.

Re: a meeting, Enders is familiar with Mr. R, and we have a request in to the latter's office for the two of them to get together again soon (aiming for April).

It would be best from the agency's p.o.v. to make the most of Governors' time by strategic planning of meetings with selected members of Congress, according to our goals and their positions, coordinated through the Communications Committee. I hope you don't mind my copying them on this reply.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil

Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 9:22:27 PM

To: vhashe@aol.com

Subject: Re: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

Good evening, Victor, and thank you for your interest in this matter.

I'll get back to you on all of the below tomorrow after some consultations.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 7:41:20 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Subject: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

Of course I want to see the response to the congressman..who will sign it? I think we should place it on the agenda at next Board meeting so we can show we are taking it seriously.

Second, I would like to meet with him sometime just to get to know him...not sure when last Governor ever saw him. April 10 works well for me in AM...can your office set it up?

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6) m>; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Mar 21, 2012 7:25 pm
Subject: Fw: Rohrabacher letter

Fyi

Can you imagine getting into the middle of that hornets nest?

Yikes

(b) (6)
Radio Free Asia

From: (b) (6) org>
Date: Wed, 21 Mar 2012 19:22:49 -0400 (EDT)
To: <(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Not to mention the dicey US/Pakistani politics...

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 07:23 PM
To: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

John will huddle with you on a diplomatic response since this is really a Maashal or a VOA issue

Thanks
(b) (6)
Radio Free Asia

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Date: Wed, 21 Mar 2012 20:16:44 +0000
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Fw: Rohrabacher letter

Hello, (b) (6) --

The attached letter came our way this afternoon. We're going to share it with the Board shortly.

Would you have insights to offer before we do?

Best,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 3:59:48 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: FW:

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 11:10 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

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Victor

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To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6); Michael Meehan (b) (6); Dana Perino

(b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

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To: Lynne Weil

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To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6); Michael Meehan (b) (6); Dana Perino

(b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) v>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6) >

Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 2:09 pm

Subject: Re: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

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Victor

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

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To: Michael Meehan (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Mar 21, 2012 7:25 pm
Subject: Fw: Rohrabacher letter

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Yikes

(b) (6)
Radio Free Asia

From: (b) (6)
Date: Wed, 21 Mar 2012 19:22:49 -0400 (EDT)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

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Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 07:23 PM
To: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

John will huddle with you on a diplomatic response since this is really a Maashal or a VOA issue

Thanks
(b) (6)
Radio Free Asia

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
Date: Wed, 21 Mar 2012 20:16:44 +0000
To: (b) (6)
Subject: FW: Rohrabacher letter

Hello, (b) (6) --

The attached letter came our way this afternoon. We're going to share it with the Board shortly.

Would you have insights to offer before we do?

Best,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 3:59:48 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: FW:

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:56 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

well in this case we will get to read about it. As you know I am a huge supporter of disclosure. I think FOIA terms of disclosure and what I lived with as Mayor of Knoxville. Unless it is national security, I usually find the other side of issue. Given the size of this contract, openness is even more relevant. Victor

-----Original Message-----
From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:51 pm
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I'm not sure, but they do have more than one project under way at any given time. Taking that and other factors into account, I'm in no position to judge the pace of that office's work.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:24:31 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I got those e mails which I appreciate. It is now a month later. Seems progress is slow and unclear whether effort is being made to remove proprietary information and release the rest?

Surely some parts of the contract can be released.

Victor

-----Original Message-----
From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>; michael_lynton <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:22 pm
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

Stand by, please, for two e-mail chains dating to mid- and late February that may be instructive here.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 8:54:39 PM
To: (b) (6)

Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; m (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman

Subject: Re: Gallup contract

Then your office should explain all of this to (b) (6) who is seeking this information. The (b) (6) does NOT offer this explanation. This explanation gives BBG a somewhat more credible explanation but in the end I feel we have an obligation to let the public see how \$50 million is being spent. I urge a second letter from (b) (6) to M (b) (6), which contains basically the material you have sent me in two e mails. This would make it appear BBG actually cares and is taking the matter seriously. The first response strikes me as typical government jargon with no end in sight.

I also believe that I as a Governor am entitled to see the contract subject to the limitations of the law.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Letitia King (b) (6); michael_lynton (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 5:52 pm
Subject: RE: Gallup contract

Victor – Here is an update on the particular FOIA request that you described.

The FOIA for the Gallup contract (12-020, (b) (6)) is currently being processed. Our latest action was to send a copy of the contract to Gallup for its review and comment regarding potential confidential information. We expect to receive that information from Gallup back by the end of this month.

We will then be in a position to determine the applicability of FOIA Exemption 4 which protects "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person [that is] privileged or confidential." This exemption affords protection to entities (such as Gallup in this case) that are required to furnish commercial or financial information to the government by safeguarding them from the competitive disadvantages that could result from unauthorized disclosure.

As I pointed out in my earlier email, agencies are required by Executive Order 12600 to provide material subject to withholding under Exemption 4 to such to obtain their objections, and the bases therefor, prior to releasing any covered information under FOIA. If we disagree with the owner of the proprietary information and decide to release it over their objection, EO 12600 also requires us to provide the entity with sufficient notice of that decision to allow adequate time before a scheduled release date to permit them the opportunity to seek judicial relief.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:52 PM
To: 'vhashe@aol.com'; (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: RE: Gallup contract

Victor – Thanks for your email. I will check to see about the status of any current FOIA request concerning the Gallup contract. Has anyone contacted you about a FOIA request?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:15 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6)

Subject: Gallup contract

Dear Mr Kollmer,

I want to go on record as one BBG member saying that the Gallup contract for almost \$50 million should be released to inquiring persons asking under FOIA without delay or cost. In fact, it ought to be placed on the BBG web site. I should remind you that the President in his first year in office urged more openness. We should honor his executive order. When BBG thru your office responds to such a request outing potential costs and seems less than anxious to comply, it places BBG in a bad light. I urge prompt release of this significant contract to those who wish to review it. BBG should not receive negative publicity over this issue which delay to release will cause. Why not just place it online and let people download it?

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:23 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Until BBG asks Gallup about this and gets their response the reasons for delay remain uncertain. Why not remove the proprietary information and release the rest of the contact?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6); Letitia King (b) (6); (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6);
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:19 pm
Subject: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Per previous message, am sharing this first of two e-mail chains on this matter.

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2012 2:16:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information

Dear Lynn:

Thank you for your note, and for helping with a FOIA request.

Best,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: request for information
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 2012 20:06:39 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

It was good to talk with you, albeit briefly, on Tuesday. I'm glad that you were able to find the basic information about the research contract on-line.

As promised, I've checked with all the right people here, some of whom were away from the office last week, to see what more is available. Thanks for your patience regarding this request.

I'd like first to ensure that you're aware that the BBG currently spends roughly \$10 million per year on research, and that this is only 1.3% of the agency's \$750 million budget. The proposed FY 2013 budget includes \$8.8 million for research, or 1.1% of the total -- a fraction of what commercial media spend.

For FY2013, the BBG research budget is being reduced more than 10% while overall reductions are 4.2%.

To ensure value for taxpayer dollar, we need solid information about audiences. And as you may know, BBG's enabling legislation mandates a "reliable research capacity." Research is a broad and serious statutory requirement, not a frill.

The BBG plans to release results from the Gallup research when available. In the meantime, we cannot make the full Gallup contract available since it may include proprietary information. To ensure fair, equitable, and transparent treatment for this contractor and all others, as well as any who may request information about the contract, it will need to be reviewed under a FOIA process before release.

I've forwarded your request to the BBG's FOIA office. You can expect to receive an acknowledgment letter from them in the coming days.

Please let me know if there is more that I can do to assist you with this matter.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 8:34:48 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: RE: request for information

Thank you so much, Lynne.
Your prompt response will be appreciated.

Best,

(b)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 2012 20:44:05 +0000

Hello again,

Conversation is ongoing about this request among several offices here since it involves a contract; just wanted you to know it hasn't been forgotten.

Best regards,

Lynne W.

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 6:43 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information

Dear Ms. Noonan,

Happy to help however I can. Let me check with colleagues in the a.m. and get back to you with an answer.

Best regards,

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 4:40 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: request for information

Dear Ms. Weil:

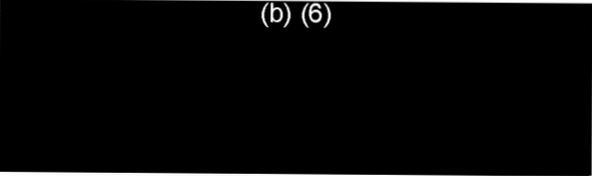
This is a request for information regarding the BBG's contact with Gallup. I am to understand that it's a \$50 million dollar contract over 5 years - \$10 million dollars a year for research. Is it possible for me to obtain a copy of this contract and any other information about it, including its implementation and results?

I would greatly appreciate your help with this timely information.

Thank you.

Best regards,

(b) (6)



Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:15 PM
To: (b) (6)
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Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:27 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Gallup contract

Lynne and Dick

FYI (b) (6) and her group are asking for a copy of the Gallup contract. (b) (6) sent one of the usual it will cost you and it takes time to answer responses which I think is the wrong answer for a \$50 million contract. That is not pocket change.

Regardless of the reason for wanting it, it ought to be public and even posted on our web site...unless I am missing something here.

Instead of taking a beating on being slow to respond and there is a media event with Gallup soon, why not be forthcoming and let them have it as well as anyone else? Slow walking this creates more issues than releasing it.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 2:19 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: Trip Update

You should state that I met with the Vice Minister of Information of the Laotian government..not just an official. The Bangkok facility is actually 80 miles outside Bangkok.

In Phnom Penh, I visited both RFA and VOA offices..not just VOA. I also met with Human Rights NGOs and independent journalists in Cambodia. (b) (6) was not just someone I met with in Phnom Penh but rather he accompanied me to all meetings and was with me the whole time there.

This should clarify this further.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 2:12 pm
Subject: RE: Trip Update

Gov. Ashe,

Thanks for the clarifications. Here is the revised draft.

(b)

BBG Gov. Victor Ashe wraps up his tour of Southeast Asian broadcast facilities this week with a series of meetings in Thailand, including stops at the offices of Radio Free Asia and Voice of America in Bangkok. Earlier, Ashe visited the Bangkok transmitter plant where he met with staff and delved into the plant's history. Ashe, a former U.S. ambassador to Poland, expressed a keen interest in the facility's history, which dates to the Vietnam conflict. He suggested renaming the facility, which is not located in Bangkok, but near Ayutthaya north of the capital city.

During the 10-day trip, Ashe's itinerary has included stops at BBG facilities, meetings with agency staff and talks with U.S. embassy officials and local authorities in Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos.

In the Udon Thani province of northeast Thailand, Ashe toured a BBG transmission facility and presented 30-year and 20-year service awards to staff members.

At Voice of America offices in Phnom Penh, Ashe toured the facilities and met with staff, including (b) (6), director of the RFA's Cambodian Service.

The first BBG member to visit Laos, Ashe met there Laotian officials about the possibility of allowing RFA correspondents in Laos. He also met with U.S. embassy officials and Laotian journalists.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 2:05 PM
To: (b) (6); Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Trip Update

Scott

In Vientiane I did not meet with RFA staff as there is NOT any RFA staff in Laos. We are not allowed. I did meet with Vice Minister of Information and raised the issue of RFA having correspondents in Laos as RFA does in Cambodia. I was told the government was willing to discuss it. I felt that was a positive start. I did meet with the Deputy Chief of Mission in Vientiane, (b) (6) and several Laotian journalists.

thought I should clarify this.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Letitia King (b) (6) >; Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 1:34 pm
Subject: Trip Update

Hi Gov. Ashe,

Here's the latest update to the item about your trip for bbg.gov. I wanted to run it past you before I publish.

Thanks,

(b)

BBG Gov. Victor Ashe wrapped up his tour of Southeast Asian broadcast facilities with a stop at the BBG's Thailand transmission facility, where he met with staff and delved into the plant's history.

Ashe, a former U.S. ambassador to Poland, expressed a keen interest in the facility's history, which dates to the Vietnam conflict, as well as current operations in the region.

During the 10-day trip, Ashe's itinerary has included stops at BBG facilities, meetings with agency staff and talks with U.S. embassy officials and local authorities in Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos.

In the Udon Thani province of northeast Thailand, Ashe toured a BBG transmission facility and presented 30-year and 20-year service awards to staff members.

In Phnom Penh, Ashe toured the Voice of America facilities and met with staff, including (b) (6), director of the RFA's Cambodian Service.

The first BBG member to visit Laos, Ashe met there with RFA staff, U.S. embassy officials and Laotian officials.

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 2:05 PM
To: (b) (6); Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Trip Update

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(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 1:38 PM
To: (b) (5)
Cc: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Trip Update

I continue meetings on Friday in Bangkok as well going to RFA and VOA offices in Thailand's capital city as well as meeting with various South Asian correspondents.

please add that..then I finish the tour.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Letitia King (b) (6) v>; Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 1:34 pm
Subject: Trip Update

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The first BBG member to visit Laos, Ashe met there with RFA staff, U.S. embassy officials and Laotian officials.

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 7:54 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

I do not have a clue on what you suggest but I am sure you can get it to happen

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 7:07 am
Subject: Re: Fwd: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

Nice pic! Thanks, and much obliged for the ones sent last night.

Perhaps there's a way to do this so that such photos are available for our use without being sent as attachments -- especially if there's a large batch. We'll work on that, and let you know if there's a user-friendly solution.

Best,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 6:52:46 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

You may want this too. Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: lking <(b) (6)>; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 6:38 am
Subject: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

Trish,

Greetings from Bangkok. Earlier today Governor Ashe visited the IBB Bangkok Transmitter plant north of Bangkok near Ayuttaya to tour the site and meet with staff. During our visit, we took a group photo in front of the station. Governor Ashe asked me to forward this image to you so that it could be posted on the BBG web page. The Station email server is off line so I am sending this photo to you from my hotmail account. Since our email service is off line, I am also unable to verify your email address. Hopefully, I have addressed this to you correctly.

regards

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 18, 2012 7:58 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: Murrow facility

thanks much

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6) v>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letitia King <(b) (6) >
Sent: Sun, Mar 18, 2012 7:55 pm
Subject: RE: Murrow facility

Hello, Victor –

We're in touch with Congressman Jones about his schedule, and his office tells us that we should have an answer by Wednesday COB. As soon as the date is set, you'll be the first to know.

Best,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Sunday, March 18, 2012 7:40 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Murrow facility

Has a date been set for the dedication? I know BBG/IBB is working with Congressman Jones. I need to know as I would like to attend and would need to make flight reservations.

Victor

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From: vhashe@aol.com
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Subject: Murrow facility

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Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 10:43 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Letitia King
Subject: Re: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

I am the first BBG member as well as RFA member to visit Laos where I am at present. Thanks

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Letitia King <(b) (6)>
Sent: Sat, Mar 17, 2012 8:49 pm
Subject: Re: Fwd: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

Thank you, Victor. On Monday we'll add the photo and caption to our ongoing, on-line coverage of your trip.

Safe travels,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 8:02:10 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

FYI from Phnom Penh

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, Mar 17, 2012 10:30 am
Subject: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

Dear Governor and all,

Please find attached our group photo taken during the governor's visit to our filing center on Friday. The photo credit goes to (b) (6), RFA.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)

--

(b) (6)

TV Unit Coordinator

Voice of America (VOA), Khmer Service
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Mobile: (+855) 12 282638
Tel: 023 986791
Fax: 023 992219
Email: (b) (6)
Web: www.voacambodia.com

facebook.com/voakhmer
twitter.com/voakhmer
youtube.com/voakhmerservice

--- On Fri, 3/16/12, vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

From: vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com>
Subject: Re: A note of thanks from VOA Khmer Service in Phnom Penh
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Date: Friday, March 16, 2012, 5:28 AM

we appreciate all you do. Thanks so much. Am in Bangkok now

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: [vhashe](mailto:vhashe@aol.com) <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 16, 2012 12:24 pm
Subject: A note of thanks from VOA Khmer Service in Phnom Penh

Dear Governor Ashe,

Thank you very much for visiting us this morning. Your visit is our great honor and, as always, another encouragement for us to wholeheartedly continue our mission here in this country.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)

Voice of America (VOA), Khmer Service
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Mobile: (+855) 12 282638
Tel: 023 986791
Fax: 023 992219
Email: (b) (6)
Web: www.voacambodia.com

facebook.com/voakhmer
twitter.com/voakhmer
youtube.com/voakhmerservice

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 9:15 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Progress on date for Murrow dedication

Any headway on getting a date to dedicate the Edward Murrow Transmission station in Greenville, NC? April is upon us.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 7:54 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: News and Events

apparently it came out a few years ago...just caught my eye. WW II issues interest me and having been in Poland the Holocaust was front and center unfortunately.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 29, 2012 7:29 am
Subject: Re: Fwd: News and Events

Thank you for thinking of that, Victor.

I'm unaware of a direct relationship between my family and Jiri Weil -- and in fact, until today was unaware of this author. Both books sound intriguing, so thanks, as well, for this opportunity to learn something new.

The name Weil derives from a Middle German word meaning small valley. Found throughout Europe, people named Weil or Weill (as in Kurt -- sadly, also not a direct relative) can in many cases trace their ancestry to the Alsace and nearby southern Germany, where several geographic features and population centers bear names featuring the word, including Weillthal and Weil-am-Rhein, two towns in Swabia that I've noted while driving by.

The name is unusual but not unheard-of in the United States -- there's the Swiss watch-maker that advertises in glossy magazines, as well as a locally well-known and now retired judge named Weil in San Francisco. And of course there's also Sanford Weill of Citibank; I sure wish I were related to him!

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 4:12:05 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: News and Events

Lynne. I wonder if the Jiri Weil who wrote this book, Life with a Star is related to you or your husband's family? I just noticed the book which is for sale at Daunt's which is a well known Bookstore in London.

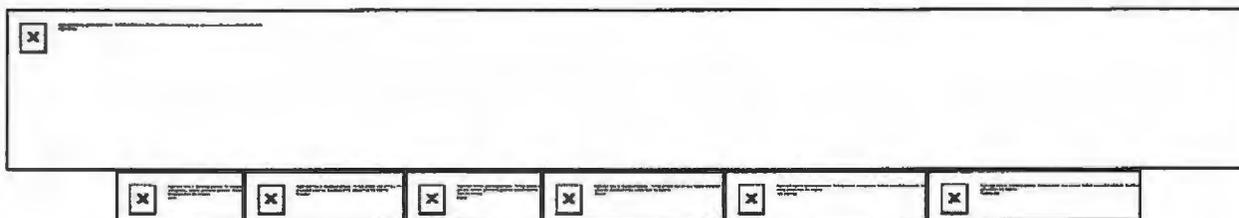
Victor

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

From: Daunt Books <orders@dauntbooks.co.uk>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 29, 2012 4:01 am
Subject: News and Events

You're receiving this email because you are subscribed to the Daunt Books e-Newsletter.

Having trouble reading this email? [View it on your browser.](#)



MARCH 29, 2012

News

Last year, we uncovered and published Jiri Weil's neglected classic, *Mendelssohn is on the Roof*, a biting satire of the bureaucratic machinery of tyranny. At the end of this month, we will be publishing a second of Weil's novels; one which can almost be read as a companion novel to the first.

In *Life With A Star* we are exposed to the mind-numbing tedium of terror. Josef Roubicek, a former bank clerk, struggles against the daily impossibilities of life under a regime which has rendered him unemployed and undesirable. Like the resistance mounted in Hans Fallada's *Alone in Berlin*, the steps taken to undermine the stranglehold of the system are tiny but not insignificant, and heroism is distilled to the capacity to hope when all hope is lost.

This is a quiet, haunting novel, with the power to transfix and astonish. We hope you will be as moved by this intriguing author as we have been.

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Books of the month



The Chemistry of Tears

Peter Carey
Hardback

[More info »](#)



Land's Edge

Tim Winton
Hardback

[More info »](#)



Life With A Star

Jiri Weil
Paperback

[More info »](#)



How To Survive The Titanic: Or The Sinking of J. Bruce Ismay

Frances Wilson
Paperback

[More info »](#)

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Events

Claudia Roden: The Food of Spain

Wednesday, 4th April in Marylebone (please call 020 7224 2295 for tickets)

Ed Vulliamy: The War is Dead, Long Live the War. Bosnia: the Reckoning

Thursday, 12th April in Chelsea (please call 020 7373 4997 for tickets)

Iain Sinclair in conversation with Craig Taylor

Tuesday, 17th April in Hampstead (please call 020 7794 8206 for tickets)

Jerry White in conversation with Sarah Bakewell

Wednesday, 18th April in Marylebone (please call 020 7224 2295 for tickets)

Justin Cartwright

Tuesday, 24th April in Hampstead (please call 020 7224 2295 for tickets)

[Back to top](#)

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Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 1:53 PM
To: Paul Kollmer; Richard M. Lobo; Bruce Sherman; m [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Gallup contract

I do want to see and read the Gallup Contract. Please advise how I can best do this. I am in Washington on Thursday, March 29.

Victor Ashe

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 11:01 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: 3:30

yes..call (b) (6). Victor

In a message dated 3/27/2012 9:06:10 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor --

Sorry but the evening event -- a small dinner to talk nonproliferation and the nuclear summit with (b) (6) -- precluded making a phone call. And it went late.

Minor adjustment on this end today: Would 3;30 work for you?

Best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 6:42:57 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: delay

Yes, or you can call this evening up to 10. Victor

In a message dated 3/26/2012 6:31:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Voctor,

Sorry, but I got caught in the vortex of planning meetings and follow-ups that so often take up much of each Monday here. Am now en route to an evening event. Can we talk tomorrow at 2:30?

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 3:27 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: delay

why not call me now and you and I can talk? tomorrow I am tied up all morning and available after 2...Victor

In a message dated 3/26/2012 3:26:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I'm sorry, but later today won't work.

How about 9:30 or 10 tomorrow?

On a different topic, I have a call in to Rep. Rohrabacher's office.

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 3:08:39 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com; Me
Subject: Re: delay

Thanks for the heads-up.

I'll check with Dick's office.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 2:13:34 PM
To: lynne.a.weil@gmail.com; Lynne Weil
Subject: delay

I can no longer do a 430 call but can do it at 5PM or 515..would that work today?

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 6:49 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

Lynne

While I am glad to talk to Dick too at any time, you can always call me direct on these issues..especially if you feel I have a misperception. Victor

In a message dated 3/25/2012 5:46:59 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks. It's about your e-mail to me and my supervisor, Dick Lobo, on Friday early a.m. DC time concerning the Gallup contract that reflected poorly on the public affairs response to the (b) (6) inquiry. Among other things, the e-mail indicated that the only answer (b) (6) had received to her inquiry was from (b) (6) in the GC's office.

It also contains a misperception that we're hoping to discuss with you.

We'll call after 4.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 5:05:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

best to call in late afternoon after 4...what is topic?

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sun, Mar 25, 2012 4:49 pm
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

Thanks. We were not familiar with your travel plans.

No urgency; tomorrow's fine. Mondays are always a slew of meetings, so may we call you?

Welcome back,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 4:36:53 PM

To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil

Subject: Not there on Friday

I was still in Bangkok on Friday and only today landed in Chicago where I got your voice mail. That is why I did not respond. Can call this afternoon or Monday.

Victor

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Subject: delay

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Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 6:32 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

glad to discuss. My real problem is more with the (b) (6) letter. Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sun, Mar 25, 2012 5:46 pm
Subject: Re: Not there on Friday

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Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 11:18 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

it is 1017 in morning where I am on Saturday

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 24, 2012 10:17 am
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Got it. Thanks, and good night.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 11:10:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

subject would be Tibetan language service, Chinese language, establishing regular communications with BBG Board

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 24, 2012 9:57 am
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Many thanks, very helpful.

Please let me know if there is a subject to be supplied when we make the meeting request; this is often more effective than simply asking to meet -- which, as you may imagine, lots of people do. Your name/position alone may be reason enough, but if you'd like to signal a subject matter, say the word.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 10:53:53 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

free from 3 to 430 on March 29...all day on April 9 and morning of April 10.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 24, 2012 9:01 am
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

We'll check with his office first thing on Monday. Are you free all of all three days, or are there times when you're not available?

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:53:59 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

I would like to meet with the Congressman. Do you prefer I call to set it up or your office do it? It will need to be March 29 or April 9 or 10.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6), Michael Meehan, (b) (6), Dana Perino, (b) (6), Richard M. Lobo, (b) (6), Jeffrey Trimble, (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:49 pm
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Understood, and I appreciate the reasoning offered.

Today we secured a date and time for Enders' meeting with Mr. R.. He/we will be able to provide the Board a readout at the April 19-20 meeting. If you choose to meet with this member independently, I'd be happy to share your readout with them, as well -- though you'd be in a better position to do so, of course.

I'll ask for the info for Mr. R's office on Monday. Since I'd delegated the arrangement-making and advised/supervised as needed, I don't have it.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:00:47 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Lynne

I often meet with members of Congress on my own. I asked about Cong. Rohrabacher. I do want to meet him. Should I just contact him on my own? If so, I do not mind and please send me his point of contact on his staff? I really do not want to wait to late April. I will gladly tell you what happens at the meeting.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6) (h) (6) Michael Meehan (b) (6) Dana Perino
(b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 2:09 pm

Subject: Re: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

Dear Victor,

(b) (6) drafted the response that was just shared with the Board. We reviewed it before it went to Rep. Rohrabacher.

Basically, it thanks him for his interest/support, indicates that his proposal will be studied by a committee of Governors engaged in strategy (i.e. the one you've just joined), and, as an important point of reference, VOA and RFE/RL have programming to the region.

Re: a meeting, Enders is familiar with Mr. R, and we have a request in to the latter's office for the two of them to get together again soon (aiming for April).

It would be best from the agency's p.o.v. to make the most of Governors' time by strategic planning of meetings with selected members of Congress, according to our goals and their positions, coordinated through the Communications Committee. I hope you don't mind my copying them on this reply.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 9:22:27 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Subject: Re: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

Good evening, Victor, and thank you for your interest in this matter.

I'll get back to you on all of the below tomorrow after some consultations.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 7:41:20 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

Of course I want to see the response to the congressman..who will sign it? I think we should place it on the agenda at next Board meeting so we can show we are taking it seriously.

Second, I would like to meet with him sometime just to get to know him...not sure when last Governor ever saw him. April 10 works well for me in AM...can your office set it up?

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 11:10 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

subject would be Tibetan language service, Chinese language, establishing regular communications with BBG Board
Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 24, 2012 9:57 am
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Many thanks, very helpful.

Please let me know if there is a subject to be supplied when we make the meeting request; this is often more effective than simply asking to meet -- which, as you may imagine, lots of people do. Your name/position alone may be reason enough, but if you'd like to signal a subject matter, say the word.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 10:53:53 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

free from 3 to 430 on March 29...all day on April 9 and morning of April 10.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 24, 2012 9:01 am
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

We'll check with his office first thing on Monday. Are you free all of all three days, or are there times when you're not available?

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:53:59 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

I would like to meet with the Congressman. Do you prefer I call to set it up or your office do it? It will need to be March 29 or April 9 or 10.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6); Michael Meehan (b) (6); Dana Perino

(b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:49 pm

Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Understood, and I appreciate the reasoning offered.

Today we secured a date and time for Enders' meeting with Mr. R.. He/we will be able to provide the Board a readout at the April 19-20 meeting. If you choose to meet with this member independently, I'd be happy to share your readout with them, as well -- though you'd be in a better position to do so, of course.

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Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:00:47 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Lynne

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Victor

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To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6); Michael Meehan (b) (6); Dana Perino

(b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 2:09 pm

Subject: Re: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

Dear Victor,

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Basically, it thanks him for his interest/support, indicates that his proposal will be studied by a committee of Governors engaged in strategy (i.e. the one you've just joined), and, as an important point of reference, VOA and RFE/RL have programming to the region.

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Best regards,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 9:22:27 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Subject: Re: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

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I'll get back to you on all of the below tomorrow after some consultations.

Lynne

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Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 7:41:20 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Rohrabacher letter

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Second, I would like to meet with him sometime just to get to know him...not sure when last Governor ever saw him. April 10 works well for me in AM...can your office set it up?

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Mar 21, 2012 7:25 pm
Subject: Fw: Rohrabacher letter

Fyi

Can you imagine getting into the middle of that hornets nest?

Yikes

(b) (6)
Radio Free Asia

From: (b) (6)
Date: Wed, 21 Mar 2012 19:22:49 -0400 (EDT)
To: (b) (6); <(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:56 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

well in this case we will get to read about it. As you know I am a huge supporter of disclosure. I think FOIA is very weak in terms of disclosure and what I lived with as Mayor of Knoxville. Unless it is national security, I usually fall on disclosure side of issue. Given the size of this contract, openness is even more relevant. Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:51 pm
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I'm not sure, but they do have more than one project under way at any given time. Taking that and other factors into account, I'm in no position to judge the pace of that office's work.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:24:31 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I got those e mails which I appreciate. It is now a month later. Seems progress is slow and unclear whether effort is being made to remove proprietary information and release the rest?

Surely some parts of the contract can be released.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>; (b) (6);
(b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); Bruce
Sherman <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:22 pm
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

Stand by, please, for two e-mail chains dating to mid- and late February that may be instructive here.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 8:54:39 PM
To: (b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:23 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Until BBG asks Gallup about this and gets their response the reasons for delay remain uncertain. Why not remove the proprietary information and release the rest of the contact?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6); Letitia King <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6); Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:19 pm
Subject: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Per previous message, am sharing this first of two e-mail chains on this matter.

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2012 2:16:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information

Dear Lynn:

Thank you for your note, and for helping with a FOIA request.

Best,

(b)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: request for information
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 2012 20:06:39 +0000

Dear (b)

It was good to talk with you, albeit briefly, on Tuesday. I'm glad that you were able to find the basic information about the research contract on-line.

As promised, I've checked with all the right people here, some of whom were away from the office last week, to see what more is available. Thanks for your patience regarding this request.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:27 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Gallup contract

Lynne and Dick

FYI Ann Noonan and her group are asking for a copy of the Gallup contract. (b) (6) sent one of the usual it will cost you and it takes time to answer responses which I think is the wrong answer for a \$50 million contract. That is not pocket change.

Regardless of the reason for wanting it, it ought to be public and even posted on our web site...unless I am missing something here.

Instead of taking a beating on being slow to respond and there is a media event with Gallup soon, why not be forthcoming and let them have it as well as anyone else? Slow walking this creates more issues than releasing it.

Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 2:19 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: Trip Update

You should state that I met with the Vice Minister of Information of the Laotian government..not just an official. The Bangkok facility is actually 80 miles outside Bangkok.

In Phnom Penh, I visited both RFA and VOA offices..not just VOA. I also met with Human Rights NGOs and independent journalists in Cambodia. (b) (6) was not just someone I met with in Phnom Penh but rather he accompanied me to all meetings and was with me the whole time there.

This should clarify this further.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 2:12 pm
Subject: RE: Trip Update

Gov. Ashe,
Thanks for the clarifications. Here is the revised draft.

(b)

BBG Gov. Victor Ashe wraps up his tour of Southeast Asian broadcast facilities this week with a series of meetings in Thailand, including stops at the offices of Radio Free Asia and Voice of America in Bangkok. Earlier, Ashe visited the Bangkok transmitter plant where he met with staff and delved into the plant's history. Ashe, a former U.S. ambassador to Poland, expressed a keen interest in the facility's history, which dates to the Vietnam conflict. He suggested renaming the facility, which is not located in Bangkok, but near Ayutthaya north of the capital city.

During the 10-day trip, Ashe's itinerary has included stops at BBG facilities, meetings with agency staff and talks with U.S. embassy officials and local authorities in Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos.

In the Udon Thani province of northeast Thailand, Ashe toured a BBG transmission facility and presented 30-year and 20-year service awards to staff members.

At Voice of America offices in Phnom Penh, Ashe toured the facilities and met with staff, including (b) (6), director of the RFA's Cambodian Service.

The first BBG member to visit Laos, Ashe met there Laotian officials about the possibility of allowing RFA correspondents in Laos. He also met with U.S. embassy officials and Laotian journalists.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 2:05 PM
To: (b) (6); Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Trip Update

(b)

In Vientiane I did not meet with RFA staff as there is NOT any RFA staff in Laos. We are not allowed. I did meet with Vice Minister of Information and raised the issue of RFA having correspondents in Laos as RFA does in Cambodia. I was told the government was willing to discuss it. I felt that was a positive start. I did meet with the Deputy Chief of Mission in Vientiane, (b) (6) and several Laotian journalists.

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 2:05 PM
To: (b) (6) Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Trip Update

(b)

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thought I should clarify this.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Letitia King (b) (6); Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 1:34 pm
Subject: Trip Update

Hi Gov. Ashe,

Here's the latest update to the item about your trip for bbg.gov. I wanted to run it past you before I publish.

Thanks,

(b)

BBG Gov. Victor Ashe wrapped up his tour of Southeast Asian broadcast facilities with a stop at the BBG's Thailand transmission facility, where he met with staff and delved into the plant's history.

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The first BBG member to visit Laos, Ashe met there with RFA staff, U.S. embassy officials and Laotian officials.

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 1:38 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Trip Update

I continue meetings on Friday in Bangkok as well going to RFA and VOA offices in Thailand's capital city as well as meeting with various South Asian correspondents.

please add that..then I finish the tour.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Letitia King <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 1:34 pm
Subject: Trip Update

Hi Gov. Ashe,

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(b) (6)

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The first BBG member to visit Laos, Ashe met there with RFA staff, U.S. embassy officials and Laotian officials.

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 7:54 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

I do not have a clue on what you suggest but I am sure you can get it to happen

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 7:07 am
Subject: Re: Fwd: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

Nice pic! Thanks, and much obliged for the ones sent last night.

Perhaps there's a way to do this so that such photos are available for our use without being sent as attachments -- especially if there's a large batch. We'll work on that, and let you know if there's a user-friendly solution.

Best,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 6:52:46 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

You may want this too. Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: lking <(b) (6)>; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) >
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 6:38 am
Subject: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

Trish,

Greetings from Bangkok. Earlier today Governor Ashe visited the IBB Bangkok Transmitter plant north of Bangkok near Ayuttaya to tour the site and meet with staff. During our visit, we took a group photo in front of the station. Governor Ashe asked me to forward this image to you so that it could be posted on the BBG web page. The Station email server is off line so I am sending this photo to you from my hotmail account. Since our email service is off line, I am also unable to verify your email address. Hopefully, I have addressed this to you correctly.

regards

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 18, 2012 7:58 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: Murrow facility

thanks much

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>
Sent: Sun, Mar 18, 2012 7:55 pm
Subject: RE: Murrow facility

Hello, Victor –

We're in touch with Congressman Jones about his schedule, and his office tells us that we should have an answer by Wednesday COB. As soon as the date is set, you'll be the first to know.

Best,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 18, 2012 7:40 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Murrow facility

Has a date been set for the dedication? I know BBG/IBB is working with Congressman Jones. I need to know as I would like to attend and would need to make flight reservations.

Victor

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From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 18, 2012 7:40 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Murrow facility

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Victor

Lynne Weil

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 10:43 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Letitia King
Subject: Re: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

I am the first BBG member as well as RFA member to visit Laos where I am at present. Thanks

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Letitia King (b) (6) v>
Sent: Sat, Mar 17, 2012 8:49 pm
Subject: Re: Fwd: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

Thank you, Victor. On Monday we'll add the photo and caption to our ongoing, on-line coverage of your trip.

Safe travels,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 8:02:10 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

FYI from Phnom Penh

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, Mar 17, 2012 10:30 am
Subject: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

Dear Governor and all,

Please find attached our group photo taken during the governor's visit to our filing center on Friday. The photo credit goes to (b) (6), RFA.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)

--
(b) (6)

TV Unit Coordinator

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 10:56 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: January

This is consistent with my understanding. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Jeff Trimble (b) (6); (b) (6) >
Cc: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; vhashe@aol.com <Vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Jan 5, 2012 9:47 am
Subject: January

Jeff (b) (6)

The RFA Board will not be having a meeting this month

Michael and Victor had decided this a while ago.

I'm sorry if we failed to confirm this with you - as I know we talked about how this month was looking really crowded.

Pls revise sked accordingly

Thanks

(b) (6)

Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 11:03 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: AFGE local 1812 collective bargaining agreement

(b) (6)

Please e mail me the agenda (I assume one or two pages) as I can access it here. for Jan 12-13.

Also I would like to have a copy of the collective bargaining agreement with VOA and BBG and AFGE 1812 union. Please e mail it if it is not over 8 pages...otherwise please add it to the fed ex package you are sending to Knoxville.

I will be in the Cohen Bldg on part of the afternoon of Jan 11. I wonder if (b) (6) is available to visit around 115

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2012 7:09 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: items not fully posted

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dick

Prior to Christmas when I asked to see what portions of the deloitte study and the McKenzie Baker legal analysis was being held back from the BBG web site you said staff could not get to it during the Christmas holidays which I found to be a satisfactory reason.

However the first week of January is almost over and I have not heard back from anyone on where this request stood. I want to re register my request to find out what was not shared with the public and who actually made the decisions as to what was posted online and what was not. Was it the deputy legal counsel or someone else or a committee?

I do want to see what the public was not permitted to see. Can you advise me as to when this will be possible. As you know I come from a background of full transparency as President Obama pledged in one of his first executive orders in January, 2009.

I raised this issue at the last BBG board meeting and was assured it would be posted with a few exceptions. Chairman Isaacson voiced comments which favored disclosure. I would like to know more about this process.

I trust the holidays went well for you and your wife as well the whole staff.

Warm regards for a productive 2012.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2012 3:33 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: items not fully posted

look forward to getting it. Thanks Victor

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

From: richard m lobo (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Jan 6, 2012 3:05 pm
Subject: Re: items not fully posted

victor,

welcome back from the bottom of the world. happy new year to you and the family.

i am told i can get an answer to you on monday.

see you next week.

dick

On Fri, Jan 6, 2012 at 7:09 AM, <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Dick

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I raised this issue at the last BBG board meeting and was assured it would be posted with a few exceptions. Chairman Isaacson voiced comments which favored disclosure. I would like to know more about this process.

I trust the holidays went well for you and your wife as well the whole staff.

Warm regards for a productive 2012.

Victor Ashe

PM that day or we can set up a phone call on the morning of Jan 10 if that works better.

Hope the New Year is going well.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 1:26 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Vietnam

we should say something publicly if this continues and advise the State Dept as well as our Ambassador in Hanoi.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)

To: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; vhashe@aol.com <Vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Richard M lobo <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>

Sent: Thu, Jan 5, 2012 12:32 pm

Subject: Vietnam

FyI

RFA's direct dial call-in numbers were just "suspended permanently"

We are looking for alternatives now

(b) (6)

Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 7:11 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: AFGE local 1812 collective bargaining agreement

that works well. Thanks Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>

Sent: Thu, Jan 5, 2012 4:36 pm

Subject: RE: AFGE local 1812 collective bargaining agreement

Just received a copy of the collective bargaining agreement between BBG and AFGE Local 1812. It's very long and

cannot be emailed to you. I will include this in the briefing materials via FedEx.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 11:03 AM

To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: AFGE local 1812 collective bargaining agreement

(b) (6)

Please e mail me the agenda (I assume one or two pages) as I can access it here. for Jan 12-13.

Also I would like to have a copy of the collective bargaining agreement with VOA and BBG and AFGE 1812 union. Please e mail it if it is not over 8 pages...otherwise please add it to the fed ex package you are sending to Knoxville.

I will be in the Cohen Bldg on part of the afternoon of Jan 11. I wonder if (b) (6) is available to visit around 115 PM that day or we can set up a phone call on the morning of Jan 10 if that works better.

Hope the New Year is going well.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, January 08, 2012 10:13 AM

To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: BBG January Meeting Materials

(b) (6)

I did not see the resolution honoring the 70th anniversary of Mandarin Language service on the BBG open meeting agenda although it is listed on your list of attachments. It is requested by me. I asked for it several weeks ago and trust it will be on the agenda.

Also the agenda says that the official BBG meeting starts at 2 PM at Cohen Bldg. However, when one goes the website of BBG, it says the meeting starts at 230PM. which is correct? The web site should reflect the real time the meeting will begin for those persons who wish to watch it live. The web site needs to be changed to reflect the actual start time if it is actually 2PM and not 230 PM.

Hope the weekend goes well.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Jan 6, 2012 7:39 pm

Subject: BBG January Meeting Materials

Dear Governors,

Attached please find an agenda for next week's BBG meetings on Thursday and Friday.

Thursday, January 12 is an off-site Governors' Briefing at the Aspen Institute (One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 700) from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Because the briefing materials for the off-site briefing are voluminous and contain sensitive information, we have sent a printed copy of the off-site briefing book to your home or office. These materials also will be available on your Governors' restricted website. (b) (2)

A Board dinner (Governors Only - Self Paid) is scheduled that evening at 6:30 pm. We are looking for a private dining place (it's DC Restaurant Week, so bookings are heavy) and we will let you know the venue as soon as possible.

Friday, January 13 will be devoted to BBG-related meetings at the Cohen Building from 9 am to 3:00 pm. Details are in the attached agenda. Briefing materials, minutes and network monthly reports are attached. Printed versions of these materials will be provided at the Friday meeting. All materials also will be available on your Governors' restricted website.

I will send materials for the MBN corporate meeting in a separate email.

Governor Perino will not be able to attend this month's meetings. Governor Meehan will attend only the off-site briefing on Thursday.

Regards,

(b) (6)

List of attached materials:

Meeting Agenda

Tab 1 Memo on Repurposing Internet Censorship Circumvention Funds

Tab 2 Document on Role of Board and IBB Staff

Tab 3 Current BBG Committee Rosters

Tab 4 Memo on Research Contract Update

Tab 5 Memo on DG-5 Cooperation

Tab 6 Office of Digital and Design Innovation FY 2012 Strategy Overview

Tab 7 Draft Minutes of November 18, 2011 Meeting

Tab 8 2012 BBG Meeting Schedule

Tab 9 Resolution on Interference with BBG Broadcasts

Tab 10a Resolution Honoring VOA's 70th Anniversary

Tab 10b Resolution Observing 70th Anniversary of VOA Mandarin and Cantonese

Tab 11 IBB Monthly Report

Tab 12 OCB Monthly Report

Tab 13 VOA Monthly Report

Tab 14 RFE/RL Monthly Report

Tab 15 RFA Monthly Report

BBG Web Traffic Statistics

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, January 08, 2012 3:48 PM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

Subject: Re: BBG January Meeting Materials

thanks for the clarification...Have a good week.

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) >

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Richard

M. Lobo (b) (6) >

Sent: Sun, Jan 8, 2012 2:40 pm

Subject: RE: BBG January Meeting Materials

Victor, the resolution on VOA Chinese broadcasting is in Tab 10 (you will see it when you receive the materials), together with the VOA resolution. The intention is to consider both of these VOA-related resolutions during the BBG meeting.

We will adjust the website reference to the BBG meeting time; the time was changed to 2 p.m. after we got the late word that RFA would not have a corporate board meeting.

Regards

Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 08, 2012 10:13 AM

To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: BBG January Meeting Materials

(b) (6)

I did not see the resolution honoring the 70th anniversary of Mandarin Language service on the BBG open meeting agenda although it is listed on your list of attachments. It is requested by me. I asked for it several weeks ago and trust it will be on the agenda.

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Oanh

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Tab 12 OCB Monthly Report

Tab 13 VOA Monthly Report

Tab 14 RFE/RL Monthly Report

Tab 15 RFA Monthly Report

BBG Web Traffic Statistics

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2012 10:30 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

Thanks. Are you looking at Feb 10? or the day before? I assume the day before on Feb 9 due to innovation taking most of the day. The list we need to review are frankly extensive and I doubt one meeting will do it.

You still have my earlier e mail. Nothing has changed there from my point of view. I have more items but doubt if a one day meeting can handle them all. Report on my visit to Greenville transmission facility and its future, contract employees and their future (we need to hear from them too)...how BBG conducts oversight...if there is a change in White House who replaces Dick Lobo as CEO...it could become vacant on Jan 20, 2013.

I can and will add more when we are together this week. I have strong and deep concerns on several other issues.
Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Jeff Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Jan 10, 2012 9:46 am
Subject: Next Gov Comm meeting

Victor:

Happy New Year. We are trying to schedule the next Governance Comm meeting around the time of the innovation meetings in DC next month. We are working to lock down Michael Lynton's participation which, as you might expect, is somewhat challenging but I am hopeful we can get it done.

Could you send me any agenda items you would wish to see included? You had previously mentioned a few, but I want to ensure that your interests and views as to what should be discussed are fully represented.

Many thanks and best,

Dennis
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2012 6:17 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

No offense but if you are waiting on Lynton, it will need to be by phone, or without him or simply not meet, This is

not meant to be cirtical of Lynton but it is the life he leads. Perhaps Walter could come on Feb 9. that gives three members. Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Jeff Trimble (b) (6) Paul Kollmer
(b) (6) Walter Isaacson (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Jan 10, 2012 5:52 pm
Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

I will let the staff chime in here, but it now does not appear that Michael Lynton is available on Thurs 2/9. He is in London that day apparently, so we're still working the schedule. I will get my thoughts on agenda items to you shortly. Thanks.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 2012 10:30:14 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

Thanks. Are you looking at Feb 10? or the day before? I assume the day before on Feb 9 due to innovation taking most of the day. The list we need to review are frankly extensive and I doubt one meeting will do it.

You still have my earlier e mail. Nothing has changed there from my point of view. I have more items but doubt if a one day meeting can handle them all. Report on my visit to Greenville transmission facility and its future, contract employees and their future (we need to hear from them too)...how BBG conducts oversight...if there is a change in White House who replaces Dick Lobo as CEO...it could become vacant on Jan 20, 2013.

I can and will add more when we are together this week. I have strong and deep concerns on several other issues. Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Jeff Trimble (b) (6) (b) (6)
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Could you send me any agenda items you would wish to see included? You had previously mentioned a few, but I want to ensure that your interests and views as to what should be discussed are fully represented.

Many thanks and best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2012 12:53 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I understand where the money comes from..the question to be more precise is who actually approves the settlement..is it VOA or BBG?

Victor Ashe

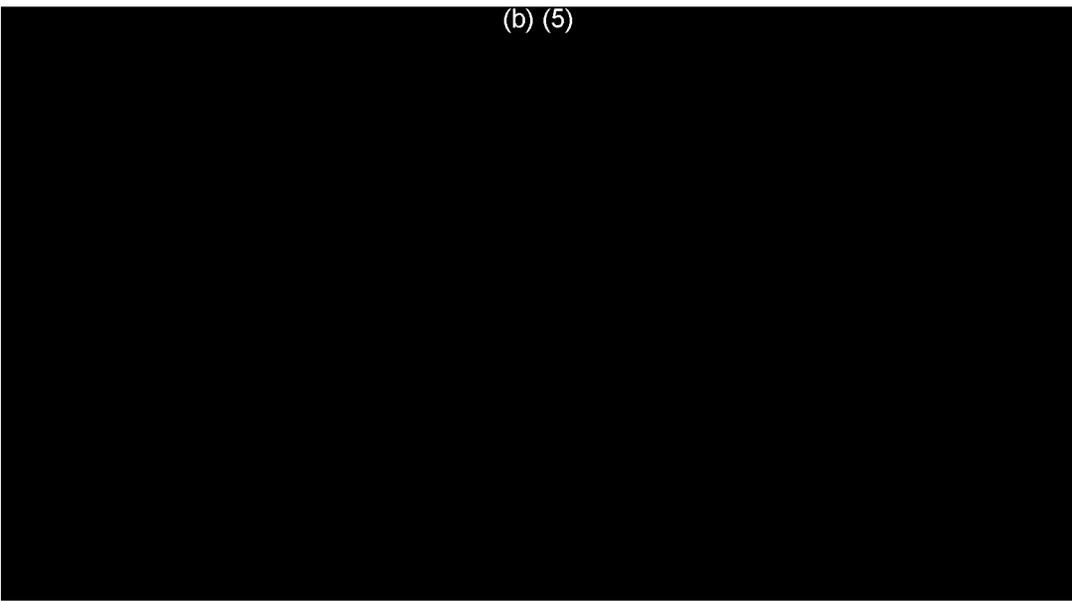
-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Jan 9, 2012 10:01 am
Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Settlement agreements are generally paid for by the entity for which the employee worked.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2012 9:48 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey
(b) (6)
Subject: RE: (b) (6)

(b) (5)



Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2012 8:28 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: (b) (6)

Dear Mr (b) (6)

(b) (5)

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) >

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Jan 3, 2012 6:02 pm

Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Victor:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

From: vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>
[mailto:vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Friday, December 30, 2011 3:47 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: (b) (6)

Dear (b) (6) and (b) (6)

I received an e mail today from (b) (6)
(b) (6) She states she is in a termination matter (ie. being let
go).
She says she has written Board members since April including me.

I do not recall receiving such a letter. Was it sent to VOA or to (b) (6)
(b) (6)
or Jeff trimble and not forwarded?

I would like to have some background on this so I can respond to it. I do not
views for or against her as I do not recall having ever met her. However,
when
I get inquiries like this I like to know what it all about before responding.
Right now I want to know from management what this is all about.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, January 14, 2012 7:13 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: (b) (6)

Dear Mr (b) (6) and Mr (b) (6)

(b) (5)

As we approach the King Holiday on January 16 we should remember that his life stood for making the system fair and just. Let's do it in this case.

I am copying Jeff Trimble on this in the hope he will counsel with you.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, January 14, 2012 8:47 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Late payments for contractors

(b) (6)

I am getting many comments from contract employees on late payments for the bills they submit...which apparently is the way it works for this category of persons. Sometimes it has been as high as 4 months and often 3 to 4 weeks. For persons living from pay check to pay check this is tough.

Please work the system and get a process in place where these delays do not occur if the payment request is submitted in a timely manner. In a reasonable time frame, I would be interested in hearing from you on what is being done and how this situation is being ironed out. It is a current, credible and pressing concern among lots of employees.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2012 4:57 PM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Burma

glad all are working together on Burma..very important that RFA and VOA be together. Also feel that should a visit to the new Burma occur in next several months that RFA Board member or two be included so as to bring Board fully into this dramatic change in a nation's direction (assuming it is for real).

Victor Ashe

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

From: Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>
To: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Jan 12, 2012 2:50 pm
Subject: Fw: Burma

Supporting what I just said to (b) (6), FYI, on which you were copied, I'd already reached out to her as one of my first actions in heading the new Strategy & Development Office to say we needed to meet on Burma. Distribution decisions need to follow strategy, and all BBG media properties need to be in the mix. We'll now coordinate an overall strategy and sort out the TV, radio, etc. pieces. We will likely need your support to avoid, once again, unnecessary duplication of effort. This is the practical, hands-on stuff of BBG integration.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2012 8:15:16 AM
To: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Burma

Agree

Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

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

From: Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 2012 02:05:12
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Burma

Hi (b) (6) I'll see you tomorrow but wanted to say in advance that I want to talk to you about Burma. VOA reached an agreement in principle, as you know, with Burma to distribute selected VOA "soft" programming over domestic outlets. Now there's a return trip in the offing to follow up and discuss terms. But we also have to factor in RFA. We need an integrated BBG strategy. So I'd like to propose that you and I and our placement folks headed by (b) (6) and our VOA colleagues all sit together to talk through how we see the Burmese

market/situation now and opportunities and how we how best to seize them. I know you've had ideas and plans for Burma. So with the proposed VOA/IBB return trip, it's time we looked at our overall interests and strategies. Just wanted to lay this out here since it's on my mind. We'll talk tomorrow. Bruce

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2012 11:16 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: request to attend BBG meeting

Dear (b) (6)

I have learned that the Board has a request from (b) (6), executive director of the US Committee for International Broadcasting, to attend our Jan 13 Board meeting in person.

I feel our webcam meetings have been a great success and consistent with President Obama's executive order of January 2009 on transparency. I feel we should also allow guests to attend our meetings in person while the Board assesses having meetings regularly where the public may attend.

I also feel that your office should advise the full Board whenever a request is made to attend our meetings. This has not been done with (b) (6). I learned of it from a third party. This email should be taken as strong support for her being allowed to attend. She is an interested citizen. She would not be disruptive. I am not certain you have the right to refuse her entry without clearing it with the Board. By what authority does your office have the right to decide who can attend or not attend our meetings?

Can individual Board members can have guests? The State Dept member, Ms. Stock, brings an assistant. There is no objection to this. Can other Board members invite guests to the meeting? What is the process for this?

If I wish to invite a guest, what process must I follow to include that person?

I urge that (b) (6) request be honored. We have far more to gain by admitting her than by denying her entry if it is legal to do so. It is foolish and self defeating to bar her from the January 13 meeting in my view.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2012 4:43 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director

this notice needs to be corrected to show (b) (6) as deputy general counsel. Dick Lobo acknowledged to me today that this description of him as general counsel is in error. The general counsel position has been vacant for severaol years.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble

(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jan 11, 2012 4:40 pm

Subject: FW: Message from the IBB Director

Dear Governors, I'm forwarding this message to you at Dick's request.

From: IBB Notices Administration [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2012 5:59 PM

To: IBB Staff

Subject: Message from the IBB Director

Colleagues:

The merger of the IBB and BBG staffs will become effective on January 15, 2012.

This action reflects the Board's commitment to streamline and increase the efficiency of agency operations, as called for in the newly adopted 2012-2016 Strategic Plan. The merger will facilitate the development of BBG-wide strategies and objectives, strengthen oversight of program and organizational performance, and enhance collaboration among our Federal and non-Federal entities.

An organizational chart showing the restructured, merged IBB/BBG operation is attached. Here are the key changes: A new Office of Strategy and Development will lead development and implementation of strategy through coordinated planning, agency-level audience research and impact assessment, program placement, development, and international media training. The Office will work with the broadcast services to align strategy at the Agency and language service levels as well as across entities to enhance performance and meet the goals set by the Strategic Plan. It will incorporate the former BBG Office of Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement, the IBB Office of Marketing and Program Placement, and VOA Business Development. Bruce Sherman will serve as director.

The Office of Performance Review takes on enhanced responsibilities under the continued leadership of Kelu Chao. The Office will continue to conduct VOA and OCB language service research and programming reviews. It will now also be responsible for conducting management analyses of the operational effectiveness of all BBG elements and for coordinating inspections and reviews by the Office of Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office. The Office, together with the performance review elements of the non-Federal entities, will also provide feedback to help shape strategy.

The Office of Communications and External Relations is responsible for communications and outreach activities for the Board and will serve as the Board's chief advisor for Congressional and external relations. The Office also coordinates communications operations of the BBG's media networks -- VOA, RFE, RFA, MBN, and OCB. The Graphics Unit, under the continued supervision of Tuleda Johnson, will move from the Marketing and Program Placement office to the Communications office. The position of Director of the Office of Communications and External Relations was recently advertised, and I hope shortly to be able to announce the selection of the Director of this office.

The Office of New Media has been renamed the Office of Digital and Design Innovation to better reflect its role in the development and implementation of innovative projects, programs, and services across U.S. international media. The Office will continue to play a key role in expanding the use of the best core technology platforms, as well as assisting entities in executing global digital and brand strategies, but also build out the next generation of digital products that present our content in an increasingly complex media landscape. Rob Bole continues as the Director of this Office. A Board Operations Staff will be formalized under the direction of the Board Secretary and General Counsel, Paul Kollmer-Dorsey, and will continue to support the Board in its meetings and other operations.

The Secretariat staff and the Analysis and Administration Division will be combined as the Administrative and Secretariat Operations Unit. The Unit will coordinate the development, approval and codification of Agency administrative policies in the form of the Broadcasting Administrative Manual and provide Secretariat services to the BBG, along with the Division's current functions. Doris Garay-Nellius will head this Unit.

I have designated Jeff Trimble as IBB Deputy Director. Jeff will assist me in overseeing IBB operations, and will carry out special projects at my direction, including the ongoing work to create a BBG global news network, a core element of the new Strategic Plan.

While this merger is a significant step, it is only a part of an ongoing, longer-term restructuring process. In coming months we will continue to study and evaluate this new organization, with an eye toward making further changes to achieve greater efficiencies and otherwise improve our performance. I look forward to your continued cooperation and

assistance as we move forward.

Regards,
Dick Lobo
IBB Director

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2012 10:20 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director

Enders

It is good to have you back with us and look forward to seeing you both Thursday and Friday.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jan 11, 2012 9:45 pm

Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director

Colleagues,

How is it possible that the substance of Gov. Ashe's recent message appears in (b) (6) libelous attack on our staff?:

[Correction from IBB Director Lobo: BBG Watch has learned that IBB Director Richard Lobo has corrected a mistake in his memo. (b) (6) does not have the tile of General Council. He is Deputy General Council. The General Council position has been vacant for some time.]

To be discussed, tomorrow.

On Jan 11, 2012, at 4:42 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

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Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) >
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6)

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The Office of Performance Review takes on enhanced responsibilities under the continued leadership of Kelu Chao. The Office will continue to conduct VOA and OCB language service research and programming reviews. It will now also be responsible for conducting management analyses of the operational effectiveness of all BBG elements and for coordinating inspections and reviews by the Office of Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office. The Office, together with the performance review elements of the non-Federal entities, will also provide feedback to help shape strategy.

The Office of Communications and External Relations is responsible for communications and outreach activities for the Board and will serve as the Board's chief advisor for Congressional and external relations. The Office also coordinates communications operations of the BBG's media networks -- VOA, RFE, RFA, MBN, and OCB. The Graphics Unit, under the continued supervision of Tuleda Johnson, will move from the Marketing and Program Placement office to the Communications office. The position of Director of the Office of Communications and External Relations was recently advertised, and I hope shortly to be able to announce the selection of the Director of this office.

The Office of New Media has been renamed the Office of Digital and Design Innovation to better reflect its role in the development and implementation of innovative projects, programs, and services across U.S. international media. The Office will continue to play a key role in expanding the use of the best core technology platforms, as well as assisting entities in executing global digital and brand strategies, but also build out the next generation of digital products that present our content in an increasingly complex media landscape. Rob Bole continues as the Director of this Office.

A Board Operations Staff will be formalized under the direction of the Board Secretary and General Counsel, Paul Kollmer-Dorsey, and will continue to support the Board in its meetings and other operations.

The Secretariat staff and the Analysis and Administration Division will be combined as the Administrative and Secretariat Operations Unit. The Unit will coordinate the development, approval and codification of Agency

administrative policies in the form of the Broadcasting Administrative Manual and provide Secretariat services to the BBG, along with the Division's current functions. Doris Garay-Nellius will head this Unit.

I have designated Jeff Trimble as IBB Deputy Director. Jeff will assist me in overseeing IBB operations, and will carry out special projects at my direction, including the ongoing work to create a BBG global news network, a core element of the new Strategic Plan.

While this merger is a significant step, it is only a part of an ongoing, longer-term restructuring process. In coming months we will continue to study and evaluate this new organization, with an eye toward making further changes to achieve greater efficiencies and otherwise improve our performance. I look forward to your continued cooperation and assistance as we move forward.

Regards,
Dick Lobo
IBB Director

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 6:14 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey
Trimble; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

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Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

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Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

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

From: (b) (6)

To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Dick Lobo (b) (6)

Jeff Trimble

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Jan 10, 2012 9:46 am

Subject: Next Gov Comm meeting

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Trimble; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
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To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Dick Lobo (personal) <(b) (6)>; Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>

(b) (6)

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Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 1:50 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Jeffrey

Trimble; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo

Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

No problem...I just wanted a marker down on my concerns/issues. These are major (really major) concerns by 45 percent of the VOA/IBB work force. You are always good about spending lots of time on issues for BBG and I know you will deal with this in a reasonable time frame. That has been your approach since you have been on the Board.

Good luck with your paying clients and your professional duties. Victor Ashe

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>

To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Walter Isaacson <(b) (6)> Michael Lynton <(b) (6)>

Susan

McCue <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>

Dick

Lobo IBB/BBG <(u) (o)>

Sent: Wed, Jan 18, 2012 1:24 pm
Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

Victor:

I am completely up to my eyeballs in non-BBG work and client activities and travel, so unfortunately, I will not be able to get to these BBG matters for a little time.

Thanks,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 2012 08:15:51 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
<(b) (6) (b) (6)>
Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

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Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 7:08 PM

To: Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: trip to Azerbaijan

thanks so much Victor

In a message dated 1/18/2012 6:17:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, greetings. The trip report is attached.

Regards

Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2012 1:01 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Fwd: trip to Azerbaijan

Jeff

I never got the report made on this trip...is there one?

Victor Ashe

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

From: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
To: (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Oct 24, 2011 5:03 pm
Subject: trip to Azerbaijan

Recently I heard that (b) (6) made a trip to Azerbaijan where I visited this summer. I would be interested in learning about it and seeing the report which she made to BBG on her trip there and perhaps other countries as well.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 8:26 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: March 9 BBG meeting

Thanks for your attention to this and so many other items. When will webcam of Jan 13 meeting be posted? Victor

In a message dated 1/17/2012 8:24:28 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

We will update the website. Thank you for pointing it out.
Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2012 2:25:12 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: March 9 BBG meeting

Jeff and (b) (6)

Since the March 9 BBG Board meeting has been moved to the MBN Headquarters I think the notice on the BBG web site for the March 9 which says it is at BBG Headquarters in DC should be changed to reflect it is at MBN headquarters in Springfield, VA...and perhaps include the address.

Best

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 11:06 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: VOA Deewa Stringer Killed

You can certainly include me in condemning this dreadful act. I assume our Embassy led by Ambassador Munter (who was my DCM in Warsaw) will be on this as best they can.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/17/2012 10:18:50 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors, we've just received news that Mukarram Khan Aatif, a VOA Radio Deewa stringer, has been shot and killed in Pakistan. It appears to have been a targeted killing.

VOA will take the lead on releasing this information. The Board may wish to make a statement as well, or provide comment for VOA's use in its news coverage and public information release.

We and VOA will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Regards

Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 4:09 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: web cam

I am trying to access the webcam from Friday January 13? When will it go up? Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 4:24 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: web cam

understood...hopefully the issues can be corrected but also we can avoid them at future meetings.

Jeff, we need to move ultimately (by June I hope) to meeting in auditorium of Cohen or somewhere that all can attend who wish and the setting is U shaped so Board members can talk to each other. It is time to move beyond webcam which has been successful. Victor

In a message dated 1/17/2012 4:21:02 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

I just returned from streaming where they played back audio problems that were introduced in the conversion of the file. The sound was distorted to such a degree that we thought it better to give them a few more hours to try to trouble shoot rather than post as is.

Sorry for the delay.

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 4:08:55 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: web cam

I am trying to access the webcam from Friday January 13? When will it go up? Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 9:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: March Board Meetings

Is the town hall meeting for MBN employees only or all BBG/IBB employees as well. This town hall open meeting should not replace the one we have held annually in Cohen Bldg. Seems late in the day to start BBG at 4 and end it at 5 in time to hit rush hour traffic (although much of it will be leaving Washington). Our last January 13 BBG meeting went almost two hours.

I think the March BBG meeting should start earlier around 3 or 330 as I can see the March meeting going over one hour. Limiting the BBG meeting to one hour limits serious discussion of current and future issues. We also have a governance committee meeting February 9 which may produce recommendations for the March meeting.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/17/2012 7:00:34 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

For your planning purposes, we will be able to arrange for all BBG-related meetings to be held on Thursday, March 8, at MBN headquarters in Springfield, VA. Please plan for an all-day meeting at MBN.

On Thursday, March 8, you will have a closed Governors' Briefing, followed by a town hall meeting with employees and an MBN and/or other corporate board meetings. A BBG open meeting (webcast) is planned for the afternoon starting at 4 pm. You should be finished with meetings by 5 p.m.

At this time, we do not have additional information that may require a meeting on Friday, March 9. We will keep you posted.

Also, please indicate whether you favor a Governors-Only dinner (Self Paid). Staff is prepared to make arrangements as needed.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 9:57 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

I think we should address low morale and what causes it (this means hearing from employees, union and management as well as HR). We need to address more rigorous requirements for notice to Board of actual resolutions and items at least a week out which does not happen now.

We need to address the new entity to be created to replace the three entities if they cease to exist. How is Lobo replaced when he departs? Bylaws need revision. I may have more.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/17/2012 3:36:29 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor:

I am just back in LA and am working with staff to compile a suggested agenda. Will be back to you shortly. In the meantime, I can't find your email from a few weeks ago which identified some of the items you would like to see included. I think I know what some of them are, but perhaps you can send me a quick list. Alternatively, when you have the draft agenda, you can add items to it.

By copy of this note, I am asking the other members of the committee (Michael Lynton and Susan) to weigh in if

they have any items to be included.

Thanks,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 2012 14:54:12 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6) >
Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

I look forward to getting the February 9 governance committee agenda. Please advise which issues I raised are actually included on the agenda. Happy King weekend.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/10/2012 5:52:10 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

I will let the staff chime in here, but it now does not appear that Michael Lynton is available on Thurs 2/9. He is in London that day apparently, so we're still working the schedule. I will get my thoughts on agenda items to you shortly. Thanks.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 2012 10:30:14 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6)

(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Next Gov Comm meeting

Thanks. Are you looking at Feb 10? or the day before? I assume the day before on Feb 9 due to innovation taking most of the day. The list we need to review are frankly extensive and I doubt one meeting will do it.

You still have my earlier e mail. Nothing has changed there from my point of view. I have more items but doubt if a one day meeting can handle them all. Report on my visit to Greenville transmission facility and its future, contract employees and their future (we need to hear from them too)...how BBG conducts oversight...if there is a change in White House who replaces Dick Lobo as CEO...it could become vacant on Jan 20, 2013.

I can and will add more when we are together this week. I have strong and deep concerns on several other issues. Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6) >

To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Dick Lobo (b) (6); Jeff Trimble (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Jan 10, 2012 9:46 am
Subject: Next Gov Comm meeting

Victor:

Happy New Year. We are trying to schedule the next Governance Comm meeting around the time of the innovation meetings in DC next month. We are working to lock down Michael Lynton's participation which, as you might expect, is somewhat challenging but I am hopeful we can get it done.

Could you send me any agenda items you would wish to see included? You had previously mentioned a few, but I want to ensure that your interests and views as to what should be discussed are fully represented.

Many thanks and best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2012 6:46 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: MBN in March

send me exact times on Feb 10 meeting and there is a Feb 9 governance committee meeting. Victor

In a message dated 1/15/2012 10:51:09 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe,

In the coming weeks, we'll begin planning for the March Board meeting and advise the Board, including details regarding logistics.

As for the February meeting of the Commission on Innovation, the meeting will be held at RFE/RL's DC office.

I'll be in touch.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2012 9:05:33 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: MBN in March

(b) (6)

Not that you will know the answer now, but I assume there may be transportation to the MBN headquarters for the March BBG Board meeting. Not sure whether this will be a two day or one day meeting and which day it will be.

It just helps me in planning to learn which exact days it will be as soon as possible.

Where on February 10 will the innovation conference be held?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2012 6:57 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: March 8 or 9

It will also be helpful to know if the meetings are one day and if so which one it is or both March 8 or 9.

Thanks.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2012 8:39 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Miami

Also in terms of planning, it would be helpful to have general ideas on the Miami meeting...will it be two days or

what? when will it start and when will it end on Friday?

Victor
From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2012 8:40 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Feb 10

Will there be a break for lunch on Fri Feb 10 or served at site? I had heard it starts at 10 but when does it end that day?

Victor Ashe
From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2012 2:06 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

Walter, I also agree that I as one Board member should not and will not get involved in the actual termination process unless I learned something which suggests there was improper actions which could reflect badly on the agency. As you know we have very low morale based on OPM surveys for VOA, IBB and OCB.

(b) (5)

Hope your trip to Morocco is going well.

Best to you.

Victor

In a message dated 1/16/2012 12:00:35 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

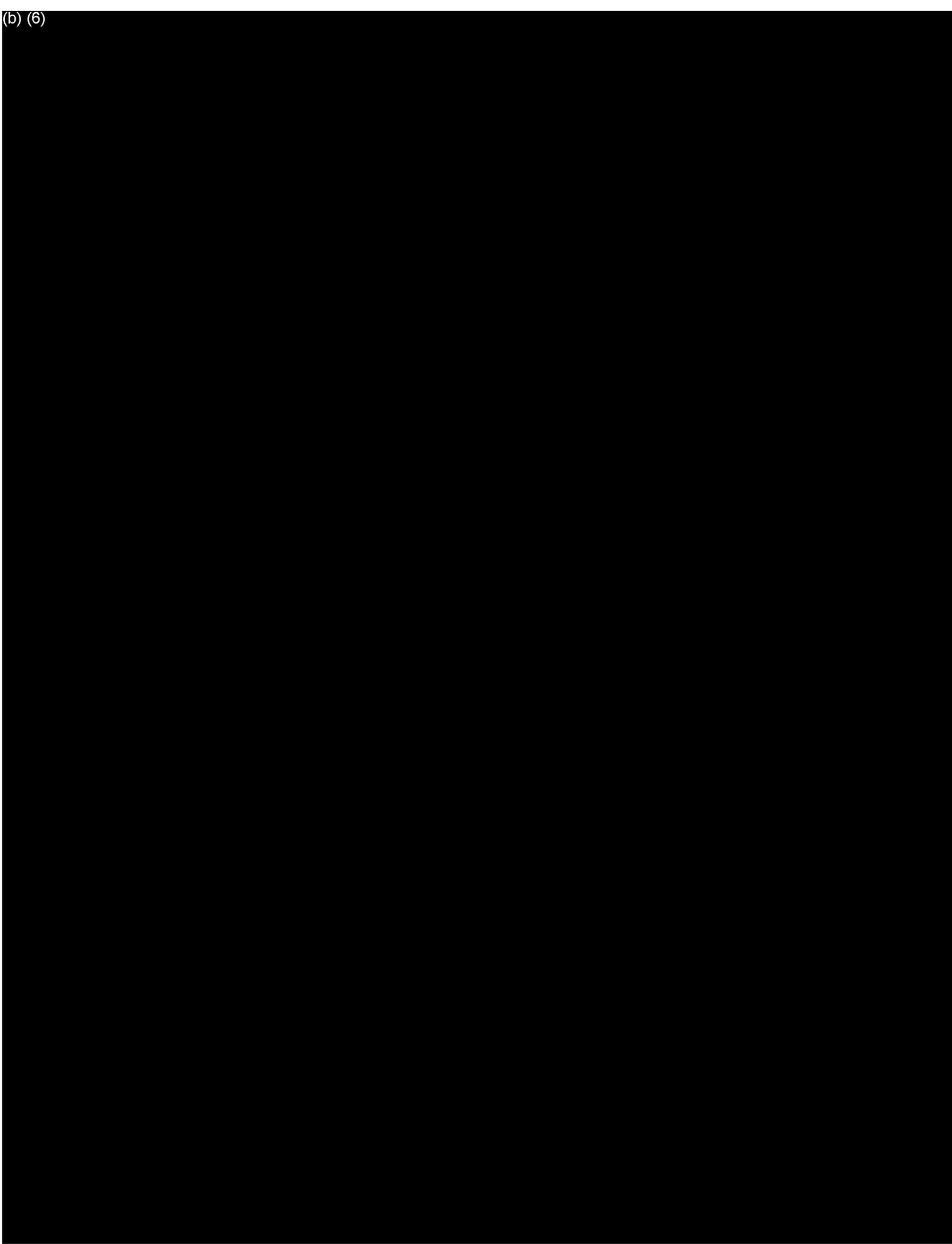
Dick,

As we discussed at the board meeting, it is improper for board members to get involved with individual personnel matters. So I am forwarding this to you. Would you please have someone respond that it was forwarded to you and you will make sure that it is handled appropriately in proper channels?

Thanks.

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Isaacson, Walter; (b) (6)
(b) (6); vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Mon Jan 16 11:34:38 2012
Subject: (b) (6)



(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2012 5:44 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard
M. Lobo; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Disclosure

I think it is helpful to look at what President Obama has said about the Freedom of Information Act which can be found on the White House web site.

As a federal agency we should strive to turn his well written words on this issue into reality.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/FreedomofInformationAct/

Happy King Holiday.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2012 1:01 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Fwd: trip to Azerbaijan

Jeff

I never got the report made on this trip...is there one?

Victor Ashe

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

From: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
To: (b) (6) >
Sent: Mon, Oct 24, 2011 5:03 pm
Subject: trip to Azerbaijan

Recently I heard that (b) (6) made a trip to Azerbaijan where I visited this summer. I would be interested in learning about it and seeing the report which she made to BBG on her trip there and perhaps other countries as well.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2012 2:25 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: March 9 BBG meeting

Jeff and (b) (6)

Since the March 9 BBG Board meeting has been moved to the MBN Headquarters I think the notice on the BBG web site for the March 9 which says it is at BBG Headquarters in DC should be changed to reflect it is at MBN headquarters in Springfield, VA...and perhaps include the address.

Best

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2012 8:17 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Late payments for contractors

thanks for checking it out. I know the problem is there. The immediate issue is how severe it is (how delayed payments are) and how quickly BBG/IBB can get it corrected. Thanks and Happy King Holiday.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/15/2012 7:46:26 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, I received your message and will look into. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, January 14, 2012 8:47:07 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Late payments for contractors

(b) (6)

I am getting many comments from contract employees on late payments for the bills they submit...which apparently is the way it works for this category of persons. Sometimes it has been as high as 4 months and often 3 to 4 weeks. For persons living from pay check to pay check this is tough.

Please work the system and get a process in place where these delays do not occur if the payment request is submitted in a timely manner. In a reasonable time frame, I would be interested in hearing from you on what is being done and how this situation is being ironed out. It is a current, credible and pressing concern among lots of employees.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2012 9:06 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: MBN in March

(b) (6)

Not that you will know the answer now, but I assume there may be transportation to the MBN headquarters for the March BBG Board meeting. Not sure whether this will be a two day or one day meeting and which day it will be.

It just helps me in planning to learn which exact days it will be as soon as possible.

Where on February 10 will the innovation conference be held?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2012 1:33 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: web site

(b) (6) and Dick

It seems to me that we should place Walter's resignation as a Board member plus Chair on our web site since the rest of the world has it.

Also on list of current members, Walter is still shown as chair but I understood he resigned immediately. I wish he was still there but surely BBG web site should stay current with the news. We can add a statement of appreciation from rest of the Board when someone drafts one and circulates it for approval.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2012 8:12 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: FOIA penalty

thanks very much. Additionally, have there been any fines or penalties on FOIA issues since June, 2009?

Look forward to hearing from you.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/19/2012 6:52:35 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

(b) (5)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 4:47:41 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: FOIA penalty

Dear Mr. Kollmer and Mr Krog

(b) (5)

I voice the view that FOIA requests should be complied with quickly and fully. We should favor full disclosure. As one Board member, that is my view.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2012 9:11 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FOIA penalty

That is great news if correct. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/19/2012 8:52:58 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

(b) (5)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2012 8:12:25 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: FOIA penalty

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Look forward to hearing from you.

Victor Ashe

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To: (b) (6)
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Dear Mr. Kollmer and Mr Krog

(b) (5)

I voice the view that FOIA requests should be complied with quickly and fully. We should favor full disclosure. As one Board member, that is my view.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 5:30 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: last contractor meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Jeff

Were notes taken at the last contractor meeting hosted? If so could someone e mail them to me? would be helpful to have a report on this prior to Feb 9 governance committee meeting plus a report on the Feb 3 contractor meeting planned as well. Who from management will attend the Feb 3 meeting?

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2012 5:45 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Governance

Dennis

Given Walter's resignation it seems Governance ought to add the question of the chairmanship to our agenda on Feb 9. Jeff Trimble may wish to advise us on what happened previously when there was not a chair. We also need to know when the resignation takes effect.

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2012 6:54 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FW: Walter Isaacson Steps Down as BBG Chair

It seems to me now is the time to make a statement of thanks to Walter for his stellar service. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/27/2012 6:51:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors, after consultation with Walter, Dick sent this email this evening to all BBG (VOA/IBB/OCB) agency staff. The grantee presidents have received it and will send it to their employees as well.

We'll be ready to consult with you about possible Board actions, including a statement at the appropriate time.

The Washington Post and blogger Matt Armstrong (MountainRunner) already have posted items about Walter's departure:

http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/in-the-loop/post/walter-issacson-leaving-bbg-says-hes-busy-with-big-writing-project/2012/01/27/gIQAnbxBWQ_blog.html

<http://mountainrunner.us/>

rgds

Jeff

From: IBB Notices Administration (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2012 6:27 PM
To: IBB Staff
Subject: Walter Isaacson Steps Down as BBG Chair

Colleagues,

Walter Isaacson asked me to share with you this email, which he sent this afternoon to his fellow BBG Governors and senior staff.

Dick Lobo

Dear Colleagues,

Today I told the White House that I'm stepping down from the BBG.

As I discussed with some of you, I'm taking on another big writing project, so I won't be able to give the BBG the time it needs and deserves.

Our terms have all either expired or are about to, and I think the board can be proud of its work. We developed over two years a strategic plan to streamline and consolidate the agency, and we adopted unanimously at our last meeting the two resolutions that would implement it. We've also hired great new entity heads -- David Ensor at Voice of America, Steve Korn at Radio Free Europe, and Carlos Garcia-Perez at Radio and TV Marti -- to join the strong leaders at the other entities.

It's been exciting to serve on the BBG. And I'm available when you need me to help or cheer from the sidelines. Thanks for all your help and friendship.

All the best, Walter

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2012 10:47 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Contractors

AFGE 1812 does not represent contract employees. They simply might know some of the issues. This is what makes it difficult to ask a few persons to speak for the contractors as they do not currently have an association which speaks for them. However, if our governance committee is to have credibility, we must hear from a real live contract employee(s)..not just management.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/25/2012 10:05:26 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:
Victor – Thanks for these ideas. I will follow up with Dick and Marie. Dick is out of the office for a few days and checking in with email and by phone. So, it may take a couple of days to come back with a proposal. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 2:46 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Contractors

Certainly we should hear from the IBB Director as well as others. This is the first time in Board history that Board members have listened directly as a committee to contract employees and management and tried to learn in a logical way what the issues are. While I think it is important to invite AFGE 1812 and their president, (b) (6) we should hear from several individual employees..I am not certain an hour will be sufficient but it is a good start. I suggest setting aside 90 minutes and perhaps it will turn out to be less. The problem is that the contract employees are not directly organized and as such do not have a designated spokesman such as a union although AFGE 1812 is well versed in many of the issues.

The current situation is such in my view that contract employees might form an association to represent them as there is deep unrest. This meeting will offer hope that some progress is possible. You might look at the list of those who attended the brown bag lunch (assuming a list was taken or someone wrote down the name of some who spoke).

Let me know what you and others recommend and then I will suggest some names too. Again, I remind you that there will be keen interest by all to hear this. Perhaps consideration should be given to a web cam for it.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/24/2012 2:31:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:
Victor – Thanks for your email.

I reported to (b) (6) Dick's chief of staff, this morning that you would like to have contractor and union representatives at the Governance Committee meeting. I have asked her to confer with Dick and to make recommendations on who should be invited to address the Committee, given that the IBB Director has been examining

these issues and will also likely want to brief the Committee on steps that the Agency has been taking to investigate and address relevant concerns.

I am certain that your ideas, including the names of persons who should be considered, will be most welcome so please feel free to provide them.

In my discussions with Dennis yesterday, he indicated an interest in spending the first hour of the meeting (2 -3 pm) on contractor and union issues. We can structure that time in any way that the Committee members would find useful.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 2:13 PM

To: Paul Kollmer

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Contract employees

Chairman Mulhaupt suggested I work with you on possible who will appear at the governance committee meeting to discuss contract employee issues. Certainly, we need to hear the report on the figures involving these employees. We need to hear from a sampling of the employees themselves and their concerns.

I can suggest some names. Mr. (b) (6) how were you planning on selecting and inviting representatives of these employees. Certainly others should be allowed to hear as there will be intense interest in this. I am happy to make some suggestions as to specific names. AFGE 1812 and (b) (6) should be invited.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 2:46 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Contractors

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From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 2:13 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, January 23, 2012 8:55 PM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Governance Committee meeting -- Thursday February 9 at 2 - 5 pm -- Propo...

If we are to have a serious and meaningful discussion of the contract employee issues, then we need to hear from AFGE 1812 and actual employees...not just management. A report on the surveys showing low morale. The results of the current survey on how many contract employees have been working over 15 years in their position.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/23/2012 6:48:47 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, [REDACTED] (b) (6) writes:

Dear Committee members –

Attached please find a draft agenda for the Governance Committee meeting currently scheduled for Thursday, February 9, 2 – 5 pm. This draft agenda has been reviewed and tentatively approved by Governor Mulhaupt, Committee Chair.

Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the draft agenda.

Thanks. [REDACTED] (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, January 23, 2012 9:00 PM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Governance Committee meeting -- Thursday February 9 at 2 - 5 pm -- Propo...

will be glad to discuss with him.

Victor

In a message dated 1/23/2012 8:57:21 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, [REDACTED] (b) (6) writes:

Right, I agree. I've asked [REDACTED] (b) (6) to touch base with you about how this can be organized and accomplished at the upcoming meeting.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Date: Mon, 23 Jan 2012 20:54:41 -0500 (EST)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Governance Committee meeting -- Thursday February 9 at 2 - 5 pm -- Propo...

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Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the draft agenda.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, January 23, 2012 10:02 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Governance Committee meeting -- Thursday February 9 at 2 - 5 pm -- Propo...

we should also have on the agenda how the Board moves to fully open meetings..where public can attend...hold them in Cohen Bldg auditorium...Ann Noonan asked and was allowed to attend last meeting.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/23/2012 6:48:47 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Committee members –

Attached please find a draft agenda for the Governance Committee meeting currently scheduled for Thursday,

February 9, 2 – 5 pm. This draft agenda has been reviewed and tentatively approved by Governor Mulhaupt, Committee Chair.

Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the draft agenda.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2012 11:17 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Lawsuit

Thanks. 230 PM is better than 2 PM. I am interested in what the financial exposure could be to BBG/OCB. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/22/2012 11:14:48 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:
(b) (5)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2012 10:28:50 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Lawsuit

(b) (6)

I am available tomorrow (Monday, Jan 23) from 0900 to 1100 and from 230 PM to 530 PM. Call
(b) (6).

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/22/2012 10:26:17 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:
(b) (5)

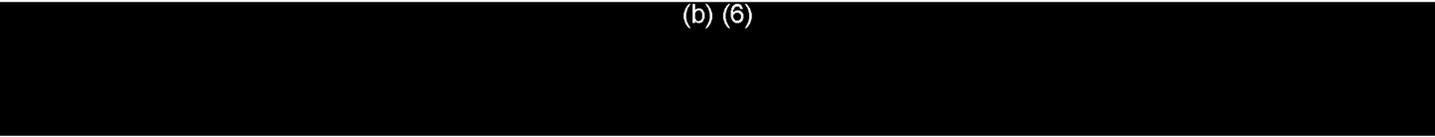
From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2012 9:33:40 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Lawsuit

(b) (6)

I appreciate you saying Thank you to my e mail of 8 days ago...but that does not indicate your feelings on this. As a Board member, I am entitled to voice my views and also to hear back from you, as the person who inherited this, about the pros and cons of proceeding.

(b) (5)

(b) (6)



Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/22/2012 8:32:47 P.M. Eastern Standard Time,  (b) (6)

writes:

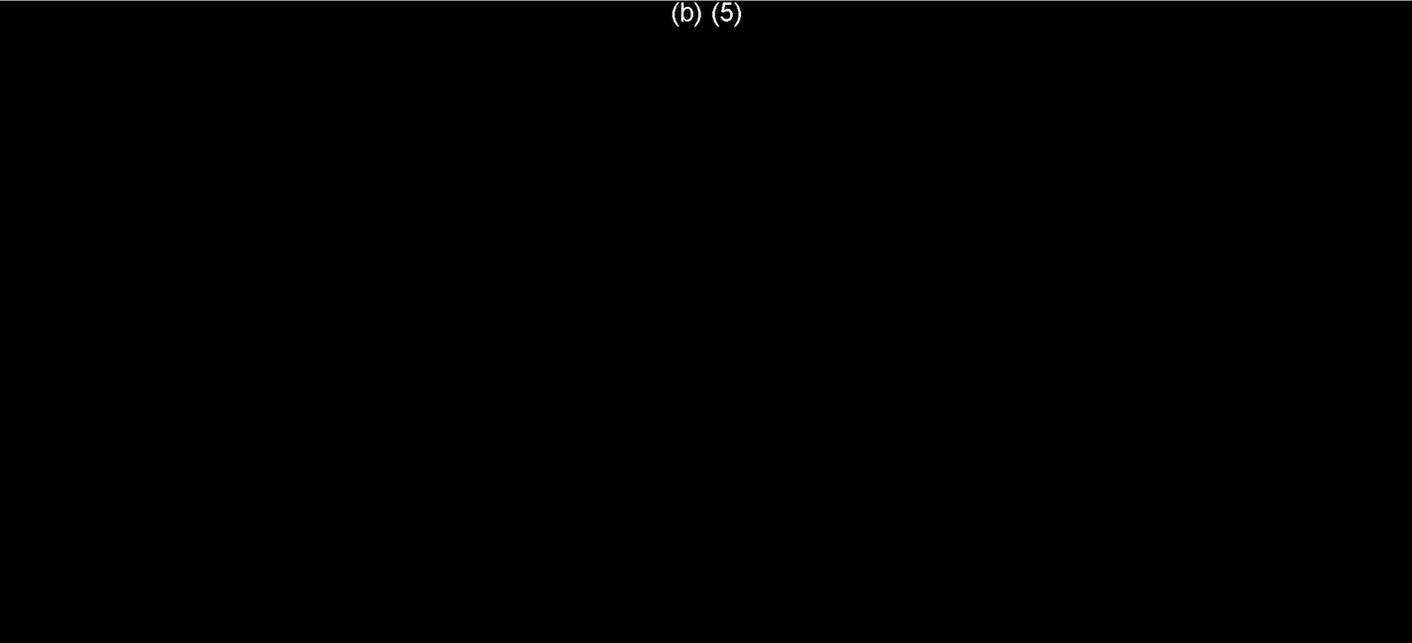
Thank you Victor

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 14, 2012, at 12:12 PM, vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Dear Dick and  (b) (6)

(b) (5)



Victor Ashe

(b) (5)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2012 8:12:25 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: FOIA penalty

thanks very much. Additionally, have there been any fines or penalties on FOIA issues since June, 2009?

Look forward to hearing from you.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/19/2012 6:52:35 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:
(b) (5)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 4:47:41 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) r
Subject: FOIA penalty

Dear Mr. (b) (6) and Mr. (b) (6)

(b) (5)

I voice the view that FOIA requests should be complied with quickly and fully. We should favor full disclosure. As one Board member, that is my view.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2012 7:44 AM
To: (b) (6) Letita King; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Murrow dedication

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I am delighted to see the proposed new sign for the Edward R. Murrow facility in Greenville. I urge BBG/IBB to hold a dedication ceremony for its installation, invite Congressman Jones and his staff along with local leaders to attend, have an open house at facility to show off what is there. Dick, perhaps you could attend. I would try to go. This is a great opportunity to showcase an important facility to the community and to honor the employees who work there.

Let's not let this opportunity pass us by. I look forward to hearing from you on this.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:09 PM
To: (b) (6) Letita King; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Walter resignation story msssing from BBG web site news

As I told Tish this morning (who is simply following 'guidance' from someone) it is really strange and ironic that BBG which prides itself on the current news has NOT a word on Walter's resignation which is in all media elsewhere. Only when one goes to current Board membership is there a note that he resigned January 27.

We should place an item on the front page of web site stating he has resigned. The chair resigning is big news. it is a fact. Lynn Weil being named is an item there so is Lobo going on a committee in Germany. But nothing on the chair resigning? Why? It makes no sense.

of course I am only one Board member voicing a view. Until Tish gets 'guidance' from whoever I guess BBG will continue to ignore our own internal big news. Admittedly Walter did not want a story so it could be a short item. But the BBG chair is a public position. It is news when the chair resigns and it is NOT a secret from our own web site.

Dick or Jeff, can you get this corrected? I am happy to join in a statement praising Walter for his service as I hope the while Board does but the news on his resignation is now 5 days old. Whoever gave Tish guidance should tell Board members why this is so.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2012 9:33 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Fw: Governance Committee Approval Requested/ Recommendation for Human Cap...

First, I think the portion on employee morale should be on webcam as a BBG board meeting for all to observe. This carries out the President's commitment to transparency and there is intense interest in this subject.

Second, I am not at all clear how the three contractor employees are to be chosen except by management. Frankly, I feel the contractors themselves should be asked to nominate three or four persons...and we take whoever is chosen and avoid management hand picking anyone. Ask at the upcoming Feb 3 Brown bag session. I hope Dick Lobo says for the entire brown bag contractor session this time as contract employees want to see him and want him to hear directly

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2012 3:58 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Letita King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Confirming Schedule for Feb 10

I cannot be there at 0900...could do it at 0930. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) Letita King (u) (o) (o) (o)
Sent: Thu, Feb 2, 2012 7:48 am
Subject: Confirming Schedule for Feb 10

Dear Governor Ashe,

This is to confirm a video con on Feb 10 at 9 am EDT (3 pm Prague time) in the small conference room of RFE/RL DC office (4th floor) for the recognition of Radio Azadi's (Radio Free Afghanistan) 10th anniversary. The Service and Steve Korn will be available by video con from Prague.

Following this event, it's a short walk around the corner to the meeting of Commission on Innovation at 10 am in the large conference room of RFE/RL DC office.

We will have a certificate for you to present and provide you talking points in the coming days.

Just so you have, address for RFE/RL DC office follows:

1201 Connecticut Ave., NW

Contact: (b) (6)

Phone: (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2012 4:08 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Governance Committee Approval Requested/ Recommendation for Human Cap...

I think a postponement would be tragic as such high hopes already exist for this discussion and it is well known it is being considered. As poor as the proposal is I think going forward is preferable to moving it off 5 months to July when the issue is years old. As for postponing to March 7 there will not be time given the 70th anniversary event for VOA and all day on March 8 unless we convene on March 6 or morning of March 7. I could agree to a March 7 AM meeting but these folks need to be heard sooner not later.

I appreciate your kind words about my efforts but this has raised expectations...anything beyond a modest delay (weeks) will be badly received. Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>

To: Vhashe <Vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Susan McCue <(b) (6)> Michael Lynton <(b) (6)> Dick Lobo

(b) (6)

Jeff Trimble

(b) (6)

(u) (o)

(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 2, 2012 11:05 am

Subject: Re: Fw: Governance Committee Approval Requested/ Recommendation for Human Cap...

Victor:

Thank you for your email. Given the complexity and seriousness of the two human capital matters to be presented and discussed at next week's Governance Committee meeting, and because you have expressed concerns about the proposed framework for that portion of the meeting, I propose the following alternatives so that we can attempt to achieve consensus on how best to proceed in bringing these two important matters to the Board's attention.

First, we postpone these discussions until the next meeting of the Governance Committee, which could be held in advance of the March Board meeting.

Second, we postpone the discussions and place them on the agenda of the next public meeting of the full Board, which is scheduled to be held in the Cohen Auditorium in July. The full plenary Board could then participate in the dialogue and hear directly from employees, union representatives and contractors. As you know, these public meetings are webcast and, given the size of the auditorium, could be open to in-person attendance by employees and the public.

Since your email also raised questions and concerns about the process or mechanism involving how participants for these discussions would be selected, I would welcome your specific suggestions as to how best to structure both the selection of participants and the presentations themselves.

Again, I believe you raise important points and concerns, but making determinations about how to proceed involves considering a number of complex and inter-related issues, some of which may have implications for how the Board conducts its business in the future on a variety of matters beyond the present human capital discussions. For this reason, I believe it is important to ensure serious discussions and buy-in about how to proceed, taking into account your thoughts and suggestions, on the part of all the members of the Governance Committee and potentially other governors who are not members of the Governance Committee.

Having said all that, I want to reiterate that all of us are absolutely committed to an open, frank, respectful and responsive hearing of the concerns of employees and contractors on an ongoing basis and to making whatever improvements in these areas we can. Victor, as I said in my email to you below, these are matters we all care about very much; I want to reiterate our appreciation for your advocacy of them and your important efforts in keeping the Board focused on making improvements.

Again, I believe postponing this matter will allow for your concerns and suggestions to be considered and addressed in a thoughtful way and will help facilitate us proceeding on the basis of consensus among committee and other Board members. Most importantly, though, I believe it will improve the results of our deliberations and lead to better results for the important topics related to employees and contractors which we are committed to address. I look forward to hearing your views.

Best,

Dennis

--- On Wed, 2/1/12, Vhashe@aol.com <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

From: Vhashe@aol.com <Vhashe@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Fw: Governance Committee Approval Requested/ Recommendation for Human Cap...

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Date: Wednesday, February 1, 2012, 6:32 PM

First, I think the portion on employee morale should be on webcam as a BBG board meeting for all to observe. This carries out the President's commitment to transparency and there is intense interest in this subject.

Second, I am not at all clear how the three contractor employees are to be chosen except by management. Frankly, I feel the contractors themselves should be asked to nominate three or four persons...and we take whoever is chosen and avoid management hand picking anyone. Ask at the upcoming Feb 3 Brown bag session. I hope Dick Lobo says for the entire brown bag contractor session this time as contract employees want to see him and want him to hear directly from them.

This legal distinction in asking unions to leave when contractors talk and contractors not to be present when union talks is unfair and sends the wrong message. We should be open and let all hear.

What really bothers me here is that Director Lobo and BBG/IBB staff are not asking the employees themselves how they want to be heard. It is being imposed upon them based on high level management with deputy legal counsel input. Low morale will continue if we do not bring them into the planning process. Furthermore, contract employees never receive the same survey which OPM sends to federal employees.

We should ask the unions and the contractor whether they like the Lobo suggestions.

While I appreciate Dennis' nice comment on my advocacy for these folks, I should point out that the Lobo memo did not seek out my thoughts on this should be structured and I have spent more time with employees in the Cohen Bldg in the past 19 months than any other Board member visiting almost all language services.

I respectfully disagree with Dick Lobo's plan and ask for changes.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/1/2012 4:46:28 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor, Susan and Michael:

As you know one of the key agenda items for the upcoming Governance Committee meeting next week is the very important issue of human capital and morale issues for employees and contractors. I know this is something we all care about very much. We also appreciate Victor's advocacy for this vital topic.

I have been discussing with Dick (and he in turn has been discussing with his staff) how to organize and facilitate this agenda item, which as we all appreciate is quite complex and multi-faceted. His note below outlines the approach he and I are suggesting which I believe is responsive, open and fair to all involved. Please note that we anticipate allocating approximately 90 minutes to this item, but also be aware that there are several other important and separate matters on the meeting's agenda.

I would be grateful if you would let me know if this approach meets with your approval.

Many thanks,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: "Richard M. Lobo" (b) (6)
Date: Wed, 1 Feb 2012 21:29:25 +0000
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Subject: Recommendation for Human Capital Discussion

Dennis,

After some consideration, I would like to make a recommendation about how to handle the human capital agenda item for the upcoming governance committee meeting. The two major facets of this discussion will focus on low employee morale and contractor issues.

With regard to employee morale, I propose that I begin by making a brief statement about the factors in our agency that contribute to low morale, as well as offer some actions we are taking to address the issue. After my initial statement, I recommend that we invite representatives from the three Unions to be present to submit oral or written statements about their views on employee morale issues. At this time, the Governors can ask questions and discuss what was presented. I will be prepared to address the questions or concerns raised by the unions and will have staff available to provide more details on steps each office is taking to address problems in that unit.

Once we wrap up on employee morale, we can have the union representatives leave and invite three contractors in for discussion of contractor-specific issues. We will ask for volunteers among agency contractors who would like to speak to the governance committee about their experiences with BBG, particularly with delayed payments, lengthy service, and problems communicating with the various people involved in executing their contract. Again, I'll begin this section of the meeting with a brief opening statement summarizing what we know about contractor concerns and what we are doing to address those concerns. At this time, we will welcome the contractors to speak about their experiences. The Governors can ask questions and discuss the contracting issues raised. I, along with my staff, can offer additional information about how we plan to address the problems raised.

I would like to stress a couple of points about this agenda item. The union and contractor representative should only be present for their respective discussions. None of the three unions represents agency contractors; therefore the unions have no role to play in addressing contractor issues. Conversely, in order to ensure the distinction between contractors and employees, the contractor representatives should not be present for discussion of employee morale.

Furthermore, it is important to keep the discussion on human capital at the strategic level. Discussions about employee morale and contractor relations can easily devolve into unique circumstances specific to a particular office or individual. But the value for this committee is to hear agency-wide issues and opportunities for improvement.

Please let me know if, after you consider and discuss this plan with the other committee members, we need to make alternate arrangements for our presentation on human capital.

Dick

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2012 9:11 PM
To: Letita King; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: glad it is done

Tish

While you did not advise that an item on Walter's resignation was going on the BBG web site as we discussed Feb 1 I

am glad it is there. I do hope in the future you will keep me in the loop (no pun intended) when items we discuss at length go on the web site...just common courtesy. Bottom line is I am glad it happened after 5 days but it happened.

Let me know about the Edward Murrow sign dedication if one happens.. Victor Ashe

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From: "Richard M. Lobo" (b) (6)
Date: Wed, 1 Feb 2012 21:29:25 +0000
To: (b) (6)
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Please let me know if, after you consider and discuss this plan with the other committee members, we need to make alternate arrangements for our presentation on human capital.

Dick

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2012 9:39 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: last contractor meeting

I hope Dick Lobo can attend the whole meeting as he was unable to attend the whole of the first meeting. Victor

In a message dated 2/1/2012 6:27:11 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6)

Victor, we're working on getting meeting notes to you, and others on this email can let you know about who from management will attend the February 3 meeting with contractors. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend, as I must be out of town that day.

Regards

Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 5:30 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: last contractor meeting

Jeff

Were notes taken at the last contractor meeting hosted? If so could someone e mail them to me? would be helpful to have a report on this prior to Feb 9 governance committee meeting plus a report on the Feb 3 contractor meeting planned as well. Who from management will attend the Feb 3 meeting?

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 8:15 AM
To: Letita King; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: glad it is done

thanks so much. I understand the difficulties you work under and with. The Murrow sign dedication can be a win win for BBG/IBB. I hope dick Lobo attends. I can be a big event. The local Congressman may wish to attend.

Victor

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

From: Letita King (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 7:46 am
Subject: RE: glad it is done

Certainly. I understand. We have been wrestling with the backend of the new site and the item got up as soon as we had access - a day later than we'd hoped. We will be posting the events items today. We continue to work on the Murrow signs and will keep you posted.

Regards,
Tish

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2012 9:10 PM
To: Letita King; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: glad it is done

Tish

While you did not advise that an item on Walter's resignation was going on the BBG web site as we discussed Feb 1 I am glad it is there. I do hope in the future you will keep me in the loop (no pun intended) when items we discuss at length go on the web site...just common courtesy. Bottom line is I am glad it happened after 5 days but it happened.

Let me know about the Edward Murrow sign dedication if one happens.. Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 9:55 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Contractor meeting

Jeff

when do you anticipate that I can see the notes from the first contractor meeting and the one today (Feb 3) which you cannot attend?

I am interested in knowing how the outreach is going.

Victor
From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 10:57 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: pay for attorney

It would be good to know how much of the \$5000 was used for two hours. I would like to know. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 7:33 am
Subject: RE: pay for attorney

Victor:

I understand that (b) (6) was under a not-to-exceed of \$5,000 for that advice. (b) (6), our Director of Contracts, is out this week but I can check with him when he returns to find out how much they actually billed.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 8:35 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: pay for attorney

Mr. (b) (6)

What did BBG pay the attorney which former chair Isaacson brought over to meet with board on (b) (6) issues at our January meeting? or was it pro bono?

Victor Ashe
From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 11:45 AM
To: Letita King; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Feb 10

Glad to see the innovation session highlighted on web site...hope you have someone at meeting and take photos so it is placed on web site after event.

Also note the BBG March meeting is only March 8..not March 8-9...you may wish to remove March 9 from it.

Victor Ashe
From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 11:50 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: final outcome

I think we should discuss the format of the March 7 governance meeting dealing with contractors at the Feb 9 meeting. While I do not object to a 4 week postponement on this, I would like an interim report from staff on the two contractor meetings held so far including the one today. I assume someone took notes and I would like to see them. Since we have the Lobo memo on his thoughts on the meeting we should discuss fully next Thurs how to structure the March 7 meeting. I feel strongly there should NOT be any more postponements and March 7 is a real date we will live with. We need also to discuss who presides at full BBG meeting and committee recommendations on how to have an interim replacement for Walter.

Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Michael Lynton <(b) (6)> Susan McCue
(b) (6)
Cc: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)> Dick Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble
(u) (c) (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 8:41 am
Subject: Fw: Re: final outcome

Victor:

Thanks for your note. In order to adequately address your concerns and objections to the previously proposed format, I believe it is worth waiting a few weeks. This short postponement will allow us to achieve the most consensus-driven process and result. In addition, I had been informed that Michael Lynton was now unable be present in Washington for the meeting and Susan McCue was unavailable. So, for all these reasons, I suggest we postpone this agenda item until a meeting to be scheduled for Thurs March 7 in the morning (exact timing TBD), before the VOA anniversary events.

The committee will meet next Thursday as planned to consider all the other important matters on its agenda.

Also, FYI, this morning I received an email from (b) (6) who as you know represents one of our unions, asking if he would be invited to attend and address an upcoming Governance Committee meeting. He also made certain points about format and process. Another advantage of a short postponement is that it will allow (b) (6) and others to have time to prepare while at the same time allowing us to consider the format and participant questions. I will respond to (b) (6) ASAP and will copy you and the other members of the committee on our correspondence.

Thanks again for your leadership on these matters. I look forward to hearing your specific thoughts and recommendations as to the appropriate format and method of choosing participants and will look forward to our meeting in March on these vitally important topics.

Best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com

Date: Fri, 3 Feb 2012 07:10:39 -0500 (EST)

To: <(b) (6)>

Subject: final outcome

Dennis

What is the final outcome on governance agenda? I hope we will hear from employees and not defer it.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 11:55 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Governance Committee Meeting

You may wish to add that March 7 is a tentative date for the postponed meeting on this issue.

Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Michael Lynton (b) (6) Susan McCue

(b) (6) Dick Lobo (b) (6) Jeff Trimble (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 8:53 am

Subject: Re: Governance Committee Meeting

(b)
(6)

Many thanks for your note. Indeed, we would like to invite you to a Governance Committee meeting soon to address employee issues. Others will be invited as well. We are still working on exact timing and the appropriate format, and hope to get Governor Ashe's thoughts and recommendations on these matters. We will be in touch further with details regarding date, time, etc. The committee is mindful that certain decisions on format are complex and multi-faceted and have implications for the Board's operations and responsibilities beyond the current issues related to human capital, employees and contractors.

We'll be in touch soon and I, and the entire committee, look forward to hearing your (and others') observations and recommendations. I hope it goes without saying that we wish and expect you to speak entirely freely. I also want you to know that we take these issues very seriously and are committed to making improvements. We are also committed to a open, frank, respectful and responsive process to address these matters. I have copied the other members of the Governance Committee on this correspondence as well as relevant members of management.

Best,

Dennis Mulhaupt

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: (b) (6)
Date: Fri, 3 Feb 2012 13:42:30 +0000
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Governance Committee Meeting

Dear Governor Mulhaupt:

Rumor has it that I will be invited to speak before the Governance Committee regarding issues impacting morale of employees and contractors. I trust that I will be able to speak freely and that the meeting will be an open one. I also hope that the meeting will be made available to all employees through the in house system.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 2:30 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Letita King; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Confirming Schedule for Feb 10

I look forward to being there...please advise best entrance to take into bldg. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 10:39 am
Subject: Re: Confirming Schedule for Feb 10

Dear Governor Ashe,

Thanks for your note, we look forward to having you here at the RFE/RL DC office to recognize Radio Azadi on its 10th anniversary.

We're all set for 9:30; in order to avoid conflicting with the 10:00AM start of the Commission on Innovation meetings, we should close the ceremony no later than 9:50AM.

For your use I enclose a set of possible talking points about Radio Azadi; if there is any way that I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely, (b) (6)

(b) (6)

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From: vhashe@aol.com

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (p) (o) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Date: 02/02/2012 03:58 PM

Subject: Re: Confirming Schedule for Feb 10

I cannot be there at 0900...could do it at 0930. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 2, 2012 7:48 am

Subject: Confirming Schedule for Feb 10

Dear Governor Ashe,

This is to confirm a video con on Feb 10 at 9 am EDT (3 pm Prague time) in the small conference room of RFE/RL DC office (4th floor) for the recognition of Radio Azadi's (Radio Free Afghanistan) 10th anniversary. The Service and Steve Korn will be available by video con from Prague.

Following this event, it's a short walk around the corner to the meeting of Commission on Innovation at 10 am in the large conference room of RFE/RL DC office.

We will have a certificate for you to present and provide you talking points in the coming days.

Just so you have, address for RFE/RL DC office follows:

1201 Connecticut Ave., NW

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 2:46 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: ticket and visa to Burma

(b) (6)

I been asked to join RFA president (b) (6) to accompany her as vice chair of RFA on her trip to Burma. I need you to send visa application to Burmese embassy (Mynmar (sp)) today or Monday as it takes awhile to get visas. If I need to sign anything I can do it Feb 9.

In the meantime, please have travel office to reserve an economy ticket to Bangkok on United and then Thai Air into Rangoon (Yangoon (sp)) departing Washington March 11 arr Bangkok on March 12..fly into Burma from Bangkok on March 13.

Purpose of trip is to meet with Government and opposition leaders to discuss RFA broadcast opportunities within Burma. Would be there March 13 thru 16. Return to Bangkok on March 17 and fly back to USA on March 19.

In Bangkok I will meet with RFA office as well as VOA and US Embassy personnel.

I am copying (b) (6) on this as well as Jeff Trimble. (b) (6) has my diplomatic passport.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 6:49 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: final outcome

how do you suggest we get input from all prior to the March 8 meeting when someone has to preside. I agree it impacts the remaining 8.

Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6)
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Michael Lynton <(b) (6)> Susan McCue
<(b) (6)>
Cc: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)> Dick Lobo (personal) <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble
<(b) (6)> (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 3:43 pm
Subject: Re: final outcome

Thanks, Victor. Happy to discuss the 3/7 meeting next week. Some of the determinations about format have wider implications, so I think any decisions about them should necessarily eventually require input from all committee members.

Likewise, I think a discussion about board leadership going forward is also worth having, but I'm sure we all agree that that matter is important to all board members and will require input from everyone.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com

Date: Fri, 3 Feb 2012 11:50:03 -0500 (EST)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: final outcome

I think we should discuss the format of the March 7 governance meeting dealing with contractors at the Feb 9 meeting. While I do not object to a 4 week postponement on this, I would like an interim report from staff on the two contractor meetings held so far including the one today. I assume someone took notes and I would like to see them. Since we have the Lobo memo on his thoughts on the meeting we should discuss fully next Thurs how to structure the March 7 meeting. I feel strongly there should NOT be any more postponements and March 7 is a real date we will live with. We need also to discuss who presides at full BBG meeting and committee recommendations on how to have an interim replacement for Walter.

Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>

To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Michael Lynton <(b) (6)> Susan McCue

<(b) (6)>

Cc: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)> Dick Lobo (Personal) <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble

<(b) (6)>

Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 8:41 am

Subject: Fw: Re: final outcome

Victor:

Thanks for your note. In order to adequately address your concerns and objections to the previously proposed format, I believe it is worth waiting a few weeks. This short postponement will allow us to achieve the most consensus-driven process and result. In addition, I had been informed that Michael Lynton was now unable to be present in Washington for the meeting and Susan McCue was unavailable. So, for all these reasons, I suggest we postpone this agenda item until a meeting to be scheduled for Thurs March 7 in the morning (exact timing TBD), before the VOA anniversary events.

The committee will meet next Thursday as planned to consider all the other important matters on its agenda.

Also, FYI, this morning I received an email from Tim Shamble, who as you know represents one of our unions, asking if he would be invited to attend and address an upcoming Governance Committee meeting. He also made certain points about format and process. Another advantage of a short postponement is that it will allow Tim and others to have time to prepare while at the same time allowing us to consider the format and participant questions. I will respond to Tim ASAP and will copy you and the other members of the committee on our correspondence.

Thanks again for your leadership on these matters. I look forward to hearing your specific thoughts and recommendations as to the appropriate format and method of choosing participants and will look forward to our meeting in March on these vitally important topics.

Best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Fri, 3 Feb 2012 07:10:39 -0500 (EST)
To: <(b) (6)>
Subject: final outcome

Dennis

What is the final outcome on governance agenda? I hope we will hear from employees and not defer it.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 7:02 PM
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: March 8 meeting

(b) (6)

Do we not need a full Board phone meeting to discuss who chairs for March 8 as without someone, who approves the proposed agenda for the meeting? Can we hold it during governance Feb 9 and let members call in at 230 or some other time???

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 7:04 PM
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: March 8

(b) (6)

As one Board member I formally request that the issue of contractor employees be placed on the March 8 BBG Board meeting and that (b) (6), AFGE 1812 union president be invited to attend and respond to any questions if any Governor has any. I also want a discussion of late payments from the appropriate person.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 8:08 PM
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: final outcome

definitely as we will look like clowns if we simply arrive with no game plan or decision...also someone needs to review agenda prior to meeting.

Victor

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

From: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)> Michael Lynton
<(b) (6)> Susan McCue <(b) (6)> michael <(b) (6)>
Cc: Dick Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble <(u) (o)> | <(u) (o)>
Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 7:37 pm
Subject: Re: final outcome

Should we do a board call prior to march meeting to discuss the presiding officer issue as it relates to the March meeting?

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Fri, 3 Feb 2012 18:48:30 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) <(b) (6)> | <(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: final outcome

how do you suggest we get input from all prior to the March 8 meeting when someone has to preside. I agree it impacts the remaining 8.

Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Michael Lynton <(b) (6)> Susan McCue
<(b) (6)>
Cc: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)> Dick Lobo (personal) <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble
<(b) (6)> | <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 3:43 pm
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Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Fri, 3 Feb 2012 11:50:03 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: final outcome

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Michael Lynton <(b) (6)> Susan McCue <(b) (6)>
Cc: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)> Dick Lobo (Personal) <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 8:41 am
Subject: Fw: Re: final outcome

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Thanks again for your leadership on these matters. I look forward to hearing your specific thoughts and recommendations as to the appropriate format and method of choosing participants and will look forward to our meeting in March on these vitally important topics.

Best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Fri, 3 Feb 2012 07:10:39 -0500 (EST)
To: <(b) (6)>
Subject: final outcome

Dennis

What is the final outcome on governance agenda? I hope we will hear from employees and not defer it.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 8:16 PM
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Is Ann Stock leaving

The blogs are claiming and now it appears in the (b) (6) report at Heritage that Sec. Ann Stock may be leaving acting under secretary for public diplomacy. Does anyone know?

If replace, (b) (6) I assume the sec of State needs to send a formal letter to BBG stating who now represents her on BBG? Am I correct? The Board does not accept someone just because we read it in the newspaper.

Please advise.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 8:37 PM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble;
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: fake interview

(b) (6)

I am deeply concerned that I had to learn about the fake Russian interivew by VOA Russian from bbg watch and not from VOA or BBG staff. This occurred January 30. I am told Russian VOA apologized on February 1. VOA English still does not have it. I learned of it on today, February 3. Are we planning a story on this to go online with what we believe to be true.

(b) (6) VOA needs to issue a full report based on a factual investigation on what really happened here to the whole board. If we were duped, we need to know how and why. What steps are being taken to prevent this occurring again?

BBG Governors should be advised immediately when allegations like this arise. Even if the allegations reflect poorly on us we need to know. We need to know if the allegations are untrue.. If the truth is hard to ascertain we should

know that too. There should be a report at the March 8 meeting but also an interim report to all Governors as soon as VOA can put the facts together.

Dick Lobo, you need to take the lead here with (b) (6) in my view.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 9:26 PM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble;
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: fake interview

I think your current approach makes sense. I also feel the Board needs to be told of these unfortunate events when they occur and not learn about it from outside sources and then make inquiries as I have done.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> michael <(b) (6)> (b) (6)
<(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(u) (o)> susan <(u) (o)> (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Feb 3, 2012 8:48 pm
Subject: Re: fake interview

Victor,

As I wrote to you, our Russian Service immediately responded to the person's statement that he had not given the interview with an on the record apology to Russian readers, and a commitment to improve their efforts to assure that their interviewees are who they say they are. That said, as I mentioned, we are virtually sure that the person in question did indeed give VOA the interview, but then had a change of heart about whether it was wise to have done so, and put out this denial. He is a blogger--veracity is not always their strong suit.

We did not put the story into English immediately, frankly thinking it was not important enough for wider audiences. Now that this pickup has occurred, I am working on a possible blog about it for next week.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 8:36:55 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6);
Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: fake interview

(b) (6)

I am deeply concerned that I had to learn about the fake Russian interview by VOA Russian from bbg watch and not from VOA or BBG staff. This occurred January 30. I am told Russian VOA apologized on February 1. VOA English still does not have it. I learned of it on today, February 3. Are we planning a story on this to go online with what we believe to be true.

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(b) (6), you need to take the lead here with (b) (6) in my view.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 5:07 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Telephonic Meeting

I cannot participate on Saturday, February 11. I request it occur on or after Monday, February 13 after 230 PM EST when I could participate. I think it is important that it be held when all 8 Governors can participate.

I am willing to request such a meeting on or after 3PM EST on Monday February 13. We should all we can to include all Governors. There is time to do this next week and still be several weeks prior to the March 8 BBG meeting.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 4:57:13 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

I am sending this message to you at the request of the IBB Director.

The Governors may wish to consider requesting a special telephonic meeting of the Board in order to discuss the issue of Board leadership. The agenda could include the conduct of Board operations in the absence of a Chair and the selection of an interim Presiding Governor.

Under BBG By-Laws, a special telephonic meeting of the Board can be called on 48-hours notice. At least four (4) Governors must request such a meeting in order for the meeting to be called.

If such a meeting is of interest, we suggest that it be held this Saturday, February 11, at 11 a.m. EDT.

Staff will make necessary arrangements to prepare for and conduct the meeting, including setting up a dial-in number. For your information, such a meeting would be subject to Government in the Sunshine Act requirements. If the meeting is called, it will be recorded and made available to the public as soon as possible to fulfill the public observation requirement.

Please let us know by return email if you wish to request this meeting, and if you can participate at the suggested time.

Thank you.

(b)
(6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 5:11 PM
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Fwd: would like to chat

this is what Michael Lynton sent me. I have been able to speak directly to him. This was January 29. Victor

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 1/29/2012 8:13:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Re: would like to chat

Victor,

I will call you tomorrow. I am flattered by your suggestion, but I do not think I am right for the job. Whoever does this should either live in DC or not have a full time employer as the position is very demanding. I am disqualified on both counts. Lets talk about other candidates when I call you.

best,
Michael

On Jan 29, 2012, at 2:50 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Michael

Would love to chat with you on the BBG situation with Walter's departure. Personally, I hope you will consider being the acting chair or leader until a new chair is nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate. There are major items we adopted which are now potentially on hold until interim leadership is determined.

My cell is (b) (6)

Victor Ashe

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 5:28 PM
To: (b) (6)

(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: would like to chat

I agree that Michael Lynton would be a good choice. I feel we should all talk and do it when all can participate as a decision is made. I am available next week. Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:24:40 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor:

Clearly, Michael is making himself available as a service to the BBG and his country. In my opinion, and I believe of others, he is certainly the best candidate, for a number of reasons (you yourself said so). I think we should be extremely grateful to him for being willing to undertake this role. If he needs help in carrying it out, I am sure he will let us know and I am also sure there are ways to provide that help.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 2012 17:10:44 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Subject: Fwd: would like to chat

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Victor Ashe

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From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 5:34 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Telephonic Meeting

I also think it is important enough to try to have it when all can participate if humanly possible. Any time next week works for me but I am out of the country on Saturday and it is simply not possible to participate otherwise I would do so.

Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:30:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

It's important enough that I support and will make myself available Saturday.

On Feb 8, 2012, at 4:57 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Dear Governors,

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Please let us know by return email if you wish to request this meeting, and if you can participate at the suggested time.

Thank you.

(b)
(6)

susan mccue | (b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 5:52 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Telephonic Meeting

Susan and I chatted. To clear the air, I am happy to participate in a call. I just cannot do it on Saturday, Feb 11 but I can do it any day next week after 230 PM EST on Monday February 13. I will make myself available for it. Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:30:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

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Thank you.

(b)
(6)

susan mccue | (b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 6:02 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Telephonic Meeting

In checking my schedule on Saturday, I could also call in after 2PM EST. However, I am literally on an airplane on Sat Feb 11 at 1100 EST and not able to call. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:58:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks for your support Victor,

(b) (6) can you suggest times for Mon or Tues?

The sooner the better. As I told Victor, I think we should counting our lucky stars that someone with Michaels' skills is willing to preside, even temporarily.

While we will need to engage in longer conversations about succession and signage, we should be able to move quickly on the issue of who presides.

On Feb 8, 2012, at 5:51 PM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

Susan and I chatted. To clear the air, I am happy to participate in a call. I just cannot do it on Saturday, Feb 11 but I can do it any day next week after 230 PM EST on Monday February 13. I will make myself available for it. Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:30:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

It's important enough that I support and will make myself available Saturday.

On Feb 8, 2012, at 4:57 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Dear Governors,

I am sending this message to you at the request of the IBB Director.

The Governors may wish to consider requesting a special telephonic meeting of the Board in order to discuss the issue of Board leadership. The agenda could include the conduct of Board operations in the absence of a Chair and the selection of an interim Presiding Governor.

Under BBG By-Laws, a special telephonic meeting of the Board can be called on 48-hours notice. At least four (4) Governors must request such a meeting in order for the meeting to be called.

If such a meeting is of interest, we suggest that it be held this Saturday, February 11, at 11 a.m. EDT.

Staff will make necessary arrangements to prepare for and conduct the meeting, including setting up a dial-in number. For your information, such a meeting would be subject to Government in the Sunshine Act requirements. If the meeting is called, it will be recorded and made available to the public as soon as possible to fulfill the public observation requirement.

Please let us know by return email if you wish to request this meeting, and if you can participate at the suggested time.

Thank you.

(b)
(6)

susan mccue | (b) (6)

susan mccue | (b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 7:45 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: advance copy

I think all would find your insights most helpful. Maybe further developments by then too. Hope (b) (6) will place this on the agenda. Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 7:43:39 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, I will be happy to do a brief on the FY 2013 budget in March. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 7:41 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: advance copy

I think it would be a good idea to brief the BBG Board at its March 8 meeting on this. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/7/2012 7:27:19 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, As requested, attached is a copy of the DRAFT budget submission that went to the Administration for final review. The final document will not be released until February 13th. We provided this to the entity heads and key staff on a confidential basis so that we can do internal preparations for the roll-out next Monday.

THE ATTACHED DRAFT DOCUMENT IS EXTREMELY CLOSE HOLD AND MUST NOT BE FORWARDED. We ask that you honor the Administration's direction that the budget materials not be released until

the official Agency roll-out on the afternoon of the 13th. At that time, the final document will be posted on the BBG web-site and will be publicly available.

As you can imagine, we are in high gear with finalization of the document; however, if you have any questions, please let me know. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 06, 2012 10:25 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: advance copy

(b) (6)

I would like to see/have an advance copy of the President's budget as it relates to BBG and entities which I understand you have already shared with several entities. I assume if they can have it then a Board member can have it too.

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 8:06 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: 2:30 p.m. EST on Saturday?: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Tele...

Jeff, how will I be re imbursed for this call as I will be calling in from London? It will have to be from the hotel which will not be cheap..like \$4 a minute which I deeply regret.I will have it on my hotel bill which I can submit for re-imburement. I prefer due to cost to have the call on Monday or any day afterwards when I am in the USA and there is not a cost which could reach \$120 if 30 minutes long. Therefore I should not be counted as asking for the meeting on Saturday. I would agree to asking for the meeting any day next week after 230 PM on Monday February 13. Obviously if this goes forward on Sat I will participate with the new time of 230 PM assuming I can reach the designated number from UK.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 8:00:43 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors: we appreciate your efforts to find time for this important telephonic meeting. I just spoke with Dick, and wanted to remind that next week will be an extremely difficult one here because of the FY 2013 budget

release and the many associated meetings and briefings. We therefore suggest that you try to have your meeting on Saturday (February 11) in the afternoon, as suggested by Governor Ashe. How about 2:30 p.m. EST on Saturday, February 11?

Before we can confirm we must first hear from at least four of you that you wish to have the meeting – so please do let us know, this evening if at all possible or early Thursday, whether you wish to have a meeting and, if so, that you can participate at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Thanks and regards,

Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 6:02 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Telephonic Meeting

In checking my schedule on Saturday, I could also call in after 2PM EST. However, I am literally on an airplane on Sat Feb 11 at 1100 EST and not able to call. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:58:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks for your support Victor,

(b) (6) can you suggest times for Mon or Tues?

The sooner the better. As I told Victor, I think we should counting our lucky stars that someone with Michaels' skills is willing to preside, even temporarily.

While we will need to engage in longer conversations about succession and signage, we should be able to move quickly on the issue of who presides.

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Please let us know by return email if you wish to request this meeting, and if you can participate at the suggested time.

Thank you.

(b)
(6)

susan mccue |

(b) (6)

=

susan mccue |

(b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 6:19 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: March 8 meeting

Dear (b) (6)

I would like your office to draft for to sponsor at the March 8 BBG board meeting a resolution honoring the service of Walter Isaacson as chair of BBG and Ann Stock as State Rep for the year she served. That would be two resolutions for Board consideration.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 9:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: advance copy

thanks so much Victor

In a message dated 2/7/2012 7:27:19 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, As requested, attached is a copy of the DRAFT budget submission that went to the Administration for final review. The final document will not be released until February 13th. We provided this to the entity heads and key staff on a confidential basis so that we can do internal preparations for the roll-out next Monday.

THE ATTACHED DRAFT DOCUMENT IS EXTREMELY CLOSE HOLD AND MUST NOT BE FORWARDED. We ask that you honor the Administration's direction that the budget materials not be released until the official Agency roll-out on the afternoon of the 13th. At that time, the final document will be posted on the BBG web-site and will be publicly available.

As you can imagine, we are in high gear with finalization of the document; however, if you have any questions, please let me know. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 06, 2012 10:25 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: advance copy

(b) (6)

I would like to see/have an advance copy of the President's budget as it relates to BBG and entities which I understand you have already shared with several entities. I assume if they can have it then a Board member can have it too.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 06, 2012 7:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Agenda for Feb 9

Due to phone calls, will those of us present be meeting at 1 or 130 for the Meehan call followed by discussion on acting or interim chair..where will that be set up?

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Feb 6, 2012 4:40 pm
Subject: Re: Agenda for Feb 9

Victor -- The meeting is still scheduled from 2 - 5 pm on Thursday. Dick Lobo will address the payments issue. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 06, 2012 8:11:53 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Agenda for Feb 9

Mr. (b) (6)

Is the meeting still 2 to 5 on this Thursday? Who will be there to discuss management's response to late payments? Thanks for the response.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Feb 6, 2012 5:15 am
Subject: Re: Agenda for Feb 9

Victor -- I checked with Dennis as Committee Chair. It would be ok to have a preliminary discussion of this topic at Thursday's meeting, as you have suggested. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>>
Sent: Saturday, February 04, 2012 9:44:55 AM

To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Agenda for Feb 9

(b) (6)

It is my view we should discuss the human capital issue among ourselves and how we will face it on March 7 governance committee meeting. I request this be placed on the agenda for February 9. Also an update from staff on how the late payments issue is being handled. This was discussed at length on Friday (yesterday) at contractors meeting. My sources tell me Dick Lobo promised help and was at the entire meeting...both to his credit. Discussion on this should not take over 20 minutes if that. Is time for the meeting still 2 to 5? Is it not possible to have revised agenda e mailed to me today for my review?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>>>; (b) (6)
<(b) (6) mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) >>>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6) mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) >>>; Jeffrey Trimble
<(b) (6) mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) >>>
Sent: Sat, Feb 4, 2012 9:31 am
Subject: Re: Agenda for Feb 9

Victor -- We will send you a revised agenda by email on Monday. It was also mailed to you yesterday with your briefing book.

The agenda is essentially the same that we sent out last week, minus the discussion of human capital.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com><mailto:vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com%3E%3Cmailto:vhashe@aol.com%3Cmailto:vhashe@aol.com?> ?>>>

Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 7:11:04 PM

To: (b) (6)
(b) (6) mailto:(b) (6) mailto:(b) (6) mailto:(b) (6)
om <mailto:(b) (6) 3E%3Cmailto:(b) (6) 3Cmailto:(b) (6) ?>>>

Subject: Agenda for Feb 9

Can someone e mail me the new agenda for governance committee on Feb 9 with those persons expected to appear if any.

I do feel it is appropriate to hear from management on what steps are being taken to remedy late payment issue for contract employees. I request we hear about that.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 06, 2012 7:45 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Agenda for Feb 9

(b) (6)

I look forward to Dick Lobo discussing the payments issue but I trust he will bring some staff like (b) (6) who can discuss the matter in some depth. I always see Dick Lobo as the broad picture person. That is not a criticism of Dick for whom I have the highest fondness but rather a desire from me to hear in some depth what the issues are here and how much we have to pay out interest for lateness, how forms filled out may be incorrect and then rejected. Numerous issues here.

Victor Ashe

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

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From: (b) (6)
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Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
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Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Agenda for Feb 9

(b) (6)

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Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?> >>; (b) (6)
<(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) >>>>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) >>>>; Jeffrey Trimble
<(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) >>>>
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Subject: Re: Agenda for Feb 9

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Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 7:11:04 PM
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:dmulhaupt@yahoo.c
om <mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6) >>>> ?
>>>>
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taken to remedy late payment issue for contract employees. I request we hear about that.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, February 06, 2012 8:31 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo

Cc: (u) (o)

(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Important Board Telephone Calls

in the absence of any other proposal, everyone can take a turn at it starting in reverse alphabetical order a month at a time. This would make a full cycle in 7 or 8 months depending on the State rep acting. By that time perhaps a new chair would have been named and confirmed. Sec Stock is no longer on our Board and has been replaced by former Amb Kathleen Stephens effective immediately. Obviously there are other options such as one person doing it, or splitting it between two persons. In the meantime, someone needs to preside at the March 8 meeting and go over agenda with Lobo and Trimble. Victor Ashe

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

From: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>

To: Susan McCue <(u) (o)>

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>

(b) (6) <(b) (6)> (b) (6) vhashe

<vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble <(u) (o)> (b) (6)

<hotran@bbg.gov>

Sent: Mon, Feb 6, 2012 5:21 pm

Subject: Re: Important Board Telephone Calls

So with 3 of the remaining 7 out for the call, are those who can't join the call comfortable with the governance committee discussing options for determining how in the absence of a chairman, the board proceeds with the agenda setting and presiding issues for upcoming meeting.

Since I only had the chance to speak with a few of you, does anyone have a proposal we should consider?

Thanks,

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 04, 2012 9:45 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Agenda for Feb 9

(b) (6)

It is my view we should discuss the human capital issue among ourselves and how we will face it on March 7 governance committee meeting. I request this be placed on the agenda for February 9. Also an update from staff on how the late payments issue is being handled. This was discussed at length on Friday (yesterday) at contractors meeting. My sources tell me Dick Lobo promised help and was at the entire meeting...both to his credit. Discussion on this should not take over 20 minutes if that. Is time for the meeting still 2 to 5? Is it not possible to have revised agenda e mailed to me today for my review?

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From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; dmulhaupt <(b) (6)>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
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The agenda is essentially the same that we sent out last week, minus the discussion of human capital.

Thanks. (b) (6)

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To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Agenda for Feb 9

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Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 04, 2012 9:46 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Is Ann Stock leaving

I do not know the veracity of all of this,...only that it is all over the blogs. I have enjoyed working with Ann Stock. She has not answered my e mails nor has Lynne Weil who may know the answer but prefers not to respond until she officialyt starts BBG work.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
(b) (6) <(b) (6)> michael <(b) (6)> susan <(b) (6)>
Sent: Sat, Feb 4, 2012 9:36 am
Subject: Re: Is Ann Stock leaving

The State Department has a formal delegation from the Secretary to the Undersecretary for Public Diplomacy to represent her on the BBG. So, whoever is selected as Undersecretary (or Acting Undersecretary) would become a member ex officio of the Board.

I am not aware if the Agency has received a formal notice from the Secretary in the past. I'll ask Jeff on Monday.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 8:15:41 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Is Ann Stock leaving

The blogs are claiming and now it appears in the (b) (6) report at Heritage that Sec. Ann Stock may be leaving acting under secretary for public diplomacy. Does anyone know?

If replace, Mr. (b) (6) I assume the sec of State needs to send a formal letter to BBG stating who now represents her on BBG? Am I correct? The Board does not accept someone just because we read it in the newspaper.

Please advise.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 04, 2012 9:51 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: March 8

(b) (6)

It has always been my understanding that an individual Governor may place any topic or resolution he/she wants on the full Board agenda by right. Whether the Board actually hears it or decides on it would be up to the full Board when it meets. This notice complies with all advance time requirements. Since we no longer have a chair I am not sure how "procedurally" you plan on reminding the Governors of my proposals. My view is that only the Board in meeting can remove a topic asked for by a Governor..not by a poll without Board discussion. What is your understanding on this? I believe I and any other Governor am entitled to have my requests placed on the agenda for March 8.

Victor Ashe

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

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble <[REDACTED] (b) (6)> dmulhaupt <[REDACTED] (b) (6)> Richard M. Lobo <[REDACTED] (b) (6)> michael <[REDACTED] (b) (6)> susan <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>
Cc: Brian Conniff <bconniff@alhurra.com>
Sent: Sat, Feb 4, 2012 9:40 am
Subject: Re: March 8

Thanks, Victor. I have noted this and will remind the Governors of your proposals when we formulate the draft agenda for the March meeting. [REDACTED] (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 7:04:02 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: March 8

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

As one Board member I formally request that the issue of contractor employees be placed on the March 8 BBG Board meeting and that [REDACTED] (b) (6) AFGE 1812 union president be invited to attend and respond to any questions if any Governor has any. I also want a discussion of late payments from the appropriate person.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 04, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Re: March 8

Thanks so much, [REDACTED] (b) (6) I appreciate this clarification. Dick Lobo had some well received comments at the contractors meeting Firday Feb 3.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> (b) (6) <(b) (6)> Richard
M. Lobo <(b) (6)> michael <(b) (6)> susan <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, Feb 4, 2012 10:30 am
Subject: Re: March 8

Victor -- That is what I meant: The agenda item that you have identified will be reflected in the draft agenda for the March meeting. Sorry for any misunderstanding I may have caused. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 04, 2012 9:51:01 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: March 8

(b) (6)

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Victor Ashe

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From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> (b) (6)
<(b) (6)> Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> michael
<(b) (6)> susan <(b) (6)>
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Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 7:04:02 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo;

(b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: March 8

(b) (6)

As one Board member I formally request that the issue of contractor employees be placed on the March 8 BBG Board meeting and that (b) (6) AFGE 1812 union president be invited to attend and respond to any questions if any Governor has any. I also want a discussion of late payments from the appropriate person.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 5:07 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Telephonic Meeting

I cannot participate on Saturday, February 11. I request it occur on or after Monday, February 13 after 230 PM EST when I could participate. I think it is important that it be held when all 8 Governors can participate.

I am willing to request such a meeting on or after 3PM EST on Monday February 13. We should all we can to include all Governors. There is time to do this next week and still be several weeks prior to the March 8 BBG meeting.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 4:57:13 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

I am sending this message to you at the request of the IBB Director.

The Governors may wish to consider requesting a special telephonic meeting of the Board in order to discuss the issue of Board leadership. The agenda could include the conduct of Board operations in the absence of a Chair and the selection of an interim Presiding Governor.

Under BBG By-Laws, a special telephonic meeting of the Board can be called on 48-hours notice. At least four (4) Governors must request such a meeting in order for the meeting to be called.

If such a meeting is of interest, we suggest that it be held this Saturday, February 11, at 11 a.m. EDT.

Staff will make necessary arrangements to prepare for and conduct the meeting, including setting up a dial-in number. For your information, such a meeting would be subject to Government in the Sunshine Act requirements. If the meeting is called, it will be recorded and made available to the public as soon as possible to fulfill the public observation requirement.

Please let us know by return email if you wish to request this meeting, and if you can participate at the suggested time.

Thank you.

(b)
(6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 5:11 PM
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Fwd: would like to chat

this is what Michael Lynton sent me. I have been able to speak directly to him. This was January 29. Victor

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 1/29/2012 8:13:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Re: would like to chat

Victor,

I will call you tomorrow. I am flattered by your suggestion, but I do not think I am right for the job. Whoever does this should either live in DC or not have a full time employer as the position is very demanding. I am disqualified on both counts. Lets talk about other candidates when I call you.

best,
Michael

On Jan 29, 2012, at 2:50 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Michael

Would love to chat with you on the BBG situation with Walter's departure. Personally, I hope you will consider being the acting chair or leader until a new chair is nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate. There are major items we adopted which are now potentially on hold until interim leadership is determined.

My cell is (b) (6)

Victor Ashe

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 5:28 PM
To: (b) (6)

(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: would like to chat

I agree that Michael Lynton would be a good choice. I feel we should all talk and do it when all can participate as a decision is made. I am available next week. Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:24:40 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor:

Clearly, Michael is making himself available as a service to the BBG and his country. In my opinion, and I believe of others, he is certainly the best candidate, for a number of reasons (you yourself said so). I think we should be extremely grateful to him for being willing to undertake this role. If he needs help in carrying it out, I am sure he will let us know and I am also sure there are ways to provide that help.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 2012 17:10:44 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Subject: Fwd: would like to chat

this is what Michael Lynton sent me. I have been able to speak directly to him. This was January 29. Victor

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 1/29/2012 8:13:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Re: would like to chat

Victor,

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best,
Michael

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Michael

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My cell is (b) (6)

Victor Ashe

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From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 5:34 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Telephonic Meeting

I also think it is important enough to try to have it when all can participate if humanly possible. Any time next week works for me but I am out of the country on Saturday and it is simply not possible to participate otherwise I would do so.

Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:30:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

It's important enough that I support and will make myself available Saturday.

On Feb 8, 2012, at 4:57 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Dear Governors,

I am sending this message to you at the request of the IBB Director.

The Governors may wish to consider requesting a special telephonic meeting of the Board in order to discuss the issue of Board leadership. The agenda could include the conduct of Board operations in the absence of a Chair and the selection of an interim Presiding Governor.

Under BBG By-Laws, a special telephonic meeting of the Board can be called on 48-hours notice. At least four (4) Governors must request such a meeting in order for the meeting to be called.

If such a meeting is of interest, we suggest that it be held this Saturday, February 11, at 11 a.m. EDT.

Staff will make necessary arrangements to prepare for and conduct the meeting, including setting up a dial-in number. For your information, such a meeting would be subject to Government in the Sunshine Act requirements. If the meeting is called, it will be recorded and made available to the public as soon as possible to fulfill the public observation requirement.

Please let us know by return email if you wish to request this meeting, and if you can participate at the suggested time.

Thank you.

(b)
(6)

susan mccue | (b) (6)

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From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 5:52 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Telephonic Meeting

Susan and I chatted. To clear the air, I am happy to participate in a call. I just cannot do it on Saturday, Feb 11 but I can do it any day next week after 230 PM EST on Monday February 13. I will make myself available for it. Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:30:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

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On Feb 8, 2012, at 4:57 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

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the meeting is called, it will be recorded and made available to the public as soon as possible to fulfill the public observation requirement.

Please let us know by return email if you wish to request this meeting, and if you can participate at the suggested time.

Thank you.

(b)
(6)

susan mccue | (b) (6)

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From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 6:02 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Telephonic Meeting

In checking my schedule on Saturday, I could also call in after 2PM EST. However, I am literally on an airplane on Sat Feb 11 at 1100 EST and not able to call. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:58:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks for your support Victor,

(b) (6) can you suggest times for Mon or Tues?

The sooner the better. As I told Victor, I think we should counting our lucky stars that someone with Michaels' skills is willing to preside, even temporarily.

While we will need to engage in longer conversations about succession and signage, we should be able to move quickly on the issue of who presides.

On Feb 8, 2012, at 5:51 PM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

Susan and I chatted. To clear the air, I am happy to participate in a call. I just cannot do it on Saturday, Feb 11 but I can do it any day next week after 230 PM EST on Monday February 13. I will make myself available for it. Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:30:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

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Please let us know by return email if you wish to request this meeting, and if you can participate at the suggested time.

Thank you.

(b)
(6)

susan mccue | (b) (6)

susan mccue | (b) (6)

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 7:45 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: advance copy

I think all would find your insights most helpful. Maybe further developments by then too. Hope (b) (6) will place this on the agenda. Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 7:43:39 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, I will be happy to do a brief on the FY 2013 budget in March. Thanks. MJ

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 7:41 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: advance copy

I think it would be a good idea to brief the BBG Board at its March 8 meeting on this. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/7/2012 7:27:19 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, As requested, attached is a copy of the DRAFT budget submission that went to the Administration for final review. The final document will not be released until February 13th. We provided this to the entity heads and key staff on a confidential basis so that we can do internal preparations for the roll-out next Monday.

THE ATTACHED DRAFT DOCUMENT IS EXTREMELY CLOSE HOLD AND MUST NOT BE FORWARDED. We ask that you honor the Administration's direction that the budget materials not be released until

the official Agency roll-out on the afternoon of the 13th. At that time, the final document will be posted on the BBG web-site and will be publicly available.

As you can imagine, we are in high gear with finalization of the document; however, if you have any questions, please let me know. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 06, 2012 10:25 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: advance copy

(b) (6)

I would like to see/have an advance copy of the President's budget as it relates to BBG and entities which I understand you have already shared with several entities. I assume if they can have it then a Board member can have it too.

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 8:06 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: 2:30 p.m. EST on Saturday?: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Tele...

Jeff, how will I be re imbursed for this call as I will be calling in from London? It will have to be from the hotel which will not be cheap..like \$4 a minute which I deeply regret.I will have it on my hotel bill which I can submit for re-imbusement. I prefer due to cost to have the call on Monday or any day afterwards when I am in the USA and there is not a cost which could reach \$120 if 30 minutes long. Therefore I should not be counted as asking for the meeting on Saturday. I would agree to asking for the meeting any day next week after 230 PM on Monday February 13. Obviously if this goes forward on Sat I will participate with the new time of 230 PM assuming I can reach the designated number from UK.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 8:00:43 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors: we appreciate your efforts to find time for this important telephonic meeting. I just spoke with Dick, and wanted to remind that next week will be an extremely difficult one here because of the FY 2013 budget

release and the many associated meetings and briefings. We therefore suggest that you try to have your meeting on Saturday (February 11) in the afternoon, as suggested by Governor Ashe. How about 2:30 p.m. EST on Saturday, February 11?

Before we can confirm we must first hear from at least four of you that you wish to have the meeting – so please do let us know, this evening if at all possible or early Thursday, whether you wish to have a meeting and, if so, that you can participate at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Thanks and regards,

Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 6:02 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Telephonic Meeting

In checking my schedule on Saturday, I could also call in after 2PM EST. However, I am literally on an airplane on Sat Feb 11 at 1100 EST and not able to call. Victor Ashe

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While we will need to engage in longer conversations about succession and signage, we should be able to move quickly on the issue of who presides.

On Feb 8, 2012, at 5:51 PM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

Susan and I chatted. To clear the air, I am happy to participate in a call. I just cannot do it on Saturday, Feb 11 but I can do it any day next week after 230 PM EST on Monday February 13. I will make myself available for it. Victor

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It's important enough that I support and will make myself available Saturday.

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Dear Governors,

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The Governors may wish to consider requesting a special telephonic meeting of the Board in order to discuss the issue of Board leadership. The agenda could include the conduct of Board operations in the absence of a Chair and the selection of an interim Presiding Governor.

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Please let us know by return email if you wish to request this meeting, and if you can participate at the suggested time.

Thank you.

(b)
(6)

susan mccue |

(b) (6)

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susan mccue |

(b) (6)

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 9:07 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re organization going to Hill?

Dear Dick

I have been asked if BBG is sending a re organization request to the Hill in the next few days or weeks which would include the recently announced RIFs. Obviously I do not know the answer but I assume you do.

As a Governor, I certainly want to know so I can be fully informed as well as have a copy of whatever letter goes to the Hill concurrent with it going. Will this wait to our March 8 meeting or not?

Best

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 10:32 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Re organization going to Hill?

thanks for prompt response. Victor

In a message dated 2/29/2012 9:48:41 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

The answer to your question is no.

The President's FY13 budget proposal released on February 13th contained information about possible staff reductions being considered by the BBG agencywide.

We are far from sending any sort of reprogramming request that would entail any reorganization proposals.

Work is just now beginning that could lead to proposed restructuring legislation.

Let me know if you have any other questions about this matter.

Regards,

Dick

On Wed, Feb 29, 2012 at 9:07 AM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Dear Dick

I have been asked if BBG is sending a re organization request to the Hill in the next few days or weeks which would include the recently announced RIFs. Obviously I do not know the answer but I assume you do.

As a Governor, I certainly want to know so I can be fully informed as well as have a copy of whatever letter goes to the Hill concurrent with it going. Will this wait to our March 8 meeting or not?

Best

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 10:35 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Hungary and media

Yes, I confirm it Victor

In a message dated 2/29/2012 10:01:55 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor – We are preparing the Board’s briefing book for next week’s meeting, including an updated agenda for the Governor’s briefing and the open session. May I confirm that you would like this topic placed on the open session agenda, please? Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 3:15 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Hungary and media

Enders

All good points. I have talked to our current Ambassador to Hungary which conversation I do not choose to place on e mail. I have also spoken to former Ambassador (b) (6) who has genuine concerns.

I think just discussing the matter at BBG in an open session on March 8 sends a signal this is being watched closely and the new Hungarian media law triggers real worries. It is listed on RFE agenda also for March 8 but since that meeting is NOT open it does not send a signal of concern.

I think it is important that the Orban government know new laws which might restrict media access are being noticed elsewhere. Your points Enders are all valid ones and I do not seek a resolution of the matter at the March 8 meeting but rather a discussion.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/28/2012 3:08:07 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

You raise an important issue that deserves BBG attention. At the German Marshall Fund, where I work, we have been watching the deterioration of liberal society generally in Hungary with concern. A few thoughts that might be useful in framing any discussion the Board undertakes:

1. Re-starting broadcasting to Hungary must be paid for by cuts elsewhere in USIB, assuming that Congress does not allocate a new source of funding.

2. Hungary is a member of the European Union, and any move to initiate broadcasts from any American government station to Hungary because it is backsliding is a political statement that is likely to be met with strong resistance in both Brussels and Foggy Bottom. Regardless of the merits of the case, it is hard for me to imagine that these twin political hurdle can be negotiated. But I may be wrong.

3. Hungarian media is under pressure, but Hungarians generally have access to all the media available to most Europeans. It will be hard to make the case that, like China, Hungary lacks access to a broad diversity of media sources.

My guess is that (b) (6) letter to the WP will be read in Budapest and Brussels with great attention. Let's hope it is enough of a wakeup call to reverse some of the more ominous trends emerging in Hungary.

Thanks for raising this issue.

Best. Enders

On Feb 28, 2012, at 1:41 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

I want the Board to see my e mail to our Ambassador to Hungary and her response back to me. I hope this matter will be discussed march 8 at our Board meeting and I request the topic be placed on our agenda.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe@aol.com
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 2/28/2012 4:02:51 A.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: RE: Hungary and media

Dear Ambassador Ashe –

Thank you very much for reaching out to us. Of course, I have seen the Op-Ed you refer to in the Washington Post. I am not informed as to what your criteria are for establishing broadcasts into a country. But I would be more than happy to brief you on how we see the state of media freedom in Hungary. There are opposition news papers that continue to be published, and local (as well as foreign) websites that continue to post freely. You might also look at the websites of the Hungarian television news stations. Having said that, we are concerned about the impact of the new Hungarian Media Law on media freedom and media pluralism, and I would be happy to discuss with you at your earliest availability. I am copying my assistant, (b) (6) who can help find a time for us to talk on the phone.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Embassy of the United States of America, Budapest

Szabadság tér 12

1054 Budapest

Hungary

(b) (6)

This e-mail is UNCLASSIFIED per the definitions in E.O. 12958

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 11:10 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Hungary and media

Dear Ambassador (b) (6)

My name is Victor Ashe and I am a former Ambassador to Poland (2004-2009) and currently on the Broadcasting Board of Governors which is also the Board for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

Today there was an op ed piece in the Washington Post which continues a discussion on media restrictions in Hungary and whether there is a need to resume broadcasts into Hungary. A former Ambassador is an author, (b) (6)

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/support-democracy-in-hungary-with-new-radio-free-europe-broadcasts/2012/02/17/gIQAI7KdcR_story.html

No doubt you have seen it as has Secretary (b) (6) who I am copying on this e mail.

BBG meets on March 8 in Springfield Va as does Radio Free Europe corporate Board. I have asked that this issue be discussed without any direction as to whether we should or should take actions. But we need to know about the situation. That is why I am e mailing you as Ambassador and Secretary (b) (6) seeking any views or thoughts you may have on this. We need to asses whether media freedom is at risk in today's Hungary.

Secretary Clinton by virtual of her position serves on our Board. She is currently represented by former Ambassador Kathleen Stephens awaiting the Senate's pending consideration of the nominee for Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy who when confirmed will take her place on the BBG Board. Michael Lynton is our current presiding Governor as our chair, Walter Isaacson, resigned in January, 2012.

I am happy to talk with anyone on this but I do want the views of State and the Embassy in Budapest if possible.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 2:38 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Resolution for David Burke Award

this looks good to me...should be spearate resolutions for each so we can present them later on to each for their own memory.

Great work

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/29/2012 1:43:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Attached here is a draft resolution for the annual David Burke Distinguished Journalism Award (Burke Award) for the Governance Committee's consideration. (Under the previous Board this award was handled by the Personnel Committee; in November 2010 the Board added to the Governance Committee's mandate the functions of the Personnel Committee of the prior Board.)

The Burke Award is named after former BBG Chairman David Burke and is presented to U.S. international broadcasters who demonstrate exceptional performance, including bravery and reporting under extreme hardship. The broadcasters' stories must enlighten and inform listeners and exhibit a commitment to the free exchange of ideas. Each network is eligible for one Burke Award each calendar year. Each award carries a prize of up to \$2500, plus a certificate from the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

The networks have designated the following recipients for this year's David Burke Distinguished Journalism Award. Their written justifications are also attached for your perusal.

VOA

(b) (6)

OCB

(b) (6)

RFE/RL

(b) (6)

RFA

(b) (6)

MBN

(b) (6)

As the proposed resolution will be included in the Board briefing book for the March 8 meeting, we would appreciate any comments you might have by noon tomorrow, March 1.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 3:00 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: cuts for BBG

Thanks so much. But it does not give me what I need...namely how many persons being cut...like the Lao service where I will be tomorrow morning at 1030...how many persons at Tibetan? Where do I find the people cuts?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/29/2012 2:54:24 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, As requested, attached is a list of all the proposed cuts by service and section contained in the FY 2013 President's budget request for the BBG. Please note that the document summarizes all the cuts contained in the FY 2013 budget, including approximately \$21M in administrative cuts throughout the agency. If you are interested in further details and descriptions of these reductions as well as the proposed increases, this information may be found in the Congressional Budget Justification in the section entitled "Summary of Increases and Decreases," starting on page 15. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 6:12 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: cuts for BBG

thanks

In a message dated 2/28/2012 5:56:52 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, we will send you the information by COB tomorrow.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 7:12 PM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: cuts for BBG

(b) (6)

can you send me a list of all the proposed cuts by service and section which the President's budget if adopted by Congress would impose?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 7:42 AM
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Hungary and media

I want the Board to see my e mail to our Ambassador to Hungary and her response back to me. I hope this matter will be discussed march 8 at our Board meeting and I request the topic be placed on our agenda.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe@aol.com
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 2/28/2012 4:02:51 A.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: RE: Hungary and media

Dear Ambassador Ashe –

Thank you very much for reaching out to us. Of course, I have seen the Op-Ed you refer to in the Washington Post. I am not informed as to what your criteria are for establishing broadcasts into a country. But I would be more than happy to brief you on how we see the state of media freedom in Hungary. There are opposition news papers that continue to be published, and local (as well as foreign) websites that continue to post freely. You might also look at the websites of the Hungarian television news stations. Having said that, we are concerned about the impact of the new Hungarian Media Law on media freedom and media pluralism, and I would be happy to discuss with you at your earliest availability. I am copying my assistant, (b) (6) who can help find a time for us to talk on the phone.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Embassy of the United States of America, Budapest

Szabadság tér 12

1054 Budapest

Hungary

(b) (6)

This e-mail is UNCLASSIFIED per the definitions in E.O. 12958

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 11:10 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Hungary and media

Dear Ambassador (b) (6)

My name is Victor Ashe and I am a former Ambassador to Poland (2004-2009) and currently on the Broadcasting Board of Governors which is also the Board for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

Today there was an op ed piece in the Washington Post which continues a discussion on media restrictions in Hungary and whether there is a need to resume broadcasts into Hungary. A former Ambassador is an author, Mr. (b) (6)

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/support-democracy-in-hungary-with-new-radio-free-europe-broadcasts/2012/02/17/gIQAI7KdcR_story.html

No doubt you have seen it as has Secretary (b) (6) who I am copying on this e mail.

BBG meets on March 8 in Springfield Va as does Radio Free Europe corporate Board. I have asked that this issue

be discussed without any direction as to whether we should or should take actions. But we need to know about the situation. That is why I am e mailing you as Ambassador and Secretary (b) (6) seeking any views or thoughts you may have on this. We need to asses whether media freedom is at risk in today's Hungary.

Secretary Clinton by virtual of her position serves on our Board. She is currently represented by former Ambassador Kathleen Stephens awaiting the Senate's pending consideration of the nominee for Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy who when confirmed will take her place on the BBG Board. Michael Lynton is our current presiding Governor as our chair, Walter Isaacson, resigned in January, 2012.

I am happy to talk with anyone on this but I do want the views of State and the Embassy in Budapest if possible.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 3:15 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

effrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Hungary and media

Enders

All good points. I have talked to our current Ambassador to Hungary which conversation I do not choose to place on e mail. I have also spoken to former Ambassador (b) (6) who has genuine concerns.

I think just discussing the matter at BBG in an open session on March 8 sends a signal this is being watched closely and the new Hungarian media law triggers real worries. It is listed on RFE agenda also for March 8 but since that meeting is NOT open it does not send a signal of concern.

I think it is important that the Orban government know new laws which might restrict media access are being noticed elsewhere. Your points Enders are all valid ones and I do not seek a resolution of the matter at the March 8 meeting but rather a discussion.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/28/2012 3:08:07 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

You raise an important issue that deserves BBG attention. At the German Marshall Fund, where I work, we have been watching the deterioration of liberal society generally in Hungary with concern. A few thoughts that might be useful in framing any discussion the Board undertakes:

1. Re-starting broadcasting to Hungary must be paid for by cuts elsewhere in USIB, assuming that Congress does

not allocate a new source of funding.

2. Hungary is a member of the European Union, and any move to initiate broadcasts from any American government station to Hungary because it is backsliding is a political statement that is likely to be met with strong resistance in both Brussels and Foggy Bottom. Regardless of the merits of the case, it is hard for me to imagine that these twin political hurdle can be negotiated. But I may be wrong.

3. Hungarian media is under pressure, but Hungarians generally have access to all the media available to most Europeans. It will be hard to make the case that, like China, Hungary lacks access to a broad diversity of media sources.

My guess is that (b) (6) letter to the WP will be read in Budapest and Brussels with great attention. Let's hope it is enough of a wakeup call to reverse some of the more ominous trends emerging in Hungary.

Thanks for raising this issue.

Best. Enders

On Feb 28, 2012, at 1:41 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

I want the Board to see my e mail to our Ambassador to Hungary and her response back to me. I hope this matter will be discussed march 8 at our Board meeting and I request the topic be placed on our agenda.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe@aol.com
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 2/28/2012 4:02:51 A.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: RE: Hungary and media

Dear Ambassador Ashe –

Thank you very much for reaching out to us. Of course, I have seen the Op-Ed you refer to in the Washington Post. I am not informed as to what your criteria are for establishing broadcasts into a country. But I would be more than happy to brief you on how we see the state of media freedom in Hungary. There are opposition news papers that continue to be published, and local (as well as foreign) websites that continue to post freely. You might also look at the websites of the Hungarian television news stations. Having said that, we are concerned about the impact of the new Hungarian Media Law on media freedom and media pluralism, and I would be happy to discuss with you at your earliest availability. I am copying my assistant, (b) (6) who can help find a time for us to talk on the phone.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Embassy of the United States of America, Budapest

Szabadság tér 12

1054 Budapest

Hungary

(b) (6)

This e-mail is UNCLASSIFIED per the definitions in E.O. 12958

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 11:10 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Hungary and media

Dear Ambassador (b) (6)

My name is Victor Ashe and I am a former Ambassador to Poland (2004-2009) and currently on the Broadcasting Board of Governors which is also the Board for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

Today there was an op ed piece in the Washington Post which continues a discussion on media restrictions in Hungary and whether there is a need to resume broadcasts into Hungary. A former Ambassador is an author, Mr. (b) (6)

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/support-democracy-in-hungary-with-new-radio-free-europe-broadcasts/2012/02/17/gIQAI7KdcR_story.html

No doubt you have seen it as has Secretary (b) (6) who I am copying on this e mail.

BBG meets on March 8 in Springfield Va as does Radio Free Europe corporate Board. I have asked that this issue be discussed without any direction as to whether we should or should take actions. But we need to know about the situation. That is why I am e mailing you as Ambassador and Secretary (b) (6) seeking any views or thoughts you may have on this. We need to asses whether media freedom is at risk in today's Hungary.

Secretary Clinton by virtual of her position serves on our Board. She is currently represented by former Ambassador Kathleen Stephens awaiting the Senate's pending consideration of the nominee for Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy who when confirmed will take her place on the BBG Board. Michael Lynton is our current presiding Governor as our chair, Walter Isaacson, resigned in January, 2012.

I am happy to talk with anyone on this but I do want the views of State and the Embassy in Budapest if possible.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 5:22 PM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: State Legal Clearance on Proposed Burma Deal

still no country clearance from State on visiting Burma. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/28/2012 4:54:47 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Happy to report we now have State Legal's clearance on BBG's proposed provision of English learning programs to Burmese media outlets. Head of placement (b) (6) and BBG lawyer (b) (6) secured the approval in a meeting with State this afternoon. Next step is for (b) (6) to convey the affiliate agreement to the prospective Burmese partners for their review and acceptance. He will do that immediately. We will keep you posted on progress. Recall that the Burmese have asked to see the agreement. We're working a live deal.

Getting this first piece of program placement done is just one of the Burma action steps in play as agreed to at the BBG Burma meeting on February 14 (another copy of the issues paper attached) consistent with our evolving Burma strategy (strategy map also attached). All are up to speed, I think, on the upcoming trip by (b) (6) and governors Meehan and Ashe. On Friday I conveyed in writing a reiteration of the purposes of that trip to State East Asia Pacific Bureau and have asked that a decision be taken soonest on country clearance for the governors.

That's it for now. Kudos to (b) (6) and (b) (6) Bruce

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 6:12 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: cuts for BBG

thanks

In a message dated 2/28/2012 5:56:52 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, we will send you the information by COB tomorrow.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 7:12 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: cuts for BBG

(b) (6)

can you send me a list of all the proposed cuts by service and section which the President's budget if adopted by Congress would impose?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 7:58 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: cost of letter on sexual harrassment

Yes

In a message dated 2/27/2012 5:18:40 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor -- Do you mean the legal memo from (b) (6) dealing with the Privacy Act and related issues?
Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2012 11:16:09 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: cost of letter on sexual harrassment

Please advise me how much BBG had to pay for the memo which you previously sent me on sexual harrassment.

Also can you provide more information as the item on sexual harrassment which is on the March 8 agenda?
Which BBG committee is considering this?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 7:59 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: resolutions

good

In a message dated 2/27/2012 5:28:48 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Two separate resolutions.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2012 11:14:21 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: resolutions

It is unclear from the agenda if the resolutions I requested on Walter Isaacson and Ann Stock are one or two. My intent is that they be two separate resolutions.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 11:50 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo

Subject: Re: cost of letter on sexual harrassment

at some point I still want to know the cost. surely they will present a bill. It is 6 weeks from time submitted. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/27/2012 9:58:42 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

We have not yet received the invoice for it. But, as I mentioned in a previous email, (b) (6) was under a not-to-exceed \$5,000 cap for that advice (which, as you may recall, had been requested by Walter).

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 7:58 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: cost of letter on sexual harrassment

Yes

In a message dated 2/27/2012 5:18:40 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor -- Do you mean the legal memo from (b) (6) dealing with the Privacy Act and related issues? Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
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Subject: cost of letter on sexual harrassment

Please advise me how much BBG had to pay for the memo which you previously sent me on sexual harrassment.

Also can you provide more information as the item on sexual harrassment which is on the March 8 agenda? Which BBG committee is considering this?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2012 5:50 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: invitation

Should I visit the service for information prior to my visit to Laos on March 17-20? I could do it this March 1 if you feel it would be helpful. Admittedly this is VOA and my emphasis is RFA but always glad to do Lao from VOA.

Victor

In a message dated 2/26/2012 5:44:23 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:
Victor,

Yes it is being cut in the FY13 budget.

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 24, 2012, at 2:59 PM, "vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>"
<vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>> wrote:

(b) (6)

Is Lao being cut too? Should I visit with them prior to going to laos in March? I am happy to do so. Victor

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

From: richard m lobo <(b) (6) mailto:(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeff Trimble <(u) (o) mailto:(u) (b) (6)>
(b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Feb 24, 2012 2:30 pm
Subject: Re: invitation

thank you so much for the invitation...

it was an honor and a pleasure to be there.

the food was delicious and i very much enjoyed connecting with everyone...particularly the first lao service director.

congratulations.

dick lobo

On Sun, Feb 19, 2012 at 3:23 PM, (b) (6)
(b) (6) wrote:

Dear Mr. Lobo,

VOA-Lao turns 50 years old this week, and we're having a luncheon party to mark the occasion on Wednesday 2/22, between 11:30-1:00, even though there is nothing much to celebrate after the news of the proposed cut that we received last week. But we want to show our gratitude to the VOA establishment and all the people who have worked with us and supported us throughout the years, so we decided to go ahead with the party.

And we'd like to invite you to come and share some Lao food with us. We hope that you can get away from your very busy schedule to join us. Thank you.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

Lao Service

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 8:00 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: March 9 governance

thanks so much and it may be Susan and Michael may wish to add, Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Dick Lobo (personal) <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Feb 24, 2012 7:28 am
Subject: Re: March 9 governance

Victor:

Absolutely fine with me. My very brief statement will be to welcome people, say that we are committed to addressing the issue in a fair and open way, etc. I had also planned to thank you for your leadership on this issue. I'll then hand it over to you for whatever remarks you'd like to make.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Fri, 24 Feb 2012 07:22:16 -0500 (EST)
To: <(b) (6)> <(b) (6)>
Subject: March 9 governance

Dennis

I would like to be added after you as chair for our March 9 governance committee meeting for employee concerns to make a brief statement. This has been a continuing interest of mine and of course should Susan or Michael wish to make a statement they should be afforded that opportunity. This request comes after seeing the proposed agenda for March 9 where you start it off with a statement as chair.

Thanks for your consideration.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 8:19 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Research Contract and Program

Thanks for your response. I understand your views. When I have had time to digest it, I will get back with further questions and comments. I appreciate your time to respond to this.

To be honest, while I think research is important and needed, I think the current proposed layoffs and reduction in services force difficult choices upon us with which reasonable people can differ. This is where we may part company on this issue as I am troubled by spending 10 million a year (\$8.8 million one year) while 200 fine employees are discharged and services like Tibetan language are reduced. I wonder if we should not cut even more in the Gallup contract for a few years to produce the savings needed to keep more of these lost jobs and Tibetan language. I feel sure Congress will take steps to halt the reduction in Tibetan language and based on what I know I would agree with Congress on that. Our priorities need further thought in my view.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6), Richard M. Lobo (b) (6), Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6), Lynne Weil (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 2:56 pm
Subject: BBG Research Contract and Program

Governors,
Please see attached a memo on the BBG research program intended for internal Board use only along with related talking points for use with external audiences. The former responds to a request from Governor Ashe and the latter to any queries or comments that may come your way concerning both the new Gallup contract and the agency's research efforts overall. Bruce

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 12:18 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

(b) (6) My request was to have a bylaw change drafted and presented March 8. That request was sent to you in ample time to comply with the bylaws. I am a Board member. Whether you agree or disagree with my approach, I am entitled to have my request implemented when I asked for it. If there was a problem with doing that then I am entitled to have you (b) (6) tell me why you are not doing it. You failed to honor my request and are only telling me your reason for not doing it since I have raised the issue after it is too late to do much about it as the 21 day notice requirement has passed.

(b) (5)

I find this whole process most disappointing.
Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (u) (o) (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (o) (b) (6)>

Sent: Fri, Feb 24, 2012 9:21 am
Subject: RE: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Victor – Thanks for your follow-up. A by-law change is not required in order to create the presiding Governor's authorities. This can be done by Board decision. So, if we follow the Board's precedent, the Board would consider and adopt the recommendation of the Governance Committee about the authorities and roles of the Presiding Governor -- including the text of a proposed bylaw change -- at the March 8 meeting. The Board decision would go into effect immediately and could then be reflected subsequently in a formal bylaw change as a housekeeping matter. Thanks.

(b) (6)
From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 11:42 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

How do you propose that the Board vote on a bylaw change for which it has not received a copy of 21 days in advance? I still have not seen the by law change proposal and I had asked you for it. I had not seen the agenda until this evening when it was emailed out. The text of the by law change is simply not available even now. Current bylaws say 21 day notice...this means the full text...not just notice that the subject matter will be considered. Of course amendments are always in order both at the committee level and by the full Board. In other words the full Board cannot vote on this until April without violating the current bylaw requirement of 21 days notice.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (u) (o) (b) (6)
(b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <(u) (o) (b) (6)>

Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 9:28 pm
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda
Victor --

Thanks for your email.

As you point out, the issue will be dealt with in the Governance Committee at its March 7 meeting. It is on the agenda which was sent you yesterday. We are planning to propose a bylaw amendment to meet your request, as I explained to you by email last week.

A report of the Governance Committee is scheduled during both the Governors' briefing and the open meeting on March 8. The intention is for the Committee to report out on this issue and others considered the day before.

I am not clear why it would have made sense for me to propose a bylaw change to the plenary Board 21 days before it would have been considered by the Governance Committee when the change itself is on the Committee meeting agenda only 1 day

before the plenary Board meeting. It is certainly possible that the Committee members will propose amendments to the draft.

In any case, my intention all along has been to comply with your requests, Victor. So, I really don't understand the nature of your objection or why you are raising it in this email. (I would have been happy to speak with you about it today when you were in the BBG offices. I was readily available to meet with you if you had requested.)

In any case, I will be available all day tomorrow to meet with you in person or by phone at (b) (6). I would be delighted to speak with you about this or any other topic. Is there a time that would be convenient for you to talk?

Thanks, Victor. Have a nice evening. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 8:36:31 PM

To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Dear Mr (b) (6)

I had requested to you several weeks ago by law changes to be voted on at the March 8 meeting to deal with the presiding Governor issue. I do not see it on the proposed agenda. I have not received in a timely manner the proposed change either. The current bylaws clearly state in section 1.02 that a proposed by law change must go to full Board 21 days in advance of the meeting. While it is true the governance committee will consider this on March 7 at my request, you do not appear to have carried out my request sent to you over 10 days ago asking that this bylaw change appear on the March 8 BBG Board agenda and that the text of it be sent to all Governors in compliance with the time frame spelled out in the bylaws which is 21 days. This now means that the Board cannot consider any by law change until its April meeting. Even if the March 7 governance committee approves and recommends by law changes failure to comply with the 21 notice means this now goes to the April meeting.

Perhaps you can explain why this is as we had by e mail discussed this more than 21 days in advance of the March meeting and I had asked this proposed change be sent to all Governors in compliance with the bylaws.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 5:54 pm
Subject: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Dear Governors,

Attached is a draft agenda for the March 2012 meetings. This draft agenda has been reviewed and approved by presiding Governor Lynton.

There will be two sessions of the Governance Committee meeting, March 7 and March 9, to be held at the Cohen Building.

All BBG-related meetings will be held on Thursday, March 8, at MBN Headquarters in Springfield, VA, from 9 am to 4:30 pm.

We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the open BBG meeting.

While some Governors might prefer to handle their own transportation, we would be happy to make arrangements for a group transfer from the Cohen Building to MBN as well as a return transfer. Please indicate your preference at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 2:59 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: invitation

(b) (6)

Is Lao being cut too? Should I visit with them prior to going to laos in March? I am happy to do so. Victor

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

From: richard m lobo <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6) >
Cc: Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)> | (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Feb 24, 2012 2:30 pm
Subject: Re: invitation

thank you so much for the invitation...

it was an honor and a pleasure to be there.

the food was delicious and i very much enjoyed connecting with everyone...particularly the first lao service director.

congratulations.

dick lobo

On Sun, Feb 19, 2012 at 3:23 PM, Dara Baccam <(b) (6)> wrote:

Dear Mr. Lobo,

VOA-Lao turns 50 years old this week, and we're having a luncheon party to mark the occasion on Wednesday 2/22, between 11:30-1:00, even though there is nothing much to celebrate after the news of the proposed cut that we received last week. But we want to show our gratitude to the VOA establishment and all the people who have worked with us and supported us throughout the years, so we decided to go ahead with the party.

And we'd like to invite you to come and share some Lao food with us. We hope that you can get away from your very busy schedule to join us. Thank you.

Best regards,

(b) (6)
Lao Service

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 3:03 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: fyi

thanks for letting me know. Hope you bring him good news on keeping the facility going with updated equipment. Also a definite date on the sign installation ceremony. Best Victor

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

From: richard m lobo <(b) (6)>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)> <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Feb 24, 2012 2:12 pm
Subject: fyi

we have a meeting tentatively set for wednesday feb 29 with rep. walter jones of n.c. at his office on capitol hill.

(b) (6) and i are scheduled to attend.

dick

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 8:37 PM

To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Dear Mr (b) (6)

I had requested to you several weeks ago by law changes to be voted on at the March 8 meeting to deal with the presiding Governor issue. I do not see it on the proposed agenda. I have not received in a timely manner the proposed change either. The current bylaws clearly state in section 1.02 that a proposed by law change must go to full Board 21 days in advance of the meeting. While it is true the governance committee will consider this on March 7 at my request, you do not appear to have carried out my request sent to you over 10 days ago asking that this bylaw change appear on the March 8 BBG Board agenda and that the text of it be sent to all Governors in compliance with the time frame spelled out in the bylaws which is 21 days. This now means that the Board cannot consider any by law change until its April meeting. Even if the March 7 governance committee approves and recommends by law changes failure to comply with the 21 notice means this now goes to the April meeting.

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Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6); (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 5:54 pm

Subject: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Dear Governors,

Attached is a draft agenda for the March 2012 meetings. This draft agenda has been reviewed and approved by presiding Governor Lynton.

There will be two sessions of the Governance Committee meeting, March 7 and March 9, to be held at the Cohen Building.

All BBG-related meetings will be held on Thursday, March 8, at MBN Headquarters in Springfield, VA, from 9 am to 4:30 pm.

We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the open BBG meeting.

While some Governors might prefer to handle their own transportation, we would be happy to make arrangements for a group transfer from the Cohen Building to MBN as well as a return transfer. Please indicate your preference at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 11:42 PM
To: (b) (6) | (b) (6) | (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (u) (o)
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

How do you propose that the Board vote on a bylaw change for which it has not received a copy of 21 days in advance? I still have not seen the by law change proposal and I had asked you for it. I had not seen the agenda until this evening when it was emailed out. The text of the by law change is simply not available even now. Current bylaws say 21 day notice...this means the full text...not just notice that the subject matter will be considered. Of course amendments are always in order both at the committee level and by the full Board. In other words the full Board cannot vote on this until April without violating the current bylaw requirement of 21 days notice.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (u) (o) | (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) | Richard M. Lobo <(u) (o)> | (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 9:28 pm
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Victor --

Thanks for your email.

As you point out, the issue will be dealt with in the Governance Committee at its March 7 meeting. It is on the agenda which was sent you yesterday. We are planning to propose a bylaw amendment to meet your request, as I explained to you by email last week.

A report of the Governance Committee is scheduled during both the Governors' briefing and the open meeting on March 8. The intention is for the Committee to report out on this issue and others considered the day before.

I am not clear why it would have made sense for me to propose a bylaw change to the plenary Board 21 days before it would have been considered by the Governance Committee when the change itself is on the Committee meeting agenda only 1 day before the plenary Board meeting. It is certainly possible that the Committee members will propose amendments to the draft.

In any case, my intention all along has been to comply with your requests, Victor. So, I really don't understand the nature of your objection or why you are raising it in this email. (I would have been happy to speak with you about it today when you were in the BBG offices. I was readily available to meet with you if you had requested.)

In any case, I will be available all day tomorrow to meet with you in person or by phone at (b) (6). I would be delighted to speak with you about this or any other topic. Is there a time that would be convenient for you to talk?

Thanks, Victor. Have a nice evening. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 8:36:31 PM
To: (b) (6) BBG Board Group; (b) (6)
Cc: BBG Group Aides; Richard M. Lobo; Marie Lennon; giacobbenj@state.gov; BBG Staff
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Dear Mr (b) (6)

I had requested to you several weeks ago by law changes to be voted on at the March 8 meeting to deal with the presiding Governor issue. I do not see it on the proposed agenda. I have not received in a timely manner the proposed change either. The current bylaws clearly state in section 1.02 that a proposed by law change must go to full Board 21 days in advance of the meeting. While it is true the governance committee will consider this on March 7 at my request, you do not appear to have carried out my request sent to you over 10 days ago asking that this bylaw change appear on the March 8 BBG Board agenda and that the text of it be sent to all Governors in compliance with the time frame spelled out in the bylaws which is 21 days. This now means that the Board cannot consider any by law change until its April meeting. Even if the March 7 governance committee approves and recommends by law changes failure to comply with the 21 notice means this now goes to the April meeting.

Perhaps you can explain why this is as we had by e mail discussed this more than 21 days in advance of the March meeting and I had asked this proposed change be sent to all Governors in compliance with the bylaws.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) >
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 5:54 pm
Subject: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Dear Governors,

Attached is a draft agenda for the March 2012 meetings. This draft agenda has been reviewed and approved by presiding Governor Lynton.

There will be two sessions of the Governance Committee meeting, March 7 and March 9, to be held at the Cohen Building.

All BBG-related meetings will be held on Thursday, March 8, at MBN Headquarters in Springfield, VA, from 9 am to 4:30 pm.

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While some Governors might prefer to handle their own transportation, we would be happy to make arrangements for a group transfer from the Cohen Building to MBN as well as a return transfer. Please indicate your preference at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 10:27 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: this Thurs Feb 23

Can Will tell me if any language services have not been visited by me? What remains? I would like to see tomorrow Lynne Weil, (b) (6) and (b) (6) if possible. I can do it from 230 to 530. Victor Ashe

Victor

In a message dated 2/22/2012 10:21:00 A.M. Eastern Standard Time (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

VOA is not able to schedule any service visit during the proposed time.

Meanwhile, we hope to confirm later today a schedule of visits to IBB Office of Contracts and Printing and Mail Operations.

I will get back to you this afternoon.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 19, 2012 10:10 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (u) (o)
Subject: this Thurs Feb 23

Will

I am in DC this Thursday, Feb 23 after 1PM and could visit any remaining language sections I have not been to or other sections from 130 PM to 4 PM. Wonder if that work?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 11:14 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: this Thurs Feb 23

we will make it work in March or April..what about March 29 for now? I am in DC then. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/22/2012 10:57:11 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

You've done an amazing job touring VOA language and only have three language services left to visit: Hausa, French-to-Africa and Bangla. Because of their broadcast schedules, we'd like to arrange for visits in the morning when you have time in the future. A visit to French-to-Africa, for example, would work best between 10 and 11am, and Hausa would work best between 11 and 12.

Best,

(b)
(6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 10:27 AM
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Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: this Thurs Feb 23

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(b)
(6)

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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 2:45 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Burma/Myanmar

Bruce

Naturally I am sorry that the fuller trip you and others had envisioned for Burma/Myanmar has met headwinds from State. However, my original purpose for the trip had little to do with the expansion which you and others such (b) (6) (b) (6) planned. Rather it was purely for Michael Meehan as chair of RFA and me as vice chair to accompany Libby Liu, president of RFA to Myanmar as she explores potential for RFA activities in Myanmar so we could learn more about the opening in Myanmar.

I think it is most unfortunate and unfair that this limited purpose also be negated because State is reluctant to move ahead with BBG/VOA and others on the more expanded purpose of the trip you had hoped for in March.

Therefore, I shall continue to seek approval for the limited purpose of the original trip and I trust you will support this in your talks with State. There is no reason this need be an either or choice but both can work out.

I am simply unable to go in April and most of May as planning for this trip has been in the works for over 4 weeks now and other plans in my life for April and May moved ahead.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 5:22 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for the Governance Committee sessions on March 7 and 9, 2...

On topic 4, third item on March 7..what is this all about? Obviously I receive the most contacts from employees which I am happy to receive. I enjoy hearing from them. Susan McCue has received many too as she takes the time to meet, talk and have coffee with many. Does not mean I always agree but I feel I am a better Governor hearing directly. Are we now dreaming up rules of the road on how to talk and listen to employees? Surely not. We all have different approaches. We are individually appointed Governors with unique backgrounds. We have actually made some progress on employee communication but morale is still at the bottom. We are working on late payments issue but we have a ways to go. We should be encouraging employees to speak to us. Unfortunately some employees feel management does not listen as closely as they should. Some fear management.

Current union negotiations on a new contract are going poorly I am told. Management is seeking to reduce their rights under prior contracts I am told. The Board needs to be briefed on the current state of labor negotiations which is done in our name but without our knowledge. Our focus should be laser like to improve morale. Late payments must end. Thirty days to pay is too long. We should reduce it to 20 days. Flu shots has been resolved but its existence symbolized foolish policies which created differences between federal employees and contractors. Let's work together to make positive changes and not seem afraid of dialogue between employees and Board members.

I question what this topic is really aimed at. (b) (6) please enlighten me.

We should look at the question of when BBG appeals those lawsuits which may cost millions such as the OCB one we lost recently and could still lose (if so at a cost of several millions). We should look at how certain sections are closed or reduced which frankly we were not briefed on...such as the Tibetan Service which I am hearing lots about. These moves impact morale. We are in the midst of a most difficult time for BBG due to budget cuts and potential layoffs. We must review the optics as well as the reality. We should ask ourselves how certain actions will be viewed in our work force, by the Hill, by those people across the US who have interest in certain aspects of our broadcasts.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/22/2012 4:59:31 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governance Committee Members:

Attached please find a proposed draft agenda for the upcoming Governance Committee meeting. As Oanh notified you yesterday, the meeting has been split into two sessions: Wednesday, March 7, 4 – 5:30 pm and Friday, March 9, 9 – 11:30 am.

Please review the attached agenda and send us any comments at your earliest convenience.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 7:59 PM

To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for the Governance Committee sessions on March 7 and 9, 2...

if that is it then that is excellent. I concur with this if it is along the lines Dennis' writes here. That is not what the title suggests...Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/22/2012 6:23:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dennis,
Precisely right.
Dick
Sent from my Verizon Black Berry

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 2012 14:38:27 -0800
To: Vhashe@aol.com<Vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) | (b) (6)
(b) (6) <(b) (6)> | (b) (6) | (b) (6)
ReplyTo: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)> | (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) | (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for the Governance Committee sessions on March 7 and 9, 2...

Victor:

I believe the intent of that item is for the committee to discuss how to provide the information which Walter asked the staff to set out in writing following the recent presentation by (b) (6) of (b) (6) on formal employee complaints (e.g. the first step is to contact the IBB director, how to contact the IG, etc.) so that the information is readily available to everyone in one place and format. I do not believe there is any further motive or purpose than that.

Best,

Dennis

From: "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com>
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) | (b) (6) | (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 5:22 PM
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for the Governance Committee sessions on March 7 and 9, 2...

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Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 9:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Upcoming Governance Committee Meeting

thanks for letting me know...another approach is to have a meeting of contractors where they choose their own at the meeting. The main thing is to produce a solid cross section which is diverse...not all the same age or language service which a lottery (drawing) might do. It will be helpful to have a bio on whoever they are and for contractors I suggest at least 5 persons to assure diversity. This is different from the unions as their memberships are different too.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/22/2012 8:50:41 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

Contractors will be invited as we discussed and agreed to. We sent out an email invite to all contractors which you cleared, and when we see how many respond, we will have a drawing or lottery to choose those who will participate.

Dick

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 22, 2012, at 12:04 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

I will be there in person for both meetings. I saw e mail from Dick Lobo to union heads which was fine, how will invites to contractors be handled?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/22/2012 11:57:10 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

We just wanted to update you on the upcoming Governance Committee meeting.

We are proposing to bifurcate the meeting with a session on Wednesday afternoon (March 7) from 4 to 5:30 pm and another session on Friday morning (March 9) from 9 to 11:30 am.

On Wednesday, we propose a regular session to discuss Governance topics such as the role of the presiding Governor and future structure of USIB.

On Friday, we propose a session with a strategic discussion of human capital issues (employee morale and contractor issues).

A proposed agenda for both sessions of the meeting will be sent to you in the coming days.

Meanwhile, please let us know if you are available in person or by phone for the above sessions.

Thanks.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 9:26 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Fwd: eCC - [INFO ONLY, NO ACTION] - Itinerary #801672/Ashe REQUEST GRANTED, A...
fast turnaround from Laos. Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 2/22/2012 8:56:18 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: eCC - [INFO ONLY, NO ACTION] - Itinerary #801672/Ashe REQUEST GRANTED, ARRIVAL:
3/17/2012

Request Summary

Itinerary #:801672
Date Requested:2/22/2012

Request Summary

Travel Itinerary

Destination Country	Destination Cities	Start Date	End Date	Status
THAILAND	Bangkok	3/12/2012	3/17/2012	PENDING
LAOS	Vientiane and Luang Prabang	3/17/2012	3/21/2012	APPROVED

Travelers

Name: Victor H Ashe Agency: International Broadcasting Bureau
Contact Info: (b) (6) Employment Type: (b) (6)
Country of Birth: (b) (6) Passport Type: (b) (6)
Emergency Contact: (b) (6) Passport #: (b) (6)
Clearance: (b) (6) Passport Country: (b) (6)
Request Unescorted CAA Access: (b) (6)
Additional Info: Mr. Ashe is a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.
Other Group Members:
None

Carrier Information

Carrier and #	Mode	Departure Point	Departure Date/Time	Arrival Point	Arrival Date/Time
United Airlines - flight 837	AIR	San Francisco, CA	3/11/2012 12:39:00 PM	Tokyo Narita	3/12/2012 3:45:00 PM
United Airlines - flight 803	AIR	Tokyo Narita	3/12/2012 6:30:00 PM	Bangkok Suvarnabhumi, Thailand	3/12/2012 11:40:00 PM

Bangkok Airways - flight 941 AIR Bangkok Suvarnabhumi, Thailand 3/17/2012 9:15:00 AM LPQ 3/17/2012 11:15:00 AM
QV - flight 102 AIR LPQ 3/19/2012 1:30:00 PM VTE 3/19/2012 2:15:00 PM
Thai Airways - flight 571 AIR VTE 3/21/2012 1:50:00 PM Bangkok Suvarnabhumi, Thailand 3/21/2012 2:55:00 PM
United Airlines - flight 804 AIR Bangkok Suvarnabhumi, Thailand 3/23/2012 7:15:00 AM Tokyo Narita 3/23/2012 2:55:00 PM
United Airlines - flight 882 AIR Tokyo Narita 3/23/2012 6:10:00 PM Chicago, IL 3/23/2012 3:35:00 PM
United Airlines - flight 6061 AIR Chicago, IL 3/23/2012 6:30:00 PM Knoxville, TN 3/23/2012 9:01:00 PM

Request Details

LAOS

Clearance From

LAOS/VIENTIANE

Agency/Section/Other

MGMT - MANAGEMENT SECTION

Arrival Date

3/17/2012

Departure Date

3/21/2012

Status

APPROVED

Other Posts & Sections to be Informed

Post Section

Destination Cities Vientiane and Luang Prabang

VIP Visit? No

Purpose of Visit Meet with Radio Free Asia and Voice of America employees in country and to observe activities under purview of Broadcasting Board of Governors.

Access to Building Required? No

POC at post None

Access to PCC Required? No

Fiscal Data: None

Other Comments/Remarks: None

Hotel Reservations? No

Airport Assistance/Transportation? No

Accompanying Pouch? No

Appointment Request? Yes; Request meeting with U.S. Ambassador to discuss international broadcasting.

Other Needed Assistance? No

Hotel Accommodations

Hotel Name	Street Address	City	Rate	Local Telephone #	Confirmation #
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Control Officer:

Post:

VIENTIANE

Email:

Phone:

Airport Assistance / Transportation:

Appointment Request:

Expediter:

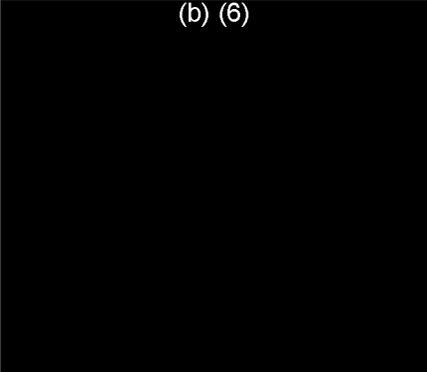
Other Provided Assistance:

Comments:

List of recipients:

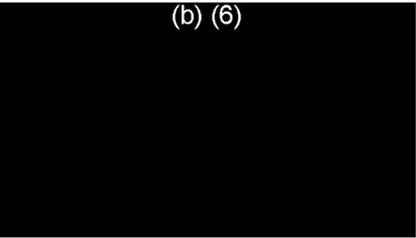
[ACTION]-REQUEST APPROVER:

(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the recipient information for the [ACTION]-REQUEST APPROVER.

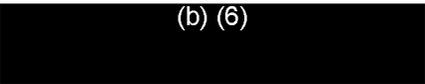
[ACTION]-REQUEST DRAFT RESPONSE:

(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the recipient information for the [ACTION]-REQUEST DRAFT RESPONSE.

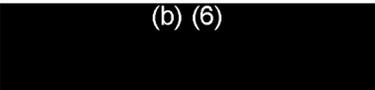
[INFO]-COUNTRY DESK:

(b) (6)

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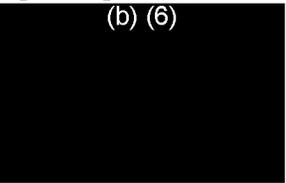
[INFO]-GROUP CC:

(b) (6)

A black rectangular redaction box covering the recipient information for the [INFO]-GROUP CC.

[INFO]-REQUESTOR CC:

(b) (6)

A black rectangular redaction box covering the recipient information for the [INFO]-REQUESTOR CC.

vhashe@aol.com =

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 2:46 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: thanks

Jeff

I appreciate your prompt call back and hope the ticket can be issued today so United can start its upgrade process. It is a long series of flights (20 hours) so an upgrade at my cost is something I need if possible.

Best

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 5:32 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Yes I need it there...not possible to get it to me here in Knoxville by tomorrow (Wed) which would be best. In the future there should be a week turn around time...3 days just is not adequate for serious review.

Victor

In a message dated 2/21/2012 5:22:41 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

I'll be glad to get a copy to the Park Hyatt in Washington. I wasn't aware of your travel schedule but will get the specifics so the report will be there at the hotel for you.

If you feel you need more time to review, we can certainly discuss that.

Best regards,

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:58 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: low res PDF of 2011 BBG Annual Report for your review

Tish

this is only three days turnaround..which really is not much. I do not have the ability to print this out at my house. It is too late today to fed ex it to me in Knoxville...a printed copy. Perhaps you can have it this Thursday at the Park Hyatt in Washington at 24th and M Streets for me to review and give my thoughts. I hope to get over to the Cohen Bldg on Thursday afternoon. Must the deadline be at 4PM this Friday?

Victor

In a message dated 2/21/2012 4:52:24 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Attached for your review is a low resolution pdf copy of the 2011 Annual Report. We would be grateful to have your feedback, any edits/suggestions/revisions by 4pm on Friday, February 24.

If you would prefer a hard copy, please let me know and we can send it via FedEx or hand-deliver as appropriate.

We look forward to your feedback.

Regards,
Tish

Letitia King

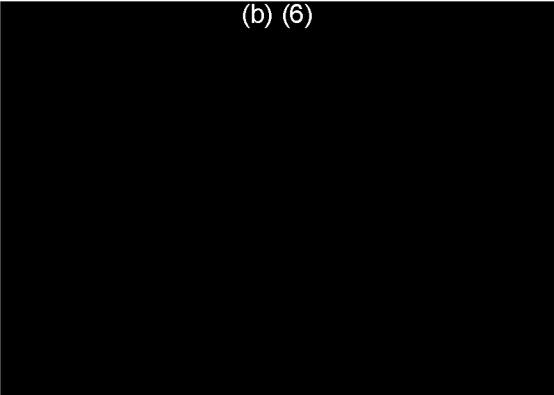
Director, Office of Public Affairs

Broadcasting Board of Governors

330 Independence Ave, SW

Washington, DC 20237

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 7:09 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up

It does not change my plans at all as I had planned on going to Laos where no BBG Governor has ever visited anyway. I will still seek country clearance from the charge (we do not have an Ambassador) in Yangon to enter Burma and go if granted. If denied country clearance for Burma by our embassy there, then I will visit the two transmission stations of IBB in Thailand (one in the north) as well as go to Phnom Penh during the 4 days I would have been in Burma. In other words, there is still work to do...just in different areas.

here is what I suggest...in terms of the ticket. the United ticket from DC to Bangkok and back on March 23 as well as the Laos portion part should still be issued. Make the ticket on Thai air into Burma on March 13 and out on March 16 a separate ticket so it can be cancelled if needed without jeopardizing the remainder of the ticket. I will keep the schedule I have for Laos. We will not know if Burma is a go or no go for a week or so. In the meantime, secure information from (b) (6) on what is involved on seeing the IBB transmission stations in Thailand...time needed to get there and how to get there....

Country clearance cables should go out tomorrow to our embassies in Laos, Thailand, Burma and Cambodia...Make sure that cable says I do NOT need any support from embassy....would pay a call only on chief of mission or DCM or charge.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6) (b) (6)>
(b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Feb 21, 2012 6:58 pm
Subject: FW: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up

Dear Governor Ashe,

I just learned from Bruce about Burma post's suggestion for an April visit instead of March.

That said, what would you like us to do with your current travel itinerary?

Apologies that your ticket was not issued today. I understand that the Travel Office will call you in the morning to make any changes, confirm your itinerary and issue your ticket.

I will follow-up with you in the morning as well.

Regards, (b) (6)

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 6:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: FW: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 5:04 PM
To: (b) (6) 'Vhashe@aol.com'
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: FW: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up

Governors,

Pls see forwarded here a long string of emails, ending with State's recommendation that the BBG Burma trip be postponed until April, after the Burmese elections. If you read down, you will see the communication in full context. I have noted to our State colleagues multiple times (b) (6) intentions to travel in March and your interest in accompanying her. I have also petitioned to execute an agreement on the English learning programs soonest to allow a signing ceremony during the trip. Despite this, for the various reasons you will see explained below, State suggests we postpone by a month. Would that meet with your approval? If I might weigh in and say if we can use the delay as leverage to get our agreement fully vetted by State Legal, then it might be to our advantage to agree to the short delay. Also, there is the counsel State is providing on most opportune timing and our long-term interest in keeping State and the local diplomatic corps on our side.

Via another email string I will forward to you, you will see one of the Burmese contacts has asked to see our affiliate agreement, indicating interest on their part. As we must clear the agreement through State, and State has not yet provided clearance and might not do so before the trip, we are momentarily hung up, awaiting the approval. Pls. know BBG GC, at my request, continues to bird-dog the process and just moments ago contacted State Legal again to move matters along.

All this to update and advise you of where we stand, and to get your guidance. I'm happy to discuss this with you on the phone in greater detail. Thx, Bruce

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:01 PM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up

Bruce;

Post certainly welcomes the support of BBG and a potential visit by David and some of the governors. I would not assume that L will clear the agreement before a planned trip in March. They are working on multiple requests for rulings on sanctions law and the decisions are turning out to be far more complicated than anyone anticipated.

But I really feel there is a much bigger and more compelling reason to consider delaying this trip until after the elections. The Burmese government and in fact the entire nation are going to be seized during the March time frame with the elections. This will be a huge challenge for the government and the population on several levels. While it would be a darn exciting time to be there, it would not be an opportune time to have anyone focused on the BBG and its intentions. It will be difficult for you to have any substantive conversations about the future of this collaboration with Burmese at any level.

Also, it will be an extremely difficult time for the post to support your visit adequately. With so many other demands anticipated on both our staff and our resources, they will simply not have the person power to support such a high ranking delegation.

Finally, if you want to show signs of progress, signing an agreement along with a high level delegation visit in April will have much higher impact. The Burmese will be able to focus on other things and this will appear as a natural next step after a successful election. A signing would receive much more attention in the April time frame. On the other hand, if we sign an agreement in March and the elections turn out to be not as free and fair as we hoped, that will put

BBG in an awkward position. We all hope this will turn out well, but if it doesn't, we will be once again reassessing our engagement after April 1 and a BBG agreement might be viewed differently.

I hope this helps you understand our thinking on your intended travel. The post, our office and Amb. Mitchell's all agree that a postponement is the wise way to go. I'm happy to discuss this further with by phone if you'd like.

(b)
(6)

(b) (6)

Believe nothing, no matter where you read, or who said it, no matter if I have said it, unless it agrees with your own reason and your own common sense. - Buddha

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 11:13 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up

(b) (6)

We're aiming to get clearance from L; don't understand why clearance would not be forthcoming given agreement on policy (no one has posed an objection to our providing the Burmese with English learning programs; to the contrary, all seem who have weighed in thus far believe it's a good idea) and given the relative simplicity of the actual document (as our BBG GC has made clear, we're proposing to use a standard affiliate agreement and can strengthen it, as needed, to insert an explicit non-censorship clause). We execute these across the world every day (BBG has an affiliate network of some 1400 stations). As to meeting with the Information Minister, all we are saying is that such a meeting might not be necessary to sign an agreement; someone else on the Burmese end can sign. That said, the governors would welcome such a meeting. But even if is not possible, the travel is worthwhile to signal further BBG commitment to working collaboratively with Burmese media to expand free flows of information to Burmese citizens and to look at concrete possibilities for long-term BBG audience growth. Thx, Bruce

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:59 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up

Bruce;

It's a little unclear to me from your note what the board members would be doing in Burma if they a) can't sign an agreement because we don't have clearance from L and b) don't need to talk to the Information Ministry. Could you clarify that a bit?

(b)
(6)

(b) (6)

Believe nothing, no matter where you read, or who said it, no matter if I have said it, unless it agrees with your own reason and your own common sense. - Buddha

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2012 9:29 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up

(b) (6)

Here is, hopefully helpful, additional background on the proposed next BBG trip in March, and a heads-up on a small group of Radio Free Asia journalists in Burma now on a reporting trip.

(b) (6) has a visa, as do some of her editorial staff. They applied, I understand, back in the fall. (b) (6) is coordinating her travel when (b) (6) is also due to be in Burma; in fact, he mentioned her trip to me when I spoke to him a week ago Friday, saying he would see her there.

With this in play, (b) (6) reached out to members of the BBG governing board and encouraged them to go as well. Two, in particular, Michael Meehan and Victor Ashe, are disposed to doing so, and BBG has now applied to the Burmese embassy here for their visas. Also, (b) (6) has said he, too, would travel if the things fall into place for the trip, and he is also applying for a visa.

Because of the relative success of (b) (6) and (b) (6) trip (thanks to your help), specifically that reaching an agreement for local placement of VOA English learning programs seemed within reach, I have thought to make the most of the (b) (6)-Meehan-Ashe-(b) (6) delegation to try to close the loop on the first small piece of business with the Burmese. It would seem logical in the development of BBG efforts in Burma to get this done before discussing other plans and possibilities with them.

So that's the context for the proposed next trip -- or I should say for the proposed BBG board members' involvement; (b) (6) set to go, in any event.

The other Radio Free Asia staff who have visas were to be, I was told late last week, en route to Burma over the weekend. They intend to do reporting locally. (b) (6) RFA executive producer, is with them, and I have asked that she contact you. No assistance is required. I just thought it would be good for her to check in and introduce herself. (RFA, as a non-federal grantee of the BBG, operates within our agency and under supervision of the BBG board but with far more autonomy than does VOA.)

From the seat I occupy as head of BBG strategy and development, working closely with the BBG board, I am trying to steer a course for us that advances the many equities of our enterprise while staying closely in touch with State and with you locally and within the strict parameters of sanctions policy, etc. I am also trying to make something happen for an eager group of BBG broadcasters, VOA and RFA, who want to engage the Burmese now that the country is opening up -- and they want to do so before the BBC or Deutsche Welle or Radio France International beats them to the punch. That's why getting the English learning deal done soonest is a goal. If the visit of BBG board members can facilitate that by signaling to the Burmese heightened interest on our part, then it will be helpful.

All of which is to say that a meeting with the Burmese Information Minister would be important, and we would certainly welcome it, but is not essential to the principal purpose at hand -- taking this first step toward local placement

of BBG content inside Burma. If there is an agreement ready, directors of MRTV and BBG board members perhaps could be the ones to sign it. At least that is how it seems from here -- please provide your guidance. Many thanks,
Bruce

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 9:57 AM
To: Bruce Sherman
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: RE: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up
Hi Bruce,

Since I just sent that email, I've been thinking about the timing of the visit. It sounds like you don't have any visas yet, right? Even though you said that [REDACTED] (b) (6) applied some time ago.

I have to wonder whether you will be able to get a meeting with the Info Minister the second week of March. I believe I've heard that some high level officials (including Ministers?) may be spending time supporting election campaigns in March and it may be hard to get appointments in NPT. Also, I expect that the MOI will be dealing with a lot of visa and perhaps interview requests from outside journalists. The bureaucracy has a hard time keeping up with requests when it is inundated.

I don't mean to be pessimistic, but I'm not sure you'll get any quicker/better response on visas or meetings for a follow-up visit in March given the timing right before the by-elections. Just thought I'd share this concern.

Best,
[REDACTED] (b) (6)

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 8:52 PM
To: 'Bruce Sherman'
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: RE: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up

Hi Bruce,

No worries from my end, I'm just trying to figure out the staff issues for March since I've got training the week of March 5, and then several other PAS staff members have training in Bangkok the following weeks. March is a travel month for PAS.

I knew BBG would want to return as soon as you can. And for what it's worth, I just sent my two cents to [REDACTED] (b) (6) and pointed out that we really need to push L to give an answer on the proposed BBG agreement. From my view, I see no point in waiting to follow up with the GOB on what BBG has proposed as initial steps.

Best,
[REDACTED] (b) (6)

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Bruce Sherman [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 8:36 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: FW: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up

(b) (6)

Hi. I didn't want the forwarded note to catch you by surprise or pass without my immediate, separate communication to you. We're indebted to you for your support of (b) (6) and (b) (6) trip. The follow-on visit I reference in my note to (b) (6) was already in train as (b) (6) had applied for a visa some time ago. Amb. Mitchell is aware of it as well and told me when we spoke last week that he would be in Burma at the same time as (b) (6) (they know each other). Several BBG board members are also interested now. So that's the genesis of the second proposed foray into your territory in relatively short order. I'm available to discuss plans and proposed itineraries at your convenience. Overall, the aim is to nudge our budding relationship with the Burmese along, with the specific deliverable being, hopefully, the signing of the agreement for English learning programs. Also, as always, I'm all ears for any concerns, opportunities, guidance etc. that you wish to share re BBG's outreach to the Burmese. Many thanks again and best, Bruce

Bruce Sherman
Director, Strategy and Development
U.S. Broadcasting Board of Governors
(b) (6)

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 8:51 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: BBG Burma Initiatives: Follow-up

(b) (6)

Greetings. I write at Amb. Mitchell's suggestion and to follow up the BBG visit to Burma February 2-7. I want to thank you and everyone at State for your assistance, especially PAO (b) (6) and her team in Burma. BBG hopes to play a constructive role in the evolving U.S.-Burmese relationship. Towards that end, there are several action items we would like to move forward as expeditiously as possible. First, as you know, during the trip our BBG reps proposed, and their Burmese counterparts expressed interest in, placing Voice of America English learning programs on Burmese domestic media outlets, notably those controlled by Myanmar Radio and TV. In email correspondence between BBG and State during the trip, State seemed to concur with this proposal on a policy level. Amb. Mitchell and I have discussed it separately. BBG is very mindful of U.S. sanctions and the need to operate strictly within those. State Legal raised the need for non-censorship provisions in any agreement with the Burmese. We have concurred with that. Indeed, BBG's standard affiliate agreement already proscribes altering BBG broadcast content. We have said we would add any necessary language to reinforce the non-censorship requirement. BBG GC provided our agreement to State Legal week before last for L's review and has been in touch subsequently to get clearance. Barring a new policy objection to placing the English learning programs, the only remaining hurdle, as far as BBG is aware, is L's approval. Let me add that BBG sees placing English learning programs as a first, modest step in developing trust and cooperation on the media front with the Burmese authorities. Other program content as well as training, always of course within sanctions law and policy, could follow down the road. But just English learning content for now yields important benefits for the Burmese and the U.S. As Amb. Mitchell explained to me, two key U.S. policy objectives are reaching Burmese citizens beyond the major urban areas and building capacity. The English learning proposal fits the

bill on both counts: learning English will help equip Burmese citizens to take part in the country's modernization and economic growth (while establishing an affinity for U.S. culture), and the national MRTV network, as well as VOA's existing shortwave and satellite TV distribution, will ensure the programs reach deep into rural areas (as well as the cities). BBG (VOA and Radio Free Asia) already have a weekly audience of more than 10,000,000 people across the country -- 29% of all adults (15+) on a weekly basis (attached is the 2010-2011 Burma research study, done by BBG's previous research contractor, Intermedia). VOA and RFA brands are well known. We thus expect ready receptivity to BBG content over local channels. Through BBG research (now managed by Gallup), we can readily measure program success. This means we can help State to show concrete metrics for a priority public diplomacy initiative.

Second, BBG is looking at another trip to Burma, this time for the second week of March (exact dates TBD; we are mindful of the embassy's exclusive focus on the April elections from mid-March on). Radio Free Asia president (b) (6) (b) (6) has secured a visa for travel from the Burmese government, and several BBG board members as well as the VOA director (b) (6) have expressed interest in traveling as well. The purpose of this visit would be two-fold: (1) to sign the agreement for MRTV to take VOA English learning programs, provided the agreement can be cleared in time; and (2) to meet with senior Burmese government officials, such as the Minister of Information, who was unavailable during the just-completed trip, to continue the dialogue about BBG programs and the BBG-MRTV relationship going forward. Amb. Mitchell mentioned he would be traveling to Burma in the same time frame. A signing ceremony could be a shared deliverable.

Third, as I also discussed with Amb. Mitchell, BBG would welcome joining with EAP PD to look at the role our broadcasting can further play in support of U.S. policy and interests in Burma. In addition to advancing outreach beyond Burma's center and supporting capacity-building, BBG is ready to further existing and develop new programs that aid in the third plank of current U.S. policy for Burma: national reconciliation. RFA now airs programs in seven ethnic languages in addition to Burmese. BBG receives millions of dollars annually now from State and USAID to support national reconciliation and public discussion by VOA in countries such as Angola, Somalia, and Nigeria. Elsewhere, including in some of the world's most dangerous and conflict-ridden areas (e.g., FATA), BBG call-in programs and citizen journalism initiatives allow people of all responsible views a place for conversation. BBG can easily do the same for Burma -- possibly, at some point, even with the Burmese locally, when circumstances and policy allow. Right now, VOA and RFA can do this through current programs broadcast on shortwave and over satellite TV. BBG is prepared to sit with EAP PD and discuss a strategic plan for media and citizen engagement in Burma.

In sum, BBG sees positive long-term engagement prospects in Burma and broad partnership potential with State. We wish to move now to take the first, small but significant, step of placing English learning programs on domestic Burmese outlets, and then to continue the dialogue that State is expertly facilitating with the Burmese to anticipate future steps -- again, always within sanctions law and U.S. policy. We ask State's support now to clear soonest the affiliate agreement for the English learning programs, to assist us in the March follow-on trip, and to advise of interest in exploring a broader BBG-State media/development plan to advance our shared objectives. Many thanks, Bruce

Bruce Sherman
Director, Strategy and Development
U.S. Broadcasting Board of Governors

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 2:25 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Rep Jones letter

I do not plan on sharing it. However, I had met with him a few weeks ago to report on my trip to the Edward Murrow facility on December 7. I do feel there should be a ceremony when the sign is installed and local media invited. I want to attend and hopefully there will be adequate notice. Hopefully, Dick Lobo can go too.

I do feel that the issue of modernizing the equipment there is a significant one which the Board should know about. Some of the equipment is over 50 years old which I saw.

Victor

In a message dated 2/18/2012 10:28:21 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

Here's the letter. It wasn't sent to the Board, and I'm pretty sure that's normal practice at the BBG.

We should have thought, though, to share it with you. But the press of events involving the budget roll-out had our full attention these last couple of weeks. Apologies for the oversight.

If the letter is to be shared outside BBG, we'll need to ask permission from his office as a courtesy.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 10:03:31 AM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Rep Jones letter

Dear (b) (6) and Lynne

I understand that Congressman Jones has sent BBG a letter on the Greenville facility which I visited on December 7, 2011. Dick Lobo indicates a meeting is going to be arranged for the end of this month.

I would like to see a copy of the letter....not sure whether it was copied to whole Board or not. If so, it should be sent out to all. If not, I still would like to see it as it concerns an interest of mine.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 9:52 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: attorney at BBG Meetings

(b) (6)

I had no problem with you not attending the special Board meeting. But your absence was not explained to the Board or anyone told you were on stand by. Bottom line is that if you are unable to attend, it should be announced openly to the Board and we should be told you are on standby or another attorney was present. It is that simple in my view. One cannot assume because issues are narrow that a need for counsel is removed. The bylaws do not speak to exceptions for being absent.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
Sent: Wed, Feb 15, 2012 8:39 am
Subject: Re: attorney at BBG Meetings

Victor -- Thanks for your email.

Although I was not able to attend the telephonic meeting, as Dick and Jeff knew, I was on stand by with my hand on my blackberry throughout the wedding and would have participated in the call if requested.

As part of the meeting preparation, I had written the decision element, prepared detailed notes on the conduct of the meeting and let Jeff know that I would have been happy to call in.

Because of these preparations, the narrowness of the issues to be discussed at the meeting and the comfort level of the BBG staff on the call, I did not think that it was necessary to try to bring another attorney up to speed on Board proceedings for this Saturday meeting.

With respect to the proposed bylaw changes that you have suggested, we are planning to suggest the topic, among others, to the Governance Committee Chairman when he begins to formulate the meeting agenda -- probably next week.

Victor, please rest assured that I am always available to consult with you or other Governors. Please feel free to call me at any time if you wish to discuss these or any matters at (b) (6)

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 8:20:26 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Subject: attorney at BBG Meetings

Dear (b) (6)

As one Board member, I was surprised that no one was at our special called BBG meeting last Saturday as our by laws call for legal attendance.

In talking yesterday to Jeff Trimble, he advised me that you had a wedding to attend and this week you have off for vacation. Certainly, I am not critical of either. However, on those occasions (rare) when you (b) (6) cannot attend BBG meetings, I think an attorney from your office should be present in case there are legal issues which arise or questions a Governor might have involving the law. I hope in the future this is the case.

(b) (6) does a nice job taking minutes but that is separate from being present to respond to legal issues.

I also look forward to your response on suggested changes to the bylaws which I e mailed you about in adequate time to meet by law notification requirements. Hopefully you will be able to check e mails while on holiday or shortly on return.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 12:45 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: attorney at BBG Meetings

I would like to know your thoughts on my suggestions relative to presiding officer. When will governance committee meet? March 7 or 9 or both? Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Feb 16, 2012 10:16 am
Subject: Re: attorney at BBG Meetings

Thank you for your counsel, Victor. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 9:52:27 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: attorney at BBG Meetings

(b) (6)

I had no problem with you not attending the special Board meeting. But your absence was not explained to the Board or anyone told you were on stand by. Bottom line is that if you are unable to attend, it should be announced openly

to the Board and we should be told you are on standby or another attorney was present. It is that simple in my view. One cannot assume because issues are narrow that a need for counsel is removed. The bylaws do not speak to exceptions for being absent.

Victor Ashe

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

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To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
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Sent: Wed, Feb 15, 2012 8:39 am
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As part of the meeting preparation, I had written the decision element, prepared detailed notes on the conduct of the meeting and let Jeff know that I would have been happy to call in.

Because of these preparations, the narrowness of the issues to be discussed at the meeting and the comfort level of the BBG staff on the call, I did not think that it was necessary to try to bring another attorney up to speed on Board proceedings for this Saturday meeting.

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Victor, please rest assured that I am always available to consult with you or other Governors. Please feel free to call me at any time if you wish to discuss these or any matters at (b) (6).

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com <mailto:Vhashe@aol.com <mailto:Vhashe@aol.com?> >
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 8:20:26 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
>; Richard M.
Lobo
Subject: attorney at BBG Meetings

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meeting last Saturday as our by laws call for legal attendance.

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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 5:26 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: attorney at BBG Meetings

enjoy your holiday with your son Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/16/2012 2:15:46 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor -- I apologiza, but I am out of the office this week with my 10-year old son who has a week off for term break. I will respond in more detail when I return to the office next week.

I think the basic concept that you have advanced re clarifying the duties of the presiding Governor is a good one. I may have some drafting suggestions, but they are easier to show than to tell. So I will send them to you and the other Committee members next week for review and consideration.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 12:45:01 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: attorney at BBG Meetings

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Feb 16, 2012 10:16 am
Subject: Re: attorney at BBG Meetings

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From: vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 9:52:27 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: attorney at BBG Meetings

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Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6) mailto:(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>>; Jeffrey Trimble

<(b) (6) mailto:(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

<(b) (6) mailto:(b) (6)>
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As part of the meeting preparation, I had written the decision element, prepared detailed notes on the conduct of the meeting and let Jeff know that I would have been happy to call in.

Because of these preparations, the narrowness of the issues to be discussed at the meeting and the comfort level of the BBG staff on the call, I did not think that it was necessary to try to bring another attorney up to speed on Board proceedings for this Saturday meeting.

With respect to the proposed bylaw changes that you have suggested, we are planning to suggest the topic, among others, to the Governance Committee Chairman when he begins to formulate the meeting agenda -- probably next week.

Victor, please rest assured that I am always available to consult with you or other Governors. Please feel free to call me at any time if you wish to discuss these or any matters at (b) (6)

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com><mailto:Vhashe@aol.com<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com?>>
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 8:20:26 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc:

(b) (6)

Richard M.

Lobo

Subject: attorney at BBG Meetings

Dear (b) (6)

As one Board member, I was surprised that no one was at our special called BBG meeting last Saturday as our by laws call for legal attendance.

In talking yesterday to Jeff Trimble, he advised me that you had a wedding to attend and this week you have off for vacation. Certainly, I am not critical of either. However, on those occasions (rare) when you (b) (6) cannot attend BBG meetings, I think an attorney from your office should be present in case there are legal issues which arise or questions a Governor might have involving the law. I hope in the future this is the case.

Oanh does a nice job taking minutes but that is separate from being present to respond to legal issues.

I also look forward to your response on suggested changes to the bylaws which I e mailed you about in adequate time to meet by law notification requirements. Hopefully you will be able to check e mails while on holiday or shortly on return.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 8:20 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Subject: attorney at BBG Meetings

Dear (b) (6)

As one Board member, I was surprised that no one was at our special called BBG meeting last Saturday as our by laws call for legal attendance.

In talking yesterday to Jeff Trimble, he advised me that you had a wedding to attend and this week you have off for vacation. Certainly, I am not critical of either. However, on those occasions (rare) when you (b) (6) cannot attend BBG meetings, I think an attorney from your office should be present in case there are legal issues which arise or questions a Governor might have involving the law. I hope in the future this is the case.

(b) (6) does a nice job taking minutes but that is separate from being present to respond to legal issues.

I also look forward to your response on suggested changes to the bylaws which I e mailed you about in adequate time to meet by law notification requirements. Hopefully you will be able to check e mails while on holiday or shortly on return.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 8:32 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Protocol for Discussion Concerning BBG Employee Morale and Contractor Issues

I have no problem moving it to morning of March 9 as long as it is concluded by noon. However, discussion of by laws would need to be on March 7 sometime...could be in late afternoon around 430...If longer meeting goes to Friday then I prefer the shorter meeting March 7 start after 12 noon as my flight currently arrives at 1100 on March 7...if governance stays on AM of March 7 then I will change my previously brought flight.

Webcast is a suggestion which may not work given 70th anniversary event on March 7.

Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Michael Lynton <(b) (6)> Susan McCue <(b) (6)>
Cc: Dick Lobo IBB/BBG <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)> (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Feb 15, 2012 4:41 pm
Subject: Re: Proposed Protocol for Discussion Concerning BBG Employee Morale and Contractor Issues

Victor:

Sorry for the delay in getting back to you on this. I have today heard there has been some discussion of moving the

Governance Committee meeting to Friday. I am open to that, if it fits in with the overall schedule and works for other committee members.

With respect to webcasting the meeting, I think it would be useful to hear the views of others on that topic.

With respect to the authorities of the chair (which you referenced in a separate email), I agree with you that we should make clear that these are formally delegated to Michael Lynton in his capacity as presiding governor. That should be added to the Governance Committee agenda and be included in the committee's report for approval of the full board. Thanks,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 13:57:25 -0500 (EST)

To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Proposed Protocol for Discussion Concerning BBG Employee Morale and Contractor Issues

Because of the intense interest in this subject among employees, I think this portion of the meeting should be on webcom for all employees to watch, or taped and then placed on web site for later viewing...or moved to the main auditorium for all to attend. This is a first for which we can be proud. Management is reaching out to listen. It may be that due to the diversity of the contractor work force that we should hear from 4 or 5 and not limit ourselves to three depending on interest in speaking to governance.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>, (b) (6) <(b) (6)>, susan <(b) (6)>
(b) (6) <(b) (6)>, vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
CC: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>, Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
(b) (6) <(b) (6)>, Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
(b) (6) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Fri, 10 Feb 2012 18:54
Subject: Proposed Protocol for Discussion Concerning BBG Employee Morale and Contractor Issues

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a proposed protocol for discussing employee morale and contractor issues at the March Governance Committee meeting, based on yesterday's discussion.

Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 7:28 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Michael Lynton trifecta

wonderful...Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/13/2012 7:26:36 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:
Dear Governors,

Our news release this weekend got the attention not only of a couple of special-interest bloggers, as noted in a Saturday e-mail to you, but also several media of note that cover the entertainment industry. I was able to locate the right reporters/editors through a knowledgeable contact in L.A., and have an idea of a few more that we might try to reach in the coming days.

But so far we're in Daily Variety, The Wrap, and AllAccess.com. And the L.A. Times has taken interest, so we'll keep an eye out for that.

Links to the stories are below, and they're all good.

Best regards,

Lynne

<http://www.wilshireandwashington.com/2012/02/michael-lynton-.html#ixzz1mJ0aP31M>

<http://www.thewrap.com/tv/article/sony-pictures-chair-michael-lynton-head-federal-broadcasting-board-governors-35346>

<http://www.allaccess.com/net-news/archive/story/102252/broadcasting-board-of-governors-names-sony-picture>

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 4:19 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: (b) (6)

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Jeff,

I did not hear from the phone call but was (b) (6) on the call Feb 11? If not, I was curious why as I thought (b) (6) was to be at all BBG meetings.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 1:00 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: authority of chair to presiding Governor

Dennis

Our bylaws do not speak to what duties the presiding Governor (now Michael Lynton) have. It refers fully to the chair who now does not exist.

While there may be some thought that the word chair can be implied to extend to the presiding Governor, that is not what the bylaws state. Therefore, It is my request that we amend the by laws to add the words "or presiding Governor if there is not a chair" wherever the word chair appears thru out the bylaws to make it totally clear.

(b) (6) please consider this e mail a request from one Governor asking your office to do this and present it to the full BBG Board meeting on March 8 with notice to the full BBG 14 days out as required by the current bylaws. I also request that this matter be added the March 7 governance committee agenda. If a copy of current has not been sent to Gov. Lynton then that should be done. We need to make sure that the bylaws give the presiding Governor this authority. I do not believe the resolution adopted Feb 11 can amend the by laws. Only an actual amendment can amend the bylaws. Furthermore, amendments to the bylaws require more than 48 hour notice as our special called meeting had.

(b) (6) the minutes written for the special called meeting should reflect which 4 or more Governors called the meeting as well as who made the motions and how the vote went.

If there are comments from the deputy legal counsel, I welcome them as well as from Jeff Trimble and Dick Lobo.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 3:30 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

I have no idea who this is and generally do not pay attention to persons not named in their e mails. However, the accuracy or inaccuracy of this can be checked. If true, Immediate action is needed as it raises valid concerns. If not true, we need to know that as well. (b) (6) surely you can find out about this. As we face a difficult week with

budget cuts, we should at the top level be seen as rooting out errors, mistakes and incompetence which cost. Again, if untrue we should know that too.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 14:34

Subject: Does BBG Financial Officer (b) (6) has Warrant of Debt in Fairfax County Court? Other alleged employee misfeasance

This might be of interest ...

A former employee of the CFO says the following about (b) (6), who in charge of the contractor mess. Does a warrant of debt affect her federal standing? her security clearance? her bonus? She has fired numerous people but should she be fired?

" (b) (6) probably sabotaged (b) (6) the travel manager who was fired last week. It's funny how he is in charge of the financial system that pays vendors, he is still employed, yet the contractor/vendors are still not getting paid. That is the biggest problem in that office, not the travel (although still a problem). (b) (6) takes two hour lunch breaks but still has a job. (b) (6) barely ate lunch. Why does (b) (6) still have a job? I don't understand how (b) (6) is getting away with this...its funny how EVERYONE else seems to be the problem. Does (b) (6) even have a college degree?

(b) (6) came to BBG because he was about to get fired from DHS. . At DHS, he played around in the Travel Production system and booked a ticket to Rome. His manager was angry. It was escalated to the CFO and (b) (6) had to pay out of pocket. He also got in trouble because when he traveled, he stayed in Vegas an extra night and was not supposed to. Before that, he was working at CGI. He was also fired from his first job with the FDIC or Federal Reserve (one of those agencies) because he would take two hour lunch breaks and just wouldn't work. He comes to BBG and (b) (6) promotes him.

(b) (6) cannot even pay her own bills. She had a Warrant in Debt in Fairfax County Court. . Why is she managing the office when she cannot even pay her own bills?.

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 4:24 PM

To: Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: (b) (6)

then we will have minutes to approve at the March 8 meeting? Thanks for letting me know...Probably good to announce these things at the meeting in the future as by laws speak to his attendance. Thanks for clarifying.

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Sent: Sun, 12 Feb 2012 16:12

Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Victor, (b) (6) was not able to participate in the Saturday Board meeting because of a prior personal commitment. He arranged the meeting and prepared the paperwork, including the draft decision element.

(b) (6) attended and took notes, in addition to the recording that was made and posted on line.

Regards

Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 4:18 AM

To: Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: (b) (6)

Jeff,

I did not hear from the phone call but was (b) (6) deputy legal counsel on the call Feb 11? If not, I was curious why as I thought (b) (6) was to be at all BBG meetings.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 10:41 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

can we be told how many persons are actually let go by entity and section. (b) (6) is meeting Monday to brief the unions. Who briefs contractors? What is the timetable? I feel the statements raise as many questions as they answer.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6) >
To: (b) (6) >
CC: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
<(u) (v) Jeffrey Trimble <(u) (v) Bruce Sherman <(b) (6) (b) (6)>>
<(b) (6)>
Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 2:27
Subject: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Dear Governors,

Attached for your review are the draft messaging materials prepared by agency staff in collaboration with the network heads and communications teams across all entities. They are:

- A message from the Board to agency employees
- A news release
- Talking points on the top nine most anticipated questions, in rank order of likelihood
- Examples of ways that we are ending duplication and streamlining services
- A budget overview, strategic principles guiding BBG budgeting decisions, and a comparison across broadcast entities at the request of some of the entity heads.

Much of what is in the talking points has been pulled from existing and in some cases published agency documents for consistency. Similarities between the board statement and the news release are intentional, as are the differences. Apart from those two items, which will be distributed, please forgive any typos or formatting errors arising from the production process this week.

Your feedback will help strengthen these items so that we can most effectively convey the reasoning and goals underlying this budget request. It would be most useful if comments could be made within the next 24 hours to ensure timely incorporation into these materials.

In a separate message, (b) (6) has sent you the actual budget documents.

Best regards,

Lynne W.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 1:46 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: contractor late payments

thanks for checking into this. It is critical. Surely there is a rational way to approach this and secure answers. Late payments for vendors should be considered separately from contractors.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
CC: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>, Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>, (b) (6)
susan <(b) (6)>, (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 12:57
Subject: Re: contractor late payments

Victor, I appreciate your perspective. I will look to see if there is some way we can get the info about the number of individual vendors that made up the 841 in late payments. I will have to get with my staff and see what we can come up with, so it may take a bit. But, I will get back to you in a timely manner and as soon as I can.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 7:49:32 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: contractor late payments

(b) (6)

I am happy (honored) to be one of first customers in a new system. Since I do not have a home fax machine, I have to go to my accountant biweekly to fax in my time sheet...why could I not do it online? This week I hand delivered it.

30 days to pay contractors to be on time seems long to me. We should strive to do it in 14 or 20 days. Travel vouchers (my own experience) are never less than 4 weeks and usually 5 weeks. At the city of Knoxville (smaller I admit) it was 7 days. Even State Dept when I was Ambassador was 8 days. Give the government 30 days to do something and they will take 28 to 30 days///not less. That is human nature.

Surely there must be some way to establish a system within a valid computer system where we could distinguish between contractors (individual people) and

vendors (also people but a different category). Of the 850 late payments (over 30 days) how many were contractors? Also a 30 day period means there is no incentive to get it done in 14 days.

I do not pass these thoughts on to be critical but to give you my thoughts based on 40 years of experience and to let you know where I am coming from. My public comments and questions will spring from this background.

We should get the word out what governance committee did yesterday as it will give hope to employees. It was unanimous and broadly supported.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6) (b) (6) >

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6) (b) (6)>
(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 9, 2012 7:58 pm

Subject: RE: contractor late payments

Victor, Unfortunately we cannot parse the payments in the way you request. The definition of a vendor and the definition of a contractor are interchangeable in the federal government. There is no difference in definition or requirements for individual contractors versus other contractors. As such, our system does not make the distinction.

On the time sheet, we are currently working on an automated time and attendance system with the National Finance Center, which we will be transiting to in the near future. I like you am anxious to get it implemented at the BBG, as the system we have is quite antiquated and cumbersome. We will let you know when it is up and running and you can be one of our first automated customers.

Let me know if you have further questions, and I will do my best to respond.
Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?> >

[mailto:vhashe@aol.com<mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com%3Cmailto:vhashe@aol.com?> ?>]

Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 5:01 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: contractor late payments

Due to my hearing, I did not hear or understand that of the 30,000 payments this included not just contractors but also vendors. Vendors is a different issue than the men and women who are contractors. Both should be paid in a timely manner. But of the 850 late payments, how many are contractors as opposed to vendors. This is a significant difference.

How can Governors fill out their time sheets on line and avoid these biweekly faxes?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 1:57 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Proposed Protocol for Discussion Concerning BBG Employee Morale and Contractor Issues

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Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) susan <(b) (6)>

(b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

CC: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo

<(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>

(b) (6)
Sent: Fri, 10 Feb 2012 18:54

Subject: Proposed Protocol for Discussion Concerning BBG Employee Morale and Contractor Issues

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Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 7:50 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: contractor late payments

(b) (6)

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Surely there must be some way to establish a system within a valid computer system where we could distinguish between contractors (individual people) and vendors (also people but a different category). Of the 850 late payments (over 30 days) how many were contractors? Also a 30 day period means there is no incentive to get it done in 14 days.

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From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Feb 9, 2012 7:58 pm
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Let me know if you have further questions, and I will do my best to respond. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 5:01 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: contractor late payments

Due to my hearing, I did not hear or understand that of the 30,000 payments this included not just contractors but also vendors. Vendors is a different issue than the men and women who are contractors. Both should be paid in a timely manner. But of the 850 late payments, how many are contractors as opposed to vendors. This is a significant difference.

How can Governors fill out their time sheets on line and avoid these biweekly faxes?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 12:28 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: 2:30 p.m. EST on Saturday?: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Tele...

that works for me. I will let (b) (6) know the hotel where I will be and the phone number in London to avoid high costs. Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 10:29:23 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, in the event that the Board decides to meet by phone on Saturday, we easily can call you if you provide a contact number. We can use a low-cost service to make the call, so it will cost just a few dollars at most.

Rgds
Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 8:05 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: 2:30 p.m. EST on Saturday?: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Tele...

Jeff, how will I be re imbursed for this call as I will be calling in from London? It will have to be from the hotel which will not be cheap..like \$4 a minute which I deeply regret.I will have it on my hotel bill which I can submit for re-imbusement. I prefer due to cost to have the call on Monday or any day afterwards when I am in the USA and there is not a cost which could reach \$120 if 30 minutes long. Therefore I should not be counted as asking for the meeting on Saturday. I would agree to asking for the meeting any day next week after 230 PM on Monday February 13. Obviously if this goes forward on Sat I will participate with the new time of 230 PM assuming I can reach the designated number from UK.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 8:00:43 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors: we appreciate your efforts to find time for this important telephonic meeting. I just spoke with Dick, and wanted to remind that next week will be an extremely difficult one here because of the FY 2013 budget release and the many associated meetings and briefings. We therefore suggest that you try to have your meeting on Saturday (February 11) in the afternoon, as suggested by Governor Ashe. How about 2:30 p.m. EST on Saturday, February 11?

Before we can confirm we must first hear from at least four of you that you wish to have the meeting – so please do let us know, this evening if at all possible or early Thursday, whether you wish to have a meeting and, if so, that you can participate at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Thanks and regards,

Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 6:02 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary RE Possible Telephonic Meeting

In checking my schedule on Saturday, I could also call in after 2PM EST. However, I am literally on an airplane on Sat Feb 11 at 1100 EST and not able to call. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:58:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks for your support Victor,

(b) (6) can you suggest times for Mon or Tues?

The sooner the better. As I told Victor, I think we should counting our lucky stars that someone with Michaels' skills is willing to preside, even temporarily.

While we will need to engage in longer conversations about succession and signage, we should be able to move quickly on the issue of who presides.

On Feb 8, 2012, at 5:51 PM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

Susan and I chatted. To clear the air, I am happy to participate in a call. I just cannot do it on Saturday, Feb 11 but I can do it any day next week after 230 PM EST on Monday February 13. I will make myself available for it. Victor

In a message dated 2/8/2012 5:30:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

It's important enough that I support and will make myself available Saturday.

On Feb 8, 2012, at 4:57 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Dear Governors,

I am sending this message to you at the request of the IBB Director.

The Governors may wish to consider requesting a special telephonic meeting of the Board in order to discuss the issue of Board leadership. The agenda could include the conduct of Board operations in the absence of a Chair and the selection of an interim Presiding Governor.

Under BBG By-Laws, a special telephonic meeting of the Board can be called on 48-hours notice. At least four (4) Governors must request such a meeting in order for the meeting to be called.

If such a meeting is of interest, we suggest that it be held this Saturday, February 11, at 11 a.m. EDT.

Staff will make necessary arrangements to prepare for and conduct the meeting, including setting up a dial-in number. For your information, such a meeting would be subject to Government in the Sunshine Act requirements. If the meeting is called, it will be recorded and made available to the public as soon as possible to fulfill the public observation requirement.

Please let us know by return email if you wish to request this meeting, and if you can participate at the suggested time.

Thank you.

(b)
(6)

susan mccue | (b) (6)

=

susan mccue | [REDACTED] (b) (6)

=

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 9:47 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Fwd: House Announcements: Black History Month; AP Social Media and UGC Brown Bag

Dick and Jeff,

I applaud IBB/BBG celebrating Black History Month and having a program on Black Women in American History. However, I should bring to your attention the plight of (b) (6) [REDACTED] who is an African American woman with 24 years of service who the agency is seeking to discharge. From what I have heard about it, you as the IBB Director should look into this especially during African American history month. I am not convinced she is being treated fairly and feel I should bring this to your attention.

Victor Ashe

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

From: IBB Notices Administration <(b) (6)>
To: IBB Staff (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Feb 9, 2012 9:21 am
Subject: House Announcements: Black History Month; AP Social Media and UGC Brown Bag

Please click directly on the title to jump to the full announcement, or scroll down. You can always go to the Intranet (access below) to see all announcements and attachments.

Celebrations, Parties, Events

* Black History Month Celebration <http://mail.aol.com/35478-111/aol-6/en-us/Suite.aspx#_Black_History_Month>

* AP - Social Media and UGC – Brown Bag <http://mail.aol.com/35478-111/aol-6/en-us/Suite.aspx#_AP_-_Social>

To see all 2012 announcements, please go to:

Announcements Sorted by Category <(b) (2)>

Announcements Sorted by Date

<(b) (2)>

Black History Month Celebration

The Black History Month Celebration presented by the South West Interagency Committee:

"Black Women in American History and Culture"

Tuesday, February 21
10:00 am to 11:30 am

Cohen Auditorium

Keynote Speaker: Ms. A'Lelia Bundles, author of "Own Her Ground, the Life and Times and Madam C.J.Walker"

See Flyer Here.

(b) (2)

AP - Social Media and UGC – Brown Bag

Office of Performance Review Best Practices Brown Bag

March 1, 12 noon
VOA Auditorium.

User Generated Content, UGC. It's become an integral part of newsgathering. It also carries a host of challenges and pitfalls. The Associated Press has developed rigorous procedures to vet the waves of UGC coming in each day and

will join us on March 1st to share their techniques and experiences.

Eric Carvin, Social Media Editor for AP in New York and Tamer Fakahany, Deputy Managing Editor, New York Nerve Center will be part of an Office of Performance Review interactive best practices brown bag in the VOA Auditorium on March 1st at noon.

Topics will include:

- * Genesis of the AP Nerve Center
- * How social media and UGC are woven into the main news desk
- * How AP standards all intersect with UGC
- * Common UGC pitfalls
- * Discussions that must be had to avoid UGC becoming a loose cannon in your newsroom

What questions do you have? E-mail questions concerning social media, UGC to botwell@bbg.gov. Your questions will be forwarded to Eric and Tamer before the event.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 9:51 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: call on Sat

Assuming there is a call at 230 EST on this Sat Feb 11, I can be reached at the Marble Arch Marriott in London (where it will be 730PM) assuming also my flight into London is punctual. The phone for BBG to call me to avoid high phone charges would be (b) (6) I obviously do not know room number. Is there a number I can call if this does NOT work?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 9:12 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: contractor late payments

Surely there must be some way to distinguish between contractor employees and vendors...in the real world there is a clear difference. This would help us put a better handle on it.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Feb 9, 2012 7:58 pm
Subject: RE: contractor late payments

Victor, Unfortunately we cannot parse the payments in the way you request. The definition of a vendor and the definition of a contractor are interchangeable in the federal government. There is no difference in definition or requirements for individual contractors versus other contractors. As such, our system does not make the distinction.

On the time sheet, we are currently working on an automated time and attendance system with the National Finance Center, which we will be transiting to in the near future. I like you am anxious to get it implemented at the BBG, as the system we have is quite antiquated and cumbersome. We will let you know when it is up and running and you can be one of our first automated customers.

Let me know if you have further questions, and I will do my best to respond. Thanks.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 5:01 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: contractor late payments

Due to my hearing, I did not hear or understand that of the 30,000 payments this included not just contractors but also vendors. Vendors is a different issue than the men and women who are contractors. Both should be paid in a timely manner. But of the 850 late payments, how many are contractors as opposed to vendors. This is a significant difference.

How can Governors fill out their time sheets on line and avoid these biweekly faxes?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2012 7:59 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King;
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

Thanks...I think given the nature of the work we are in...that full discussion and rebuttal, agreement, modification, self examination of all comments, criticism etc are worthwhile. even when painful. I comment Lynne Weil for reaching out to respond to some groups/individuals who previously were not responded to in an adequate manner. We should remember that responses will not always convince but an unanswered charge often becomes true if not answered. Certainly in politics that is the case. We must be players and not spectators.

Russia is difficult. We should discuss it at RFE and BBG for VOA. Putin is no friend of democracy. Journalists have been murdered during his tenure with little apparent effort on the government's part to track down the guilty parties. What is the best way to get into Russia? How successful are we?

I am genuinely worried that the proposed budget cuts especially for Tibetan and Laos are setting our ourselves up for another congressional slap in the face. Personally, I certainly did not know about them when I voted for the budget last fall at Walter's personal urging. Not being on Strategy and Budget, I was not privy to any lengthy analysis of the budget. After the fact I learn about specific cuts which I find unfortunate and unacceptable. My view is we should proactively save these cuts before Congress makes us do it.

Strategy and Budget Committee is now down to two members only while governance has 4 members. There seems to be imbalance here in terms of numbers.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil <(b) (6)> (b) (6)
(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> Letitia King <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 2, 2012 2:49 pm
Subject: RE: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

Dear Governor Ashe,

Thanks for your e-mail. I am copying in those better informed than I am on this matter in order to get you the most accurate response. Of course, I'll be happy to help in any way that I can.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2012 2:06 PM
To: John Paul Christy; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 6:26 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Greenville transmitter rededication to be held May 2

Main thing is to make the most of this...someone also needs to be there to install sound system, platform, special seating., have enough chairs, get an American flag, a BBG banner if there is one.....welcome Cong Walter Jones, etc...who will go early...who will be there to handle the check list. There is lots to do to make it come off well. Someone needs to contact local Sheriff (who also should be invited) to assist in traffic on county road outside facility.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 3/30/2012 5:45:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Thank you, Victor. I appreciate both the advice on cultural sensitivity and your dedication to making this occasion special.

Am adding to the conversation the members of the Communications Committee and IBB/BBG leadership for any additional insights.

On Monday I'll raise the ideas below with (b) (6) who will handle congressional contacts, and Tish King, who's the point person for this event together with the gents in Greenville.

We welcome further guidance.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 5:14 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Greenville transmitter rededication to be held May 2

Lynne

Over the years I have done a lot of these and they are handled somewhat differently in the south. I suggest the following...invite a high school area band to play the national anthem, and consider having a local person sing the national anthem, have a minister give an invocation, choose the right MC...probably the head of the local facility...find and invite a member of the Edward Murrow family..a child or grand child...and let him/her speak on behalf of family. I believe Edward Murrow's son was (b) (6) ...not sure where he lives now or if he is alive. He would be in mid 60s age wise.

Make Sure Senator Hagen (think that is her name) and Senator Burr are invited as well as Gov. Beverly Perdue are invited and speak if they attend...invite them to send a rep if they cannot attend but representative would be recognized but not speak.
Local officials of this county should be asked.

The event should be outdoors unless it rains...make sure there is parking...have a reception with light refreshments after the event. Make sure the picture of Murrow inside the bldg has a bio

under it which was missing when I was last there.

Invite immediate neighbors on the road near facility ..would not be many as it is a rural area but effort is underway to change name of road to Edward Murrow Rd...Invite county commission and head of county...not sure what the office might be called. Invite leaders of chamber of Commerce....

Print up nice invitations...mail them out at least 20 days out if possible...invite former employees of facility who are still alive...also former BBG Board members.

Someone needs to call local media and TV and invite them. not just a news release. I may have other ideas and will pass them on. This is exciting and can be a big deal.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Mar 30, 2012 3:43 pm

Subject: RE: Greenville transmitter rededication to be held May 2
Dick and (b) (6) will attend. We're working on other invitations.

Your suggestions are quite timely, since the program is being hammered out now. Fortunately, more than a month remains before it takes place. Some of the people listed below have to plan that far in advance.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 3:41 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Greenville transmitter rededication to be held May 2

the actual program will be important as well. Who will MC it? Who will speak? Make sure the two Senators are asked, the local county Mayor or Commission and area State Senator and State Rep as well as Governor of NC...I will come in night before if flights are not available in time to be there at 1000 which I suspect will be the case. Who will represent the BBG Board at event? Does Dick Lobo or (b) (6) plan attending? Victor

In a message dated 3/30/2012 3:36:24 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
10 a.m. See separate message to all Governors for further details. Just wanted to give you a heads-up with the message below.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 3:21 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Greenville transmitter rededication to be held May 2

can you give me the time so I can book my flight over??? someone can meet me at airport? (b) (6) do travel voucher for me please...one day trip. Victor

In a message dated 3/30/2012 1:25:22 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

The Greenville transmitter rededication will take place on May 2. Rep. Walter B. Jones will be in his district and plans to attend, barring a change to his schedule during that Constituent Work Week.

We have a great event in store featuring historic video/audio and photos, brief remarks, an exhibit and a tour. Local media will be invited, along with community figures.

All this, and more, courtesy of a creative team involving the Greenville transmitter staff, engineering/technical folks in DC, and BBG communications and public affairs. Special thanks to Tish King for driving this effort and ensuring that it all gets done right, to (b) (6) and her talented colleagues in the graphics unit led by (b) (6), and to (b) (6) for her diligence in engaging Rep. Jones on this and related matters.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 9:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Cc: Letitia King
Subject: Re: Under Secretary Sonenshine

definitely should happen. frankly BBG web site tomorrow should include an item that she was confirmed March 29..no questions about it.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble <(u) (o)>
Cc: Letitia King <(u) (o)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 29, 2012 8:58 pm
Subject: Re: Under Secretary Sonenshine

I'd also recommend issuing a brief news release, either after the White House attests to the appointment (usually w/in 24 hours) -- or, failing that, when Tara is sworn in.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 8:42:09 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Under Secretary Sonenshine

please prepare a resolution for consideration at the April 19 Miami BBG Board meeting expressing appreciation to Ambassador Kathleen Stephens for her service on BBG and wishing her well in the future. (b) (6), I request this be placed on the next BBG board agenda.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <(u) (6)> | (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Mar 29, 2012 8:04 pm
Subject: Under Secretary Sonenshine
Governors,

Earlier this week came the word of a possible vote in the Senate before its upcoming recess on the nomination of Tara Sonenshine as the Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs. Rumor on the Hill this afternoon had it that a vote could take place this evening or tomorrow on several State Department nominations, including this one.

Sometimes you can believe what you hear. Tara was confirmed about 15 minutes ago.

We're in discussion with the Under Secretary's office about participation in next month's meeting in Miami.

Tara can be reached at (b) (6) g.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 3:20 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Update on Building Sale

(b) (6)

Your memo says the sale price increased. Can you advise me how much it increased and what the final price was? The memo does not state that. What were amount of additional transaction expenses which memo references?

E mail for Dana Perino is (b) (6)

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 3/28/2012 1:07:43 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Please see attached a memo with an update on the sale of the building in Prague and anticipated closing. Note that this is not yet final, as there remain a few issues to resolve among the parties, some of which are between L88 and its investors.

(Please forward to Dana Perino, as I do not have her email address readily available.)

Please contact (b) (6) or me with any questions.

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 4:37 PM

To: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Update on Building Sale

Your memo does not seem to tell us precisely how much the sales price increased? Am I correct to think it was \$3 million...but spread over 30 years. We were told at RFE it might hit \$80 million total but now that has been exceeded. My question to which I would like an exact answer is how much was \$80 million exceeded? was the final price \$83 million or some other number?

If I missed that I am sorry but it does not seem to be directly stated.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 3/28/2012 4:33:13 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

In response to questions raised by your colleagues, please note the following:

1. The increased purchase price is something over which we have no control, as it is an issue between L88 and Orco. As stated in the memo, Orco's incentive was to delay a sale, continue to receive our rent, while neglecting the building. L88 has informed us that to overcome this incentive, they had to increase the sale price.

2. L88 has asked for concessions in order for this transaction to remain economically viable for them. We can agree to the concessions in order to help ensure the transaction occurs, or the alternative is to continue to operate under the current lease with its related difficulties.

3. The terms are only slightly revised. (For example, \$3 million is a great deal of money in current dollars, but when spread over 30 years, and accounting for discounting/inflation, it is much less valuable, relative to cash received today.) \$500,000 in additional funds provided to us at closing, with the new additional right to receive certain remaining escrowed funds in the future is a concession of real value.

4. The NPV analysis (used by both the private and public sector to determine whether a transaction is beneficial) remains favorable to RFE/RL.

5. The non-financial advantages of shifting from Orco (a financially distressed foreign entity) to L88 (a US-based entity funded by reputable investors) remain as relevant as ever. The due diligence that L88 has conducted on the building has already been invaluable to RFE/RL. L88's American-style of ownership of an asset like this building and responsiveness to its tenant will yield great advantages to RFE/RL that are impossible to quantify.

6. This sort of change is commonplace in transactions such as this one (in fact, many transactions could not occur without some flexibility to make minor revisions as closing approaches). The resolution adopted by the Board in March is typical of resolutions relating to transactions in that it allowed management to agree to minor revisions such as these.

7. We have endeavored to keep the Board informed of all actions as soon as possible. As is typical for a transaction such as this one, there are many moving pieces (L88, L88's investors, and Orco), and the revised changes have only occurred over the past few days.

I hope I have addressed all of your questions. Please contact (b) (6) or me with any questions.

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe@aol.com, (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Date: 03/28/2012 01:07 AM
Subject: Update on Building Sale

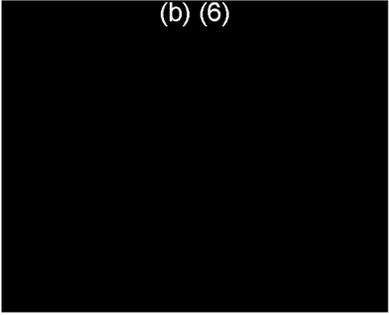
Governors,

Please see attached a memo with an update on the sale of the building in Prague and anticipated closing. Note that this is not yet final, as there remain a few issues to resolve among the parties, some of which are between L88 and its investors.

(Please forward to Dana Perino, as I do not have her email address readily available.)

Please contact (b) (6) or me with any questions.

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 8:08 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Entity heads in Miami

thanks so much Victor

In a message dated 3/27/2012 7:57:01 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, good morning.

Dennis would like (b) (6) to be in Miami in person for presentation and discussion of the grantee merger report. (b) (6) and (b) (6) will be able to participate fully in this discussion, from remote locations if not in person.

We're working on logistics to facilitate participation as needed for others by high-quality video or audio in all the closed and open sessions in Miami.

Rgds
Jeff

On Mar 20, 2012, at 7:37 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:
I am only guessing but given the state of the art equipment in Miami, it ought to work for Prague (RFE) and MBN? (b) (6) could join (b) (6) in Springfield or go to Cohen if RFA facilities could not do it.

Victor

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

From: Lynton, Michael (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) | (b) (6)
<(u) (o) | (b) (6) <(u) (o) | (b) (6)>
(b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Mar 20, 2012 7:33 pm
Subject: Re: Entity heads in Miami

If the video conf equipment is available we should do as much as we can by video conf for entity heads.

On Mar 20, 2012, at 4:13 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:
I had thought entity heads were NOT going to Miami to save money and would link up by tele conference.

Am I msitaken?

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 6:57 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Early Out Retirement Authority and Buyout Opportunity

thanks for update...will be interested in seeing how many actually take advantage of this offer.

Victor

In a message dated 3/26/2012 6:55:11 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Victor, greetings. This information about the Federal agency buyouts is from (b) (6),
who can, with assistance from others as needed, respond to any further questions you might
have.
Rgds
Jeff

The agency has used buyouts successfully for many years to address skills and budget
challenges. Approximately 110 employees have separated from the agency since 2010 after
accepting a buyout.

Management has the discretion to not approve buyouts for individuals in key positions. When
a buyout is approved for an individual who no longer meets the needed skills for a particular
position, management has the ability to fill that position with someone with more
contemporary experience, and often at a lower grade/salary. We have also been successful in
the past in using buyouts to provide opportunities for individuals who may be displaced by
targeted reductions in other areas.

The current buyout opportunity is designed to allow interested employees to separate from the
agency prior to the beginning of FY 2013, when potential staff reductions may be necessary.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 8:19 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Early Out Retirement Authority and Buyout Opportunity

I surely understand the need to reduce without layoffs...We did this in city govt in Knoxville but
not a lot of takers to be honest...however, what has been our experience with this at BBG?
Do we lose needed folks and not get the reductions where more desired?

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Mar 21, 2012 8:16 pm
Subject: Re: Early Out Retirement Authority and Buyout Opportunity

Victor, greetings. This offer applies only to the Federal components of the Agency.
(b) (6) cc'd here, should be able to respond to your questions. Please let
me know if I can be of assistance as well.

Regards
Jeff

On Mar 21, 2012, at 7:53 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:
to whom do I address questions on this? to whom would I talk? is this agency
wide minus the three entities?

Victor

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

From: IBB Notices Administration (b) (6)

To: IBB Staff (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Mar 21, 2012 5:49 pm

Subject: Early Out Retirement Authority and Buyout Opportunity

From today through April 27, 2012, the Agency will accept
applications

from employees who wish to resign or retire and receive a
Voluntary

Separation Incentive Payment (VSIP or Buyout) of up to
\$25,000.

The attached Word document contains a memorandum to all
Agency employees
announcing this Buyout Opportunity. If you are interested
in applying,
please read the attachment carefully. It contains
important information
about eligibility, payment amounts, effective dates, how to
apply, and
the effect of a Buyout on future Federal re-employment.

If you wish to apply, you must submit your completed
application to your
immediate supervisor no later than April 27,
2012. Approved applicants
must separate from the Agency between May 31, 2012, and
June 30, 2012.

Applications must be submitted on Form IBB-0050, Voluntary
Separation
Incentive Payment Application. You may obtain Form IBB-
0050 on the
Agency's Intranet site ((b) (2)) under
"Electronic Forms"
or you may pick up a copy of the form in the Office of
Human Resources.

If you have questions concerning this information, please
call the

Office of Human Resources at 382-7500.

<Buyout_Announcement_March_2012.pdf>

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:15 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Gallup contract

Dear (b) (6)

I want to go on record as one BBG member saying that the Gallup contract for almost \$50 million should be released to inquiring persons asking under FOIA without delay or cost. In fact, it ought to be placed on the BBG web site. I should remind you that the President in his first year in office urged more openness. We should honor his executive order. When BBG thru your office responds to such a request outlining potential costs and seems less than anxious to comply, it places BBG in a bad light. I urge prompt release of this significant contract to those who wish to review it. BBG should not receive negative publicity over this issue which delay to release will cause. Why not just place it online and let people download it?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 8:47 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Since we have said the Board will look at it..then I think it should be added to Board agenda in Miami for discussion and a response back from Board signed by Michael Lynton as presiding Governor. Also someone needs to point out there is NO funding for this even if BBG did it.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) <(u) (v)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 1:50 pm
Subject: Fw: Rohrabacher letter

Dear Board Members

FYI

Attached is RFA's reply to Rep. Rohrabacher's letter concerning the Baluchi people.

(b) (6) ran this letter through Lynne Weil who was cc'd on our response to his office.

Thanks

(b) (6)

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 01:41 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Rohrabacher letter

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 8:55 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

Then your office should explain all of this to [REDACTED] (b) (6) who is seeking this information. The [REDACTED] (b) (6) does NOT offer this explanation. This explanation gives BBG a somewhat more credible explanation but in the end I feel we have an obligation to let the public see how \$50 million is being spent. I urge a second letter from [REDACTED] (b) (6) to [REDACTED] (b) (6) which contains basically the material you have sent me in two e mails. This would make it appear BBG actually cares and is taking the matter seriously. The first response strikes me as typical government jargon with no end in sight.

I also believe that I as a Governor am entitled to see the contract subject to the limitations of the law.

Victor Ashe

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

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <[REDACTED] (u) (6)>; Letitia King <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>; [REDACTED] (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>; [REDACTED] (b) (6); Bruce Sherman <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 5:52 pm
Subject: RE: Gallup contract

Victor – Here is an update on the particular FOIA request that you described.

[REDACTED] (b) (5)

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:52 PM

To: 'vhashe@aol.com'; (b) (6)

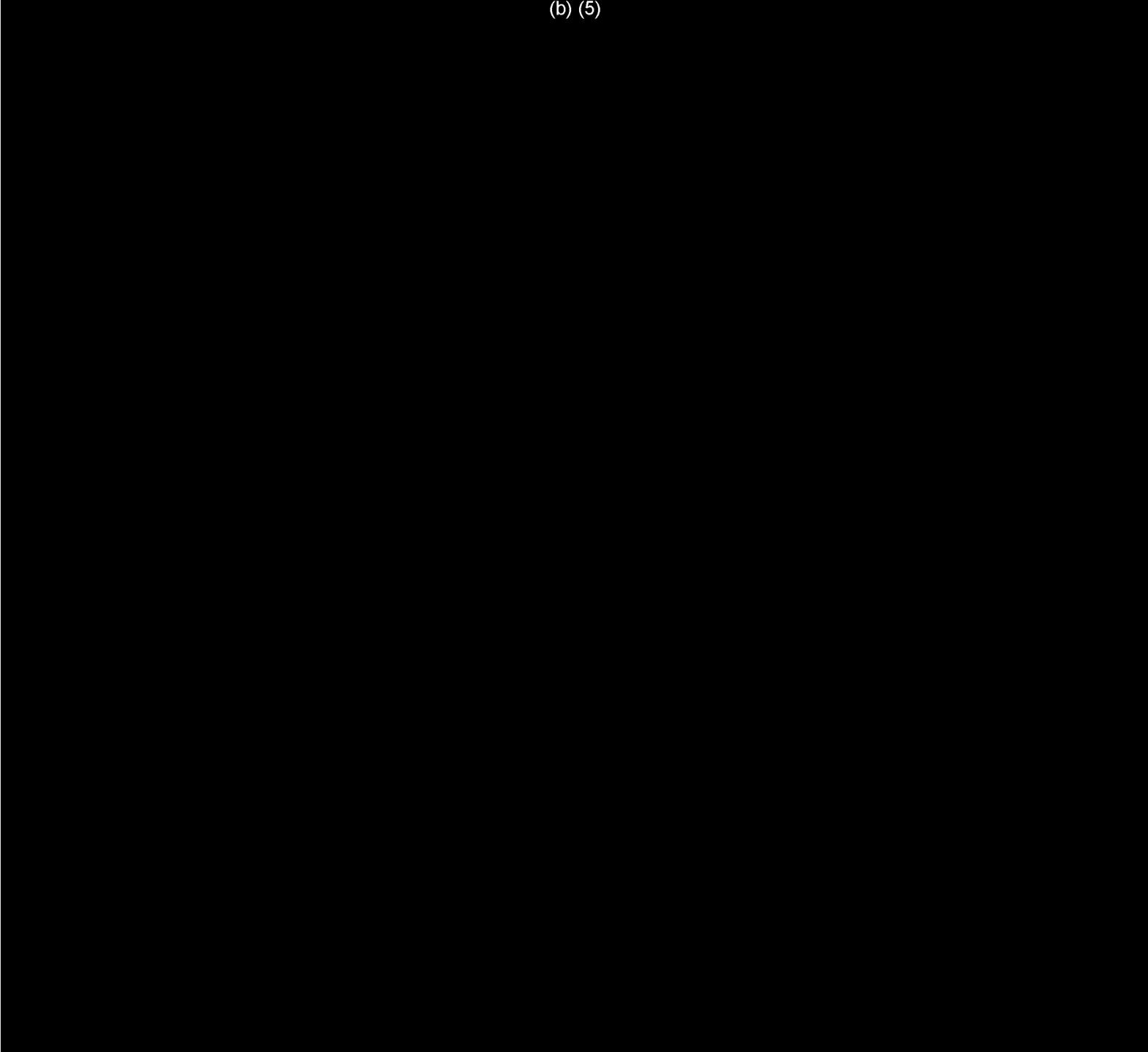
Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; m (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6);

Bruce Sherman

Subject: RE: Gallup contract

Victor – Thanks for your email. I will check to see about the status of any current FOIA request concerning the Gallup contract. Has anyone contacted you about a FOIA request?

(b) (5)



From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:15 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6)

Subject: Gallup contract

Dear (b) (6)

I want to go on record as one BBG member saying that the Gallup contract for almost \$50 million should be released to inquiring persons asking under FOIA without delay or cost. In fact, it ought to be placed on the BBG web site. I should remind you that the President in his first year in office urged more openness. We should honor his executive order. When BBG thru your office responds to such a request outling potential costs and seems less than anxious to comply, it places BBG in a bad light. I urge prompt release of this significant contract to those who wish to review it. BBG should not receive negative publicity over this issue which delay to release will cause. Why not just place it online and let people download it?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:01 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Jeffrey Trimble

Michael makes good sense here.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Dick Lobo
(b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; Michael Lynton (b) (6) Dennis Mulhaupt
(b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:00 pm
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

I would hope that at the budget and strategy meeting on april 10 the committee would hear from the appropriate usib staff on the matter and collectively we could recommend to the full board an appropriate course of action on the congressman's suggestion.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Fri, 23 Mar 2012 20:46:56 -0400 (EDT)
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: <(b) (6)> (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Rohrabacher letter

Since we have said the Board will look at it..then I think it should be added to Board agenda in Miami for discussion and a response back from Board signed by Michael Lynton as presiding Governor. Also someone needs to point out there is NO funding for this even if BBG did it.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) >
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 1:50 pm
Subject: Fw: Rohrabacher letter

Dear Board Members

FYI

Attached is RFA's reply to Rep. Rohrabacher's letter concerning the Baluchi people.

(b) (6) ran this letter through Lynne Weil who was cc'd on our response to his office.

Thanks

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 01:41 PM
To: (b) (6) >
Subject: Rohrabacher letter

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:23 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; m (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Until BBG asks Gallup about this and gets their response the reasons for delay remain uncertain. Why not remove the proprietary information and release the rest of the contact?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Jeffrey
Trimble <(b) (6)> Letitia King <(b) (6)> | (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:19 pm
Subject: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Per previous message, am sharing this first of two e-mail chains on this matter.

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2012 2:16:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information

Dear Lynn:

Thank you for your note, and for helping with a FOIA request.

Best,
(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: request for information
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 2012 20:06:39 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

It was good to talk with you, albeit briefly, on Tuesday. I'm glad that you were able to find the basic information about the research contract on-line.

As promised, I've checked with all the right people here, some of whom were away from the office last week, to see what more is available. Thanks for your patience regarding this request.

I'd like first to ensure that you're aware that the BBG currently spends roughly \$10 million per year on research, and that this is only 1.3% of the agency's \$750 million budget. The proposed FY 2013 budget includes \$8.8 million for research, or 1.1% of the total -- a fraction of what commercial media spend.

For FY2013, the BBG research budget is being reduced more than 10% while overall reductions are 4.2%.

To ensure value for taxpayer dollar, we need solid information about audiences. And as you may know, BBG's enabling legislation mandates a "reliable research capacity." Research is a broad and serious statutory requirement, not a frill.

The BBG plans to release results from the Gallup research when available. In the meantime, we cannot make the full Gallup contract available since it may include proprietary information. To ensure fair, equitable, and transparent treatment for this contractor and all others, as well as any who may request information about the contract, it will need to be reviewed under a FOIA process before release.

I've forwarded your request to the BBG's FOIA office. You can expect to receive an acknowledgment letter from them in the coming days.

Please let me know if there is more that I can do to assist you with this matter.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 8:34:48 PM
To: Lynne Weil

Subject: RE: request for information

Thank you so much, Lynne.
Your prompt response will be appreciated.

Best,

(b)
(6)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 2012 20:44:05 +0000

Hello again,

Conversation is ongoing about this request among several offices here since it involves a contract; just wanted you to know it hasn't been forgotten.

Best regards,

Lynne W.

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 6:43 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information

Dear Ms. Noonan,

Happy to help however I can. Let me check with colleagues in the a.m. and get back to you with an answer.

Best regards,

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 4:40 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: request for information

Dear Ms. Weil:

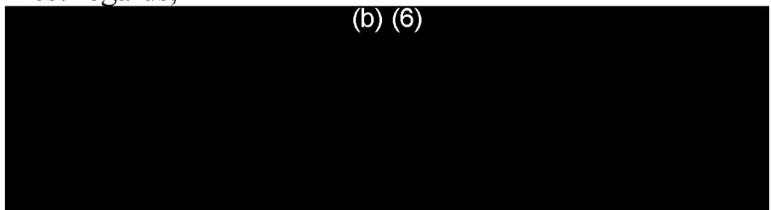
This is a request for information regarding the BBG's contact with Gallup. I am to understand that it's a \$50 million dollar contract over 5 years - \$10 million dollars a year for research. Is it possible for me to obtain a copy of this contract and any other information about it, including its implementation and results?

I would greatly appreciate your help with this timely information.

Thank you.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature and name of the sender.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 6:53 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station
Attachments: IMG_0003.JPG

You may want this too. Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 6:38 am
Subject: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

Trish,

Greetings from Bangkok. Earlier today Governor Ashe visited the IBB Bangkok Transmitter plant north of Bangkok near Ayuttaya to tour the site and meet with staff. During our visit, we took a group photo in front of the station. Governor Ashe asked me to forward this image to you so that it could be posted on the BBG web page. The Station email server is off line so I am sending this photo to you from my hotmail account. Since our email service is off line, I am also unable to verify your email address. Hopefully, I have addressed this to you correctly.

regards

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 7:54 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Miami meeting

Happy to do so. Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6) >
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Dick Lobo (b) (6); Jeff Trimble <(b) (6) (b) (6)>
<(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 7:18 am
Subject: Miami meeting

Victor:

Would you be willing to make to make the Governance Committee report at the upcoming BBG (public) meeting in Miami? Unfortunately, Michael Lynton wouldn't

be able to attend, so I will chair the meeting in his absence. Given that, I'd appreciate it if you could give the committee's report. The major item relates to our meeting with the unions and contractors, and you seem to be the logical person to report on this is any event. Please let me know if you're willing to do this.

Many thanks,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 9:59 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: (b) (6)

given the governance committee meeting on March 9 I think we should be exploring ways to assist this person and not letting her twist in the wind as it were. I do not claim to know all the facts here but I have the feeling not much is happening to resolve it. Let me know that I mistaken if I am.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 8:08 am
Subject: FW: (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 10:32 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)
From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 11:49 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Proposed Amendments to BBG By-Laws

I agree with the first two amendments...the third one leaves me perplexed as it does not explain what the protocol...it simply refers to one which I do not have. The proposal lacks clarity or explanation. (b) (6) should explain or elaborate on it.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
<(u) (c) Jeffrey Trimble <(u) (c) (b) (6)>>

Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 10:51 am
Subject: Proposed Amendments to BBG By-Laws

Dear Governance Committee members,

Attached please find three (3) proposed amendments to the BBG By-Laws as a result of the Board's decisions at the March 8, 2012 Board meeting.

The proposed amendments include:

1. An amendment to clarify that the Chair of the Board is a non-voting, ex officio member of all committees.
2. An amendment incorporating the statement of authorities of the Presiding Governor and alternate Presiding Governor.
3. An amendment incorporating the protocol for the release of materials from closed Board meetings.

Please review the proposed amendments and provide your comments by March 28.

With your input, staff will send the proposed amendments to the plenary Board by Thursday, March 29, in order to comply with Section 1.02 of the By-Laws stating: "These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors by a majority vote of the Governors present (upon a quorum of five (5) Governors being present), provided that the proposed amendments have been mailed to each member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors not later than twenty-one (21) days prior to such meeting."

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 7:13 PM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Entity heads in Miami

I had thought entity heads were NOT going to Miami to save money and would link up by tele conference.

Am I msitaken?

Victor
From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 7:37 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Entity heads in Miami

I am only guessing but given the state of the art equipment in Miami, it ought to work for Prague (RFE) and MBN? (b) (6) could join (b) (6) in Springfield or go to Cohen if RFA facilities could not do it.

Victor

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

From: Lynton, Michael (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) m>
Sent: Tue, Mar 20, 2012 7:33 pm
Subject: Re: Entity heads in Miami

If the video conf equipment is available we should do as much as we can by video conf for entity heads.

On Mar 20, 2012, at 4:13 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

I had thought entity heads were NOT going to Miami to save money and would link up by tele conference.

Am I msitaken?

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 5:22 PM
To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: VOA Central News

very helpful to have this. appreciate what you are working on.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>; (b) (6)
>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Mar 19, 2012 3:05 pm
Subject: FW: VOA Central News
Governors,

I spoke Thursday with the reporter who handed me this below message, and asked him who had addressed it to me. He declined to say. I told him to pass on word to the sender that frankly, I do not see much that is constructive in anonymous notes full of overblown rhetoric. If the sender wants to say something to me about VOA, I would suggest he--or they--do so directly and openly.

I thanked him for some other materials he handed to me, written and signed by quite a few of our central news reporters, in which they complained that they can't get enough of their reporting on the VOA website. That material--unlike the attached note--will be closely and seriously read. It is an issue we are working on. We spoke for about half an hour, and talked about some of the problems that he sees. I described to him some of the proposals I have for improving VOA and helping our Central News reporters to reach more of our audience with their journalism.

I spent most of five hours in VOA Central News last week and will be back there in a few weeks to listen to more employees and discuss ongoing changes. The goal is to learn more about what Central News needs to be successful in the coming period, in spite of proposed reductions. As members of the Governance Committee know, (b) (6) of the News Division speaks more eloquently and constructively than this letter about the challenges facing management as we move forward. They are considerable but we can do this.

Regards,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2012 6:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: I thought you should know

(b) (6)

Any thoughts on this?

I had a great visit to VOA in Phnom Penh...a dedicated group of folks there. Will see Bangkok VOA on March 23.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>
<(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Mar 16, 2012 11:12 am

Subject: I thought you should know

Members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors:

This document was provided to (b) (6) at his recent visit to the Central News Room. I think it speaks for itself. The Union had no knowledge of its existence until today. We had no input in it. I think it speaks for itself.

(b) (6)

Statement for (b) (6)

Central News Morning Meeting

March 15, 2012

More than at any time in the last four decades, this newsroom has become a tinderbox. Discontent is profound and widespread. It exists at extreme levels in Central News, in DC bureaus, and among VOA's hard-working domestic correspondents.

It currently has the following characteristics:

- Employees feel they have been run into the ground by a counter-productive, bullying, my way or the highway approach that appears to be condoned at the highest level of newsroom management.
- By tactics that question individual commitment, insult the experience of some current and former employees, pit person against person, pay grade against pay grade, age group against age group and maintain a system of management through humiliation.
- By a structure AT AND NEAR THE VERY TOP that has made clear its negative preconception of federal employees.
- By the absence of genuine and sufficient efforts to help all cope with tremendous changes, and ensure that all employees have the necessary training to perform what is asked of them and are given the time to receive that training.
- By the frequent failure of top Central News managers to do a simple thing -- LISTEN...and to UNDERSTAND... real barriers that stand in the way of objectives set by BBG members whose presence in this newsroom has been largely non-existent.

Recently, one of our most respected newsmen provided BBG members, and others in management, with a visceral description of the devastation of morale in Central News. We assume that is why you are here. About 12 years ago, a former VOA director was faced with making a major decision when faced with a similar crisis involving Central News leadership. He made that decision and said: "I do give a shit about morale"

Do you give a damn about morale? Or will you continue to simply listen to certain advisers who greeted you on your arrival here.

In whatever additional time you intend to spend at VOA, please try to learn directly from employees about these issues.

Provide a guarantee that people speaking freely to you will not face retaliation, which unfortunately has been and continues to be a sad characteristic of this agency.

Instead of simply assuming that things are A-OK in this newsroom, with its long history, use a decent powered microscope. Don't micromanage, one of the major mistakes current Central News management makes. Do LISTEN, and LEARN.

Ask for input directly to your email address. Guarantee confidentiality. Do not have this input filtered through any other management official, including and in particular one who is conspicuously not present at this meeting.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 2:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: the challenge of the budget

helpful to have this...might be good to let stuff like this go to members of strategy and budget committee to further our understanding of issues/options. Thanks

Victor

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

From: (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 15, 2012 8:31 am
Subject: FW: the challenge of the budget
Governor Ashe,

Here is (b) (6) note to (b) (6) which you asked to see.

Best,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2012 5:32 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: the challenge of the budget

(b) (6) My apologies for the delay in responding to your note. I'm writing on behalf of both (b) (6) and myself in this response.

You bring up very good and valid points. Management positions are included in any potential and proposed reductions. We are mindful of this and will be identifying management level positions to be reduced as well as rank and file, if the reductions are approved.

Note however that only a percentage of the 75 GS-15 positions you identified are within the Voice of America. We are not in a position to eliminate positions elsewhere in the Agency. Nor do we agree that VOA, or the Agency for that matter, would be better off by wholesale elimination of one grade of employee—whether it be GS-15 or GS-9. Considering the very challenging and important jobs that many folks have at those grades, it's not the solution.

That all being said, I say again that you bring up valid points and we appreciate getting your email. VOA management remains committed to reducing management ranks where needed and where possible during these difficult times.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2012 2:52 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: the challenge of the budget

Dear (b) (6) and (b) (6)

I have been thinking about the challenges you face with the 2013 budget and the need to restructure the agency. I hope you (and the board) will seriously consider unsolicited alternative plans to cut \$27 million from the budget.

I'm sending this because I agree with the stated goals of the Broadcasting Board of Governors and top agency managers:

- * Significantly cut the agency's 2013 budget
- * Increase target audiences, and improve engagement with those audiences
- * Meet the challenges and embrace the opportunities of a changing media market and technology
- * Increase and improve original content, and use creative ways to communicate with the audience

I disagree with the board's proposal because I think it will make it impossible to achieve its goals. My alternative first step: eliminate the jobs of most of the agency's current managers. Rather than starting with 71 positions in Central News and English programming and dozens more in language services, start with 75 GS-15 positions.

I was shocked to find that the 2010 public database of US government employees lists more than 75 people working for the BBG with the top civil service grade. After nine years as a middle manager in the agency, I'm not sure what most of them do, or who they manage. Collectively, they represent \$15.53 million a year of agency spending on salary and benefits. (Calculated using a salary of \$150,000 and 38 percent benefits. The figure does not include employees with FS-1 grades or in SES).

We could get by with fewer middle managers as well (I say this knowing I have less time in government service than other GS-14s and am therefore vulnerable in a RIF). When I started at VOA in 2002 we had three positions in the newsroom I would consider management, meaning they were not directly writing, editing or producing material. Today we have six, plus another four 'coordinators' overseas and in Washington. Those 10 positions are in addition to the duty editors, regional editors, assignments editors and others who have always been directly in charge of producing news content.

There are good arguments for protecting the jobs of managers – they have experience, loyalty and commitment to the agency, and some of them perform important functions. But the same arguments can be made – and in my mind resonate louder -- for most of those at lower levels. The writers, correspondents, editors, producers and technicians are the people whose skills and experience we need to build on our existing audiences and move the agency forward. I have heard people say we could do more or produce better content if only we weren't short of writers or stringer money. I have never heard anyone claim that more managers would increase or improve content. Eliminating management positions also gives you more 'bang for the buck' – it seems you would save twice the money with each GS-15 rather than a GS-9.

After examining the OPM rules for RIFs and talking with HR professionals in other government agencies, I realize it would be difficult to identify a "competitive area" that would include only managers. But I also know there must be suggested ratios of managers to rank-and-file employees, and to my reporter's eye it seems we have too many at the top. Besides, evidence that existing managers are ineffective is contained not just in the annual employee survey, but in the agency's failure to reach previous boards' goals for restructuring and improvement.

Thank you for your consideration,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 2:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: the challenge of the budget

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Victor

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Best regards,

(b) (6)

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To: (b) (6)
Subject: the challenge of the budget

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I was shocked to find that the 2010 public database of US government employees lists more than 75 people working for the BBG with the top civil service grade. After nine years as a middle manager in the agency, I'm not sure what most of them do, or who they manage. Collectively, they represent \$15.53 million a year of agency spending on salary and benefits. (Calculated using a salary of \$150,000 and 38 percent benefits. The figure does not include employees with FS-1 grades or in SES).

We could get by with fewer middle managers as well (I say this knowing I have less time in government service than other GS-14s and am therefore vulnerable in a RIF). When I started at VOA in 2002 we had three positions in the newsroom I would consider management, meaning they were not directly writing, editing or producing material. Today we have six, plus another four 'coordinators' overseas and in Washington. Those 10 positions are in addition to the duty editors, regional editors, assignments editors and others who have always been directly in charge of producing news content.

There are good arguments for protecting the jobs of managers – they have experience, loyalty and commitment to the agency, and some of them perform important functions. But the same arguments can be made – and in my mind resonate louder -- for most of those at lower levels. The writers, correspondents, editors, producers and technicians are the people whose skills and experience we need to build on our existing audiences and move the agency forward. I have heard people say we could do more or produce better content if only we weren't short of writers or stringer money. I have never heard anyone claim that more managers would increase or improve content. Eliminating management positions also gives you more 'bang for the buck' – it seems you would save twice the money with each GS-15 rather than a GS-9.

After examining the OPM rules for RIFs and talking with HR professionals in other government agencies, I realize it would be difficult to identify a "competitive area" that would include only managers. But I also know there must be suggested ratios of managers to rank-and-file employees, and to my reporter's eye it seems we have too many at the top. Besides, evidence that existing managers are ineffective is contained not just in the annual employee survey, but in the agency's failure to reach previous boards' goals for restructuring and improvement.

Thank you for your consideration,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 1:56 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Contractor Follow Up

Dennis

You are on point here.

Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6) >
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Dick Lobo (b) (6); Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)> Susan McCue
(b) (6) Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Sent: Mon, Mar 12, 2012 11:43 am

Subject: Re: Contractor Follow Up

Thanks for your quick work, (b) (6). Appreciate the update and further info. The key, of course, is to be seen to be taking these matters seriously and to make whatever improvements are warranted and possible both in the short and longer-terms.

Best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: (b) (6) >
Date: Fri, 9 Mar 2012 23:25:55 +0000
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6) vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Contractor Follow Up

Governors,

Following on one topic raised during your very useful session today on union and contracting issues, I met with managers in VOA's operations division to find out more about the incident where video editors were given envelopes.

The person who made the decision to handle things that way has since left government service. The team says he decided to give out envelopes based on word from the IBB Office of Contracting that all contractors needed to be told simultaneously, and that discussion in public on the issue should be avoided, due to the likelihood of lawsuits.

What happened is not quite as it was described in your session today, in the sense that the 'losers' in the process were not handed out blank sheets, but were instead handed out notes saying they would in the future be employed on an "ad hoc" basis, without any set hours. I am told that some of those who received the "ad hoc" only notices have in fact made good money doing considerable hours of video editing since October 12, when the notices were handed out.

I told the managers' team that this was badly handled, in my view, without consideration for human feelings, and that individual meetings with those going on "ad hoc" status would have been a better course of action.

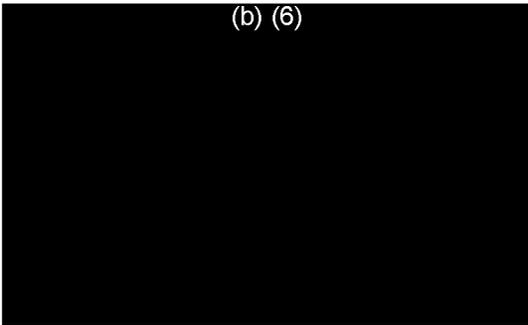
This is just one of a number of action items that emerged. Dick and I had a useful conversation about the way forward after your meeting.

Thank you again for holding today's session.

Best,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 9:37 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: son in Knoxville

Jeff

Glad to learn your son was in Knoxville. Next time tell him to call....he could stay at our place. We have three guest rooms now with the children away.

It so happens we were not there that week but usually one or both of us are there.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 2:09 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Good meeting

Dennis and Susan

I want to thank both of you for holding the governance committee meeting on March 9 and allowing all to voice their views in such a candid, direct manner which I think can be helpful in improving morale over a period of time. We saw some issues which can be solved soon and others which will take time. However, I think the word is out that we as Governors care and management is working with us to make progress.

The important point now is to show over the next several weeks and months that we heard and acted. I look forward to working on this with you in the days ahead. With improved morale, productivity improves concurrently.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 12:26 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Non-citizen employee

thanks much Victoir

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

From: richard m lobo <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 9, 2012 11:11 pm
Subject: Re: Non-citizen employee

I'll have someone look into it.
Dick

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 9, 2012, at 10:41 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

(b) (6) Dick and Jeff

Someone ought to look into this and see what can be done. I just got it today

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Mar 9, 2012 1:00 pm
Subject: Non-citizen employee

Victor:

I have an issue that I have raised with various management officials and have received no response. This involves (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 10:14 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: video worked well

FYI..agreement....Victor

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

From: Lynton, Michael (b) (6) >
To: <vhashe@aol.com> <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, Mar 10, 2012 10:12 am
Subject: Re: video worked well

totally agree with you

On Mar 10, 2012, at 7:08 AM, <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

I do not think it should take the place of regular full board meetings although those traveling could hook in that way if logistics can be ironed out...however, for entity or division heads like (b) (6) or (b) (6) or (b) (6) I think it is fine...on a periodic basis. I do think BBG members should be able to see and talk to entity heads every so often...not just on teleconferencing..but in person and private meetings. etc.

However (b) (6) your appearance this Thurs on Video was a home run.

Victor

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

From: Lynton, Michael (b) (6) >
To: <vhashe@aol.com> <vhashe@aol.com> <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, Mar 10, 2012 9:02 am
Subject: Re: video worked well

I think the video conf worked brilliantly and unless there is sensitive material to discuss that requires a face to face, i would be fine with handling future meetings this way.

On Mar 10, 2012, at 3:41 AM, <vhashe@aol.com> <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

(b) (6)

I thought the video with you worked well on March 8 for BBG Board meeting. While I hope you are able to attend many BBG meetings, I think this is a satisfactory way to participate on occasion. I am only speaking for myself.

Dick, If (b) (6) wanted to do this assuming we have the equipment at Cohen Bldg, that would be satisfactory from my standpoint from time to time as in his case it saves transatlantic airfare.

For example, he may wish to do it for the April OCB meeting as opposed to flying from Prague to Miami... Obviously that it for Dick Lobo and Michael Lynton to sign off on but for me only it makes sense on a selected basis when the view is as good as it is.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 10:41 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Non-citizen employee

(b) (6) Dick and Jeff

Someone ought to look into this and see what can be done. I just got it today

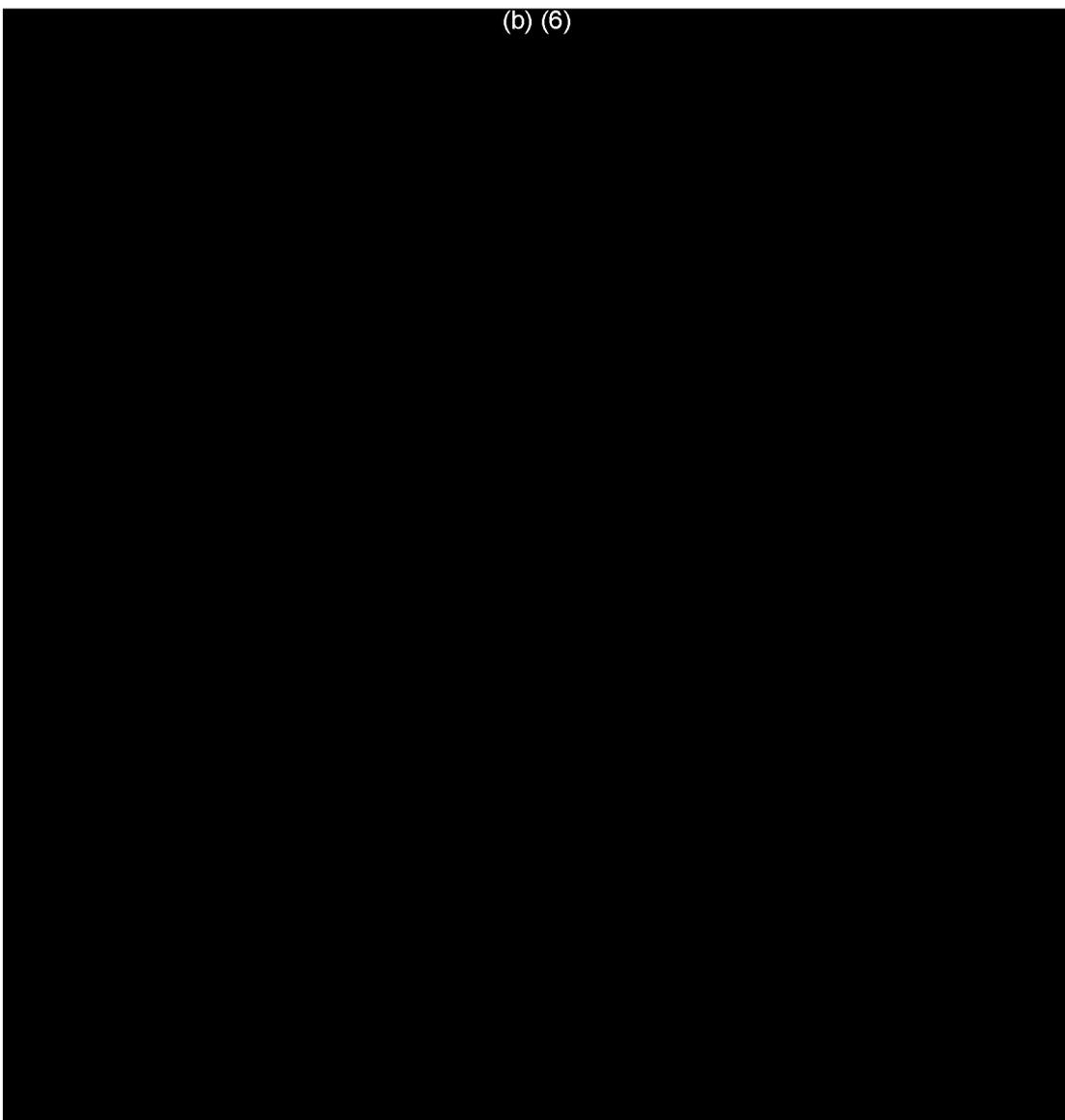
Victor

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

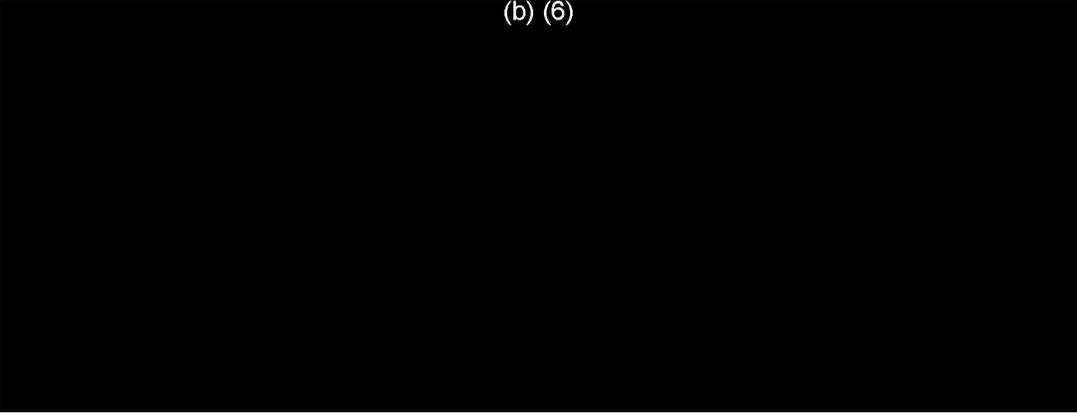
From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Mar 9, 2012 1:00 pm
Subject: Non-citizen employee
Victor:

I have an issue that I have raised with various management officials and have received no response. This involves (b) (6)

(b) (6)



(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 10:40 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: (b) (6)

Dick and Jeff

As (b) (6) supervisors, I would hope you would counsel with him on his failure to advise me that (b) (6) was in Europe and would not attend the governance committee meeting today.

(b) (6) is not performing in a satisfactory way as far as I am concerned. You both should work with him on improving relations with all the Governors for whom he works.

Is (b) (6) in Europe on personal travel or official business for BBBG?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 11:19 AM
To: (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Withdrawal from Labor/Management Forum

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I think this matter should be discussed at our BBG Board meeting on March 8 as well as the governance committee meeting on March 9. It relates to employee morale.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Mar 6, 2012 10:59 am
Subject: Withdrawal from Labor/Management Forum

Dear Board Members:

Attached for your information is a letter AFGE Local 1812 sent to (b) (6) regarding the Labor/Management Forum.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 12:11 PM
To: (b) (6)

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

certainly (b) (6) should join by video. I am not sure how much travel he does to Washington but I assume it is once a month. If that is the case then he should combine Hill related travel with BBG meetings. Correct me if I am wrong, (b) (6) travels from Prague to make all meetings. Video is an acceptable substitute. One never knows the questions which might arise prior to a meeting.

We all would be interested in having a report on what is being planned for our April meeting in Miami at OCB.

Seems he should also ask Michael Lynton as presiding Governor.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Michael Lynton (b) (6); Michael Meehan (b) (6); Dana Perino (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Susan McCue <(b) (6)>; S. Enders Wimbush (b) (6); (b) (6)
>
Cc: Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>; Oanh Tran <hotran@bbg.gov>; Marie Lennon <mlennon@bbg.gov>
Sent: Tue, Mar 6, 2012 12:02 pm
Subject: (b) (6)

(b) (6) contacted me yesterday and indicated he is going to pass on thursday's board meeting...he has nothing new/urgent to report and is trying to save some travel money.

i agreed.

if you disagree or wish for him to join us either in person or via video link, please let me know.

dick

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 2:15 PM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG credit

Dear (b) (6)

I feel the delegation of authority to the IBB Director is far too broad as you outlined and certainly this far reaching extend of the delegation was not discussed when the Board voted to do this last year. I feel this delegation should be modified when BBG signs as a co-obligor and potential exposure exceeds a certain amount. However, this is a separate issue from the immediate one at hand.

What is the financial exposure which BBG takes on in a worst case scenario if this is approved on March 8? The RFE Board and BBG Board both should be told. What is the dollar amount involved?

While the topic is similar, RFE and BBG are acting separately and I feel the minutes of both should reflect consideration of this matter. It does not matter that the Board membership is identical. The duties vary depending on which Board we are sitting on when we vote.

Furthermore if BBG is to be a co obligor then the march 8 BBG minutes should reflect BBG did this and it was discussed. It should not be silent. I do not find your argument that we have a full day and leaving out BBG Board consideration is a time saving mechanism to be persuasive. While I would not expect a lengthy discussion of this at BBG, I expect it to be mentioned and reflected in the minutes.

What additionally bothers me is that in October when I voted NO on this transaction due to lack of time for adequate consideration (At the RFE Board meeting, I pointed out that I had only received the documents at 0800 that morning on my computer and has less than three hours to read/consider it). We were told time was urgent. Delay would be costly. Now we learn that deal did not materialize and the past 4 months have been devoted to creating another package which we are now asked to vote on. However, when the October deal fell apart, the Board members of RFE were not informed of that (or at least I was not) and did not know it would have to come back a second time and BBG would be a co-obligor. I feel this is a serious oversight on the part of RFE management.

What are the legal consequences of being a co-obligor for BBG? Surely this has some potential financial exposure? You indicate that you and (b) (6) have worked extensively with RFE management as well as outside real estate counsel and advisors.

I would request you advise me and the Board who those outside advisors were and how much was paid to secure their advice. I would like to see the documents (legal writings) which outside legal counsel presented to you. I assume (b) (6) (b) (6) who is RFE legal counsel was included too. You can e mail them to me or give them to me at the governance committee meeting Wednesday afternoon, March 7.

Finally, you say you have concluded that it is lawful for BBG to enter into this transaction. I would like to see the legal research or memo which leads you to this conclusion. You can e mail this to me or give it to me tomorrow afternoon.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> | (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Mar 6, 2012 1:45 pm

Subject: RE: BBG credit

Victor –

In fact, my recommendation to Dick was to seek the Board members' input to ascertain whether any Governors had objections to his signing onto this arrangement for the BBG to act as a co-obligor under the proposed RFE-RL lease.

Deciding whether to sign onto this lease as a co-obligor is well within the scope of the delegation of authority that the Board gave to the IBB Director on April 14, 2011 (which is available on our website, but I would be happy to send you a copy). This is why the Board's approval of the transaction is not required; but I nevertheless recommended that the Board members should be briefed.

The reason we have suggested covering this matter as part of the RFE/RL meeting is one of efficiency: This arrangement is already going to be discussed at the RFE/RL meeting and is principally for RFE/RL's benefit. Since we will all be sitting in the same room and no formal Board of Governors decision is required, we thought it would be sufficient to be on the agenda of the RFE/RL meeting. This makes sense given that the Board is only meeting for one day and some significant part of the day will be devoted to MBN-related activities.

(b) (5)

As always, Victor, I would be pleased to brief you personally on this transaction. I am available at (b) (6) or on my blackberry at (b) (6). I would also be happy to schedule time with you later this week during your next visit to DC. Please let me know if that is of interest.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 9:58 AM

To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: BBG credit

Dear Dick, (b) (6) Dennis, and (b) (6)

In further reviewing the line of credit being sought from BBG for property in Prague, I feel this needs to be discussed in a BBG Board meeting as well as RFE as it involves both. I also need to know what the financial exposure is to BBG should the transaction falter, fail or not meet expectations. What amount are we on the line for?

I compliment Dick Lobo for saying he wanted Board input even if he as IBB Director could make the decision on his own according to the opinion of (b) (6). I would like to see a more thoughtful analysis of Mr (b) (6) opinion. It is most unusual if BBG can sign onto lines of credit for entity Building purchases without Board approval or even knowledge (in theory). Mr. Lobo is to be applauded for insisting on the Board being comfortable with this.

I feel the Board should take steps to clarify this and provide clearly all lines of credit over a certain amount must be approved by BBG Board. This is a current loophole which could be grossly misused by a different IBB Director.

What does our CFO say about this? (b) (6)? Has our Budget Committee reviewed this?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 2:27 PM

To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: anniversaries

The BBG agenda for March 8 shows me discussing service anniversaries..which ones are they? Laos? any others?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 2:46 PM

To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: anniversaries

also Lao for their 50th which Ensor and I attended last week.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>

Sent: Tue, Mar 6, 2012 2:40 pm

Subject: RE: anniversaries

RFE/RL Radio Azadi (Radio Free Afghanistan) 10th anniversary. You did this at RFE/RL via video conference on Feb 10 when you were there for the Commission on Innovation meeting.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 2:27 PM

To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: anniversaries

The BBG agenda for March 8 shows me discussing service anniversaries..which ones are they? Laos? any others?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 4:10 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6);
(b) (6);

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG credit

Dear (b) (6)

I want a copy of the formal legal opinion you reference being prepared for the IBB Director and CFO.

(b) (5)

You did not respond to my comment/question about not being told of the October L88 deal falling apart a few days after our meeting and the past 4 months being spent creating a new deal on which RFE is asked to vote on March 8?

(b) (5)

I will be at the governance committee on tomorrow. I have commitments following the meeting.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Paul Kollmer (b) (6) >
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> | (b) (6);
(b) (6);
(b) (6);
(b) (6);
(b) (6) >
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> | (b) (6);
Sent: Tue, Mar 6, 2012 2:54 pm
Subject: RE: BBG credit

Victor –

In the RFE/RL briefing materials, there is a memorandum from me addressed to the "Members of the Board of Governors" entitled "Legal Authority for BBG to Become Co-Obligor of the Prague Headquarters Lease." The memorandum has two parts. (b) (5)

These materials were mailed to you in hard copy and a copy was provided by email. They address most the questions that you have raised in your email below.

As always, I would be delighted to walk you through this information, Victor. In fact, we were preparing to do so at Thursday's meetings when we brief you and the other Board members. Please let me know if you have time tomorrow afternoon either before or after the Governance Committee meeting.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 2:15 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

g

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (u) (o)

Subject: Re: BBG credit

Dear (b) (6)

I feel the delegation of authority to the IBB Director is far too broad as you outlined and certainly this far reaching extend of the delegation was not discussed when the Board voted to do this last year. I feel this delegation should be modified when BBG signs as a co-obligor and potential exposure exceeds a certain amount. However, this is a separate issue from the immediate one at hand.

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What additionally bothers me is that in October when I voted NO on this transaction due to lack of time for adequate consideration (At the RFE Board meeting, I pointed out that I had only received the documents at 0800 that morning on my computer and has less than three hours to read/consider it). We were told time was urgent. Delay would be costly. Now we learn that deal did not materialize and the past 4 months have been devoted to creating another package which we are now asked to vote on. However, when the October deal fell apart, the Board members of RFE were not informed of that (or at least I was not) and did not know it would have to come back a second time and BBG would be a co-obligor. I feel this is a serious oversight on the part of RFE management.

What are the legal consequences of being a co-obligor for BBG? Surely this has some potential financial exposure? You indicate that (b) (5)

I would request you advise me and the Board who those outside advisors were and how much was paid to secure their advice. I would like to see the documents (legal writings) which outside legal counsel presented to you. I assume (b) (6) who is RFE legal counsel was included too. You can e mail them to me or give them to me at the governance committee meeting Wednesday afternoon, March 7.

Finally, you say (b) (5) I would like to see the legal research or memo which leads you to this conclusion. You can e mail this to me or give it to me tomorrow afternoon.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com> >; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6)> >
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Mar 6, 2012 1:45 pm
Subject: RE: BBG credit
Victor –

In fact, my recommendation to Dick (b) (5)

(b) (5)

As always, Victor, I would be pleased to brief you personally on this transaction. I am available at (b) (6) or on my blackberry at 2 (b) (6) I would also be happy to schedule time with you later this week during your next visit to DC. Please let me know if that is of interest.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com> [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 9:58 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: BBG credit

Dear Dick, (b) (6) Dennis, and (b) (6)

In further reviewing the line of credit being sought from BBG for property in Prague, I feel this needs to be discussed in a BBG Board meeting as well as RFE as it involves both. I also need to know what the financial exposure is to BBG should the transaction falter, fail or not meet expectations. What amount are we on the line for?

I compliment Dick Lobo for saying he wanted Board input even if he as IBB Director could make the decision on his own according to the opinion of (b) (6). I would like to see a more thoughtful analysis of Mr (b) (6) opinion. It is most unusual if BBG can sign onto lines of credit for entity Building purchases without Board approval or even knowledge (in theory). Mr. Lobo is to be applauded for insisting on the Board being comfortable with this.

I feel the Board should take steps to clarify this and provide clearly all lines of credit over a certain amount must be approved by BBG Board. This is a current loophole which could be grossly misused by a different IBB Director.

What does our CFO say about this? (b) (6)? Has our Budget Committee reviewed this?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 10:09 AM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Cc: (u) (o) Jeffrey Trimble; (u) (o)
Subject: Re: sexual harassment and Equal Employment Opportunity

(b) (6)

I have had much more experience with these issues since we last voted on the adoption of these resolutions. We have a legal memo from (b) (6) I am better informed. I have questions. I also feel the Board and our employees benefit if they see that the BBG Board does not routinely adopt these resolutions as a pro formal or notational matter but actually discuss it. Normally these issues are considered at committee level first ..I will leave it to you and Dick Lobo on what you want to do in terms of committee consideration but bypassing the committee represents an exception to practice. However, I do formally request that persons who deal with these matters be in attendance at BBG full Board meeting to answer any questions which I or any other Board member may have as well as to consider any changes which might be recommended. I refer to (b) (6).

Sincerely yours,
Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6) | (b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble <(u) (o)>
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 9:20 am
Subject: RE: sexual harassment and Equal Employment Opportunity

Victor – These resolutions are adopted every year by the Board as policy statements. They are worded exactly as they were worded last year when Board adopted them. You also voted for the policy statements last year and wrote the you had no issues with the substance of the policies.

Last year, however, the policy statements were adopted by notation vote. You voted for the resolution, but stated that the policies should be brought up before the whole Board, which is what we have done this year. If you request that the policies be brought up for discussion before the Governance Committee, I suppose that they could be added to the agenda if the Committee Chairman does not object.

If this item is added to the Committee agenda, I will speak to Dick Lobo about having the head of Human Resources ((b) (6)) and the Director of the Office of Civil Rights ((b) (6)) available for the discussion.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 8:32 AM
To: Paul Kollmer; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: sexual harassment and Equal Employment Opportunity

In reviewing the agenda for the March 8 BBG Board meeting, I noticed the sexual harassment and equal opportunity policy statements which staff recommends Board adopt.

I am curious why these two matters have not been considered by the appropriate BBG Board committee prior to Board consideration. What is the reason for this?

I do believe relevant BBG staff should be at this meeting prepared to discuss the issues such as the head of EEO and HR where issues such as this if they occur would be handled.

Mr. (b) (6) who on staff will be present when these two matters come up to respond to any questions?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 10:12 AM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (u) (o)

Subject: Re: sexual harassment and Equal Employment Opportunity

(b) (6)

In light of this I believe (b) (6) should plan on being at the Governance Committee meeting on March 7 as well as the full Board meeting on March 8 to respond to any questions. I commend Chairman Mulhaupt for his prompt and appropriate response..

Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>

To: (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Dick Lobo IBB/BBG <(b) (6)>

(u) (o)

Cc: Jeff Trimble <(u) (o)>

Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 10:06 am

Subject: Re: sexual harassment and Equal Employment Opportunity

Yes, go ahead and add this to the Gov Comm agenda. Thanks.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: (b) (6) >

Date: Mon, 5 Mar 2012 14:19:45 +0000

To: vhashe@aol.com<vhashe@aol.com>; Richard M. Lobo<(b) (6) | (b) (6)>

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble<(u) (o)>

Subject: RE: sexual harassment and Equal Employment Opportunity

Victor – These resolutions are adopted every year by the Board as policy statements. They are worded exactly as they were worded last year when Board adopted them. You also voted for the policy statements last year and wrote the you had no issues with the substance of the policies.

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Mr. (b) (6) who on staff will be present when these two matters come up to respond to any questions?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 10:15 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Bruce Sherman; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: memo on Hungary

(b) (6) The memo should be changed to show Bruce Sherman as the author. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
Cc: Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 9:21 am
Subject: RE: memo on Hungary

Victor – Bruce drafted the memo with input from his staff. I think his name got left off because of a production glitch.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2012 6:06 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Subject: memo on Hungary

I have seen the memo on Hungary and media issues there. However, there is no names associated with it as to the author...therefore, if I have questions, which I do, to whom do I address those questions. Mr. (b) (6) I think it is good practice to include the author's name on all memos sent to the Board.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 8:16 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Google Alert - Broadcasting Board of Governors

this is foolish on our part to take a hit on this. I feel (b) (6) makes valid points. Sometimes it makes more sense to change course when it is clear Congress will do it for us. When BBG voted for these cuts certainly I was not told or aware it meant Tibetan Services. Victor

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

From: Google Alerts <googlealerts-noreply@google.com>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 7:41 pm
Subject: Google Alert - Broadcasting Board of Governors

News 1 new result for Broadcasting Board of Governors

BBG Ready to Drop the Ax on Cantonese and Tibetan Services <http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/292542/bbg-ready-drop-ax-cantonese-and-tibetan-services-ann-noonan&ct=ga&cad=CAEQAhgAIAAoATAAOABAy7rV-gRIAVAAWABiBWVuLVVT&cd=4_Vl6AtjBSE&usg=AFQjCNE521pAgmg3oVzgjbsKtD5I84ovAQ>
National Review Online

By Ann Noonan In December 2011, the Broadcasting Board of Governors issued a proclamation in observance of Voice of America's 70th anniversary of Mandarin and Cantonese Services, boasting: "Mandarin and Cantonese language services have been key ...

See all stories on this topic » <http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://news.google.com/news/story%3Fnc1%3Dhttp://www.nationalreview.com/corner/292542/bbg-ready-drop-ax-cantonese-and-tibetan-services-ann-noonan%26hl%3Den%26geo%3Dus&ct=ga&cad=CAEQAhgAIAAoBjAAOABAy7rV-gRIAVAAWABiBWVuLVVT&cd=4_Vl6AtjBSE&usg=AFQjCNHsR55EKOV65a2tphOV9CSQwpfcbA>

Tip: Use site restrict in your query to search within a site (site:nytimes.com or site:.edu). Learn more <http://www.google.com/support/websearch/bin/answer.py?answer=136861&hl=en&source=alertsmail&cd=4_Vl6AtjBSE&cad=CAEQAhgAQM61foESAE> .

Delete <http://www.google.com/alerts/remove?hl=en&gl=us&source=alertsmail&s=AB2Xq4jA9X2PBnN8MIw9KGxMJDHTJtUEMEImJms&cd=4_Vl6AtjBSE&cad=CAEQAhgAQM61foESAE> this alert.

Create <http://www.google.com/alerts?hl=en&gl=us&source=alertsmail&cd=4_Vl6AtjBSE&cad=CAEQAhgAQM61foESAE> another alert.

Manage <http://www.google.com/alerts/manage?hl=en&gl=us&source=alertsmail&cd=4_Vl6AtjBSE&cad=CAEQAhgAQM61foESAE> your alerts.

would like to know answers to these charges...Victor

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

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6) >
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6) >
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <[REDACTED] (u) (o) [REDACTED] (b) (6)>
[REDACTED] (b) (6); Lynne Weil <[REDACTED] (u) (o)> Letitia King
<[REDACTED] (u) (o)>

Sent: Fri, Mar 2, 2012 12:29 pm

Subject: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

FYI: This opinion piece appeared overnight in the online content-aggregator Digital Journal. Facts are still being verified.

Digital Journal Op-Ed: America's radios dancing to Putin's tune in Moscow

Moscow - Voice of America and Radio Liberty, funded by US taxpayers to promote media freedom abroad, self-censor news on two stations in Moscow to comply with Russian media law prior to Russia's presidential elections on March 4.

US government-funded media freedom broadcasters, Voice of America (VOA) and Radio Liberty (Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, RFE RL), have resorted to self-censorship of their news to keep broadcasting on two leased radio stations in Moscow in the days leading up to Russian presidential elections. Self-censorship affects only their radio newscasts on two AM Moscow transmitters, which are leased and paid for by the US government to rebroadcast VOA and RL programs. It does not extend to their other program delivery options, such as their websites. The newscasts on these stations were changed in response to a request from Russian operators of the transmitters who had warned that broadcasting political programming or poll results several days before the elections would violate Russian media law.

Because uncensored VOA and RL newscasts are still available online and, in the case of Radio Liberty, also through shortwave radio transmissions, a spokeswoman for the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), which manages and funds these two broadcasters, said that the restrictions "do not interfere with the ability of the Voice of America or Radio Liberty to cover the elections or to carry on with their other duties." In the case of the Voice of America, however, removing news even from some broadcasts may violate Public Law 94-350 which mandates that

"VOA will serve as a consistently reliable and authoritative source of news." Furthermore, the law, also known as the VOA Charter, stipulates that "VOA news will be accurate, objective, and comprehensive."

The BBG's newly-hired director of communications Lynne Weil said in a response to an inquiry from Free Media Online, a US-based media freedom NGO, that "the BBG and its content providers, including the many individuals who risk their lives to shine the light of truth on some of the world's darkest corners, are fiercely protective of their journalistic independence and integrity, and vigilant about any obstacles - real or potential - to getting their work done."

Free Media Online said that any kind self-censorship of news, especially by stations established by US law and funded by American taxpayers to promote free press and democracy, sets a dangerous precedent and reveals a serious problem, particularly in the case of Russia where most of the media is controlled by the government and supporters of Prime Minister and presidential candidate Vladimir Putin.

"At the very least, the Broadcasting Board of Governors should have made a strong public announcement that its mission in Russia is being obstructed instead of keeping nearly silent about this problem and hoping that no one would notice," a spokesman for Free Media Online said.

Free Media Online has been critical of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for lacking transparency, over-dependence on authoritarian regimes for local program placement, and BBG's most recent decision to terminate Voice of America shortwave radio broadcasts to Tibet and all VOA news programs in Cantonese to China.

The letter sent to the Broadcasting Board of Governors by the operator of the Radio Liberty station in Moscow warned of a five-day ban on opinion polls, forecasts and use of research related to the campaigns or elections. The ban applies to the period from February 28 to March 4, 2012. Additionally, the letter states that on the day before and day of the election, there are what Russian authorities call "silence days" during which it is prohibited to broadcast (or print) positive or negative information about any of the candidates and/or political parties. This means no analysis or opinions pertaining to the candidates or elections and no information that can in any way "influence" voters. While a few Western democracies have laws that place less severe restrictions on media reporting, usually only on the election day, in Russia Prime Minister Putin has established effective control over most media to guarantee his reelection to the presidency. Numerous independent journalists who were outspoken in their criticism of the Kremlin and other Russian government bodies have been assassinated during the last decade.

BBG spokeswoman suggested that other Western media organizations whose news programs are available directly through local media outlets in Russia received similar letters and are also complying with requests for altering their news coverage. It is one thing, however, to comply with laws in democratic nations and another to accept restrictions on media freedom in a country ruled by an authoritarian regime, especially for an American institution created to set an example for local independent media and to promote media freedom abroad. The BBG pays hundreds of thousands of dollars a year for these two weak AM transmitters in Moscow. Since the BBG claims that its newscasts also can be easily accessed online, that money might be better spent on US-operated shortwave transmitters to reach those without Internet access in Russia rather than making Putin supporters richer and allowing them to dictate VOA and RL news coverage. Some of the money could be used to advertise shortwave frequencies in Russian media, for as long as that is allowed, and the remainder on improving radio, TV and new media coverage of human rights issues.

BBG spokeswoman insisted that the Russian media law has virtually no impact on the Voice of America Russian Service because nearly all of its audience accesses its programming online. The BBG terminated all VOA shortwave radio and satellite television broadcasts to Russia in 2008, losing all of its Russian radio and TV audience.

The VOA Russian Service intends to report on the elections and update its website and blogs throughout the election cycle, without any restriction on its activities, BBG spokeswoman said. The VOA Russian Service prepares, however, a 30 minute radio program that gets broadcast Monday through Friday on another AM station in Moscow. The rest of VOA's programming on the Moscow medium-wave station is in English. Because the frequency is on a local lease, it is subject to the Russian law. To comply, in the five days before the election the VOA English Service is making a change to the 24/7 stream sent to Moscow -- replacing its five-minute hourly newscast with a pre-recorded segment that invites audiences to go online to VOANews.com for news and information about Russia and the world, Lynne Weil said. The remainder of English stream to Moscow is unchanged.

Prior to 2008, the Russian secret police put pressure on private radio and television stations in Russia to stop rebroadcasting VOA and RL programs. Experts speculate that the two AM stations in Moscow were allowed to carry these programs because they are directly controlled by the Russian authorities. This highly-controlled arrangement allows them to claim that there is media freedom in Russia and that Russian programs such as Russia Today and Voice of Russia should have unlimited access to US cable networks and private US radio stations, which they do.

Critics charge that the BBG's overeagerness to place programs on local networks in countries like Russia

and China has resulted in many examples of removal of VOA brand name and downplaying the media freedom mission to achieve program placement and higher audience ratings even at the price of self-censorship. An influential independent Russian journalist and new media scholar Dr. Nikolay Rudenskiy has accused the VOA Russian Service staff of having a pro-Putin bias and downplaying human rights reporting. After the BBG terminated VOA Russian broadcasts in 2008, many seasoned VOA Russian Service reporters and editors were replaced with poorly-paid contractors hired from Russia. They had recently placed on the VOA website an interview with a leading Russian opposition figure Alexei Navalny that turned out to be fake. Navalny suggested that they should all be replaced.

Human rights organizations in Russia have also criticized Radio Liberty's Russian Service of a similar pro-Kremlin bias and for providing a forum for nationalist extremists. One expert pointed out that with the large Radio Liberty news bureau in Moscow, it would be inconceivable that the Russian security services which take their orders from a former KGB officer Vladimir Putin are not actively engaged in a campaign of behind the scenes intimidation and infiltration against the US supported broadcaster.

The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) also has its critics in the United States, including its employees who anonymously access and report for an independent website BBG Watch (www.bbgwatch.com). Many question why programs for Tibet, China, Chechnya in the Russian Federation, Georgia as well as VOA English and many other programs were chosen for severe cuts and layoffs while BBG executives, rated as the worst managers in the federal government, give themselves bonuses, create new bureaucratic positions and promote a programming philosophy that encourages self-censorship.

It appears that not even all BBG members have confidence in the executive staff. Senior Republican Victor Ashe -- the Board has four Democrats and four Republicans with the Secretary of State serving as an ex officio ninth member -- has been highly critical of poor employee morale and foreign control of BBG program delivery channels. Other part-time BBG members, however, still seem more inclined to rely on the executive staff which can claim no support of its journalists and other rank-and-file employees. These executives have developed a strategic restructuring plan, which critics argue would give them even more power and limit accountability, transparency and public scrutiny over US international broadcasting. Employees also suspect that there may be also political reasons for focusing the BBG's cuts on countries with the most severe restrictions on media and the greatest human rights violations. Removing the Voice of America brand-name, which implies prestige and support of the American people, may be the Obama Administration's attempt to soothe the Chinese communist dragon, one BBG employee said. Employees do not believe that the BBG's claim of trying to save money in the environment of tight federal budgets is credible in light of the lavish spending on BBG executives and contractors such as the Gallup Organization which received a \$50 million five-year contract just before program cuts and layoffs were announced. The BBG claims that Radio Free Asia (RFA), which it also manages, can fill the gap left by VOA in Tibet and China. Human rights groups argue, however, that while RFA broadcasts are both excellent and needed, Voice of America broadcasting offers a special measure of credibility and moral support from the American people that a private radio cannot provide. One anonymous BBG journalist wrote a desperate commentary:

"The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) budget submission requests cutting seven employees out of 22 in the Voice of America (VOA) Tibetan Service, ending all six hours of daily VOA Tibetan radio broadcasts.

This is happening on the day China's Vice President Xi Jinping, heir apparent of the communist regime, arrives in Washington on a get-to-know-you visit.

This is happening while Tibet is burning. A day after the 23rd Tibetan monk self-immolated to protest unprecedented Chinese crackdown on their religion.

This is happening one week after CCTV, China's state TV, launched its first live daily broadcast from its brand new 36000 sq ft studio in Washington DC, the first step of China's \$7 billion media offensive in America.

What is the BBG thinking? Has the Broadcasting Board of Governors gone mad?"

The independent, nongovernmental Committee for U.S. International Broadcasting (CUSIB - www.cusib.org), whose members include many human rights activists, joined forces with BBG employees to convince members of Congress of both parties to stop last year the BBG's plan to end all VOA broadcasts to China. This year CUSIB again issued an open letter to Congress adamantly objecting to the BBG's latest plan to end or reduce broadcasts to Tibet, China and other countries without free media.

Ted Lipien is a former Voice of America journalist and former VOA acting associate director. He co-founded Free Media Online and the Committee for U.S. International Broadcasting.

This opinion article was written by an independent writer. The opinions and views expressed herein are those of the author and are not necessarily intended to reflect those of DigitalJournal.com

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 01, 2012 2:25 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: 2013 calendar

fully agree..I like the Thursday/Friday schedule but would be OK on a Monday/Tuesday one too. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/1/2012 10:53:29 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Wow, Victor, you are a busy guy! In the past, we have to a great extent deferred to the chairman on meeting schedules. It seems to me we should also at some point consider polling the board as to whether we all still prefer the Thursday/Friday schedule.

Copying others so they can weigh in.

Best,

Dennis
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Date: Sun, 1 Apr 2012 01:43:46 -0400 (EDT)
To: <(b) (6)>
Subject: 2013 calendar

Dennis
we probably ought to look at 2013 calendar as I am already making plans for Jan 2013 and do not want to miss a BBG meeting

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2012 9:05 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: GAO study

Is there anything in writing on this? If so, I would like to see the correspondence from GAO about this as well as know who the lead person is that is leading the GAO review?

Victor

In a message dated 4/30/2012 6:33:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Governors, colleagues, a message from Dick Lobo:

I wanted to make sure you know that the GAO has begun a study in cooperation with this agency that looks at the proposals and strategy for streamlining U.S. international media. To begin, they are talking with us about the challenges related to overlap and coordination.

As they start the project, the GAO's researchers will be speaking with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity. At this time, the GAO has not fully defined the scope of the project or its methodology. We'll learn more as they enter more deeply into discussions with us.

The GAO study was requested by Senators Akaka (D-Hawaii) and Johnson (R-Wisconsin), who serve as Chair and Ranking Member, respectively, on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the Federal Workforce. The GAO is also looking at other Federal programs, including democracy assistance, assistance to Afghanistan, and food aid.

We view this study as an opportunity to make the GAO - and its ultimate audience and client, Congress - aware of the agency's robust efforts to operate more efficiently and effectively amid the current budget environment. We will keep you informed as this study progresses.

Dick L.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 7:43 AM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Lynne Weil; [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Fw: Tripoli problem

all good points which Dennis makes. I think this calls for the three grantee heads plus VOA and OCB to meet regularly and communicate often...especially when troops below them are not working as well together as they might. This can be done now and does not have to wait on consolidation. When issues like this arise, picking up the phone to call the respective head might solve the problem.

Have a good weekend.

Victor

In a message dated 4/28/2012 8:38:38 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, [REDACTED] (b) (6) writes:

Victor:

I don't think [REDACTED] (b) (6) was trying to be critical here. I believe he was just trying to point out some of the institutional barriers to cooperation and to our ability to deliver as effectively as possible on USIM's over-arching global mission. Clearly, and understandably given the current structure, all the networks have their individual priorities which do not always fit with their sister institutions' priorities. Even with the best will the world, which I believe all our business leaders have, absent some new approaches these problems will continue to arise and the cooperation and mission success we all seek in different parts of the world, and on different platforms, will continue to present a challenge.

I sure [REDACTED] (b) (6) has, or will, discuss this individual case with [REDACTED] (b) (6) but again I don't see it as criticism of MBN or its leadership, but rather an effort to bring to the board's attention some of the "on the ground" challenges all our networks face.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Date: Sat, 28 Apr 2012 19:39:11 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Fw: Tripoli problem

this should be shared with [REDACTED] (b) (6) and others too as it involves MBN and criticism of MBN. This type of issue could be resolved easily right now by you [REDACTED] (b) (6) letting the Board know and/or Lobo and asking for his involvement. You could have told the 6 Board members present in Miami only 8 days ago about this and we could have discussed it with [REDACTED] (b) (6) present. I assume you knew about it then as the story broke on April 5 according to the e mail.

Frankly I am disappointed that this was not bumped up to you (b) (6) much earlier and then you should have picked up the phone and called (b) (6) as well relative Governors if you thought it merited action.

Consolidation has many unanswered questions and missing documentation on cost and savings which I raised on April 20 at the BBG Board meeting. Even a so called streamlined organization which you favor will have these issues too. As Gov Meehan pointed out, this consolidation does not impact VOA so the VOA issue mentioned here would not be solved by merger of grantees.

Cooperation and/or sharing may be an issue today but the current structure can solve if the relevant people raise it to the right people like the April 20 BBG Board meeting or you calling (b) (6) direct when those below you were unable to make the progress they desired. Is this trial still going on and is there still time for VOA/MBN to participate? Do (b) (6) agree with (b) (6) assessment of the merit of the story? That is why I have copied them on this e mail. Cooperation and sharing would suggest that you let MBN and VOA know of your unhappiness when you are e mailing the entire BBG Board and IBB Director Lobo so they can respond.

Sincerely yours and thanks for letting us know,

Victor Ashe

Bottom

In a message dated 4/28/2012 10:41:33 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

All: for those of you who think who there will be little editorial/newsgathering benefit to the merger of the grantees, consider the email below. For those of you who think that cooperation and sharing of resources is easy to achieve voluntarily, you might also consider the email below. Food for thought.

Cheers,

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded by (b) (6) on 04/28/2012 04:26 PM -----

From:

(b) (6)

To:

(b) (6)

Cc:

(b) (6)

Date: 04/25/2012 04:10 PM

Subject: Tripoli problem

(b) (6)

For several weeks we are trying to get help from our BBG bros in covering an important trial in Tripoli. More than 20 Russian, Ukrainian and Belarusian citizens are charged with assisting Quadaffi regime and may face death sentence. Officials in our broadcast countries used to deny any knowledge of the trial but later had to acknowledge it. It stirred significant public interest.

We don't have correspondents in Libya. We asked several times our colleagues in Washington to help us. We acted through the Central newsroom. Our Washington Bureau Chief, (b) (6) raised the issue with Al Hurrah, Sawa, MBN. The answer was – "they're "aware of the story but not covering it at this time." (b) (6) also reached out to VOA and was told they have no plans to cover.

I discussed the issue with the BBG staffers while on a visit in Washington in mid-April. They explained that they do not have executive powers.

We broke the story on April 5; since that time we have received no assistance in any form. The story would have been unique for our audiences and would have directly benefitted Rus, Bel, Ukr services in RFE/RL and Rus, Ukr services in VOA.

The trial is still going on.

rgrds

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 7:53 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Fw: Tripoli problem

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Letitia King

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

It is food for thought and I think a good place to start is for the grantee heads along with VOA and OCB heads to start regular meetings over breakfast or lunch when BBG meets or by teleconference. This used to happen and has dropped off in the past year for whatever reason I understand.

In specific instances like this, then using the phone to call MBN or VOA or them calling RFE if it is the other way around makes sense. This can happen now. We do not have to wait on the consolidation issues being resolved.

Have a good weekend and we all look forward to May and the wonderful weather. The Murrow Transmission facility dedication is this Wednesday and should be a great event thanks to efforts of Tish King, Lynne Weil, local staff, Congressman Jones and local officials in Pitt County.

Victor

In a message dated 4/29/2012 4:00:14 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dennis' response is spot on. I could not have said it better myself.

As to raising this in Miami, that would have been tough to do, since I was only told about it this past week during a meeting I held with language service directors to prepare for a series of meetings Dick is chairing on the 2014 budget.

Regarding my failure to copy (b) (6) mea culpa. It was inadvertent. I didn't even realize it until Dick pointed it out to me late last night (my time). I had planned to send them a copy this morning (my time). So thank you for forwarding a copy to them.

Nothing in my email was intended as a criticism of MBN or VOA. I am confident that there are plenty of instances where RFE/RL has failed to provide our sister organizations with material that they needed. The point here is that organizations (and people) respond to the incentives which are provided to them. Unless and until the incentives are changed, one cannot expect the behavior to change. This was, is, and always will be a feature of human nature.

As I said, this was only intended as food for thought in your ongoing deliberations on the future structure of

USIB.

Sent from Lotus Traveler

Dennis Mulhaupt --- Re: Fw: Tripoli problem ---

From: "Dennis Mulhaupt" <(b) (6)>
To: "Victor Ashe" <vhashe@aol.com>, (b) (6), "Michael Lynton" <(b) (6)>, "Enders Wimbush" <(b) (6)>, "Susan McCue" <(b) (6)>, "Michael Meehan" <(b) (6)>, "Dana Perino" <(b) (6)>, "Tara Sonenshine" <(b) (6)>, "Richard Lobo" <(b) (6)>, "Jeff Trimble" <(b) (6)>
<(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6), "Lynne Weil" <(b) (6)>
(b) (6)
Date: Sun, Apr 29, 2012 2:39 AM
Subject: Re: Fw: Tripoli problem

Victor:

I don't think (b) (6) was trying to be critical here. I believe he was just trying to point out some of the institutional barriers to cooperation and to our ability to deliver as effectively as possible on USIM's over-arching global mission. Clearly, and understandably given the current structure, all the networks have their individual priorities which do not always fit with their sister institutions' priorities. Even with the best will the world, which I believe all our business leaders have, absent some new approaches these problems will continue to arise and the cooperation and mission success we all seek in different parts of the world, and on different platforms, will continue to present a challenge.

I sure (b) (6) has, or will, discuss this individual case with (b) (6) but again I don't see it as criticism of MBN or its leadership, but rather an effort to bring to the board's attention some of the "on the ground" challenges all our networks face.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Date: Sat, 28 Apr 2012 19:39:11 -0400 (EDT)
To: <(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>
<(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>
<(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>
Cc: <(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>, <(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: Fw: Tripoli problem

this should be shared with (b) (6) and others too as it involves MBN and criticism of MBN. This type of issue could be resolved easily right now by you (b) (6) letting the Board know and/or (b) (6) and asking for his involvement. You could have told the 6 Board members present in Miami only 8 days ago about this and we could have discussed it with (b) (6) present. I assume you knew about it then as the story broke on

April 5 according to the e mail.

Frankly I am disappointed that this was not bumped up to you (b) (6) much earlier and then you should have picked up the phone and called (b) (6) as well relative Governors if you thought it merited action.

Consolidation has many unanswered questions and missing documentation on cost and savings which I raised on April 20 at the BBG Board meeting. Even a so called streamlined organization which you favor will have these issues too. As Gov Meehan pointed out, this consolidation does not impact VOA so the VOA issue mentioned here would not be solved by merger of grantees.

Cooperation and/or sharing may be an issue today but the current structure can solve if the relevant people raise it to the right people like the April 20 BBG Board meeting or you calling (b) (6) direct when those below you were unable to make the progress they desired. Is this trial still going on and is there still time for VOA/MBN to participate? Do (b) (6) agree with (b) (6) assessment of the merit of the story? That is why I have copied them on this e mail. Cooperation and sharing would suggest that you let MBN and VOA know of your unhappiness when you are e mailing the entire BBG Board and IBB Director Lobo so they can respond.

Sincerely yours and thanks for letting us know,

Victor Ashe

Bottom

In a message dated 4/28/2012 10:41:33 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

All: for those of you who think who there will be little editorial/newsgathering benefit to the merger of the grantees, consider the email below. For those of you who think that cooperation and sharing of resources is easy to achieve voluntarily, you might also consider the email below. Food for thought.

Cheers,

(b) (6)

<FONT color=#800080 size=-Your data has been truncated. =

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 9:02 AM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble;

(b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Tripoli problem

Enders, my friend, this can happen right now if the person who leads the organization in questions simply picks up the phone and calls the other head such as (b) (6) or the other way around. There is no barrier to this. I think all wish to assist and cooperate. Regular meetings between all heads should be resumed.

Consolidation of the three grantees still has many unanswered questions such as documenting the costs and savings. Savings of \$10 million seem modest in a budget of \$730 million...less than 2 percent savings.

To date the selection process for a new CEO for the three grantees has NOT been revealed. It is unclear what qualifications he/she must have. Congressional review of this selection such as Senate Confirmation has been omitted.

These are all worthy subjects for BBG debate and should precede a decision to consolidate when there are many unknowns.

Happy weekend. I am off to church here in Knoxville.

Victor

In a message dated 4/29/2012 8:47:32 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

And it is clear from the unprecedented amount of cooperation already taking place, unknown in the days when I ran one of the radios, that everyone understands why cooperation across networks is essential. But knowing cannot always translate to doing when so many barriers to full cooperation exist, or when different networks have other or more immediate priorities.

(b) (6) larger point is that had we had a single CEO at the center of this activity, the chances of this opportunity being lost would have diminished. Someone has to be empowered to direct the various USIB assets into focus and cooperation operationally on pressing national interests, and this has to happen immediately when a pressing issue arises, not just when the board meets to when the network heads gather. This leader cannot be a part time board like the BBG, which has no operational responsibility in any case. Every good business, and virtually all other international broadcasters, grasp this, including, I will wager, the Chinese, the Russians, and those other competitors who increasingly will best us on the basis of sheer spending power if we do not get our act together.

(b) (6) has done us a service by highlighting a problem that goes straight to the heart of USIB's weakness. It was not meant as criticism of anyone, but of the dysfunction in our organizational model, which wastes vast amounts of taxpayer assets while failing to meet the strategic objectives for which USIB is intended.

sew/

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 29, 2012, at 8:16, "(b) (6)" <(b) (6)> wrote:

> I don't want to leave anyone with the mistaken impression that MBN does not cooperate with the other broadcasters. Nothing could be further from the truth. Over the past year we have supported our sister broadcasters as much as possible within resource limits. Libya has been a difficult country to cover because of the lack of reliable and professional journalists. We have gone through a number of reporters over the course of the last year. Our current reporter splits his time between Benghazi and Tripoli. Our priority has been covering the rising tide of violence between the different tribal factions which puts Libya's future in doubt. Just recently he was held at gun point by one faction because they didn't like his reporting. Our various news departments are in regular contact but we can't always fulfill everyone's request for a variety of reasons. Our policy, which has been communicated to all levels, is to cooperate where every possible. However, like every news organization, at times we have to make decision that don't please everyone.

>

>

>

>

> (b) (6)

> Middle East Broadcasting Networks, Inc.

> 7600 Boston Blvd

> Springfield, VA 22153

>

> (b) (6)

>

> This electronic mail (e-mail) transmission is meant solely for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. It contains confidential information that may also be legally privileged. Any copying, dissemination or distribution of the contents of this e-mail by anyone other than the addressee or his or her agent is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-

have discussed it with (b) (6) present. I assume you knew about it then as the story broke on April 5 according to the e mail.

>
> Frankly I am disappointed that this was not bumped up to you (b) (6) much earlier and then you should have picked up the phone and called (b) (6) as well relative Governors if you thought it merited action.

>
> Consolidation has many unanswered questions and missing documentation on cost and savings which I raised on April 20 at the BBG Board meeting. Even a so called streamlined organization which you favor will have these issues too. As Gov Meehan pointed out, this consolidation does not impact VOA so the VOA issue mentioned here would not be solved by merger of grantees.

>
> Cooperation and/or sharing may be an issue today but the current structure can solve if the relevant people raise it to the right people like the April 20 BBG Board meeting or you calling (b) (6) direct when those below you were unable to make the progress they desired. Is this trial still going on and is there still time for VOA/MBN to participate? Do (b) (6) agree with (b) (6) assessment of the merit of the story? That is why I have copied them on this e mail. Cooperation and sharing would suggest that you let MBN and VOA know of your unhappiness when you are e mailing the entire BBG Board and IBB Director Lobo so they can respond.

>
> Sincerely yours and thanks for letting us know,

>
> Victor Ashe

>
> Bottom

>
> In a message dated 4/28/2012 10:41:33 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

> All: for those of you who think who there will be little editorial/newsgathering benefit to the merger of the grantees, consider the email below. For those of you who think that cooperation and sharing of resources is easy to achieve voluntarily, you might also consider the email below. Food for thought.

>
> Cheers,

> (b) (6)

> ----- Forwarded by (b) (6) on 04/28/2012 04:26 PM -----

>
> From: (b) (6)

> To: (b) (6)

> Cc: (b) (6)

> Date: 04/25/2012 04:10 PM

> Subject: Tripoli problem

>
>
>
> Steve,

>
> For several weeks we are trying to get help from our BBG bros in covering an important trial in Tripoli. More than 20 Russian, Ukrainian and Belarusian citizens are charged with assisting Quadaffi regime and may face death sentence. Officials in our broadcast countries used to deny any knowledge of the trial but later had to acknowledge it. It stirred significant public interest.

>
> We don't have correspondents in Libya. We asked several times our colleagues in Washington to help us. We acted through the Central newsroom. Our Washington Bureau Chief, (b) (6), raised the issue with Al Hurrah, Sawa, MBN. The answer was – "they're "aware of the story but not covering it at this time." (b) (6) also reached out to VOA and was told they have no plans to cover.

> I discussed the issue with the BBG staffers while on a visit in Washington in mid-April. They explained that they do not have executive powers.

>

> We broke the story on April 5; since that time we have received no assistance in any form. The story would have been unique for our audiences and would have directly benefitted Rus, Bel, Ukr services in RFE/RL and Rus, Ukr services in VOA.

>

> The trial is still going on.

>

> rgrds

>

> (b) (6)

>

>

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 2:10 PM

To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)

Subject: strategy and budget

any word on if this committee has set May 23 as a meeting time and if so, what time of the day? or is it another day...trying to buy cheapest possible air ticket.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 7:25 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: cost for Vegas

I think it can show that travel for Govs has decreased. Victor

In a message dated 4/29/2012 2:49:26 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor --

Since my role at the BBG doesn't include keeping track of colleagues' and governors' travel costs, I'm cc'ing this message to Dick and Jeff so they can work with the right people on the team to provide the available info.

I'll also share with them the message to (b) (6) and (b) (6) referenced in yours below.

See you in NC this week.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 2:32:21 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Subject: cost for Vegas

I would like to know what the cost of the Las Vegas trips were for recent the NAB convention and who went? Is there a program for the Vegas NAB conference available?

Also what was the cost of the Miami Board meeting as I assume costs were reduced thru teleconferencing? This would be Governors and staff who went including myself.

I had been sent your response to (b) (6) and suggested they follow up with these questions but then felt I should ask directly for this.

see you in Greenville.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 28, 2012 9:06 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: let me know

I am not complaining at all...just trying to be helpful to Michael Meehan but apparently that does not work with his schedule...so certainly I will be there July 24-25...appreciate your efforts to be accommodating. I was signaling that I would be there whenever the meeting is held.

Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Dick Lobo (personal); (b) (6); Jeff Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>
Sent: Sat, Apr 28, 2012 8:51 am
Subject: Re: let me know

Victor:

We're going to stick with the new dates (july 24-25). You and Michael asked that we change the dates. Despite the fact that a change didn't work well for others, we have done so. Staff worked with Lynton's office to find new dates that work for him. I had to change plans for a personal trip to Europe (not BBG related or paid) at considerable personal expense and difficulty to accommodate your and Michael's request.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Sat, 28 Apr 2012 07:42:07 -0400 (EDT)
To: <(b) (6)> <(b) (6)>
Subject: let me know

Let me know what happens on the new July date which Michael Meehan cannot make. If it stays at July 12 I will do my dead level best to make it. I am not saying no way. it depends on my recovery from June 18 which may be enough time.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 28, 2012 7:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Fw: Tripoli problem

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To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Date: 04/25/2012 04:10 PM

Subject: Tripoli problem

(b) (6)

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The trial is still going on.

rgrds

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 1:37 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Thank you letter from Rep. Rohrabacher

Thanks. I had gotten my copy yesterday when I was in his office. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/27/2012 11:15:41 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Please see the attached letter from Rep. Dana Rohrabacher to Governor Lynton, received by the agency today.

The letter thanks the Board for agreeing to revisit proposed reductions to the Tibetan and Cantonese Services, and for maintaining a "multi-platform posture" in broadcasting to China.

The Congressman also references the "major and desperately needed reforms" that the Board hopes to implement, and expresses his readiness to be part of that process.

A draft response for Presiding Governor Lynton's consideration is in the works.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 1:37 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Thank you letter from (b) (6)

I would also want to see the draft letter when it is ready. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/27/2012 11:28:53 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Very positive. Please let me see the draft response when it is ready. Tks. sew/

From: (b) (6)
Date: Friday, April 27, 2012 10:44 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Jeff Trimble (b) (6) >
Subject: Thank you letter from Rep. Rohrabacher

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Thanks,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 9:48 AM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: House FY13 State-Foreign Ops allocation significantly lower than Senate number

this is all the more reason to actually do some proactive cutting...like the (b) (6) proposal to eliminate GS 15 positions which are unfilled. Dick Lobo, this actually needs to happen. The Gallup contract needs to be capped at \$6 million a year...group travel to international conferences needs to be limited...GSA scandal is generating legislation which may force this...why not do it ourselves? How many people attended recent National Association of Broadcasters in Las Vegas? in prior years it has been as high as 18 persons. Delhi last year was 12 persons. This should be discussed in depth at Strategy and Budget.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; (b) (6); Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Apr 26, 2012 9:30 am
Subject: FW: House FY13 State-Foreign Ops allocation significantly lower than Senate number

FYI – the House allocations for the FY 2013 budget have come out and, as expected, are in line with the Ryan Budget proposal. The Allocation for the State and Foreign Ops Bill is \$40B as compared to the Senate allocation which is \$50B (excluding \$3B in off-budget allocations) . Both allocations are below FY 2012. To put the House number in perspective, the FY 2012 enacted number for the State and Foreign Ops Bill was \$53B.

While we do not yet have specific numbers for our portions of the Bill, we can expect the House numbers will be close to the numbers we submitted in our official budget request for FY 2013. What we also have not seen are the off-budget allocations for the House, which may also factor in. Of course, there will be negotiations between the House and Senate to reconcile the numbers in the final appropriation act, but I expect that we will not be unscathed in the FY 2013 process.

I will keep you posted. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6) [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 12:58 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: House FY13 State-Foreign Ops allocation significantly lower than Senate number

From: (b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6)>
Sent: 4/25/2012

House FY 13 allocation for State-Foreign Ops significantly lower than Senate number

The House Appropriations committee today approved by a 28-21 vote its FY 13 allocations for the 12 appropriations bills, CQ.com reports <<http://www.cq.com/doc/news-4069408>> . State-Foreign Operations, which includes Department of State exchange programs, would be funded at \$48.3 billion, consisting of \$40.1 billion in base funding and \$8.2 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO). This is \$5 billion less than the Senate State-

Foreign Operations authorization, approved <<http://alliance-exchange.org/policy-monitor/04/20/2012/senate-appropriations-committee-marks-fy-13-allocations-53-billion-state-f>> last week.

The U.S. Global Leadership Coalition (USGLC) notes that the cuts to State Foreign Operations of 9.4 per cent in the House allocation are “disproportionately deep ... relative to other security accounts” and that only one other discretionary account (Transportation-HUD) received a cut larger than that suffered by State-Foreign Operations.

Concerning the FY 13 House markup, House Appropriations Chairman Hal Rogers (R-KY) explained <<http://appropriations.house.gov/News/DocumentSingle.aspx?DocumentID=292277>> :

“The levels provided for each of the 12 Appropriations bills will continue to demonstrate how seriously this House takes its charge to rein in extraneous and unnecessary spending, encourage economic competitiveness and job growth, help strengthen the nation’s infrastructure, and ensure a strong national security for the protection of all Americans.”

The \$1.028 trillion allocated overall for the 12 appropriations bills aligns with the discretionary spending cap set by the House’s FY 13 budget resolution, CQ.com explains, adding that in total the House allocates \$19 billion less for the 12 bills than the Senate.

Alliance conversations with the Hill indicate that House State-Foreign Operations subcommittee action is likely to begin in mid-May, but could be delayed until later that month.

USGLC notes that the State-Foreign Operations bill could possibly come to the floor in mid-June “where non-war related programs would be very susceptible to further deep cuts.”

Senate subcommittee action on the appropriations bills is yet to be scheduled.

Read this item on the Alliance website <<http://alliance-exchange.org/policy-monitor/04/25/2012/house-fy-13-allocation-state-foreign-ops-significantly-lower-senate-number>> , or get it via RSS feed <<http://www.alliance-exchange.org/rss-feeds>> .

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 5:27 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Planning for June Board Meeting in Prague

I plan on arriving June 6 and departing June 8 in afternoon. Staff travel should be kept low as was done in Miami and use teleconferencing which works well from RFE to Prague.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6) (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Apr 26, 2012 2:59 pm
Subject: Planning for June Board Meeting in Prague

Dear Governors,

For planning purposes, please confirm your availability for the June Board meeting in Prague. The June Board meeting (as previously approved in December 2011) is scheduled for June 7 and 8. Governors are encouraged to arrive in Prague on June 6.

If you cannot attend the meeting in person, please let us know if you would be available to participate by teleconference or video conference. With your input, staff will work with RFE/RL to arrange your participation from RFE/RL conference room in Washington (1201 Connecticut Ave., NW) for the audio/video connection as it has a strong, reliable, high-quality connection to Prague and might be able to conference participants from other remote locations.

Please let us know about your availability at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 9:41 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

ynne Weil
Subject: Re: travel

My hope is that BBG sets a high standard without waiting on Congress to tell us what that standard should be when we know thru common sense in most cases what it should and should not be. I am pleased you are working on this. Money saved here can help save some language services. Also we need to make sure we do not send too many persons to the same conference such as NAB in Las Vegas and the 2011 Delhi conference where 12 attended and total costs exceeded \$85,000 in travel. Far fewer persons could have sufficed I suspect. It will take someone of your status to enforce it. The important thing is that you in your leadership position are pursuing this. I look forward to your report to the Board at our Prague meeting.

We should be able to report to Congress on what BBG did on our own before Congress made it the law.

Thanks for your efforts.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>

Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>

[Redacted]

2 9:02 pm

Subject: RE: travel

Victor, thank you for your email of April 24.

As you know, we've been working hard to review and improve our travel policies and practices, and were doing so well in advance of the GSA scandal. Agency travel costs dropped more than 4 percent from FY 2010 to FY 2011, and in FY 2012 we estimate travel spending will be down more than 7 percent from 2010. In FY 2013, the agency's proposed budget reduces travel spending 20 percent from FY 2010 levels.

As I've assured you already, we'll continue to work to control travel and conference costs.

This said, we are an international agency with assets around the globe. Travel is necessary to oversee and improve management of our operations.

I'm confident that our agency can comply with the letter and spirit of Senator Coburn's amendment – which (b) (6) detailed earlier today in an email – should Congress pass it into law.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:45 PM

To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Trimble

Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: travel

Senator Coburn of Oklahoma succeeded today in a report published on Roll Call found at www.rollcall.com <<http://www.rollcall.com/>> in major changes for all federal agencies on travel and attendance at conferences including posting items on their web sites.

This occurred in the wake of the GSA scandal. I personally believe (b) (6) should secure a copy of the proposed changes and BBG should move on its own to implement these changes which may be legislated into law. We should not wait on Congress telling us what to do. BBG should be proactive on this.

We have our own BBG experience of 12 persons going to Delhi, India last year. In some past years as many as 17 persons have attended the NAB (National Association of Broadcasters) annual meeting in Las Vegas. One person has racked up over \$100,000 in costs for international flights in little over one year. Perhaps there are wonderful explanations for all of this but I doubt it. BBG needs to set an example and the Coburn amendment which the Senate adopted can point the way.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 7:44 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

part of the substance of the decision was that the third portion of the divided question was withdrawn by the sponsor. That should go in the substance of the Board's decision. I concur in the other part of what you say as long as the total procedural process is reflected in the full minutes. However, the record of decisions should reflect that part of the recommendation on consolidation as it relates to congressional notification was not adopted by the Board but actually withdrawn on motion of the sponsor. I feel that should be included in the record of decisions which will go immediately on the web site while the other full minutes will wait until June.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/24/2012 10:39:27 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, p (b) (6) writes:

Victor -- These procedural moves will be noted in the minutes of the meeting (along with other procedural motions). We will prepare the full minutes for the Board's consideration at the next meeting and capture the back-and-forth that you have noted.

In this document, we are trying to capture the substance of the Board's decisions so that we can put it on the website tomorrow. Is the substance ok?

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:27:30 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil;
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

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In a message dated 4/24/2012 6:43:40 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, p (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

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Please let us know if you have any comments by noon tomorrow, April 25, so that we can post the Record of Decisions on the BBG website.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 5:13 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

I suggest the meeting be from 3 to 5...to allow travel time. on May 23 or. RFE audit is at 2 on May 24....should not go beyond 3..could be moved to 1PM and committee on strategy could meet at 230 to 430 if on May 24 if that works better.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Apr 25, 2012 4:41 pm

Subject: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Dear Committee members,

I'm following-up on a request at last week's Board meeting to schedule the next meeting of the Strategy & Budget Committee.

A suggestion was made that the Strategy & Budget Committee meeting be scheduled on the same day as the Governance Committee meeting on May 24. However, as some of you may know already, the RFE/RL Audit Committee is scheduled to meet that afternoon from 2 to 4 pm EST. Alternatively, staff would like to propose that the Strategy & Budget Committee meet on Wednesday, May 23, from 1 to 3 pm EST.

Please let me know if the proposed time works for you. If so, please advise whether you can participate in person or

by phone.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 5:14 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: final outcome

sure someone has it...surely it goes thru your office to approve its correctness Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Apr 25, 2012 3:27 pm
Subject: RE: final outcome

Victor – I don't have a copy of the (b) (6) invoice in my office and I don't know which office maintains the records. I will request a copy from the Finance Office and the Office of Contracts. I do not guarantee that it will be available for you tomorrow. But, I will send you a copy when I receive it.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com <mailto:Vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 9:06 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: final outcome

(b) (6)

I am still interested in seeing the actual billing from the firm for their advice on sexual harassment issues which we mailed about last week and you indicated due to rush of other matters you could not secure. I can pick it up from (b) (6) or (b) (6) tomorrow when I am at Cohen.

Also I would like to know if the record of decisions will be amended pursuant to my single suggestion in response to your earlier e mail. If not then you should add a paragraph which indicates Gov Ashe disagrees with the record of decisions in one aspect as I outlined in an earlier e mail.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 9:04 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

It is hard to believe congressional notification would occur when the Board has not voted on the consolidation plan. That is called putting the cart in front of the horse.

I disagree with your decision on what is included in the Record of Minutes and believe you do not have the right to do this on your own authority without Board approval. I request this matter go before the governance committee on May 24 and not appear on the BBG web site as you propose. If you proceed anyway, then I request that the record of minutes reflect that on this single issue one Board member, Victor Ashe, disagrees.

Victor Ashe

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

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6); [REDACTED] (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; [REDACTED] (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6); Lynne Weil

Sent: Wed, Apr 25, 2012 1:20 pm
Subject: RE: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

Victor –

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I understand your feeling about Governor Mulhaupt's decision not to include, as part of the decision element before the Board, a recommendation that Congressional notification should be prepared.

But, we have never treated the decision of an individual Governor to withdraw (or rather not to put forward) a proposed decision element as a "Board decision". I am not sure how we can construe one Governor's forbearance of an action as a decision of the Board. So, our plan is to include that also in the meeting minutes (if at all) and not in the Record of Decisions.

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Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 7:44 AM
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Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

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Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil;

(b) (6)

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Thank you.

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Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 9:12 PM

To: Oanh Tran; (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

whatever works...Wimbush is also on RFE audit committee too. I will participate on May 23, 24 or 25. Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
<(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
<(b) (6)>
Sent: Wed, Apr 25, 2012 5:49 pm
Subject: RE: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Governor Wimbush will be in Europe at that time. Given the time difference (+6 hours), a late meeting in DC might be difficult for him.

Awaiting Governor Wimbush's response.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 5:13 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
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Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 9:42 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

I do not intend to carry out an argument with you. I have given my views and they are what they are. Michael Meehan made an excellent point which is that it is all on webcam. It is what it is. Let it stand and forget worrying about a record of decisions. Meehan is a person of common sense. The webcam is there for the world to see and ponder. Go do something else more worthwhile than pursuing this rabbit.

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Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

<(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> Lynne Weil

<(b) (6)>

Sent: Wed, Apr 25, 2012 9:34 pm

Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

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Thanks. (b) (6)

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Cc: (b) (6)

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Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

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Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
<(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble [REDACTED] (b) (6); Lynne Weil
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Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 7:44 AM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

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To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo;
Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

Yes there are rabbits. And Elvis visits there from time to time. Victor

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

From: S. Enders Wimbush <(b) (6)>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Apr 25, 2012 9:59 pm

Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

Are there really rabbits in the Cohen building? Or did I miss something? sew/

On Apr 25, 2012, at 9:42 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:52 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Fwd: House Announcements: Jazz Month; Holocaust Remembrance; Travel Expenses...

by forbidding persons from using the discount travel agents as well as persons doing it on their own, taxpayers are paying more for travel than necessary. this is most unfortunate. What can be done to reduce needless costs like this? see this memo. GSA scandal should alert us all to ways to reduce.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
Reply-to: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Sent: 4/24/2012 9:42:59 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: House Announcements: Jazz Month; Holocaust Remembrance; Travel Expenses; Contract Payments; Vacancy

Please click directly on the title to jump to the full announcement, or scroll down. You can always go to the Intranet (access below) to see all announcements and attachments.

Celebrations, Parties, Events

- * April is Jazz Appreciation Month <mip://0a721940/default.html#_April_is_Jazz>
- * Holocaust Memorial Remembrance Program
<mip://0a721940/default.html#_Holocaust_Memorial_Remembrance>

General

- * Travel Notice – Necessary and Reasonableness of Travel Expense
<mip://0a721940/default.html#_Travel_Notice_-->
- * Payment Notice to Contracts <mip://0a721940/default.html#_Payment_Notice_to>

Vacancies

- * Vacancy Announcement: Budget Analyst, GS-0560-14
<mip://0a721940/default.html#_Vacancy_Announcement:_2>

To see all 2012 announcements, please go to:

Announcements Sorted by Category

(b) (2)

Announcements Sorted by Date

(b) (2)

April is Jazz Appreciation Month

April is Jazz Appreciation Month. Earlier this month, there was a decree by Congress that officially recognized April 25th as Willis Conover Day. Please, come join us this Thursday (4/26) from 2:00-3:00pm in the Cohen Auditorium to celebrate this wonderful indigenous art form jazz and pay tribute to one of our own, Willis Conover.

On Wednesday April 25th from 4:00-5:00pm, in the open space just in front of the Cohen Auditorium, there will be live jazz music presented to you by the VOA House Band.

See the Flyer HERE < [REDACTED] (b) (2) f>

Holocaust Memorial Remembrance Program

There will be a Holocaust Memorial Remembrance Program on Wednesday, May 9 at 11:30 AM at the Lincoln Theatre, 1215 U Street.

Please see the flyer HERE

[REDACTED] (b) (2)

[REDACTED] for more details.

Travel Notice – Necessary and Reasonableness of Travel Expense

The chief of the General Services Administration, Martha Johnson, and two of her top executives resigned in early April 2012 after release of a GSA Inspector General report on 2010 travel spending by GSA. The report documented excessive and wasteful travel expenditures including non-compliance with federal procurement laws and

Federal Travel Regulations. Link to GSA OIG report: http://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/4-2-12-Final-Management-Deficiency-Report_WRC.pdf

BBG may only pay those expenses essential to the transaction of official business (Source: FTR 301-2.2, 301-2.4, 301.2.3, 301-73.102, 301-50.3, 301-50.5).

- * BBG may not pay for excess costs resulting from circuitous routes, delays, or luxury.
- * Accommodations or services unnecessary or unjustified in the performance of official business.
- * Travelers must exercise the same care in incurring expenses that a prudent person would exercise if traveling on personal business.

BBG employees are reminded that all official travel must be booked through the E2 Travel System or the CW on-site travel agent.

* Employees may not book travel services (e.g., airline tickets, hotels, or rental cars) for official business through a third-party, such as Orbitz, Priceline, or Expedia. Using sources other than E2/CW is a violation of the TMC contract with the Federal Government and subjects the government to a potential law suit for damages for breach of contract.

Payment Notice to Contracts

BBG is excited to announce the rollout of a new payment service provided by the Office of the CFO.

Contractors with U.S. bank accounts who receive payment by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and are registered in CCR will now receive an email notifying them of a processed payment. The funds for the payment should be received within 4 business days of the email notification.

The payment email notification will begin on Thursday, April 26, 2012.

Frequently Asked Questions

What email address will receive the payment notice?

* The notification emails will be sent to the email address the contractor has in the EFT Accounts Receivable contact email address within the U.S. Federal Government Central Contractor Registration (CCR) system.

o We encourage you to verify your current CCR registration information in order to ensure you have the correct email addresses on record.

Who will send the payment notice email?

* The notification email messages will be sent from the email address System_Notification@phx-smt-01.cgipdc.com, and will contain a subject line of “Payment <BBG Financial System payment document number> has been processed”.

What information will be in the email message?

* The notification email messages will contain the total payment dollar amount, associated invoice number, and the associated BBG Financial System payment document number.

Why am I not receiving the payment notification emails?

* Please make sure to add the System_Notification@phx-smt-01.cgipdc.com email address to your safe sender list and verify that you are not receiving emails from this address within your junk email folder. Please note that the System_Notification@phx-smt-01.cgipdc.com email address is not a monitored email box and will not receive reply messages.

* Please ensure your email is correct in the EFT Accounts Receivable contact email address within the U.S. Federal Government Central Contractor Registration (CCR) system.

* The email notice will only be sent to contractors with U.S. Bank accounts who receive payment by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and are registered in CCR.

o Contractors with non-U.S. Banks will not receive the payment notice.

o Contractors who receive paper checks will not receive the payment notice.

What if I still have questions?

* If you still have questions regarding payment notifications, please email the BBG at

(b) (6)

Vacancy Announcement: Budget Analyst, GS-0560-14

The following position is being advertised through the USAJobs automated recruitment system. This position can be viewed on the USAJobs website by cutting and pasting the link into the browser. You can also obtain copies of the

vacancy announcement from the Office of Human Resources, room 1543.

M/P-12-92, Budget Analyst, GS-0560-14

<http://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/314780200>

Open: April 24, 2012 / Closes: May 07, 2012

You must follow the directions shown in the vacancy announcement in order to apply for these positions. If you have any questions, please contact the Human Resource Specialist listed in the vacancy at 202-382-7500. If you have difficulty accessing these announcements through the links shown above, the USAJobs website is available for viewing and applying on-line in the Office of Human Resources from 08:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 5:43 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RFE/BBG in Prague

As planning gets underway for the June 7-8 meeting I trust attention will be paid to the 6 hour time difference in US from Czech Republic so Sec. Sonenshine can participate by phone as she has indicated she would as well as any other Governor who resides in DC but might not be able to attend in Prague. Same would apply to RFE Board meetings. In other words, I think those meetings should be on Thursday in afternoon no earlier starting at 2PM Prague time which would be 0800 on US East Coast.

Naturally impacted Governors should be consulted.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:28 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from April Board Meeting

in terms of the grantee consolidation issue, the record of decisions should reflect that a division of the question into three separate parts was called for by Gov. Ashe. That the first question voted on was adopted unanimously, on the second matter in terms of advisers, Gov Ashe offered an amendment requiring consultation and concurrence with governance committee. Said amendment was adopted unanimously and the original motion as amended was adopted by a vote of 5 to 1 with Gov Ashe voting No. The third portion of the divided question was then withdrawn by the sponsor, Gov Mulhaupt.

That is my memory of what actually happened and this record of decisions should be modified to reflect the entirety of the procedure before it goes on the BBG web site.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/24/2012 6:43:40 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a proposed Record of Decisions from the April Board meeting.

Please let us know if you have any comments by noon tomorrow, April 25, so that we can post the Record of Decisions on the BBG website.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:46 PM

To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble

Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)

Subject: travel

Senator Coburn of Oklahoma succeeded today in a report published on Roll Call found at www.rollcall.com in major changes for all federal agencies on travel and attendance at conferences including posting items on their web sites.

This occurred in the wake of the GSA scandal. I personally believe (b) (6) should secure a copy of the proposed changes and BBG should move on its own to implement these changes which may be legislated into law. We should not wait on Congress telling us what to do. BBG should be proactive on this.

We have our own BBG experience of 12 persons going to Delhi, India last year. In some past years as many as 17 persons have attended the NAB (National Association of Broadcasters) annual meeting in Las Vegas. One person has racked up over \$100,000 in costs for international flights in little over one year. Perhaps there are wonderful explanations for all of this but I doubt it. BBG needs to set an example and the Coburn amendment which the Senate adopted can point the way.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 8:15 AM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: financial report not given at Miami

(b) (6)

As I recall you did not complete the financial report at our April 20 meeting and indicated you would send it to us. If it is a long document, I need for it be sent by fed ex to my Knoxville home.

Can you advise how much remained to be reported. Also the audio was not great so I did not hear lots of what you reported. I look forward to seeing all of it.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2012 2:33 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Buyouts

I really do not understand why (b) (6) cannot answer me directly. Are you suggesting I should not ask (b) (6) questions? Victor Ashe

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

From: richard m lobo <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Apr 18, 2012 11:04 pm
Subject: Re: Buyouts
Victor,

It is because I asked her to. (b) (6) reports directly to (b) (6). I value our organizational lines.

Dick

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 18, 2012, at 10:24 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:
Thanks very much. Is there a reason (b) (6) did not answer my e mail to her but bumped it to you? Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
<(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>

Sent: Wed, Apr 18, 2012 6:58 pm
Subject: Buyouts
<image001.jpg>
Dear Governor Ashe,

I am responding to your April 16 email to (b) (6) regarding buyouts.

BBG Federal employees were notified that a buyout opportunity was being offered, beginning on March 21 and ending on April 27, 2012. On April 16 we announced that the deadline for filing an application was extended to Friday, May 4, 2012.

To date we have received 15 applications. One employee departed on April 16 and another rescinded his application on 4/13/2012. To the best of my knowledge, no buyout requests have been disapproved.

We will continue to provide updates as well as a final accounting following the May 4 deadline. If you have any questions, please contact me.

With kind regards,



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 7:53 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Fw: Status Update of ELP Developmental Work Assignment

this is unreal. I deeply regret it. I will take it up ASAP. (b) (6) is being copied on this as is Jeff Trimble. (b) (6) can you check into this and see what VOA/BBG can do to assist here. Victor

In a message dated 4/18/2012 1:18:20 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

Please see attached. Currently, I serve as a Senior TV Producer for Voice of America's English TV to Africa division and was selected by my agency, the Broadcasting Board of Governors to participate in the nine month Executive Leadership Program (ELP). This concerns the difficulties regarding the successful completion of the program.

Any assistance that you are available to provide is greatly appreciated. I look forward to a positive response.

Regards,

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 1:12 AM
Subject: FW: Status Update of ELP Developmental Work Assignment

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 12:45 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Status Update of ELP Developmental Work Assignment

(b) (6)

Please be advised due to my current security clearance status, my Executive Leadership Program (ELP) Developmental Work Assignment with U.S. State Department has been cancelled. Thus, I will return back to my regular work schedule until I secure another assignment to fulfill requirements to successfully complete the ELP program. In addition, I am weighing other developmental assignments options and hopefully I can begin a new assignment as early as next week.

Unfortunately, prior to my detail assignment the State Department had never shared with me that a Secret Clearance was required. Over the past week, I have been working closely with both IBB as well as the State Department Security updating my clearance status by filling out the SF 86 - Questionnaire for National Security Position with hopes that I would be issued an interim temporary security clearance. Sadly, due to the fact that the ELP Developmental Work Assignment is only eight weeks, the U.S. State Department was not willing to go through the long drawn out process of obtaining a clearance for a short assignment for an employee of another agency. As for Broadcast Board of Governors, the agency will not move forward in updating my security clearance to a higher level to secret because my position description of Senior TV Production Specialist does not require it. All of this comes as a great surprise to me because former ELP participant, (b) (6) did not require a secret clearance to do her detail at the State Department. Also, my mentor (b) (6) had also shared with me his hopes of my doing a detail at the State Department because of agreements set in place with the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

These recent series of events have derailed my progress and completion of the Executive Leadership Program. I would need to start the detail this week to fulfill the Developmental Assignment by June 8th. Therefore, I have spoken to BBG Training Coordinator, (b) (6) on formally writing the Graduate School USA's ELP Coordinator, (b) (6) on giving me an extension in the program because I have not secured my developmental assignment in time to fulfill the ELP program requirements. With that said, I will not graduate on time by June 15th, but I am still required to do the developmental assignment to successfully complete the program.

Despite these challenges, I am optimistic that I will be able to complete all that is required of me for the ELP with the support of the leadership in the English to Africa Division.

Thanks for your time and consideration in this matter.

Regards!

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 10:24 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Buyouts

Thanks very much. Is there a reason (b) (6) did not answer my e mail to her but bumped it to you? Victor Ashe

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

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To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Sent: Wed, Apr 18, 2012 6:58 pm
Subject: Buyouts

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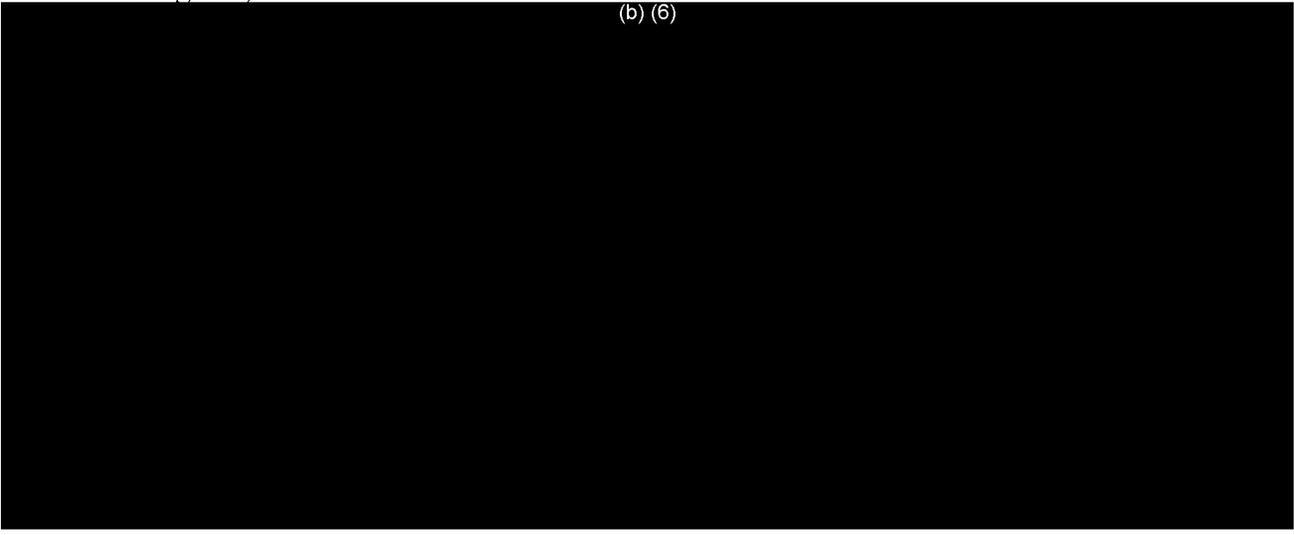
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To date we have received 15 applications. One employee departed on April 16 and another rescinded his application on 4/13/2012. To the best of my knowledge, no buyout requests have been disapproved.

We will continue to provide updates as well as a final accounting following the May 4 deadline. If you have any questions, please contact me.

With kind regards,

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 10:23 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: hard work

Jeff and Dick

I wanted to share with you both how hard (b) (6) work. Only last night at 830 (b) (6) called me on a matter coming before the BBG meeting in Miami and she was still at the Cohen Bldg. Today she flies to Miami.

She put in a 13 hour day on April 16. This is impressive. I told her she needed to go home and get some rest.

(b) (6) is equally dedicated and hard working.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 11:07 AM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: greetings

I suggest we use a word other than 'holistic'. This is an inside the beltway term. We need to use words which average Americans who pay for BBG understand immediately and do not have to find a dictionary to look up. I say this as a Yale graduate. We will be discussing this in open webcam session and we want to make sure our listening audience knows what we are talking about. This is not Dick's term but was used at Strategy and Budget Committee on April 10.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/17/2012 11:00:15 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

i'm interested in how the work of your holistic china plan task force is proceeding.

the board meets on thursday morning to discuss this matter and they are expecting to hear to hear your various plans, recommendations, etc.

can someone summarize for me the progress you've made thus far?

thanks.

dick

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 3:31 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: FW: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses..law firm work and pay

still want to see the invoice they sent...I assume there was not a payment without an invoice...I want to see their hourly rate and hours spent. You can bring it to Miami if you have it and tell me who to ask for it.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/17/2012 3:28:36 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Yes, it includes the meeting with the Board, all preparation time, plus the preparation of the legal memorandum.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 2:13 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: FW: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses..law firm work and pay

this was for a two hour meeting or anything else??? does it include a memo? was there a bill showing hourly rate and hours spent? If so I would like to see it. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/17/2012 1:55:49 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

(b) (5)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 9:28 AM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: FW: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses..law firm work and pay

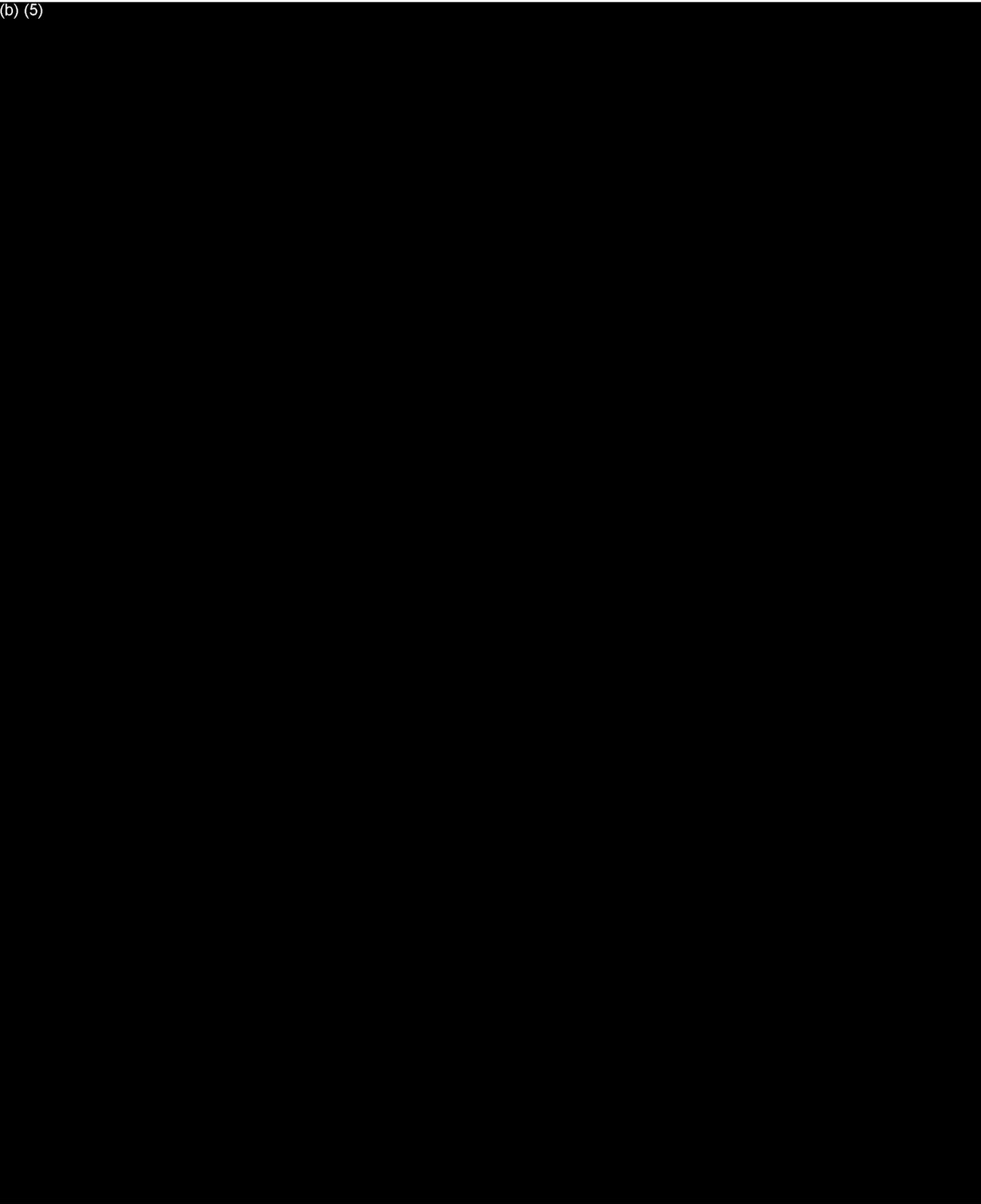
How much did BBG pay the law firm Walter asked to come and brief us on personnel inquiries as well as the opinions they wrote? I have asked several times for this and you indicated you did not have the bills yet..are they in now?

work occurred in January as I recall.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/16/2012 12:58:10 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor –



From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2012 4:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: FW: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Lynne and (b) (6)

I am forwarding to you an e mail I received from (b) (6) on what she considers to be weaknesses in the FOIA requests procedure by BBG. I feel she raises valid points.

I do not take sides on why she seeks the information she seeks but I do firmly support BBG having a process in place which expedites FOIA requests consistent with President Obama's 2009 executive order for openness. The President was on point when he issued this order early in his administration. What worries me is that not all agencies are adhering to the spirit as well as the letter of it.

We have discussed this previously. You have turned it over to (b) (6). He is professional young man but I wonder if you have indicated to him the importance of securing quick responses. Have you had the system checked on packages Fed ex'd to BBG. Does he realize he has backing at the highest levels to act quickly?

I formally request the deputy general consul office to respond directly to the e mail (b) (6) sent me and copy me on it. Do we need to have a discussion on this at the April 20 BBG Board meeting?

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 4/14/2012 10:03:20 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: FW: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Ambassador Ashe:

I'd like to share with you some recent emails detailing the difficulty I've experienced filing a FOIA request at the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

On Thursday, I sent an email Freedom of Information letter to the Broadcasting Board of Governors. In order to comply with the BBG's rules, I sent a hard copy to them via Fed-Ex.

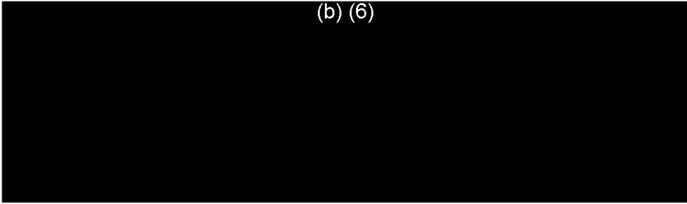
Among my surprise that somehow the Fed-Ex letter did not arrive, I am concerned that my FOIA request was questioned as to why it was even made, and why the Committee for U.S. International Broadcasting did not request a FOIA on the BBG Governors' travels.

On this end, I'll follow up with Fed Ex to see what happened to the letter. It's bewildering that an organization funded to provide global communication doesn't have a simple streamline method of receiving or transmitting written communications ... this month they have no procedure in place to receive a package from Fed Ex, and last month their legal department had no procedure in place to attach a document to an email.

Thank you for any help you may be able to provide.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)



From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses
Date: Sat, 14 Apr 2012 02:30:18 +0000

Ah, so that explains why Fed-Ex phoned this morning to ask for a room number. We provided explicit instructions for ease of delivery -- by what route to enter the Cohen Building, in addition to which room, along with two phone contacts -- but the package didn't reach this office.

We called Fed-Ex HQ to try to work out what happened, but Customer Service had no record of a delivery for me.

Weird. Chalk it up to Friday the 13th?

Anyway, if you have the tracking number we can work on this matter once more on Monday.

In the meantime, have a good weekend. I hope the weather there is as gorgeous as it's going to be here!

Best,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 10:16:46 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Lynne:

Thanks for your note. Seems like your working late!

My Fed-Ex letter to you should have arrived at the BBG today ... will hunt around for the receipt to be sure it was delivered.

There may come a time when we will be interested in requesting travel cost information about the BBG Governors, but for the time being, this current FOIA request is sufficient.

Best,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6), (b) (6)
Subject: RE: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses
Date: Sat, 14 Apr 2012 00:44:12 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

Apologies for the slightly delayed reply; I needed to check on a couple of things on Thursday and today – which then, like most Fridays, went by in a whoosh of trying to wrap up projects before the weekend.

Thanks for getting in touch with me on this matter and for cc-ing the BBG's FOIA point man, (b) (6) who will await the arrival of the letter by mail before taking action, in keeping with agency procedures.

Meantime, from the standpoint of a former journalist and a perpetually curious individual, I hope you won't mind if I pose a couple of questions of my own:

What prompted (b) (6) to seek info on the travel costs for these individuals, and nobody else? For example, our Governors, whose overseas and domestic travel often is paid for through the BBG? They are, after all, the heads of this agency.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

Director of Communications and External Affairs

Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:52 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Lynn:

This is a request for information about the travels costs that were charged to or reimbursed by the Broadcasting Board of Governors for the following Management personnel starting with the calendar year 2010 - present:

Richard M. Lobo, Director of the International Broadcasting Bureau
Jeffrey N. Trimble, IBB Deputy Director
Bruce Sherman, Director, Office of Strategy and Development
Gary Thatcher, Director of the Office of Marketing and External Liaison.

Travel costs include hotel, meals, registration fees, public transportation, private transportation, parking costs, and miscellaneous expenses.

The information I am requesting includes specific travel requests from each of these officials for each individual travel, and travel vouchers submitted by each individual for each individual travel in this period.

Is this information accessible online? Can this information be transmitted by email or only in hard copy.

Please know that I am also sending a copy of this request via the US Post Office.

I would greatly appreciate your help with this timely information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 3:57 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: FW: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses..law firm work and pay

look forward to getting it Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/17/2012 3:38:01 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I will send it to you next week, Victor. I am very tied up with meeting preparations and other matters now.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
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Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: FW: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses..law firm work and pay

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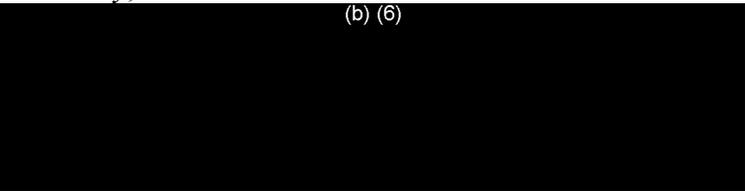
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On this end, I'll follow up with Fed Ex to see what happened to the letter. It's bewildering that an organization funded to provide global communication doesn't have a simple streamline method of receiving or transmitting written communications ... this month they have no procedure in place to receive a package from Fed Ex, and last month their legal department had no procedure in place to attach a document to an email.

Thank you for any help you may be able to provide.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)



From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses
Date: Sat, 14 Apr 2012 02:30:18 +0000

Ah, so that explains why Fed-Ex phoned this morning to ask for a room number. We provided explicit instructions for ease of delivery -- by what route to enter the Cohen Building, in addition to which room, along with two phone contacts -- but the package didn't reach this office.

We called Fed-Ex HQ to try to work out what happened, but Customer Service had no record of a delivery for me.

Weird. Chalk it up to Friday the 13th?

Anyway, if you have the tracking number we can work on this matter once more on Monday.

In the meantime, have a good weekend. I hope the weather there is as gorgeous as it's going to be here!

Best,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 10:16:46 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Lynne:

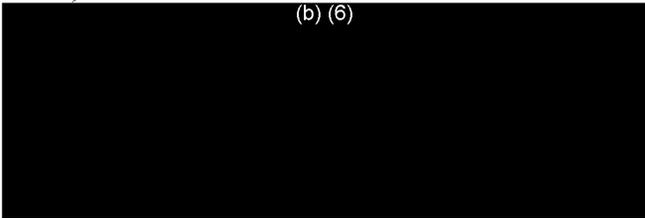
Thanks for your note. Seems like your working late!

My Fed-Ex letter to you should have arrived at the BBG today ... will hunt around for the receipt to be sure it was delivered.

There may come a time when we will be interested in requesting travel cost information about the BBG Governors, but for the time being, this current FOIA request is sufficient.

Best,

(b) (6)



From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6), (b) (6)
Subject: RE: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses
Date: Sat, 14 Apr 2012 00:44:12 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

Apologies for the slightly delayed reply; I needed to check on a couple of things on Thursday and today – which then, like most Fridays, went by in a whoosh of trying to wrap up projects before the weekend.

Thanks for getting in touch with me on this matter and for cc-ing the BBG's FOIA point man, (b) (6) who will await the arrival of the letter by mail before taking action, in keeping with agency procedures.

Meantime, from the standpoint of a former journalist and a perpetually curious individual, I hope you won't mind if I pose a couple of questions of my own:

What prompted (b) (6) to seek info on the travel costs for these individuals, and nobody else? For example, our Governors, whose overseas and domestic travel often is paid for through the BBG? They are, after

all, the heads of this agency.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

Director of Communications and External Affairs

Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:52 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Lynn:

This is a request for information about the travels costs that were charged to or reimbursed by the Broadcasting Board of Governors for the following Management personnel starting with the calendar year 2010 - present:

Richard M. Lobo, Director of the International Broadcasting Bureau
Jeffrey N. Trimble, IBB Deputy Director
Bruce Sherman, Director, Office of Strategy and Development
Gary Thatcher, Director of the Office of Marketing and External Liaison.

Travel costs include hotel, meals, registration fees, public transportation, private transportation, parking costs, and miscellaneous expenses.

The information I am requesting includes specific travel requests from each of these officials for each individual travel, and travel vouchers submitted by each individual for each individual travel in this period.

Is this information accessible online? Can this information be transmitted by email or only in hard copy.

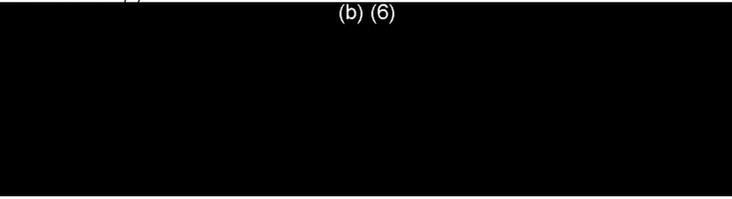
Please know that I am also sending a copy of this request via the US Post Office.

I would greatly appreciate your help with this timely information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area, obscuring the name and any handwritten notes.

=

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 2:49 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Letter from (b) (6)

given who has written this, I think the signer should be Michael Lynton or Dick Lobo...but in all honesty, I actually agree with her on several points. Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
<(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Apr 16, 2012 10:45 am
Subject: RE: Letter from (b) (6)

Thanks, (b) (6) I'm checking in with VOA leadership about progress on a draft response, as discussed when the electronic copy arrived.

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 10:34 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6);
(b) (6)
Subject: Letter from (b) (6)

Dear Governors,

The attached letter from (b) (6) just arrived to our office this morning.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 3:00 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: sexual harassment statement

(b) (6)

Where does this matter stand in terms of April 20 BBG consideration. Governance looked at length at it on March 7. I would like to see the revised draft. Why is it not on for April 20 or is it and I missed it. Since I took the lead in making most of the proposed changes, I feel I should be kept current on progress on this.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 6:44 PM

To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: April 19-20 meeting

However, on labor it looks bad even with automatic extensions if there is no agreement. I would like to know from you or Dick who is negotiating on behalf of management, when the last session was held and when the next one is planned. Also what are the issues?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/16/2012 4:11:05 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor – Thanks for your email and good to speak with you on the phone just now. The numbers below correspond to the numbering in your email:

1. With my apologies, neither (b) (6) nor I received your handwritten changes to the minutes that you gave to (b) (6) before today. We will incorporate the changes as they relate solely to statements that you made at the March 8 Board meeting and provide an amended set of minutes at the meeting.

2. The agenda of the Governors briefing on Thursday April 19 reflects that the By-law amendments are part of the Governance Committee report. The intention is that you would cover these in the open meeting as part of the Governance Committee report, as per the past practice of the Board. We would be happy to prepare an updated agenda clearly indicating that the Governance Committee report to be given at the open meeting will cover the proposed amendments.

3. I did not know about the existence of a letter re Carlson Travel. The issue is on the agenda during the Governors briefing so, perhaps, you could discuss the letter then.

4. As we discussed, the Governance Committee recommendation was to defer further consideration of the sexual harassment and EEO statements until the next Committee meeting. The Committee report from the March 7 meeting states “The Committee discussed policy statements on equal employment opportunity and sexual harassment and decided to defer further consideration for the next meeting of the Governance Committee.” We will put this item on the agenda of the next Committee meeting and, with luck, it should be on the agenda of the June Board meeting.

5. I must defer to Dick Lobo regarding the status of the union negotiations and believe that he intends to brief the Board on this. The key take-away from my perspective is that the current Negotiated Labor-Management Agreement, which has been in effect since September 22, 2005, continues to be in effect until the parties complete renegotiation. The agreement had an original term of three years, which is automatically renewed for additional one year periods unless either party serves notice of the intent to renegotiate all or part of the agreement. Even when the parties renegotiate, the original agreement is in effect until a new agreement is in place.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2012 4:13 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: April 19-20 meeting

Dear (b) (6)

I have the package for the upcoming BBG meeting.

1-the minutes insofar as they relate to me on the Gallup contract are not fully accurate and I had given the changes to (b) (6) this past week on April 10 for changes as requested. Those changes were not made to the proposed minutes which I received today. I request they be made.

2- The agenda does not show precisely where the proposed by law changes will be voted on..perhaps under governance but the agenda is not precise in listing them. Are the actual changes listed? You will want to bring several copies of the minutes as well as Roberts Rules of Order with you to the official meeting.

3-Where is the draft letter on Carlson Travel? It is hard to have the discussion if (b) (6) draft is not there to consider.

4-why are we not voting on the revised sexual harassment statement which the governance committee on March 7 considered at length for this meeting? Is it there and I did not see it? I would like to see the revised copy from the Governance Committee meeting. I also feel the full Board should vote on it at the April 20 meeting.

5-where is the discussion on the negotiations with the unions especially AFGE and the reasons a new contract has not been agreed to? What are the reasons for the impasse? When are the next meetings planned? when was the last meeting between management and (b) (6) of AFGE? Who participated in that meeting?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 6:53 PM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Scheduling Governance Committee Meeting - May 24

I have made plans to be there in person. It will be an important meeting. The issue of sexual harassment will be discussed along with consolidation plus any other matters deemed relevant.

I understand there will be a RFE audit committee meeting the same day. I assume that will be in the afternoon but do not know for certain.

I am glad 2.5 hours is being allowed.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/16/2012 5:43:25 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Committee members,

At Governor Mulhaupt's request, please let me know if you are available for a meeting of the Governance Committee on May 24, from 9 am to 11:30 am EST. If so, please advise whether you can participate in person or by phone.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2012 4:13 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: April 19-20 meeting

Dear (b) (6)

I have the package for the upcoming BBG meeting.

1-the minutes insofar as they relate to me on the Gallup contract are not fully accurate and I had given the changes to (b) (6) this past week on April 10 for changes as requested. Those changes were not made to the proposed minutes which I received today. I request they be made.

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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2012 4:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: FW: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Lynne and (b) (6)

I am forwarding to you an e mail I received from (b) (6) on what she considers to be weaknesses in the FOIA requests procedure by BBG. I feel she raises valid points.

I do not take sides on why she seeks the information she seeks but I do firmly support BBG having a process in place which expedites FOIA requests consistent with President Obama's 2009 executive order for openness. The President was on point when he issued this order early in his administration. What worries me is that not all agencies are adhering to the spirit as well as the letter of it.

We have discussed this previously. You have turned it over to (b) (6). He is professional young man but I wonder if you have indicated to him the importance of securing quick responses. Have you had the system checked on packages Fed ex'd to BBG. Does he realize he has backing at the highest levels to act quickly?

I formally request the deputy general consul office to respond directly to the e mail (b) (6) sent me and copy me on it. Do we need to have a discussion on this at the April 20 BBG Board meeting?

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 4/14/2012 10:03:20 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: FW: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Ambassador Ashe:

I'd like to share with you some recent emails detailing the difficulty I've experienced filing a FOIA request at the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

On Thursday, I sent an email Freedom of Information letter to the Broadcasting Board of Governors. In order to comply with the BBG's rules, I sent a hard copy to them via Fed-Ex.

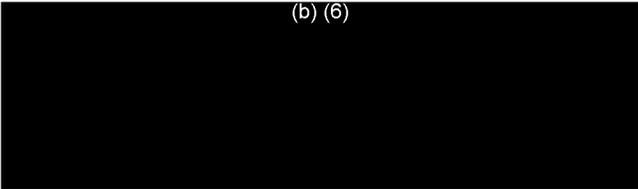
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On this end, I'll follow up with Fed Ex to see what happened to the letter. It's bewildering that an organization funded to provide global communication doesn't have a simple streamline method of receiving or transmitting written communications ... this month they have no procedure in place to receive a package from Fed Ex, and last month their legal department had no procedure in place to attach a document to an email.

Thank you for any help you may be able to provide.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)



From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses
Date: Sat, 14 Apr 2012 02:30:18 +0000

Ah, so that explains why Fed-Ex phoned this morning to ask for a room number. We provided explicit instructions for ease of delivery -- by what route to enter the Cohen Building, in addition to which room, along with two phone contacts -- but the package didn't reach this office.

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Weird. Chalk it up to Friday the 13th?

Anyway, if you have the tracking number we can work on this matter once more on Monday.

In the meantime, have a good weekend. I hope the weather there is as gorgeous as it's going to be here!

Best,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 10:16:46 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Lynne:

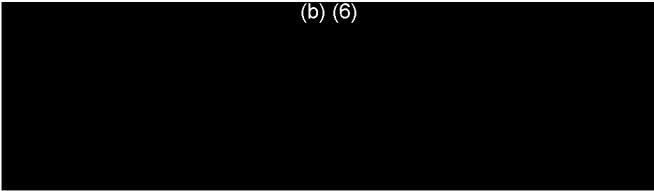
Thanks for your note. Seems like your working late!

My Fed-Ex letter to you should have arrived at the BBG today ... will hunt around for the receipt to be sure it was delivered.

There may come a time when we will be interested in requesting travel cost information about the BBG Governors, but for the time being, this current FOIA request is sufficient.

Best,

(b) (6)



From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses
Date: Sat, 14 Apr 2012 00:44:12 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

Apologies for the slightly delayed reply; I needed to check on a couple of things on Thursday and today – which then, like most Fridays, went by in a whoosh of trying to wrap up projects before the weekend.

Thanks for getting in touch with me on this matter and for cc-ing the BBG's FOIA point man, Andrew, who will await the arrival of the letter by mail before taking action, in keeping with agency procedures.

Meantime, from the standpoint of a former journalist and a perpetually curious individual, I hope you won't mind if I pose a couple of questions of my own:

What prompted (b) (6) to seek info on the travel costs for these individuals, and nobody else? For example, our Governors, whose overseas and domestic travel often is paid for through the BBG? They are, after all, the heads of this agency.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

Director of Communications and External Affairs

Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:52 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: FOIA Request re: Travel Expenses

Dear Lynn:

This is a request for information about the travels costs that were charged to or reimbursed by the Broadcasting Board of Governors for the following Management personnel starting with the calendar year 2010 - present:

Richard M. Lobo, Director of the International Broadcasting Bureau
Jeffrey N. Trimble, IBB Deputy Director
Bruce Sherman, Director, Office of Strategy and Development
Gary Thatcher, Director of the Office of Marketing and External Liaison.

Travel costs include hotel, meals, registration fees, public transportation, private transportation, parking costs, and miscellaneous expenses.

The information I am requesting includes specific travel requests from each of these officials for each individual travel, and travel vouchers submitted by each individual for each individual travel in this period.

Is this information accessible online? Can this information be transmitted by email or only in hard copy.

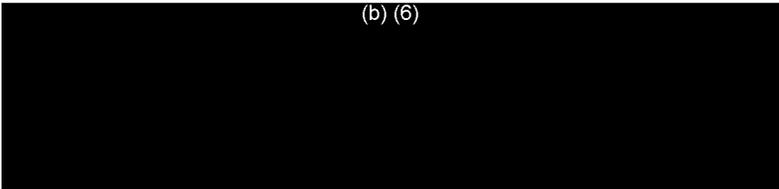
Please know that I am also sending a copy of this request via the US Post Office.

I would greatly appreciate your help with this timely information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)



=

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 7:23 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Fw: View from the East

If you will send me the January memo again, I will give you a response. Please send. I regret that my failure to respond was taken as full agreement.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/13/2012 12:44:22 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Perhaps my email wasn't clear. I know that my email yesterday said that I have reason to believe that the situation in most, if not all, of our other bureaus is equally bad. That did not mean that "the situation is bad, but I don't intend to do anything about it". The list of needs and priorities to which I referred included ALL of our bureaus, not just the ones I have visited thus far. Indeed, as I explained, we are moving to replace all of our computers in Bishkek, although I have not yet visited there (I am planning a visit there and to some other Central Asian bureaus during the summer). Again, if you had the impression that I am only concerned about the bureaus I have visited, then that is a failure of explication, not intent.

As to your point about Iran, we do not have a bureau there and we never have. I have, however, made it clear internally, ad nauseum, that Iran, together with Af/Pak and Russia are our three most important priorities. We do not intend to give Af/Pak and Iran (or any other of our broadcast territories) to VOA, or to anyone else.

As to why I chose to visit these particular bureaus first, the rationale for that was set forth in my email to the Board of January 16 to which I referred at least twice in yesterday's email. In that regard, I point out that I received no comments about that earlier email from you or any other Board member at any time since January 16.

As I am sure you recall, the January email set forth in some detail my plans about where I wanted to take the company based upon my observations over the first six months of my tenure. Yesterday's email was a bit of an update of the earlier email, but focused on bureaus.

As to your concern about which countries are the farthest east, let me assure you that I actually am pretty good at geography. I know well the relative locations of Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Georgia and Armenia. The concept of looking East was set forth in my January 16 email and was a reference to the fact that my predecessor put more emphasis and resources into our image in Washington than I intend. I said that, given our limited resources, I believe we must put as much of our resources into our broadcast region as we can. In this regard I would note that all of the countries in question are east of Washington (as well as Prague).

I trust you will find this note responsive to the points raised in your email.

(b) (6)

Sent from Lotus Traveler

Vhashe@aol.com --- Re: Fw: View from the East ---

From: Vhashe@aol.com
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Date: Fri, Apr 13, 2012 4:02 AM

Subject Re: Fw: View from the East

Where is the emphasis on Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan?. Armenia and Georgia are not nearly as important as these three nations? Is RFE simply giving these three nations to VOA and walking away under this plan? If so, tell us.

You talk of going East but Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan are further east than Armenia and Georgia. Just what is (b) (6) definition of east and west here?

The truth is that RFE took a huge cut in 1996 and has never recovered. It would appear that RFE tries to do too much in too many places with too little. Russia is important but the new Putin may well figure out a way to block RFE from growth in Russia.

I worry that (b) (6) has decided not to visit other nations where RFE operates and has limited his visits to what he has seen. What other trips to areas served by RFE are planned by (b) (6) if any? His concern for the plight of employees in Moscow and safety at the Baku office are well taken. However, what has moved Georgia and Armenia to the forefront when other nations in the same 'east' neighborhood are far more critical to US interests.

I look forward to a response and discussion on this. Choices must be made and they need to add up in terms of American interests.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/12/2012 12:23:46 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

(b) (6) asked that I resend his message below, which bounced back the last time.

Regards,

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded by (b) (6) on 04/12/2012 06:21 PM -----

(b) (6)

04/12/2012 06:00 PM

To

(b) (6)

cc

Subject

Fw: View from the East

----- Forwarded by (b) (6) on 04/12/2012 06:00 PM -----

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6), (b) (6), vhashe@yahoo.com,
(b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (6)
Date: 04/12/2012 04:38 PM
Subject: View from the East

<FON-Your data has been truncated. =

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 7:50 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Labor issues

I feel there should be a discussion of the failure to have a contract with AFGE at the Miami Board meeting.

We need to know what the issues are which separate the two sides. Who handles this for management now? When was the last negotiation and when is the next one scheduled.

I plan to ask these questions and did not want to surprise you with them. It relates to bad morale.

Dick, let me commend you again for your meetings contractors. The point you told me about a contractor who was given a termination notice and then it was rescinded needs to be shared with the Board. We also need to know how such a thing could happen. It creates terrible rumors and talk of retaliation. I know it worries you or you would not have told me of it.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 7:55 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Murrow station

Dick

Just want to tell you how pleased I am with the way the forma re dedication of the Edward Murrow facility is moving. I got an excellent briefing from Tish and Lynne Thursday. (b) (6) coming from Vermont at his own expense is a wonderful development and will give added significance to the occasion. I hope the media outreach stresses his participation. Glad you will be there. That sends a strong signal.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 2:29 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6)
(b) (6), (b) (6), (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: REMINDER: Cuba policy briefing

I will not be there in person but am happy to call in. Victor

In a message dated 4/13/2012 2:27:13 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

For those who are planning to attend this briefing: Please let me know today by COB, and if you don't have a State Department-issued ID badge, kindly provide your date of birth, driver's license number, and state/district where the license was issued.

For those who are unable to attend, but would like to phone in: We're working on getting an answer.

For all others: We can plan a catch-up session in Miami as needed.

Best,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil

Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:19 PM

To: 'Vhashe@aol.com'; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: RE: Cuba policy briefing

I'll ask on behalf of all whether call-ins can be done.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:18 PM

To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Cuba policy briefing

can I call in? I am in Tennessee and cannot travel to DC that day but certainly interested.

let me know a number if I can call in. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/12/2012 12:09:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

We have an offer from the State Department for a briefing on U.S.-Cuba policy and related communications matters ahead of the meeting in Miami. Given the quick turn-around and the briefers involved, there wasn't a lot of flexibility in terms of timing. The meeting takes place next Monday, April 16, at 3.

Senior BBG staff will be on hand; those Governors who are unable to attend – particularly due to travel issues/costs-- can receive a recap afterward at your convenience, either by phone or in person in Miami.

There will also likely be participation from the office of U/S Sonenshine.

Please let me know if you can attend. I'd like to give my former colleagues at State a head-count by tomorrow COB.

And kindly keep this information confidential; involve schedulers or any others only as needed.

Many thanks,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 5:19 PM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

I am stunned by reading this draft report on Strategy and Budget. Whoever wrote it must have attended a different meeting than I did. We clearly restored all China funding including Tibet. Why is this not stated here? Other Governors agreed that Laos funding should be restored too. It was not just me.

There is no name on this. Who wrote this? No name is listed.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/13/2012 4:49:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Committee members:

Please find attached a draft Strategy and Budget Committee report from the April 10 meeting.

We propose to include the draft Committee report in the briefing book for the April Board meeting.

Please let us know if you have any comments or questions.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 5:23 PM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

After further review, I wish to be recorded in the section on re-affirming one organization and many brands as abstaining. The minutes should reflect that. I feel the views of the entity heads merit more consideration and thoughtful discussion.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/13/2012 4:49:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

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We propose to include the draft Committee report in the briefing book for the April Board meeting.

Please let us know if you have any comments or questions.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 8:42 PM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

My recollection is that all of us agreed to restore China funding...including Tibetan. The minutes do not reflect that.

Victor

In a message dated 4/13/2012 6:15:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor -- We will note your abstention on "one organization, many brands" as you have requested.

I prepared an initial draft of the report which was circulated for comments to IBB staff who attended the meeting. You may recall that, after the discussion of each agenda item at the meeting, I raised my hand and summarized what I understood to be the recommendations of the Committee. I then prepared the draft based on the concurrence of the Governors and circulated it for comment to the other IBB staff members who attended the meeting.

With respect to China, the agreement was to create a working group to develop a "holistic plan" for broadcasting to China (including Tibet and Cantonese), which is reflected in the draft report.

This does not foreclose any outcome, including the possibility of restoring funding, once the requested plan is reviewed by the Committee and the Board. If you wish, we can note your view that China funding should be fully restored.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 5:18:31 PM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

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Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 8:47 PM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

well, let the record reflect that Enders and I have very different memories of the same meeting which we both attended. So the Board will have to decide which way the Board wishes to go.

failure to restore Tibetan language and the China cuts will only result in Congress doing it for us. I prefer we do it but in either case it will happen as congress will override any failure of the Board to restore.

Victor ashe

In a message dated 4/13/2012 6:58:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I beg to differ. This is exactly the meeting I co-chaired. We did not vote to restore all funding to China/Tibet.

Rather, we instructed the subcommittee we formed at the time (Sherman, (b) (6) added later) to provide a draft plan for a holistic approach to China/Tibet and to proceed as if we had made no cuts. The purpose of this approach was to give this group free rein to come up with the best possible solution. If their recommendation appeals to the entire board, and if it includes restoring cuts that have already been voted by the board, then by a favorable vote of the entire board those cuts may be restored. The S&B committee has no such power on its own. We only recommend to the whole board.

In all respects, including noting Victor's opinion on Laos broadcast issues, this is an excellent summary of what actually took place at the meeting, exactly, as far as I can tell, as (b) (6) read our recommendations back to us after each issue was discussed. My compliments to whomever compiled the report.

sew/

From: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Date: Fri, 13 Apr 2012 17:18:31 -0400 (EDT)

To: (b) (6) "Wimbush S. Enders" <(b) (6)> Michael Meehan

<(b) (6)> Michael Lynton <(b) (6)> Dennis Mulhaupt

<(b) (6)>

Cc: Dick Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)> (b) (6)

Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)> (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

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Please let us know if you have any comments or questions.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 8:54 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: cheaper fares

look forward to seeing it...can you send it to me now so I can review it and think about it???Victor

In a message dated 4/13/2012 7:38:24 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, We have a draft letter that Dick will bring to Miami to discuss with you. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:52 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: cheaper fares

I am happy to send my own letter as one Governor...which is not subject to review by anyone. We need to show we can save money after the GSA scandal. Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 7:19:13 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, Yes we are looking into options for cheaper fares for the Prague trip and will provide information about our options and recommendations. Also looking into requirements for drafting the letter and will provide options to the S&B Committee. Of course I will provide the draft letter to you for review.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:25 PM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: cheaper fares

Dick Lobo tells me that there may be room to purchase less expensive international tickets than the \$3600 for Prague. Please look into this and see what can be done.

also, (b) (6) you said you would write OMB acting director explaining the contract requirement on trael which appear to indicate higher fares...I would like to see this letter and commend you for going that way.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 9:01 PM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

I was also clear in my view that we should have more than one recommendation on China from this committee...we needed several options. I am firmly convinced that full restoration is needed and is what Congress wants. We have engaged in enough non productive battles with Congress. Furthermore given what is occurring in Tibet we cannot and should not be cutting back.

Enders and I differ on the writing of the report as we have very different recollections on what transpired.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/13/2012 6:58:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

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We propose to include the draft Committee report in the briefing book for the April Board meeting.

Please let us know if you have any comments or questions.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 9:29 PM

To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Response to Letter

Dick,

I have given lots of thought to your response. First, it would have been helpful to have had the original letter being answered attached as well. Second, the response to the March 1 letter is 42 days later which seems too long a delay. Third, since the letter was addressed to Governor Lynton, it might have been a good idea to state in the response that he asked you as IBB Director to respond (which I assume is what occurred). Fourth, the Board was not consulted on the response. Fifth, as a former Mayor, I have experience over 16 years working city employees, unions and professional associations.

Sixth, I concur the Union should have provided actual examples in the letter. Seventh, the letter should have included steps you personally have taken to address contractor issues including several meetings as well as the governance committee on March 9. Eighth, contractor employees have often worked over 20 years each at BBG. They receive no or few benefits. They feel vulnerable. The case you cited to me of a contractor within the past few weeks being sent a termination notice which was subsequently rescinded was most distressing. In fact you shared it with me because you yourself were upset over it.

Ninth, your statement on Greenville can only trigger further concerns that there is an effort to close the Murrow facility. True the 2011 budget suggested doing this but Congress blocked it. It was not because BBG asked for money to halt the closing. BBG has since figured out this is a non starter and Murrow will stay open for some years to come. Tenth, your statement on short wave is not shared by all and certainly not by me. I feel shortwave has a longer future than conveyed in your letter. Eleventh, I think replacing retirees at Murrow in Greenville with contract employees is part of a game plan to close down the facility which this Board has NOT voted to do. These words in this letter sends the

wrong signal to Congress which can see between the lines.

Twelfth, if AFGE is asking for information, we should give it to them and not be legalistic about it. There should be compelling reasons not to do it if that is what is done.

Dick, BBG continues to get low marks on poor morale. The governance committee is working to change that. I personally feel that whoever drafted this letter for you to sign should have consulted with the governance committee. Obviously, BBG had it for 42 days so there was time. I think we could have improved it and avoided some the mistakes this letter contains in my view. Dick, I wish parts of this letter had been changed before it went out.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/13/2012 5:48:13 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

(b) (6)

Please see the attachment for my response to your March 1, 2012 letter.

Regards,
Dick

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 10:26 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: cheaper fares

I would like to see the draft before then so I can think it over...Dick, can you send it to me??

Victor

In a message dated 4/13/2012 7:38:24 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, We have a draft letter that Dick will bring to Miami to discuss with you. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:52 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: cheaper fares

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we can save money after the GSA scandal. Victor

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Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:25 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: cheaper fares

Dick Lobo tells me that there may be room to purchase less expensive international tickets than the \$3600 for Prague. Please look into this and see what can be done.

also, maryjean, you said you would write OMB acting director explaining the contract requirement on travel which appear to indicate higher fares...I would like to see this letter and commend you for going that way.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 7:19 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I do want a full report as to what happened to the (b) (6) letter as well as policies in general...not so much because of her but because I would like to know how a letter addressed to BBG only is handled. I also want to know if BBG ever got her letter addressed to BBG. This is something I know Lynne and Tish will want to be up to speed on as well.

I am the only Governor to have ever visited the mail room in the basement of Cohen Bldg.

Jeff. you are the first responder who seems to know something about how this is handled.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 10:29:34 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

There are well-established procedures for receiving, recording and distributing incoming mail to BBG. The IBB has a fully functioning Secretariat. We can provide a full report on these procedures and practices if you wish.

Security scanning procedures implemented across the federal government after the anthrax attacks often delay receipt of mail sent by standard post.

Rgds
Jeff

On Apr 11, 2012, at 8:41 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

this is ridiculous that we do not know how mail addressed to BBG and no one is handled...I am sure there is mail weekly with only that on it. Someone at top level should know the answer. Sorry if someone is offended.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:54:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

And (b) (6) has been on leave since April 2. I should imagine that another member of the support staff is handling incoming mail in her stead. We should look into that tomorrow.

Lynne

From: Letitia King
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:52 PM
To: Lynne Weil; vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

In my experience, such snail mail correspondence has been scanned and transmitted via email by (b) (6) to the Board. I believe there was a letter from Rohrbacher distributed that way not long ago.

Regards,
Tish

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:46:56 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Dear Victor,

I'd be happy to help, but I don't know how the mail is handled in this agency.

Am looping back in the people who've worked here for a while and who might have missed the earlier message. There have been issues with the e-mail system on and off today.

And if your source does offer a copy of the letter that you can share, we'll be happy to coordinate a response right away.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

again what happens to mail at Cohen Bldg only addressed to BBG..who gets it? some human must see it.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:09:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Victor – we'd appreciate seeing it.

You have an extraordinary source.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:30 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

My source who has not shared the letter says it was dated April 4 on her personal stationery. It was sent to Broadcasting Board of Governors at Cohen Bldg...no further address in terms of a name. What happens to mail sent in general to BBG but not to the chair, a specific Governor or IBB Director? Who gets it and what happens?

If I get a copy, I will forward it to you.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 5:23:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

To our knowledge, the BBG Office of Public Affairs has received no communication from (b) (6) concerning the BBG.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:17 PM

To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: (b) (6)

I have been told that (b) (6) has written a letter to BBG on the Tibetan and Mandarin language cutbacks.

I have not seen it. Does anyone know about this and who has it? When will it be distributed to Board members?

as a general procedure, when a letter comes in to BBG, are they then sent to BBG Board members if address to BBG in general? At what point do they get forwarded?

As one Member only, I want to see them all as quickly as they arrive.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 11:29 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

Jeff...this is fine...all good to know...however, I still want to know when this specific letter is received and also I want to know what happens to mail addressed only to BBG which survives the security checks ...who gets it and who opens it and responds to it and who decides whether to share it with Governors. That is is separate from security. Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
To: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; Letitia King <lking@bbg.gov>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; SonenshineTD <(b) (6)>
Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>

Sent: Thu, Apr 12, 2012 7:59 am
Subject: RE: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

Governors, there are well-established and standard practices, consistent with those at other Federal agencies, for handling mail at BBG. Governor Meehan is correct that delivery of hard copy mail correspondence is delayed due to

security screening procedures that are conducted at another facility.
We will be happy to provide a report to the Governors about procedures for handling mail.

Rgds
Jeff

From: Michael Meehan [mailto:(b) (6)] <mailto:(b) (6)>]

Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 7:54 AM

To: vhashe@aol.com

Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6); Bruce
(b) (6)

Sherman

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

I left government 4 years ago. Since 9 11 the hard copy of mail takes 3 plus weeks post irradiation to land at any government office

No one wants fast Government response than those of us on the board But we are still on the path of still inside the margin of error.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 11, 2012, at 9:30 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

all excellent points from Lynne...however, we should all know the process by which mail addressed to BBG only is handled once it reaches the Cohen Bldg as apparently we do not know.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 9:18:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Dana.

The letter has been converted here to Adobe format, which should work on most systems.

I recommend that any response to (b) (6) be copied to (b) (6) who has been running the foundation named for her late father, and who sent the letter to (b) (6) by e-mail.

Suggestion: That VOA begin drafting something in coordination with the agency's Office of Strategy and Development, as well as that of the CFO, to be approved as usual after that. As Dana noted, under the circumstances the turnaround time won't be inordinate.

Looping in Bruce and (b) (6) here, along with the chiefs of staff at VOA and the IBB.

I further suggest that as this effort gets under way the Governors not be subjected to process-related messages, but that they be copied on the final version per normal procedures.

Have a good night, all.

Lynne

From: Dana Perino [mailto:(b) (6)]

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:08 PM

To: vhashe@aol.com

Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

i just tried to open the letter - it comes up just as characters - so i'll read it when i can. And though i am having to do this from nyc and with a different working situation than i had before, i don't see why there would need to be anything directed toward Lynne when there could be a perfectly reasonable explanation for where the letter went or an unintentional oversight...it has only been 7 days, 1 of which was an observed holiday for many, 2 of which were weekend days. From what I can tell, everyone's doing more with less and doing it pretty darn well.

On Apr 11, 2012, at 8:49 PM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

(b) (6), head of one of the unions, sent the (b) (6) letter to me two hours ago which I am forwarding. Hopefully, all can access the letter. Clearly, it was addressed to Broadcasting Board of Governors and no one else (or an individual) and no one at top management has a clue where the letter dated April 4 is within the Cohen bldg or even if it got there. I do not know how (b) (6) had the letter as my original source on this was not him.

It seems to me that top management needs to know how mail addressed to BBG only is handled and someone needs to read it, and share with Governors items like this from significant and distinguished private citizens. Governors need to know how mail so addressed is handles. (b) (6) was more than (b) (6) She was his right hand and worked unpaid in his office every day. She knows foreign policy.

Lynne is new on the job but this will be a learning experience for all of us.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/11/2012 6:33:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

Victor:

Just in case this letter was not shared with the Board members.

(b) (6)

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

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)> <http://mc/compose?>
to: (b) (6) >

Date: Tue, Apr 10, 2012 at 10:18 AM

Here you go.

All the best,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

President

(b) (6)

--

< (b) (6) >

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 11:38 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

Happy to wait...but your email correctly senses my true interest here. Was not aware (b) (6) is involved nor (b) (6). This is news for me. However, speaking only for myself, I want to see copies of all letters sent to BBG only which relates to policy or Governors unless you tell me this is too heavy a volume to be practical. This particular issue is solved due to the fame of (b) (6). It might not happen for a lesser know correspondent but hwo has relevant and valid concerns. Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>; Letitia King <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Apr 12, 2012 8:04 am
Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Victor, (b) (6) oversees the mail operation and (b) (6) is most familiar with procedures and practices that ensure that correspondence reaches the Governors. (b) (6) were not on the email trail yesterday in which you were asking about the (b) (6) letter. (b) (6) returns today from vacation and we can provide a report on this matter. This is an extremely busy time, with follow-up to this week's Committee meeting and preparation for next week's Board meetings, so we will appreciate your patience as we juggle the many demands on staff.
Rgds
Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com <mailto:Vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 7:19 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I do want a full report as to what happened to the (b) (6) letter as well as policies in general...not so much because of her but because I would like to know how a letter addressed to BBG only is handled. I also want to know if BBG ever got her letter addressed to BBG. This is something I know Lynne and Tish will want to be up to speed on as well.

I am the only Governor to have ever visited the mail room in the basement of Cohen Bldg.

Jeff. you are the first responder who seems to know something about how this is handled.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 10:29:34 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

There are well-established procedures for receiving, recording and distributing incoming mail to BBG. The IBB has a fully functioning Secretariat. We can provide a full report on these procedures and practices if you wish.

Security scanning procedures implemented across the federal government after the anthrax attacks often delay receipt of mail sent by standard post.

Rgds

Jeff

On Apr 11, 2012, at 8:41 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

this is ridiculous that we do not know how mail addressed to BBG and no one is handled...I am sure there is mail weekly with only that on it. Someone at top level should know the answer. Sorry if someone is offended.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:54:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

And (b) (6) has been on leave since April 2. I should imagine that another member of the support staff is handling incoming mail in her stead. We should look into that tomorrow.

Lynne

From: Letitia King
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:52 PM
To: Lynne Weil; vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

In my experience, such snail mail correspondence has been scanned and transmitted via email by (b) (6) to the Board. I believe there was a letter from Rohrbacher distributed that way not long ago.

Regards,

Tish

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:46:56 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: RE: (b) (6)
Dear Victor,

I'd be happy to help, but I don't know how the mail is handled in this agency.

Am looping back in the people who've worked here for a while and who might have missed the earlier message. There have been issues with the e-mail system on and off today.

And if your source does offer a copy of the letter that you can share, we'll be happy to coordinate a response right away.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

again what happens to mail at Cohen Bldg only addressed to BBG..who gets it? some human must see it.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:09:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Victor – we'd appreciate seeing it.

You have an extraordinary source.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:30 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

My source who has not shared the letter says it was dated April 4 on her personal stationery. It was sent to Broadcasting Board of Governors at Cohen Bldg...no further address in terms of a name. What happens to mail sent in general to BBG but not to the chair, a specific Governor or IBB Director? Who gets it and what happens?

If I get a copy, I will forward it to you.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 5:23:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

(b) (6), To our knowledge, the BBG Office of Public Affairs has received no communication from (b) (6), concerning the BBG.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: (b) (6)

I have been told that (b) (6), has written a

letter to BBG on the Tibetan and Mandarin language cutbacks.

I have not seen it. Does anyone know about this and who has it? When will it be distributed to Board members?

as a general procedure, when a letter comes in to BBG, are they then sent to BBG Board members if address to BBG in general? At what point do they get forwarded?

As one Member only, I want to see them all as quickly as they arrive.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 11:53 AM

To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Cc: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I consider this a serious issue. Having good relations with employees is important. That is why the governance committee has held hearings on this which you have attended. Yes, I have heard complaints. As I stated, I am not taking sides but in the interests of openness these matters need to be aired and discussed. If that makes you uncomfortable I regret it but it goes with the job.

The failure to have a contract with AFGE bothers me. The Board was not told this. This is not the first time either. I had to learn it. BBG needs to improve morale and having a working contract is part of it.

BBG needs to be told what is happening here. (b) (6) I appreciate what you do but I do not always agree with your approach.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

<(b) (6)>

Cc: Bruce Sherman

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Apr 12, 2012 11:35 am

Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Governor Ashe:

In regard to your first issue, I want to state for the record that I am not "at odds" with anyone. Unfortunately, difficult decisions sometimes must be made. I did my job and I did it properly. I had a personal meeting with (b) (6) to discuss this case, and, yes, he disagreed with the outcome – that is to be expected given the fact that he is a union representative. The meeting was pleasant, or as pleasant as any meeting with (b) (6) can be.

Given these facts, I cannot understand why you would send a message to my entire supervisory chain implying that the Office of Human Resources does not work well with the Department of State. In fact, this office has an excellent professional and collaborative relationship with State and has had for many years. This case involved immigration laws over which this agency has no jurisdiction, and I have no intention of using my federal position to influence State to ignore immigration laws.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com <mailto:Vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:52 PM

To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Fwd: (b) (6)

Here is an employee issue from this week where (b) (6) president of the AFGE union voices really strong views on how (b) (6) and HR handled this issue. I am not taking sides on the issue but I do feel it raises significant questions in light of our March 9 governance committee meeting and the good will created there from just listening. (b) (6) are clearly at odds here. It is not a good situation. BBG does not seem to work well with State here either.

As mayor of Knoxville, I tried to work with employees. I maintained strong communications with unions and individual employees. Dick Lobo has reached out to contractors. However, he learned in one meeting a contractor who had appeared before us was sent a termination notice shortly thereafter followed shortly thereafter by a new notice saying it was all a mistake. While he has NOT been fired there are those who wonder if this was just an error or intended to have a chilling impact by seeming to terminate but then not doing it. Someone seems to not have gotten the Board message that we want to work to solve these issues. These 'mistakes' cause us lasting damage. Under Dennis Mulhaupt's leadership the governance committee is listening. Lobo is holding more contractor meetings even at 0700. We must not allow other incidents to undercut top level actions.

It also bothers me that BBG does not have a new contract with AFGE. Why is this? What are the hurdles to overcome? If morale is to improve we must do better. I am told more meetings are not even scheduled. I worry that the second level folks in a few cases are not getting the message from Lobo and the Board as evidenced by this e mail and the contractor firing followed by rescinding the termination. There is suspicion that this is designed to create an impasse and send it arbitration.

We have lots to discuss in Miami.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: 4/7/2012 10:00:57 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Subj: (b) (6)

Victor:

(b) (6) contacted me and wanted to respond regarding putting the issue on our website. He didn't know that we had already discussed this but yes we will address this on our website. I have discussed it with (b) (6) because I didn't want to do it without her knowledge and permission. She has given her permission so we will do it.

(b) (6) description of our meeting with (b) (6) is accurate. One thing that shocked me (although I should be used to this by now) was her complete lack of concern or empathy for (b) (6) plight. I told her that the problem I had with this whole process was that this individual was told that her Visa had expired and she would have to leave the country by March 14th or face deportation and the possibility of never being able to enter the U.S. again. (b) (6) asked her what would have happened if she had left the country by March 14th - what if the Agency decided that she should not have been fired. (b) (6) said that if she left there would be no reconsideration of her removal because the Agency would not agree to bring her back.

I told her that the process put her in a catch 22 then. She responded that she knew the conditions when she was hired - she knew what she was getting into. She then said that she was not a good employee anyway because they had Program Review go through her reports and she was mediocre at best. I then told her that Program Review directly contradicted what her two former Service Chiefs and her direct supervisor stated - in writing no less. She dismissed what they said claiming that the first Service Chief (the one who hired her) was only there for a short time so her statement didn't count. The other one was acting only for a few months and she just completely discredited her direct supervisor. Keep in mind the Service Chief who wanted her out had only been in the position since this past November and had only just returned after leaving the Agency to work for some firm in Pakistan.

The whole thing stinks.

(b)
(6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:18 PM

To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Cuba policy briefing

can I call in? I am in Tennessee and cannot travel to DC that day but certainly interested.

let me know a number if I can call in. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/12/2012 12:09:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

We have an offer from the State Department for a briefing on U.S.-Cuba policy and related communications matters ahead of the meeting in Miami. Given the quick turn-around and the briefers involved, there wasn't a lot of flexibility in terms of timing. The meeting takes place next Monday, April 16, at 3.

Senior BBG staff will be on hand; those Governors who are unable to attend – particularly due to travel issues/costs-- can receive a recap afterward at your convenience, either by phone or in person in Miami.

There will also likely be participation from the office of U/S Sonenshine.

Please let me know if you can attend. I'd like to give my former colleagues at State a head-count by tomorrow COB.

And kindly keep this information confidential; involve schedulers or any others only as needed.

Many thanks,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 10:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Fw: View from the East

Where is the emphasis on Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan?. Armenia and Georgia are not nearly as important as these three nations? Is RFE simply giving these three nations to VOA and walking away under this plan? If so, tell us.

You talk of going East but Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan are further east than Armenia and Georgia. Just what is (b) (6) definition of east and west here?

The truth is that RFE took a huge cut in 1996 and has never recovered. It would appear that RFE tries to do too much in too many places with too little. Russia is important but the new Putin may well figure out a way to block RFE from growth in Russia.

I worry that (b) (6) has decided not to visit other nations where RFE operates and has limited his visits to what he has seen. What other trips to areas served by RFE are planned by (b) (6) if any? His concern for the plight of employees in Moscow and safety at the Baku office are well taken. However, what has moved Georgia and Armenia to the forefront when other nations in the same 'east' neighborhood are far more critical to US interests.

I look forward to a response and discussion on this. Choices must be made and they need to add up in terms of American interests.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/12/2012 12:23:46 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

Steve asked that I resend his message below, which bounced back the last time.

Regards,

Beth Portale

----- Forwarded by (b) (6) on 04/12/2012 06:21 PM -----

(b) (6)

04/12/2012 06:00 PM

To

(b) (6)

cc

Subject

Fw: View from the East

----- Forwarded by (b) (6) on 04/12/2012 06:00 PM -----

From:

(b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

vhashe@yahoo.com, (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Date: 04/12/2012 04:38 PM

Subject: View from the East

All: In my email to you of January 16, 2012 I told you that I believe that when our limited resources force us to choose between looking east or looking west, we must look east toward our region. To fulfill our mission of providing first class independent news and information to our audiences we must have a strong on the ground presence in our target countries wherever possible. This means we must have fundamentally sound bureaus. Our personnel in the bureaus must be smart, energetic, fearless and creative. Our people must be treated fairly in terms of compensation, benefits and working conditions. Our facilities must be safe, efficient and well located. Our equipment must be up to current industry standards, well maintained and in sufficient quantities to provide our editorial and production staff with the tools they need to do their jobs well and fast. I have recently returned to Prague from visits to our Moscow, Baku, Tbilisi and Yerevan bureaus and I regret to inform you that, with the exception of the personal qualities of our staff, we fail to meet any of these requirements.

I would welcome the opportunity to talk with you about this situation in-depth in a face to face meeting at some point during our time in Miami next week, but here are a few things you should know before hand:

1.) It's not a close case, but it is an urgent one; The situation is critical in one way or another in all four of these bureaus (and I have reason to believe that I will find similarly dire conditions in most, if not all, of our other bureaus); 2.) I am concerned about labor law issues; 3.) I am concerned about the health and safety of our people; 4.) I am concerned about losing our best people to competitors and other non-competitive job opportunities; 5.) I am concerned about our ability to compete; and 6.) I am concerned about our image, reputation and brand.

We are already well into the process of correcting this problem. As I noted in my January 16 email, I made a series of decisions with respect to the current year budget to cut funds form certain areas so that we could redeploy

those funds to more important or urgent needs. I have set aside about \$1 million through this process. This is one year money, so, for the most part, it has to be spent on capital. We have sent a team to the bureaus in most urgent need and are prioritizing our equipment and facilities needs in those locations. We have begun to spend a little of the money on discrete, small projects, but we intend to start spending the balance as soon as we are comfortable that we have the right priorities.

We will need new, or additional, bureau space in Moscow, Tbilisi and Yerevan. The moves in Tbilisi and Yerevan are due to safety concerns and in Moscow because we are likely moving more resources there, and, more importantly, because we may already be in violation of the local code with respect to the number of square meters required for each employee. In Moscow and Yerevan space has been identified and we are beginning to engage with the landlords.

There are many issues that are best discussed offline and the cost of this is not yet pinned down, but I can explain this in Miami.

Below please find a link to a slide show of pictures that we assembled that graphically illustrates the points in this memo. It is only 2 minutes and 15 seconds and I urge you to look at it.

Last week, Roza Otunbaeva, the former President of Kyrgyzstan, was in our Bishkek bureau to answer questions from our web site readers. She wanted to read questions first herself in our office. After trying several of our computers, including that of our bureau chief, she said: "Please tell your managers that we don't use such old computers even in our poor Kyrgyzstan. We use better, newer computers." As I said, I am concerned about our image, brand and reputation, as well as our ability to do our work. Today, I authorized the expenditure of \$36,300 for 33 new computers in our Bishkek bureau.

There has been much work done in USIB since you assumed your seats on the Board on building a strategic plan. I applaud you for that. From what I can tell, it was long overdue. A solid strategy, however, cannot be built upon a crumbling foundation; and the RFE/RL bureau system and infrastructure is a crumbling foundation. My colleagues at RFE/RI can continue to make a positive impact on the world, but they can only do that if we give them the resources and support that their mission requires. The situation is not hopeless. It is fixable, but to fix it I need your support. I feel comfortable in assuming that I have it.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: (b) (6)

I have been told that (b) (6), has written a letter to BBG on the Tibetan and Mandarin language cutbacks.

I have not seen it. Does anyone know about this and who has it? When will it be distributed to Board members?

as a general procedure, when a letter comes in to BBG, are they then sent to BBG Board members if address to BBG in general? At what point do they get forwarded?

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Victor Ashe
From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:22 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: (b) (6)

I should have said (b) (6) ..not (b) (6) ..my error

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
To: (b) (6), (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 4/11/2012 5:16:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: (b) (6)

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:30 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: (b) (6)

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Victor

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To our knowledge, the BBG Office of Public Affairs has received no communication from (b) (6) (b) (6) concerning the BBG.

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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:11 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: (b) (6)

You may wish to write the daughter at the Tom Lantos Foundation as it may have been produced there. (b) (6) I refer to.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:09:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Victor – we'd appreciate seeing it.

You have an extraordinary source.

Lynne

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:41 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

this is ridiculous that we do not know how mail addressed to BBG and no one is handled...I am sure there is mail weekly with only that on it. Someone at top level should know the answer. Sorry if someone is offended.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:54:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

And (b) (6) has been on leave since April 2. I should imagine that another member of the support staff is handling incoming mail in her stead. We should look into that tomorrow.

Lynne

From: Letitia King
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:52 PM

To: Lynne Weil; vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

In my experience, such snail mail correspondence has been scanned and transmitted via email by (b) (6) to the Board. I believe there was a letter from Rohrbacher distributed that way not long ago.

Regards,
Tish

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:46:56 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Dear Victor,

I'd be happy to help, but I don't know how the mail is handled in this agency.

Am looping back in the people who've worked here for a while and who might have missed the earlier message. There have been issues with the e-mail system on and off today.

And if your source does offer a copy of the letter that you can share, we'll be happy to coordinate a response right away.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:42 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I have been sent the letter now...will forward it. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:58:10 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

I'd be happy to help, but I don't know how the mail is handled in this agency.

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Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

My source who has not shared the letter says it was dated April 4 on her personal stationery. It was sent to Broadcasting Board of Governors at Cohen Bldg...no further address in terms of a name. What happens to mail sent in general to BBG but not to the chair, a specific Governor or IBB Director? Who gets it and what happens?

If I get a copy, I will forward it to you.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 5:23:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

To our knowledge, the BBG Office of Public Affairs has received no communication from (b) (6) concerning the BBG.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: (b) (6)

I have been told that (b) (6) has written a letter to BBG on the Tibetan and Mandarin language cutbacks.

I have not seen it. Does anyone know about this and who has it? When will it be distributed to Board members?

as a general procedure, when a letter comes in to BBG, are they then sent to BBG Board members if address to BBG in general? At what point do they get forwarded?

As one Member only, I want to see them all as quickly as they arrive.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:49 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)
Steven Korn; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)
Attachments: (b) (6)

(b) (6) head of one of the unions, sent the (b) (6) letter to me two hours ago which I am forwarding. Hopefully, all can access the letter. Clearly, it was addressed to Broadcasting Board of Governors and no one else (or an individual) and no one at top management has a clue where the letter dated April 4 is within the Cohen bldg or even if it got there. I do not know how (b) (6) had the letter as my original source on this was not him.

It seems to me that top management needs to know how mail addressed to BBG only is handled and someone needs to read it, and share with Governors items like this from significant and distinguished private citizens. Governors need to know how mail so addressed is handles. (b) (6) was more than (b) (6) She was his right hand and worked unpaid in his office every day. She knows foreign policy.

Lynne is new on the job but this will be a learning experience for all of us.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/11/2012 6:33:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

Victor:

Just in case this letter was not shared with the Board members.

Tim

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

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)> <http://mc/compose?>
to: (b) (6) >

Date: Tue, Apr 10, 2012 at 10:18 AM

Here you go.

All the best,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

President

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

--

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:52 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: cheaper fares

I am happy to send my own letter as one Governor...which is not subject to review by anyone. We need to show we can save money after the GSA scandal. Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 7:19:13 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, Yes we are looking into options for cheaper fares for the Prague trip and will provide information about our options and recommendations. Also looking into requirements for drafting the letter and will provide options to

the S&B Committee. Of course I will provide the draft letter to you for review.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:25 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: cheaper fares

Dick Lobo tells me that there may be room to purchase less expensive international tickets than the \$3600 for Prague. Please look into this and see what can be done.

also, maryjean, you said you would write OMB acting director explaining the contract requirement on trael which appear to indicate higher fares...I would like to see this letter and commend you for going that way.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:30 PM

To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Cc: Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) Bruce Sherman;

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

all excellent points from Lynne...however, we should all know the process by which mail addressed to BBG only is handled once it reaches the Cohen Bldg as apparently we do not know.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 9:18:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, lweil@bbg.gov writes:

Thank you, Dana.

The letter has been converted here to Adobe format, which should work on most systems.

I recommend that any response to (b) (6) be copied to (b) (6) who has been running the foundation named for her late father, and who sent the letter to Mr. (b) (6) by e-mail.

Suggestion: That VOA begin drafting something in coordination with the agency's Office of Strategy and Development, as well as that of the CFO, to be approved as usual after that. As Dana noted, under the circumstances the turnaround time won't be inordinate.

Looping in Bruce and (b) (6) here, along with the chiefs of staff at VOA and the IBB.

I further suggest that as this effort gets under way the Governors not be subjected to process-related messages, but that they be copied on the final version per normal procedures.

Have a good night, all.

Lynne

From: Dana Perino [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:08 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

i just tried to open the letter - it comes up just as characters - so i'll read it when i can. And though i am having to do this from nyc and with a different working situation than i had before, i don't see why there would need to be anything directed toward Lynne when there could be a perfectly reasonable explanation for where the letter went or an unintentional oversight...it has only been 7 days, 1 of which was an observed holiday for many, 2 of which were weekend days. From what I can tell, everyone's doing more with less and doing it pretty darn well.

On Apr 11, 2012, at 8:49 PM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

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Lynne is new on the job but this will be a learning experience for all of us.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/11/2012 6:33:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

Victor:

Just in case this letter was not shared with the Board members.

Tim

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

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)> <http://mc/compose?>
to: (b) (6) >

Date: Tue, Apr 10, 2012 at 10:18 AM

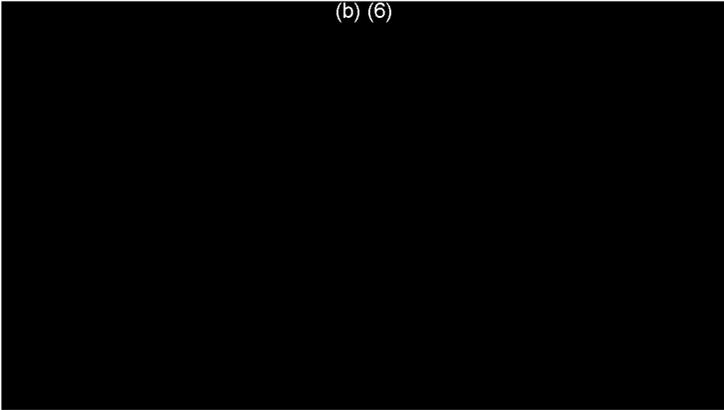
Here you go.

All the best,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

President



(b) (6)

--

◀ (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:52 PM

To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Fwd: (b) (6)

Here is an employee issue from this week where (b) (6) president of the AFGE union voices really strong views on how (b) (6) and HR handled this issue. I am not taking sides on the issue but I do feel it raises significant questions in light of our March 9 governance committee meeting and the good will created there from just listening. (b) (6) are clearly at odds here. It is not a good situation. BBG does not seem to work well with State here either.

As mayor of Knoxville, I tried to work with employees. I maintained strong communications with unions and individual employees. Dick Lobo has reached out to contractors. However, he learned in one meeting a contractor who had appeared before us was sent a termination notice shortly thereafter followed shortly thereafter by a new notice saying it was all a mistake. While he has NOT been fired there are those who wonder if this was just an error or intended to have a chilling impact by seeming to terminate but then not doing it. Someone seems to not have gotten the Board message that we want to work to solve these issues. These 'mistakes' cause us lasting damage. Under Dennis Mulhaupt's leadership the governance committee is listening. Lobo is holding more contractor meetings even at 0700. We must not allow other incidents to undercut top level actions.

It also bothers me that BBG does not have a new contract with AFGE. Why is this? What are the hurdles to overcome? If morale is to improve we must do better. I am told more meetings are not even scheduled. I worry that the second level folks in a few cases are not getting the message from Lobo and the Board as evidenced by this e mail and the contractor firing followed by rescinding the termination. There is suspicion that this is designed to create an impasse and send it arbitration.

We have lots to discuss in Miami.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/7/2012 10:00:57 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: (b) (6)

Victor:

(b) (6) contacted me and wanted to respond regarding putting the issue on our website. He didn't know that we had already discussed this but yes we will address this on our website. I have discussed it with (b) (6) because I didn't want to do it without her knowledge and permission. She has given her permission so we will do it.

(b) (6) description of our meeting with (b) (6) is accurate. One thing that shocked me (although I should be used to this by now) was her complete lack of concern or empathy for (b) (6) plight. I told her that the problem I had with this whole process was that this individual was told that her Visa had expired and she would have to leave the country by March 14th or face deportation and the possibility of never being able to enter the U.S. again. (b) (6) asked her what would have happened if she had left the country by March 14th - what if the Agency decided that she should

not have been fired. (b) (6) said that if she left there would be no reconsideration of her removal because the Agency would not agree to bring her back.

I told her that the process put her in a catch 22 then. She responded that she knew the conditions when she was hired - she knew what she was getting into. She then said that she was not a good employee anyway because they had Program Review go through her reports and she was mediocre at best. I then told her that Program Review directly contradicted what her two former Service Chiefs and her direct supervisor stated - in writing no less. She dismissed what they said claiming that the first Service Chief (the one who hired her) was only there for a short time so her statement didn't count. The other one was acting only for a few months and she just completely discredited her direct supervisor. Keep in mind the Service Chief who wanted her out had only been in the position since this past November and had only just returned after leaving the Agency to work for some firm in Pakistan.

The whole thing stinks.

(b)
(6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 11:56 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I am happy to take him to dinner on May 1..the night before. good rates at Courtyard Marriott

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: Letitia King <(b) (6)>; vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Apr 9, 2012 10:14 am
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

Great news! Thank you, Tish, for your diligent efforts.

Let us know when (b) (6) has purchased his ticket and provided his itinerary. And let's you and I confer on related details.

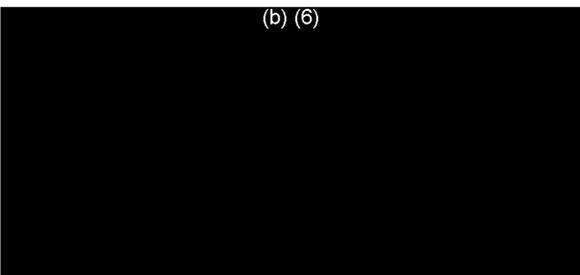
Lynne

From: Letitia King
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 10:00:04 AM
To: Lynne Weil; vhashe@aol.com; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: (b) (6)

Hi All,
Thought I'd update you that (b) (6) says he think he CAN come to the May 2 program in NC. Neither of his sons can make it.
Naturally, I invited him to speak on the program and suggested, depending on his schedule, that our delegation would be pleased to have lunch with him following the program at the station.
Given that he is traveling some distance, that seemed the hospitable idea but I realize the travel schedules are still being finalized.
Dashing off to join a conference call and will share any updates.
Thanks,
Tish

Letitia King
Director, Office of Public Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Ave, SW

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 4:16 PM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: breakdown

Jeff and Dick

for our strategy and budget committee meeting on Tuesday, April 10 (tomorrow), to have a substantive discussion tomorrow, I would like to see a break out of the proposed FY 2013 transmission savings by country and by language service and by SW, MW, etc...same information should go to Enders Wimbush and Michael Meehan.

I assume this is readily available.

Thank you

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 08, 2012 2:48 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: travel costs

As one BBG member, I want to encourage the use of the tele conference which (b) (6) used so well at our recent Board meetings so we can keep BBG staff travel to Prague to a minimum. It occurs to me that several staff could link up thru RFE over on Connecticut Ave to our Prague meeting such as (b) (6). By laws state the (b) (6) need to be present at Board meetings but teleconferencing should satisfy that requirement.

This suggestion is not meant to be negative to them but to save at least \$4000 per person. This is not my call but I think we should be conscious of these issues and not have any more Washington staff there than absolutely necessary and which could be done on tele conferencing.

Given the terrible costs at GSA and resulting publicity, we need to show we have walked the extra step to keep costs reasonable. It also removes travel time and lost time at the office.

Dick, you and Jeff will want to keep staff attendance in Prague to what is truly necessary.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2012 9:08 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Strategy and Budget

Being new to the Strategy and Budget Committee, I opened the book on the April 10 meeting with great anticipation. However, I was struck by the absence of names (authors) on each tab as that is important should I wish to ask questions in advance of the meeting. Is it Bruce or who?

Also I was disappointed not to see a serious discussion of alternatives on the proposed Tibetan language services cuts. The Board voted to ask the Committee to review this. Staff should prepare options for us to consider including full restoration. There was not a single proposal presented to us. Waiting until the committee actually meets does not provide adequate time for discussion and thinking it all over.

We are charged with important tasks which include interested observers on the Hill who are fully prepared to weigh in on these issues. Our mission statement must be a work in progress as we adjust to reality. It is not etched in stone and can never be altered.

We must be prepared to address all the issues raised to date and consider options. We need to discuss whether spending up to \$10 million a year with Gallup is wise or would a lesser sum achieve our desired goals. We need to discuss areas of savings such as a travel contract with Carlson which costs us 50 to 80 percent more every time a ticket is booked. For example, I was prepared to buy direct from United a \$1800 ticket to Prague and I am advised by (b) (6) that the contract forces me to use the \$3600 ticket..all economy class. Why must I spend taxpayers money in such a foolish fashion? This never would have happened on my watch as Mayor of Knoxville. We must insist on fewer people attending international conferences like the one in Delhi last year where 12 persons went and 4 or 6 could have sufficed in my view.

These savings could help prevent language cuts which are triggering anger towards BBG.

I am sorry to raise these issues over Easter and Passover but I only got the material Friday for a Tuesday afternoon meeting.

Victor Ashe
From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2012 3:07 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Additional Materials for S&B Committee meeting

Jeff

I have problems printing out so much on my home computer. Can you have it printed so I can pick it up this Monday when I am at the Cohen Bldg at 1000 in the morning.

Victor

In a message dated 4/7/2012 11:41:19 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors and Colleagues, here are additional background materials for next week's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting.

These are coming to you separately from the briefing book -- which you should have by now -- because we were

taking every available extra moment to further discuss issues with the broadcast managers and to reflect their inputs in these documents. In some instances there may be additional comments from the entity heads, who can express them to you during the meeting.

Victor, per your note this morning, one of these attachments concerns broadcasting to China. If the committee agrees on a course of direction for Tibet, we will work with the broadcasters to come up with specific suggestions and recommendations for consideration at the Board meeting.

The attachments:

1) China issues. This paper was drafted by IBB staff and includes edits from VOA. RFA received the draft and may wish to comment as well.

2) Latin America. This paper was drafted by IBB staff, includes edits from VOA, and reflects discussions among IBB staff, VOA, and OCB. (b) (6) is not able to attend the Committee meeting, so the Committee may wish to defer detailed discussion until the Miami Board meeting.

Speakers at a recent event at Freedom House event (with Senators Rubio and Menendez present; see link below) stressed that press freedom is deteriorating in LatAm at a faster rate than in any other area of the world.

<http://www.freedomhouse.org/article/sen-menendez-governments-restricting-free-information-do-not-deserve-publics-trust>

3) Global News Network. Two attachments: the first is from IBB staff, the second a dissenting view from VOA. RFE/RL also has expressed concern about the GNN concept.

4) Duplication. Briefing materials already sent to you reflect the extensive work done on this issue during the strategic review process, which informed the final language of the strategic plan. The attached document is from VOA and (b) (6) can speak to it during the meeting.

5) Iran. Governor Mulhaupt asked for a report on Iran broadcasting at the Miami Board meeting. Attached is background material on current VOA and RFE/RL broadcasting to Iran, to inform discussion at the Committee meeting and preparation of the requested report for Miami.

Victor, these attachments are brief, a couple of pages each in most instances, so I hope it will be convenient for you to print them. For the most part these reports were drafted by multiple authors. Per your note this morning, if you have specific questions, feel free to direct them to me and I will put you in touch with the right people at IBB and the broadcast entities.

Regards
Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 11:59 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Strategy & Budget Committee meeting

Dear (b) (6)

I think it should be discussed on Tuesday as I understand it may be rolled out on April 22. I do not recall what is actually happening here. Has Board been briefed? This is different from the International Broadcasting Innovation Act and grantee consolidation. They are not the same? Is there a IBB re organization which also impacts VOA?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/6/2012 11:18:58 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor – We currently do not have “IBB restructuring” on the agenda topics for next week’s meeting.

Is there a particular aspect of IBB restructuring that you had in mind? Perhaps we can add it to the agenda if it is not already being addressed.

(FYI: The Board will be briefed on the status of the International Broadcasting Innovation Act initiative and the grantee consolidation at the meetings in Miami on April 19-20.)

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 10:39 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Bruce Sherman; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Governor Ashe Question

(b) (6)

I just spoke with Governor Ashe regarding whether or not IBB restructuring is on the agenda for next week’s Strategy and Budget Committee meeting. I’m following up with you because I’m not sure what restructuring effort he was referring to.

Thanks,

Ashley

(b) (6)

Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20237

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 12:13 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: IBB

is there a reorganization going which involves new unit of strategy and budget combining various offices such as marketing and affiliate relations, development, international media training? Was just told of this...not sure it is accurate but figured you and (b) (6) would know and (b) (6) as it would impact VOA a lot if true

Victor
From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 2:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: FW: Governance Committee Report/Notes

You will need to send this to me by fed EX as I cannot access these lengthy attachments at my home computer. If sent today I can get it tomorrow...otherwise I will need to pick it up on Monday when I am at Cohen Bldg.

(b) (6) I thought you were aware of the limits of my home computer. At least (b) (6) are. In the future, unless the attachment is 2 or 3 pages I do not have the ability to print 15 to 30 page documents. I am retired and do not have an office other than my home and no secretary.

Happy Easter Weekend

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/6/2012 12:34:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governance Committee members:

Please find attached a draft Governance Committee report from the March 7 meeting and a set of proposed minutes from the March 9 meeting (which focused on reports from Union officials and contractor representatives).

Please note that the Board adopted several of the recommendations from the March 7 meeting at the plenary Board meeting on March 8. Those decisions are noted in the March 7 report.

We propose to attach the written statements of the union representatives to the March 9 Committee report.

Please let us know if you have any comments or questions.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 11:48 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Governance Committee Report/Notes

(b) (6)

The report from the March 7 Governance Committee meeting and the notes from the March 9 Governance Committee listening session are attached.

(b) (6)

Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20237

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 3:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FW: Governance Committee Report/Notes

I regret not being to read them over the weekend. Please make a note to send them to me in the future. (b) (6) is there today and could get them out on Fed EX today surely. Why not talk to her about it?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/6/2012 3:00:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor – (b) (6) is on vacation this week with her family.

We will have a copy of the documents available for you on Monday.

Have a nice weekend. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 2:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: FW: Governance Committee Report/Notes

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From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 11:48 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Governance Committee Report/Notes

(b) (6)

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(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20237

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2012 5:41 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Fw: Gov Comm meeting

I could do it May 4 or the following week of May 7 thru 11. Victor

In a message dated 4/5/2012 4:42:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Governors, Dick will be on overseas travel the week of May 21. As you know he is deeply involved in the contractor and employee issues, so it would be desirable to have him in the GovComm meeting. Could you look again at your schedules to see whether a date earlier in the month would be possible?

Keep in mind as well that the Greenville rededication ceremony will be May 2.

Thanks and rgds
Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2012 3:46 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Fw: Gov Comm meeting

Dennis

I make May 24 work. Victor

In a message dated 4/5/2012 3:45:23 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Great, thanks. How about if we aimed for Thurs 5/24?
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Date: Thu, 5 Apr 2012 15:42:59 -0400 (EDT)
To: <(b) (6)>
Cc: <(b) (6)> <(b) (6)> <(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: Fw: Gov Comm meeting

I cannot do it May 21..but can do it any day the rest of the week, end of week reaches Memorial Day weekend on May 28 which some federal employees may try to make a day off...can do it May 7 or 8 and May 4.

Victor

In a message dated 4/5/2012 3:23:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Could we do this either at the beginning or end of the week of May 21?
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: "Dennis Mulhaupt" <(b) (6)>
Date: Thu, 5 Apr 2012 02:07:46 +0000

To: Victor Ashe<vhashe@aol.com>

ReplyTo: (b) (6)

Cc: Michael Lynton<(b) (6)>; Susan

(b) (6)

; Dick Lobo

(b) (6)

; Jeff Trimble<

(b) (6)

b) (6)>

Subject: Re: Gov Comm meeting

Okay, thanks Victor. I'll ask staff to see if a May meeting can be arranged. See you in Miami.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Date: Wed, 4 Apr 2012 19:47:29 -0400 (EDT)

To: <(b) (6)>

Cc: <(b) (6)>

<(b) (6)>

<(b) (6)>

(b) (6)

<(b) (6)>

Subject: Re: Gov Comm meeting

think you have a valid point...mid May works for me...Victor

In a message dated 4/4/2012 4:45:22 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time,

(b) (6) writes:

Victor:

I wanted to ask your opinion about the desirability of scheduling a Governance Committee meeting between the Miami and Prague meetings (which probably means in May). I'm not sure how far we will be along on grantee consolidation at that point. It may be useful, though, to have a follow-up session on the employee and contractor matters to ensure progress is being made and a few other pending items. Please let me know your thoughts.

I am copying Michael Lynton and Susan, as well as Dick, Jeff and (b) (6) if anyone has any thoughts or input.

Thanks,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2012 7:47 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Gov Comm meeting

think you have a valid point...mid May works for me...Victor

In a message dated 4/4/2012 4:45:22 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Victor:

I wanted to ask your opinion about the desirability of scheduling a Governance Committee meeting between the Miami and Prague meetings (which probably means in May). I'm not sure how far we will be along on grantee consolidation at that point. It may be useful, though, to have a follow-up session on the employee and contractor matters to ensure progress is being made and a few other pending items. Please let me know your thoughts.

I am copying Michael Lynton and Susan, as well as Dick, Jeff and (b) (6) if anyone has any thoughts or input.

Thanks,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2012 6:38 AM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: GAO study

Should this not be announced publicly and placed on BBG web site? Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/30/2012 6:33:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Governors, colleagues, a message from Dick Lobo:

I wanted to make sure you know that the GAO has begun a study in cooperation with this agency that looks at the proposals and strategy for streamlining U.S. international media. To begin, they are talking with us about the challenges related to overlap and coordination.

As they start the project, the GAO's researchers will be speaking with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity. At this time, the GAO has not fully defined the scope of the project or its methodology. We'll learn more as they enter more deeply into discussions with us.

The GAO study was requested by Senators Akaka (D-Hawaii) and Johnson (R-Wisconsin), who serve as Chair and Ranking Member, respectively, on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the Federal Workforce. The GAO is also looking at other Federal programs, including democracy assistance, assistance to Afghanistan, and food aid.

We view this study as an opportunity to make the GAO - and its ultimate audience and client, Congress - aware of the agency's robust efforts to operate more efficiently and effectively amid the current budget environment. We will keep you informed as this study progresses.

Dick L.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2012 10:20 AM

To: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Meeting with President Klaus

excellent

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, May 31, 2012 9:08 am

Subject: Meeting with President Klaus

Governors and Dick,

Steve asked me to let you know that we have secured a meeting with President Klaus on Friday, June 8, at 9:00 a.m. We are also still on schedule for a meeting with First Deputy Foreign Minister Jiri Schneider on June 8, but hope to move it to later in the morning.

Regards,

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 3:28 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Travel

I agree with this. Please place on agenda and show requested by Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/30/2012 1:03:38 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

In collaboration with (b) (6), we have drafted the attached resolution regarding the Coburn Amendment to limit spending on government-sponsored conferences and travel.

Please send us any comments at your earliest convenience.

With your approval, we'll include this draft resolution in the briefing book for the Board.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 10:42 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Travel

that appears to be a reasonable approach. (b) (6) might be prepared to tell us where this stands in the legislative process. Dick Lobo might want to share with us any issues BBG/IBB has with implementing this.

I do want it on the June 7 agenda in the manner you suggest.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com> >

Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Tue, May 29, 2012 10:04 am

Subject: FW: Travel

Victor – Thanks for your email over the weekend. The subject of BBG travel policy was scheduled to be considered at the recently-postponed Governance Committee meeting. Our plan was then develop a resolution based on the guidance provided by the Committee dealing with Agency travel.

After I received your email, I re-read the exchange between you and Dennis on this subject.

I would like to suggest the following as a way forward, if it works for you. We will put the Coburn travel principles on the agenda as you have suggested. We can also prepare a resolution relating to those principles. As for Dennis' suggestion, however, in the absence of guidance from the Committee, it is difficult to go beyond what you have initially suggested.

So, I would propose that the resolution note the adoption by the Senate of the Coburn principles, express the Board's approval of those principles, and ask the Governance Committee to develop a broader and more transparent policy applicable to everyone in the Agency for consideration by the Board at its July 2012 meeting.

Please let me know if this approach would be acceptable to you. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com <mailto:Vhashe@aol.com> [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com <mailto:Vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 8:44 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: Travel

Dennis, You are totally right on this. (b) (6) should draft a resolution which incorporates the Coburn proposal but expands it along the lines you suggest. There is time to do this.

Victor

In a message dated 5/8/2012 8:39:01 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6)

(b) (6) writes:

Victor:

From my perspective, that is fine and makes good sense but I think our travel policy should be considerably broader and more transparent than that called for by Sen Coburn and should apply to everyone in the agency, whether attending a conference or not.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com <mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>

Date: Tue, 8 May 2012 20:28:55 -0400 (EDT)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Travel

(b) (6)

I am requesting that the June 7 or 8 BBG meeting contain a resolution from me directing that BBG implement the travel policies on conferences which Senator Coburn recently proposed to the US Senate and which the Senate adopted unanimously. Susan Andross has a copy of it.

I would like for the BBG to be proactive here and move doing the right thing now in an area where there haven been problems in other agencies. The Coburn amendment would apply to all agencies.

If you have questions about this please advise. I believe I am giving this to you in adequate time to prepare it and submit it to the full Board.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 11:06 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Buyouts

thanks for sharing this with me. I hope you have time to review my e mail on labor talks as I want to discuss the whole process at next week's BBG meeting.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, May 30, 2012 10:07 am
Subject: Buyouts

Victor,

In response to your email received Sunday, May 27 regarding BBG buyouts, here is the information you requested.

The buyout opportunity was announced on March 21 with an initial end date of April 27. That date was extended to May 4th. We are currently processing 35 buyout requests. The breakdown by organization follows:

VOA 24
OCB 3
IBB 3
TSI 5

Three applications from the numbers above require supplemental approval from OPM. This is due simply to the fact that we try to predict the potential numbers of employees in different job series, e.g., international broadcasters, telecommunications specialists, etc, that will apply for a buyout and get that list approved by OPM in advance. Occasionally, we have more individuals apply in a given category than were preapproved, thus the need to go back to OPM.

Six employees originally submitted applications which they later rescinded; 4 from OCB and 2 from VOA.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 7:39 PM

To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Labor talks

On May 14 I met with the BBG management team which handles the current labor negotiations with AFGE 1812. At the meeting were six BBG employees plus myself. They were (b) (6) his seemed more persons than necessary but not unusual when a Governor of the BBG seeks information. I did not ask for so many to attend. All were polite and professional in their remarks.

This e mail is a report on the meeting and my thoughts at its conclusion. The meeting lasted about one hour.

I had requested a meeting on the talks without naming persons who needed to be in attendance. I had previously heard from the union about the status of talks which seem eternal. We all know morale at VOA/OCB and IBB is poor based on the OPM surveys of federal employees. Contract employees are not surveyed by OPM but one can reasonably conclude their views would be equally dismal towards the employee-employer situation as they receive no benefits and seldom see their contract pay increased while experiencing late payments occasionally.

I learned the current contract between BBG/IBB and AFGE is the one from 2005 which expired some years ago but continues in place because a new contract has not been negotiated. I also learned that one entire week a month, there are negotiations and have been going on since March, 2011. We are now in the 14th month of talks. When I asked when this seemingly career set of talks might end, (b) (6) cited December, 2012 as a possible date for conclusion but it seems likely to go then to an impasse panel with more months of consideration there. Almost two years will have been spent on these talks without conclusion.

Management, which is primarily (b) (6) who lead the labor talks, seem to want to revise the total contract on many different points. I really never got a firm fix on the exact issues separating the two sides other than some discussion on a FLRA opinion overturning the views of BBG/IBB on non citizen employment, the question of discipline articles, the question of merit promotions and staffing and arbitration on leave. The FLRA matter seems to be over whether the legal office wants to acknowledge it or not. Only congressional rewrite of current laws would change it. However, (b) (6) did not seem willing to throw in the towel on this without direction from those above her.

My concern is the Board is being represented on these talks by these individuals without being briefed on what the issues are and whether we would agree with them. While the Board would not want to actually negotiate, we should be informed periodically what is happening in our name especially as it impacts employee morale which is in the cellar.

I found it stunning that BBG/IBB management would allow these talks to go on for two years. My suggestion would be to pick out the 3 or 4 major issues of difference and try to resolve them. Forget the rest and save them for a later day. It is fantasy to think you can change 25 to 28 issues in one series of talks even ones which go on for two years. It is also wrong to allow these to drag on a week a month. If these had been done one week after the next, it would have been concluded one way or the other by now. Instead, by stretching them out for 2 years, they are part of the career of several person.

My own feeling is that Dick Lobo as IBB director and (b) (6) as VOA head need to fast track these talks to an earlier conclusion than Christmas especially since most AFGE members will not regard the current talks ending at Christmas as much of a Christmas gift since they are headed to an impasse panel as surely as Tuesday follows Monday. For the Obama Administration which has stressed better relations with organized labor, this presents a most unusual situation. For the BBG Board which says it wishes to improve morale, this is a morale stopper. I urge that

this be discussed at our Prague Board meeting. We should jump start this to an ending.

These comments are not confidential. I do not ask that you to treat them as such. Feel free to share them with whoever you feel would benefit by having them. My goal is to secure progress on a situation which has lasted much too long and to the detriment of BBG.

I regret being the bearer of less than positive news but BBG needs to know about this.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 12:12 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: RFA: Record number of pick-ups

Just outstanding what RFA is doing here. A real tribute to a fine organization.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); Jeff Trimble
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, May 29, 2012 12:02 pm
Subject: RFA: Record number of pick-ups

Dear RFA Board, Dick, Bruce and Jeff

As surprising as it seems, RFA has beat our own pick-up record with the latest tragic Tibetan self-immolations reported this weekend.

This latest news has caused immediate and mass reaction from the government both in terms of physical military intimidation and internet/press censorship.

On Monday, Radio Free Asia's Tibetan service broke the news that two Tibetans in Lhasa had self-immolated in protest of China's rule of the Tibetan regions. The report was translated into English and sent out as a news release. The incident, being the first reported case of self-immolations occurring in the Tibetan capital city, quickly spread around the world when the Associated Press and numerous other global newswires picked up RFA's exclusive report. Global news networks such as BBC, CNN, and Al Jazeera, as well as sources like the New York Times, The Guardian, Daily Telegraph, among many others, reported on the incident citing RFA's original coverage.

RFA has broken the news on roughly half of the 37 Tibetan self-immolations and followed with in-depth stories surrounding the final desperate acts.

Here's the summary from this morning:

ASSOCIATED PRESS (Also in CNN, BBC, REUTERS, NEW YORK TIMES, AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, AL JAZEERA, DEUTSCHE WELLE, UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, BANGKOK POST, TELEGRAPH, HINDUSTAN TIMES, GLOBAL POST)

May 28 ""

Two men engulfed themselves in a burst of flames outside a Buddhist temple popular with tourists and pilgrims in Lhasa, marking the first time a recent wave of self-immolations to protest Chinese rule has reached the tightly guarded Tibetan capital.

... Radio Free Asia reported Monday that Lhasa was under heavy police and paramilitary guard following the immolations and that the situation was very tense.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 10:42 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Travel

that appears to be a reasonable approach. (b) (6) might be prepared to tell us where this stands in the legislative process. Dick Lobo might want to share with us any issues BBG/IBB has with implementing this.

I do want it on the June 7 agenda in the manner you suggest.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, May 29, 2012 10:04 am
Subject: FW: Travel

Victor – Thanks for your email over the weekend. The subject of BBG travel policy was scheduled to be considered at the recently-postponed Governance Committee meeting. Our plan was then develop a resolution based on the guidance provided by the Committee dealing with Agency travel.

After I received your email, I re-read the exchange between you and Dennis on this subject.

I would like to suggest the following as a way forward, if it works for you. We will put the Coburn travel principles

on the agenda as you have suggested. We can also prepare a resolution relating to those principles. As for Dennis' suggestion, however, in the absence of guidance from the Committee, it is difficult to go beyond what you have initially suggested.

So, I would propose that the resolution note the adoption by the Senate of the Coburn principles, express the Board's approval of those principles, and ask the Governance Committee to develop a broader and more transparent policy applicable to everyone in the Agency for consideration by the Board at its July 2012 meeting.

Please let me know if this approach would be acceptable to you. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com <mailto:Vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 8:44 PM

To: (b) (6); (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); (b) (6); Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: Travel

Dennis, You are totally right on this. (b) (6) should draft a resolution which incorporates the Coburn proposal but expands it along the lines you suggest. There is time to do this.

Victor

In a message dated 5/8/2012 8:39:01 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor:

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Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Date: Tue, 8 May 2012 20:28:55 -0400 (EDT)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Travel

(b) (6)

I am requesting that the June 7 or 8 BBG meeting contain a resolution from me directing that BBG implement the travel policies on conferences which Senator Coburn recently proposed to the US Senate and which the Senate adopted unanimously. (b) (6) has a copy of it.

I would like for the BBG to be proactive here and move doing the right thing now in an area where there haven been problems in other agencies. The Coburn amendment would apply to all agencies.

If you have questions about this please advise. I believe I am giving this to you in adequate time to prepare it and submit it to the full Board.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 27, 2012 10:03 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: buy out

Is the buy out offered to BBG and VOA employees now completed or still continuing? What has been the response to date? Are there plans to extend it a second time?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2012 6:01 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Notice of RFE/RL Corporate Board Meeting of June 6, 2012

This is not significant. Harmless error. Let (b) (6) enjoy his Memorial Day weekend. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/25/2012 5:37:24 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I assume you have seen the typos.

Sent from my iPhone

On May 25, 2012, at 5:30 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Dear All,

Please see the attached notice of RFE/RL's next corporate board meeting to be held in Prague.

I wish you all an enjoyable Memorial Day weekend.

(b) (6)

(See attached file: Notice-RFERL Prague Meeting-6-6-12.doc)

(b) (6)

<Notice-RFERL Prague Meeting-6-6-12.doc>

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2012 5:16 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Updated Schedule & Agendas for June Meetings

are there no meetings in Prague on June 7 in the morning? Free time? Dinner each evening? What is Friday, June 8?

In a message dated 5/25/2012 5:12:06 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Attached is an updated schedule and agendas for the June 6-8 BBG meetings.

Here are key highlights:

Wednesday, June 6

- 2:30 pm Prague/8:30 am DC: RFE/RL Board of Directors' Meeting
- 3:30-6:00 pm Prague/9:30 am-Noon DC: Strategy & Budget Briefing (all Governors; network heads also will participate)

Thursday, June 7

- 1:00 pm Prague/7 am DC: Governors-Only Session
- 2:00 pm Prague/8 am DC: Governors' Briefing (including discussions of the IBIA and Grantee Consolidation)
- 4:00 pm Prague/10 am DC: Broadcasting Board of Governors' Open Meeting
- 6:15 pm Prague/12:15 pm DC: MBN Board of Directors' Meeting
- 6:30 pm Prague/12:30 pm DC: Meeting Adjourned

Have a nice weekend!

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2012 6:00 AM
To: (b) (6)

(b) (6)
Jeffrey Trimble;
Richard M. Lobo; Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: From Steven W. Korn

First you may wish to add (b) (6) to all mailings as she is a RFE Board member. Second, I think RFE corporate board should adopt a memorializing resolution on the departed.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

(b) (6)
(b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, May 24, 2012 4:45 am
Subject: From Steven W. Korn

Forwarding below memo from (b) (6) for your attention. Best, (b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 22, 2012 5:58 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: information

certainly June meeting will be good to hear this but my concern remains that at the last two BBG meetings lasted longer than expected and we never got to discussion from entity heads not to mention legal report...but yes it should be at least in the legal report.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/22/2012 5:33:38 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
I meant the June meeting. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 3:56:13 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: information

Yes, it should be included for the legal briefing but my experience has been the Board meetings are so crowded we never seem to get to your report and it is only in writing..not oral which allows opportunity for questions and answers. Are you referring to the June or July BBG Board meeting?

If it is July, then I would like to secure some of the material I asked about before then so I would be better prepared to ask questions.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/21/2012 2:12:49 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Victor –

(b) (5)

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 1:57 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: information

Dear (b) (6)

I am seeking to find out more information on the FLRA decision on the AFGE Local

1812 case dealing with non citizens in my role as a BBG Board member. I would like to have a copy of the final FLRA decision as it relates to AFGE. Does your office still consider an appeal possible into DC district court? Does BBG have to secure Dept of Justice approval to pursue such action?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 3:56 PM
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Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: information

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Victor Ashe

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Victor –

(b) (5)

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 1:57 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: information

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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 4:12 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Postponement of Governance Committee meeting

I purchased my ticket to Washington and have plans to attend the governance committee...can at least one other member not attend? What about RFE audit...you and I make a quorum for that committee? will it still be meeting at 2 or earlier in the day? I agree just 2 or 4 members attending is not a quorum. Victor

In a message dated 5/18/2012 4:07:42 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

(b) (6) efficiency beat me to the punch on this matter. Here is the message I was about to send about the postponement.

Dear (b) (6) and Victor:

As it has become clear in the last couple of days that at least two of you will not be able to attend the Governance Committee meeting originally scheduled for this Thurs May 24th, it would probably be best to postpone the meeting. I strongly believe the committee's deliberations would be improved by the participation of more than two members.

Staff will be in touch with each of you about rescheduling the meeting.

Thanks,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 2:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - House Likely to Vote on Smith-Mundt Today

excellent Victor

In a message dated 5/18/2012 1:22:38 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

The House has passed the NDAA -- and with it, Rep. Thornberry's Smith-Mundt measure.

Many thanks to (b) (6) and the team in the GC's office for your diligent work on this key Board priority.

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 12:11:28 PM
To: Vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Message from Lynne Weil - House Likely to Vote on Smith-Mundt Today

Victor,

The legislation was introduced in the House last Friday, deemed in order by the Rules Committee yesterday, and approved on the House floor today. The Communications Committee has been kept apprised each step of the way.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 11:54 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - House Likely to Vote on Smith-Mundt Today

Was this amendment offered in committee or on the House floor?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/18/2012 11:36:29 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

We have news about the measure introduced last Friday by Rep. Mac Thornberry to ease the legal restrictions on domestic dissemination of materials produced with public diplomacy funding – which, taken together, are commonly known as Smith-Mundt.

Mr. Thornberry's Smith-Mundt measure has just been adopted as an amendment to this year's National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The NDAA is one of the authorization bills that almost always passes both houses of Congress and becomes law. A member of the Armed Services Committee, Mr. Thornberry offered his

legislation as an amendment to that bill.

The House is scheduled to vote on the NDAA later today.

For the past year and a half, in keeping with the consistent directives of the Board in support of legislation easing Smith-Mundt restrictions, the IBB/BBG executive team has been working on this measure with Mr. Thornberry's staff and colleagues at State. This work intensified during the last two months as the Congressman began finalizing the bill and seeking support from fellow House members. We are pleased to bring you this update.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 11:54 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - House Likely to Vote on Smith-Mundt Today

Was this amendment offered in committee or on the House floor?

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and colleagues at State. This work intensified during the last two months as the Congressman began finalizing the bill and seeking support from fellow House members. We are pleased to bring you this update.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 5:11 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Media Highlights and Addenda

certainly, appreciate your thoughts and concur. Victor

In a message dated 5/17/2012 4:53:20 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Victor,

Thank you for the clarification below, and for our subsequent exchange.

There is nothing sensitive or confidential about the information in the message at the start of this chain. While it was meant to be between me, you, and the three of your fellow Governors who comprise the Communications Committee (along with the IBB Director, copied on your note to me this morning, and his deputy), on reflection I support your sharing that original message as you see fit. This is one case where the contents of an e-mail alone can do no conceivable harm if made public; what others might do with it is beyond our control.

I share your belief in transparency, and truly do appreciate your asking for my view on this matter. The one thing I ask in return is that when you pass it along, you share the entire original message at the start of this chain, the better to preserve the full context and flow.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 11:25 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Media Highlights and Addenda

My question is whether you have a problem with me sharing this outside BBG? As I have been asked about it, I do not see any reason not to share it but thought I would ask first as a courtesy. If you prefer not I would like to know the reason. If it is a valid compelling reason, I will honor it. As you know I am strong believer in transparency. Who I might share it with is not relevant in my view although one is a congressional staffer. As we all know once an e mail starts to circulate it can easily reach a larger circle. The real issue is whether this is being asked to be withheld by you as BBG communications director from anyone outside the current circle and not a BBG employee? I await your response. I reserve the right to make my own decision in the final analysis but wanted to secure your input first. I am certainly willing to consider your thoughts carefully. Other Governors were included as you made your own decision to add them..for which I have no objection nor do I have a problem with you sharing my e mail on this with anyone anywhere.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/17/2012 10:46:03 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Victor,

Thank you for asking, but could you please first clarify? I've shared this internal

procedural information only with your fellow Board members – specifically, the Communications Committee – and with the IBB Director (who was copied on your inquiry yesterday a.m.), along with his deputy. Who did you have in mind?

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 10:34 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Media Highlights and Addenda

I assume you have no problem with me sharing this with others as you shared it with others and there does not appear to be any pre decisional matter here. But thought I would ask first.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/16/2012 6:11:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Victor,

Thank you for your recent inquiries about the articles selected for daily distribution by the BBG Public Affairs staff in cooperation with our colleagues at VOA, OCB and the grantees. Since the members of the Communications Committee may take interest in this discussion, I'm cc-ing them on this note along with Dick L., who was copied on your message to me this morning, and adding Jeff T.

As mentioned in previous e-mails to you, Tish and I have been talking about how the Media Highlights and Addenda are done; these discussions include internal process and personnel matters -- who handles what, and how -- that don't bear detailing here. To answer your questions about the differences between these two communications tools and who receives them:

The Media Highlights are available through the BBG website for public subscription and are sent to journalists, analysts, academics and other stakeholders with their permission.

The Highlights include coverage of U.S. international media as operated by and through the BBG; select press pickups of news coverage by VOA, OCB and the grantees; and other items of interest. This roundup is intended to showcase the effectiveness and positive impact of U.S. international media. In recent months, we've integrated more foreign press coverage as translations have become available.

These items are posted daily on BBG.gov as well as via links through an internal employee blog that's accessible to all in the agency. Lately the BBG Public Affairs team has considered adding the Highlights to the in-house announcements for all agency employees; this could serve as a means of demonstrating impact and reinforcing good work. When other media cite one of our services as a source, or make reference to what we do, it proves that our reach goes beyond our own readers, listeners and viewers. However, the in-house announcements can be voluminous

and more frequent at some times than others, and that's a disincentive to reading them amid the many competing demands on the time of our colleagues. But we plan to explore and to test possible alternative approaches.

The Addenda go to an internal audience of senior managers and those who are the subject of any particular coverage, including Governors. They are used variously to provide background, provoke discussion and, as needed, to flag an item that may require a response, though we have done the latter less in recent weeks since an item from the Addenda was leaked to a blog and distorted to create an unfortunate and patently untrue story.

Over the years, the press clips/Media Highlights have evolved from manually intensive labor that involved cutting and pasting and photocopying to a form that takes full advantage of current electronic media's features. After the Media Highlights migrated from the page to electronic format, available for subscription by anyone who chooses to do so, they began to reach a much broader audience. The agency and its grantees have the opportunity through this means to put our best foot forward.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 6:32 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Answers to Questions Raised by Governor Ashe

Dear Mr. Lobo,

Before responding to follow up on this, I am writing to ask re-consideration of your statement that this response is not intended for distribution as I have several members of Congress and key staff who are interested in knowing the answers to the questions I posed to you. Why would you suggest to me not to share these replies to the members of Congress who would vote on the proposed CEO legislation? What benefit does that secure? Who is on the bbggroup? is it Governors only? You have included one Board member's staff at State on this as well as two of your staffers? Lynne Weil and Jeff Trimble also?

It seems you are setting a wider list of those entitled to this for yourself but then trying to restrict what I can share with relevant stakeholders? Are you saying there is simply no one I could share and discuss this with and honor your statement of non distribution? It is a little clearer to me now why Congressman Rohrabacher states only yesterday on May 15 that BBG is opaque in its decision making. That is not a criticism that BBG should be proud of. Rather we should work to be more open.

While I appreciate your honesty in saying you made the decision to omit entity heads and VOA/OCB heads from the distribution list of the prior memo, I think it was an unfortunate decision. It creates division and stove piping within BBG. You are not a BBG Board member. It seems to me that the Board should make that decision or at least the presiding Governor in the absence of the full Board not you as IBB Director. You work for the Board. The Board and each member does not work for you (and I do not intend any personal criticism of you here but simply stating the obvious). I trust you will decide that I am free to share this with at least congressional members and their staff if not others. I await a response with reasons.

While you are correct that there was an unanimous vote on the CEO matter in January, I think you would also agree that it is no longer unanimous view due my opposition at the present time pending further review and information. Your correspondence should reflect (as does the Lynton-Mulhaupt memo) that one Governor does oppose the legislation being discussed and promoted at this time. It would be misleading to suggest that the unanimous vote in January today reflects the total Board view as it does not.

I trust you have a productive trip to Germany.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/16/2012 5:46:44 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

The IBB/BBG executive staff appreciates the guidance and views that you have provided during the last 11 days on the potential new opportunity to help you create an empowered CEO position, one of the key reform goals among those that the Board had frequently discussed since it was seated in July 2010, and ratified with a unanimous vote in January.

As Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt indicated Monday (see below), a number of legitimate questions and issues have been raised about how the CEO position will be implemented and how it will work in practice, and the Board will have ample opportunities to discuss and decide these issues in due course.

Several such questions arose in e-mails sent by Governor Ashe last week. On Friday late afternoon we were optimistic about being able to get to all of them on Monday. But upon review, it emerged that some of the questions needed to be answered by Board members themselves, some had been addressed in our e-mails to the Board, and some seemed to be apparent from the legislative proposal and section-by-section analysis that were sent to the Board. It took some time to sort all of that out, which we were not able to do on Monday, the executive team's busiest day of the week due to the strategy, budgetary and planning meetings that are required to run this agency on a daily basis. Thank you for your patience.

Here, verbatim, are questions raised by Governor Ashe that were not addressed in any of the e-mails from Board members or from the IBB/BBG executive team, and the replies to those questions:

Q. Should this proposal be enacted what happens to Dick Lobo? Does he simply depart the Cohen Bldg? What is the effective date planned for the abolition of his position? Is it planned that Mr. Lobo simply moves over to become this new CEO? How long would he be in such a position? The proposed legislation converts the role of the IBB Director into that of a CEO, to be fired or hired by the Board. It goes into effect 30 days after the legislation is signed into law; from then on, the Board would be empowered to make its own choices. On more than one occasion during the Board's discussions about the creation of a CEO, and particularly since the Board unanimously ratified this as a key priority for agency reform in January, I have indicated that I do not wish to be considered a candidate for the CEO position.

Q. What selection process is planned for the BBG Board to implement for choosing the new CEO? What are the listed qualifications for this person? Who will lead this effort on the Board? The legislative proposal empowers the Board to decide these matters in due course.

Q. Will not this CEO have less accountability to Congress than at present? The position of CEO does not currently exist. When it does, the person in this position will have to answer to Congress to the same extent that the IBB Director currently does.

Q. What happens to the unions now representing public employees? The union for RFA? Nothing. No change in either case.

Q. Does this not make the BBG Board somewhat impotent by placing such huge power in the hands of a CEO and Board members in the minority can have information withheld from them by the CEO saying the full Board has to direct it. . not one or two members? The proposed legislation frees the Board to determine which of its authorities it wishes to delegate to the CEO.

Q. Which non delegable powers are transferred to this CEO? The legislation as proposed frees the Board to delegate its authorities to the CEO as it sees fit.

Q. I do not see any standards for the occupant of the CEO position to meet as a condition of employment? No requirement for annual evaluation or statement on who and how it would be done. These are matters that are left to the Board to decide; the legislative proposal is silent on them so that the Board can set the standards and conditions of employment.

Q. Who made the decision to exclude the VOA/OCB heads as well as the three grantees heads from this e mail chain? Why will no one own up to that decision? Why are rank and file employees not asked their views? Is OMB getting a copy of this? I made the decision based on OMB guidance dating to late 2009. Formal approval of the creation of an empowered CEO position in January came after extensive consultations and discussions with a number of relevant stakeholders, both inside and outside the agency, including Members of Congress and congressional staff – and, it should be noted on several occasions with the executives heading VOA, OCB, and the grantees. The President’s 2009 directive on transparency and open government, together with the Office of Management and Budget memorandum on its implementation, make clear that pre-decisional matters that are either before OMB or about to come before OMB, and in particular those “relating to legislative, budgetary, administrative, and regulatory materials,” should remain confidential – and that the directive should not be “construed to suggest that the presumption of openness precludes the legitimate protection of information whose release would... breach confidentiality, or damage other genuinely compelling interests.” The White House continues to support the proposed agency reforms that the Board approved unanimously in January; OMB’s review of the legislative proposal to create a CEO should help the Board identify any issues.

In the meantime, I and members of the Board alike remain very concerned that Governor Ashe violated the confidentiality of discussions among Governors by e-mailing to the entity heads the May 8 note about this legislative opportunity that was addressed to the Board and topped with a message asking all recipients not to share it further. That this message and others to the Board were subsequently leaked so that they would appear online is a further violation.

As with the previous messages on this topic, this e-mail is being sent to you only and is not intended for further distribution.

Dick Lobo

Director, International Broadcasting Bureau

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 6:55 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Message from Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt

To: Richard Lobo

CC: BBG Governors

From: Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt

You have asked for the Board's comments and guidance on offering the proposed CEO draft legislation to the House Foreign Affairs Committee for review and possible inclusion in a bill now under consideration. We are responding to this request in our roles as the Presiding Governor and Chair of the Governance Committee.

Based on the facts as outlined below and a number of conversations with Board colleagues, and absent specific contrary instructions expressed by a majority of Governors (as outlined below), please move forward with this initiative.

The entire Board has more than once approved the concept of an empowered CEO, to be achieved through legislation as appropriate. We discussed the need for and the means to create a BBG CEO position for almost a year and a half before unanimously and formally approving it in January 2012. In fact, it was one of the first issues and priorities that we discussed after being seated in July 2010. Formal approval this January came after extensive consultations and discussions with a number of relevant stakeholders, both inside and outside the agency, including Members of Congress and Congressional staff and on several occasions with the executives heading VOA, OCB, and the grantees. We also note that most of these five executives have repeatedly expressed support for this initiative. To our knowledge, not one of them has spoken out in opposition to it (unlike the case of the potential grantee merger, where one of three people heading the grantees has expressed opposition to that separate plan).

It is therefore clear that the Board has already approved the creation of a CEO. When your team identified a potential opportunity to implement this decision through draft legislation being prepared in Congress now, quite appropriately the Board was informed of this opportunity, starting with the Communications Committee 10 days ago. When asked, a majority of Board members then indicated they were comfortable with this specific approach, and they directed staff to proceed. Only one Governor expressed a negative opinion on proceeding and has raised questions and concerns; you have affirmed that you will provide answers and information to address them. In the interval, the legislative proposal was provided to the Board several days ago. A number of legitimate questions and issues have

been raised about how the CEO position will be implemented and how it will work in practice, some of them by Governor Ashe. The Board will discuss and decide these issues in due course. Again, it is clear that a majority favors moving ahead without delay on the basic issue of creating the position, whether through legislation or otherwise. If individual Governors have a contrary view, please let us and the entire Board know as soon as possible. If a majority expresses a definitive contrary view at this time, the entire Board will revisit this matter. Of course, Congress will consider this provision carefully and it will be fully vetted through the legislative process.

We wish to thank you and your senior colleagues, particularly Lynne Weil, for your excellent and useful work in bringing this important opportunity to the Board's attention.

Michael Lynton

Presiding Governor

Dennis Mulhaupt

Chair, Governance Committee

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 4:27 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil Regarding Rohrabacher Letter

Dear Colleagues,

Having read the May 15 letter from Congressman Rohrabacher carefully, I commend it to all to read equally carefully as it is direct and pointed. It should be a serious cause for concern on a broader scale than just the issue at hand which is broadcasting in Cantonese, Mandarin and Tibetan. It concludes by saying "BBG has shown itself to be opaque in its decision making and incredibly tone deaf to Congressional priorities." Those words go the actual conduct of BBG business and its congressional relations.

This letter comes after the meeting a few weeks ago which our esteemed colleague, Enders Wimbush, had with the Congressman which Gov Wimbush later described as positive to our Board. Obviously, something has happened. I do not feel that simply sending a return letter to the Congressman saying what Ms. Weil said in her cover letter to us is adequate. We as a Board need to discuss this and see where we can do better or run the risk of facing more troubled waters in our relations with key members of Congress. Even when members of Congress disagree, they should not feel our process is opaque or that we are tone deaf to their priorities. We need more than a letter going to the Congressman. We need some Governors actually visiting and letting him know that we "get it." and really mean it.

We need to be more transparent than we have been. I would urge that we open our committee meetings to the public

along with the full Board meetings to the extent permitted by law. I would urge as I stated earlier that if the majority of the Board is pushing a CEO thru legislation that the reasons and efforts be posted on our web site starting with the Lynton-Mulhaupt memo to Dick Lobo. we should not be opaque. When Congress two or three years in a row adds almost the same language to legislation giving direction on Mandarin, Cantonese and Tibetan language broadcasts, staff should accept it and we as a Board must honor it.

I invite a discussion on this.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>

Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>

Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>

(b)
(6)

Sent: Wed, May 16, 2012 12:07 pm

Subject: Message from Lynne Weil Regarding Rohrabacher Letter

Governors,

Rep. Rohrabacher sent the attached letter to the Chair and Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee for Foreign Operations indicating his concern about restructuring of VOA broadcasting in Mandarin, as well as other issues. His office copied the letter to us.

IBB/BBG and VOA executive staff are working together on a draft reply. It will address the implication that VOA contravened the FY '12 Appropriations report language by pursuing its new Mandarin television strategy, and will demonstrate why that implication is inaccurate. It will also speak to the Congressman's preference for a five-minute news update during repeat broadcast hours, given current budget realities, as well as his concern about VOA's expectation of a small reduction in the East Asian and Pacific Division in FY '13, on which no final decision has been made. And it will lay out how the Office of Performance Review stepped up its "spot checks" of several key language services, now on a biweekly basis, after Rep. Rohrabacher expressed doubts about quality control and program review; this matter arose just after Gov. Wimbush's meeting with the Congressman, and we are working to keep his staff apprised.

We'll ensure that all Governors see the final version.

Lynne
From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 10:52 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Message from the Deputy General Counsel Regarding Implementation of the S...

I wish in this case the governance materials were coming this Thursday, May 17 due to May 24 being next Thursday as arrival on Sat only gives us 5 days for review...but I am glad to get them. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/16/2012 10:06:13 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

We will mail the documents as you have requested.

The Governance Committee materials will be mailed out Friday.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 7:27:20 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from the Deputy General Counsel Regarding Implementation of the S...

please mail the attachments to me...as I had trouble printing them out. When will governance committee material come out? Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/15/2012 1:32:32 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Governors
From: (b) (6) Deputy General Counsel and DAEO
Date: May 15, 2012

Re: Implementation of the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge (STOCK) Act

As you have likely heard, Congress recently passed the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge (STOCK) Act, which the President signed the Act into law on April 4, 2012. Despite its name, the Act imposes several new disclosure obligations on executive branch employees as well. Some of the new requirements only apply to Special Government Employees that perform more than 60 days of service in a calendar year, and we have combed through the legislation to bring you the most relevant provisions. Although the executive branch is still waiting for additional guidance from the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) regarding the final implementation of the Act, please review our summary of the following STOCK Act provisions and consider how they will apply to your individual situation.

SECTION 6: PROMPT REPORTING OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS.

One of the most sweeping changes in the Act is a new requirement for public filers to disclose all reportable transactions within 45 days of their completion. Reportable transactions are purchases, sales, or exchanges of any stock, bond, commodity future or other securities (but NOT "widely held investment funds", which we believe will be

defined by OGE as mutual funds) in excess of \$1,000 (this number is the raw value of the transaction, not the gain or loss from it). This Section will only apply if you serve more than 60 days in a calendar year and are thus required to file an OGE 278 public financial disclosure form. The reporting requirements of this Section become effective on July 3, 2012.

SECTION 11: EXECUTIVE BRANCH REPORTING.

This Section will require all OGE 278 public financial disclosure forms filed in 2012 to be posted to the agency's public website within 30 days of filing. Requests for extensions to file public forms will have to be posted as well. This Section will only apply if you serve more than 60 days in a calendar year and are thus required to file an OGE 278 public financial disclosure form. The public posting requirements of this Section become effective on August 31, 2012.

SECTION 12: PARTICIPATION IN INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERINGS.

All executive branch employees in grades above (or receiving rates of pay higher than) GS-15 are prohibited from purchasing securities that are the subject of an initial public offering in any manner other than is available to members of the general public. This restriction is effective immediately and applies to all Governors regardless of their number of days served.

SECTION 17: POST-EMPLOYMENT NEGOTIATION RESTRICTIONS.

This section is likely the most significant burden imposed on senior executive branch employees. Employees that are required to file a public financial disclosure form may not negotiate for, or have any agreement of, future employment or compensation unless they file a signed notification and statement of recusal with their supervising ethics officer within 3 business days after the start of said negotiations or agreements. OGE has clarified that a negotiation begins "when an employee enters into a discussion or communication with another person, or such person's agent or intermediary, that is mutually conducted with a view toward reaching an agreement regarding possible employment or compensation with that person." Thus, actions that do not include mutual conduct, such as sending an unsolicited resume to a potential employer or receiving an unsolicited offer of employment, do not trigger the 3-day period, but receiving a call in response to a submitted resume or responding to an unsolicited offer of employment would.

A copy of OGE's proposed notification form is attached to this memo for your review and use if necessary. This Section's requirement is effective immediately and applies only to employees required to file public financial disclosure forms. Therefore, it does not apply to Governors that work fewer than 60 days in a calendar year. OGE's guidance regarding this Section, Legal Advisory LA-12-01, is included with this memo for your convenience.

I understand that these provisions are both burdensome and confusing, and we will continue to look to OGE to provide additional guidance and reference aids to help make complying with them easier. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call me or my STOCK Act POC, (b) (6), at 2 (b) (6).

Attachments

1. Notification of Post-Government Employment Form
2. Office of Government Ethics Legal Advisory (LA-12-01)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 4:56 PM

To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Roof leak Kyiv bureau

Perhaps this can be discussed at next RFE Board meeting whenever it is scheduled. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/15/2012 3:13:02 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors: Kyiv is one of our better bureaus, yet a rainstorm threatens our operations. I hope this underscores for you the urgent nature of the problems with our bureaus that I discussed with you in Miami.

Cheers,

(b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6)
Date: May 15, 2012 2:54:59 PM EDT
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Fw: Roof leak Kyiv bureau

----- Forwarded by (b) (6) on 05/15/2012 08:54 PM -----

(b) (6)

05/15/2012 08:53 PM

To (b) (6)

cc

Subject
Roof leak Kyiv bureau

Storm in Kyiv, employees saving equipment, more later m
Sent from Lotus Traveler

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 4:43 PM

To: (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6);
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6);
(b) (6); Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine

Subject: Re: Update on Building Sale - Prague

I was happy to be supportive and appreciate the in depth discussion which RFE Board did on this specific issue. Hope 10 years from now it is still seen as a good move. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/15/2012 4:13:17 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

I am pleased to inform you that we closed on our new lease yesterday with L88.

L88 has successfully purchased the building from Orco (our original landlord) and simultaneously closed on the new lease with RFE/RL. We are still working through typical closing mechanics and will update you on our continued progress. I just wanted to give you all an initial heads-up.

I'd like to thank the Board for its support during this complex and difficult transaction. We are eager to begin the new relationship with L88 to further ensure RFE/RL's broadcast headquarters achieves its maximum value to U.S. international broadcasting.

See you all in a few weeks. Thank you.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 9:45 PM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil;
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt

Dear Colleagues

I am responding to the joint memo sent to Dick Lobo by Governor Mulhaupt and Lynton. While I respect the difference of opinion which exists here, I also profoundly differ. There is an absence of discussion on the points I have raised. I feel the public process is enhanced when there is debate in a public setting on these issues. Tax dollars are involved. The memo references that I would receive answers from Mr. Lobo on the questions I raised. His email to me and copied to the full Board said I would receive them Monday (today). Unless they arrive in the next two and half hours, I have not received them on Monday. I do not know when or if I will receive them. All Governors should have responses to their questions. I look forward to the Lobo response.

Since the Lynton-Mulhaupt memo refers to the legislative process as being one in which this proposal will be fully vetted, I assume this is an assertion that the legislative process should work its way and hear from all interested citizens on all sides of this issue. I believe the legislative process should include public hearings on this which, in my view, did not happen in an adequate way on our Board. I do not feel there should be a rush to judgment.

I trust that prior e mails on this subject including the Lynton-Mulhaupt e mail should be posted on the BBG web site and it should be public that BBG is pursuing this. This is no longer pre-decisional given this memo. The decision has been now been made by memo and without a Board meeting/discussion. It seems to me that this is now in the public arena and the discussion on the topic should be fully public even if it is not in a Board setting. I welcome the thoughts of others.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> Lynne Weil
(b) (6)
Sent: Mon, May 14, 2012 6:56 pm
Subject: Message from Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt
To: Richard Lobo

CC: BBG Governors

From: Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt

You have asked for the Board's comments and guidance on offering the proposed CEO draft legislation to the House Foreign Affairs Committee for review and possible inclusion in a bill now under consideration. We are responding to this request in our roles as the Presiding Governor and Chair of the Governance Committee.

Based on the facts as outlined below and a number of conversations with Board colleagues, and absent specific contrary instructions expressed by a majority of Governors (as outlined below), please move forward with this initiative.

The entire Board has more than once approved the concept of an empowered CEO, to be achieved through legislation as appropriate. We discussed the need for and the means to create a BBG CEO position for almost a year and a half before unanimously and formally approving it in January 2012. In fact, it was one of the first issues and priorities that we discussed after being seated in July 2010. Formal approval this January came after extensive consultations and discussions with a number of relevant stakeholders, both inside and outside the agency, including Members of Congress and Congressional staff and on several occasions with the executives heading VOA, OCB, and the grantees. We also note that most of these five executives have repeatedly expressed support for this initiative. To our knowledge, not one of them has spoken out in opposition to it (unlike the case of the potential grantee merger, where one of three people heading the grantees has expressed opposition to that separate plan).

It is therefore clear that the Board has already approved the creation of a CEO. When your team identified a potential opportunity to implement this decision through draft legislation being prepared in Congress now, quite appropriately the Board was informed of this opportunity, starting with the Communications Committee 10 days ago. When asked, a majority of Board members then indicated they were comfortable with this specific approach, and they directed staff to proceed. Only one Governor expressed a negative opinion on proceeding and has raised questions and concerns; you have affirmed that you will provide answers and information to address them. In the interval, the legislative proposal was provided to the Board several days ago. A number of legitimate questions and issues have been raised about how the CEO position will be implemented and how it will work in practice, some of them by Governor Ashe. The Board will discuss and decide these issues in due course. Again, it is clear that a majority favors moving ahead without delay on the basic issue of creating the position, whether through legislation or otherwise. If individual Governors have a contrary view, please let us and the entire Board know as soon as possible. If a majority expresses a definitive contrary view at this time, the entire Board will revisit this matter. Of course, Congress will consider this provision carefully and it will be fully vetted through the legislative process.

We wish to thank you and your senior colleagues, particularly Lynne Weil, for your excellent and useful work in bringing this important opportunity to the Board's attention.

Michael Lynton
Presiding Governor

Dennis Mulhaupt
Chair, Governance Committee

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 5:18 PM

To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft CEO legislation, with analysis

Dear Mr. Lobo,

Having comments and guidance from the Board without a Board meeting and discussion back and forth is fundamentally wrong and contrary to a common sense approach to restructuring. Basically, the Board is being led into an approach which can only breed suspicion and opposition because starting with you and other staff, we have been consigned to secrecy under the guise of confidentiality and pre-decisional discussion without the Board itself voting to do this. I am sad and disappointed that people cannot see the foolishness of this approach.

Now you are asking other Governors to make comments so I will not be the only one to comment. Perhaps over the weekend, my colleagues will respond in the depth that I have responded as opposed to "I am for it" or "It has my support." It merits serious discussion but at this point is not getting it.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/11/2012 4:50:28 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

We hope you've found time to review the message below and the materials that were attached to it.

Thus far we've received comments and questions from Governor Ashe to which I will respond Monday.

We welcome your further comments and guidance before sending this proposal to the Hill.

Dick Lobo

On Thu, May 10, 2012 at 6:07 PM, Lynne Weil <(b) (6)> wrote:

Governors,

Early in its tenure, the current Board identified as a key shortcoming in the agency's structure the lack of an empowered chief executive. For many months thereafter, the Board considered the means by which to address this shortcoming. At its January 2012 meeting, the Board voted to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting in the context of a proposed International Broadcasting Innovation Act.

As explained to you over the past few days, we've identified an opportunity to implement this front-end goal of the IBIA in the current Congress, rather than the 113th as originally envisioned: adding a provision to a foreign affairs authorization bill now being prepared in the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Conversations with key HFAC majority staff indicate that this initial window of opportunity is open only for a brief time. Opportunities to refine the proposed provision will arise throughout the legislative process.

We appreciate the guidance that you have given since Tuesday afternoon, as well as earlier feedback from the Communications Committee, and we have accordingly redrafted the proposed provision creating the position of a CEO. Most importantly, this revised draft no longer includes language regarding the relationship between the CEO and the grantees, to be settled later upon further consideration by the Board. Please note that this proposed provision enables the Board to decide the CEO's responsibilities, authorities and compensation, as well as to hire or fire the incumbent, who would answer directly to the Board.

We now seek your further comments before sending this proposal to the Hill.

As currently drafted, the legislation:

- Authorizes the Board to hire, fire, and fix the compensation of a CEO answering directly to the Board.
- Authorizes the Board to delegate certain of its authorities to the CEO, which the CEO would exercise subject to the supervision of the Board.
- Converts the IBB Director position into the CEO position, preserving the journalistic firewall by eliminating the requirement that the position be Presidentially-appointed and Senate-confirmed.
- Clarifies that the VOA and OCB Directors report to the CEO.

The provision and a section-by-section analysis are attached.

Please note: We're sending this message, which contains confidential and pre-decisional information, only to the recipients visible in the To: and Cc: lines. This message, as was the case with the IBB/BBG staff's previous e-mails during the past two days regarding the opportunity to create the CEO position, is not intended for further distribution.

We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

Director of Communications and External Affairs

Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 2:18 PM

To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft CEO legislation, with analysis

Dear Colleagues,

Last night late I responded to the process part of this e mail chain. Now I wish to respond to the content part itself and point out that much of the information as a Board member which I have requested from Lynne Weil and Dick Lobo has not been provided to me. Furthermore, legal and procedural questions I raised in my e mail two days ago have not been answered. This process ignores President Obama's executive order of 2009 on transparency and openness in government. Why are we doing this? Ultimately what is going on now will become public thru FOIA's or congressional inquiry. All of us will be embarrassed by this secretive process which is so unnecessary and counterproductive.

Failure of Lynne Weil (at whose direction I do not know but assume it is Mr. Lobo) to even say who she is talking to on the Hill by name and why the minority on the same committee has not been contacted since we are a bipartisan Board is most strange. Failure to state precisely who made the decision on staff (or from a Board member if that happened) to classify these proposals as confidential is also a mistake? How did this come about?

1-Should this proposal be enacted what happens to Dick Lobo? Does he simply depart the Cohen Bldg? What is the effective date planned for the abolition of his position? Is it planned that Mr. Lobo simply moves over to become this new CEO? How long would he be in such a position?

2-What selection process is planned for the BBG Board to implement for choosing the new CEO? What are the listed qualifications for this person? Who will lead this effort on this Board?

3-Will not this CEO have less accountability to Congress than at present?

4-What happens to the unions now representing public employees? The union for RFA?

5-Does this not make the BBG Board somewhat impotent by placing such huge power in the hands of the CEO and Board members in the minority can have information withheld from them by the CEO saying the full Board has to direct it..not one or two members?

6-Which non delegable powers are transferred to this CEO? When a vacancy occurs in the office of CEO, who fills the position and how is it done on an interim basis? We need to be told precisely which authorities are being delegated?

7- I do not see any standards for the occupant of the CEO position to meet as a condition of employment? No requirement for annual evaluation or statement on who and how it would be done.

8-Why is the Board not meeting to discuss these questions? Simply because it is inconvenient?

These are serious times and serious issues. We are in the midst of a presidential election. Decisions like this should await the outcome of the election.

I hope to hear an active and robust discussion by Governors and staff on these proposals...not just a "Yes, I agree" or "NO I do not agree."

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/10/2012 6:21:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Early in its tenure, the current Board identified as a key shortcoming in the agency's structure the lack of an empowered chief executive. For many months thereafter, the Board considered the means by which to address this shortcoming. At its January 2012 meeting, the Board voted to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting in the context of a proposed International Broadcasting Innovation Act.

As explained to you over the past few days, we've identified an opportunity to implement this front-end goal of the IBIA in the current Congress, rather than the 113th as originally envisioned: adding a provision to a foreign affairs authorization bill now being prepared in the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Conversations with key HFAC majority staff indicate that this initial window of opportunity is open only for a brief time. Opportunities to refine the proposed provision will arise throughout the legislative process.

We appreciate the guidance that you have given since Tuesday afternoon, as well as earlier feedback from the Communications Committee, and we have accordingly redrafted the proposed provision creating the position of a CEO. Most importantly, this revised draft no longer includes language regarding the relationship between the CEO and the grantees, to be settled later upon further consideration by the Board. Please note that this proposed provision enables the Board to decide the CEO's responsibilities, authorities and compensation, as well as to hire or fire the incumbent, who would answer directly to the Board.

We now seek your further comments before sending this proposal to the Hill.

As currently drafted, the legislation:

- Authorizes the Board to hire, fire, and fix the compensation of a CEO answering directly to the Board.
- Authorizes the Board to delegate certain of its authorities to the CEO, which the CEO would exercise subject to the supervision of the Board.
- Converts the IBB Director position into the CEO position, preserving the journalistic firewall by eliminating the requirement that the position be Presidentially-appointed and Senate-confirmed.
- Clarifies that the VOA and OCB Directors report to the CEO.

The provision and a section-by-section analysis are attached.

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We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

Director of Communications and External Affairs

Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 11:25 PM

To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft CEO legislation, with analysis

The last time I answered an e mail from Lynne Weil (2 days ago) which was critical of the process I got an e mail back from Dick Lobo stating she was acting as his direction so perhaps I should address this e mail back to Dick Lobo as well as Lynne Weil.

First, let the record reflect my views that this whole discussion should be out in the public and at an open BBG Board meeting...not here online where we are told by a non Board member that this is predecisional and not for distribution. This inhibits my ability (and all other Governors) to reach out to friends, attorneys and others who are qualified and knowledgeable in the international media field as well as Senators and Members of the House whose views I respect. Who made this decision? It certainly was not done by a Board vote. Am I precluded from talking to congressional staffers about this? Who is making decisions which impacts my right to discuss this without consulting with me first?

Second, who made the decision to exclude the VOA/OCB heads as well as the three grantees heads from this e mail chain? Why will no one own up to that decision? Why are rank and file employees not asked their views? Is OMB getting a copy of this? I see that (b) (6) is now added when he was not on the first round of e mails last Tuesday?

Third, I find it contrary to the spirit if not the letter of the President's 2009 executive order on transparency that this is hidden and we are being asked to be party to a major congressional action by stealth since this is window of opportunity is only open a brief time according to this e mail. Who said that? Who is Lynne Weil dealing with at House Foreign Affairs Committee (majority or minority or both) or is it a Board member or someone else doing the discussions? This process is opaque and under the radar screen. Frankly Congress should hold hearings on a proposal this significant. BBG should be posting this proposal on our web site like the consolidation proposal has been posted and seek public comment? Why is there this rush to judgment without any public seeking of the public's views?

I suppose we will not have a BBG discussion on this..certainly not at a public meeting as most BBG meetings are. I formally request that when this proposal goes to the Hill that you indicate it is not unanimous and that I oppose the process by which this has been created.

I will send additional comments on the content after sleeping over this tonight.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/10/2012 6:21:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Early in its tenure, the current Board identified as a key shortcoming in the agency's structure the lack of an empowered chief executive. For many months thereafter, the Board considered the means by which to address this shortcoming. At its January 2012 meeting, the Board voted to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting in the context of a proposed International Broadcasting

Innovation Act.

As explained to you over the past few days, we've identified an opportunity to implement this front-end goal of the IBIA in the current Congress, rather than the 113th as originally envisioned: adding a provision to a foreign affairs authorization bill now being prepared in the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Conversations with key HFAC majority staff indicate that this initial window of opportunity is open only for a brief time. Opportunities to refine the proposed provision will arise throughout the legislative process.

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- Converts the IBB Director position into the CEO position, preserving the journalistic firewall by eliminating the requirement that the position be Presidentially-appointed and Senate-confirmed.
- Clarifies that the VOA and OCB Directors report to the CEO.

The provision and a section-by-section analysis are attached.

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We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 9:44 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

Dear Enders,

It would be more constructive if you could share your thinking on the CEO position and this stealth approach to legislation as opposed to saying "thank you." Enders, you have a history with international broadcasting. While we may differ, your views should be aired and discussed. We should be able to respond.

Dick Lobo has frankly missed the point on much of this. There is no assault on Lynne Weil but there has been disagreement with what she has been directed to do. She has been around a long time and knows the process.

I have no plans to retreat from my advocacy of openness. I urge you to engage in full discussion. Read the President's executive order on openness.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/9/2012 7:26:31 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Dick.

S. Enders Wimbush
Sent from my iPhone

On May 9, 2012, at 6:43 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Victor,

This assault on Lynne is both needless and baseless. The staff clears major initiatives involving the Board through me, and in this case is not asking Governors to undertake a notational vote by some other name. Lynne and her team, together with colleagues in the General Counsel's office and IBB/BBG top management, are trying to facilitate implementation of a key decision that the Board made in January 2012: to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting.

At the end of this email are the relevant portions of the Record of Decisions and the adopted Minutes from the January meeting. In two distinct decisions the Board voted both to move ahead on grantee consolidation and to pursue legislation to restructure U.S. International Broadcasting, including through the creation of a CEO.

Spotting a good opportunity to implement this Board decision in the coming months -- rather than a year or more from now as anticipated given the realities of congressional action this year -- Lynne was simply trying to inform Governors of this new legislative vehicle and to develop a sense of whether they feel comfortable with hitching a ride. She was brought on three months ago in part because she has the experience and skills to identify and act on such opportunities.

E-mail responses that we have received so far suggest that most Board members feel the staff should move forward as suggested yesterday.

Lynne and the team she has assembled have been working flat out since Friday to offer you and your fellow Governors timely and complete information, the chance to weigh in at the well in time to take the next step, and then -- based on Board feedback -- to lay out clearly a legislative proposal for the Board to review.

I am concerned as well that you have yet again violated the confidentiality of discussions among Governors -- this time by e-mailing to the entity heads yesterday's note addressed to the Board, which was topped with a message asking all recipients that it not be shared further,

There has been no objection among the Governors -- or, for that matter, the staff -- to having a pre-decisional discussion about the legislative opportunity that has presented itself. We are happy to facilitate that discussion and will be in a position to show the Governors what the legislation would look like.

Dick Lobo

Director, International Broadcasting Bureau

Excerpts from January 2012 Record of Decisions and Meeting Minutes

From the Records of Decisions: "The position of Chief Executive Officer of United States International Broadcasting (the "CEO"), reporting to the Board of Governors, shall be created. The CEO will be empowered to provide day-to-day executive leadership for United States international broadcasting and should have

management authority over the federal and non-federal elements of United States international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight.”

From the approved Minutes of the January meeting: “The Board directed the IBB Director to work with IBB staff and outside experts,

and with Governor McCue, in order to develop a draft IBIA for the Board’s further consideration. The draft legislation should have the following attributes: An organization reflecting the optimal mix of federal and non-federal assets; a creation of a Chief Executive Officer of United States International Broadcasting (the “CEO”), reporting to the Board of Governors, empowered to provide day-to-day executive leadership for United States international broadcasting and should have management authority over the federal and nonfederal elements of United States international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight.”

Also from the January Board meeting Minutes:

“Governor McCue remarked that this proposal presents an exciting, historical time for U.S. international broadcasting, and that the drafting of legislation will be done in a partnership and team effort going forward. Governor Ashe expressed his support for the proposal and noted that, in his view, efforts should be made to achieve savings, regardless of the amount, and that it makes sense to consolidate in an effort to improve the quality of service and delivery of service to places where the governments censor or deny access to accurate and objective information. Governor Ashe said consolidation, if done properly, is a good step forward for the Agency in light of the new era, especially in communications and technology. Governor Ashe also said if the consolidation is not done properly, it would cause him to change his position and strongly oppose it. The devil is in the details. Governor Ashe said he reserved the right to change his views if the implementation is not well executed. Acting Under Secretary Ann Stock commented that the Board had a very constructive, long, thoughtful, deliberative process and that the off-site briefing helped the Board come up with a plan to move

forward.

The Board then voted to restructure of United States international broadcasting, including consolidating the three BBG-sponsored grantees and seeking legislation that would include establishing a Chief Executive Officer to manage the enterprise.”

On Wed, May 9, 2012 at 2:12 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Dear Ms Weil,

The more I have thought about this series of e mails the more troubled I am about it because this is really a notational vote being carried out under another name by you as a staffer and not at the request of a Board member or IBB Director so the requirements of a notational vote do not have to be met. I refer to one member voting no and asking for a Board meeting to consider the matter as happened with RFE when Governor Meehan declined to vote Yes for some staff changes. We held a RFE Board meeting and had a discussion on it.

In Miami on April 20 we openly did not vote on consolidation of the three entities. The CEO position was mentioned in open session as it related to the entities and we voted to place that plan on the BBG web site and seek public comments which is now underway.

Yesterday, May 8 we are asked in an e mail from you to vote on you moving this forward to secure CEO legislation by the form of a straw poll online. The Board has not discussed this as a Board with all participating. We have not voted on it. Governor Lynton said there would not be a vote on consolidation on April 20. Now we are asked to move forward on a key component of the proposed US Innovation Act without discussion among Board members. This is not transparent. It is contrary to the spirit if not the letter of President Obama's executive order of 2009 on transparency. It is also a bad way to operate. Open discussion among Board members with all or most present produces a better product than short one sentence answers that say "I support it" without acknowledgment of the many issues surrounding such a move...some which I raised in the open session in Miami.

I feel this current process violates BBG bylaws on a notational vote which is what this straw poll really is. Is the BBG Board simply not going to discuss what the CEO position and selection process is all about in a Board setting?

I am perplexed that the entity heads and VOA/OCB heads have been omitted from this e mail chain when it directly impacts many of them. Again, not a good way to operate. Why are they left out?

I wonder why (b) (6) deputy general counsel, was not included on the e mail chain given the policy matter that the Board is being asked to consider. I think the BBG Board should be told precisely what the White House and HFRC were told as referenced in earlier e mail by you, Ms. Weil.

I formally request the Board meet to discuss and vote on this and exercise my right as a Board member to request such when a notational vote fails to receive unanimous consent.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/9/2012 8:41:47 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you for weighing in.

And a big thanks to all for so readily contributing views, especially to the Communications Committee members for your guidance in written and oral comments prior to the launch of this chain yesterday.

We've been reviewing the draft provision as all of these views have come in over the past few days. When the revisions are completed, we'll send it your way for further discussion -- at the start, by e-mail for your convenience (especially those currently not in DC, or even in this time zone) and to help the team here to capture all comments and keep our records straight. But of course, in addition to that, we can also work out a time for a phone call as some have indicated, and as your schedules allow.

Lynne

From: Sonenshine, Tara D
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 8:23:45 AM

To: vhashe@aol.com; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: RE: New opportunity to create a CEO position

I am supportive.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 4:20 PM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Sonenshine, Tara D

Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

Dear Colleagues,

This is a very short time frame to consider (received less than 2 hours ago) for something which in my view merits substantive Board discussion. We should not just exchange e mails saying we 'fully support' or 'oppose' but rather discuss in a Board setting (at least by phone) the pros and cons of this.

Why are the three entity heads not included on this e mail as well as (b) (6)

I urge they be added to the e mail chain and this discussion not occur without them.

While we have discussed the CEO matter conceptually, what Lynn describes here seems to go far beyond what we discussed previously in Board settings. I have previously voiced concerns about what the process is for picking a new CEO, term of office, salary, job qualifications as well as placing this unknown person in charge of the three non federal private corporate entities.

I personally feel the President should be able to appoint the BBG CEO and he/she should serve at the pleasure of the President with Senate confirmation. Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation gives the CEO status a Board appointment could not do.

I urge a Board meeting or conference call. Lynn, you state you want to be sure that the points you outline are consistent with a majority of the Board. I assume that means 5 Governors saying Yes. To date two have said Yes, I am saying No for now pending discussion.

I am also surprised that the House and Senate would consider moving something this significant without public hearings and input. I feel it is wrong to endorse this while at the same time we are now seeking public input on the BBG web site on consolidation. That is why BBG posted the consolidation report on our web site. Why are we seeking public input if at the same time BBG staff is moving to implement a major part of the consolidation before the public input comment period concludes? It means public input really does not matter when some of us feel public input really does matter.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/8/2012 2:03:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

This confidential message is being sent to you only, with the knowledge of the White House; it is pre-decisional in nature and not intended for further distribution.

Please take the time today if you can to read and react to the info below, which concerns the establishment of a CEO for U.S. international broadcasting -- a key agency reform priority that the Board approved in January and deliberated for a year before that. This is a fast-moving opportunity to implement a front-end goal of the International Broadcasting Innovation Act in the current Congress, rather than the 113th as originally envisioned.

In recent days, we've been in touch with majority staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which is close to completing work on a draft foreign affairs authorization bill that could include a provision to create the empowered CEO position to be filled by a candidate chosen by the Board rather than a political appointee.

We're looking at a very narrow window of opportunity here. We have the next few days, to get a provision into the draft bill before it's shared with the minority, and then maybe a few days afterward for any adjustments before the next legislative step. Further adjustments are possible after that.

We're polishing some draft language for your consideration. The language would:

- Eliminate the requirement that the IBB Director be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.
- Convert the IBB Director position into that of Chief Executive Officer of USIB, reporting to the Board.
- Enable the Board to hire, fire, fix the compensation of, and evaluate the CEO.
- Provide the board the flexibility to delegate some of its own authorities to reflect and support a new CEO's operational role.
- Clarify that the VOA and OCB directors report to the CEO of USIB.
- Require each grantee to report to and follow the directives of the CEO as necessary to implement the Board's strategic plan. The CEO would not act as the direct leader of the grantees, but would have authority to make sure that the grants provided by the Board are expended in accordance with the Board's formal decisions.

This language will have to be minimalist for several reasons -- not least, to better the chances of passage into law. With strong bipartisan support, the House already passed a bill creating a CEO position in 2002 and again in a different form in 2004. But the current CEO provision won't be done until we're sure that the points above are consistent with your aims and those of a majority of the Board. So please let us know your views soon.

Fyi, committee staff on both sides of the aisle say they want to craft a foreign affairs package that is bipartisan and free of new budgetary implications, as this provision would be. The bill will also include several administrative provisions requested by the BBG, such as clarifying agency authority to hire non-citizens, which the agency has sought in the past.

Work continues on the IBIA independent of this new effort, should you decide to proceed with it.

We received confirmation from the White House today that there continues to be support for both the idea of a board-appointed CEO and for the kind of agency streamlining measures that you have been discussing.

Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil

Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 9:34 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo;
Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

I respect your right to disagree. That is part of our system. However, why were the entity heads and VOA/OCB heads excluded from this e mail chain? You have not answered that. This can only create distrust. Frankly, Dick, by what right do you have the authority to declare an e mail is not to be shared with the colleagues you work with? This new CEO would have impact over them and you do not want this discussed? Have you failed to read and implement the President's 2009 executive order on transparency?

If this was a directive from you then you should have sent it out not Lynn Weil.

Your e mail does not respond to the basic question which I raised which is why this is not a notational vote? You do not respond to the basic and fundamental issue of whether the BBG Board should discuss this specific issue. I am formally requesting it and no one has responded.

Can I as a Board member inquire of Senators and members of Congress as to what they think about this? Saying this is only for the Board members and we cannot ask others including my own Senator his views is appalling?

Dick, BBG has the worst morale of all federal agencies. We need to see real progress turning this around. We need to see a more inclusive style and more transparent.

This CEO proposal being pushed by stealth is not the right way to achieve success.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/9/2012 6:44:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

This assault on Lynne is both needless and baseless. The staff clears major initiatives involving the Board through me, and in this case is not asking Governors to undertake a notational vote by some other name. Lynne and her team, together with colleagues in the General Counsel's office and IBB/BBG top management, are trying to facilitate implementation of a key decision that the Board made in January 2012: to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting.

At the end of this email are the relevant portions of the Record of Decisions and the adopted Minutes from the January meeting. In two distinct decisions the Board voted both to move ahead on grantee consolidation and to pursue legislation to restructure U.S. International Broadcasting, including through the creation of a CEO.

Spotting a good opportunity to implement this Board decision in the coming months -- rather than a year or more from now as anticipated given the realities of congressional action this year -- Lynne was simply trying to inform Governors of this new legislative vehicle and to develop a sense of whether they feel comfortable with hitching a ride. She was brought on three months ago in part because she has the experience and skills to identify and act on such opportunities.

E-mail responses that we have received so far suggest that most Board members feel the staff should move forward as suggested yesterday.

Lynne and the team she has assembled have been working flat out since Friday to offer you and your fellow Governors timely and complete information, the chance to weigh in at the well in time to take the next step, and then -- based on Board feedback -- to lay out clearly a legislative proposal for the Board to review.

I am concerned as well that you have yet again violated the confidentiality of discussions among Governors -- this time by e-mailing to the entity heads yesterday's note addressed to the Board, which was topped with a message asking all recipients that it not be shared further,

There has been no objection among the Governors -- or, for that matter, the staff -- to having a pre-decisional discussion about the legislative opportunity that has presented itself. We are happy to facilitate that discussion and will be in a position to show the Governors what the legislation would look like.

Dick Lobo

Director, International Broadcasting Bureau

Excerpts from January 2012 Record of Decisions and Meeting Minutes

From the Records of Decisions: "The position of Chief Executive Officer of United States International Broadcasting (the "CEO"), reporting to the Board of Governors, shall be created. The CEO will be empowered to provide day-to-day executive leadership for United States international broadcasting and should have

management authority over the federal and non-federal elements of United

States international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight.”

From the approved Minutes of the January meeting: “The Board directed the IBB Director to work with IBB staff and outside experts,

and with Governor McCue, in order to develop a draft IBIA for the Board’s further

consideration. The draft legislation should have the following attributes: An organization

reflecting the optimal mix of federal and non-federal assets; a creation of a Chief Executive

Officer of United States International Broadcasting (the “CEO”), reporting to the Board of

Governors, empowered to provide day-to-day executive leadership for United States

international broadcasting and should have management authority over the federal and nonfederal

elements of United States international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight.”

Also from the January Board meeting Minutes:

“Governor McCue remarked that this proposal presents an

exciting, historical time for U.S. international broadcasting, and that the drafting of legislation

will be done in a partnership and team effort going forward. Governor Ashe expressed his

support for the proposal and noted that, in his view, efforts should be made to achieve savings,

regardless of the amount, and that it makes sense to consolidate in an effort to improve the

quality of service and delivery of service to places where the governments censor or deny access

to accurate and objective information. Governor Ashe said consolidation, if done properly, is a

good step forward for the Agency in light of the new era, especially in communications and

technology. Governor Ashe also said if the consolidation is not done properly, it would cause

him to change his position and strongly oppose it. The devil is in the details. Governor Ashe

said he reserved the right to change his views if the implementation is not well executed. Acting

Under Secretary Ann Stock commented that the Board had a very constructive, long, thoughtful,

deliberative process and that the off-site briefing helped the Board come up with a plan to move

forward.

The Board then voted to restructure of United States international broadcasting, including consolidating the three BBG-sponsored grantees and seeking legislation that would include establishing a Chief Executive Officer to manage the enterprise.”

On Wed, May 9, 2012 at 2:12 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Dear Ms Weil,

The more I have thought about this series of e mails the more troubled I am about it because this is really a notational vote being carried out under another name by you as a staffer and not at the request of a Board member or IBB Director so the requirements of a notational vote do not have to be met. I refer to one member voting no and asking for a Board meeting to consider the matter as happened with RFE when Governor Meehan declined to vote Yes for some staff changes. We held a RFE Board meeting and had a discussion on it.

In Miami on April 20 we openly did not vote on consolidation of the three entities. The CEO position was mentioned in open session as it related to the entities and we voted to place that plan on the BBG web site and seek public comments which is now underway.

Yesterday, May 8 we are asked in an e mail from you to vote on you moving this forward to secure CEO legislation by the form of a straw poll online. The Board has not discussed this as a Board with all participating. We have not voted on it. Governor Lynton said there would not be a vote on consolidation on April 20. Now we are asked to move forward on a key component of the proposed US Innovation Act without discussion among Board members. This is not transparent. It is contrary to the spirit if not the letter of President Obama's executive order of 2009 on transparency. It is also a bad way to operate. Open discussion among Board members with all or most present produces a better product than short one sentence answers that say "I support it" without acknowledgment of the many issues surrounding such a move...some which I raised in the open session in Miami.

I feel this current process violates BBG bylaws on a notational vote which is what this straw poll really is. Is the BBG Board simply not going to discuss what the CEO position and selection process is all about in a Board setting?

I am perplexed that the entity heads and VOA/OCB heads have been omitted from this e mail chain when it directly impacts many of them. Again, not a good way to operate. Why are they left out?

I wonder why (b) (6) deputy general counsel, was not included on the e mail chain given the policy matter that the Board is being asked to consider. I think the BBG Board should be told precisely what the White House and HFRC were told as referenced in earlier e mail by you, Ms. Weil.

I formally request the Board meet to discuss and vote on this and exercise my right as a Board member to request such when a notational vote fails to receive unanimous consent.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/9/2012 8:41:47 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you for weighing in.

And a big thanks to all for so readily contributing views, especially to the Communications Committee members for your guidance in written and oral comments prior to the launch of this chain yesterday.

We've been reviewing the draft provision as all of these views have come in over the past few days. When the revisions are completed, we'll send it your way for further discussion -- at the start, by e-mail for your convenience (especially those currently not in DC, or even in this time zone) and to help the team here to capture all comments and keep our records straight. But of course, in addition to that, we can also work out a time for a phone call as some have indicated, and as your schedules allow.

Lynne

From: Sonenshine, Tara D
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 8:23:45 AM

To: vhashe@aol.com; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: RE: New opportunity to create a CEO position

I am supportive.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 4:20 PM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

Sonenshine, Tara D

Dear Colleagues,

This is a very short time frame to consider (received less than 2 hours ago) for something which in my view merits substantive Board discussion. We should not just exchange e mails saying we 'fully support' or 'oppose' but rather discuss in a Board setting (at least by phone) the pros and cons of this.

Why are the three entity heads not included on this e mail as well as (b) (6) ? I urge they be added to the e mail chain and this discussion not occur without them.

While we have discussed the CEO matter conceptually, what Lynn describes here seems to go far beyond what we discussed previously in Board settings. I have previously voiced concerns about what the process is for picking a new CEO, term of office, salary, job qualifications as well as placing this unknown person in charge of the three non federal private corporate entities.

I personally feel the President should be able to appoint the BBG CEO and he/she should serve at the pleasure of the President with Senate confirmation. Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation gives the CEO status a Board appointment could not do.

I urge a Board meeting or conference call. Lynn, you state you want to be sure that the points you outline are consistent with a majority of the Board. I assume that means 5 Governors saying Yes. To date two have said Yes, I am saying No for now pending discussion.

I am also surprised that the House and Senate would consider moving something this significant without public hearings and input. I feel it is wrong to endorse this while at the same time we are now seeking public input on the BBG web site on consolidation. That is why BBG posted the consolidation report on our web site. Why are we seeking public input if at the same time BBG staff is moving to implement a major part of the consolidation before the public input comment period concludes? It means public input really does not matter when some of us feel public input really does matter.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/8/2012 2:03:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

This confidential message is being sent to you only, with the knowledge of the White House; it is pre-decisional in nature and not intended for further distribution.

Please take the time today if you can to read and react to the info below, which concerns the establishment of a CEO for U.S. international broadcasting -- a key agency reform priority that the Board approved in January and deliberated for a year before that. This is a fast-moving opportunity to implement a front-end goal of the International Broadcasting Innovation Act in the current Congress, rather than the 113th as originally envisioned.

In recent days, we've been in touch with majority staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which is close to completing work on a draft foreign affairs authorization bill that could include a provision to create the empowered CEO position to be filled by a candidate chosen by the Board rather than a political appointee.

We're looking at a very narrow window of opportunity here. We have the next few days, to get a provision into the draft bill before it's shared with the minority, and then maybe a few days afterward for any adjustments before the next legislative step. Further adjustments are possible after that.

We're polishing some draft language for your consideration. The language would:

- Eliminate the requirement that the IBB Director be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.
- Convert the IBB Director position into that of Chief Executive Officer of USIB, reporting to the Board.
- Enable the Board to hire, fire, fix the compensation of, and evaluate the CEO.
- Provide the board the flexibility to delegate some of its own authorities to reflect and support a new CEO's operational role.
- Clarify that the VOA and OCB directors report to the CEO of USIB.
- Require each grantee to report to and follow the directives of the CEO as necessary to implement the Board's strategic plan. The CEO would not act as the direct leader of the grantees, but would have authority to make sure that the grants provided by the Board are expended in accordance with the Board's formal decisions.

This language will have to be minimalist for several reasons -- not least, to better the chances of passage into law. With strong bipartisan support, the House already passed a bill creating a CEO position in 2002 and again in a different form in 2004. But the current CEO provision won't be done until we're sure that the points above are consistent with your aims and those of a majority of the Board. So please let us know your views soon.

Fyi, committee staff on both sides of the aisle say they want to craft a foreign affairs package that is bipartisan and free of new budgetary implications, as this provision would be. The bill will also include several administrative provisions requested by the BBG, such as clarifying agency authority to hire non-citizens, which the agency has sought in the past.

Work continues on the IBIA independent of this new effort, should you decide to proceed with it.

We received confirmation from the White House today that there continues to be support for both the idea of a board-appointed CEO and for the kind of agency streamlining measures that you have been discussing.

Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

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Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 9:23 PM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

It would be helpful Enders given your extensive background in international broadcasting if you would explain why you feel as you do. Just saying thank you or I concur really adds little to the discussion.

You have opinions which should be shared. The absence of a BBG meeting on this issue is appalling. It is so non inclusive. This is being steam rolled.

Enders, do you agree that the entity heads and VOA/OCB heads should be omitted from the e mail chain?

I deeply regret that you do not want a full and candid discussion on this.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/9/2012 7:26:31 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Dick.

S. Enders Wimbush
Sent from my iPhone

On May 9, 2012, at 6:43 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Victor,

This assault on Lynne is both needless and baseless. The staff clears major initiatives involving the Board through me, and in this case is not asking Governors to undertake a notational vote by some other name. Lynne and her team, together with colleagues in the General Counsel's office and IBB/BBG top management, are trying to facilitate implementation of a key decision that the Board made in January 2012: to pursue legislation to create a CEO of United States international broadcasting.

At the end of this email are the relevant portions of the Record of Decisions and the adopted Minutes from the January meeting. In two distinct decisions the Board voted both to move ahead on grantee consolidation and to pursue legislation to restructure U.S. International Broadcasting, including through the creation of a CEO.

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The Board then voted to restructure of United States international broadcasting, including consolidating the three BBG-sponsored grantees and seeking legislation that would include establishing a Chief Executive Officer to manage the enterprise.”

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Broadcasting Board of Governors

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To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

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Yesterday, May 8 we are asked in an e mail from you to vote on you moving this forward to secure CEO legislation by the form of a straw poll online. The Board has not discussed this as a Board with all participating. We have not voted on it. Governor Lynton said there would not be a vote on consolidation on April 20. Now we are asked to move forward on a key component of the proposed US Innovation Act without discussion among Board members. This is not transparent. It is contrary to the spirit if not the letter of President Obama's executive order of 2009 on transparency. It is also a bad way to operate. Open discussion among Board members with all or most present produces a better product than short one sentence answers that say "I support it" without acknowledgment of the many issues surrounding such a move...some which I raised in the open session in Miami.

I feel this current process violates BBG bylaws on a notational vote which is what this straw poll really is. Is the BBG Board simply not going to discuss what the CEO position and selection process is all about in a Board setting?

I am perplexed that the entity heads and VOA/OCB heads have been omitted from this e mail chain when it directly impacts many of them. Again, not a good way to operate. Why are they left out?

I wonder why (b) (6), deputy general counsel, was not included on the e mail chain given the policy matter that the Board is being asked to consider. I think the BBG Board should be told precisely what the White House and HFRC were told as referenced in earlier e mail by you, Ms. Weil.

I formally request the Board meet to discuss and vote on this and exercise my right as a Board member to request such when a notational vote fails to receive unanimous consent.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/9/2012 8:41:47 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you for weighing in.

And a big thanks to all for so readily contributing views, especially to the Communications Committee members for your guidance in written and oral comments prior to the launch of this chain yesterday.

We've been reviewing the draft provision as all of these views have come in over the past few days. When the revisions are completed, we'll send it your way for further discussion -- at the start, by e-mail for your convenience (especially those currently not in DC, or even in this time zone) and to help the team here to capture all comments and keep our records straight. But of course, in addition to that, we can also work out a time for a phone call as some have indicated, and as your schedules allow.

Lynne

From: Sonenshine, Tara D

Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2012 8:23:45 AM

To: vhashe@aol.com; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: RE: New opportunity to create a CEO position

I am supportive.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 4:20 PM

To: (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

Dear Colleagues,

This is a very short time frame to consider (received less than 2 hours ago) for something which in my view merits substantive Board discussion. We should not just exchange e mails saying we 'fully support' or 'oppose' but rather discuss in a Board setting (at least by phone) the pros and cons of this.

Why are the three entity heads not included on this e mail as well as (b) (6)? I urge they be added to the e mail chain and this discussion not occur without them.

While we have discussed the CEO matter conceptually, what Lynn describes here seems to go far beyond what we discussed previously in Board settings. I have previously voiced concerns about what the process is for picking a new CEO, term of office, salary, job qualifications as well as placing this unknown person in charge of the three non federal private corporate entities.

I personally feel the President should be able to appoint the BBG CEO and he/she should serve at the pleasure of the President with Senate confirmation. Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation gives the CEO status a Board appointment could not do.

I urge a Board meeting or conference call. Lynn, you state you want to be sure that the points you outline are consistent with a majority of the Board. I assume that means 5 Governors saying Yes. To date two have said Yes, I am saying No for now pending discussion.

I am also surprised that the House and Senate would consider moving something this significant without public hearings and input. I feel it is wrong to endorse this while at the same time we are now seeking public input on the BBG web site on consolidation. That is why BBG posted the consolidation report on our web site. Why are we seeking public input if at the same time BBG staff is moving to implement a major part of the consolidation before the public input comment period concludes? It means public input really does not matter when some of us feel public input really does matter.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/8/2012 2:03:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

This confidential message is being sent to you only, with the knowledge of the White House; it is pre-decisional in nature and not intended for further distribution.

Please take the time today if you can to read and react to the info below, which concerns the establishment of a CEO for U.S. international broadcasting -- a key agency reform priority that the Board approved in January and deliberated for a year before that. This is a fast-moving opportunity to implement a front-end goal of the International Broadcasting Innovation Act in the current Congress, rather than the 113th as originally envisioned.

In recent days, we've been in touch with majority staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which is close to completing work on a draft foreign affairs authorization bill that could include a provision to create the empowered CEO position to be filled by a candidate chosen by the Board rather than a political appointee.

We're looking at a very narrow window of opportunity here. We have the next few days, to get a provision into the draft bill before it's shared with the minority, and then maybe a few days afterward for any adjustments before the next legislative step. Further adjustments are possible after that.

We're polishing some draft language for your consideration. The language would:

- Eliminate the requirement that the IBB Director be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.
- Convert the IBB Director position into that of Chief Executive Officer of USIB, reporting to the Board.
- Enable the Board to hire, fire, fix the compensation of, and evaluate the CEO.
- Provide the board the flexibility to delegate some of its own authorities to reflect and support a new CEO's operational role.
 - Clarify that the VOA and OCB directors report to the CEO of USIB.
 - Require each grantee to report to and follow the directives of the CEO as necessary to implement the Board's strategic plan. The CEO would not act as the direct leader of the grantees, but would have authority to make sure that the grants provided by the Board are expended in accordance with the Board's formal decisions.

This language will have to be minimalist for several reasons -- not least, to better the chances of passage into law. With strong bipartisan support, the House already passed a bill creating a CEO position in 2002 and again in a different form in 2004. But the current CEO provision won't be done until we're sure that the points above are consistent with your aims and those of a majority of the Board. So please let us know your views soon.

Fyi, committee staff on both sides of the aisle say they want to craft a foreign affairs package that is bipartisan and free of new budgetary implications, as this provision would be. The bill will also include several administrative provisions requested by the BBG, such as clarifying agency authority to hire non-citizens, which the agency has sought in the past.

Work continues on the IBIA independent of this new effort, should you decide to proceed with it.

We received confirmation from the White House today that there continues to be support for both the idea of a board-appointed CEO and for the kind of agency streamlining measures that you have been discussing.

Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 4:46 PM

To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

Dear Colleagues,

Not sure if the recent e mail I sent on this subject when thru to all. So I am e mailing again. If this is a second copy for you I apologize. However, this is a very short time frame (I have only had Lynn's email for less than 3 hours) to consider such a significant proposal which merits substantive Board discussion.

This proposal which Lynn outlines goes beyond the CEO concept which we have previously discussed and I think the full BBG Board should discuss this prior to making a recommendation to Congress. I am troubled about extending this to the non federal private corporate entities which Congress created.

I am surprised and disappointed that the three entity heads are not included on this e mail nor are (b) (6) and all are impacted. I hope future e mails bring them into it.

I have previously voiced concerns about the CEO position and how he/she will be chosen, qualifications to be set, salary to be paid, term of office and authority. In my view they should be fleshed out prior to making a recommendation.

In Miami we decided to post the consolidation report on the BBG web site and seek public input. That is going on now. To then move to push this CEO concept into law before we have completed receiving public input calls into question our sincerity in asking for public input on this part of the consolidation report if we are going to act without it.

I also feel the CEO should be a Presidential appointee with Senate confirmation as that process gives the person who holds the position more status than a Board choice would give.

If Lynn is seeking to know where all stand, it seems almost immediately two Governors have said they 'fully support.' I vote No pending further discussion. It is important that the full Board talk this over and include the entity heads as well as VOA and OCB.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

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Fyi, committee staff on both sides of the aisle say they want to craft a foreign affairs package that is bipartisan and free of new budgetary implications, as this provision would be. The bill will also include several administrative provisions requested by the BBG, such as clarifying agency authority to hire non-citizens, which the agency has sought in the past.

Work continues on the IBIA independent of this new effort, should you decide to proceed with it.

We received confirmation from the White House today that there continues to be support for both the idea of a board-appointed CEO and for the kind of agency streamlining measures that you have been discussing.

Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 4:20 PM

To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: New opportunity to create a CEO position

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Many thanks for your attention. We look forward to your comments.

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2012 9:56 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on May 24, 2012

the title on notational voting causes one to wonder what this is all about? Is there a proposal to change it? How and why?

rest seems up front.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6); hashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (U) (S)
(b) (6)
Sent: Mon, May 7, 2012 9:36 am
Subject: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on May 24, 2012
Dear Governance Committee Members:

Attached please find a proposed draft agenda for the upcoming Governance Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, May 24, 9 – 11:30 am EST. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Mulhaupt.

Please review the attached agenda and send us any comments at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 2:08 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Rumor regarding China service

(b) (6)

Thanks for your call today and your explanation of what is going on which like many things provides new light to the point that there is some grey here.

You indicated that (b) (6) said there had been congressional oversight approval but it was oral. If correct, you should get the approval in writing as I assume the request was in writing. This whole issue is very volatile and when it involves Congress, oral approvals are just that and a written approval is much stronger. My personal advice would always be to rely on a written approval for a change in this area of activity.

Thanks for your prompt and frank response.

Victor

In a message dated 5/6/2012 1:07:26 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

We are not reducing our eight hours a day of Mandarin radio, but there is a staff assignment change today which probably is the source of this misunderstanding. I will call you shortly to provide details.

(b) (6)

On May 6, 2012, at 12:32 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

What I sent to Lynne Weil and (b) (6) is exactly what I got as a formal inquiry to me as a Board member. You have answered it as being false and that should be the end of it. I felt an obligation to seek a reply since I was formally asked about it and certainly did not know whether it was true or false. As for seeking the source of rumors, I found a long time that is often not a productive area of inquiry as it seldom produces truthful answers. You are free to pursue it.

In this case, the rumor has been pronounced false by you. I am glad it is false and it has been resolved within hours. The Cohen Bldg is often the source of rumors just as it was on the content of the private meeting you convened in Miami on April 19 to discuss a topic we were not to discuss outside that room and I heard about it 4 hours later at the Doral. I shared this discovery with you and others the next day.

Have a great weekend.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/6/2012 10:43:23 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

I am responding to the email you sent to (b) (6) and Lynne Weil at 1:17am this (Sunday) morning.

The CUSIB rumor you passed along with respect to reductions in service to China which were to take place today is absolutely false.

It would seem that you might be interested is inquiring about the source of erroneous information such as this.

Regards,

Dick Lobo

Sent from my iPad

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 12:33 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6) (D) (b)

Subject: Re: Rumor regarding China service

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Victor Ashe

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Regards,

Dick Lobo

Sent from my iPad

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, May 04, 2012 11:28 AM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: Scheduling Corporate Board Meetings?

Hopefully the RFE office on Connecticut can set up the video or teleconferencing participation for Washington Governors for Prague as it worked incredibly well when (b) (6) and I participated in presenting some awards a few months back. The technical equipment is there and seems to work well and they are used to doing it. Both for RFE as well as BBG meetings. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/4/2012 10:22:47 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

and I may be video'ing in as well, assuming that is an option ?

On May 4, 2012, at 10:20 AM, (b) (6) wrote:

My schedule is not clear if I can physically be in Prague. I will join by phone as needed from DC if I cannot travel. I don't plan on an RFA meeting for June. Thanks.

Michael.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: (b) (6)

Date: Fri, 4 May 2012 13:39:21 +0000

To: (b) (6)

vhashe@aol.com<vhashe@aol.com>;

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Scheduling Corporate Board Meetings?

Dear Governors,

As we're into planning for the June Board meeting at RFE/RL headquarters in Prague, kindly let us know at your earliest convenience whether we should plan for any corporate meetings of the grantees.

Currently, a meeting of the RFE/RL Board of Directors is tentatively scheduled for June 8 (mid-morning in Prague).

Should there be other corporate meetings, staff will schedule these meetings in the afternoon in Prague so that participants from Washington can participate by video conference at RFE/RL's Washington office (morning hours in DC).

Thank you.

susan mccue |

(b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, May 04, 2012 11:15 AM

To: (b) (6) | (b) (6) | (b) (6) | (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6) | (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Scheduling Corporate Board Meetings?

a mid morning RFE Board meeting on June 8 will make it difficult for anyone still in Washington such as Sec. Sonenshine to participate due to 6 hours time difference in case it matters for a quorum...not to mention the good advice and comments her participation brings to any meeting. I suggest it be held on June 7 afternoon where more can participate.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/4/2012 9:40:59 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

As we're into planning for the June Board meeting at RFE/RL headquarters in Prague, kindly let us know at your earliest convenience whether we should plan for any corporate meetings of the grantees.

Currently, a meeting of the RFE/RL Board of Directors is tentatively scheduled for June 8 (mid-morning in Prague).

Should there be other corporate meetings, staff will schedule these meetings in the afternoon in Prague so that participants from Washington can participate by video conference at RFE/RL's Washington office (morning hours in DC).

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 9:04 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

Pakistan suits me too.

Victor

In a message dated 5/3/2012 9:01:03 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Let's do Pakistan, as it's a much-studied, high-priority place, unless Gov. Ashe has another country he prefers. In fact, I can send the Pak studies easily, as I just grouped them in my own online folder in tandem with the deep dive on Pakistan we recently did at the US Institute of Peace. I'll do that in about 30 minutes. Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

On May 3, 2012, at 8:48 AM, (b) (6) wrote:

Governor Ashe, I will send you a list of surveys from 2011/2012 later this morning. I'll also gather some representative research reports to send. Let me know if there's a particular country you're interested in.

Regards,

(b) (6)

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 8:15:45 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

Victor,

Good morning. BBG broadcasts to more than 100 countries, but we have never had the resources to survey all of those annually, or even biannually. Typically we do survey research in 50 or so countries a year.

For example, for the 22 countries of the Middle East served by Alhurra TV and Rado Sawa, we have surveyed 9-11 countries per year. For the 31 countries of Francophone Africa served by VOA French to Africa, we do just a few annually, again due to limited resources. The same holds true for our research in the many Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America.

On the other hand, for top-priority countries or territories such as China, Tibet, Russia, Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, et al, we have always tried to do annual work.

(b) (6), BBG's research manager who works for me, can send you the list of countries we surveyed last year and those we have identified to survey thus far this year under the new Gallup contract. Among the first Gallup projects were Tibet and Iran, and we should have the final results from both studies very soon. (Looking at these two specifically will also allow us to discuss with you and the Board how we approach difficult-to-research areas to procure nonetheless actionable data.)

The cost range for a nationally representative media survey across our universe of countries is \$125,000-250,000. This is for a random sample of 2000 respondents (or much higher in larger countries like China, where national samples go as high as 8500 respondents) with a questionnaire that can run 45 minutes in length to obtain the diversity of data our language services require in terms of ownership of/access to and actual use of TV, radio, Internet, mobile phones, and social media as well as preferences for media outlets and subject areas.

From the surveys, we derive most of our key performance data on audience reach, news reliability, audience understanding, etc., which we are required to report to OMB and Congress. The data also inform our strategy and budget formulation, drive the annual language service review, and help determine distribution/transmission decisions, etc.

This said, audience and media surveys are only part of the BBG's research program. Qualitative and evaluative research are the other, equally important, parts.

Qualitative research includes focus groups and in-depth interviews to probe specific issues of interest to the language services regarding their programs, to test program concepts and pilots, to explore audience perceptions of competing media outlets, etc.

Evaluative research involves listener and viewer panels, which have been done for every service for many years to gauge program quality on both substance and style, and custom-commissioned reviews of program content such as the evaluations the Board (Enders was the lead) asked be done of PNN.

All BBG research is archived in our offices and at the broadcast entities. You can see any of it whenever you wish. In fact, we'll also send you a complete set of studies for a single country so you can see the specific work products.

For years we routinely distributed all BBG research in summary form to the Board. But the sheer volume of the work proved overwhelming -- tallying up all quantitative (surveys), qualitative, and evaluative studies annually, the number of discrete projects with corresponding reports runs between 200-300.

I hope this answers your immediate questions. I appreciate your interest. The research program is an open book. We'll follow up as noted and will gladly walk you through any of the studies or reports, or any aspects of actual research methodologies or program administration that you'd care to explore.

Best, Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

On May 3, 2012, at 6:54 AM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Bruce and Jeff

It is my understanding that the Gallup contract provides for surveys in 100 countries as part of the research project. Is that number correct? How can I find out which nations those are? Does the type of survey done in each nation vary or the same in each? Does the contract do 100 countries annually? When those surveys are done who at BBG maintains them?

If I should be asking someone else about this please advise or share it with them?

I look forward to hearing from you about this. Feel free to call if this inquiry is too burdensome so we can discuss.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 8:54 AM
To: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

thanks so much. If you send one or two countries (unless they are just a couple of pages) please send them snail mail as my home computer cannot print out 50 or 60 pages....would be interested in Tibet, Iran and Cuba. Thanks for your prompt response. Most helpful.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/3/2012 8:48:18 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe, I will send you a list of surveys from 2011/2012 later this morning. I'll also gather some representative research reports to send. Let me know if there's a particular country you're interested in.

Regards,

(b) (6)

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 8:15:45 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

Victor,

Good morning. BBG broadcasts to more than 100 countries, but we have never had the resources to survey all of those annually, or even biannually. Typically we do survey research in 50 or so countries a year.

For example, for the 22 countries of the Middle East served by Alhurra TV and Rado Sawa, we have surveyed 9-11 countries per year. For the 31 countries of Francophone Africa served by VOA French to Africa, we do just a few annually, again due to limited resources. The same holds true for our research in the many Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America.

On the other hand, for top-priority countries or territories such as China, Tibet, Russia, Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, et al, we have always tried to do annual work.

(b) (6) BBG's research manager who works for me, can send you the list of countries we surveyed last year and those we have identified to survey thus far this year under the new Gallup contract. Among the first Gallup projects were Tibet and Iran, and we should have the final results from both studies very soon. (Looking at these two specifically will also allow us to discuss with you and the Board how we approach difficult-to-research areas to procure nonetheless actionable data.)

The cost range for a nationally representative media survey across our universe of countries is \$125,000-250,000. This is for a random sample of 2000 respondents (or much higher in larger countries like China, where national samples go as high as 8500 respondents) with a questionnaire that can run 45 minutes in length to obtain the diversity of data our language services require in terms of ownership of/access to and actual use of TV, radio, Internet, mobile phones, and social media as well as preferences for media outlets and subject areas.

From the surveys, we derive most of our key performance data on audience reach, news reliability, audience understanding, etc., which we are required to report to OMB and Congress. The data also inform our strategy and budget formulation, drive the annual language service review, and help determine distribution/transmission decisions, etc.

This said, audience and media surveys are only part of the BBG's research program. Qualitative and evaluative research are the other, equally important, parts.

Qualitative research includes focus groups and in-depth interviews to probe specific issues of interest to the language services regarding their programs, to test program concepts and pilots, to explore audience perceptions of competing media outlets, etc.

Evaluative research involves listener and viewer panels, which have been done for every service for many years to gauge program quality on both substance and style, and custom-commissioned reviews of program content such as the evaluations the Board (Enders was the lead) asked be done of PNN.

All BBG research is archived in our offices and at the broadcast entities. You can see any of it whenever you wish. In fact, we'll also send you a complete set of studies for a single country so you can see the specific work products.

For years we routinely distributed all BBG research in summary form to the Board. But the sheer volume of the

work proved overwhelming -- tallying up all quantitative (surveys), qualitative, and evaluative studies annually, the number of discrete projects with corresponding reports runs between 200-300.

I hope this answers your immediate questions. I appreciate your interest. The research program is an open book. We'll follow up as noted and will gladly walk you through any of the studies or reports, or any aspects of actual research methodologies or program administration that you'd care to explore.

Best, Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

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I look forward to hearing from you about this. Feel free to call if this inquiry is too burdensome so we can discuss.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 7:38 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: GAO study

Jeff

I assume the request for extensive background information from GAO has come in writing. I would like to have a copy or copies as the case may be of what they are seeking assuming it is written. I appreciate your explanation of this in this memo to all.

We miss you here at the Murrow re dedication which should be a wonderful occasion for IBB/BBG and the local community.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

Bruce Sherman (b) (6)

Sent: Tue, May 1, 2012 3:39 pm
Subject: RE: GAO study

Governors, colleagues – as Dick wrote last evening, the GAO has begun a study in cooperation with this agency that looks at the proposals and strategy for streamlining U.S. international media.

In its notification to the agency of the engagement (attached here, and pls not for further distribution), the GAO referenced the multiple international broadcast entities that BBG oversees and noted challenges and opportunities identified by both the Board and others for streamlining U.S. international media.

The study is in its very early days. (b) (6), working with (b) (6), is the agency lead contact. The agency met with the GAO staff in late March for an initial “entrance” discussion. At that time, the GAO stressed that they were in the “design phase” of the study, and would be working on their methodology and the scope of the report. As yet the GAO has not fully defined the scope of the project or its methodology, and these could change with time. They are in a “data collection” stage in the project, after which they will confer with interested parties on the Hill to agree on the overall approach of the study. We'll learn more as they enter more deeply into discussions with us. The GAO does not expect to finish its report until this autumn.

So far, the GAO has expressed an interest in the new strategic plan and agency implementation of it, stating that they do not take issue with what we have done, but are interested in how we derived the plan. They have asked for extensive background information related to the development of the strategic plan, such as the convening of expert panels, SWOT analysis, and other research. Going forward, the GAO's researchers will want to speak with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity.

The lead staff member of the GAO group, (b) (6), will attend the rededication event at Greenville. Her purpose is to see a BBG transmitting station.

We view this study as an opportunity to make the GAO - and its ultimate audience and client, Congress - aware of the agency's robust efforts to operate more efficiently and effectively amid the current budget environment. We have asked the GAO about the appropriateness of posting information about the GAO engagement on our website. Consulting with the GAO's public affairs and congressional relations offices, we were told that they are not aware of any instance where an agency posted this information. It is GAO's policy not to confirm or deny any engagement until the scope and methodology of the job are settled. These issues have not been settled with respect to the current BBG engagement, and are not likely to be settled for several more months. Thus, if the GAO were to get an inquiry pursuant to our posting, the GAO would offer no information.

In addition, the GAO cautioned that reports are "owned" by the requesters from the Congress, rather than the GAO. Therefore it is possible that the requesters in Congress would not find the web posting appropriate and it could in fact anger them.

Rgds
Jeff

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2012 5:40 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; BBG Board Group
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO study

From my years on the hill GAO investigations are requested often by members of Congress. Can we learn when the request was written and what did they ask for GAO to look at? What did they ask and when did the GAO begin the investigation?

Who is the lead for the BBG?

Thanks.
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Date: Mon, 30 Apr 2012 22:33:48 +0000
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Subject: GAO study

Governors, colleagues, a message from Dick Lobo:

I wanted to make sure you know that the GAO has begun a study in cooperation with this agency that looks at the proposals and strategy for streamlining U.S. international media. To begin, they are talking with us about the challenges related to overlap and coordination.

As they start the project, the GAO's researchers will be speaking with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity. At this time, the GAO has not fully defined the scope of the project or its methodology. We'll learn more as they enter more deeply into discussions with us.

The GAO study was requested by Senators Akaka (D-Hawaii) and Johnson (R-Wisconsin), who serve as Chair and Ranking Member, respectively, on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the Federal Workforce. The GAO is also looking at other Federal programs, including democracy assistance, assistance to Afghanistan, and food aid.

We view this study as an opportunity to make the GAO - and its ultimate audience and client, Congress - aware of the agency's robust efforts to operate more efficiently and effectively amid the current budget environment. We will keep you informed as this study progresses.

Dick L.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 7:31 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Bruce Sherman; (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO study

Thanks for sending the information. I noticed it was dated March 2 but the full BBG Board was not told about the GAO study until this week..the week of May 1...almost two months after the original notice of March 2. Even in our Miami meeting this was not discussed in open or private session. What was the reason for the delay in providing such important information? GAO doing a study is not an everyday event but significant especially in terms of our congressional relations and oversight. I feel this two month delay in notice to the full BBG Board needs some explanation.

Jeff, is there any additional information in writing from GAO since March 2 on this study and review?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil
(b) (6); (b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Sent: Tue, May 1, 2012 3:39 pm
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Rgds
Jeff

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2012 5:40 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO study

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Date: Mon, 30 Apr 2012 22:33:48 +0000
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Lynne

Wei (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Bruce Sherman (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: GAO study

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We view this study as an opportunity to make the GAO - and its ultimate audience and client, Congress - aware of the agency's robust efforts to operate more efficiently and effectively amid the current budget environment. We will keep you informed as this study progresses.

Dick L.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2012 5:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - Reply to Rohrabacher Letter

We also owe (b) (6) a response to her letter sent on April 4. It is almost two months since it was sent and no answer to a distinguished American lady.

The letter to Congressman Rohrabacher was a start but I regret that the letter prepared for Gov. Lynton failed to address head on his statement that BBG proceedings are opaque and are tone deaf to congressional intent. The letter never mentions it in the Lynton response which is most unfortunate.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Jun 1, 2012 2:05 pm
Subject: Message from Lynne Weil - Reply to Rohrabacher Letter

Governors,

Attached is a reply from Presiding Governor Lynton to Rep. Rohrabacher after the latter sent a letter to the Chair and Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee for Foreign Operations indicating concerns about VOA broadcasting in Mandarin, as well as other issues.

IBB/BBG and VOA executive staff worked together and with the Communications and Outreach Committee, as well as Governor Lynton, on the reply.

For your reference, the letter from Rep. Rohrabacher is also attached.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 6:44 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Fw: Letter to Mr. Richard Lobo

I certainly hope so in terms of governance hearing from management...but in all honesty, Dick has total confidence in legal and he and I must agree to disagree. Until there is a fundamental change in approach it will not improve in my view. It is sad,unfortunate and unnecessary. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/30/2012 6:22:38 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
I assume an update on and a discussion about the union negotiations will be on the agenda for the upcoming Governance Comm meeting.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

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

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Mon, 30 Jul 2012 17:15:19
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Letter to Mr. Richard Lobo

My disagreement with the way BBG/IBB management is handling union negotiations is well known by fellow board members,dick lobo and (b) (6). The management attitude is rigid and legalistic. It is overwhelmed by attorneys who are clueless on how to better employee employer relations. Having been a Mayor for 16 years I am knowledgeable about some of these issues. I really wish the board would look closely at this as it could be solved but as long as we turn it over to the legal folks this will continue and we will continue to reap bad reviews on morale surveys by OPM.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Jul 30, 2012 2:05 pm
Subject: Letter to Mr. Richard Lobo

Please see attached letter to Mr. Richard Lobo. Thanks.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2012 7:40 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: IBIA working group

THanks for this information. I do feel it is important given the issue being discussed that we share all with the IBIA group and secure a common view, if possible, on these matters. Certainly whatever comes out of the July 31 phone call should be shared with the IBIA group and their reaction sought.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/27/2012 1:15:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

(b) (6) has been on the road to where his father lives; we just spoke. We'd like to emphasize that the IBIA working group has discussed the role of Board and the CEO, and new recommendations have not been developed since the group's last meeting.

Per (b) (6) note below, this briefing follows the Board's directive in January to "consult with Governors Ashe and Lynton in developing a model to define the appropriate roles for the Board and CEO." So on Tuesday we'll summarize group's deliberations on this topic to date, including areas where we have not yet reached consensus. Once we have completed the briefing and received your input, we'll follow up with the IBIA working group to refine the restructuring model further.

Please let me know if you have other questions that you'd like to discuss by phone. I hesitate to call out of the blue, given that you are still recovering from surgery.

Best regards,

Lynne

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2012 10:27 AM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: RE: IBIA working group

I trust this response finds your father doing better...illnesses of parents are often tough.

It seems that the answer to my question is that the IBIA working group has not seen these latest recommendations based in part on their deliberations. I do feel this working group should see them and I for one want their individual comments in order to educate myself more fully. Therefore, it is my suggestion and request that they be shared soon with the working group so they can get back to us.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Jul 26, 2012 10:55 pm

Subject: RE: IBIA working group

Dear Victor -- I greatly appreciate your emails.

The purpose of Tuesday's call is follow through on the Board's instruction from its January 2012 decision on the IBIA. That decision instructs the IBB Director to consult with you and Governor Lynton "in developing a model to define the appropriate roles for the Board and the CEO". The full text of that part of January decision is set forth below. The entire IBIA decision is reproduced in the briefing package that we have produced for Tuesday's telecon and which will be delivered to you shortly.

TEXT OF THE IBIA BOARD DECISION FROM JANUARY 2012: The position of Chief Executive Officer of United States International Broadcasting (the "CEO"), reporting to the Board of Governors, shall be created.

The CEO will be empowered to provide day-to-day executive leadership for United States international broadcasting and should have management authority over the federal and non-federal elements of United States

international broadcasting, subject to Board oversight. The IBB Director is instructed to consult with Governors Ashe and Lynton in developing a model to define the appropriate roles for the Board and CEO.

In the briefing materials that are being sent to you, we will provide to you and the other Governors a summary of the IBIA working group's deliberations to date, as well as a summary of those elements of the IBIA with respect to which the group has developed a consensus. As required by the Board decision, we have worked under Governor McCue's guidance in developing a proposed overall structure for US international broadcasting (the enhanced grantee model, which we discussed with the Board at the June meeting).

That said, we have not developed a consensus in the working group about the appropriate roles of the Board and CEO within the proposed model. One of the purposes of Tuesday's briefing is provide information to you and Governor Lynton on the discussions that the working group has had to date, the areas of consensus that we have reached and to solicit your advice and guidance on the roles of the Board and the CEO as instructed by the Board decision.

Once we have completed the briefing and received your input, our plan is to follow up with the IBIA working group to further discuss and develop a restructuring model, under the guidance of Dick Lobo and in consultation with Governor McCue. Your views and the views of Governor Lynton on the appropriate roles of the Board and the CEO will greatly aid the discussions of the working group.

So, Tuesday's telecon is very much of a briefing and consultation. My understanding is that there will be further meaningful opportunities to consider and debate the entire IBIA package, as well as the element of it dealing with the CEO and the Board.

I will be out of the office tomorrow. I have to go to Philadelphia because my father has fallen ill and my time and attention is needed there. The briefing papers are on their way to you. I'll be back in the office on Monday. I very much look forward to Tuesday's conversation.

Thank you. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 4:47 PM

To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo

Subject: IBIA working group

I assume at the phone discussion July 31 we will discuss recommendations of the IBIA working group...have those recommendations been drafted and has each member of the working group seen the recommendations in order to comment? This information will be most helpful as we evaluate ideas.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
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From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Lynne Weil (b) (6)
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To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

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Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 6:45 PM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Subject: Re: resolution for [REDACTED] (b) (6) - unanimous written consent requested. RFE board meeting needed

I truly believe it would be a shame not to adopt this resolution in a full board setting where his dedication, integrity and intelligence can be discussed and he can be invited to attend. Hopefully, a plaque can be given to him at that time. Doing this resolution this way cheapens it's significance. Remember, this was the person who was asked to relinquish his title of vice president only last year and the RFERL Board voted to restore it to him. I was saddened and embarrassed that he was treated this way. Surely, we can honor him in a more open way than a notational vothich hides it and removes an opportunity to extoll him. Had this been proposed prior to his farewell party last Mnday, July 23, so it could have been given to him then in front of his many friends, i might have agreed but to pass this in this less than open way causes me to vote NO and ask that it go before the full board. Surely there will be an RFE board meeting in september or October. Victor Ashe

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

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 25, 2012 6:30 pm

Subject: resolution for John Lindburg - unanimous written consent requested

REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS WRITTEN CONSENT

TO: RFE/RL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: [REDACTED] (b) (6), ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF RFE/RL, INC.

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Section 2.11 of the Bylaws of RFE/RL, Inc. provides that the Board of Directors may take action without a meeting if all members consent thereto in writing and the writings are filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board. In the absence of a formal meeting, the Board is requested to signify its approval of both the wording of the following resolution honoring [REDACTED] (b) (6) (also attached as a document) and the passage of the resolution. Please indicate by return email your approval.

If any Board member replies that he/shewishes instead to discuss this matter at a meeting, the matter will be deferred.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

=====
RESOLUTION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RFE/RL, INC.

WHEREAS, (b) (6) has devoted nearly 40 years of his career to the mission of U.S. international broadcasting;

WHEREAS, he joined the United States Information Agency's Office of the General Counsel in 1973 and worked there for 15 years;

WHEREAS, he then served for 10 years as General Counsel of the Board for International Broadcasting, where he helped draft the legislation that created the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) and governs us today;

WHEREAS, he served the BBG from its inception as Legal Counsel and Ethics Officer;

WHEREAS, he became the first General Counsel of RFE/RL, Inc. (RFE/RL) in 2003;

WHEREAS, he has announced his retirement from RFE/RL effective July 23, 2012;

WHEREAS, he has performed his work with intelligence, calm, kindness, and humor; and

WHEREAS, he has been a beloved figure at every place he has worked and will be missed enormously.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we express our deep gratitude and appreciation to (b) (6) for his loyal and outstanding service to the mission of U.S. international broadcasting.

July 26, 2012

Dennis Mulhaupt, Chairman
Victor Ashe
Michael Lynton
Susan McCue
Michael Meehan
Dana Perino
Tara Sonenshine

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 6:28 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
om; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling Governance Committee Meeting - September 13

Will BBG be meeting that day or the next day?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 25, 2012 5:57 pm
Subject: Re: Scheduling Governance Committee Meeting - September 13

as of now, yes this works.

On Jul 25, 2012, at 3:02 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Dear Committee members,

At Governor Mulhaupt's request, please let me know if you are available for a meeting of the Governance Committee on September 13, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. EDT. If so, please indicate your participation in person or by phone.

Thank you.

susan mccue | message-global | (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling Governance Committee Meeting - September 13

Available in person. Victor ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)

(b) (6) vhashe

<vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 25, 2012 3:02 pm

Subject: Scheduling Governance Committee Meeting - September 13

Dear Committee members, At Governor Mulhaupt's request, please let me know if you are available for a meeting of the Governance Committee on September 13, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. EDT. If so, please indicate your participation in person or by phone. Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 11:47 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Save the Date - August 13 and 14

Would this be for both days? Is budget only to be considered? Will this meeting be closed?

I have indicated I cannot come August 13...I request it be August 14 or 15 or the following week...I could do it August 7, 8, or 9

Victor ashe

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 25, 2012 11:02 am

Subject: Save the Date - August 13 and 14

Dear Governors, We are still gathering information on the Governors' availability for a meeting of the full Board in August to discuss and approve the Agency's FY 2014 budget proposal. In the meantime, we would very much appreciate your efforts to hold August 13 and 14 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT for this meeting. We will get back to you in the coming days to confirm the meeting date. Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 4:04 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M.
Lobo; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

What briefing papers will be sent to us to read in advance so we can study and prepare? I know that there have been staff meetings going on this matter but I have requested and not received for over two months copies of the drafts....in order for the July 31 discussion to be productive, I need to see them prior to the meeting.

Please advise who will be on the phone with lobo, Lynton and me?

Victor ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) vhashe
<vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M.
Lobo (b) (6) Lynne Weil (b) (6) Jeffrey
Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Jul 24, 2012 2:45 pm
Subject: IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

Dear Governors, The Board decided in January 2012 to pursue legislation for an International Broadcasting Innovation Act that would streamline U.S. international broadcasting and instructed IBB Director Dick Lobo to consult Governors Lynton and Ashe in developing a model to define the appropriate roles for the Board and CEO. This is to confirm a briefing by phone next Tuesday, July 31, at 5:30 p.m. EDT. Governors Lynton, Ashe and McCue will participate by phone. In the coming days, we will send a call-in number for the teleconference and materials, if any, in advance of the call. Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, July 21, 2012 9:12 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: RE: August Board Meeting

I am still in hospital so do not have access to my calendar which is at home....August 16 I discovered does work for me for a BBG board meeting. However, aug 14 and 15 do work....I would do a Saturday as well but I may be alone on that one. Victor

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

From: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Jul 20, 2012 7:36 pm

Subject: RE: August Board Meeting

August 14 or 15 or 16 work for me...not August 13.....victor -----Original Message-----

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

[REDACTED] Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) >

Sent: Fri, Jul 20, 2012 6:09 pm

Subject: RE: August Board Meeting

Governors, thanks for your initial feedback on BBG meeting dates.

To be clear: we won't be in a position for the full Board to vote on the budget proposal on August 2.

We'll have preliminary discussions with the Strategy and Budget Committee on that day (and as Gov. Meehan indicated, all Governors are welcome to join).

Given that Governors Ashe and McCue already have indicated that August

9 or 10 aren't good, would early the following week -- Monday, August

13 or Tuesday, August 14 -- be better for all?

Please let (b) (6) know about your availability on August 13 and 14. Upon receipt of information on your availability, (b) (6) will send a follow-up email to confirm the meeting date and time.

Rgds

Jeff

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, July 20, 2012 5:45 PM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: August Board Meeting

Not sure how we do both BBG and strategy and budget same day....ok for aug 2. Not as ok for aug 9 and 10. Could do following week.. For full BBG board meeting. .victor

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6) >
To: Susan McCue <(b) (6)> Dick Lobo (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Jeff Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Jul 20, 2012 5:41 pm
Subject: Re: August Board Meeting

The 2nd is best for me. And if not I invite all my colleagues to dial in or come to the budget committee meeting that morning. From: Susan McCue (b) (6)

Date: Fri, 20 Jul 2012 15:19:36 -0400

To: Richard M. Lobo & (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Jeffrey

Trimble (b) (6)

Subject: Re: August Board Meeting

i could meet aug 2 but not aug 9 or 10. i'll be in san diego.

On Jul 20, 2012, at 3:07 PM, Richard M. Lobo wrote:

Dear Governors,

As I indicated when we postponed the July Board meeting, it's crucial that the Board meet in early August to discuss and approve the Agency's FY 2014 budget proposal.

The Strategy and Budget Committee will meet on August 2 to consider the budget proposal and other issues.

We suggest a meeting of the full Board on Thursday, August 9, at 1 p.m. or 2 p.m. EDT. For those of you who could meet in Washington, we'd welcome having you here in person; others could join by video or phone. Friday, August 10, at 1 p.m. or 2 p.m. EDT, is an alternate possibility.

Given the importance of this topic, the meeting could last as long as three hours. We would appreciate your efforts to arrange your schedule accordingly.

At your earliest convenience, please let (b) (6) know whether you can be available on either of these two dates, and at what time. Upon receipt of information on the Governors' availability, (b) (6) will send a follow-up email to confirm the meeting date and time.

We will distribute budget materials in advance of this meeting and will be happy to discuss them and otherwise brief you as needed.

We recommend waiting until the September Board meeting (Sept 13-14) to further consider merger of the grantees. This would allow time for a Governance Committee meeting in advance in order to prepare a recommendation for the Board on this issue. If the Board would decide to proceed with grantee merger, we would work with OMB to factor this into the budget proposal later in the preparation process.

Dick

susan mccue | message-global (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2012 7:48 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: RE: August Board Meeting

Jeff
While August 9 is not best for me I could make it...it is not a not a
no. Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)
Lynne Weil
(b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Jul 20, 2012 6:09 pm

Subject: RE: August Board Meeting

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To be clear: we won't be in a position for the full Board to vote on
the budget proposal on August 2. We'll have preliminary discussions
with the Strategy and Budget Committee on that day (and as Gov. Meehan
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Given that Governors Ashe and McCue already have indicated that August
9 or 10 aren't good, would early the following week -- Monday, August
13 or Tuesday, August 14 -- be better for all?

Please let (b) (6) know about your availability on August 13 and 14. Upon
receipt of information on your availability, (b) (6) will send a follow-up
email to confirm the meeting date and time.

Rgds

Jeff

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, July 20, 2012 5:45 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo

Cc: (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: August Board Meeting

Not sure how we do both BBG and strategy and budget same day....ok for
aug 2. Not as ok for aug 9 and 10. Could do following week.. For
full BBG board meeting. .victor

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From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)

To: Susan McCue (b) (6) Dick Lobo (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

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recommendation for the Board on this issue. If the Board would decide to proceed with grantee merger, we would work with OMB to factor this into the budget proposal later in the preparation process.

Dick

susan mccue | message-global | (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2012 7:37 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: RE: August Board Meeting

August 14 or 15 or 16 work for me...not August 13.....victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) Lynne Weil
(b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Jul 20, 2012 6:09 pm
Subject: RE: August Board Meeting

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From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, July 20, 2012 5:45 PM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo

Cc: (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

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Dick

susan mccue | message-global (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, July 20, 2012 12:09 PM

To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6) Dana Perino; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo;

Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Trey. Thanks for your inquiry...I have been In hospital in knoxville recovering from hip replacement surgery...things are in change as (b) (6) (b) (6) is retiring soon and Lynne Weil is looking for a successor...meanwhile (b) (6) has hired (b) (6) as a new VOA congressional relations person....this might be a matter for him to jump right into once he comes to work. I am concerned this has not been resolved by now one way or the other.

I have also requested this whole issue be placed on next BBG board meting agenda for discussion but our deputy general counsel , (b) (6) (b) (6) feels that discussion should be in private as he argues it is a personnel matter. I do not agree with him on that so i do not know how this aspect of the matter will play out.. To me this is already a public matter and congressional persons are interested in what is happening...again, I do not know how this will ultimately play out...personally, I think think BBG and VOA need to get answers quickly and resolve the matter....sorry it has taken so long.

We do not have a firm date for next BBG Board meeting other than mid sept....there might be a phone or teleconferencing meeting in August..but nothing definite has been set.

Best

Victor Ashe

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

From: Hicks, Trey (HSGAC) (HSGAC) (b) (6)

To: Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn) (Coburn) (b) (6)

Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Cc: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>; Vhashe <Vhashe@aol.com>;

(b) (6); Susan McCue (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Jul 20, 2012 10:03 am

Subject: RE: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Hi guys---any updates for us? Still trying to figure out why Mr. Redisch did what he did. Was there justification for the USG trying to shut down a reporter at the UN? Can we see the emails in question?Thanks! From: Hayes, Jeremy (Coburn)

Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 12:04 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: Dennis Mulhaupt; Vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6) Hicks, Trey (HSGAC); Susan McCue

Subject: VOA pushing to remove reporter at the UN?

Importance: High

Lynne, This case below is troubling to me and to Trey Hicks who is the lead investigator on this issue for the Homeland Security and Government Affairs committee. I am cc'ing the Governors that I have current emails for, please ensure they all see this. I would like to know that the Board is looking at this and can convey to Congress that Mr. Redisch's claims and accusations regarding another reporter are amply supported by documentation. Thank you, Jeremy Hayes
Legislative Assistant Senator Tom Coburn, M.D. From: Hicks, Trey (HSGAC)

Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 9:58 AM

Subject: VOA supporting censorship of media at UN?

Importance: High

Good Journalism at the U.N.? By Brett D. Schaefer June 18, 2012 12:00 P.M. With all the corruption at the United Nations, you might think that the United Nations Correspondents Association (UNCA) would have better things to do than pick a fight with a single reporter. But you would be wrong. Matthew Lee is the only reporter for Inner City Press, a Bronx-based nonprofit group known mainly for investigations of financial institutions and advocacy for the poor. Lee has broken a number of stories about the U.N., but now he himself is the story. In fact, he could become the first journalist ever expelled from UNCA. Last week, UNCA announced that it would investigate Lee for unethical and unprofessional behavior. Few reporters with knowledge of the situation wish to comment on the record, but journalists both inside and outside the UNCA say the situation is one in which personal animosity has overridden professional judgment. Regarded as abrasive by some of his colleagues, Lee has had volatile arguments with other UNCA reporters, and has frequently complained about other journalists' failing to credit him for breaking news. He has also written stories accusing the UNCA president, Giampaolo Pioli, of a conflict of interest involving Sri Lanka. These personal disputes lie at the heart of the UNCA investigation. UNCA is a self-governing body. Thus, whether Lee remains a member is entirely up to the organization. UNCA membership is not a prerequisite for obtaining U.N. press credentials, which are granted by the U.N. Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit (MALU) — so Lee's expulsion would not automatically deprive him of U.N. access. According to the Guidelines on Media Access at United Nations Headquarters: The United Nations Department of Public Information as well as the Safety & Security Service reserve the right to deny or withdraw accreditation of journalists from media organizations whose activities run counter to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations or who abuse the privileges so extended or put the accreditation to improper use or act in a way not consistent with the principles of the Organization or established journalism ethics and standards. A MALU spokesperson acknowledged that the U.N. has rescinded press credentials in the past,

but she added that UNCA's investigation of Lee would not directly influence MALU. Lee's grammar and style are often unusual, and he sometimes fails to observe journalistic niceties. Although these traits are not uncommon among small media outlets, some journalists have expressed concern that they — along with an unfavorable UNCA decision — could allow the U.N. to deny Lee's reapplication for press credentials on the basis that his actions are inconsistent with "established journalism ethics and standards." His current credentials expire in August. It would not be the first time that Lee has been targeted. Inner City Press was scrubbed from Google News in 2008, allegedly at the behest of the U.N. At the time, UNCA came to Lee's defense. But that was before his recent clashes with that organization and its members. And Turtle Bay officialdom could be receptive to their new opinion of him. Lee is probably the U.N. Department of Public Information's least-favorite journalist because he is persistent, is willing to ask uncomfortable questions, and has cultivated an impressive network of sources within the U.N. In short, he's a pain in their neck at every press briefing. Lee is also unusual in that he focuses on the inner workings of the U.N. — stories that are off the radar of larger news outlets. For instance, Lee broke the story about the discovery of 40 pounds of cocaine in a diplomatic pouch in the U.N. mailroom. He reported that Ibrahim Gambari, a special representative for Darfur of the African Union and the U.N., had greeted Sudanese president Omar al-Bashir at a wedding even as Bashir stood indicted on charges of genocide, and he wrote of the opulent home Gambari built in Darfur at U.N. expense. He has exposed irregularities with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in North Korea, and his coverage of a UNDP-funded program of forced disarmament in Uganda led to that program's suspension. Other reporters readily admit that Lee's reporting is valuable. "He may not always get it right, but Matthew covers the U.N. like no one else, often scooping much larger news organizations," the New York Post's Benny Avni says. "Matthew digs into how it works — and often into how it doesn't." Claudia Rosett, journalist-in-residence at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, notes: "Matthew Russell Lee has broken a series of important stories over the years — stories that without his efforts might have gone unnoticed." Off the record, other reporters shared similar views with me. Inner City Press has been a member of UNCA for five years, and all that time Lee's U.N. press credentials have routinely been renewed. Thus, both UNCA and MALU have repeatedly affirmed Inner City Press's status as a legitimate member of the media. I spoke with UNCA journalists who expressed the view that, regardless of what UNCA decides, Lee should retain his press credentials. The U.S. mission to the U.N. has a role to play in this imbroglio. It should not intervene in internal UNCA deliberations, but it absolutely should stand firm in protecting the principle of freedom of the press. Media coverage of the U.N. is too shallow as it is. It would suffer more if reporters like Matthew Lee were denied access. The U.S. government should make clear to the U.N. that it supports Lee and other controversial journalists trying to retain their press credentials. — Brett D. Schaefer is the Jay Kingham Fellow in International Regulatory Affairs at the Heritage Foundation. [Permalink](#) © National Review Online 2012. All Rights Reserved.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, July 15, 2012 7:53 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Minutes from Prague meeting

Dear (b) (6)

I am writing to ask that the draft of the minutes from the Prague June meeting be sent to me. I assume they are available...if not, please advise me when they will be available.

I also request a copy of the relevant OMB guidelines or regs dealing with discussion of budget proposals made to OMB. I have previously requested this and not received it.

Please mail these to me at

Victor Ashe
(b) (6)

in addition to e mail.

Sincerely yours

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 6:19 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Revised draft response to Rep. Rohrabacher

Dear Jeff

Thanks for the revised letter. I decline to sign it and disagree with much stated in the letters. I feel BBG has taken a step backwards and it sends the wrong signal. BBG has taken a serious public relations hit and our standing with the Congress has been diminished in my view. It seems to me that BBG is now saying to the world do as we say not as we do.

The letter should reflect that one Governor disagrees with the new protocol. Since apparently there is not going to be a July 24 Board meeting, discussion and further questions will appear on the next Board agenda whenever that meeting is held at my request. Furthermore the governance committee is scheduled to consider the new policy but again that meeting has been postponed to an unknown date.

The fact that this did not go to governance may be legal but it is hardly exemplary or a model to follow. In fact, I was the one Board member omitted to much of the prior discussion of the item before the Board meeting. Deputy legal counsel (b) (6) failed to answer several of my inquiries on it prior to the Board meeting in Prague. It appeared to me that he was avoiding discussion with me. In fact, the item was not even listed on the agenda for the Board meeting which was sent out 6 days prior to the meeting. Then the whole agenda of the meeting was re-arranged without Board input just hours prior to the meeting in Prague.

On other issues dealing with openness, BBG Board has failed to have a serious in depth discussion on the CEO legislation which is being pushed on the House side of the Congress at the present time. The actual legislation has not been shared with all Board members.

There are meeting on the Innovation Act but Ms. Weil has failed to provide me a copy of what is being discussed despite requests by me for it.

I deeply regret having to say all of this and be the one Governor raising issues but I must in terms of meeting my fiduciary responsibility. However, we fooling ourselves if some think the issue will fold and vanish. I continue my highest respect and affection for all.

I trust all will have a wonderful weekend.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/13/2012 4:17:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Attached and pasted in below is an updated draft response to Congressman Rohrabacher's June 26 letter questioning the intent of the Agency's policy on deliberative information, which you approved during your June 7

meeting.

This updated draft – changes from the earlier version are highlighted in italics in the text below, and in red in the attachment – reflects suggestions from Governor Ashe.

The response will go to the Congressman's office on Monday.

Regards,

Jeff

The Honorable Dana Rohrabacher

U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Congressman Rohrabacher:

Thank you for your letter dated June 26, 2012.

We share your view regarding the importance of transparency in the Executive Branch generally and at the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG). The current BBG Board has greatly increased agency transparency, including holding open meetings streamed via the web, posting decisions on the agency's website, and inviting outside comments on strategic planning and other deliberations. The Board's regular, open meetings are in full compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act. In addition to the transparency achieved through public board meetings, the agency posts resolutions, records of decisions, and other highlights from Board meetings on the web. More documents are posted on the BBG website for public review than at any time in the past. The Agency has invited outside comments on strategic planning through a public website (bbgstrategy.com) to encourage broad discussion on the agency's multi-year plan. In addition, the Board posted a draft grantee merger assessment, as prepared by Middle East Broadcasting Networks President Brian Conniff, on its website in order to obtain public comment.

The measure adopted unanimously by the Board of Governors at its June 7, 2012 meeting was designed to clarify agency – and indeed federal – policy with respect to the deliberative process. During a robust and frank debate that lasted nearly 90 minutes, the Board adopted several amendments to the resolution and made it clear that the measure would not reverse the important steps that we have taken to be as open and transparent as law, federal guidelines and prudent policy allow. The resolution itself grew out of a previous, detailed discussion at our April meeting regarding the chilling effect of unauthorized disclosures on Board discussion of important issues. Neither the

International Broadcasting Act nor the Board's by-laws and practice require that a measure must go through a particular committee before being submitted to the plenary Board. The BBG by-laws expressly reserve the right of individual Governors to propose agenda items for consideration by the plenary Board.

Policymakers in every part of government must have avenues to brainstorm on challenges and opportunities, prior to opening further discussion to the public. The Board also must be allowed to consider and discuss proposals freely and frankly without misgivings that these deliberative and pre-decisional discussions may be made public, or perhaps be misrepresented to the public. The resolution reflects our shared concern that disclosures of information from discussions for which the Board had an expectation of confidentiality among their peers had begun to undermine the decision-making processes of the Board.

The Board's resolution tracks current U.S. government policy, including OMB regulations which preclude federal agencies from releasing pre-decisional budget and legislative proposal information. In keeping with these regulations and policies, the Board's policy does not prohibit the release of all "deliberative information." Rather, it prohibits the release of certain categories of deliberative information without the prior authorization of the agency. The policy, which is enclosed for your consideration and is posted on the BBG website, prohibits the unauthorized disclosure of deliberative information

"pertaining to (1) budgetary matters that are determined to be pre-decisional under Office of Management and Budget guidelines; (2) legislative proposals that are developed for the consideration of the Board, as determined by the Chair or Presiding Governor, subject to the Board's further review; and (3) such other matters as the plenary Board may determine, based on the recommendation of the Governance Committee."

The policy also contains a number of important carve-outs which further narrow its application, including exceptions for publicly available factual information and the individual opinion of Governors that do not disclose the deliberative information. The policy also expressly states that it is to be interpreted consistent with the Government in the Sunshine Act and that individual rights under the 1998 Whistleblower Protection Act are not affected.

We are not aware that any employees, in learning of the Board's action "were led to believe that they would face punishment if they spoke out about legitimate problems within their services." The Board's nondisclosure policy applies only to the Governors. As mentioned above, the policy also expressly states that rights under the Whistleblower Protection Act are not affected. There should be no confusion in this regard, and the Board could rectify any misunderstanding through further outreach.

The Board's action does not, in any way, threaten the ability of Congress to conduct effective oversight of the BBG. The BBG works closely with Congressional Committees with oversight jurisdiction over United States international broadcasting, as well as other Congressional offices, and will continue to do so. It does not create any new mechanism to deter the agency from providing information to the Congress.

The Broadcasting Board of Governors shares your deep and ongoing commitment to improving United States

international broadcasting. The Board believes, however, that the adoption of these ground rules regarding the disclosure of certain types of deliberative information will help safeguard the Board's ability to fulfill its statutory mandates.

The Board expects to engage in further discussion on the need to preserve confidentiality and trust during its deliberations, and will continue to comply with the rules and expectations concerning pre-decisional activities within the Executive Branch. We will retain our commitment to transparency in government.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Given the seriousness of this issue, and the extent to which we believe the Board's intent has been misinterpreted by others, we would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 5:42 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: BBG agenda

Please send me the documents where the Board 'clearly established that personnel matters would be discussed in closed meetings.' I would like to review them and determine whether I agree with your conclusion or not. I believe I am entitled to see them. Given the issue raised for which BBG and VOA are taking major criticism on, I feel it is not a personnel issue but a policy issue. I think BBG needs to be open and direct in responding to this. I feel it can be discussed without dealing with one individual's personnel record.

I renew my request that this be on the next BBG agenda and it will up to the Board members present to determine whether to proceed with an open or closed discussion of it.

I look forward to getting the documents asked for here. I also note that your e mail did not respond to my request of July 10 on why my earlier request for a discussion of the new non disclosure protocol was placed near the end of the upcoming Board agenda for July 24 a meeting which has now been postponed. I would like to know what policy is in place for placement of items on the Board agenda and how they are positioned where they are positioned.

Have a great weekend.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/13/2012 11:29:23 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor – Thanks for your email.

You are correct that the Bye-laws state that any Governor can place a topic on the Board's meeting agenda. That said, the Board has adopted protocols regarding the types of topics that should be discussed in an open Board meeting versus a closed Board meeting. As you know, the Board under Chairman Isaacson clearly established that personnel matters would be discussed in closed meetings of the Board. This can be done under the exemptions in the Government in the Sunshine Act (both under exemption 3 (statutory exemptions disclosure such as the Privacy Act) and exemption 6 (personal privacy)). You are correct that the Board would have to vote to close the meeting, but that has been the Board's practice to date.

(b) (5)

Agendas are developed in accordance with the Bylaws. I am not certain about the reasons for placement of the discussion of the nondisclosure protocol in the order to the agenda. Perhaps it has something to do with the importance of considering the FY 2014 budget, the grantee consolidation and other topics. The Board discussed the nondisclosure policy for over 90 minutes at the last Board meeting. In any case, as you requested, the topic was placed on both the agenda of the full Board and the Governance Committee.

My very best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 6:22 AM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: BBG agenda

Certainly it was an oversight not to include Dick Lobo on the first e mail I sent you as I have great respect and affection for him. However, I had previously e mailed him and (b) (6) on the matter.

I do not consider this a personnel matter but a freedom of the press issue regardless of what Mr (b) (6) motive may or may not have been. It is clearly being debated in the public arena at present. Frankly the bylaws clearly state that a Governor can place any topic on the Board agenda and I so request it. If the Board by majority vote wants to refer it to a closed session then that would be the Board decision at that time. I have told Dick Lobo that the report from (b) (6) which we may see or hear about next week may resolve this matter for me and waive the need for it being on the Board agenda but I want to meet the time guidelines now in terms of requesting it be placed on the agenda and can always withdraw it.

If some reason you determine not to place this on the Board agenda against my wishes, then I formally request that the topic of how a Governor secures items being placed on the public agenda then be placed on the Board agenda.

(b) (6) on Tuesday July 10 I sent you an email on concerns I had on the July 24 agenda and asked some questions., I have not heard back from you on it and it concluded by asking a question. Perhaps you are researching it, but I do want to have a response. I feel I am entitled to know how the agenda is put together and why request for discussion on the non disclosure protocol is listed almost last. What process placed it there? There are other questions as well.

I prefer to deal with these issues now as opposed to taking up time at the full BBG Board meeting whenever it occurs. I am prepared to discuss this over the phone with you too but I will not be in the Cohen Bldg today although I am in DC for part of the day for the MBN audit committee on which I serve and chair it.

Have a nice weekend.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>;

(b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Jul 12, 2012 10:53 pm

Subject: Re: BBG agenda

Thanks for your email, Victor. Fyi: You should consider sending this type of email to Dick Lobo as well since the Board has delegated authority to manage Human Resources and related functions to him.

(b) (5)

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 5:53:31 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: BBG agenda

I am sending this email pursuant to BBG Bylaws requesting a report in the public session of the next BBG Board meeting (whenever it is held) on the (b) (6) issue and Mr. (b) (6) accreditation at the United Nations. I assume (b) (6) would make the report based on his inquiry into the matter.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 5:11 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

I assume there will be a full and complete discussion of the budget to be submitted to OMB. I trust (b) (6) will submit to the committee a budget which includes consolidation of the three entities and one which does not include consolidation. so we can consider both approaches. I would like to see areas of proposed savings in our July 31 meeting. I hope the three entities are invited to be represented so they can respond to questions along with VOA and OCB.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/13/2012 3:34:11 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Please be advised that a meeting of the Strategy and Budget Committee has been scheduled for July 31, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

A draft agenda will be sent to you in the coming days.

Thanks.

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 6:22 AM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: BBG agenda

Certainly it was an oversight not to include Dick Lobo on the first e mail I sent you as I have great respect and affection for him. However, I had previously e mailed him and (b) (6) on the matter.

I do not consider this a personnel matter but a freedom of the press issue regardless of what Mr (b) (6) motive may or may not have been. It is clealy being debated in teh public arena at present. Frankly the bylaws clearly state that a Governor can place any topic on the Board agenda and I so request it. If the Board by majority vote wants to refer it to a closed session then that would be the Board decision at that time. I have told Dick Lobo that the report from (b) (6) which we may see or har about next week may resolve this matter for me and waive the need for it being on the Board agenda but I want to meet the time guidelines now in terms of requesting it be placed on the agenda and can always withdraw it.

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(b) (6) on Tuesday July 10 I sent you an email on concerns I had on the July 24 agenda and asked some questions., I have not heard back from you on it and it concluded by asking a question. Perhaps you are resesarching it, but I do want to have a response. I feel I am entitled to know how the agenda is put together and why request for discussion on the non disclosure protocol is listed almost last. What process placed it there? There are other questions as well.

I prefer to deal with these issues now as opposed to taking up time at the full BBG Board meeting whenever it occurs. I am prepared to discuss this over the phone with you too but I will not be in the Cohen Bldg today although I am in DC for part of the day for the MBN audit committee on which I serve and chair it.

Have a nice weekend.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Jul 12, 2012 10:53 pm
Subject: Re: BBG agenda

Thanks for your email, Victor. Fyi: You should consider sending this type of email to Dick Lobo as well since the Board has delegated authority to manage Human Resources and related functions to him.

(b) (5)

If you are in the building tomorrow, I would be happy to discuss this with you in person.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 5:53:31 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: BBG agenda

I am sending this email pursuant to BBG Bylaws requesting a report in the public session of the next BBG Board meeting (whenever it is held) on the (b) (6) issue and Mr. (b) (6) accreditation at the United Nations. I assume (b) (6) would make the report based on his inquiry into the matter.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 10:00 AM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

I will try to be there July 27 as well as at Strategy and Budget whenever it is held. cannot make July 17 as it is the day after I have surgery in Knoxville.

Victor

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

From: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>
To: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Jul 12, 2012 9:54 am
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

Dear Colleagues,

Budget update. I have been able to secure a meeting at OMB on Tuesday, July 17th at 11 am in Washington. If any of you are in town and interested in attending please let me know. Our goal is to make a case about 5-10 percent cuts and what it does to our agency.

I am hopeful to schedule a meeting of the Strategy and Budget Committee in the next couple of weeks. We can make it a committee of the whole and have any board member, who wishes for a deeper dive into the 2014 budget and an update on the 2013 budget status participate by phone or in person. I know the staff has been sending us update materials.

China. On Friday July 27th, we have assembled several outside experts to convene in Washington that morning. It's part of an effort to bring outside voices into our internal discussions about a comprehensive approach to USIB in China. Board members are encouraged to join by phone or in person on the 27th. It's with this input that I am hopeful we can advance a more comprehensive strategy that leverages all of USIB assets in Asia.

Iran. The staff is still working on recruiting panelist. I am hope for us to have conducted a similar effort before the September board meeting and our 2014 budget submission. Stay tuned.

If you are interested in participating directly in the Budget committee meeting, please let me know and we will work to accommodate your schedule. The staff needs our guidance and as Dick points out, September is too late to start.

Best,

Michael

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 6:03 PM

Subject: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

Dear Governors,

In April, the Board voted to change the previously selected date for the July 2012 meeting and asked Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt to choose a new date. Having canvassed the Board, they selected July 24 as the best available option.

As that date approaches, it has become apparent that many Governors' attendance cannot be assured. Some of you are available only at limited times -- or perhaps not at all -- on July 24. Guaranteeing a quorum under these conditions would not be possible.

For this reason, Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt have agreed to postpone the July meetings of the Board and Governance Committee. They will suggest an alternate date.

While most of the work on the July agenda may be safely deferred until the scheduled September meeting, it is critical for the Board to discuss the proposed FY 2014 budget sometime in early August by telephone or videoconference. We will be back in touch as soon as possible with a proposed date.

Finally, a number of Governors have pointed out the importance and complexity of the key issues requiring detailed discussion before any votes could take place. The postponement will provide time for you to review any materials sent in advance.

Dick Lobo

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 9:42 AM

To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

It is important that materials which were going to be assembled for July 24 be sent to all Governors anyway so we can have time to review them in adequate time but that does not replace the need for a meeting of the relevant committees to discuss and look into issues. Budget must be considered in depth.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 6:04 pm

Subject: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

Dear Governors,

In April, the Board voted to change the previously selected date for the July 2012 meeting and asked Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt to choose a new date. Having canvassed the Board, they selected July 24 as the best available option.

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Dick Lobo

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 9:34 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

this really should happen but committee meetings need to occur. There has to be serious discussion of the budget...not 30 minutes and no strategy and budget before hand.

If it goes to August then is consolidaiton being voted on by phone or conference? and no goverance committee prior to that?

Victor ashe

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

From: Susan McCue (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 9:31 pm
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

i can get to video in NYC. maybe Dana and i can do together from NYC?

On Jul 11, 2012, at 9:23 PM, <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

This is very disappointing even if understandable. I strongly feel that as many as possible should meet in august to discuss in person (not by phone) these critical issues. Strategy and Budget surely should meet prior to a vote on the budget. Just reading papers without persons there to respond and have a dialogue back and forth among Governors is a poor way to run a \$700 million plus budget. I am available all of August to august 27. I am not available sept 1 to 9 due to previously planned business.

It is stunning to me that we would vote on the budget or consolidation without a face to face meeting preceded by committee meetings such as governance and strategy and budget. Gov Mulhaupt and I have a perfect attendance record. Others have different schedules but we should try to co-ordinate our agendas to meet as a group. otherwise we look less than diligent in my view.

I plan on being in Washington July 24-25 and will visit more areas of the Cohen Bldg where I have not previously been or it was over a year ago.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 6:04 pm

Subject: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

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Dick Lobo

susan mccue | message-global | (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 9:23 PM

To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

This is very disappointing even if understandable. I strongly feel that as many as possible should meet in August to discuss in person (not by phone) these critical issues. Strategy and Budget surely should meet prior to a vote on the budget. Just reading papers without persons there to respond and have a dialogue back and forth among Governors is

a poor way to run a \$700 million plus budget. I am available all of August to August 27. I am not available Sept 1 to 9 due to previously planned business.

It is stunning to me that we would vote on the budget or consolidation without a face to face meeting preceded by committee meetings such as governance and strategy and budget. Gov Mulhaupt and I have a perfect attendance record. Others have different schedules but we should try to co-ordinate our agendas to meet as a group. otherwise we look less than diligent in my view.

I plan on being in Washington July 24-25 and will visit more areas of the Cohen Bldg where I have not previously been or it was over a year ago.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 6:04 pm

Subject: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

Dear Governors,

In April, the Board voted to change the previously selected date for the July 2012 meeting and asked Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt to choose a new date. Having canvassed the Board, they selected July 24 as the best available option.

As that date approaches, it has become apparent that many Governors' attendance cannot be assured. Some of you are available only at limited times -- or perhaps not at all -- on July 24. Guaranteeing a quorum under these conditions would not be possible.

For this reason, Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt have agreed to postpone the July meetings of the Board and Governance Committee. They will suggest an alternate date.

While most of the work on the July agenda may be safely deferred until the scheduled September meeting, it is critical for the Board to discuss the proposed FY 2014 budget sometime in early August by telephone or videoconference. We will be back in touch as soon as possible with a proposed date.

Finally, a number of Governors have pointed out the importance and complexity of the key issues requiring detailed discussion before any votes could take place. The postponement will provide time for you to review any materials sent in advance.

Dick Lobo

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 7:01 AM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: retirement delayed

Is it true that (b) (6) retirement has been delayed? Word has reached Knoxville. When is it now scheduled and when is her retirement party?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 6:59 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft July BBG Meetings Agenda

In looking over the agenda, I have several more questions and concerns.

First, can someone let at least the Governors know what the classified session on July 24 between 1045 and 1 PM will cover in terms of topics so we can be thinking about it. Simply saying it is classified does not give a clue as to what might be discussed. If the powers that be do not want this whole list to know, then perhaps send it to Governors only. I do not feel we should have a classified session unless there is some heads up to Governors as to what it is about.

Second, I do not understand how we can vote on the budget when strategy and budget committee has not met to go over the budget. No one has briefed me on its contents. When will we receive information on the budget? However, I thought it was and is the role of the Strategy and budget committee to go over the budget before the full Board considers it. Am I mistaken? It seems Strategy and Budget does not have a meeting planned. Going over the budget should take more than the 30 minutes allotted on July 24. Only having 30 minutes for this without a strategy and budget committee meeting makes the Board appear less than diligent in its discharge of its duties. As one Governor, I have not been briefed on the budget and feel allocating 30 minutes only is totally inadequate for a budget of over \$700 million.

Third, I wish to register a protest that my request for discussion of the non disclosure protocol is placed virtually last on the agenda of the full Board behind congratulatory resolutions. I requested this in a timely manner. It seems to me that items requested by Governors should have a higher priority than what is being given to this issue which has triggered much public discussion and questions. The reality is that the Board has failed to conclude its full agenda at the last two meetings. Placing this item last if that happens at this meeting almost guarantees that the Board does not reach it and a thoughtful discussion does not occur on this significant issue.

Fourth, I feel entity heads and network heads should be allowed to attend all of the Governor's briefing not simply as directed.

Hopefully, someone can answer these concerns. Mr. (b) (6) Mr. Lobo, Gov, Lynton or others.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/10/2012 1:07:48 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a draft agenda for all BBG-related meetings to be held on Tuesday, July 24, in the BBG-IBB Conference Room of the Cohen Building. This draft agenda has been reviewed and approved by Presiding Governor Lynton.

A Governance Committee meeting is scheduled from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. EDT. Committee members (Chair Mulhaupt, Ashe, McCue and Lynton) are confirmed for attendance, but we urge other Governors to participate as the Committee will, among other issues, examine the grantee consolidation plan and make a recommendation to the plenary Board.

As Jeff mentioned to you on June 28, the Board needs to decide on grantee consolidation – a decision with significant implications for the FY 2014 budget process. In addition, the Board must consider, provide guidance, and adopt the key elements of the Agency's FY 2014 budget proposal in a closed meeting because of the need to preserve the confidentiality of pre-decisional budget information per OMB guidelines. That said, in a separate email per usual procedures, we will circulate a notice to the Board with a request to close a portion of the Board meeting.

Given the importance of these issues, it is anticipated that the Governors' Briefing morning session (starting at 10:45 a.m. EDT) would be attended by Governors, key staff and network heads.

Please note that a BBG open meeting is planned in the afternoon from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT. Following the open meeting, Governors' Briefing would continue, including a substantial discussion about the Agency's digital/on-line programs per Governor McCue's request.

We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the BBG open meeting.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, July 07, 2012 10:02 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble;
(b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Subject: agenda for July 24

Not sure what the plan is on getting the agenda and documents to BBG board prior to July 24 meeting which is on a Tuesday that week as opposed to the normal Thursday when documents arrive on Saturday for me (fed Ex) and e mail on Friday but I am limited in my ability to print them out.

However, I want to express the hope we can have the documents a full week out which means July 17 (Tuesday) prior to the July 24 meeting. even this schedule cuts in half the bylaw requirement that we receive them 14 days out which would be July 10.

Unfortunately I never received the non disclosure protocol 7 days out nor was it even listed on the agenda for webcam meeting sent out prior to the Prague meeting. I hope and trust this will not happen again. It does not reflect well on BBG when we do not follow our own rules and what we promote in other nations.

Can someone tell me when to expect the real agenda (not the notational one which Jeff sent out a few days ago) and accompanying documents will arrive?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 03, 2012 6:55 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Message from Jeff Trimble RE Draft Response to Rep. Rohrabacher

Yes, this is a fascinating part of the world. a nation only 10 years old and still struggling. a backpackers paradise with infrastructure still to be developed.
Happy 4th to you

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, Jul 3, 2012 6:50 pm
Subject: RE: Message from Jeff Trimble RE Draft Response to Rep. Rohrabacher

Hi Victor, understood and will stand by for any further points you have. We've not heard back from others so you can safely assume that we won't be able to get the letter out before the end of the week – and in any case not until a further draft is circulated for comment.
I'm sure you're having an informative, interesting experience there. Good luck!
Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 03, 2012 6:39 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Message from Jeff Trimble RE Draft Response to Rep. Rohrabacher

Jeff

I read it quickly and will have other points to share...but I assume you will not get it out before July 5. I am in Dili, East Timor...thanks for your consideration. My initial response was very much on the quick with 13 hours time difference.

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Jul 3, 2012 3:33 pm
Subject: RE: Message from Jeff Trimble RE Draft Response to Rep. Rohrabacher
Victor, thanks for your prompt reply. We'll add your point to an updated draft and include as well any suggestions or comments that come from other Governors.
Regards
Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Tuesday, July 03, 2012 2:53 PM

To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Message from Jeff Trimble RE Draft Response to Rep. Rohrabacher

I decline to sign the letter at this time. The letter should point out that the matter has been placed on the BBG July 24 Board agenda for further discussion by Mr. Ashe.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble

(b) (6) Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Jul 3, 2012 11:44 am

Subject: Message from Jeff Trimble RE Draft Response to Rep. Rohrabacher

Governors,

Attached and pasted in below is a draft response to Congressman Rohrabacher's June 26 letter questioning the intent of the Agency's policy on deliberative information, which you approved during your June 7 meeting. A copy of the Congressman's letter to Presiding Governor Lynton also is attached for your background.

The proposed response clarifies that the Board's resolution adheres to broader Executive Branch policy with respect to the protection of the deliberative process, and that the BBG has not proposed protections beyond what the USG already either mandates or recommends.

This proposed response has been provided to Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt, who have given preliminary approval to the draft.

We would greatly appreciate receiving your comments and edits by July 6, in order to reply to the Congressman in a timely manner. The response will go to the Congressman over the signatures of Governors who approve the letter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Jeff

The Honorable Dana Rohrabacher

U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Congressman Rohrabacher:

Thank you for your letter dated June 26, 2012.

We share your view regarding the importance of transparency in the Executive Branch generally and at the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG). The current BBG Board has greatly increased agency transparency, including holding open meetings streamed via the web, posting decisions on the agency's website, and inviting outside comments on strategic planning and other deliberations. The Board's regular, open meetings are in full compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act. In addition to the transparency achieved through public board meetings, the agency posts resolutions, records of decisions, and other highlights from Board meetings on the web. More documents are posted on the BBG website for public review than at any time in the past. The Agency has invited outside comments on strategic planning through a public website (bbgstrategy.com) to encourage broad discussion on the

agency's multi-year plan. In addition, the Board posted a draft grantee merger assessment, as prepared by Middle East Broadcasting Networks President Brian Conniff, on its website in order to obtain public comment.

The measure adopted unanimously by the Board of Governors at its June 7, 2012 meeting was designed to clarify agency – and indeed federal – policy with respect to the deliberative process. During a robust and frank debate that lasted nearly 90 minutes, the Board adopted several amendments to the resolution and made it clear that the measure would not reverse the important steps that we have taken to be as open and transparent as law, federal guidelines and prudent policy allow. The resolution itself grew out of a previous, detailed discussion at our April meeting regarding the chilling effect of unauthorized disclosures on Board discussion of important issues. Neither the International Broadcasting Act nor the Board's by-laws and practice require that a measure must go through a particular committee before being submitted to the plenary Board. The BBG by-laws expressly reserve the right of individual Governors to propose agenda items for consideration by the plenary Board.

Policymakers in every part of government must have avenues to brainstorm on challenges and opportunities, prior to opening further discussion to the public. The Board also must be allowed to consider and discuss proposals freely and frankly without misgivings that these deliberative and pre-decisional discussions may be made public, or perhaps be misrepresented to the public. The resolution reflects our shared concern that disclosures of information from discussions for which the Board had an expectation of confidentiality among their peers had begun to undermine the decision-making processes of the Board.

The Board's resolution tracks current U.S. government policy, including OMB regulations which preclude federal agencies from releasing pre-decisional budget and legislative proposal information. In keeping with these regulations and policies, the Board's policy does not prohibit the release of all "deliberative information." Rather, it prohibits the release of certain categories of deliberative information without the prior authorization of the agency. The policy, which is enclosed for your consideration and is posted on the BBG website, prohibits the unauthorized disclosure of deliberative information

"pertaining to (1) budgetary matters that are determined to be pre-decisional under Office of Management and Budget guidelines; (2) legislative proposals that are developed for the consideration of the Board, as determined by the Chair or Presiding Governor, subject to the Board's further review; and (3) such other matters as the plenary Board may determine, based on the recommendation of the Governance Committee."

The policy also contains a number of important carve-outs which further narrow its application, including exceptions for publicly available factual information and the individual opinion of Governors that do not disclose the deliberative information. The policy also expressly states that it is to be interpreted consistent with the Government in the Sunshine Act and that individual rights under the 1998 Whistleblower Protection Act are not affected.

We are not aware that any employees, in learning of the Board's action "were led to believe that they would face punishment if they spoke out about legitimate problems within their services." The Board's nondisclosure policy applies only to the Governors. As mentioned above, the policy also expressly states that rights under the Whistleblower Protection Act are not affected. There should be no confusion in this regard, and the Board could rectify any misunderstanding through further outreach.

The Board's action does not, in any way, threaten the ability of Congress to conduct effective oversight of the BBG. The BBG works closely with Congressional Committees with oversight jurisdiction over United States international broadcasting, as well as other Congressional offices, and will continue to do so. It does not create any new mechanism to deter the agency from providing information to the Congress.

The Broadcasting Board of Governors shares your deep and ongoing commitment to improving United States international broadcasting. The Board believes, however, that the adoption of these ground rules regarding the disclosure of certain types of deliberative information will help safeguard the Board's ability to fulfill its statutory mandates.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Given the seriousness of this issue, and the extent to which we believe the

Board's intent has been misinterpreted by others, we would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Michael Lynton
Presiding Governor

Dennis Mulhaupt
Alternate Presiding Governor
Chair, BBG Governance Committee

(OTHER GOVERNORS)

Enclosure

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 03, 2012 6:39 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Message from Jeff Trimble RE Draft Response to Rep. Rohrabacher

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To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
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(OTHER GOVERNORS)

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Subject: Re: Message from Jeff Trimble RE Draft Response to Rep. Rohrabacher

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Victor Ashe

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From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (D) (C) Lynne Weil (D) (C)

Sent: Tue, Jul 3, 2012 11:44 am

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Sincerely,

Michael Lynton
Presiding Governor

Dennis Mulhaupt
Alternate Presiding Governor
Chair, BBG Governance Committee

(OTHER GOVERNORS)

Enclosure

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2012 2:54 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: RFE/RL OIG Draft Discussion Report

I will look at it when it is a public document. Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo <rlobo@bbg.gov>; (b) (6)

Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Jun 28, 2012 6:06 am

Subject: RFE/RL OIG Draft Discussion Report

Dear Governors,

We have received an advance copy of the discussion draft OIG report on the inspection of RFE/RL. The discussion draft also has been sent to RFE/RL for review and comment.

The report is generally positive.

Comments on the report are due by July 6. OIG also has scheduled an exit conference for Dick, Steve Korn, and Agency officials on July 9. The final report will be a public document. Please let us know if you are interested in receiving a copy of this discussion draft and we will send it. Because the current report status is "Sensitive But Unclassified," we cannot forward it to non-Agency email addresses.

The draft report includes this direction from OIG: "This draft report, prepared by the U.S. Department of State, Office of Inspector General, is subject to revisions before its final form is released to the public. This draft is provided to Department or Broadcasting Board of Governors officials solely for their official review and comment. Recipients of this draft report are not authorized to make further distribution or to release this information except for official review and comment."

Regards
Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2012 12:05 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Labor memo for Ashe

I look forward to getting it and hope we can continue to cooperate on labor-management issues as we work to improve morale in the Cohen Bldg. I am open to hearing a rebuttal or alternative views of my earlier memo sent to whole Board and you on my take on the long term talks between management and AFGE. My preference is to work with you.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe <Vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Jun 27, 2012 10:22 am
Subject: Re: Labor memo for Ashe

Victor,

I am in the process of preparing a response.

Dick

On Wed, Jun 27, 2012 at 6:03 AM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Dick,

As I stated in my response to the Congressman Rohrabacher letter, I am deeply concerned about your failure to respond to my repeated emails asking for a copy of the Labor memo which you had in Prague where we were seated side by side. I feel I am entitled to see it and certainly entitled to a reply from you as a Governor as to why you are not giving it to me at this time. It does not help our response to the Congressman if you are denying a Board member important information.

I am copying presiding Governor Lynton on this. What is the legal basis on which you are declining to even respond to me? I seek it in order to better understand BBG management views on labor issues at VOA< IBB and OCB. That is a natural continuation of my strong interest in working conditions for employees.

We have cooperated on many issues. I respect your lifetime service and personally maintain solid respect for you. However, I cannot remain silent when my ability to do my job is being impaired. You work for the BBG Board as well as IBB Director and you should provide Board members with information we seek. This does not take time as the memo was previously prepared and I assume it is in your office now.

I prefer that we work this out.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2012 6:03 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Labor memo for Ashe

Dick,

As I stated in my response to the Congressman Rohrabacher letter, I am deeply concerned about your failure to respond to my repeated emails asking for a copy of the Labor memo which you had in Prague where we were seated side by side. I feel I am entitled to see it and certainly entitled to a reply from you as a Governor as to why you are not giving it to me at this time. It does not help our response to the Congressman if you are denying a Board member important information.

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I prefer that we work this out.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 9:34 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Letter from Rep. Dana Rohrabacher RE: BBG Non-Disclosure Policy

I trust the draft will be circulated among the Board prior to sending to Congressman Rohrabacher as there are clear differences among Governors on this. I feel the Congressman has raised several valid points which are hard to defend, explain or justify. Even today my good friend Dick Lobo is engaged in non disclosure with me by declining to respond to my repeated e mails asking for a copy of the memo prepared for him with my name on it relative to labor issues and the memo which I sent a few weeks ago to all Governors. This memo prepared for Mr. Lobo was in his stack of materials at the June 7 Prague meeting where he sat next to me and it was at the top of the pile. When I asked to see it that day in order to better understand BBG management's position on labor negotiations he declined to share it and has ignored several e mails from me since then on this issue. My name is in the headline on the memo but he withholds it from me. Hard to understand this one and certainly something Congressman Rohrabacher would find less than transparent. As a Governor I along with all other interested Governors are entitled to see it. Mr. Lobo in my view has no legal basis to withhold it especially since it was prepared to assist him in responding to anticipated questions I might ask but which the press of other business prevented us from reaching.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/26/2012 3:27:20 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

The attached letter from Rep. Dana Rohrabacher regarding the BBG's non-disclosure policy just arrived in our office.

We will draft a response.

Regards,

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 2:11 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: non disclosure protocol

agree..will there be a governance committee meeting? I hope so. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/26/2012 12:17:06 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor –

Thanks for your email over the weekend. Per your request, this item will be placed on the meeting agenda for the plenary Board. Per Dennis' email, it will also be placed on the Governance Committee agenda.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6)
Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2012 12:25 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: non disclosure protocol

Victor:

As I've said, I'm happy for the Governance Committee to review the non-disclosure policy and to recommend changes and/or improvements if they are warranted. Obviously to do that, we would need a quorum. I'm not sure if, given governors' schedules and availability and other pressing matters in July, we will be able to achieve that, but as soon as we can, it can be scheduled.

Best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Date: Sat, 23 Jun 2012 07:43:49 -0400 (EDT)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: non disclosure protocol

As a Board member of BBG, I am requesting that the issue of the non disclosure protocol including its possible repeal and/or modification be placed on the July 25-26 BBG agenda or whenever the next BBG meeting is held if the July 25-26 meeting does not occur. I am outside the 30 day notice required by BBG by laws.

While the governance committee was bypassed when this considered at the June 7 BBG meeting, I am glad for the governance committee to consider this should there be a governance committee meeting prior to the next BBG Board meeting. I would hope and request that this governance committee meeting would be open to the public. If there is not a governance committee meeting prior to the next BBG meeting, then I want the matter placed on the full BBG agenda for full Board consideration.

There are many matters which were not adequately discussed which merit discussion and further explanation as to what is meant and intended. I hope this is fully aired.

This request is not intended to be confidential and can be forwarded to anyone as far as I am concerned.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 11:32 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling RFA and/or MBN Corporate Board Meetings?

I will talk with Brian and Libby on this. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/26/2012 11:30:47 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

As chair of both and not able to attend the July session I don't think so. I will defer to Victor on RFA in my absence.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: (b) (6)
Date: Tue, 26 Jun 2012 15:24:21 +0000
To: (b) (6) vhashe@aol.com<vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo<(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Scheduling RFA and/or MBN Corporate Board Meetings?

Dear Governors Meehan/Ashe,

As we're planning for the July Board meeting, kindly let us know at your earliest convenience whether we should plan for corporate meetings of RFA and/or MBN.

Currently, a meeting of the RFE/RL Board of Directors is planned.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 10:15 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

thanks so much Victor

In a message dated 6/26/2012 10:10:39 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, indeed we will draft, for your consideration, a resolution to honor (b) (6). She has been a dedicated, invaluable employee, and leaves very big shoes to fill.

We're still working to plan a reception or another event to mark (b) (6) departure, and will keep you informed as those plans are firmed up.

Regards

Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 10:43 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: (b) (6)

I hope a resolution will be prepared to present to the BBG Board at its next meeting honoring (b) (6) for her years of service. I would like to be listed as one of the sponsors but I assume the entire Board would want to join as sponsors.

Also if a reception or farewell is planned for her in July I would like to know about it in case I could personally attend although I will be limited due to anticipated hip surgery.

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To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Letter from Rep. Dana Rohrabacher RE: BBG Non-Disclosure Policy

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Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com

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To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 11:32 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling RFA and/or MBN Corporate Board Meetings?

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Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Subject: Scheduling RFA and/or MBN Corporate Board Meetings?

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Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

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We're still working to plan a reception or another event to mark (b) (6) departure, and will keep you informed as those plans are firmed up.

Regards

Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 10:43 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: (b) (6)

I hope a resolution will be prepared to present to the BBG Board at its next meeting honoring (b) (6) for her years of service. I would like to be listed as one of the sponsors but I assume the entire Board would want to join as sponsors.

Also if a reception or farewell is planned for her in July I would like to know about it in case I could personally attend although I will be limited due to anticipated hip surgery.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 5:08 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: OIG Report on Pakistan

thanks for letting me know in greater detail about this. Victor ashe

In a message dated 6/25/2012 4:57:46 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe,

(b) (6) has asked me to respond to your inquiry from earlier today regarding an OIG Report on Pakistan. The report referred to in the UPI article was initially a review done in 2010, and the document in question is the Compliance Follow-up Report. That report is available on the OIG website, or at the following link: <http://oig.state.gov/documents/organization/193863.pdf> <<http://oig.state.gov/documents/organization/193863.pdf>> . The report contains little directly related to BBG or VOA, although there is mention of VOA on page 36 of the report. That reference is in regard to a limited inspection memorandum report that was issued separately for BBG operations in Islamabad, Pakistan, which included brief descriptions of VOA's affiliates and bureau there. The memorandum report contains no recommendations and is attached for your reference.

Let me know if I can answer any further questions you may have.

Regards,

(b) (6)

=====

Description: (b) (6) Signature ALL Bold New Logo (2)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 10:43 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: (b) (6)

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Also if a reception or farewell is planned for her in July I would like to know about it in case I could personally attend although I will be limited due to anticipated hip surgery.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 9:49 AM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: OIG report on Pakistan

Jeff and (b) (6)

The news clips sent out this morning referenced a report by OIG on BBG operations in Pakistan which I assume means VOA.

How can I secure a copy of the report? Can someone mail it to me? or is it online somewhere?

I think the full BBG Board would find this informative and interesting.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2012 7:49 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey

Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

(b) (6) Tara Sonenshine

Subject: sexual harassment statement

Dear (b) (6)

Due to the May meeting of the governance committee being canceled we were not able to consider the sexual harassment statement which BBG Board needs to vote on at some time. Our committee had considered this earlier in the year and made several changes to the original suggested statement which seem to improve it.

Dennis, hopefully, governance committee can have even a quick meeting prior to July 24-25 to consider this. I assume it will not take very long and there would be appear to be strong support on the Board for acting on it.

I just want to make sure this issue is taken up as soon as we can and it is not lost as other issues are considered. (b) (6) please advise me as to plans on consideration of this.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 22, 2012 6:42 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Workplace Morale Group

Jeff

Thanks very much. It would also assist me to receive a copy of the memo prepared for Dick Lobo on labor issues which cites my name at the top of the memo which he had with him in Prague. This would help me better understand management's views on my concerns about current labor issues. I have previously asked for this and have not received it. I am asking you to receive it and if Dick is not willing to share it with me then please advise that he is unwilling to share it with me and why.

Have a good weekend. I have copied Dick Lobo on this.

Victor Ashe

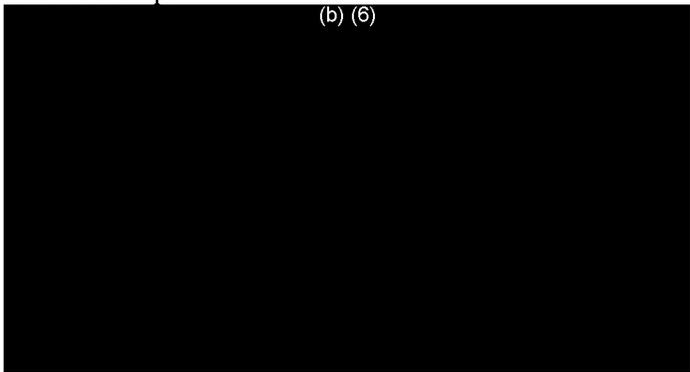
In a message dated 6/22/2012 6:33:06 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Victor, per your request to Dick, here is some information about the Workplace Morale Group.

Have a good weekend.

Regards
Jeff

Workplace Morale Group
Membership:

(b) (6)



The Workplace Morale Group (WGM) was formed at the request of the Labor/Management Forum in January 2012, chartered to recommend actions responsive to concerns expressed in the 2011 Human Capital/Viewpoint surveys. The Charter for the Workplace Morale Group is attached.

Since February, the group has met every week with plans to continue weekly meetings until the membership agrees there is no further need.

* On March 22 the group, along with IBB/VOA senior management, met with the Partnership for Public Service (<http://www.ourpublicservice.org>) to discuss employee survey results and follow-up actions.

* On March 29 the group, along with IBB/VOA management briefed Governor Ashe on activities to date

* On April 27 the group met with Messrs. Lobo and Ensor regarding WGM recommendations, with emphasis on leadership and performance management, patterns and techniques of

communication between management and the workforce, the need to address AFGE's absence from the Labor/Management Forum, and the need for an increased commitment to employee services.

* In May the WMG visited four Federal agencies cited by the Partnership for Public Service as having achieved substantial gains regarding labor-management issues as reflected in employee surveys.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2012 8:24 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from IBB Director Lobo RE July Board Meeting

Yes, I think these serious issues merit a time when people can actually discuss and deliberate on them. Perhaps another time will need to found in August if July 24-25 do not work. But then perhaps this time will work.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/19/2012 6:34:48 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor:

Yes, would like to schedule a Gov Comm meeting and an RFE board meeting. I hope we can, but the availability of governors is unfortunately extremely limited. Makes it very difficult to get the work done.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: <Vhashe@aol.com>
Date: Tue, 19 Jun 2012 18:28:52 -0400
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from IBB Director Lobo RE July Board Meeting

Are we having a governance committee meeting and/or RFE Board meeting? RFE audit committee meeting?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/19/2012 6:26:38 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Your July Board meetings (July 24-25) are extremely important. You must consider, provide guidance, and adopt the key elements of the Agency's FY 2014 budget proposal. You also are scheduled to discuss and decide in July whether to move forward with consolidation of the grantees – a decision with significant implications for the FY 2014 budget process.

The budget submission is due to OMB on September 10. Between Board approval of the proposed budget and submission in September, there is an enormous amount of further work to do, including preparing narratives and other materials for what ends up being a document of nearly 200 pages.

Please do all you can to be available in person or by phone or videoconference on July 24 and 25. Here is what we have from you or your offices about your availability; please let us know any updates and please confirm your participation in person, by phone or videoconference:

- Governor Lynton: available in person July 24; not available July 25
- Governor Mulhaupt: available in person July 24-25
- Governor McCue: in NYC July 24-25 but possibly available by phone/Videocon
- Governor Meehan: traveling on July 24 and at a client conference on July 25; possibly available by phone
- Governor Ashe: available in person July 24-25
- Governor Perino: not available
- U/S Sonenshine: available in person July 24 starting at 10 am and in person July 25 as needed.

Because some of you cannot be in Washington, and because we need your limited time to focus on the key issues of budget and grantee consolidation, I suggest that we postpone the public "Town Hall" meeting until your September Board meeting. To be clear: you still would have a public BBG meeting in July via webcast, but not in the Town Hall setting.

In the event that we cannot achieve a quorum on July 24-25 even by phone or videoconference, we will need to find another day or days in July when you can meet by teleconference to vote on the FY 2014 budget and consider grantee consolidation.

I look forward to hearing from you as to your availability.

Per your request, attached is a master calendar for all BBG-related meetings and events. When we have information about other meetings and events, we will update the master calendar and send it to you.

Dick

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2012 6:29 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from IBB Director Lobo RE July Board Meeting

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From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 7:26 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

This is somewhat surprising development that the Whistle blower item was omitted given that (b) (6) attended the BBG meeting and was asked by me to read back the amendment so the whole Board would know what they were voting on.

I am sure it was not intentional by (b) (6) and I was pleased to bring this to his attention and have it corrected. It reminds us all of the need to be careful, cautious and inclusive.

However, what this correction process indicates clearly is that the unseemly haste and secrecy in which this was considered without going to governance committee, changing texts up to the last few hours before the meeting, not being listed on the first BBG agenda sent out, absence of any serious discussion among impacted parties prior to the meeting has resulted in errors occurring. I suspect we will find more issues as time goes along which will require remedies. While I will participate in solving these problems, I find it all so unnecessary had settled procedures been followed and we could be devoting our time to other matters.

Hope all have a good weekend coming up.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble (D) (O)

Lynne Weil (D) (O)

Sent: Thu, Jun 14, 2012 1:04 pm

Subject: RE: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

Dear Governors:

Having reviewed the video of last week's Board meeting, I wish to confirm Governor Ashe's observation that reference to the Whistleblower Protection Act was erroneously left out. We will, therefore, replace the last paragraph of the version of the policy which I sent out to you last night with the text below (changes underlined) and republish the corrected resolution on the BBG website.

Again, please accept my apologies for this oversight.

Thanks. (b) (6)

This policy does not affect (i) the Agency's requirements to comply with the Government in the Sunshine Act and shall be implemented in a manner consistent with its provisions; or (ii) the rights of any individual under the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:23 AM
To: 'Vhashe@aol.com'; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: RE: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

Victor – As I mentioned, we are checking the videotape and will send out a corrected version if necessary. Any mistakes in the transcription of the decisions are my responsibility alone and I apologize in advance if any were made. They were not intentional. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:01 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

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Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 9:51:11 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor –

Thank you very much for your email. I am having the videotape of the meeting reviewed to determine whether, and in what form, an amendment to the proposed resolution regarding whistleblowing was actually adopted by the Board. If we missed something, I apologize in advance and thank you for bringing it to my attention. If there was a mistake, we will correct it. If not, I will come back with an explanation.

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Thank you. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:43 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil;
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

In reading this so called protocol, I do not see the amendment relating to Whistleblowers included here. This was the amendment which states this protocol would not compromise or diminish the federal Whistleblower Act. That was

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As I stated at the meeting, I will be guided by my conscience in complying with this. I feel the protocol was hurriedly and poorly drafted with many items not clear.

I see where Ms Weil is copied on this but I understand she is away on a 3 to 4 week vacation and not due back until July 7. Can someone make sure she sees this?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/13/2012 7:02:49 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors:

As you know, at its last meeting, the Board adopted a Policy Regarding Non-disclosure of Deliberative Information. The text of the policy, which is set forth below, was adopted unanimously by the Board.

The policy states, in part, that "information pertaining to . . . legislative proposals that are developed for the consideration of the Board, as determined by the Chair or Presiding Governor, subject to the Board's further review" constitutes "deliberative information" which Board members have agreed they are obligated not to disclose, in accordance with the terms of the policy.

Please note that Governor Lynton, in his capacity as Presiding Governor, has clarified that materials related to the International Broadcasting Innovation Act (IBIA), the legislative initiative which the Board voted to pursue in January 2012, are subject to the non-disclosure policy. A copy of the Governor Lynton's email is set forth below.

Thanks. (b) (6)

(b) (6)

POLICY REGARDING NON-DISCLOSURE OF DELIBERATIVE INFORMATION

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Each member of the Board has a duty to keep deliberative information privileged and confidential. More specifically, each member of the Board is obligated not to disclose:

1. The substance of deliberative information or the status of discussions about it;
2. Positions of other Board members regarding deliberative information or their individual comments about it;

3. Documents prepared to provide the Board with deliberative information or to memorialize any aspect of such deliberative information, or any subsection of documents that contain such deliberative information; or

4. The identity of Board members or staff members who provide deliberative information to and/or prepare deliberative information for the Board.

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Disclosure of deliberative information is a serious matter and constitutes both mismanagement and misconduct. The unauthorized disclosure of official non-public information is prohibited by 5 CFR 2635.703, and employees engaging in the unauthorized disclosure of deliberative information may be subject to punishment or discipline.

This policy does not affect the Agency's requirements to comply with the Government in the Sunshine Act and shall be implemented in a manner consistent with its provisions.

From: Lynton, Michael (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2012 10:25 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Application of Nondisclosure Policy to International Broadcasting Innovation Act - related materials

(b) (6)

Materials related to the IBIA are subject to the non-disclosure policy.

best,
Michael

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:37 AM
To: Dana Perino
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

I am sorry you feel that way. We certainly handled it well in Tennessee which has strong open meetings and open records laws. We made progress and got the public's business done. I think this is an over reaction on your part to my views but again, I respect your point of view while disagreeing with it.

I think this dialogue by e mail is helpful in airing our thoughts.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 10:34:17 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Why even have a board if the point is to undermine its discussions? Why not just appoint very American to the board? We could just all be fitted with cameras and let everyone know what we're thinking at all times. That's be great.

I don't get enough air time.

Dana Perino
(b) (6)

On Jun 14, 2012, at 10:31 AM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

Dana,

I respect your views and admire you greatly. However, I differ with you as this is a public body and this does not involve national security. That is why I feel the full Board at its next meeting should discuss this in great depth than we have to date.

I have spent 16 years as Mayor operating under the open records and open meetings laws of Tennessee. At times it was inconvenient but always important for the taxpayers to understand how and why we as public officials arrived at decisions. Government works best when the public has a front row seat. The public should be able to see how we arrive at our decisions in my view.

Sorry we differ.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 10:27:24 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

for crying out loud YES these emails should be confidential - it's work product, deliberative - we are discussing an issue not a final product.

Dana Perino
(b) (6)

On Jun 14, 2012, at 10:25 AM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

(b) (6) is this series of e mails confidential and not subject to disclosure? There is no notice on this which states either way. I am not suggesting any actions by you were intentional. Victor Ashe

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To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil;

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Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

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Regarding Lynne Weil, ever the professional, Lynne has been checking her blackberry while on vacation and has had access to this email.

Thank you. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:43 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

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Victor Ashe

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From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:32 AM

To: Dana Perino

Cc: Paul (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey

Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

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Thanks. (b) (6)

(b) (6)

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Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2012 10:25 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Application of Nondisclosure Policy to International Broadcasting Innovation

Act - related materials

(b) (6)

Materials related to the IBIA are subject to the non-disclosure policy.

best,

Michael

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:26 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

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Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
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To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil;

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Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

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Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
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[REDACTED (b) (6)]

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Michael

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:18 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

(b) (6) and Gov. Lynton,

I suggest that in the future all messages covered under this process of non disclosure be clearly identified as such on each e mail so there is clarity here. Also indicate what appeal exists for those Governors who may disagree as to its confidentiality.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 10:08:12 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, [REDACTED (b) (6)] writes:

SUBJECT TO ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE -- ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

(b) (5)

Respectfully,

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:45 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: Fwd: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to I...

(b) (6)

(b) (5)

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:43 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

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This policy does not affect the Agency's requirements to comply with the Government in the Sunshine Act and shall be implemented in a manner consistent with its provisions.

From: Lynton, Michael [REDACTED (b) (6)]
Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2012 10:25 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Application of Nondisclosure Policy to International Broadcasting Innovation Act - related materials

(b) (6)

Materials related to the IBIA are subject to the non-disclosure policy.

best,

Michael

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:12 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

If I disagree with this opinion which I do, what is my appeal right? to the full Board? Please advise.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 10:08:12 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, p [REDACTED (b) (6)] writes:

SUBJECT TO ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE -- ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

(b) (5)



Respectfully,

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:45 PM

To: (b) (6)

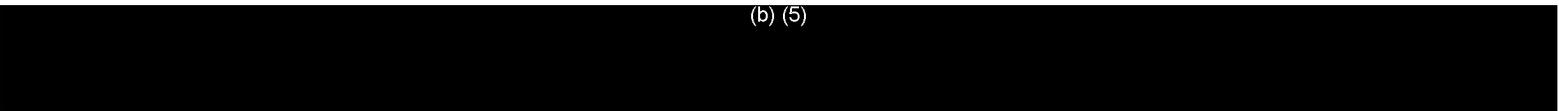


Subject: Fwd: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to I...

(b) (6)



(b) (5)



Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:43 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

In reading this so called protocol, I do not see the amendment relating to Whistleblowers included here. This was the amendment which states this protocol would not compromise or diminish the federal Whistleblower Act. That was the first amendment adopted in June 7 in Prague. Can (b) (6) send the document as amended twice to everyone on this list? We should be sent the entire policy out not just what is stated in part.

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I see where Ms Weil is copied on this but I understand she is away on a 3 to 4 week vacation and not due back until July 7. Can someone make sure she sees this?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/13/2012 7:02:49 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

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Thanks. (b) (6)

(b) (6)

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From: Lynton, Michael [REDACTED (b) (6)]
Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2012 10:25 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Application of Nondisclosure Policy to International Broadcasting Innovation Act - related materials

(b) (6)

Materials related to the IBIA are subject to the non-disclosure policy.

best,

Michael

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:01 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

The Board clearly adopted amendment one which I made a point of identifying as amendment one and the second

amendment was the one Michael Meehan and I discussed along with you. That became the second amendment identified as amendment two. I do not understand why the Whistleblower amendment is missing. I believe that Gov Meehan made the motion and I may have seconded it. However, I am not sure. What I am sure about is that a Whistleblower amendment was adopted. I believe I asked you to repeat the actual language which you did.

I was not aware that Lynne Weil was checking as she has not responded to more than one e mail from me but I am glad to hear she will be responding between now and July 7 when she returns to Cohen Bldg.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/14/2012 9:51:11 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor –

Thank you very much for your email. I am having the videotape of the meeting reviewed to determine whether, and in what form, an amendment to the proposed resolution regarding whistleblowing was actually adopted by the Board. If we missed something, I apologize in advance and thank you for bringing it to my attention. If there was a mistake, we will correct it. If not, I will come back with an explanation.

Regarding Lynne Weil, ever the professional, Lynne has been checking her blackberry while on vacation and has had access to this email.

Thank you. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:43 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Board Secretary: Application of Non-disclosure Policy to In...

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Victor Ashe

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Thanks.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

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From: Lynton, Michael [REDACTED] (b) (6)]

Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2012 10:25 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: Application of Nondisclosure Policy to International Broadcasting Innovation Act - related materials

(b) (6)

Materials related to the IBIA are subject to the non-disclosure policy.

best,

Michael

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:43 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble;
(b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
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Subject: Re: Application of Nondisclosure Policy to International Broadcasting Innovation Act - related materials

(b) (6)

Materials related to the IBIA are subject to the non-disclosure policy.

best,
Michael

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 08, 2012 12:34 PM
To: (b) (6)
Tara
Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: POLITICO Breaking News

Dick,

BBG seldom deals with national security and you know it. That is a real stretch based on your wish. The email you sent relates to a clear political battle at the presidential level which does not involve BBG unless you insist on injecting it into our deliberations.

The manner in which this was considered on June 7 by deliberating bypassing the governance committee and insuring that I received as little notice as possible was a text book study on how to reduce adequate consideration of the issue. Fairness would have dictated that adequate notice be given and committee hear the matter so all 7 Governors would have had equal consideration.

I assume the governance committee did not meet as I am a member of it and certain BBG members wanted to make sure I did not see the proposal a few days out and would have zero time to respond. In fact mention of consideration of it was omitted from the first agenda sent out.

As it was the Board adopted two obvious amendments to correct the hasty and ill considered manner in which it was drafted. You would be mistaken to take my vote for the amended resolution as an endorsement of it. The whole process was unfortunate in my view and did not reflect well on best practices to adopt policy.

I will continue to speak out on issues which I feel merit discussion.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Victor Ashe

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

From: richard m lobo (b) (6)
To: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6) Michael Lynton (b) (6)
Susan McCue (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine (b) (6) Michael
Meehan (b) (6) Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
CC: (b) (6) Jeff Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, 8 Jun 2012 17:22
Subject: Fwd: POLITICO Breaking News

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "POLITICO Breaking News" <breakingnews@politico.com>

Date: June 8, 2012 4:27:21 PM GMT+01:00

To: (b) (6)

Subject: POLITICO Breaking News

Reply-To: "POLITICO subscriptions" <reply-fe9315727c6d077c76-65921_HTML-232044013-1041082-0@politicoemail.com>

POLITICO Breaking News

Responding to criticism over a series of national security leaks, President Barack Obama told reporters at the White House Friday he has "zero tolerance for these kinds of leaks and speculation."

"We have mechanisms in place where if we can root out people who've leaked, they will suffer consequences," Obama said.

He rejected the accusation from some Republican members of Congress that the leaks were being done in service of his re-election campaign.

"The notion that my White House would purposefully release classified national security information is offensive. It's wrong," Obama said.

For more information... <http://www.politico.com>

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[http://dyn.politico.com/unsubscribe.cfm?email=\(b\) \(6\)&uuid=3B379379-1C23-CEB9-1491C9C13982E6B7&alertID=1](http://dyn.politico.com/unsubscribe.cfm?email=(b) (6)&uuid=3B379379-1C23-CEB9-1491C9C13982E6B7&alertID=1)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2012 12:12 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) yenne Weil; (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6) Dana Perino; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Labor talks

I am happy to discuss this with you and others. I think the Board from time to time should be briefed on the key aspects of the issues. We should know what the problems are. Talks which last two years on their face seem extraordinary and very long. It is hard to understand except this is a career undertaking with the end goal being an impasse panel. I can assure you that in the city of Knoxville on my 16 years as Mayor that labor talks on a single contract never lasted two years. We also never sent 5 to 7 persons to every discussion and we concluded talks as early as possible in a way where both sides were satisfied. I am not suggesting these talks are similar to what we had in Knoxville as they are not. However, (b) (6) I think you might want to hear direct from both parties separately what they are thinking.

It has to be a serious warning sign that participation by VOA/OCB eligible employees in the employee satisfaction survey this year according to the memo we got from Dick Lobo has dropped from the mid 60 percentile to the mid 40 percentile. That is roughly a 33% drop off in one year which is not a positive sign. One might think employees who last year participated and this year did not are wondering 'why bother?' I do not drop this at your door step or blame you personally but ultimately it comes to you and to the Board. We cannot just pretend it is not happening. I worry about it and feel we must address it.

RFA has much better relations with its union. You may wish to check there and see how they handle it.

I trust your trip in Asia is going well and Look forward to a report on it.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 6/4/2012 12:00:10 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Gov. Ashe,

Apologies that I haven't had a chance to respond to this earlier; as you know, I am on travel. I will still be gone during this week's board meeting, but will participate remotely when needed. In the meantime, I thought it would be useful for you to have my thoughts on your email and this important topic.

I disagree that labor talks are a job for Dick Lobo and I to take over. I know it sounds simple and easy, but given the complex nature of the agreement, and the many issues to be addressed, it simply isn't a valid or beneficial use of our time.

Union and Management negotiations are often a long, tedious process. I don't find any aspect of the current arrangement unusual, and in fact, believe it's quite common. I am briefed on the various issues and decisions, and asked for input. As Director of the Voice of America, I understand that the Board has delegated that decision-making to me. I believe that the guidance I am providing the negotiating team is beneficial for VOA and VOA employees. So again, perhaps we disagree on the "broken" nature of the system.

I agree that we have significant morale issues to address. We are committed to resolving them in a variety of ways; however, I don't believe expediting the negotiations is one of them. It's important we get this right, and I believe that discussions and back and forth among the principles will yield that.

As always, I value your unique perspective and hope that we can have a conversation about this when I return.

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 7:38 PM

To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Labor talks

On May 14 I met with the BBG management team which handles the current labor negotiations with AFGE 1812. At the meeting were six BBG employees plus myself. They were (b) (6)

This seemed more persons than necessary but not unusual when a Governor of the BBG seeks information. I did not ask for so many to attend. All were polite and professional in their remarks.

This e mail is a report on the meeting and my thoughts at its conclusion. The meeting lasted about one hour.

I had requested a meeting on the talks without naming persons who needed to be in attendance. I had previously heard from the union about the status of talks which seem eternal. We all know morale at VOA/OCB and IBB is poor based on the OPM surveys of federal employees. Contract employees are not surveyed by OPM but one can reasonably conclude their views would be equally dismal towards the employee-employer situation as they receive no benefits and seldom see their contract pay increased while experiencing late payments occasionally.

I learned the current contract between BBG/IBB and AFGE is the one from 2005 which expired some years ago but continues in place because a new contract has not been negotiated. I also learned that one entire week a month, there are negotiations and have been going on since March, 2011. We are now in the 14th month of talks. When I asked when this seemingly career set of talks might end, (b) (6) cited December, 2012 as a possible date for conclusion but it seems likely to go then to an impasse panel with more months of consideration there. Almost two years will have been spent on these talks without conclusion.

Management, which is primarily (b) (6) who lead the labor talks, seem to want to revise the total contract on many different points. I really never got a firm fix on the exact issues separating the two sides other than some discussion on a FLRA opinion overturning the views of BBG/IBB on non citizen employment, the question of discipline articles, the question of merit promotions and staffing and arbitration on leave. The FLRA matter seems to be over whether the legal office wants to acknowledge it or not. Only congressional rewrite of current laws would change it. However, (b) (6) did not seem willing to throw in the towel on this without direction from those above her.

My concern is the Board is being represented on these talks by these individuals without

being briefed on what the issues are and whether we would agree with them. While the Board would not want to actually negotiate, we should be informed periodically what is happening in our name especially as it impacts employee morale which is in the cellar.

I found it stunning that BBG/IBB management would allow these talks to go on for two years. My suggestion would be to pick out the 3 or 4 major issues of difference and try to resolve them. Forget the rest and save them for a later day. It is fantasy to think you can change 25 to 28 issues in one series of talks even ones which go on for two years. It is also wrong to allow these to drag on a week a month. If these had been done one week after the next, it would have been concluded one way or the other by now. Instead, by stretching them out for 2 years, they are part of the career of several person.

My own feeling is that Dick Lobo as IBB director and David Ensor as VOA head need to fast track these talks to an earlier conclusion than Christmas especially since most AFGI members will not regard the current talks ending at Christmas as much of a Christmas gift since they are headed to an impasse panel as surely as Tuesday follows Monday. For the Obama Administration which has stressed better relations with organized labor, this presents a most unusual situation. For the BBG Board which says it wishes to improve morale, this is a morale stopper. I urge that this be discussed at our Prague Board meeting. We should jump start this to an ending.

These comments are not confidential. I do not ask that you to treat them as such. Feel free to share them with whoever you feel would benefit by having them. My goal is to secure progress on a situation which has lasted much too long and to the detriment of BBG.

I regret being the bearer of less than positive news but BBG needs to know about this.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, June 03, 2012 4:34 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble;
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Cambodian Election Coverage

should also go the Embassy in Phnom Penh as well Victor

In a message dated 6/3/2012 2:28:06 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
FYI

As you may know, RFA has been the go-to country-wide source of info for elections in Cambodia for years.

A week ago, the government ordered our local affiliate to cut our surge programming - extra election broadcasts.

Further, our affiliate was ordered by the government to "ban" RFA coverage on June 2 and 3, the day before and the day of the elections. Effectively silencing independent country-wide election coverage.

Listeners called us non-stop to find out when they didn't hear our program on FM stations on election night.

Today we are pushing out a strongly worded objection to RSF, CPJ, etc.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, June 02, 2012 8:26 AM

To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: VOA

With (b) (6) in Asia, will he be able to attend BBG meeting on June 7 by teleconference? Or, if not, will someone (and who?) attend to represent him for any questions which may exist.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2012 12:22 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: agenda for August 17

my comments are not meant to be critical. Just a reminder that I do read them and forward to having them.

Victor

In a message dated 8/14/2012 10:46:00 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, we're in final stages of document preparation and can let you know in the next couple of hours when and how we'll get them to you. At very least we'll send key documents by email as well as hard copy. The key documents are brief and so should not be a problem to print.

Thank you for your patience. Indeed this has been a very challenging process and many staff have put in long and late hours to prepare materials.

Regards,

Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2012 10:25 AM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: agenda for August 17

I know everyone is working super hard to get it altogether but it is now Tuesday and I will not receive the packet if sent today until tomorrow, Wednesday, August 15 which is only two days prior to the meeting. If sent tomorrow it probably should go to house here plus Park Hyatt where I am staying on August 16 in DC.

This reduces time for me to review materials and perform due diligence in casting an informed vote.

This is not meant to be critical but to ask for information as soon as possible and perhaps (b) (6) can call to go over material so I am not reading it all for the first time as the meeting opens on August 17.

When is it expected that I might get the material?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2012 10:25 AM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: agenda for August 17

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When is it expected that I might get the material?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2012 3:16 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: FW: BBG Meeting on FY 2014 Budget

We found it about 20 minutes ago as it was left in a most unusual spot at our home.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Aug 15, 2012 12:45 pm
Subject: RE: FW: BBG Meeting on FY 2014 Budget

FedEx tracking system tells us that your package was delivered at 10:46 a.m.

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2012 12:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FW: BBG Meeting on FY 2014 Budget

I have not received any materials as of mid day. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Aug 15, 2012 11:21 am
Subject: FW: BBG Meeting on FY 2014 Budget

Governors. My apologies, but there is an error in one of the documents – TAB 1A. When you receive your materials, please replace TAB 1A with eth attached. Note that the change is clearly visible in strike-through text. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2012 12:42 PM

To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FW: BBG Meeting on FY 2014 Budget

I have not received any materials as of mid day. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Aug 15, 2012 11:21 am
Subject: FW: BBG Meeting on FY 2014 Budget

Governors. My apologies, but there is an error in one of the documents
– TAB 1A. When you receive your materials, please replace TAB 1A with
eth attached. Note that the change is clearly visible in
strike-through text. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2012 1:14 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FOIA

Individual governors ought to be able to get answers on this without waiting on the governance committee to meet which had its May meeting canceled due to a quorum not being present. It seems the tentatively scheduled Sept governance committee meeting already has a very full agenda without this even being on the agenda....I am happy for governance to discuss this whenever it does meet but that should not be a reason to defer answers to my legitimate questions on this. I am not convinced governance committee will have a quorum Sept 13.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard Lobo <(b) (6)>; Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>; Michael Lynton <(b) (6)>; Susan McCue <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Aug 16, 2012 12:48 am
Subject: Re: FOIA

I suggest that this matter be brought to the Governance Committee.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: (b) (6)
Date: Thu, 16 Aug 2012 02:39:34 +0000
To: vhashe@aol.com<vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: FOIA

We are studying it, Victor. It is a complex issue to discuss over email. I would be happy to discuss with you in person when you are at BBG this Friday. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2012 9:10:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: FOIA

Recently it was brought to my attention that the BBG web site states that BBG does not have the ability to accept FOIA requests electronically. My question is why is this case. Why would e mail not suffice? Second, what effort is being made to allow this procedure? Does the FOIA office and the deputy general counsel favor moving to this procedure?

I look forward to hearing from (b) (6) and (b) (6) on this.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2012 7:44 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Schedule RFA and/or MBN Corporate Board Meetings?

does not seem like there is time in Sept for such meetings...perhaps October?? But it is up to Michael Meehan.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/21/2012 7:36:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) v writes:

Dear Governor Meehan,

As we begin planning for the September Board meeting, kindly let us know at your earliest convenience whether we should plan for corporate meetings of RFA and/or MBN.

Currently, a meeting of the RFE/RL Board of Directors is planned.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2012 7:09 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on September 13, 2012

I have just seen the proposed governance schedule for September 13. I do not have a clue as to what is meant by grantee administrative streamlining. Is that new language for consolidation? I assume all grantee heads will be invited to this discussion? or am I mistaken? Can someone explain this new language?

I feel the CEO issue should also be discussed fully by the full Board in public session. I also feel we should be given options on the CEO structure. It is well known that I felt the plan presented to the House Foreign Affairs Committee for a CEO amendment was flawed and worst that the problem it sought to cure. I hope we do not repeat that mistaken. I think we need a public process here too to let interested parties comment.

I think scheduling BBG meetings for January, February and March at least in 2013 if not to Sept 2013 is essential for planning. In January I suggest January 10 and 11 to avoid the inaugural.

need to set Miami meeting and Prague meeting too. October meeting of this year 2012 should be at RFA as we skipped RFA in the spring.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/21/2012 7:00:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governance Committee Members,

Attached please find a draft agenda for the Governance Committee meeting currently scheduled for Thursday, September 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. EDT. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Mulhaupt.

Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the draft agenda.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 7:10 PM
To: [REDACTED]; Tara Sonenshine;
[REDACTED]; Dana Perino; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

In light of the news a few hours ago that DOJ has joined the whistleblower lawsuit against Gallup over false polling, I am urging this issue be added to strategy and budget meeting this Tuesday. We need to pull out of this contract and take our business elsewhere.

We should not hang around spending \$8 million plus a year with Gallup hoping the lawsuit fails. BBG could be embarrassed and we ought to remove ourselves from this ASAP.

I am not faulting anyone for this but rather given developments we should act prudently and quickly.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 4:24 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Richard M. Lobo; [REDACTED]; Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on September 13, 2012

What bothers me is not the nomenclature but the legal opinions designed to encourage streamlining which is consolidation by a different name without congressional approval. That ignites all sorts of issues. Presiding governor Lynton has said we need a new legal opinion from a source which does not have a stake in the outcome. I feel [REDACTED] is as non objective on this as much as some feel [REDACTED] is not objective. We need to secure congressional approval. We need to hold public discussion and hearings on this. We have failed to be transparent on this in my view.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Susan McCue [REDACTED] >
To: Dennis Mulhaupt [REDACTED] >
Cc: Vhashe <Vhashe@aol.com>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Aug 22, 2012 12:41 pm
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on September 13, 2012

I've been advocating for streamlining as a better descriptor of our goal. indeed, newsrooms and brands would not be impacted. it is the opposite; they could receive additional resources saved by eliminating duplicative admin management.

On Aug 22, 2012, at 11:40 AM, Dennis Mulhaupt wrote:
Victor:

Some governors felt "grantee administrative streamlining" is more accurate in depicting what is being proposed than "consolidation," especially since the proposals do not impact news, externally-facing brands or content. Same initiative though.

With respect to having grantee heads attend the meeting, I am fine with that.

Dennis

From: "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com>;

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2012 7:09 PM

Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on September 13, 2012

I have just seen the proposed governance schedule for September 13. I do not have a clue as to what is meant by grantee administrative streamlining. Is that new language for consolidation? I assume all grantee heads will be invited to this discussion? or am I mistaken? Can someone explain this new language?

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need to set Miami meeting and Prague meeting too. October meeting of this year 2012 should be at RFA as we skipped RFA in the spring.

Victor Ashe

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(b) (6) writes:

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Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the draft agenda.

Thank you.

susan mccue | message-global | (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 11:49 AM
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: DRAFT AGENDA for August 28 S&B Committee Meeting

Agree. Victor

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Aug 22, 2012 10:05 am
Subject: Re: DRAFT AGENDA for August 28 S&B Committee Meeting

For the PNN discussion.
I want (b) (6) and (b) (6) as I want to expand it to farda as well.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 08:36 AM
To: (b) (6); Michael Meehan
Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: DRAFT AGENDA for August 28 S&B Committee Meeting

Jeff

thanks for sending this. I understand (b) (6) is on vacation this week.

I may not be able to join the call until 0945 due to a 0915 medical appointment. I will work out with (b) (6) when she can contact me that morning so I can join the call

As you know the full Board voted on August 17 for this committee to review PNN and the parazit show issue. I feel this subject must be on the agenda ..for 1000 and afterwards.Perhaps this may require fewer persons present for a candid discussion. Also I want to know how many people work to produce Parazit. What is the total budget? What have these people been doing while off the air for 9 months? What plans exist to get the show back on the air with new or same leadership? Why was the Board not informed earlier?

Why did state decline to fund proposals for Radio Sawa?

I look forward to the meeting with these changes.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/22/2012 9:25:07 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors, Attached and pasted in below is a draft agenda for the August 28 Strategy and Budget Committee meeting. We would appreciate your comments and suggestions, after which we'll make needed revisions and get the agenda and background materials out to you and the entity chiefs. As we understand your guidance, we have shaped this agenda to address ongoing, challenging strategic issues, with particular emphasis on those that concern cooperation and collaboration across and among the broadcast entities. We'd appreciate your feedback today if possible, so that we can get the final materials to you promptly. Thanks and regardsJeff

Agenda Topic 1 FY 2014 Budget Update
Agenda Topic 2 Burma: Updating Prior Board Discussion/Decisions Regarding VOA-RFA Collaboration to Address Duplication and Move Forward on Joint Efforts
Agenda Topic 3 Balkans: Further Review of Proposed RFE/RL Service Elimination for FY 2014
Agenda Topic 4 Opera Web/Mobile Web Distribution Opportunity: Considering the Project (Requires BBG-Wide Participation and On-Air Promotion)
Agenda Topic 5 Crisis Contingency Planning
Syria: State Declines to Fund BBG/MBN Proposals for Radio Sawa and Alhurra: Further Actions BBG Might Take
BBG Crisis Planning for Mali
Iran: State of BBG Readiness for a Possible Crisis Situation

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 11:44 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on September 13, 2012

I assume you will get the three entity heads invited. Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6) >

To: Vhashe <Vhashe@aol.com>; (D) (O)

(b) (6)
(b) (6)
(b) (6)

(D) (O)

Sent: Wed, Aug 22, 2012 11:40 am

Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on September 13, 2012

Dennis, I will leave it to you to invite the entity heads. Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6) >

To: Vhashe <Vhashe@aol.com>; (D) (O)

(b) (6)
(b) (6)
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To: (b) (6)

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Cc: (b) (6)

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Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2012 7:09 PM

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From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 9:37 AM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: DRAFT AGENDA for August 28 S&B Committee Meeting

Jeff

thanks for sending this. I understand (b) (6) is on vacation this week.

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Thanks and regards

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Agenda Topic 4 Opera Web/Mobile Web Distribution Opportunity: Considering the Project (Requires BBG-Wide Participation and On-Air Promotion)

Agenda Topic 5 Crisis Contingency Planning

- * Syria: State Declines to Fund BBG/MBN Proposals for Radio Sawa and Alhurra: Further Actions BBG Might Take
- * BBG Crisis Planning for Mali
- * Iran: State of BBG Readiness for a Possible Crisis Situation

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 7:07 PM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Dana Perino; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: RE: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

This makes sense and seems like a prudent approach. Ultimately, I believe we should just disengage from gallup as there seems to be risk and potential exposure here. Another firm ought to do the research which is not distracted by litigation and whistleblower issues.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) Tara Sonenshine (b) (6)
(b) (6) Dana Perino
(b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
(b) (6) Bruce Sherman (b) (6) Lynne Weil
(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Aug 23, 2012 6:04 pm

Subject: RE: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

Dear Governors,

We have added discussion of the Gallup situation to the agenda for next Tuesday's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting, and we're gathering information as quickly as possible ahead of that session in order to be able to answer your questions and recommend possible actions.

We were in contact today with DoJ and will remain so as the investigation and case develop. We also have spoken with Gallup and are arranging a meeting with them to discuss the situation and our contract.

Regards,
Jeff

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 8:15 AM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine;
(b) (6) Dana Perino; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman

Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

We need to be briefed on what Gallup says about this, perhaps they will

have someone at the meeting...what does DOJ say as well as State which may be being ripped off according to the lawsuit. We all need to know fully what is happening here. What safeguards exist in the current BBG contract with Gallup to protect BBG if wrongdoing is proven? The problem here is that the lawsuit may take 3 years to be resolved by which time the current contract has ended but BBG may not have received an honest accounting of what the taxpayers are paying for in this. This lawsuit clearly places a cloud over it all.

When Justice joins a whistleblower suit, there must be a lot going on there and is this issue company wide at Gallup?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) >
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6) >
Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
<(b) (6)> Tara
Sonenshine (b) (6)
(b) (6) Dana Perino (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Aug 23, 2012 6:45 am
Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

Will do.
rgds
jeff

On Aug 22, 2012, at 9:51 PM, "Michael Meehan" (b) (6) wrote:

> please add to the S and B agenda this Gallup issue and have the appropriate staff who handles our polling contract available to discuss this matter.

>
> thank you,
>
> Michael
>
> Michael P. Meehan CEO
> VennSquared Communications
> Washington Silicon Valley
>

> From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
> Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 7:09 PM
> To: (b) (6)
(b) (6)

> Subject: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

>
> In light of the news a few hours ago that DOJ has joined the
> whistleblower lawsuit against Gallup over false polling, I am urging

> this issue be added to strategy and budget meeting this Tuesday. We
> need to pull out of this contract and take our business elsewhere.
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> We should not hang around spending \$8 million plus a year with Gallup
> hoping the lawsuit fails. BBG could be embarrassed and we ought to
> remove ourselves from this ASAP.
>
> I am not faulting anyone for this but rather given developments we
> should act prudently and quickly.
>
> Victor Ashe
>
>
>

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 7:04 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: RE: Coburn Travel resolution

Thanks so much. Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Aug 23, 2012 6:37 pm
Subject: RE: Coburn Travel resolution

Victor, as Dick is away and I am not current on this issue, I'll need to check with other colleagues and get to you with fresh information. I appreciate your patience. RegardsJeff
From: Vhashe@aol.com
[mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 11:35 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Coburn Travel resolution

When does Staff feel the Coburn resolution will come back to BBG Board or a committee for further consideration in terms of new practices to be implemented as they relate to travel?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 11:35 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Coburn Travel resolution

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 8:15 AM

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Cc: (b) (6)

Tara Sonenshine (b) (6)

Dana Perino; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman

Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

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When Justice joins a whistleblower suit, there must be a lot going on there and is this issue company wide at Gallup?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

To: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>

Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; michael lynton

(b) (6)

Tara

Sonenshine (b) (6)

Dana Perino (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Aug 23, 2012 6:45 am

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jeff

On Aug 22, 2012, at 9:51 PM, "Michael Meehan" (b) (6) wrote:

> please add to the S and B agenda this Gallup issue and have the

appropriate staff who handles our polling contract available to discuss this matter.

>

> thank you,

>

> Michael

>

> Michael P. Meehan CEO

> VennSquared Communications

> Washington Silicon Valley

>

> From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]

> Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 7:09 PM

> To: (b) (6)

[REDACTED]

> Subject: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

>

> In light of the news a few hours ago that DOJ has joined the
> whistleblower lawsuit against Gallup over false polling, I am urging
> this issue be added to strategy and budget meeting this Tuesday. We
> need to pull out of this contract and take our business elsewhere.

>

> We should not hang around spending \$8 million plus a year with Gallup
> hoping the lawsuit fails. BBG could be embarrassed and we ought to
> remove ourselves from this ASAP.

>

> I am not faulting anyone for this but rather given developments we
> should act prudently and quickly.

>

> Victor Ashe

>

>

>

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 8:00 AM

To: Dana Perino

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine;

[REDACTED] (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

Agree. That one is innocent until proven guilty however, due diligence suggests BBG take note of this, be alert to it, ask questions and determine if the risks of continuing with this contract are worth it. We must discuss it and get the facts. We are now on notice in my view.

Best

Victor Ashe

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

From: Dana Perino (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Aug 22, 2012 11:41 pm

Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

though just because DOJ joined a suit doesn't mean the company is guilty of the accusations.

Dana Perino
(b) (6)

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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 5:56 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

thanks much Victor

In a message dated 8/24/2012 5:52:48 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Will do.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 5:51:22 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

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From: (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 3:53 PM

To: vhashe@aol.com; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo

Cc: (b) (6) Letitia King; (b) (6)

Subject: RE: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

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To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Aug 24, 2012 11:38 am
Subject: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

<image001.jpg>

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(b) (6)

What is the cost for 75 persons to each convention? \$3000 per person for \$225,000 per convention for \$450,000 for both or a different amount? I do not need or seek an exact amount but a ball park figure which I assume you considered when you decided on 75 instead of 90 or 98 as in 2008.

I am not asking you to defend as I assume you would naturally defend what you directed to happen. However, it is fair and legitimate for me as a Governor to ask what the cost is especially when BBG issues a news release on it without numbers of personnel or cost involved. Once one knows the cost then one is in a better position to assess and evaluate.

I am only asking the questions you would have asked when you were a distinguished working journalist. I still believe you are distinguished.

No one should be surprised I am asking. I am asking (b) (6) the same. And the entity heads.

Victor

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r=357&c=3309020&l=273144&ctl=438C4A9:39C9F80DE015ED9AE3631887FB4508AAD536DA50C315BF03&](http://enews.voanews.com/t?r=357&c=3309020&l=273144&ctl=438C4A9:39C9F80DE015ED9AE3631887FB4508AAD536DA50C315BF03&)>
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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 5:04 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: (b) (6); Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

(b) (6)

My question is how many persons from OCB are covering each convention...not how important it is to be there or not be there. I do feel it is significant to be present. Please tell me how many from OCB are going to Tampa and Charlotte and approximate cost. That is what I want to know. I assume naturally you would defend whatever it is you decided to send.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/24/2012 4:25:52 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good afternoon to all of you. As with VOA this is a great opportunity to provide as (b) (6) stated "civic lessons... on American democracy." It is part of our mission and a tremendous opportunity to report on the democratic process in this country. Whether the Cuban people decide to adopt a similar process will ultimately be up to their free will, when it is free, but at the very least we provide information that will be useful to their future. I am also ready to defend the use of these funds. Thank you for your time and consideration. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 3:53 PM

To: vhashe@aol.com; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo

Cc: (b) (6) Letitia King; (b) (6)

Subject: RE: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

Victor,

In 2008, VOA sent 90 to Minneapolis and 98 to Denver. (The Denver number was higher because of the late add of the outdoor venue on the final night which required more technical people). This year we cut the numbers back to 75 per convention. As the item below notes this is one of the best opportunities VOA gets—every four years--to provide civics lessons, if you will, on American democracy. Twenty language services will be represented on location. All services will use material from Central News journalists at the conventions. I am pleased to defend this appropriate use of funds—the kind of coverage that is in effect called for by the VOA Charter.

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:05 PM

To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo

Cc: (b) (6) Letitia King

Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

then let me know what VOA and OCB are doing . Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/24/2012 12:11:35 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good afternoon, Victor --

The BBG Public Affairs team does not control the numbers of participants from each of the broadcast entities covering the conventions. To address your question, I'm looping in a few of the right colleagues.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 11:48 AM
To: (b) (6) Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

many people are we sending to each for entities and VOA/OCB?

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

From: Letitia King (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Aug 24, 2012 11:38 am
Subject: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

Image removed by sender. BBG Logo

Friday, August 24, 2012

BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World <<http://enews.voanews.com/?r=357&c=3309020&l=273144&ctl=438C4A8:39C9F80DE015ED9AE3631887FB4508AAD536DA50C315BF03&>>

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:51 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: thanks

thanks for more complete explanation of our agenda on Tues Aug 28 going on website for Strategy and Budget.

Victor
From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:11 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: package arrived

the fed ex package for Aug 28 has arrived. However, there is nothing in it on the Gallup contract issue or who will be speaking on it.

Please advise.

Victor Ashe
From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: (b) (6) Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

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

From: Letitia King (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Aug 24, 2012 11:38 am
Subject: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

BBG Logo<<http://www.bbg.gov/newsletter/BBGLogo-newsLetter.png>>
Friday, August 24, 2012

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From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 8:30 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Incomplete description of strategy meeting

This morning I looked at the BBG website and noticed the description of the upcoming strategy and budget committee meeting for August 28. It seems to fall short of listing all the topics we are in fact discussing.

For example, there will be discussion of PNN as directed by motion in the August 17 BBG board meeting and Parazit. There will be discussion of the Gallup contract and the DOJ lawsuit against Gallup. There will be discussion of further budget items. I think this should be added to the public description of this committee meeting. What is there now is inadequate in my view in terms of transparency and giving the public an idea of what the committee will actually discuss for 2.5 hours. I see no valid reason for omitting these topics.

I look forward to hearing from you on whether any changes will be made.

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 5:34 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
(b) (6); Dana Perino; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

I think it is relevant to see the actual lawsuit or a summary of it. What does DOJ recommend to BBG? Also what steps are being taken to assure that the BBG contract does not suffer from the charges filed in federal court? Should we be doing business with this entity which has a major lawsuit against it for fraud by another federal agency? What is proper procedure here? What steps should the Board take to meet its fiduciary responsibility? If we continue with Gallup but Gallup is later held liable in the current charges against it, are we as Board members liable for not having suspended or canceled the contract? I am deeply concerned about this and feel we should disengage and seek research elsewhere.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/23/2012 6:04:28 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

We have added discussion of the Gallup situation to the agenda for next Tuesday's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting, and we're gathering information as quickly as possible ahead of that session in order to be able to answer your questions and recommend possible actions.

We were in contact today with DoJ and will remain so as the investigation and case develop. We also have spoken with Gallup and are arranging a meeting with them to discuss the situation and our contract.

Regards,
Jeff

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 8:15 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
(b) (6); Dana Perino; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

We need to be briefed on what Gallup says about this, perhaps they will have someone at the meeting...what does DOJ say as well as State which may be being ripped off according to the lawsuit. We all need to know fully what is happening here. What safeguards exist in the current BBG contract with Gallup to protect BBG if wrongdoing is proven? The problem here is that the lawsuit may take 3 years to be resolved by which time the current contract has ended but BBG may not have received an honest accounting of what the taxpayers are paying for in this.

This lawsuit clearly places a cloud over it all.

When Justice joins a whistleblower suit, there must be a lot going on there and is this issue company wide at Gallup?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6) >
Cc: (b) (6)
(b) (6) Tara Sonenshine (b) (6)
(b) (6) Dana Perino (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) >

Sent: Thu, Aug 23, 2012 6:45 am
Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

Will do.
rgds
jeff

On Aug 22, 2012, at 9:51 PM, "Michael Meehan" (b) (6) >
wrote:

> please add to the S and B agenda this Gallup issue and have the
> appropriate staff who handles our polling contract available to discuss this matter.

>
> thank you,
>
> Michael

>
> Michael P. Meehan CEO
> VennSquared Communications
> Washington Silicon Valley

>
> From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
> Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 7:09 PM
> To: (b) (6) Michael Meehan; (b) (6)
(b) (6)

> Subject: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

>
> In light of the news a few hours ago that DOJ has joined the
> whistleblower lawsuit against Gallup over false polling, I am urging
> this issue be added to strategy and budget meeting this Tuesday. We
> need to pull out of this contract and take our business elsewhere.

>
> We should not hang around spending \$8 million plus a year with Gallup
> hoping the lawsuit fails. BBG could be embarrassed and we ought to
> remove ourselves from this ASAP.

>
> I am not faulting anyone for this but rather given developments we
> should act prudently and quickly.

>
> Victor Ashe

>
>
>

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 9:03 AM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Sept 12

(b) (6)

Just a reminder that I want the (b) (6) item on the BBG board agenda for the next bbg board meeting on Sept 12 as well as the Gallup contract which is being discussed at strategy and budget on August 28. We need a report on the DOJ lawsuit against Gallup and a report on whether the issues existing in the state dept contract over which the current lawsuit is being argued impact the BBG contract.

I also will raise the question as I have done previously on where the OCB lawsuit appeal stands from the matter involving employees being let go and their success in their legal efforts to date. I am not asking for legal strategy to be discussed but I am asking where this stands procedurally with dates as to the next hearing as well as potential financial exposure should these efforts fail. You are aware as is (b) (6) that I raise this matter with regularity. I feel it has large financial consequences to which we must pay close attention as a Board.

If you have issues with my requests please advise. I believe I am entitled by right as BBG board member to place this on the board agenda.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 8:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Gallup initial points - Attorney/Client Privilege Communication

(b) (6) my title is Mr. Ashe. Perhaps the time will come when we are on a first name basis but we are not there yet.

My most sincere advice to you based on my longer years of experience is to take a deep breath and be calm. It works better.

Meanwhile, as a board member I am seeking answers to the questions posed in my earlier e mail which are far more significant than worrying about titles. Your e mail did not reference those questions or even attempt to acknowledge them....well alone answer them.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Aug 27, 2012 7:41 pm
Subject: Re: Gallup initial points - Attorney/Client Privilege Communication

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 7:32:02 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Gallup initial points - Attorney/Client Privilege Communication

(b) (5)

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/27/2012 7:09:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time,

(b) (6) writes:

Governors, attached is a brief memo that outlines preliminary information we have been able to gather about the DOJ action against Gallup and how this could affect BBG. We will try to answer your questions on Tuesday and will be ready to consult on next steps. Please note that the memo is Attorney-Client Privilege Communication as this case may result in litigation. Regards Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 7:32 PM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Gallup initial points - Attorney/Client Privilege Communication

(b) (5)

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Regards

Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 6:38 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Seoul conference

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Completed

I am told the Delhi conference which I questioned in terms of attendance by some 13 or so persons will be held for 2012 in Seoul in

October ...if correct, my question is how many persons are going this year from VOA ,IBB and BBG to attend? Who is in charge of monitoring this?

if I am mistaken as to this, please advise.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 12:23 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Justice Department joins false claims suit against Gallup

Hello,

Fyi

Shared while visiting FoxNews.com:

<http://soc.li/OpHIYTd>

The Justice Department said Wednesday that it has joined a lawsuit against The Gallup Organization alleging the polling company filed false claims on contracts with the U.S. Mint, the State Department and other government agencies.

This email is a direct message from a friend who wants to share an item of interest with you.

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ZPaRxxhJ7GSgxxFoNqyPT1ojfMVDx2-8yNRpaeWoktmZ663M9eUMiOarGOSFmQ.> to remove your email address.

Gigya Inc., 2513 E. Charleston Rd Suite 200, Mountain View, CA 94043.

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2012 7:27 PM

To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Gallup

Appreciate the discussion on Gallup...do want to be kept current on audit of current Gallup contract. When will it happen? Look forward to report on Sept 13.

Victor ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2012 9:15 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
(b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; Richard M. Lobo;
Subject: Re: FY14

I think Meehan and I are in agreement in holding the course. Bless his heart but (b) (6) needs to accept what we have done. Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Dana Perino
(b) (6); Tara Sonenshine
(b) (6); Richard M. Lobo

Sent: Wed, Aug 29, 2012 7:11 pm
Subject: RE: FY14

Governors, some of you have weighed in today on this issue. We need, please, to bring this to closure now in order to finalize the budget, which is due in less than two weeks.

As finalized by the Strategy and Budget Committee, and outlined to you by Governor Meehan, the budget of \$785 million includes 71 reductions in VOA Central News and English and 10 Central News reductions at RFE/RL. (b) (6)

(b) (6) began this email discussion today by asking instead for a \$2.5 million reduction in the Africa investment (taking it down from \$15 million to \$12.5 million) so that VOA could cut only 41 positions in Central News/English instead of 71. RFE/RL has followed up with (b) (6) to press again to cut fewer than 10 Central News positions.

Do you wish further discussion on these issues?

Thanks and regards

Jeff

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2012 2:43 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Dana Perino;
(b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: FY14

Happy to have all your help on the budget. We spent over 5 hours yesterday trying to tackle the outstanding issues left over from the board meeting.

OMB Asked the Agency to submit 696 million plus add backs to 733 million. So

each network head argued with us not to cut any position.

As you saw in our memo last week we are 52 million dollars over what OMB requested for us to submit. The board ok'd the committee to come back in the 770s. We are at 785 even with the central news room cuts.

Happy to have the full board dig in from here.

Thanks.

Michael
Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 29, 2012, at 2:20 PM, (b) (6)

wrote:

> On the 17th we agreed at very end of call to reduce the VOA job loss number down from 71. Anyone have transcript?

> Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Michael Meehan (b) (6) >

> Date: Wed, 29 Aug 2012 18:08:55

> To: Susan McCue (b) (6) >

> Cc: (b) (6) vhashe@aol.com<vhashe@aol.com>;

(b) (6)

(b) (6) Tara

Sonenshine (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

> Subject: RE: FY14

>

> well that's what we voted for in 2013 and again on Friday the 17th.

>

> Michael P. Meehan CEO

> VennSquared Communications

> Washington Silicon Valley

>

> From: Susan McCue (b) (6)

> Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2012 2:03 PM

> To: Michael Meehan

> Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; Jeffrey

Trimble

> Subject: Re: FY14

>

> I'm for the Africa enhancement, but not for cutting 71 VOA jobs. thought we

agreed as a board on our last call that number was too high and it would be reduced?

>

> On Aug 29, 2012, at 1:00 PM, Michael Meehan wrote:

>

> (b) (6)

>

> One of the strengths of the national security counter terrorism enhancements

was a robust request for Africa. In the White House meetings and with the State

Department and the chair of the Senate foreign relations committee And the ranking staff, there is support for enhancing our efforts in Africa.

>

> initially our committee looked at 20 to 30 million in enhancements. Last week the board votes for a reduced amount of 15 million as you and your team could only come up with half of the enhancement If you are telling us now that

you need an even smaller number then you should send to the Committee an updates

memo on the cuts

>

> We agreed that we want a bold number for a bold project.

>

> I'm not willing to keep whittling back the effort on an important national security priority for the administration and our board.

>

> The Africa enhancement should stand on its own strengths and remain robust.

>

> On the matter of the central news room staff. For the past two years the board has voted for greater cooperation in sharing staff resources for a more streamlined central news room between voa and rfe The cuts in this years budget

reflect the exact same as last years as we have yet to see any progress on this

front.

>

> We should keep the matters separate.

>

> Thanks

>

> Michael

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

> On Aug 29, 2012, at 12:26 PM, (b) (6)

(b) (6)

wrote:

>

> Michael and Victor,

>

> Thank you for holding yesterday's meeting. It was useful to discuss the issues

we grapple with, and to benefit from your input and leadership.

>

> In the open session with entity heads yesterday, we did not discuss the FY14

budget, and I understand that afterwards you decided to move it forward without

changes, for example to the cut of 71 positions in VOA Central News/English.

>

> I am hoping to get your forbearance and support for one simple straightforward

trade in the FY14 budget that would, I firmly believe, better position the Board

and VOA in February.

>

> Would you be willing to vote for a \$2.5 million reduction in the Africa investment (taking it down from \$15 million to \$12.5 million) so that VOA could

cut only 41 positions in Central News/English instead of 71? It is a one line easy change with no impact on the bottom line.

>

> The fact is, with the \$2 million cut proposed in the VOA budget for contractors, I do not see a viable Central newsroom and English language service

at the 71 cut number, and nor would the workforce and interested outside parties. VOA can and will look for new ways to collaborate with RFE's newsroom

and others but this would still be much too large a cut, and would exclude, I believe, any ability to move towards the GNN model that is part of the Board's strategic vision.

>

> I include below highlights of a note I wrote Jeff Trimble earlier on this matter, which not all may have seen.

>

> Regards,

>

(b) (6)



> Jeff,

>

> The reduction in FTE proposed for VOA Central News and VOA English is so deep

and wide - 33% of the combined workforces - that it would cause severe damage to

the Voice of America's ability to gather and report the news, to provide news products for its Language Services, and to implement the Board's strategic goal

of establishing a Global News Network.

>

> During the past year, VOA has taken substantial steps to increase the cost-effectiveness of both Central News and VOA English. In Central News,

under my direction, we have refocused the energies of the journalists, moving them away from rewriting wire service copy, and toward original reporting, with the result that more VOA news reports are unique to our brand, more timely, and more interesting. We have strengthened central web operations for the benefit of all of our Language Services. We have reviewed the effectiveness of VOA news bureaus and are in the process of making changes that will improve our performance and save money.

>
> In the English Division, I have changed the leadership, and approved internal transfers of personnel to strengthen English to Africa and the Learning English staff. We have placed new emphasis on production of original TV programming, and have begun to acquire more products that complement our work and help tell America's story.

>
> Across the two Divisions, I have commissioned a restructuring plan that will move VOANews.com entirely into Central News - to consolidate our web operations, create an Internet-based newsroom, streamline our management ranks, and increase efficiency. In Central News the purpose is to create a foundation on which BBG can build its Global News Network. In English the purpose is to strengthen our base of products for Africa, and to create a unique and vibrant Learning English element for global audiences on all media.

>
> None of these initiatives were in place when deep cuts were proposed for FY 2013, a few weeks after I arrived. Since my arrival, VOA has worked as instructed by the Board on the issues of achieving economies, collaborating with sister entities, streamlining essential functions, and updating both our processes and our products. The initiatives we are taking in pursuit of BBG goals would be set back, if you rely on outdated numbers to set future spending and staffing requirements.

>
> Instead of a reduction of 33% of the combined News and English workforces (excluding the staffs of English to Africa and English Language Teaching) - the result of a loss of 71 FTE positions - I respectfully urge that number should be reduced to 20-25. Proposed cuts beyond the proposed number could cause staff and other interested parties outside the Agency to see the BBG and VOA leadership as opponents to be fought and lobbied against, rather than a leadership team whose

vision for the future may lead to a stronger VOA. Many staff would be likely to use their free time to campaign on Capitol Hill against the proposed budget of the BBG. A high price would be paid in terms of lower morale and less ability by this Board to reform VOA, whether or not Congress ultimately agreed to the drastic cuts proposed.

>
> (b) (6)

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> susan mccue | message-global (b) (6)

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From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2012 9:29 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Gallup

Pursuant to our August 28 discussion I think it is critical the audit of the Gallup contract as suggested by US Attorney office proceed ASAP...not months from now. Please keep Strategy and Budget informed on where this stands and timetable.

While I previously urged disengagement from Gallup I am willing to suspend that call awaiting the result of the audit which must be totally objective and done in a timely manner to assure honesty on Gallup's part. Gallup telling us that they have rejected all plea bargain suggestions does not impress me as I know that is standard procedure until such time as a plea bargain might happen or not happen. Our obligation is to hold Gallup to the highest standards. and be assured in a timely manner that is happening now that we know about the serious charges against them.

Victor Ashe
From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2012 7:04 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Internet Freedom in Cuba follow-up

good to hear. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6); 'Vhashe@aol.com' <Vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Aug 29, 2012 11:13 pm
Subject: Internet Freedom in Cuba follow-up

Dear Strategy & Budget committee- Governors:

As you requested f2c Cuba Pocket Server project proposal information was provided to all in the email chain after the Strategy and Budget meeting on 8/28. (previously referred to as "Shazaam" and "the Cuba Project at f2c")

(b) (6) and RFAs f2c team met this morning to discuss any concerns or questions (b) (6) may have about the project. Having had a chance to dive into the project proposal, (b) (6) gave it his blessing for FY2013. (b) (6) also weighed in via email with thoughts and questions which we will integrate as we move forward.

We all agreed that we will schedule a time when (b) (6) returns to talk about how to use the remaining \$10.1m of Internet Freedom funds for FY2013.

With your approval, RFA will immediately begin work on the project using FY2012 cash flow with the commitment that we will be granted the \$1.5m in FY2013 funds.

Also, we engaged in a four-hour "peer review" session with 3 outside peers walking through and discussing each project in the IAC and in the RFA portfolios

for FY2011-2012.

We look forward to their report as we welcome all input and feedback on our program. Hopefully we can apply some of their suggestions to our future funding decisions.

Thank you,

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2012 9:26 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: budget

Jeff

I assume it takes 4 votes to adopt the proposed (b) (6) budget change. By my count it is 3 in favor, one against (me) and Meehan, Sonenshine and Perino have not voted yet. The three in favor are McCue, Mulhaupt and Lynton.

Let us all know the final outcome and by what vote.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2012 3:13 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Update: Today's Teleconference - IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

Governor Lynton is handling communications here. Go ahead with your work...no rush on other for now.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Sep 3, 2012 3:00 pm
Subject: RE: Update: Today's Teleconference - IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO
Dear Governors Ashe and Lynton:

We are planning to hold another International Broadcasting Innovation Act (IBIA) working group meeting next week (the week of September 10). Following up on my August 8 email, any guidance that you would like to share with us on the Board-CEO relationship would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 08, 2012 3:29 PM
To: (b) (6) vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Update: Today's Teleconference - IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

Dear Michael and Victor:

I hope that all is going well.

I am following up on the discussion during the July 31 teleconference.

We are wondering if you have had a chance to speak off line about the Board-CEO relationship and whether you wish to provide any guidance to us at this time.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2012 2:39 PM
To: (b) (6) vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Update: Today's Teleconference - IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

Dear Governors,

We will be able to connect all Governors by phone for today's IBIA briefing at 5:30 p.m. EDT.

At around 5:25 p.m. EDT, we will call out to the Governors at their home, office or cell.

Should you experience any problems during the call, please call (b) (6) for assistance.

Thank you.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 2:43 PM
To: (b) (6) Vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: IBIA Briefing RE Roles for Board & CEO

Dear Governors,

The Board decided in January 2012 to pursue legislation for an International Broadcasting Innovation Act that would streamline U.S. international broadcasting and instructed IBB Director Dick Lobo to consult Governors Lynton and Ashe in developing a model to define the appropriate roles for the Board and CEO.

This is to confirm a briefing by phone next Tuesday, July 31, at 5:30 p.m. EDT. Governors Lynton, Ashe and McCue will participate by phone.

In the coming days, we will send a call-in number for the teleconference and materials, if any, in advance of the call.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 5:00 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

thanks so much and I am happy to clarify my own motion. However, Board must still vote on approval of these minutes? when will that occur?

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Sep 5, 2012 5:57 pm

Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival

Victor, I re-read the transcript, and if the item is not referring to the budget discussion about PNN but other PNN issues, then you are correct there is no reason to redact it. I assumed that it was related to the PNN budget discussion. We will make the adjustment. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 4:20 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

While I am not disagreeing with the other redactions at this point, I surely disagree with this one. It is not budget related. It is VOA related. I strongly disagree. Where do I argue this before the Board? On Sept 13 at BBG meeting when we vote on the approval of minutes? Obviously no Governor made this decision on redaction. An inquiry into PNN by this Board committee is NOT an OMB matter.

If necessary I will make the same motion at the public meeting.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Sep 5, 2012 4:15 pm

Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival

Victor, The PNN issue that is being proposed for redaction, as I understood it, was related to the budget discussion about PNN reductions. Items that are contained in or considered in discussions about the yet-to-be –released budget are confidential per OMB guidance.

Thanks. (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 3:47 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

who made the call on what is restricted and what is not? Board needs to vote on this I believe.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Sep 5, 2012 3:46 pm
Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival
Copying (b) (6) in so she can respond to your question on PNN.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 3:33 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

I have it...is the part colored in yellow to be released or not? If not released then why is the part on the motion I made on PNN colored in yellow?

When will the Board vote to approve these minutes?

Please advise.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Sep 5, 2012 9:54 am
Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival
The FedEx package was delivered at 9:44 am on Sept 5. Please check with the front desk.

Thanks!

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Saturday, September 01, 2012 7:09 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: We're ready for your arrival

(b) (6) this is address and phone number for Hotel in Halifax on Sept 5 arrival with Sept 7 departure. You will also send materials to Bangor Maine for Sept 8 arrival as I recall for Sept 13 BBG Board meeting.

Victor Ashe

---- Original Message ----

From: The Westin Nova Scotian <GCCUSTSERVICE@INFO.STARWOODHOTELS.COM>

To: VHASHE <VHASHE@AOL.COM>

Sent: Sat, Sep 1, 2012 6:24 am

Subject: We're ready for your arrival

Trouble seeing this email? View it in a browser for up-to-date reservation information, or to view in

<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?>

LUSQO79oSItx7XSh2GEjWQQUV%2BBIfkcC7ql%2FQqirbi5wY10nDDF8TTAvsFScqikzxMHKkbyPVR0m%0Ah5QfE5%2FHP45%2BifsyAzoZBmZxsOGcnV7xqzC7gK5LYncx%2FBboT0qsBM7BxgCi7JcG5DqPonN7mhyr%0Arc8MAEYRoZDAmj59megmw2KoG70xK4RNPGvRitcl>

English <<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?>

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<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?>

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<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?>

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<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?>

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<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?>

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<[http://www.starwoodhotels.com/language.do?localeCode=en-](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/language.do?localeCode=en-US&returnURL=http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1081)

[US&returnURL=http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1081](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1081)>

The Westin Nova Scotian <[http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US)

[propertyID=1081&language=en-US](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US)>

1181 Hollis Street,

Halifax Canada

Phone: (902) 421-1000 Fax: (902) 422-9465

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/pub/media/1081/wes1081ex.63796_md.jpg>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Contact Us <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/contact.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Your Room <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/rooms/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Guest Services <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/features/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Dining Options <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/dining/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
In The Neighborhood <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/area/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Finding Your Way <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/area/directions.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Area Map <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/area/map.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Meetings & Events <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/meetings/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>>

Greetings VICTOR,

Your stay is just days away and we're ready for your arrival.

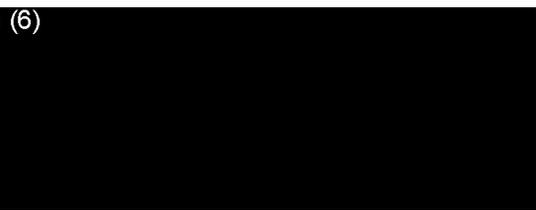
We hope you're looking forward to a great night's sleep on our Heavenly Bed® and to the many delicious choices on our SuperfoodsRXTM breakfast menu. We've tried to make it easy to keep your routine with WestinWORKOUT®, so remember to pack your gear.

We want to help you be at your best, so if there is anything you need, please just ask.

Now you can upgrade to a Harbourview room for only CAD \$20 per night, and book convenient amenities before your stay. Click to the right to learn more.

Stay Well,

(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covering several lines of text.

Your Reservation
Check In
05-SEP-2012 - 3:00 PM *

Check Out
07-SEP-2012 - 12:00 PM *

* Indicates standard hotel check-in and check-out times and does not reflect special arrangements made with the hotel.

7-day Weather Forecast (Halifax, Canada)

Sat

1

Sun

2

Mon

3

Tue

4

Wed

5

Thu

6

Fri

7

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/showers.gif>>

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/partyCloudy.gif>>

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/partyCloudy.gif>>

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/cloudy.gif>>

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/showers.gif>>

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/showers.gif>>

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/showers.gif>>

69° F /48° F

20° C /8° C

Showers

68° F /50° F

20° C /10° C

Partly Cloudy

70° F /54° F

21° C /12° C

Partly Cloudy

72° F /60° F

22° C /15° C

Cloudy

67° F /59° F

19° C /15° C

Showers

72° F /58° F

22° C /14° C

Showers

71° F /56° F

21° C /13° C

Showers

Conditions

Many Starwood Hotels have an early departure fee. When you check-in, you will be asked to confirm your departure date. You may be able to change your departure date without a penalty if rate plan permits and if you do so before the end of your arrival day. After reconfirming your departure date, if you decide to leave earlier, you may be charged the early departure fee. Please contact the hotel if you have any questions.

Modifying Your Reservation

To view, change or cancel your reservation, please visit [westin.com <http://www.westin.com/cancel>](http://www.westin.com/cancel) . Any modification to a reservation is subject to the hotel's availability at the time the modification is requested and may change the rate and/or require payment of cancellation fees. If you require further assistance, please contact Westin Hotels & Resorts at 800-937-8461 if you are calling from the United States or Canada. Otherwise, click here [<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/support/index.html>](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/support/index.html) for the telephone number of the Worldwide Reservation Office nearest you. Please note that reservations cannot be changed or canceled via email.

Your Privacy

Please note: For security purposes, you will be asked to provide a valid government or state-issued photo ID at check-in.

This email may contain links to websites that collect personally identifiable information about you. Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. is not responsible or liable for the actions of such independent websites, and encourages you to review the privacy statements and policies of such websites to understand how they collect, use and store such information.

Click here [<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/language.do?localeCode=en-US&returnURL=http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/privacy_policy.html>](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/language.do?localeCode=en-US&returnURL=http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/privacy_policy.html) for Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.'s Privacy Statement.

Starpoint® balance may not reflect your most recent activity and may not include Starpoints earned or redeemed for the current transaction.

A Message For Your Stay

[<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEWNywrDIBAA7/sxcXeNaAt+jE03D6ga1ETy901PvQwMc5hze3sNcpPg+JFGbUf3gKN8/Nra/ISq9z60VbrUtqWUz1Cn3LaQhilHNecSq5K0hjTJlY9SW7ggv6I3I6N1qDUscfe3IKMjRDRWMxl8MOR5lvJ/FqneomFtDRPUfbkTsTP0BchQtGimAAAA.html>](http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEWNywrDIBAA7/sxcXeNaAt+jE03D6ga1ETy901PvQwMc5hze3sNcpPg+JFGbUf3gKN8/Nra/ISq9z60VbrUtqWUz1Cn3LaQhilHNecSq5K0hjTJlY9SW7ggv6I3I6N1qDUscfe3IKMjRDRWMxl8MOR5lvJ/FqneomFtDRPUfbkTsTP0BchQtGimAAAA.html)

Upgrade Your Experience for Less

[<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEWNywrDIBAA7/sxcXeNaAt+jE03D6ga1ETy901PvQwMc5hze3sNcpPg+JFGbUf3gKN8/Nra/ISq9z60VbrUtqWUz1Cn3LaQhilHNecSq5K0hjTJlY9SW7ggv6I3I6N1qDUscfe3IKMjRDRWMxl8MOR5lvJ/FqneomFtDRPUfbkTsTP0BchQtGimAAAA.html>](http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEWNywrDIBAA7/sxcXeNaAt+jE03D6ga1ETy901PvQwMc5hze3sNcpPg+JFGbUf3gKN8/Nra/ISq9z60VbrUtqWUz1Cn3LaQhilHNecSq5K0hjTJlY9SW7ggv6I3I6N1qDUscfe3IKMjRDRWMxl8MOR5lvJ/FqneomFtDRPUfbkTsTP0BchQtGimAAAA.html)

A Message From Westin Hotels & Resorts

<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEWNSw6DIBQA9+8u1feRQJtwGD9PNFEkiHL92IU3k0xmMfc6eQF9SHD9SE7QdQJX3vxSSvq0ba21qXqWNUatQ7/1cdRmPPY2aJ9fm8ZpjaFJS4Jj2L3pGK1DEQh78o8goyNENFaYDL4ZjnnW/F9lPb1Fw2INE5wpPInYGfoCPJBke50AAAA=.html>>

Westin now offers New Balance clothing and shoes for you to use during your stay.

<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEWNSw6DIBQA9+8u1feRQJtwGD9PNFEkiHL92IU3k0xmMfc6eQF9SHD9SE7QdQJX3vxSSvq0ba21qXqWNUatQ7/1cdRmPPY2aJ9fm8ZpjaFJS4Jj2L3pGK1DEQh78o8goyNENFaYDL4ZjnnW/F9lPb1Fw2INE5wpPInYGfoCPJBke50AAAA=.html>>

A Message From Starwood Preferred Guest

<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEXMSw7DIAxF0bkXk9imDrQSiyENSSuVgPiE7ZeOOrnS05PO9d6sAj9K0H6lRRYShpY/9lVresxz730q6ci+VNeyO2tx57a6XKZnDBDXYOXGqA0qBUdIdgkNISlohWT4J0h7rvPf35gVqOw0sIEQx8XsRH6AlnoKWmRAAAA.html>>

Earn Starpoints® when you dine with SPG

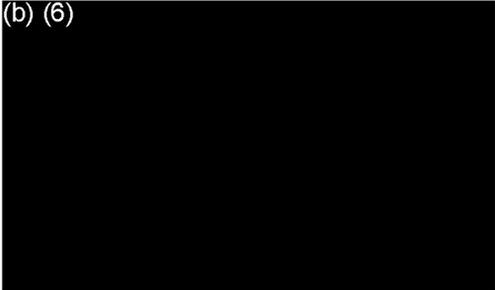
<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEXMSw7DIAxF0bkXk9imDrQSiyENSSuVgPiE7ZeOOrnS05PO9d6sAj9K0H6lRRYShpY/9lVresxz730q6ci+VNeyO2tx57a6XKZnDBDXYOXGqA0qBUdIdgkNISlohWT4J0h7rvPf35gVqOw0sIEQx8XsRH6AlnoKWmRAAAA.html>>

Your Starwood Preferred Guest Details

Member Name:

VICTOR ASHE

(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the member's contact information, including phone number, email address, and address.

Login to Your Account <http://www.starwoodhotels.com/language.do?localeCode=en-US&returnURL=http://www.starwoodhotels.com/preferredguest/account/verify_login.html>

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.

One StarPoint Drive, Stamford, CT 06902 USA

This is a post only e-mail. Please do not reply to this message.

Starwood Preferred Guest <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/preferredguest/index.html>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/brandbar_ENH202606/email/wi/big_space.gif>

Le Méridien <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/lemeridien/index.html>> Aloft

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/alofthotels/index.html>> Four Points by Sheraton

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/fourpoints/index.html>> Westin <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/index.html>>

The Luxury Collection <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/luxury/index.html>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/brandbar_ENH202606/email/wi/lc_space.gif>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/brandbar_ENH202606/email/wi/middle_line.gif>

W Hotels <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/whotels/index.html>> Sheraton

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/index.html>> St. Regis <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/stregis/index.html>>
Element Hotels <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/element/index.html>>
<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/brandbar_ENH202606/email/wi/el_space.gif>

<http://view.atdmt.com/action/Starwood_Emails_All/v3/ato.705237521/atc1.0/atc2.0/atc3.0/atc4.0/atc5.0/atc6.0/atc7.0/atc8.0/atc9.0/atc10.0/atc11.0/atc12.0/atc13.0/atc14.0/atc15.0/atc16.0/atc17.0/atc18.0/atc19.0/atc20.0/atc21.0/atc22.0/atc23.0/atc24.0/atc25.0> <http://metrics.starwoodhotels.com/b/ss/swhstarwoodver2/1/H.1--NS/0?pageName=Email:GC:PRE&c42=0_0&v38=0_0>

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 4:20 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

While I am not disagreeing with the other redactions at this point, I surely disagree with this one. It is not budget related. It is VOA related. I strongly disagree. Where do I argue this before the Board? On Sept 13 at BBG meeting when we vote on the approval of minutes? Obviously no Governor made this decision on redaction. An inquiry into PNN by this Board committee is NOT an OMB matter.

If necessary I will make the same motion at the public meeting.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Sep 5, 2012 4:15 pm

Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival

Victor, The PNN issue that is being proposed for redaction, as I understood it, was related to the budget discussion about PNN reductions. Items that are contained in or considered in discussions about the yet-to-be released budget are confidential per OMB guidance.

Thanks. (b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>?>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 3:47 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

who made the call on what is restricted and what is not? Board needs to vote on this I believe.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) >
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Sep 5, 2012 3:46 pm
Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival
Copying (b) (6) so she can respond to your question on PNN.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 3:33 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

I have it...is the part colored in yellow to be released or not? If not released then why is the part on the motion I made on PNN colored in yellow?

When will the Board vote to approve these minutes?

Please advise.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Sep 5, 2012 9:54 am
Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival
The FedEx package was delivered at 9:44 am on Sept 5. Please check with the front desk.

Thanks!

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Saturday, September 01, 2012 7:09 AM
To: Oanh Tran
Subject: Fwd: We're ready for your arrival

(b) (6) this is address and phone number for Hotel in Halifax on Sept 5 arrival with Sept 7 departure. You will also send materials to Bangor Maine for Sept 8 arrival as I recall for Sept 13 BBG Board meeting.

Victor Ashe

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

From: The Westin Nova Scotian <GCCUSTSERVICE@INFO.STARWOODHOTELS.COM>
To: VHASHE <VHASHE@AOL.COM>
Sent: Sat, Sep 1, 2012 6:24 am
Subject: We're ready for your arrival
Trouble seeing this email? View it in a browser for up-to-date reservation information, or to view in
<[http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?](http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?LUSQO79oSItx7XSh2GEjWQQUV%2BBIfkcC7ql%2FQqirbi5wY10nDDF8TTAvsFScqikzxMHKkbyPVR0m%0Ah5QfE5%2FHP45%2BifsyAzoZBmZxsOGcnV7xqzC7gK5LYncx%2FBboT0qsBM7BxgCi7JcG5DqPonN7mhyr%0Arc8MAEYRoZDAmj59megmw2KoG70xK4RNPGvRitcl)
LUSQO79oSItx7XSh2GEjWQQUV%2BBIfkcC7ql%2FQqirbi5wY10nDDF8TTAvsFScqikzxMHKkbyPVR0m%0Ah5QfE5%2FHP45%2BifsyAzoZBmZxsOGcnV7xqzC7gK5LYncx%2FBboT0qsBM7BxgCi7JcG5DqPonN7mhyr%0Arc8MAEYRoZDAmj59megmw2KoG70xK4RNPGvRitcl>
English <[http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?](http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?LUSQO79oSItx7XSh2GEjWQQUV%2BBIfkcC7ql%2FQqirbi5wY10nDDF8TTAvsFScqikzxMHKkbyPVR0m%0Ah5QfE5%2FHP45%2BifsyAzoZBmZxsOGcnV7xqzC7gK5LYncx%2FBboT0qsBM7BxgCi7JcG5DqPonN7mhyr%0Arc8MAEYRoZDAmj59megmw2KoG70xK4RNPGvRitcl~~LocaleCode=en-US)
LUSQO79oSItx7XSh2GEjWQQUV%2BBIfkcC7ql%2FQqirbi5wY10nDDF8TTAvsFScqikzxMHKkbyPVR0m%0Ah5QfE5%2FHP45%2BifsyAzoZBmZxsOGcnV7xqzC7gK5LYncx%2FBboT0qsBM7BxgCi7JcG5DqPonN7mhyr%0Arc8MAEYRoZDAmj59megmw2KoG70xK4RNPGvRitcl~~LocaleCode=en-US> , Français
<[http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?](http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?LUSQO79oSItx7XSh2GEjWQQUV%2BBIfkcC7ql%2FQqirbi5wY10nDDF8TTAvsFScqikzxMHKkbyPVR0m%0Ah5QfE5%2FHP45%2BifsyAzoZBmZxsOGcnV7xqzC7gK5LYncx%2FBboT0qsBM7BxgCi7JcG5DqPonN7mhyr%0Arc8MAEYRoZDAmj59megmw2KoG70xK4RNPGvRitcl~~LocaleCode=en-US)

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<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?>
LUSQO79oSltX7XSh2GEjWQQUV%2BBIfkcC7ql%2FQqirbi5wY10nDDF8TTAvsFScqikzxMHKkbyPVR0m%0Ah5QfE5%2FHP45%2BifsyAzoZBmZxsOGcnV7xqzC7gK5LYncx%2FBboT0qsBM7BxgCi7JcG5DqPonN7mhyr%0Arc8MAEYRoZDAmj59megmw2KoG70xK4RNPGvRitcl~~LocaleCode=de-DE> , Português
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<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?>
LUSQO79oSltX7XSh2GEjWQQUV%2BBIfkcC7ql%2FQqirbi5wY10nDDF8TTAvsFScqikzxMHKkbyPVR0m%0Ah5QfE5%2FHP45%2BifsyAzoZBmZxsOGcnV7xqzC7gK5LYncx%2FBboT0qsBM7BxgCi7JcG5DqPonN7mhyr%0Arc8MAEYRoZDAmj59megmw2KoG70xK4RNPGvRitcl~~LocaleCode=it-IT> , ??(??)
<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?>
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<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/viewmessage?>
LUSQO79oSltX7XSh2GEjWQQUV%2BBIfkcC7ql%2FQqirbi5wY10nDDF8TTAvsFScqikzxMHKkbyPVR0m%0Ah5QfE5%2FHP45%2BifsyAzoZBmZxsOGcnV7xqzC7gK5LYncx%2FBboT0qsBM7BxgCi7JcG5DqPonN7mhyr%0Arc8MAEYRoZDAmj59megmw2KoG70xK4RNPGvRitcl~~LocaleCode=ja-JP>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/language.do?localeCode=en-US&returnURL=http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1081>
The Westin Nova Scotian <http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>
1181 Hollis Street,
Halifax Canada
Phone: (902) 421-1000 Fax: (902) 422-9465
<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/pub/media/1081/wes1081ex.63796_md.jpg>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Contact Us <http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/contact.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Your Room <http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/rooms/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Guest Services <http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/features/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Dining Options <http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/dining/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
In The Neighborhood <http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/area/index.html?>

propertyID=1081&language=en-US>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Finding Your Way <[http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/area/directions.html?](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/area/directions.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US)
propertyID=1081&language=en-US>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Area Map <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/area/map.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/Westin/wh_arrow_wi.gif>
Meetings & Events <[http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/meetings/index.html?](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/meetings/index.html?propertyID=1081&language=en-US)
propertyID=1081&language=en-US>

Greetings VICTOR,

Your stay is just days away and we're ready for your arrival.

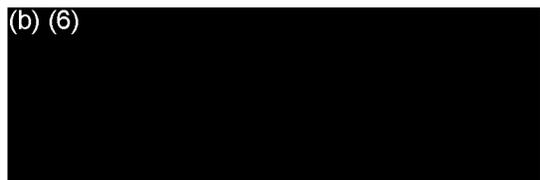
We hope you're looking forward to a great night's sleep on our Heavenly Bed® and to the many delicious choices on our SuperfoodsRXTM breakfast menu. We've tried to make it easy to keep your routine with WestinWORKOUT®, so remember to pack your gear.

We want to help you be at your best, so if there is anything you need, please just ask.

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Stay Well,

(b) (6)



Your Reservation

Check In

05-SEP-2012 - 3:00 PM *

Check Out

07-SEP-2012 - 12:00 PM *

* Indicates standard hotel check-in and check-out times and does not reflect special arrangements made with the hotel.

7-day Weather Forecast (Halifax, Canada)

Sat

1

Sun

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Mon

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Wed
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<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/showers.gif>>
<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/partyCloudy.gif>>
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69° F /48° F

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22° C /14° C

Showers

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Showers

Conditions

Many Starwood Hotels have an early departure fee. When you check-in, you will be asked to confirm your departure date. You may be able to change your departure date without a penalty if rate plan permits and if you do so before the end of your arrival day. After reconfirming your departure date, if you decide to leave earlier, you may be charged the early departure fee. Please contact the hotel if you have any questions.

Modifying Your Reservation

To view, change or cancel your reservation, please visit [westin.com](http://www.westin.com/cancel) <<http://www.westin.com/cancel>> . Any modification to a reservation is subject to the hotel's availability at the time the modification is requested and may change the rate and/or require payment of cancellation fees. If you require further assistance, please contact Westin Hotels & Resorts at 800-937-8461 if you are calling from the United States or Canada. Otherwise, click here <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/support/index.html>> for the telephone number of the Worldwide Reservation Office nearest you. Please note that reservations cannot be changed or canceled via email.

Your Privacy

Please note: For security purposes, you will be asked to provide a valid government or state-issued photo ID at check-in.

This email may contain links to websites that collect personally identifiable information about you. Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. is not responsible or liable for the actions of such independent websites, and encourages you to review the privacy statements and policies of such websites to understand how they collect, use and store such information.

Click here <http://www.starwoodhotels.com/language.do?localeCode=en-US&returnURL=http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/privacy_policy.html> for Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.'s Privacy Statement.

Starpoint® balance may not reflect your most recent activity and may not include Starpoints earned or redeemed for the current transaction.

A Message For Your Stay

<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEWNywrDIBAA7/sxcXeNaAt+jE03D6ga1ETy901PvQwMc5hze3sNcpPg+JFGbUf3gKN8/Nra/ISq9z60VbrUtqWUz1Cn3LaQhilHNecSq5K0hjTJIY9SW7ggv6I3I6N1qDUscfe3IKMjRDRWMxl8MOR5lvJ/FqneomFtDRPUfbkTsTP0BchQtGimAAAA.html>>

Upgrade Your Experience for Less

<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEWNywrDIBAA7/sxcXeNaAt+jE03D6ga1ETy901PvQwMc5hze3sNcpPg+JFGbUf3gKN8/Nra/ISq9z60VbrUtqWUz1Cn3LaQhilHNecSq5K0hjTJIY9SW7ggv6I3I6N1qDUscfe3IKMjRDRWMxl8MOR5lvJ/FqneomFtDRPUfbkTsTP0BchQtGimAAAA.html>>

A Message From Westin Hotels & Resorts

<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEWNSw6DIBQA9+8u1feRQJtwGD9PNFEkiHL92IU3k0xmMfc6eQF9SHD9SE7QdQJX3vxSSvq0ba21qXqWNUatQ7/1cdRmPPY2aJ9fm8ZpjaFJS4Jj2L3pGK1DEQh78o8goyNENFaYDL4ZjnnW/F9lPb1Fw2INE5wpPInYGfoCPJBkE50AAAA=.html>>

Westin now offers New Balance clothing and shoes for you to use during your stay.

<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEWNSw6DIBQA9+8u1feRQJtwGD9PNFEkiHL92IU3k0xmMfc6eQF9SHD9SE7QdQJX3vxSSvq0ba21qXqWNUatQ7/1cdRmPPY2aJ9fm8ZpjaFJS4Jj2L3pGK1DEQh78o8goyNENFaYDL4ZjnnW/F9lPb1Fw2INE5wpPInYGfoCPJBkE50AAAA=.html>>

A Message From Starwood Preferred Guest

<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEXMSw7DIAxF0bkXk9imDrQSiYENSSuVgPiE7ZeOOrnS05PO9d6sAj9K0H6lRRYShpY/9lVresxz730q6ci+VNeyO2tx57a6XKZnDBDXYOXGqA0qBUdIdgxkNISlohWT4J0h7rvPf35gVqOw0sIEQx8XsRH6AlnoKWmRAAAA.html>>

Earn Starpoints® when you dine with SPG

<<http://gc.starwoodhotels.com/ctt/offer2/H4sIAAAAAAAAAAEXMSw7DIAxF0bkXk9imDrQSiyENSSuVgPiE7ZeOOrnS05PO9d6sAj9K0H6lRRYShpY/9lVresxz730q6ci+VNeyO2tx57a6XKZnDBDXYOXGqA0qBUdIdgxnISlOhWT4J0h7rvPf35gVqOw0sIEQx8XsRH6AlnoKWmRAAAA.html>>

Your Starwood Preferred Guest Details

Member Name:

VICTOR ASHE



Login to Your Account <http://www.starwoodhotels.com/language.do?localeCode=en-US&returnURL=http://www.starwoodhotels.com/preferredguest/account/verify_login.html>

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.

One StarPoint Drive, Stamford, CT 06902 USA

This is a post only e-mail. Please do not reply to this message.

Starwood Preferred Guest <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/preferredguest/index.html>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/brandbar_ENH202606/email/wi/big_space.gif>

Le Méridien <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/lemeridien/index.html>> Aloft

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/alofthotels/index.html>> Four Points by Sheraton

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/fourpoints/index.html>> Westin <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/index.html>>

The Luxury Collection <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/luxury/index.html>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/brandbar_ENH202606/email/wi/lc_space.gif>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/brandbar_ENH202606/email/wi/middle_line.gif>

W Hotels <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/whotels/index.html>> Sheraton

<<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/index.html>> St. Regis <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/stregis/index.html>>

Element Hotels <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/element/index.html>>

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/Media/Graphics/StarGuest/images/brandbar_ENH202606/email/wi/el_space.gif>

<http://view.atdmt.com/action/Starwood_Emails_All/v3/ato.705237521/atc1.0/atc2.0/atc3.0/atc4.0/atc5.0/atc6.0/atc7.0/atc8.0/atc9.0/atc10.0/atc11.0/atc12.0/atc13.0/atc14.0/atc15.0/atc16.0/atc17.0/atc18.0/atc19.0/atc20.0/atc21.0/atc22.0/atc23.0/atc24.0/atc25.0> <http://metrics.starwoodhotels.com/b/ss/swhstarwoodver2/1/H.1--NS/0?pageName=Email:GC:PRE&c42=0_0&v38=0_0>

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 06, 2012 3:34 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft September BBG Meetings Agenda

I had asked that the non disclosure protocol be placed on both governance and full Board. I do not have the e mail I sent on this but believe it did include both. However, in case there is any doubt I am asking it be placed on Sept 13 full Board meeting and if it is not done then on the next meeting of full Board in October regardless of what governance committee does.

I believe there must be notice of the intended closed meeting placed on BBG web site and the vote which I gather you want to hold prior to the meeting on Sept 13.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Sep 6, 2012 11:13 am
Subject: RE: Draft September BBG Meetings Agenda

Governor Ashe – Just to clarify, you requested that three items be placed on the agenda: the (b) (6) item, the Gallup contract and the OCB RIF litigation. Your email on this point is reprinted below.

The (b) (6) item and the OCB RIF litigation are on the agenda for the meetings on September 13.

The (b) (6) item (referred to as the Inner City Press at the United Nations) is expressly included within VOA briefing scheduled at 1230 pm.

The OCB RIF litigation is expressly included within the legal briefing that I intend to providing during Governors briefing.

I can include the Gallup contract as part of the legal briefing, but understood, based on your email following the Strategy and Budget Committee meeting, that you were satisfied with the information that you received about the DOJ lawsuit against Gallup at the Committee meeting. We will plan to update the Board on this matter during the legal briefing to the Board.

I do not have any record concerning your request to discuss the nondisclosure protocol during the September meeting. As you know, it is a subject on the Governance Committee agenda scheduled for the morning of September 13.

As far as the closing of the meeting to consider the follow on of the FY2014 budget, this can be handled in one of two ways. According to the transcript, the August 17 telephonic meeting was not formally adjourned so it is possible to view the portion of the upcoming meeting dealing with the budget to be part of that closed meeting. Second, it is possible for the Governors to vote to close the meeting on the date of the meeting itself in order to consider the FY2014 budget. We would simply record the votes of Governors regarding whether to close the meeting or not. (This latter procedure was the process we followed when the Board voted to appoint Mr. Ensor as VOA Director.)

Thanks (b) (6)

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 9:03 AM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Sept 12

(b) (6)

Just a reminder that I want the (b) (6) item on the BBG board agenda for the next bbg board meeting on Sept 12 as well as the Gallup contract which is being discussed at strategy and budget on August 28.

We need a report on the DOJ lawsuit against Gallup and a report on whether the issues existing in the state dept contract over which the current lawsuit is being argued impact the BBG contract.

I also will raise the question as I have done previously on where the OCB lawsuit appeal stands from the matter involving employees being let go and their success in their legal efforts to date. I am not asking for legal strategy to be discussed but I am asking where this stands procedurally with dates as to the next hearing as well as potential financial exposure should these efforts fail. You are aware as is Garlos Garcia that I raise this matter with regularity. I feel it has large financial consequences to which we must pay close attention as a Board.

If you have issues with my requests please advise. I believe I am entitled by right as BBG board member to place this on the board agenda.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Thursday, September 06, 2012 8:06 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo

Subject: Re: Draft September BBG Meetings Agenda

Dear (b) (6)

Thanks for sending this to me. I have several comments. I do not believe BBG can hold a closed meeting on September 13 to vote further on the budget without voting again to hold a closed a meeting and giving notice of the closed meeting. Such a vote has not been held for a Sept 13 closed meeting, I formally object. We must comply with the rules and law.

Second, I had requested that the new non disclosure policy/protocol be placed on the open Board agenda in an e mail to (b) (6) along with the (b) (6) issue at the United Nations. I do not see either of them listed on the agenda. This request was made weeks ago in a timely manner.

Third, I find it most unfortunate that BBG in less than 90 minutes plans to vote on CEO and grantee consolidation (streamlining is a term which is more spin related than accurate) without a public hearing inviting concerned persons to appear and voice their views. For the record, I think this is fundamentally an error in both policy and practice. It does not build confidence or support before Congress.

I do not see an agenda for governance committee or RFE Board meeting. When will that be forthcoming?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Sep 6, 2012 7:39 am

Subject: Draft September BBG Meetings Agenda

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a draft agenda for all BBG-related meetings to be held next Thursday, September 13, in the BBG-IBB Conference Room of the Cohen Building. This draft agenda has been reviewed and approved by Presiding Governor Lynton.

A Governance Committee meeting is scheduled from 8 to 10 a.m. EDT. Committee members (Chair Mulhaupt, Ashe, McCue and Lynton) are confirmed for attendance, but we urge other Governors to participate as the Committee will, among other issues, examine the grantee administrative streamlining plan, discuss the creation of a CEO, and make recommendations to the plenary Board.

Please note that the meeting with Secretary Clinton should be confirmed sometime early next week; thus, the times of other BBG-related meetings may vary.

Given the importance of some topics, it is anticipated that the Governors' Briefing afternoon session would be attended by Governors, key staff and network heads.

Please note that a BBG open meeting via webcast is planned in the afternoon from 3:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. EDT, preceded by a brief closed meeting in order for the Board to further discuss and consider the FY 2014 budget submission.

We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the BBG open meeting.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, September 06, 2012 3:25 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: ABU Conference Attendance

I would like to know what the expected cost is for VOA and IBB. I find it disappointing that the reduction is only two persons.

Not a whole lot on cost savings. Dick is it really that important for you and (b) (6) to send 6 or 7 persons?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Sep 6, 2012 1:23 pm

Subject: ABU Conference Attendance

Dear Governor Ashe,

This responds to your August 27 email to Dick, David Ensor, Jeff and Marjyeen regarding BBG attendance at the ABU this year.

Attendees at last year's conference in New Dehli totaled 11 representatives broken down among the BBG elements as follows:

RFA: 2
VOA: 3
IBB: 6 (includes TSI and Strategy & Development)

Info collected from the above offices for attendance at ABU in Seoul this year is estimated at 9 representatives broken down among offices below:

RFA: 2
VOA: 3
IBB: 3 or 4 (includes TSI and Strategy & Development)

Please let me know if there is any other information you need. As plans are finalized for Seoul, I will provide updates to the above information as needed.

Regards,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

To inform, engage, and connect people around the world
In support of freedom and democracy.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 06, 2012 8:06 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Draft September BBG Meetings Agenda

Dear (b) (6)

Thanks for sending this to me. I have several comments. I do not believe BBG can hold a closed meeting on September 13 to vote further on the budget without voting again to hold a closed a meeting and giving notice of the closed meeting. Such a vote has not been held for a Sept 13 closed meeting, I formally object. We must comply with the rules and law.

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Victor Ashe

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

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To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Sep 6, 2012 7:39 am

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We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the BBG open meeting.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2012 12:29 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (D) (O)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

who approves the redacted version? Was my objection honored or not via (b) (6) ?

I think the board needs to vote on the transcript portions which are redacted? not left to staff/

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) (D) (O)

Sent: Fri, Sep 7, 2012 10:28 am

Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival

Governor Ashe – Because this document is a transcript, not minutes, it will not require approval by the Board. We have processed it in accordance with the protocol for the release of documents from closed meetings, as stated in the BBG By-laws. Having circulated to all interested Governors, we will proceed to publish the redacted version on the BBG website. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 5:00 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

thanks so much and I am happy to clarify my own motion. However, Board must still vote on approval of these minutes? when will that occur?

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (D) (O)

Sent: Wed, Sep 5, 2012 5:57 pm

Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival

Victor, I re-read the transcript, and if the item is not referring to the budget discussion about PNN but other PNN issues, then you are correct there is no reason to redact it. I assumed that it was related to the PNN budget discussion. We will make the adjustment. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 4:20 PM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

While I am not disagreeing with the other redactions at this point, I surely disagree with this one. It is not budget related. It is VOA related. I strongly disagree. Where do I argue this before the Board? On Sept 13 at BBG meeting when we vote on the approval of minutes? Obviously no Governor made this decision on redaction. An inquiry into PNN by this Board committee is NOT an OMB matter.

If necessary I will make the same motion at the public meeting.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) >

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Sep 5, 2012 4:15 pm

Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival

Victor, The PNN issue that is being proposed for redaction, as I understood it, was related to the budget discussion about PNN reductions. Items that are contained in or considered in discussions about the yet-to-be-released budget are confidential per OMB guidance.

Thanks. (b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 3:47 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

who made the call on what is restricted and what is not? Board needs to vote on this I believe.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Sep 5, 2012 3:46 pm

Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival

Copying (b) (6) so she can respond to your question on PNN.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 3:33 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: We're ready for your arrival

I have it...is the part colored in yellow to be released or not? If not released then why is the part on the motion I made on PNN colored in yellow?

When will the Board vote to approve these minutes?

Please advise.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Sent: Wed, Sep 5, 2012 9:54 am

Subject: RE: We're ready for your arrival

The FedEx package was delivered at 9:44 am on Sept 5. Please check with the front desk.

Thanks!

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Saturday, September 01, 2012 7:09 AM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: Fwd: We're ready for your arrival

(b) (6) this is address and phone number for Hotel in Halifax on Sept 5 arrival with Sept 7 departure. You will also send materials to Bangor Maine for Sept 8 arrival as I recall for Sept 13 BBG Board meeting.

Victor Ashe

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

From: The Westin Nova Scotian <GCCUSTSERVICE@INFO.STARWOODHOTELS.COM>

To: VHASHE <VHASHE@AOL.COM>

Sent: Sat, Sep 1, 2012 6:24 am

Subject: We're ready for your arrival

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(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Your Reservation

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Modifying Your Reservation

To view, change or cancel your reservation, please visit westin.com.

Any modification to a reservation is subject to the hotel's availability at the time the modification is requested and may change the rate

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A Message For Your Stay

Upgrade Your Experience for Less

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A Message From Starwood Preferred Guest

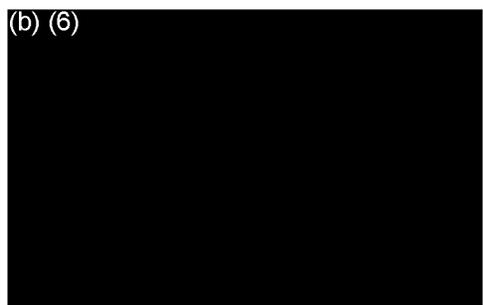
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Member Name:

VICTOR ASHE

(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the majority of the lower half of the page, obscuring all text and graphics beneath it.

(b) (6)

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Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.
One StarPoint Drive, Stamford, CT 06902 USA
This is a post only e-mail. Please do not reply to this message.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 08, 2012 6:10 PM
To: Dana Perino; Lynne Weil
Cc: Letitia King; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

I believe in full information as soon as BBG knows it. Sorry we differ. In this case there is a clear effort to adopt the consolidation of the three entities and the CEO proposal which Congress ignored at the upcoming meeting. Why else is BBG being asked to vote on something three hours after governance committee considers it?

I feel transparency is taking a back seat to other goals. Have a great weekend. Folks in Knoxville really like your work on Fox.

The communications committee was not consulted when this release was drafted so why the consultation now except to avoid dealing with it?

Best

Victor

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

From: Dana Perino <(b) (6)>
To: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letitia King (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Michael Meehan (b) (6); susan (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, Sep 8, 2012 5:44 pm
Subject: Re: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

i don't think we need to revise anything - i'd just update with one on wednesday, the day before, to drive more attention (to the few people who even see these things).

Dana Perino
(b) (6)

On Sep 8, 2012, at 5:16 PM, Lynne Weil wrote:

Hello, Victor --

Am adding Susan and Dana so that the entire Communications Committee will be aware of your concerns.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, September 08, 2012 5:07:26 PM

To: (b) (6) Letitia King; Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

this notice is very misleading. I really feel it merits revision. For example, the agenda I have for the public meeting states that the Board may vote on consolidation of the entities which you call streamlining. That is a whole lot different from simply receiving a report. As for the resolutions on anniversaries why are no specific names and years mentioned? This is usually given to me and I have heard not one word on this. I do not have a clue what I am being asked to do on this subject. Perhaps someone else is now doing it,

I urge a revised news release

Victor Ashe

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

From: Letitia King (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Sent: Sat, Sep 8, 2012 12:48 pm

Subject: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

BBG Logo<<http://www.bbg.gov/newsletter/BBGLogo-newsLetter.png>>

Saturday, September 8, 2012

September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors <[http://enews.voanews.com/t?
r=357&c=3323352&l=273144&ctl=43C637B:39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16&](http://enews.voanews.com/t?r=357&c=3323352&l=273144&ctl=43C637B:39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16&)>

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Washington, D.C. — The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) will meet on Thursday, September 13 at BBG headquarters in Washington, D.C. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 4:45 p.m.

The Board will receive budget and distribution/technology initiatives updates, receive and consider a progress report from the Strategy and Budget Committee, receive recommendations from the Governance Committee regarding grantee administrative streamlining and hear reports from the director of the International Broadcasting Bureau and other BBG broadcast executives regarding agency activities and programming initiatives.

The BBG will also recognize the anniversaries of broadcast language services and consider resolutions honoring employees for their service.

The public may attend this meeting as seating capacity allows. Members of the public wishing to attend in person must register at <http://bbgboardmeetingsept2012.eventbrite.com> <[http://enews.voanews.com/t?
r=357&c=3323352&l=273144&ctl=43C637D:39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16&](http://enews.voanews.com/t?r=357&c=3323352&l=273144&ctl=43C637D:39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16&)> by

10:00 a.m. on September 12. This meeting will also be available for public observation via streamed webcast, both live and on-demand, at www.bbg.gov <[http://enews.voanews.com/t?
r=357&c=3323352&l=273144&ctl=43C637E:39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16&](http://enews.voanews.com/t?r=357&c=3323352&l=273144&ctl=43C637E:39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16&)> .

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id=39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16](http://enews.voanews.com/bin/ftaf?id=39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16)> | Unsubscribe <<http://enews.voanews.com/u?>

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If you have questions about this E-mail newsletter send us an e-mail <mailto:pubaff@bbg.gov> .

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c=3323352&r=357&l=273144&t=10&e=39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16>

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, September 08, 2012 5:07 PM

To: (b) (6); Letitia King; Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

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I urge a revised news release

Victor Ashe

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

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To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Sent: Sat, Sep 8, 2012 12:48 pm

Subject: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

BBG Logo<http://www.bbg.gov/newsletter/BBGLogo-newsLetter.png>

Saturday, September 8, 2012

September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors <http://enews.voanews.com/t?

r=357&c=3323352&l=273144&ctl=43C637B:39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16&>

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r=357&c=3323352&l=273144&ctl=43C637E:39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16&> .

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id=39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16> | Unsubscribe <<http://enews.voanews.com/u?id=39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16>>

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<[http://enews.voanews.com/t?](http://enews.voanews.com/t?c=3323352&r=357&l=273144&t=10&e=39C9F80DE015ED9A0D12FEB69D186E096B9F9940C7622D16)

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From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, September 08, 2012 8:50 AM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: sexual harrassment

Will both governance committee and the full BBG Board vote on the long delayed sexual harrassment policy updating on Sept 13? Is it on both agendas?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 09, 2012 7:07 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG September Meeting Materials

It will require a vote to hold a closed meeting. That should be noted. What is the agenda for the closed meeting? Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Sat, Sep 8, 2012 10:27 pm
Subject: BBG September Meeting Materials
Dear Governors,

Attached please find an agenda for next week's BBG meetings on Thursday, briefing materials, minutes and entity monthly reports. I will send materials for the RFE/RL corporate meeting in a separate email.

The Governance Committee will meet on Thursday, September 13, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Also on Thursday, your meeting with Secretary Clinton is confirmed for 11:15 a.m. Transportation will be arranged to take you to and from the State Department.

Details on other BBG-related meetings throughout the day are in the attached agenda.

Following a brief closed meeting to further consider the FY 2014 budget submission, the Board will move into the open meeting which is currently scheduled for 4:45 p.m.

Briefing books for the Committee and Board meetings have been sent by FedEx to your home or office.

See you Thursday.

Regards,

(b) (6)

List of attached materials:

Meeting Agenda

Tab 1 Biographies of OIG Inspection Team

Tab 2 Draft Minutes of June 7, 2012 Meeting

Tab 3 MBN Monthly Report

Tab 4 OCB Monthly Report

Tab 5 VOA Monthly Report

Tab 6 RFA Monthly Report

Tab 7 RFE/RL Monthly Report

Tab 8 IBB Monthly Report

Tab 9 Draft Resolution Honoring Susan Andross
Tab 10 Draft Resolution Honoring John Lindburg
BBG Web Traffic Statistics

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 10:01 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
Subject: notice

Lynne

As I mentioned today I am concerned and hopeful a correction can occur soon that the Sept 13 governance committee meeting is not listed on the BBG web site. Also the closed budget meeting is not listed as was done back on August 17.

I think we need to be more open in the meetings scheduled for Sept 13. We have always listed these committee meetings at least the ones I am on in the past.

Also I renew my suggestion that the meeting with Sec Clinton be listed as it is a significant event.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 6:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: OIG report

Who is it at BBG who handles the OIG report for RFE? Has to be someone on staff? is it a senior person?

Victor

In a message dated 9/10/2012 6:32:24 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor:

I think the board should see the un-redacted report, so will get copies (or a link circulated). All board members were offered copies of the draft report by BBG staff (by (b) (6) I believe) a couple of months ago and, to my knowledge, no one other than me asked for one. What I saw was unredacted. I have no reason to believe that anything substantive changed before the report was finalized.

Also, (b) (6) is correct. This is technically a report to the BBG as the governing institution.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Date: Mon, 10 Sep 2012 18:10:14 -0400 (EDT)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: OIG report

(b) (6),

I have looked quickly and briefly at the public report as linked in (b) (6) e mail. Several areas appear to have been redacted. Will those be explained to the Governors in the RFE Board meeting on Sept 13?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/10/2012 5:20:05 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

You are correct. The OIG Report regarding the inspection of RFE/RL was posted at the end of August. Hard copies were provided to BBG along with a summary note regarding key findings (below).

We have been informed that digital copies cannot be transmitted due to the SBU classification on the document. For your convenience, however, here is the link to the report on the OIG site:

<http://oig.state.gov/documents/organization/197263.pdf>
<<http://oig.state.gov/documents/organization/197263.pdf>>

Please let us know if you would like us to bring a hard copy of the report to Thursday's Board meetings for you.

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2012 8:09 AM

To: (b) (6); Letitia King

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: OIG report on Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Prague

(b) (6) and Tish:

I just wanted to give you a heads-up that we will be posting the attached report, "Inspection of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Prague (Report Number ISP-IB-12-43, August 2012)" on the OIG Websites, as well as putting out a tweet about the posting, later today. There has been no media interest expressed in this report. It was delivered to the Hill on August 21, 2012.

Included in the report are the following key findings:

* Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), a grantee organization of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), provides accurate and vital news to four regions: Central Asia, the Middle East (Iran and Iraq), Eurasia, and Afghanistan and Pakistan (AfPak). RFE/RL journalists and the personnel supporting them are passionate and dedicated.

* The president of RFE/RL is providing strong leadership during a period of budget challenges, resource pressures, and organizational restructuring. Nevertheless, uncertainty and change adversely affect morale. While senior management is appropriately focused on these and other operational issues, internal communication requires constant attention.

* RFE/RL's language services have adopted new ways to reach audiences, including the Internet, social media, and input from audience members acting as citizen journalists.

* In order to provide good administrative support to all employees, RFE/RL is updating policies and procedures.

* RFE/RL's technology division is creative and a source of cost-saving innovations that benefit the broader BBG organization.

* Although RFE/RL has a contingency security plan, it has not formally designated anyone from the information technology staff to provide network security oversight and monitoring of systems.

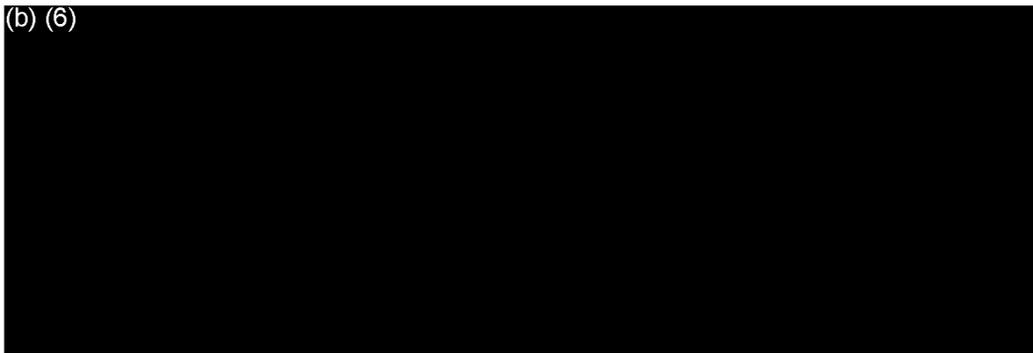
* The emergency management program is comprehensive but could improve contingency management and response. RFE/RL should focus on exercising and assessing the entire range of its emergency action plan, which includes identifying mission essential personnel and safe areas and educating RFE/RL employees on their roles and responsibilities.

Please note that there are some redactions to the posted report. They are marked as FOIA Exemption (b)(5) – “protects from disclosure inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda or letters consisting of pre-decisional advice, opinion or recommendations,” and Exemption (b)(6) – “exempts from disclosure records or information which if disclosed would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.”

Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions.

Regards,

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Date: 09/10/2012 03:07 PM
Subject: OIG report

I am told the official and public part of the OIG report is now out and has been out for a week or more.

I hope this will be sent to all RFE Board members. I request a copy be sent to me in advance of the meeting if possible for review. Having not seen it I have no idea whether it merits discussion at the upcoming RFE Board meeting but at the least there should be a report on it.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 6:39 PM

To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: OIG report

I do not mean to be too technical or argumentative but RFERL Board is the governing body of RFERL..not BBG. BBG provides money from Congress to all three entities. Same people on both Boards but BBG staff do not govern RFE, RFA or MBN. If there is consolidation this could change.

Perhaps this should be explained to OIG or if OIG disagrees they should tell us why.

Victor

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Victor:

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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 5:40 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Dana Perino; (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Streamlining/consolidation vote

Since Congress did not agree to pass the CEO legislation this year, are we free to make changes? What are our limits? Must we submit any changes to OMB?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/10/2012 5:08:49 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe – As copy of the CEO legislation cleared by OMB and submitted by BBG to Congress earlier this year is behind Tab 1 in the Governance Committee briefing book. It is also attached hereto for your convenience.
Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 2:57 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Dana Perino; (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Streamlining/consolidation vote

is there draft legislation on the CEO proposal which we can review prior to the meeting on Thursday morning?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/10/2012 2:56:24 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I'm good with that Dennis, thanks.

It makes sense politically and gives all governors ample time for additional review.

I agree, we should move to vote on a CEO for all of USIB this week.

All best,

Susan

On Sep 10, 2012, at 10:29 AM, Dennis Mulhaupt wrote:

Colleagues:

As you know, the Governance Committee is scheduled to continue its discussion at its meeting Thursday relating to the administrative streamlining/consolidation of the grantees. Speaking for myself, I do not believe we will be in a position to take a final vote on this matter until after the election. This will also give us time to continue our conversations within the Board and with various relevant stakeholders, including most importantly with Congress.

I do, however, believe it is important that we proceed as quickly as possible on the creation of a true and empowered CEO for all of USIB.

As always, the Board can do as it chooses, but I thought I'd share my opinion about where things stand.

Best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

susan mccue | message-global | (b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 2:57 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Dana Perino; (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: Streamlining/consolidation vote

is there draft legislation on the CEO proposal which we can review prior to the meeting on Thursday morning?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/10/2012 2:56:24 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I'm good with that Dennis, thanks.

It makes sense politically and gives all governors ample time for additional review.

I agree, we should move to vote on a CEO for all of USIB this week.

All best,

Susan

On Sep 10, 2012, at 10:29 AM, Dennis Mulhaupt wrote:

Colleagues:

As you know, the Governance Committee is scheduled to continue its discussion at its meeting Thursday relating to the administrative streamlining/consolidation of the grantees. Speaking for myself, I do not believe we will be in a position to take a final vote on this matter until after the election. This will also give us time to continue our conversations within the Board and with various relevant stakeholders, including most importantly with Congress.

I do, however, believe it is important that we proceed as quickly as possible on the creation of a true and

empowered CEO for all of USIB.

As always, the Board can do as it chooses, but I thought I'd share my opinion about where things stand.

Best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

susan mccue | message-global | (b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 6:54 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Talking Points for Recognition of Language Services' Anniversaries

thanks...however agenda says Dennis Mulhaupt is doing this...is that true or not?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/11/2012 6:47:40 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

Here are the talking points that were provided to you when you visited VOA Kurdish and Swahili Services to present their anniversary certificates. You visited VOA Kurdish in late May and VOA Korean in July.

I hope you find them helpful when you make remarks during the BBG open meeting to recognize language services' anniversaries.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

VOA Kurdish Service - 20th Anniversary

· The service is the only international broadcaster that speaks to the Kurds of Iraq in their main dialects, Sorani and Kurmanji. The service also attracts a significant audience in Syria, Turkey and Iran, all with sizable Kurdish minorities.

· On April 23, VOA started simulcasting its Kurdish language radio broadcasts on direct-to-home satellite, giving listeners in the Kurdish-speaking regions of Iraq, Turkey, Syria and Iran, a new way to hear the popular programs.

· The Kurdish satellite broadcasts go on the air daily at 5:00 PM Iraq time and are simulcast on radio and Hotbird, one of the most widely-used direct-to-home satellites in the region. VOA Kurdish radio programs are also delivered on shortwave, FM transmitters in northern and southern Iraq, and broadcast over medium wave from Kuwait.

· VOA Kurdish program lineup includes news and current affairs shows, a weekly call-in show as well as the bi-weekly Internet television program called, Kurdish Connection. The Service's multimedia websites, with successful blogs in both major Kurdish dialects, provide comprehensive coverage of regional, international and U.S. news and links to social media sites that offer the audience a platform for informed discussion.

VOA Swahili Service – 50th Anniversary

Swahili was the first African language service in the African Division. The first shows aired in 1961 were taped weekly programs. In May 1962, a live 30-minute Swahili-language daily show was launched.

Today, the Service produces 9.5 hours of original radio programming per week (two 30-minute daily shows and a State-funded 30-minute health program Saturdays and Sundays). VOA Swahili has a strong presence on the Internet. VOA Mitaani is a weekly web video with people in the streets (vox pop) discussing topics of interest.

VOA Swahili programs are carried by 10 FM affiliates, including two top-rated FM station in Kenya and Tanzania. Distribution also includes an IBB FM in Kigali, Rwanda.

The service has seven staff and three POVs in D.C. Their reporting is complemented by reports sent in by 11 stringers in the target areas.

Audience size has grown as the language has spread westward from the East African coast. The original target countries were Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda. Today the target area includes the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Burundi. And the Service's reach extends even farther than that, including to the United Arab Emirates. The UAE has strong historical and cultural ties with Zanzibar, which is part of Tanzania. The Service receives many letters and emails from Swahili-speaking communities in the UAE.

The Service has boldly embraced new media technology, broadcasting on all platforms – mobile, web, and web-based video. Swahili has a website and a mobile site, a Facebook page, SMS distribution, and an e-mail newsletter. Internet access on mobile devices has grown fast in Kenya and Tanzania, making social media one of top way people get news, especially young people.

New programs such as Je Nifanyeje (Crossroads: Healthy decisions for the youth) aims at helping young people, especially girls in Tanzania, to make good health and social decisions that impact their lives. This program has great potential to bring new and young audience to VOA's Swahili service.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 10:22 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
[REDACTED] (b) (6) Dana Perino

Subject: Re: notice

great look forward to seeing what goes up. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/11/2012 8:29:27 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, [REDACTED] (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor --

Got the message in last evening's phone call, as well as the two subsequent e-mails.

The BBG PA team is on it this morning.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 10:00:48 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
Subject: notice

Lynne

As I mentioned today I am concerned and hopeful a correction can occur soon that the Sept 13 governance committee meeting is not listed on the BBG web site. Also the closed budget meeting is not listed as was done back on August 17.

I think we need to be more open in the meetings scheduled for Sept 13. We have always listed these committee meetings at least the ones I am on in the past.

Also I renew my suggestion that the meeting with Sec Clinton be listed as it is a significant event.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:44 PM
To: Lynne Weil; [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] Dana Perino
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Public attendance at tomorrow's open meeting

this is good. Victor Ashe
-----Original Message-----

From: Lynne Weil <lweil@bbg.gov>
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; susan <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>
[REDACTED] (b) (6); Michael Meehan <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>; [REDACTED] (b) (6); Dana Perino <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>

Cc: Richard M. Lobo <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>

Sent: Wed, Sep 12, 2012 7:36 pm
Subject: Public attendance at tomorrow's open meeting

Governors,

Seven members of the general public and a congressional staff member have signed up to attend tomorrow's open meeting. Seats have been reserved for them.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:13 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6); [REDACTED] (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6); Lynne Weil; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: should cancel meeting with Sec. Clinton

It seems to me BBG should offer to cancel the meeting with the Secretary of State tomorrow given the tragic circumstances of the murder of our Ambassador in Libya.

Sec. Clinton has much more important issues today than BBG. We should adopt a resolution of sympathy and regret also in memory of our Ambassador and other lost American lives.

Victor Ashe
From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:40 AM
To: Lynne Weil; [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] Dana Perino
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Re: News from Libya

I assume it could and will cancel the meeting and understandably so. As a former Ambassador myself, I certainly relate very personally as I know we all do regardless of past experiences. Sec Clinton needs to deal with this far more

than seeing us. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/12/2012 7:36:50 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

The losses of life from yesterday's demonstration in Benghazi, Libya, include U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three U.S. citizens.

We are in touch with Under Secretary Sonenshine's office and will keep you apprised as to how the news may affect your meeting with Secretary Clinton.

We are also preparing a news release.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 8:05 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: official petition- EGYPT/MBN

OK with me Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Sep 13, 2012 11:27 am

Subject: RE: Fw:official petition- EGYPT/MBN

Victor, Michael, in response to the email lower in this chain, we propose sending this response (prepared by MBN) to (b) (6). I know that Brian has been keeping you informed about this situation; the point of this email is just to be quickly responsive to her message. If you approve, the email can go in my name, from BBG.

Happy to discuss.

Thanks

Jeff

Dear (b) (6),

The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) received your e-mail of September 11, 2012. I have been asked to reply on the Board's behalf.

The BBG understands that your contract with Middle East Broadcasting, Inc. (MBN) allows for termination by MBN for any reason upon provision of 30 days notice to you. We further understand that MBN has provided you notice in compliance with the contract you signed in April, 2012. BBG supports MBN's decision to exercise the contract provision.

We wish you luck in your future endeavors.

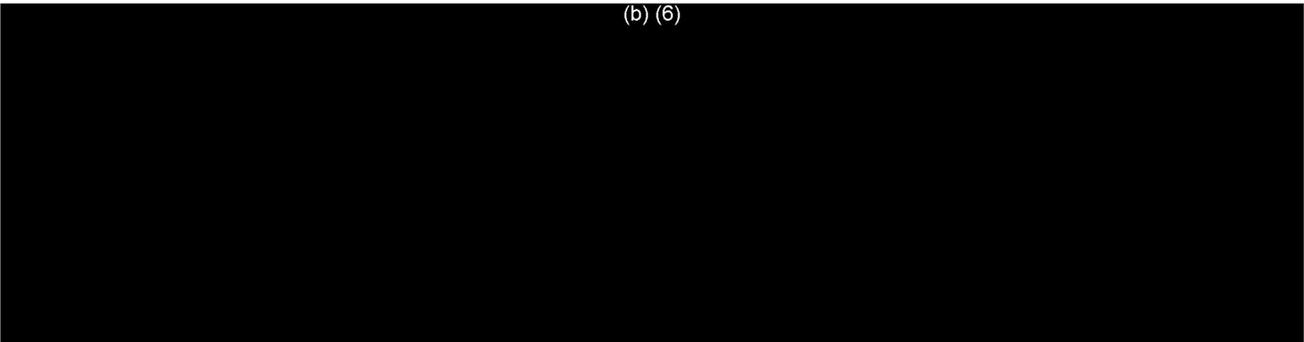
Sincerely,

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) vhashe@aol.com
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 9/11/2012 8:53:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Fw:official petition- EGYPT/MBN

Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG)
BBG, Public Affairs
330 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20237
Fax: (202) 203-4585
E-mail: publicaffairs@bbg.gov

(b) (6)

(b) (6)



--- On Wed, 8/29/12, (b) (6) wrote:

From: (b) (6)

Subject: MBN- Mr.Brian Conniff Cairo Case

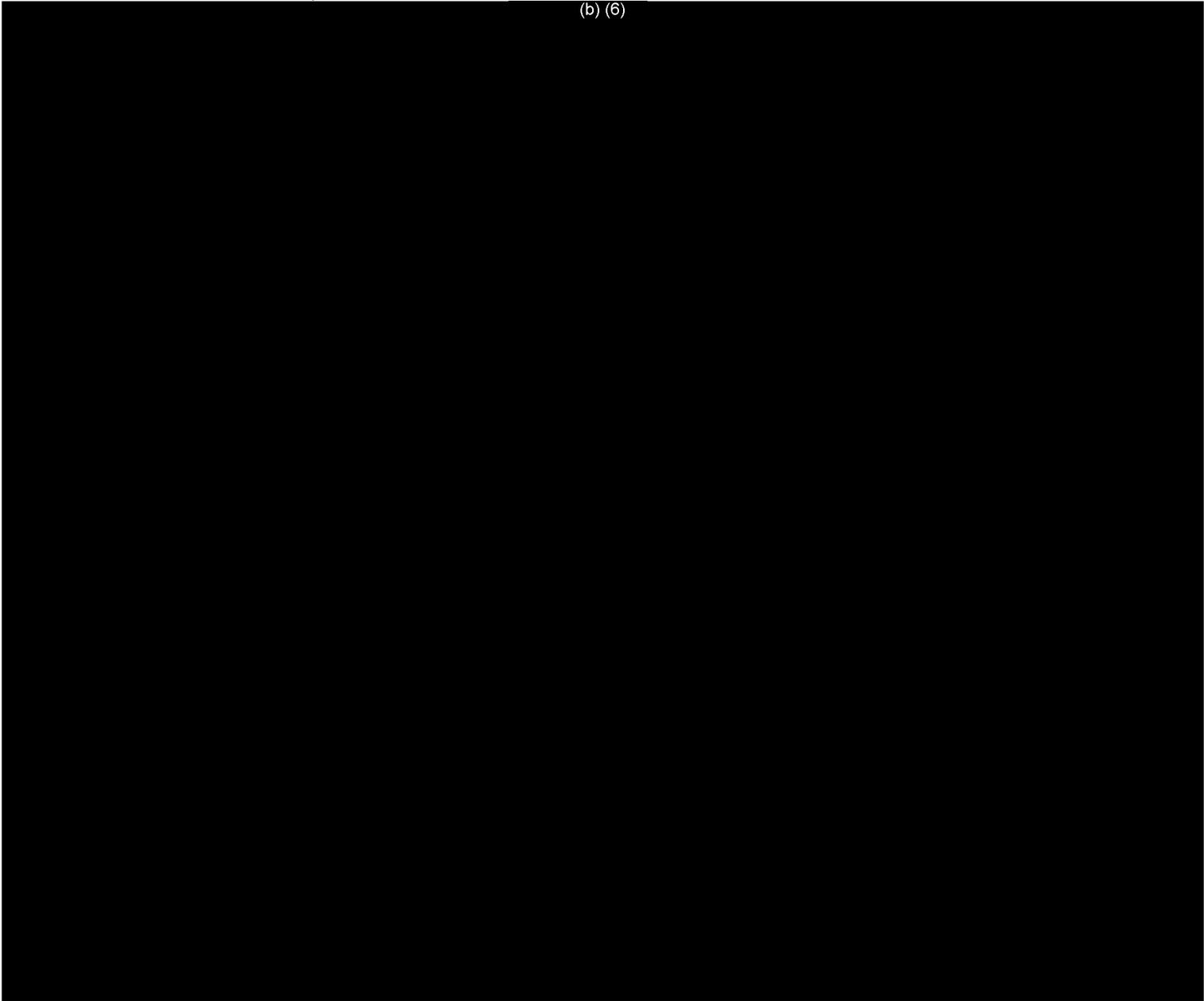
To: vhashe@aol.com

Cc: (b) (6)

Date: Wednesday, August 29, 2012, 11:48 AM

Ambassador Mr. Victor Ashe,

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:42 AM

To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

(b) (6) Dana Perino

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Congressional update: Vietnam programming and conference travel bills

Does BBG have a position on this? How much work for BBG and RFA would be required if enacted?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Sep 12, 2012 11:17 am

Subject: Congressional update: Vietnam programming and conference travel bills

Governors,

Below please find a message on two House-passed pieces of legislation from (b) (6), the agency's new congressional coordinator. We will follow the same system established with (b) (6) predecessor, (b) (6): You'll hear about key developments on the Hill from both of us, and can safely assume that if a message comes from (b) (6), I've seen or heard about it from her first.

Please note that both of these bills were adopted by voice vote, and that the reference to BBG action on programming to Vietnam is phrased as the "sense of the Congress." Should H.R. 1410 become law, we will work with the State Department on the required report.

(b) (6) thanks for tracking these two pieces of legislation, and for your quick analytical work. We can all look forward to your more-than-virtual introduction to the Board tomorrow.

Lynne

Last night, by a voice vote, the House passed an amended measure (HR 1410 <<http://www.cq.com/bill/112/HR1410>>) to cap most future U.S. aid to Vietnam at fiscal 2011 levels until the government in Hanoi has made "substantial progress" in respecting religious freedom, property rights and human rights. The proposal includes exceptions for humanitarian assistance and aid designed to promote the rule of law, human rights and certain exchange programs.

HR 1410 includes a reference to the BBG and a few references to Radio Free Asia. It also requires an annual report from State that should include "efforts by the United States Government to promote access by the Vietnamese people to Radio Free Asia transmissions."

FROM HR 1410:

SEC. 4. UNITED STATES PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.

?(a) Radio Free Asia Transmissions to Vietnam.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should take measures to overcome the jamming of Radio Free Asia by the Government of Vietnam and that the Broadcasting Board of Governors should not cut staffing, funding, or broadcast hours for the Vietnamese language services of the Voice of America and Radio Free Asia, which shall be done without reducing any other broadcast language services.

SEC. 5. ANNUAL REPORT.

?(a) In General.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act and every 12 months thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Congress a report on the following:

?(1) The determination and certification of the President that the requirements of subparagraphs (A) through (G) of section 3(a)(2) have been met, if applicable.

?(2) Steps taken to carry out section 3(a)(1)(A), if applicable.

?(3) Efforts by the United States Government to promote access by the Vietnamese people to Radio Free Asia transmissions.

Also yesterday, the House passed HR 463 by voice vote. The bill limits federal agency spending on conference travel each year through fiscal 2017 to 70 percent of the amount an agency spent in fiscal 2010 and prohibits agencies from spending more than \$500,000 to support a single conference without a “compelling purpose.”

Agencies would be barred from paying the travel expenses to international conferences for more than 50 U.S.-based agency employees unless the State Department determines that attendance is in the national interest. Furthermore, agencies would be required to publish quarterly reports online detailing conferences attended by employees and their costs.

HR 4631 and Senator Coburn’s amendment (SA 2060) both limit per conference spending to \$500K and cap the total number of employees traveling to international conferences at 50. However, HR 4631 would limit agency conference spending to 70 percent of 2010 levels, whereas Senator Coburn’s amendment would reduce agency conference spending to 80 percent of 2010 levels.

A PDF of the bill text is attached.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:36 AM

To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Tara

Sonenshine; (u) (c) Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Minutes of BBG Meeting from September 13 and follow up

Dear (b) (6)

As a result of the lengthy discussion on the CEO issue and the several amendments made to the proposed text, I urge you and your office to review the tape of the meeting carefully so that all amendments are accurately incorporated. I want to see a copy of the revised text. I suspect several or perhaps all Governors would like to see it as well. I assume it will appear on the BBG web site. I certainly hope so.

As you recall, we have had recent experience from the Prague meeting where one amendment to the non disclosure policy relating to whistle blowers was not included in the notice you sent out because you had not recalled it. It had to be corrected. We all want to make sure that situation does not repeat itself this time with the CEO item.

I look forward to working with your office on the amendment to the non disclosure policy relating to legislation which Susan McCue and I discussed and Governor Meehan voiced interest in as well. I also look forward to learning why union membership should not be listed in the equal employment opportunity statement. What harm if any would it do? My interest is in stating clearly by the Board that no penalty will occur from belonging to and participating in union activities.

As I stated both publicly at BBG and at governance if your office would communicate with me on these items perhaps much of the subsequent discussion which I raise would be unnecessary and lots of time could be saved. As you know on both the sexual harassment and equal opportunity statements I was the Governor who raised 90 percent of the questions. However, no one from your office either emailed me or spoke to me about the changes I suggested back in March. Six months later when governance committee finally got around to considering it again, I had to ask repeatedly if all or some of my suggested changes which the governance committee itself had agreed to in March were included in the product before the committee on September 13. You did not know at the governance committee meeting. By the end of the day, you said all but the union matter were included. Had whoever on your staff handles these matters contacted me I would like to think we could have handled this and much of the ensuing discussion would have been unnecessary. At no time during the day of September 13 did you speak to me on this matter and relate what you had discovered. I had to ask about it in the public setting.

I cannot make you or your office call or e mail me. That is your decision or your superiors decision.. However, in the absence of communication from your office on issues I have personally raised, I have no choice but to raise these issues in the committee and full Board setting at some length.

I urge you to take this more effective approach and work more closely with me on the issues I raise and believe deeply in. If you are unsure about all of this, then I refer you to (b) (6) with whom I have an excellent relationship with her and her office and who either herself or her staff frequently contact me directly on issues which have been raised.

You should also note that at the end of the Board meeting yesterday as part of my motion to adjourn (and you can check the tape) my motion stated that the remaining items on the agenda not discussed or acted upon would be postponed to the October BBG meeting.

I will be requesting several topics be added to the October Board agenda pursuant to the BBG bylaws. I will forward them to you in a timely manner.

Best wishes for a restful weekend.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:02 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: email for OIG

Can you send me the email address for the Ambassador who leads the OIG team and spoke to BBG yesterday?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:00 AM

To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: BBG

Dear Dennis

I felt badly for you at the BBG meeting where you read the statement referring to the 'passing' of Ambassador Chris Stevens as whoever wrote that piece for you or Michael Lynton did you both a disservice. To use the word 'passing' when in fact it was murder was most unfortunate and downplays the significance and brutality of the event. I felt I had to speak out about this crime and that is why I did it. It was not to embarrass you and I suspect you had not seen the prepared remarks prior to reading them. Someone needs to counsel with the drafters of these remarks for you and Michael to make them more consistent with the event on the ground and a more appropriate public response.

Second, I think whoever planned the time allotted for the actual BBG meeting yesterday erred seriously in terms of us being able to do our work. There was no way the Board was going to do it all in 75 minutes allotted. There were 17 items on the agenda which if divided equally came out to 4.5 minutes each. Consequently we heard no reports from entity heads or VOA, OCB or IBB for our public session.

I say not so much to criticize whoever programmed this but to implore you and Governor Lynton to insist that for October BBG Board have two hours for our meeting. You also have a RFE audit committee meeting which you say would be held plus a governance committee which must go over the issues (b) (6) placed on our doorstep. This day will be a busy one and perhaps should go to two days if RFA and MBN also need meetings.

I am happy to discuss this with you if you wish. I trust your weekend goes well.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 12:01 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Non disclosure

thanks for the good response.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/17/2012 9:00:09 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor, and thanks for pointing that out.

Should any news releases in the future mention the non-disclosure policy, your vote last week will be reflected accurately in them. Since I don't have an overview of agency correspondence, Jeff and Dick are copied on this note.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 5:53 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Non disclosure

Lynne

In light of my change of my vote from Yes to NO on the non disclosure policy adopted in Prague in June, I hope future correspondence and news releases will no longer indicate it was adopted unanimously. In other words the Board had a divided vote on it.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 12:00 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Letter from Rep. Royce RE Parazit

NO that makes good sense since it was sent to (b) (6) he will copy all of us I am sure.

Victor

In a message dated 9/17/2012 8:59:21 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor --

VOA received the letter last week and has the pen at the moment. Mr. Royce wrote to (b) (6) it makes sense that the response would come from David. Did you have another course to suggest?

Regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 8:24 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Fwd: Letter from Rep. Royce RE Parazit

who is writing the response to this and who is suppose to sign it? Board or (b) (6) or who?

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)

Sent: 9/12/2012 7:00:03 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Letter from Rep. Royce RE Parazit

Dear Governors,

Attached is an inquiry from Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA) regarding the status of Parazit. Although the letter is dated August 7, we have just received it; a response is being drafted -- first via VOA.

We will seek Board review of the response before it is sent.

Regards,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 6:54 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Gallup

absolutely..glad you can come

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Sep 18, 2012 6:38 pm
Subject: RE: Gallup

Yes, I am extremely busy with the budget, but can do a focused meeting tomorrow at 3:15. I wouldn't expect that this would be an extraordinarily long meeting.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:20 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Gallup

I can meet tomorrow at 315 in afternoon...Where shall I come?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Sep 18, 2012 2:22 pm
Subject: Re: Gallup

I can't for (b) (6). She has been completely tied up in budget and year-end closing matters.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 2:01:14 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Gallup

I will try to work something out for Wed, Sept 19...I need to check my calendar...I assume (b) (6) would be included. Perhaps at noon to 1 PM. But I need to get back to you on that exact time which will be late this afternoon

like after 5.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Sep 18, 2012 12:31 pm

Subject: RE: Gallup

Governor Ashe – (b) (6) and I can meet with you or speak with you by telephone tomorrow, Wednesday, September 19 anytime between 11 am – 4 pm.

(b) (6) will be in depositions during the other dates and times that you mentioned. Moreover, we are now in end-of-fiscal year preparations so this is a particularly busy time for us. So, if tomorrow does not work out for you, I would like to request the opportunity to speak with you by phone at a convenient time during the first week of October.

Thank you. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]

Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 7:48 AM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: Gallup

At the September 13 BBG Board meeting the Gallup contract was discussed and both of you said you would brief me in private on it but not in a public setting. I asked when and was told it would be in my lifetime and even in the near future. I wonder if one or both of you would be available to brief me on it this Sept 20 after 1030 in the morning when I will be at the Cohen Bldg.

If not then perhaps arrange a phone time this Friday afternoon, Sept 21 or next Monday afternoon, Sept 24.

Please advise what times work.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 6:32 PM

To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo

Subject: Re: Record of Decisions from September Board Meeting

the decision record does not include the motion to adjourn which included that all items on the September 13 not reached or discussed be placed on the October 11 agenda...this motion duly adopted is missing.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (D) (O); Lynne Weil (D) (O)

Sent: Tue, Sep 18, 2012 1:25 pm

Subject: Record of Decisions from September Board Meeting

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a Record of Decisions from the September Board meeting and related attachments.

We plan to post the Record of Decisions on the BBG website by COB tomorrow, September 19.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 6:30 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Gallup

fine

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Sep 18, 2012 5:42 pm
Subject: RE: Gallup

Great. Let's meet in the Chairman's office. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:20 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Gallup

I can meet tomorrow at 315 in afternoon...Where shall I come?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Sep 18, 2012 2:22 pm
Subject: Re: Gallup

I can't for (b) (6). She has been completely tied up in budget and year-end closing matters.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 2:01:14 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Gallup

I will try to work something out for Wed, Sept 19...I need to check my calendar...I assume (b) (6) would be included. Perhaps at noon to 1 PM. But I need to get back to you on that exact time which will be late this afternoon like after 5.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) >; Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Sep 18, 2012 12:31 pm
Subject: RE: Gallup
Governor Ashe – (b) (6) and I can meet with you or speak with you by telephone tomorrow, Wednesday, September 19 anytime between 11 am – 4 pm.

(b) (6) will be in depositions during the other dates and times that you mentioned. Moreover, we are now in end-of-fiscal year preparations so this is a particularly busy time for us. So, if tomorrow does not work out for you, I would like to request the opportunity to speak with you by phone at a convenient time during the first week of October.

Thank you. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 7:48 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Gallup

At the September 13 BBG Board meeting the Gallup contract was discussed and both of you said you would brief me in private on it but not in a public setting. I asked when and was told it would be in my lifetime and even in the near future. I wonder if one or both of you would be available to brief me on it this Sept 20 after 1030 in the morning when I will be at the Cohen Bldg.

If not then perhaps arrange a phone time this Friday afternoon, Sept 21 or next Monday afternoon, Sept 24.

Please advise what times work.

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Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 7:53 AM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: record of decisions

thanks very much. See you this afternoon at 315. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Lynne Weil (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
dmulhaupt <dmulhaupt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wed, Sep 19, 2012 7:51 am
Subject: Re: record of decisions

Governor Ashe -- Your point is well-taken. The Board's agreement to adjourn the meeting and to pick up where it left off at the next meeting is procedural. It will be included in the meeting minutes. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 6:34:21 AM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: record of decisions

Thanks for sending me and I assume the whole Board the proposed summary of the decisions made on Sept 13.

The record is less than normal due to inability of Board to complete the agenda outlined in 75 to 90 minutes. This is not meant to point fingers but to state the obvious. Hopefully this will not happen on October 11. We have now not had a serious report at the Board meeting level from entities or VOA, OCB and IBB since June 7. This is most unfortunate in my view. It makes us all look bad when we fail to complete the agenda.

However in this record of decisions, the final motion made at the meeting by me and adopted is missing. It was to postpone the unfinished agenda for Sept 13 to the October 11 meeting and to adjourn.

I request this motion duly adopted be added to the agenda published on the BBG web site. A review of the tape will reflect this.

Thanks

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Thanks

Victor ASHE

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 3:15 PM
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: schedule

I am genuinely concerned that whoever is scheduling BBG meetings for the full Board has seriously underestimated the time needed to conduct our business.

Ever since the March meeting in Miami, BBG has failed to complete the agenda established. Last week on September 13 was the worst failure we had in my view to meet our responsibility. The vast majority of the agenda was never discussed.

We should resolve that this not happen again. We must go back to two day meetings if we are to have entity board meetings along with private sessions and governors only time or be prepared to go into the evening.

Allowing only 75 minutes for this agenda assured failure to consider the full agenda. How did anyone think we would complete the agenda and we did not complete the agenda in Prague on June 7 either.

This needs correction. I urge Dennis Mulhaupt and Michael Lynton as the two presiding Governors to take steps to assure us adequate time to meet on October 11...even starting October 10 or going over to October 12.

This e mail is not meant to cirticize anyone but simply to urge that we do better.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 1:51 PM
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: October 11 BBG agenda

Dear (b) (6)

Pursuant to the BBG bylaws I want to add several topics to the October 11 agenda and should there not be an October 11 meeting then whenever the next BBG Board meeting does occur.

The topics I wish to add are as follows:

- 1-consideration of the non disclosure policy and how potential violations are handled..what process exists and what rights the accused have?
- 2-setting meeting dates for January, February, March, and April 2013 as well as meeting at RFA which has not happened in 2012..also setting date for Meeting at OCB in Miami
- 3-discussion of morale and contract employees
- 4-statement on union membership by employees that membership and acitvities in an union for all employees shall not be basis for discrimination by management in the workplace.

I believe I am meeting the notice requirement set out in BBG bylaws.

On another subject, I do not when goverance committee is set to meet on October 11 or what its agenda may be. I do not know if RFE audit committee will meet October 11 or not and what its agenda may be.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2012 8:50 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey
Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Schedule Grantee Board Meetings?

It is my sincere hope and prayer that enough time is allocated to BBG to complete the agenda this time...something we have not done from and including the OCB meeting in Miami. For RFA meeting, it is up to Michael Meehan as chair.. I would point out that we are scheduled to meet there in 2012 which we have not done to date. When will we meet at 2025 M Street ..October, November or December? Dennis Mulhaupt has pledged a governance committee meeting plus a RFE audit committee meeting.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Sep 21, 2012 8:39 am

Subject: Schedule Grantee Board Meetings?

Dear Governors,

As we begin planning for the October Board meeting, kindly let us know at your earliest convenience whether we should plan for corporate meetings of RFE/RL, RFA and/or MBN.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 22, 2012 2:00 PM
To: (b) (6)

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: two items on (b) (6)

Without voicing a view, here are two items on (b) (6) who now heads up RFE in Moscow.

I think all will find it interesting.

<http://latitude.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/09/16/a-call-from-the-kremlin>

and

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/\(b\)_\(6\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/(b)_(6))

It offers a fuller picture of her background than what I have had at least and suggests she is well known within Russian circles. Whether it turns out to be the right hire I do not know. One can and should hope it works. My view is that this is a story still unfolding and we are not at the end of it from several perspectives which makes it all the more interesting to serve on the RFE Board.

Personally, I have no confidence in Putin and feel it is only a matter of time before he forces RFE out of Russia. What approach he uses is the only unknown. RFE should approach this all with caution and our eyes wide open. The neighborhood there is dangerous to freedom.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 22, 2012 12:48 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: status of OCB Lawsuit

Yes do call on Wednesday morning after 0900, Sept 26 if that works for you

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/22/2012 9:33:48 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

There is no written report. I will provide an update to the Board at the October 11 meeting. I would be happy to give you a call about it next week.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 22, 2012 6:25:01 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: status of OCB Lawsuit

The BBG meeting on Sept 13 adjourned without hearing a report on where the employee lawsuit involving OCB stands. I do not want to wait to October 11 to hear the report which I assume was prepared and ready to be given.

Therefore I ask that I be sent a copy of it so I can review it prior to the October 11 meeting.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 22, 2012 6:25 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 10:30 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FOIA delivery to blogger (b) (6)

How much did he pay? Victor

In a message dated 9/24/2012 6:25:21 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

E-mails responsive to blogger (b) (6) remaining FOIA requests are being sent to him this evening by Federal Express, per his wishes and at his own expense. They should be delivered tomorrow.

The material exceeds 700 pages. Because of the file size, a CD-ROM has been prepared.

Should any of you wish to review the material, we will send a disk your way, as well.

Dick Lobo

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 10:26 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: VOA Beats NYT, CNN
Attachments: image001.png

congratulations...always good to get good news of success. Victor

In a message dated 9/24/2012 5:28:27 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

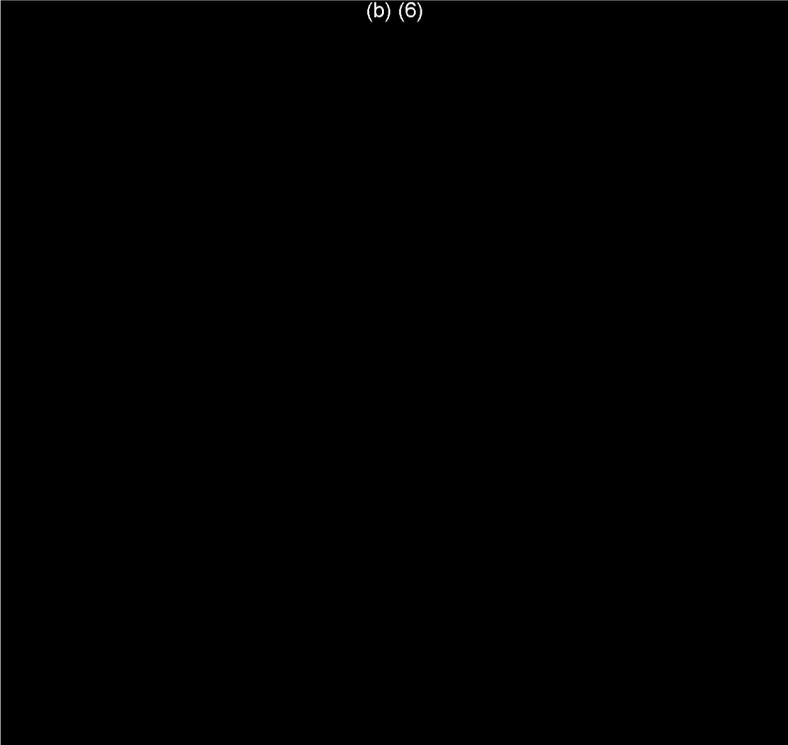
Good news! The Online News Association announced VOA's Middle East Voices website as a winner in the 2012 Online Journalism Awards competition.

These awards honor excellence in digital journalism, and I'm proud that VOA's Middle East Voices has been recognized for its coverage of the Arab Spring in the awards category of "Topical Reporting, Large." We were up against tough competition in the category, including CNN, the New York Times and the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Below is copy of our press release, which has more details.

Best,

(b) (6)



VOA Website Wins Online News Association Award

http://gdb.voanews.eu/3320CFEA-9880-4C72-9F13-04BD07A90990_mw800_s.png
<http://gdb.voanews.eu/3320CFEA-9880-4C72-9F13-04BD07A90990_mw800_s.png>

Middle East Voices website

Washington, D.C., September 24, 2012 -- Middle East Voices, a collaborative Voice of America social journalism project that combines traditional reporting, commentary, and the stories of people living through the Arab Spring, has been honored with a 2012 Online Journalism Award for “Topical Reporting.”

The awards, which were announced Saturday at the 2012 Online News Association <<http://journalists.org/>> Conference in San Francisco, recognize excellence in digital journalism.

“The competition was very stiff, and we are so proud of what the small but dedicated team at Middle East Voices <<http://middleeastvoices.voanews.com/>> has been able to accomplish,” VOA Director David Ensor said. “It is an excellent example of how VOA journalists are working with social media and online tools to tell stories in a meaningful way, and to help others share stories about the events that are shaping their lives,” Ensor said.

Middle East Voices emphasizes audience input and engagement. The site features essays from leading thinkers and average citizens. During the final phase of the Egyptian presidential runoff election in June, radio and TV reports from Egypt were supplemented by live-tweeting from events and daily streams of stories and photos using Storify and Facebook <<http://www.facebook.com/VOAMiddleEastVoices>> to showcase events in real time.

“Middle East Voices has sought to tell the stories of the Arab Spring not simply through our own individual voices, but collaboratively, via those who are on the ground living the events,” says web reporter Cecily Hilleary. “Flickr, Facebook <<http://www.facebook.com/VOAMiddleEastVoices>> , and Twitter <<https://twitter.com/MideastVoice>> are simply a means for us to mine those voices.”

The other finalists in the “Topical Reporting, Large” site category were CNN, The New York Times and the Philadelphia Inquirer.

The finalists were selected by industry-leading journalists and digital media professionals. The winners were selected by a panel of judges at the University of Miami under the auspices of the School of Communication in Coral Gables, Florida.

For more information about this release contact Kyle King at the VOA Public Relations office in Washington at (202) 203-4959 or write to kking@voanews.com. Additional information can be found at the VOA Public Relations website at www.insidevoa.com <<http://www.insidevoa.com/>> , and at the main English language news site at www.voanews.com <<http://www.voanews.com/>> .

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 12:49 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Issues in Moscow

I am continuing to receive reports of issues arising with RFERL in Moscow including a journalist who was not fired actually quitting. She is (b) (6). She apparently claims there was a lock out situation by RFE management which offended her and was part of the ultimate cause of her departure after being there 20 years. Can you confirm her departure?

Could you let me and the Board know about this controversy and how you see it playing out. I am also told there are some old online interviews with (b) (6) which reflect poorly on her and raise questions as to her judgment. However, since it is Russia, we know some interviews with people could be false and manufactured for the sole purpose of embarrassment which is my reason for not passing them on until their validity is verified. The other point being made is that (b) (6) has not held a job anywhere longer than two years and often has departed in a wake of controversy. This is more easily verified.

Additionally, it is being said that (b) (6) is stating she had nothing to do with the current layoffs which are causing unrest as she does not start work until October 1. Technically that could be true but it is stated that as a consultant some of her work urged downsizing that these layoffs implement part of her report as a consultant so it is not entirely accurate for her to claim non involvement now when her report may have suggested this in the first place. Again, I am passing this on as I have received these comments.

I look forward to a report on this.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2012 9:36 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Dana Perino; Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Hearing postponed or canceled

Leader Pelosi's office did send out a notice of a hearing tomorrow...not an official one but one where people could attend. The hearing was on the proposed CEO for BBG. The word I hear is that the Leader's office canceled it at the request of BBG as someone (I do not know who) could not attend. That it has been postponed to Late October or more likely after the election. Lynne Weil may tell us BBG did not request its cancellation.

I am only passing on second hand information. However, there was a meeting scheduled as I saw the actual notice sent out from Leader Polisi's office.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/25/2012 5:55:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

No, there was not.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2012 5:54 PM
To: Lynne Weil; vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Michael Meehan; Dana Perino
Subject: Re: Hearing postponed or canceled

Was there a hearing scheduled?

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Date: Tue, 25 Sep 2012 21:48:16 +0000
To: vhashe@aol.com<vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com%3cvhashe@aol.com> >
Cc: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
(b) (6) Dana
Perino<(b) (6)>

Subject: RE: Hearing postponed or canceled

Hello, Victor –

The briefing tomorrow was postponed on the suggestion of Leader Pelosi's staff due to a scheduling issue.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2012 5:18 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Hearing postponed or canceled

Lynne

can you tell me why the hearing tomorrow in Leader Pelosi's office was postponed or was it canceled? Was it at the request of BBG or Leader Pelosi?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2012 2:31 PM
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6) Dana Perino
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Russian law on Non-Profit Organizations

Thanks. Remember in Putin's Russia that is today's news and subject to change on a whim. The rule of law is a different concept there than in USA. We need to keep our eyes and ears open and realize this could be reversed whenever Putin wishes to do so. He is not a fan of RFERL. We must be alert.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/25/2012 1:57:38 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

All: Some good news. As I am sure you remember from our presentation at the recent RFE/RL Board meeting, a new law in Russia that goes into effect next month requires non-profit organizations that receive funding from outside Russia to identify themselves as "foreign agents". Through our lawyers in Moscow we sought guidance from the relevant Russian ministry on whether the new law would apply to our operations in Russia. In Russia we conduct our business through a "representative office" of RFE/RL. The ministry has informed us that the new law does not apply to the activities of a "representative office" of a foreign non-profit. Therefore we do not have to identify ourselves as a "foreign agent".

Cheers,
(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2012 12:30 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: October Board Meetings

The canceling of the governance committee meeting defies the stated intention of Gov. Mulhaupt at the Sept 13 public meeting to hold this meeting on October 11. Why did Gov Mulhaupt change his mind and assure the items deferred to that committee will not be heard? Mr. Lobo you state this is based on input from Governors but I am one Governor whose views you did not seek and it is not based on my input. If it based on input from only one or two Governors then the notice should state that.

Why is the town hall meeting being canceled? It looks to me like a light schedule that day. I am reminded of an old saying in East Tennessee, if you do not want to work, you should not hire out. If there is a quorum for BBG then it exists for other sessions such as RFE audit committee.

Of course there are those who suggest all meetings are being reduced as much as BBG can avoid having the OIG team attend these meetings as they did on September 13. I hope this is not true but that thought is out there. One way to dispel that is to hold these meetings previously announced to be held.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/26/2012 12:01:32 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

The Presiding Governor has requested that the October Board meetings take place on Thursday, October 11. Please plan on a full day that day. The Board meeting will be held in the BBG-IBB Conference Room of the Cohen Building. (The town hall format meeting originally proposed will be held at a later date.)

Based on input we have from Governors, the Governance Committee will not meet in October. There will also be no grantee corporate board meetings.

On Thursday, October 11, there will be a Governors' Briefing in the morning and a BBG open meeting in the afternoon. A proposed agenda for the meeting will be forwarded to you in the next few days.

Separately, Governor Meehan is requesting a Strategy and Budget Committee meeting on Friday afternoon, October 12.

Dick

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2012 12:00 PM
To: d (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG October meeting

Transparency is a two way street. When RFE auditor is told not to communicate with me by RFE Chair Mulhaupt and (b) (6) instructs (b) (6) when he was RFE attorney not to communicate with me (at the direction of some Governor I am told) then I see transparency being discarded. I have shared the content but I will not give the names out as they fear retribution. Sorry to bear such news. I hope for a more transparent day.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/26/2012 11:53:53 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

What emails? Why don't you share them with your colleagues in the interest of transparency?

Dick

On Wed, Sep 26, 2012 at 11:48 AM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

several e mails I have received suggest no meeting on October 11. I gather from your answer they are not true which is good. That is why I asked. It is disturbing however that RFE audit committee will not meet given Chairman Mulhaupt stated intention to hold such a meeting. Surely it could be worked into the October 11 day.

Best wishes to you

Victor

In a message dated 9/26/2012 11:42:56 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

What reports? What rumors?

Dick

On Wed, Sep 26, 2012 at 10:26 AM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

I hope reports that the October 11 meeting may not occur are false and just rumors. It is my view that it takes a Board vote to cancel the meeting as the Board set the date by Board vote and has not changed it.

We have much to do in October.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2012 10:26 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: BBG October meeting

I hope reports that the October 11 meeting may not occur are false and just rumors. It is my view that it takes a Board vote to cancel the meeting as the Board set the date by Board vote and has not changed it.

We have much to do in October.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 12:57 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: hope I am wrong

While I hope I am wrong it appears BBG is down to 5 members attending BBG on October 11...will not look good for
OIG if meeting dissolves due to absence of quorum. Hopefully Michael Meehan can call in

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 3:42 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

all dates work for me although surely there will be new Governors at some point. I must ask the inconvenient question
asto whether my colleagues plan on two day meetings in 2013 as there have not been any in 2012 and this October 11
all grantee board meetings have disappeared as have BBG committee meetings. I wonder if the OIG doing its review
is the reason this has happened so they would not see any more deliberations. Or some do not want to face the
important issues the committees have. Also which Governors were consulted on the October 11 reduced
schedule...certainly not me. Victor Ashe

-----Ursprüngliche Mitteilung-----

Von: (b) (6)
An: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Verschickt: Mi, 26 Sept 2012 11:13 pm
Betreff: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

Dear Governors,

Below are proposed dates for BBG meetings in calendar year 2013. These dates have been cleared by Governors
Lynton and Mulhaupt.

We plan to propose these dates for your consideration at the October Board meeting. Among issues the Board will
need to determine is how many times you wish to meet as a full Board during the year.

Thank you.

Year 2013:

January – No Meeting

February 21-22 (Thursday, Friday)

March 20- 21 (Wednesday, Thursday)

April 10-11 (Wednesday, Thursday)

May 16-17 (Thursday, Friday)

June 19-20 (Wednesday, Thursday)

July 10-11 (Wednesday, Thursday)

August – No Meeting

September 19-20 (Thursday, Friday)

October 16-17 (Wednesday, Thursday)

November 6-7 (Wednesday, Thursday)

December 11-12 (Wednesday, Thursday)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 9:59 AM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne

Weil; [REDACTED] (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; Letitia King; [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Russia

Dear Dennis

I have had thought further about this since my last e mail and prefer a Board meeting over a briefing but feel either is better than nothing. However, the occasion should be more than RFE management giving us their view. We should have private time for Governors to discuss this maong ourselves (obviously OIG would be there if they wish). We also need to have contact with one or more the dissidents signing the letter which has become so public. There needs to be outreach here.

We are faced with a serious morale and public perception issue at the very least. However, there could be more and duty is to ascertain in an objective way all sides so a factual determination can be made. A briefing by staff is only a start not an ending to this crisis for RFE in Moscow. If this turns out to be staff only and that ends it, then we have failed.

Your email suggests that it is all "misinformation and misconceptions." I am not sure we have enough knowlege to reach that conclusion any more than we have enough information to state that RFE management erred in full or in part. I urge you to be more neutral and even handed as chair until we hear all the facts.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt [REDACTED] (b) (6) >
To: Michael Lynton [REDACTED] (b) (6); Susan McCue <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>; Michael Meehan [REDACTED] (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Dana Perino [REDACTED] (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6); Richard Lobo <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>; Jeff Trimble [REDACTED] (b) (6); Lynne Weil [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Sep 27, 2012 6:26 pm

Subject: Russia

Colleagues:

I believe it would be worthwhile to have a briefing on where things stand with respect to the reorganization of RFERL's Russian Service that is being forced on us by the changes in Russian law. This will be a followup to the report given by Steve and his colleagues at the RFE board meeting a few weeks ago. There is a significant amount of misinformation and misconceptions about what we are actually doing and our plans going forward.

Within the next several days, we will organize a call-in briefing for those who are interested in participating. RFE management will update us on the current state of affairs and answer any questions you may have. As soon as this can be organized, we will be back to you.

Best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 9:50 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Letitia King; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Medal Awards Ceremony

Send same info to me as you send to Susan? Dick, why not move this to October 11 at 0800 since Board meetings will not start until 0900 or 0930.
We have time to do this at mid day as well.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Susan McCue (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(p) (v)

Sent: Fri, Sep 28, 2012 9:15 am

Subject: Re: Medal Awards Ceremony

I'll be in LA through Oct 10 and sorry to miss this. Can you send info on who won what?

On Sep 28, 2012, at 1:19 AM, <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

I would love to come but unfortunately do not appear able at this time to change my schedule. Too bad this is not being done on October 11 when many Board members would be there and could attend. It appears that the Board is not using the full day on October 11 for BBG meetings.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Oanh Tran (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

; Letitia King

(b) (6); Lynne Weil (p) (v) Jeffrey Trimble

(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Sep 27, 2012 5:07 pm

Subject: Medal Awards Ceremony

Governors,

We will hold our Medal Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, October 10, at 12 noon here in the Cohen Building

auditorium.

It would be an honor to have you join this special occasion honoring our federal employees for outstanding service. The winners are selected through a process that encourages peer-to-peer nomination.

You would be welcome to make brief remarks congratulating the winners and join me, David and Carlos to present the certificates to the winners. We aim to keep the ceremony to an hour and will have a light reception following.

Please let me know if you can join us for this happy occasion.

Regards,
Dick

susan mccue | message-global | (b) (6) ue

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 9:32 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

It should be determined as Michael mentions when Miami and Prague would occur., I recommend March for Miami and June for Prague.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6) >

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Sep 28, 2012 3:21 am

Subject: Re: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

any sense of when we do the miami and prague meetings in this proposed 2013 schedule.

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

From: "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com>

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 9:41 AM

Subject: Re: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

all dates work for me although surely there will be new Governors at some point. I must ask the inconvenient question as to whether my colleagues plan on two day meetings in 2013 as there have not been any in 2012 and this October 11 all grantee board meetings have disappeared as have BBG committee meetings. I wonder if the OIG doing its review is the reason this has happened so they would not see any more deliberations. Or some do not want to face the important issues the committees have. Also which Governors were consulted on the October 11 reduced schedule...certainly not me. Victor Ashe

-----Ursprüngliche Mitteilung-----

Von: (b) (6)

An: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

Verschickt: Mi, 26 Sept 2012 11:13 pm

Betreff: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

Dear Governors,

Below are proposed dates for BBG meetings in calendar year 2013. These dates have been cleared by Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt.

We plan to propose these dates for your consideration at the October Board meeting. Among issues the Board will need to determine is how many times you wish to meet as a full Board during the year.

Thank you.

Year 2013:

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February 21-22 (Thursday, Friday)

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August – No Meeting

September 19-20 (Thursday, Friday)

October 16-17 (Wednesday, Thursday)

November 6-7 (Wednesday, Thursday)

December 11-12 (Wednesday, Thursday)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 1:19 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Letitia King; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Medal Awards Ceremony

I would love to come but unfortunately do not appear able at this time to change my schedule. Too bad this is not being done on October 11 when many Board members would be there and could attend. It appears that the Board is not using the full day on October 11 for BBG meetings.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) >; Letitia King (b) (6)
Lynne Weil (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Sep 27, 2012 5:07 pm
Subject: Medal Awards Ceremony

Governors,

We will hold our Medal Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, October 10, at 12 noon here in the Cohen Building auditorium.

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You would be welcome to make brief remarks congratulating the winners and join me, David and Carlos to present the certificates to the winners. We aim to keep the ceremony to an hour and will have a light reception following.

Please let me know if you can join us for this happy occasion.

Regards,

Dick

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 1:17 AM

To: (b) (6)
Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne
Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Russia

Dear Dennis

I am glad you are doing this but I feel it should be a RFE meeting. It is very important. I think it is important the dissidents' letter from Moscow be addressed as well as the manner in which people were dismissed. How much money is involved? It appears we have a significant public relations issue on our hand. It is important to address how management in hindsight would have done anything differently and if they feel there were any errors. What is the backup plan when/if Putin shuts down RFE? Has there been any contact with US Embassy in Moscow? If not, why not?

I trust you will consult will all 7 Board members on their availability for a call so all can participate or if someone cannot participate but still wants a briefing that an alternative time be provided to him/her. Your email does not state if Board members will be contacted on availability. I also think it should be an actual Board meeting in case the Board wished to take action as formal action in a briefing is not legally possible.

Who will preside at the briefing or meeting?

Those persons from RFE who went to Moscow should also be on the line such as (b) (6). I do not know who else was there but we should be told in advance of the call.

I look forward to participating, I am not available on October 1 thru 3. but available afterwards.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6)
To: Michael Lynton (b) (6); Susan McCue (b) (6); Michael Meehan (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Dana Perino (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard Lobo (b) (6); Jeff Trimble (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Sep 27, 2012 6:26 pm

Subject: Russia

Colleagues:

I believe it would be worthwhile to have a briefing on where things stand with respect to the reorganization of RFERL's Russian Service that is being forced on us by the changes in Russian law. This will be a followup to the report given by Steve and his colleagues at the RFE board meeting a few weeks ago. There is a significant amount of misinformation and misconceptions about what we are actually doing and our plans going forward.

Within the next several days, we will organize a call-in briefing for those who are interested in participating. RFE management will update us on the current state of affairs and answer any questions you may have. As soon as this can be organized, we will be back to you.

Best,

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2012 11:41 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Gold Medal Awards Ceremony

It could be at 315 PM on October 11 as the proposed schedule has us cutting early that day.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
(b) (6) Lynne Weil (b) (6) Letitia King (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Oct 1, 2012 11:18 am
Subject: Gold Medal Awards Ceremony

Dear Victor,

It was very good to have your participation in this event last year and your support of employee recognition is always appreciated. I will be glad to share with the Board the information on the winners once everything is finalized. While we will have a final list of names in a few days, the citations describing their work take a bit longer given that there are about 85 winners.

In terms of the time/day of the awards, unfortunately the auditorium is in use by another group on Thursday Oct 11 until noon.

The event requires several hours of set up and involves many of the same staff that support the Board open meeting and webcast, so a midday ceremony is regrettably problematic.

We will go forward with this event on October 10, 2012 at noon in the Cohen Auditorium.

Dick

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2012 10:48 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil;
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft October BBG Meetings Agenda

To my fellow Governors and staff,

Thanks for sending this schedule. I am very disappointed that my requests listed as item VII in the Governor's briefing are not listed for the public meeting as I had requested them be discussed at the full BBG Board meeting and my request was filed with the deputy general counsel in a timely manner as provided by the bylaws. No one has the right to move a Governor's request from the Board meeting to the private session. This is directly contrary to my request and I ask that this be adjusted to be included at the BBG meeting. Surely we will abide by our bylaws.

Second, it is virtually unheard of in a setting such as ours to place approval of the minutes from the prior meeting at the end of the agenda. Such action always comes at the first of the meeting and that has been our BBG practice since we all joined the Board on June 30, 2010. Item F on the agenda should be Item A and each renumbered accordingly.

To be honest, this does not appear to be the result of checking with all the Governors. Certainly I was not consulted and I had asked for several items on the discussion list including (b) (6) from the prior meeting which is now missing. While it is good for Gov Lynton to review the proposed agenda, why not consult with all of us first before it is made up and sent out? This would produce a more collegial approach.

Third, given that the day ends at 315 PM in the afternoon, it is now abundantly and sadly clear that the governance committee could have met but for reasons Chairman Mulhaupt has not shared with me, he has decided not to hold the meeting which he said at the Sept 13 full BBG meeting he would hold to deal with issues referred Sept 13 to governance such as unions. Why? The same holds for his decision for the RFE audit committee not to meet that same day due to lack of time. Well, this schedule shows there is time. What is missing is the will to meet and honor the pledge made in mid September in a public setting. There is time from 0730 to 0830 and with planned adjournment at 315 there would be time to meet from 315 to 6 PM if people are willing to work.

In Tennessee, our late Gov Ned McWhertter when he was Speaker of the Tenn House and I was a minority party member under his leadership, he often told the 99 members when some wanted to adjourn early without finishing the days's business the following: "You should not hire out, if you are not willing to work." Enough said.

BBG faces serious issues which are not receiving attention. RFE faces serious programming issues and management style questions not to mention issues involving fiduciary responsibility and the best answer is to dodge discussion of them. Transparency is jettisoned here.

This is not good. It reflects poorly on all. I urge reconsideration and a response. I am back in USA on Wednesday evening and happy to talk to any Governor or anyone else about this.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Oct 1, 2012 9:45 am

Subject: Draft October BBG Meetings Agenda

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a draft agenda for all BBG-related meetings to be held next Thursday, October 11, in the BBG-IBB Conference Room of the Cohen Building from 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. EDT. This draft agenda has been reviewed and approved by Presiding Governor Lynton.

Please note that a BBG open meeting via webcast is planned in the afternoon from 1:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. EDT.

We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the BBG open meeting.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 11:42 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King
Subject: Re: OCB / FLRA RIF Litigation

Dick

I feel you should bring this matter to the full Board for resolution with your recommendation so the Board can discuss it and vote on it. I would like to know whether you plan to do this.

The Washington Post had an article on it October 3 on page B4.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/3/2012 10:29:32 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Some of you have inquired about recent coverage concerning last week's decision of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) to uphold an arbitrator's decision against the Agency in connection with the Agency's 2009 reduction-in-force at OCB.

Our staff has not yet finished reviewing and digesting the case, nor have we formulated any formal response. It should be noted that the fact that the FLRA affirmed the arbitrator's decision does not necessarily mean that either the arbitrator or the FLRA decided the case correctly on the merits. There are more than a few cases where agencies have successfully challenged FLRA decisions.

The BBG has sixty days in which to respond and it is extremely important for the Agency to analyze the case carefully before deciding how to proceed. There are a number of issues at play in the OCB RIF case that go beyond the issue of possible financial exposure or reinstatement of employees, including substantive issues that may affect other RIFs that may be contemplated in the budgetary decisions that the Board has made. I plan to make a decision on how to proceed based on a sober analysis of the merits of the case. Like you, I of course share the desire to do what is in the best interest of the Agency and its employees. I will certainly take your concerns into account and will consult closely with the OCB Director as well as our Labor and Employee Relations team.. At the appropriate time, I will brief the Board on how best to proceed.

In the meantime, it would be advisable for individual Governors to refrain from discussing the case with BBG Union members or officials. If you are contacted by the media, please consult with our communications team before commenting. Such outreach can be affirmatively harmful to the Agency's interests because it can unnecessarily embolden the stance taken by other stakeholders in this important litigation and may complicate or undermine the Agency's litigation and settlement posture. I appreciate your understanding of and compliance with this point.

Dick Lobo

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 11:37 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Jamming of Signals into Iran, News Release Being Distributed

there must be a Board resolution. Victor

In a message dated 10/3/2012 9:37:18 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good evening, Victor --

As Tara and (b) (6) can attest, and (b) (6) can fill in the details when appropriate, the BBG is, indeed, speaking with State about the matter.

One can imagine that with your background in foreign policy, all the bases would be covered in any subsequent Board briefing. Meantime, we'll get to work on a resolution -- in each sense of the word.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 8:42:45 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Jamming of Signals into Iran, News Release Being Distributed

we need to more than a statement although a resolution should be added to Board agenda this October 11 updated to reflect more recent developments if they occur.

BBG should meet with relevant folks at State on this too. We need a report on this October 11.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/3/2012 6:29:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

As of today, we've seen a spike in the jamming of a number of our satellite signals to Iran. TSI, VOA and RFE/RL are working very closely to track the interference and respond accordingly in order to continue to reach audiences. VOA's Persian Service and RFE/RL's Radio Farda are the principal victims, though other languages on those satellite carriers are affected.

We believe raising public awareness of the jamming is important. Pasted below is the news release we are distributing to provide news of the situation.

We will continue to work aggressively to respond to the signal interference and will keep you informed.

Dick

BBG Condemns Jamming of Broadcasts to Iran

Washington, DC – October 3, 2012 – U.S. international broadcasting signals to Iran are once again being jammed, possibly in connection with street demonstrations and arrests there, and the Broadcasting Board of Governors has condemned the resumption of interference in its programming for Iranians.

“The jamming of news delivered by satellite into Iran is an outrage, a deplorable violation of well-established international agreements,” said International Broadcasting Bureau Director Richard M. Lobo. “Freedom of information is a universal human right as well as an essential component for the health of any nation.”

The practice of deliberate interference with broadcast signals, known as “jamming,” is prohibited under rules of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

The most recent interference began on Wednesday, October 3, and affected both video and audio signals of the Voice of America’s Persian Service and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty’s Radio Farda.

The jamming coincided with reports of street demonstrations and mass arrests of Iranians protesting falling currency exchange rates. Both VOA and RFE/RL report that, in some instances, interference starts just before newscasts, and ends just afterwards.

The jamming affected three satellite transponders operated by Eutelsat and those most popular among Iranian viewers: HotBird 13B, Eutelsat 25A and Eutelsat 7A. Viewers said the signals reappear intermittently, and that less-popular satellites are not impacted.

The interference has affected other U.S. international broadcasting programs on the Eutelsat satellites, including Georgian, Armenian and Balkan-language broadcasts.

VOA and RFE/RL programs continue to be broadcast on diverse media platforms, including digital audio and video streams on other satellite paths and on the Internet.

In February 2012, the ITU called upon the world's nations to take "necessary actions" to stop intentional interference with satellite transmissions. -- <http://www.bbg.gov/press-release/new-pressure-on-jammers-of-international-broadcasts/>

Related -- <http://www.bbg.gov/press-release/international-broadcasters-call-for-end-of-satellite-jamming/>

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 8:43 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Jamming of Signals into Iran, News Release Being Distributed

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Governors,

As of today, we've seen a spike in the jamming of a number of our satellite signals to Iran. TSI, VOA and RFE/RL are working very closely to track the interference and respond accordingly in order to continue to reach audiences. VOA's Persian Service and RFE/RL's Radio Farda are the principal victims, though other languages on those satellite carriers are affected.

We believe raising public awareness of the jamming is important. Pasted below is the news release we are distributing to provide news of the situation.

We will continue to work aggressively to respond to the signal interference and will keep you informed.

Dick

BBG Condemns Jamming of Broadcasts to Iran

Washington, DC – October 3, 2012 – U.S. international broadcasting signals to Iran are once again being jammed, possibly in connection with street demonstrations and arrests there, and the Broadcasting Board of Governors has condemned the resumption of interference in its programming for Iranians.

“The jamming of news delivered by satellite into Iran is an outrage, a deplorable violation of well-established international agreements,” said International Broadcasting Bureau Director Richard M. Lobo. “Freedom of information is a universal human right as well as an essential component for the health of any nation.”

The practice of deliberate interference with broadcast signals, known as “jamming,” is prohibited under rules of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

The most recent interference began on Wednesday, October 3, and affected both video and audio signals of the Voice of America’s Persian Service and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty’s Radio Farda.

The jamming coincided with reports of street demonstrations and mass arrests of Iranians protesting falling currency exchange rates. Both VOA and RFE/RL report that, in some instances, interference starts just before newscasts, and ends just afterwards.

The jamming affected three satellite transponders operated by Eutelsat and those most popular among Iranian viewers: HotBird 13B, Eutelsat 25A and Eutelsat 7A. Viewers said the signals reappear intermittently, and that less-popular satellites are not impacted.

The interference has affected other U.S. international broadcasting programs on the Eutelsat satellites, including

Georgian, Armenian and Balkan-language broadcasts.

VOA and RFE/RL programs continue to be broadcast on diverse media platforms, including digital audio and video streams on other satellite paths and on the Internet.

In February 2012, the ITU called upon the world's nations to take "necessary actions" to stop intentional interference with satellite transmissions. -- <http://www.bbg.gov/press-release/new-pressure-on-jammers-of-international-broadcasts/>

Related -- <http://www.bbg.gov/press-release/international-broadcasters-call-for-end-of-satellite-jamming/>

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 3:36 PM

To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Cc: Letitia King

Subject: Re: OCB / FLRA RIF Litigation

I cannot tell if you plan to bring the final decision to the BBG Board for a vote or whether you plan to act on your own? Which is it?

I believe this is serious enough to come to the full Board for a vote on whether to proceed with an appeal or halt the process. I am eager to have your recommendation as well as the deputy general counsel and (b) (6).

We should be sensitive to those persons who were terminated and it is now three years later. We should be sensitive to how this impacts the agency too. We should consult with DOJ on this. We should consult with plaintiffs to determine their interest in a settlement and what it would be. We should be advised what the current financial exposure is today, October 3 and what it could be two years from now if the appeals proceed and fail. In other words the plaintiffs win.

While this is not our personal money it is the public's money and we must be sensitive to this.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
(b) (6) Lynne Weil
(b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Oct 3, 2012 10:29 am
Subject: OCB / FLRA RIF Litigation

Governors,

Some of you have inquired about recent coverage concerning last week's decision of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) to uphold an arbitrator's decision against the Agency in connection with the Agency's 2009 reduction-in-force at OCB.

Our staff has not yet finished reviewing and digesting the case, nor have we formulated any formal response. It should be noted that the fact that the FLRA affirmed the arbitrator's decision does not necessarily mean that either the arbitrator or the FLRA decided the case correctly on the merits. There are more than a few cases where agencies have successfully challenged FLRA decisions.

The BBG has sixty days in which to respond and it is extremely important for the Agency to analyze the case carefully before deciding how to proceed. There are a number of issues at play in the OCB RIF case that go beyond the issue of possible financial exposure or reinstatement of employees, including substantive issues that may affect other RIFs that may be contemplated in the budgetary decisions that the Board has made. I plan to make a decision on how to proceed based on a sober analysis of the merits of the case. Like you, I of course share the desire to do what is in the best interest of the Agency and its employees. I will certainly take your concerns into account and will consult closely with the OCB Director as well as our Labor and Employee Relations team. At the appropriate time, I will brief the Board on how best to proceed.

In the meantime, it would be advisable for individual Governors to refrain from discussing the case with BBG Union members or officials. If you are contacted by the media, please consult with our communications team before commenting. Such outreach can be affirmatively harmful to the Agency's interests because it can unnecessarily embolden the stance taken by other stakeholders in this important litigation and may complicate or undermine the Agency's litigation and settlement posture. I appreciate your understanding of and compliance with this point.

Dick Lobo

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 3:30 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: October 11 Board Meeting Issues

No offense to anyone personally but when do we plan to put in a full day?

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

From: Lynton, Michael (b) (6) >
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Cc: <vhashe@aol.com> <vhashe@aol.com>; <(b) (6)>

Sent: Wed, Oct 3, 2012 10:11 am

Subject: Re: October 11 Board Meeting Issues

and i have to get up to nyc

On Oct 3, 2012, at 3:58 AM, Michael Meehan wrote:

I have a family matter in NYC on Thursday night that is a priority for me. I had told staff that we would hold a strategy and budget briefing during some part of the weeks end.

So to be fair to them, I know the fluidity of my schedule has been a complication for them as well

Michael Meehan.

On Oct 3, 2012, at 12:53 AM, <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Obviously we will agree to disagree. The Board is not putting in a full day on October 11 and I would like to know why 315 PM is the quitting time? I am prepared to work to night. Also prepared to work on October 12. I do not think two hours for the public session is adequate for the multitude of issues facing BBG on October 11 unless we simply try to fast track everything by avoiding discussion, deliberation and serious questioning. I know my fellow Governors would not want that to happen. The public is entitled to see and hear our deliberations.

The BBG governance committee is not meeting despite chairman Mulhaupt saying there would be one. He certainly did not ask me as a committee member about skipping a meeting. The same applies to RFE audit committee where serious issues are on the table. All three audit committee members will be in DC on October 11 and we are told there is not time for a meeting. That is inaccurate. It may be inconvenient for some due to issues which may be discussed but there is time. The three audit committee members of RFE are Mulhaupt, Ashe and McCue. The 4 governance committee members are Mulhaupt, Ashe, Lynton and McCue. All will be in DC on october 11 but there is no meeting. Why? An answer is merited. Governance has several issues to consider. Apparently, Governance is skipping the calendar for 2013 which normally it reviews. Why? Why is protection for union activities not being considered as was discussed at Sept 13 meeting as being referered to governance committee?

The more important issue here is that you and Gov Lynton should consult with the other 6 Governors on the agenda. That is not too many to contact. For two years plus I have shown keen interest in these matters. You know of my interest. I am the only Governor to have visited all language services of VOA. while in Tbilisi on October 2, I took time out to visit the current RFE offices and see the new space as well. I have even been to the mail room of the Cohen Bldg. In other words, I take time to do my job. Common courtesy would suggest that when I ask for items to go on the agenda that you or someone contact me and let me know whether it is the open or private meeting. If my request failed to be specific, then call and ask me what was meant. I would extend the same courtesy to you.

As we say in Knoxville at this time of the year, GO VOLS.

Victor Ashe

-----Ursprüngliche Mitteilung-----

Von: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>

An: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Bruce Sherman

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil

(b) (6)

Verschickt: Di, 2 Okt 2012 11:12 pm
Betreff: October 11 Board Meeting Issues

Victor,

I would like to clear the air about a few things concerning the upcoming October 11 Board meeting agenda.

To begin with, all of the issues that you requested are on the meeting agenda. Your September 20 email to (b) (6) is set forth below. You did not request these issues be placed on the open meeting agenda. Moreover, the provision of the bylaws relating to the requests of individual Governors does not require that the agenda topics requested by individual Governors have to necessarily be discussed in the open meeting. For your convenience, I have reproduced the relevant provision of the by-laws below. There has been no failure of compliance with the BBG bylaws as you suggest.

In addition, it is important for you and all of the Governors to understand and accept that the staff does not set the agenda of Board deliberations or determine when meetings of the Board of Governors, its committees, or of any grantee Board will occur. This is within the Board's exclusive authority. In this case, we have followed the procedures laid out in the by-laws and worked with the Presiding Governor on the development of the agenda. Given the number of topics that have to be covered by the Board in the open meeting – including picking up where we left off last time, as you requested– and the fact that you are the only Governor who has expressed interest in these particular topics, I made the recommendation to the Presiding Governor to place the discussion in the Governors briefing, as reflected in the draft agenda that we circulated to the Board.

If you or any Governor have a disagreement with the proposed agenda, it is appropriate for you to address your suggestions to the other members of the Board and to obtain their agreement on the items that should be discussed during the open meeting. (b) (6) email clearly stated that she was transmitting a draft agenda and soliciting the comments of the Governors. Perhaps the Board can have a further discussion about whether any of the agenda topics that you have suggested should be moved to the open session, as well as how to deal with these questions going forward.

Finally, you have suggested on several occasions that the Board, certain Governors and/or the staff have conspired to reduce the number of meetings and meeting times in order to avoid the attendance and scrutiny of the Office of Inspector General (OIG).

Nothing could be further than the truth. The Board and the staff welcome the current OIG inspection. Board leaders and I personally invited the team to attend all Board-related meetings while they were here. I am very pleased to have had OIG staff at all the Board's meetings thus far and to have given them full visibility into all communications related to the Board and its members and proceedings.

In your October 1 email regarding these matters, you cite a saying by the late Tennessee Governor McWherter. Allow me to cite a couple of quotes regarding teamwork as it should apply to any organization, including the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

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"No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent." – John Donne

Thank you,
Dick Lobo

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 1:51 PM
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: October 11 BBG agenda
Dear (b) (6)

Pursuant to the BBG bylaws I want to add several topics to the October 11 agenda and should there not be an October 11 meeting then whenever the next BBG Board meeting does occur.

The topics I wish to add are as follows:

- 1-consideration of the non disclosure policy and how potential violations are handled..what process exists and what rights the accused have?
- 2-setting meeting dates for January, February, March, and April 2013 as well as meeting at RFA which has not happened in 2012..also setting date for Meeting at OCB in Miami
- 3-discussion of morale and contract employees
- 4-statement on union membership by employees that membership and activities in an union for all employees shall not be basis for discrimination by management in the workplace.

I believe I am meeting the notice requirement set out in BBG bylaws.

On another subject, I do not when governance committee is set to meet on October 11 or what its agenda may be. I do not know if RFE audit committee will meet October 11 or not and what its agenda may be.

Victor Ashe

BBG BY-LAWS 2.11 AGENDAS

Where practicable, agendas for regular meetings shall be developed beginning thirty (30) days prior to each meeting and distributed electronically to each Governor at least fourteen (14) days prior to each meeting. The Director of the International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB Director) shall propose agenda items for plenary Board meetings to the Chair based on discussions with individual Governors. Individual Governors may designate specific agenda topics and/or resolutions.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2012 10:48 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

(b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft October BBG Meetings Agenda
To my fellow Governors and staff,

Thanks for sending this schedule. I am very disappointed that my requests listed as item VII in the Governor's briefing are not listed for the public meeting as I had requested them be discussed at the full BBG Board meeting and my request was filed with the deputy general counsel in a timely manner as provided by the bylaws. No

one has the right to move a Governor's request from the Board meeting to the private session. This is directly contrary to my request and I ask that this be adjusted to be included at the BBG meeting. Surely we will abide by our bylaws.

Second, it is virtually unheard of in a setting such as ours to place approval of the minutes from the prior meeting at the end of the agenda. Such action always comes at the first of the meeting and that has been our BBG practice since we all joined the Board on June 30, 2010. Item F on the agenda should be Item A and each renumbered accordingly.

To be honest, this does not appear to be the result of checking with all the Governors. Certainly I was not consulted and I had asked for several items on the discussion list including (b) (6) from the prior meeting which is now missing. While it is good for Gov Lynton to review the proposed agenda, why not consult with all of us first before it is made up and sent out? This would produce a more collegial approach.

Third, given that the day ends at 315 PM in the afternoon, it is now abundantly and sadly clear that the governance committee could have met but for reasons Chairman Mulhaupt has not shared with me, he has decided not to hold the meeting which he said at the Sept 13 full BBG meeting he would hold to deal with issues referred Sept 13 to governance such as unions. Why? The same holds for his decision for the RFE audit committee not to meet that same day due to lack of time. Well, this schedule shows there is time. What is missing is the will to meet and honor the pledge made in mid September in a public setting. There is time from 0730 to 0830 and with planned adjournment at 315 there would be time to meet from 315 to 6 PM if people are willing to work.

In Tennessee, our late Gov Ned McWhertter when he was Speaker of the Tenn House and I was a minority party member under his leadership, he often told the 99 members when some wanted to adjourn early without finishing the days's business the following: "You should not hire out, if you are not willing to work." Enough said.

BBG faces serious issues which are not receiving attention. RFE faces serious programming issues and management style questions not to mention issues involving fiduciary responsibility and the best answer is to dodge discussion of them. Transparency is jettisoned here.

This is not good. It reflects poorly on all. I urge reconsideration and a response. I am back in USA on Wednesday evening and happy to talk to any Governor or anyone else about this.

Victor Ashe

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From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc:

(b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Oct 1, 2012 9:45 am

Subject: Draft October BBG Meetings Agenda

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Please note that a BBG open meeting via webcast is planned in the afternoon from 1:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. EDT.

We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the BBG open meeting.

Thank you.

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Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 12:53 AM

To: Richard M. Lobo

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)

Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

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Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 9:56 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Salvador Blanco (Tv and Radio Marti RIF

this is typical of the emails I am getting on the OCB FLRA lawsuit issue. I wanted to share them with you. This e mail to me does not reflect my personal views which are to learn more about this and hopefully have a serious Board discussion about it all. Millions of tax dollars are at stake here. However, I think it is important you know what is going on relevant to this among people personally impacted.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 10/4/2012 9:51:21 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: (b) (6) (Tv and Radio Marti RIF

October 4, 2012

?

Honorable Ambassador Victor Hashe: Dzie?dobry.

My name is (b) (6). I was a Cuban political prisoner. First of all, I want to commend you on the transparency of your services throughout your professional career. It's a a strong contrast when compared to the practices of the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB) in recent years. "It's no longer hidden. It's not in the closet." It is certainly true in the case of the group of workers of Radio and TV Marti who was expelled in 2009. I'll refer back to this later in my letter.

Since its creation, the fundamental objective of the Voice of America and its sister stations has been to spread truth and objectivity around the world. They have been the voice of the opposition, prisoners of conscience, and an encouragement to all those who suffer repression from dictatorships. These stations reach the corners of the world. They have always forged a fight to relay objective news to the needy, and provide accurate information in places where the media serves as a mouthpiece for oppressive governments. My vote stands true behind short-wave and television signals in countries ruled by dictators. VOA and its sister stations must be present before and after the news strikes. I support the letter of protest of the Russian human rights movement (b) (6), Chairwoman of the Moscow Helsinki Group, for the expulsion of Russians Journalists (Radio Liberty).

Now let me summarize my biography. I was one of the most popular artists from Cuba to have worked for Radio and TV Marti. My popularity in Cuba compares to that of an idol, which infuriated the Castro regime. I ended up serving a three-year prison sentence for my anti-revolutionary ideals (1982-1985). Thanks to French Actor (b) (6) his wife (b) (6) Amnesty International, and French President Francoise Mitterrand, I was liberated

and given political asylum in France. I started working as a free-lancer in Paris. Since then, I have dedicated my exiled life to fight for human rights all over the world. In fact I was a member of the U.S. Delegation for the Human Rights Commission, in Geneva, and worked alongside General Vernon Walters and Ambassador Armando Valladares I've produced and exhibited documentaries for the Human Rights Commission in Geneva, and other programs, geared towards preventing populism in Latin America. In 2005, I started working as an International Broadcaster for TV and Radio Marti. My talent and dedication to its mission earned me excellent reviews. But in 2009 I was expelled during the illegal RIF the agency conducted.

As part of the group RIFed, I would like to express to the Board of Governors that it is in our best intentions to return to our jobs, and work as diligently as ever. We've been suffering for three years, and have won one lawsuit, and the appeal. With each day that passes, not only do we incur more debt, but so does the citizenry of this country with the huge amount of taxpayer dollars spent on this legal process. The case has been published twice in "The Washington Post", "The Miami Herald" and in "El Nuevo Herald". A number of local radio and television stations has also dedicated its airwaves to report on our case. I would like to quote the words of Madame (b) (6) "Reorganization of Radio Liberty work was carried out in a form of 'special operation' that was shameful and abusive for its employees. The KGB could not harm the image of the radio and the United States in Russia as did U.S. managers – the President of the Radio Liberty Steven Korn and the Vice President Julia Ragona." Our case is similar: The reorganization (RIF) of Radio Marti was carried out in a form of "special operation" that was shameful and abusive for its employees. The Cuban KGB, could not harm the image of Radio and TV Marti and the United States in Cuba as did former Director "Pedro Roig," and an incomprehensible lack of support from the current administration of Carlos Garcia, which has not even respected the Priority List, designed to offer us first dibs on employment within OCB.

Your excellency, we know you are in favor of ending this matter. I want to reiterate our good faith to give the best of ourselves to OCB's mission.

Respectfully,

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:16 AM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; Lynne Weil
Cc: Dana Perino; (b) (6) Tara
Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Fw: Letter to BBG from (b) (6)
Attachments: CUSIBMail.png

this is a serious issue which has legs. It is not going away. I look forward to the call tomorrow.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/4/2012 9:54:38 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Got a dozen of these overnight and will in the MidEast. A campaign is well underway. Whats the plan?

I know Dennis has a call teed up fo Friday and i know we need a full response push back here.

Thanks

Michael.

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 08:48 AM

To: (b) (6)

vhashe Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Susan McCue

Dana Perino

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Dennis Mulhaupt

(b) (6)

Michael Meehan

Subject: Letter to BBG from (b) (6)

Dear Governors and Secretary Sonenshine,

Since we have emailed you the letter from (b) (6), she has informed us that 27 of her colleagues attached their signatures to her letter. We include their names here:

(b) (6) letter was signed by former RFE/RL staffers who share the author's opinions (27 signatures):

(b) (6)



The next letter is from former Radio Liberty employee (b) (6).

I am exasperated and confused. I worked with RFE/RL Russian Service for 14 years, and witnessed such a notorious ending!

People, who gave years of hard work to popularize democracy and human rights activism, are caught unawares, and fired one by one in no time.

I remember guards at our beloved RFE/RL Moscow editorial office and frozen eyes of bureaucrats saying "Thank you, we no longer need your service. Here is your compensation, hope you are satisfied."

As time goes by I begin to more fully realize what happened. Seizure, devastation? What will happen to the Radio, what will happen to my colleagues? Will everyone have a knack to stay healthy after such a strike?

Why did RFE/RL top management decide that we can't and don't want to work in a new – multimedia – format?

Everyone knew about the switch to multimedia, and was getting prepared for it. Everyone dreamed of working with new equipment on an updated radio station.

Why were we fired? Still no answer.

Our RFE/RL Moscow bureau team consisted of professionals, who were invited to Radio Svoboda by different directors. Directors changed, and my colleagues carried on doing their job with great talent and honesty.

Many of them, due to their political beliefs and censorship in Russia, will not be able to find jobs in Russian media. Training for a new profession and the unemployment office are awaiting most of us.

(b) (6) [REDACTED], former producer and sound editor in RFE/RL's Moscow bureau

(b) (6) [REDACTED]

(b) (6) [REDACTED]

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:29 AM
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Governor's visit

I regret that due to scheduling I have had to cancel my trip to New York but hope to do it in November or another time when I am near the Big Apple.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 9/24/2012 4:03:53 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

(b) (6)

Bureau Chief

VOA New York

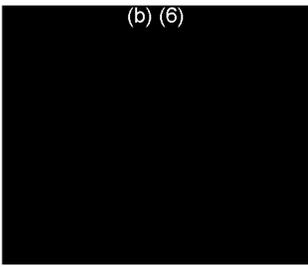
(b) (6)

I hope you are well.

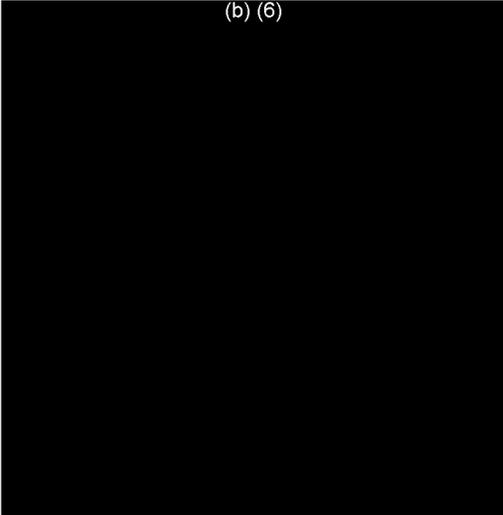
I just spoke with Governor Ashe who would like to visit VOA New York, if possible, on the morning of October 22nd. I copy him here so you can be in direct contact about the details.

Rgds,

(b) (6)



(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2012 8:11 AM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: RIF OCB
Attachments: GovernorAshe-oct-5-12.docx

this is more email I am getting on the lawsuit issue. BBG Board needs a briefing.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 10/5/2012 7:54:23 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: RIF OCB

October 5, 2012

Dear Governor Ashe,

My name is (b) (6), I am one of the people that was affected by the RIF. I write to you with the hope that your involvement in this matter will help me return to my rightful position at the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB) as soon as possible.

It has been almost three years of much pain and suffering for my family and me. I am hopeful that I may once again return to work and do what I love doing. I wish nothing more than to have my life return to normalcy.

As you know the Agency has now definitively lost the arbitration and appeal to the FLRA, yet they continue to prolong the anguish of the 16 RIFed employees. The uncertainty and the fact that I have not been able to provide for my family has been extremely painful. I know that you have asked the Agency what they intend to do. Now that the appeal has been lost, I hope that you may once again ask and continue to ask until you receive a concrete answer from General Council.

I sincerely thank you for your time and attention. May God continue to bless you and your family.

Respectfully,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 07, 2012 12:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Town Hall meeting

Lynne and Jeff

Since the Town Hall meeting at Cohen is not being held this next week as tentatively planned when do you anticipate one being held as I am told Cohen Bldg employees look forward to the outreach this represents?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 8:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: change official

thanks much. If they cannot come then, what happens? Meet as planned originally. I will be there all day on Thursday if necessary.

Victor

In a message dated 10/9/2012 8:34:05 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

Awaiting word from Susan and Tara.

Will let you know ASAP.

Dick
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: <Vhashe@aol.com>
Date: Tue, 9 Oct 2012 19:15:44 -0400
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: change official

is the meeting time change now official?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 7:04 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil
Cc: Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Town Hall meeting

Yes I will raise it. I know you are happy to make it work. But we must commit to do it.

Victor

In a message dated 10/9/2012 6:37:07 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor, greetings. We are prepared to facilitate a Town Hall meeting whenever the Board chooses to have one, given factors such as the availability of Governors to participate and how it would fit into the tight timing of Board meeting days.

You might raise this with the Governors this week; we'll be guided by whatever you all decide.

Hope you had a good trip to Georgia – incredibly exciting, dynamic situation there.

Regards

Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, October 07, 2012 12:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Town Hall meeting

Lynne and Jeff

Since the Town Hall meeting at Cohen is not being held this next week as tentatively planned when do you anticipate one being held as I am told Cohen Bldg employees look forward to the outreach this represents?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 6:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: proposed briefing prior to Thursday's Board meeting

thanks. call me at (b) (6) .if for some reason it does not work then try the cell phone at (b) (6)

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/9/2012 4:00:24 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe -- Thank you for your prompt reply. (b) (6) and I will call you at 3 pm tomorrow. What is the best number to reach you? Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 3:09 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: proposed briefing prior to Thursday's Board meeting

this is most helpful and I appreciate it. Let's plan on it tomorrow Wed...I can do it from 245 PM to 445 PM

or at 1040 to 1120 I have out patient therapy tomorrow morning and a luncheon with Senator Alexander.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Oct 9, 2012 12:30 pm
Subject: proposed briefing prior to Thursday's Board meeting

Dear Governor Ashe:

If you are interested, we would be pleased to brief you in advance of Thursday's meeting on the current status of several issues that you have raised: the OCB RIF, the Gallup contract, and the proposed policy on discrimination against Union activity.

If this is of interest, please send me a range of times when you might be available this afternoon and tomorrow.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 6:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from IBB Director Lobo RE October Board Meeting

I will be there but again I feel we are not doing the work we signed up for. I do not enjoy saying this but we need to have a governance committee meeting. There are important topics to discuss in the morning which will not be discussed. RFE audit committee needs to meet.

Will we have a two day meeting in November?

Victor ashe

In a message dated 10/9/2012 4:10:00 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

It appears a few Governors have new scheduling conflicts this Thursday, October 11, and will require moving the meetings to the morning.

After consulting with Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt, they suggest that the Board meet this Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in Governors' Briefing which would include an OIG briefing with the Governors only, and hold the BBG open meeting from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There will be no meetings after 11:30 a.m. Also, the strategy and budget briefing is being postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date at Governor Meehan's request.

In order to ensure a quorum for the BBG open meeting, please advise us of your availability from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. by COB today.

With your input, we will amend the Federal Register notice for the BBG open meeting in order to maximize notice to the public.

Dick

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 3:23 PM
To: (b) (6); Dana Perino; (b) (6)
(b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Foe BBG Board mtg - Russia/FM - why can't USG install RFE/radio transmitters on US Emb/Consulate properties (Moscow, St. Pete, Yekat, etc?)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

all good points. This is being driven by (b) (6) and his immediate group in Prague. It has certainly generated public discussion in a way I never realized and we need to revisit it in my opinion.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Tara Sonenshine (b) (6); Dana Perino (b) (6); Michael Meehar (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Michael Lynton (b) (6); Sue McCue (b) (6); Jeff Trimble (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Oct 9, 2012 2:01 pm
Subject: Foe BBG Board mtg - Russia/FM - why can't USG install RFE/radio transmitters on US Emb/Consulate properties (Moscow, St. Pete, Yekat, etc?)

Has USG ever done this in other non-permissive environments?

What about using/building transmitters in Finland or using facilities in Baltics that we are using for Belarus service?

With USAID having been kicked out of Russia, the RFE situation only make US look weaker.

Will the Board seek to have RT blocked in USA in retribution?

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 3:09 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: proposed briefing prior to Thursday's Board meeting

this is most helpful and I appreciate it. Let's plan on it tomorrow Wed...I can do it from 245 PM to 445 PM

or at 1040 to 1120 I have out patient therapy tomorrow morning and a luncheon with Senator Alexander.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Oct 9, 2012 12:30 pm

Subject: proposed briefing prior to Thursday's Board meeting

Dear Governor Ashe:

If you are interested, we would be pleased to brief you in advance of Thursday's meeting on the current status of several issues that you have raised: the OCB RIF, the Gallup contract, and the proposed policy on discrimination against Union activity.

If this is of interest, please send me a range of times when you might be available this afternoon and tomorrow.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 6:18 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble;(b) (6)
Subject: Re: change official

Hopefully it works out. We need to meet as this does not make us look very good. Victor

In a message dated 10/9/2012 9:38:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
We'll huddle in the morning and see what develops.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 9, 2012, at 8:41 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:
thanks much. If they cannot come then, what happens? Meet as planned
originally. I will be there all day on Thursday if necessary.

Victor

In a message dated 10/9/2012 8:34:05 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time,
(b) (6) writes:
Victor,

Awaiting word from Susan and Tara.

Will let you know ASAP.

Dick
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: <Vhashe@aol.com>
Date: Tue, 9 Oct 2012 19:15:44 -0400
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: change official

is the meeting time change now official?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 6:40 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom

thanks for your call and action you plan on taking. Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letitia King (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Oct 11, 2012 6:12 pm
Subject: RE: BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom
Hello, Victor –

I'm on a conference call with the State Department. Will call you soon. S (b) (6) ?

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 6:09 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom

I would like to discuss a statement here which is inaccurate as it relates to me. I would appreciate being called.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Letitia King (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Oct 11, 2012 5:16 pm
Subject: BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom
Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

BBG Condemns Jamming,
Intimidation as Threats to Media
Freedom
October 11, 2012

Michael Lynton

The Broadcasting Board of Governors today expressed its enduring outrage over persistent attempts to stifle the free flow of news and information through satellite jamming, intimidation and the detention of journalists in Iran, Syria, Cambodia, Ethiopia and elsewhere.

During the BBG's Oct. 11 meeting, Presiding Governor Michael Lynton condemned the jamming of BBG satellite signals in Iran and said BBG journalists are encountering new impediments to free reporting almost daily.

"Just yesterday, Radio Free Asia and Voice of America reporters were summoned to a meeting with officials in a blatant attempt to discourage objective reporting on the Cambodian government," Lynton said. As reported by Reuters, AFP and others, RFA and VOA...are among the few radio stations in Cambodia considered free of government influence."

The Board also expressed concern about the cases of Marthe van der Wolf, a VOA reporter in Ethiopia who was forced by local police to erase recordings of a protest rally, and Gulnur Raqifqizi Kazimova, a Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) freelancer who was prohibited from taking pictures in Azerbaijan.

Members of the Board renewed their condemnation of recent illegal jamming of BBG Persian broadcasts to Iran that also affected many other BBG radio and TV programs around the globe, including broadcasts in Arabic, Georgian, Armenian, Bosnian, and Korean.

"The Board calls on Iran to cease disrupting broadcast signals, and to respect the well-established international agreements that prohibit jamming," Lynton said.

The Board also noted that Monday marked 50 days since the capture of Alhurra TV journalist Bashar Fahmi and his cameraman Cüneyt Ünal in Syria, and renewed its demand that the pair be released.

Fahmi and Ünal were last heard from on August 20, when they were reporting from Aleppo, Syria. On August 26th, Ünal appeared on Syrian television, but the Syrian government said it has no information on Fahmi.

Lynton spoke at length of recent Russian legislative steps that have imposed restrictions on freedom of expression, including a law that is forcing RFE/RL programs off of the organization's last AM affiliate in Moscow. He noted, "This board strongly objects to the tightening stranglehold on the free flow of information taking place today in Russia." Lynton reiterated Governors' support for Steve Korn's leadership of RFE/RL in its efforts throughout the region.

The BBG recognized the David Burke Distinguished Journalism Awards winners. This year's winners are: Mukarram Khan Aatif of the VOA's Deewa Radio; Karen Caballero of Radio and TV Martí; Sailab Mahsud of RFE/RL's Radio Mashaal; RFA's Korean Service; and Mohamed Moawad and Lamia Rezgü Bouroгаа of the Middle East Broadcasting Networks' Radio Sawa.

Several events at the meeting honored the legacy and ongoing work of the Voice of America.

Gov. Susan McCue honors Leo Sarkisian, standing Board members enjoyed a presentation honoring VOA Ethnomusicologist Leo Sarkisian, the creator of Music Time in Africa, VOA's oldest English-language music program. They presented a resolution expressing the agency's appreciation to Sarkisian, who retired recently after a career that spanned more

than half a century and took him to every country in Africa.

The Board also recognized the 20th anniversary of VOA's Kurdish Service and the 50th anniversary of its Swahili Service.

Discussion at the meeting included the BBG's expanded broadcasting reach in China via the Telstar satellite and other developments intended to modernize and extend the reach of the agency and its media worldwide.

Public documents related to this meeting will be posted here, and video of this meeting will be available on-demand shortly.

For more information, please call the BBG's Office of Public Affairs at 202-203-4400, or e-mail publicaffairs@bbg.gov.

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The Broadcasting Board of Governors is an independent federal agency, supervising all U.S. government-supported, civilian international broadcasting, whose mission is to inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy. BBG broadcasts reach an audience of 187 million in 100 countries. BBG broadcasting organizations include the Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa), Radio Free Asia, and the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (Radio and TV Marti).

BBG | 330 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20237 | 202.203.4400

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Broadcasting Board of Governors | 330 Independence Ave., SW | Washington | DC | 20237

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 5:31 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

Glad you can call in for the afternoon portion if it happens. Seems to me we can make this work. We look bad as a Board if this meeting falls apart.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/16/2012 5:26:33 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

with regrets, i cannot make it on nov 15. i can call in in the afternoon.

On Oct 16, 2012, at 3:52 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in November.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board in December 2011, the Board is scheduled to meet on November 15 and 16, and the meeting will be held at RFA headquarters.

Because Presiding Governor Lynton cannot attend the November Board meeting, Alternate Presiding Governor Mulhaupt has suggested that all BBG-related meetings to take place on Thursday, November 15, at RFA headquarters. No meetings will be scheduled on Friday, November 16.

In the event that the Board cannot achieve a quorum for a meeting on November 15, even by phone or videoconference, the Board will need to decide whether to meet in December as it is currently scheduled as an optional meeting on December 13 and 14. (The next scheduled meeting after December is February 21-22, 2013.)

Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

susan mccue | message-global | (b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 4:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

I should point out that the Board as a Board has voted to meet November 15. Only a Board vote can cancel what the Board has voted to do. If it appears a quorum is not present and some wish to cancel the November 15-16 meeting, then a called Board meeting or a notational vote is needed to cancel the meeting. This decision cannot be arrived at informally or by the IBB Director with one or two Governors concurring with him. I urge Governors to consider an alternative date if the 15th and 16th do not work. I could attend earlier in the week or come Nov 19 or 20 if that worked. That too requires a Board vote.

Who is going to be our new interim replacement for (b) (6) ?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/16/2012 4:00:01 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in November.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board in December 2011, the Board is scheduled to meet on November 15 and 16, and the meeting will be held at RFA headquarters.

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In the event that the Board cannot achieve a quorum for a meeting on November 15, even by phone or videoconference, the Board will need to decide whether to meet in December as it is currently scheduled as an optional meeting on December 13 and 14. (The next scheduled meeting after December is February 21-22, 2013.)

Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 4:06 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

I am available. If the full BBG board cannot meet due to 5 persons not being present (I assume Lynton cannot even attend by phone?)

However, the RFA Board can meet with 4 members present which is a quorum for RFA and Governance can meet if Ashe, McCue and Mulhaupt are present. I hope these groups will meet even if BBG lacks 5 persons for its quorum. Governance has failed to meet now since May..almost five months. RFE audit has not met for months either. MBN may need to meet as well.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/16/2012 4:00:01 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in November.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board in December 2011, the Board is scheduled to meet on November 15 and 16, and the meeting will be held at RFA headquarters.

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Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2012 4:48 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: OGC Report
Attachments: OGCRReport.doc

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I look forward to additional information and responses to these questions. I personally feel this should be presented in either open or closed session to BBG Governors. I am afraid this may not be read and digested by all Governors.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)

Sent: 10/16/2012 1:03:30 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: OGC Report

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a report from the Office of General Counsel containing highlights of activities for the period July to September 2012.

Please contact (b) (6) with questions.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 9:32 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: OGC Report

thanks very much. (b) (6) is out of the office today as well Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Oct 18, 2012 9:05 am
Subject: Re: Fwd: OGC Report

Dear Governor Ashe -- I appreciate your email. I am out of the office today and will respond to your questions when I return tomorrow. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2012 4:47:49 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: OGC Report

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Please contact (b) (6) with questions.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 10:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

not at all Victor

In a message dated 10/19/2012 6:47:23 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

i can dial in at 3 pm - is that too late?

On Oct 19, 2012, at 5:03 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

There will also be an MBN audit committee meeting that day. All Governors are welcome to attend but only Susan McCue and I are members. We will work out a time when Gov. McCue can participate. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/18/2012 10:45:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

We need to have a board meeting of RFA and MBN on Nov. 15th. Will the staff make the proper notifications to the public and other sources.

thank you.

Michael Meehan

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

From: "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com>

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 5:31 PM

Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

Glad you can call in for the afternoon portion if it happens. Seems to me we can make this work. We look bad as a Board if this meeting falls apart.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/16/2012 5:26:33 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

with regrets, i cannot make it on nov 15. i can call in in the afternoon.

On Oct 16, 2012, at 3:52 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in November.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board in December 2011, the Board is scheduled to meet on November 15 and 16, and the meeting will be held at RFA headquarters.

Because Presiding Governor Lynton cannot attend the November Board meeting, Alternate Presiding Governor Mulhaupt has suggested that all BBG-related meetings to take place on Thursday, November 15, at RFA headquarters. No meetings will be scheduled on Friday, November 16.

In the event that the Board cannot achieve a quorum for a meeting on November 15, even by phone or videoconference, the Board will need to decide whether to meet in December as it is currently scheduled as an optional meeting on December 13 and 14. (The next scheduled meeting after December is February 21-22, 2013.)

Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

susan mccue | message-global | (b) (6)

susan mccue | message-global | (b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 5:03 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

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susan mccue | message-global | (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 9:16 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
(b) (6); Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Deputy General Counsel - FLRA Decision RE Non-U.S. Citizen H...

I understand it impacts non citizens and we need to have a full discussion on this too.

Victor

In a message dated 10/23/2012 7:20:16 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

Please take a minute to read the email carefully. This has nothing to do with the OCB RIF case.

Dick Lobo
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: (b) (6)
Date: Tue, 23 Oct 2012 19:05:28 -0400
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from Deputy General Counsel - FLRA Decision RE Non-U.S. Citizen Hiring

This really requires a BBG briefing and meeting...not simply an e mail that we all acquiesce to ...I would like to hear the arguments on both sides. I am surprised my friends and colleagues on this Board are not seeking more information on this. If BBG loses this appeal, the price tag just escalated by millions. Only a few weeks ago, I asked what the current cost to settle is and what the potential cost would be. There has not been an answer to this.

I really worry that we are not meeting our fiduciary duties here with absolutely no discussion of this latest development. Has Mr Lobo conferred with the White House or Labor Dept. on this? I want this placed on the agenda for November 15 BBG meeting for a full review.

Does (b) (6) agree with this? was he part of the decision making process? Who did Mr Lobo consult besides (b) (6) ?

Please record me as not agreeing to this recommendation pending the receipt of further information and dialogue. Morale at VOA/OCB is at a low and this action will not help improve the situation.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble

(b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Oct 23, 2012 6:10 pm

(b) (5)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 7:05 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
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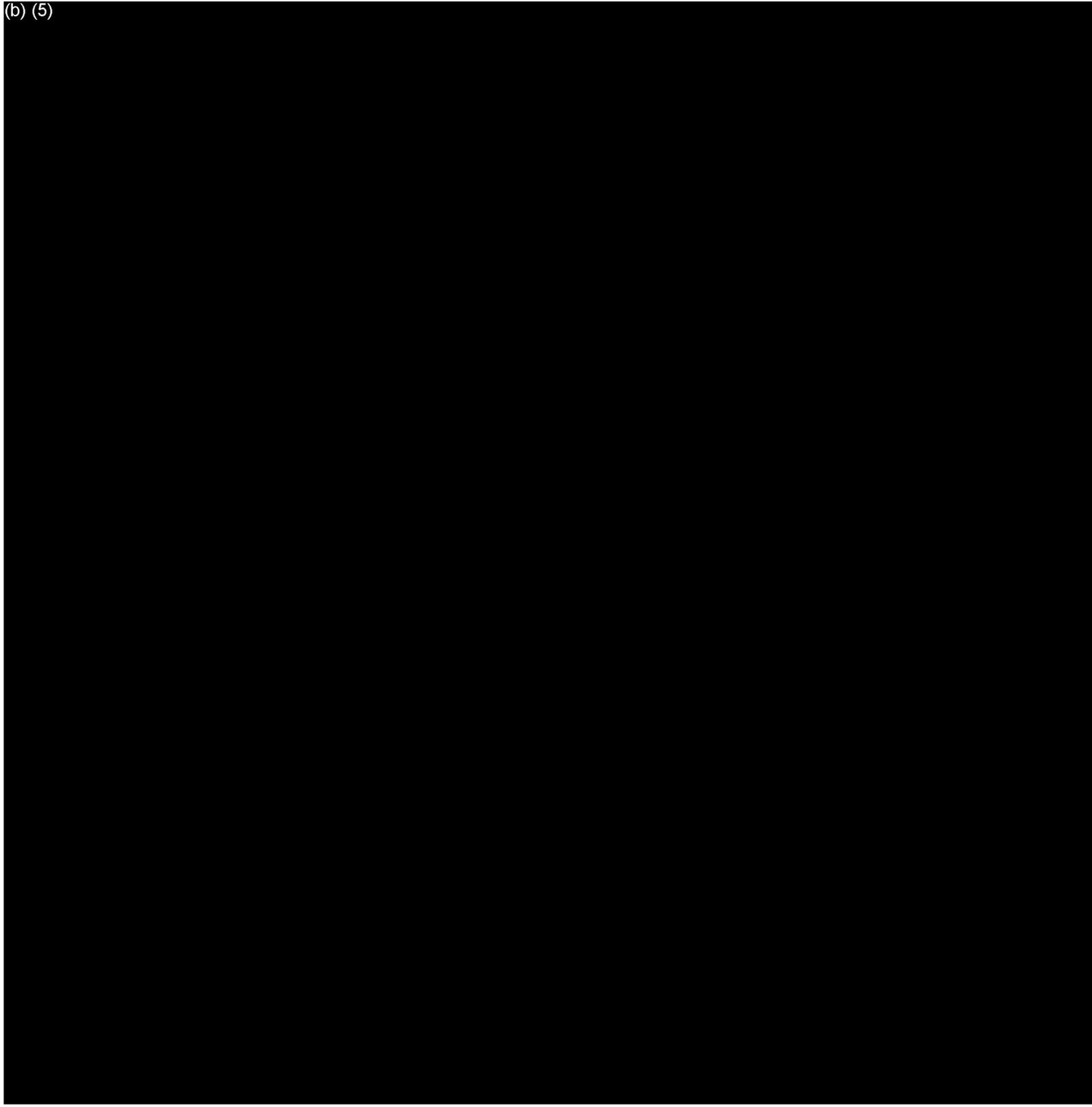
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Subject: Message from Deputy General Counsel - FLRA Decision RE Non-U.S. Citizen Hiring

(b) (5)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 8:42 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: OGC Report

No problem. Thanks for the response. I just did not want to let it lapse too long. Part of the request is for a document.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/24/2012 8:41:19 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor -- I apologize for the delay in responding to you. I will try to get back to you later today or tomorrow.
Thanks (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 8:09:45 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: OGC Report

Dear (b) (6)

Your e mail of October 18 indicated you would respond to my questions on October 19. My questions were the result of the quarterly report from your office sent to all BBG Board members wherein you asked us to feel free to submit questions if we had any. I did have some and submitted them to you.

It is now October 24 and the responses have not been received. I understand you have been busy with the non citizen issue from FLRA and other matters. However, I am writing to ascertain when I might expect a response to the inquiries I submitted on October 18 and you said would be answered on October 19. I am happy to discuss them with you as well.

Sincerely yours

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/18/2012 10:46:27 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Yes. We are having our annual OGC offsite today.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 9:32:03 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: OGC Report

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To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 3:36 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Fw: BBG Legal Opinion to GAO on Statutory Requirements RE Duplication and...

What is the reason for stamping on each page that this is for Governor Ashe? Is there is a reason(which I assume there is) then spell it out and tell me. No where does it say it is covered under attorney client privilege. If so please indicate now and in the future. Can I share it with others or not?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/25/2012 11:36:33 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
Governor Ashe -- Per your request, the GAO legal opinion is attached. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 11:05:14 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: BBG Legal Opinion to GAO on Statutory Requirements RE Duplication and Overlap
(b) (6)

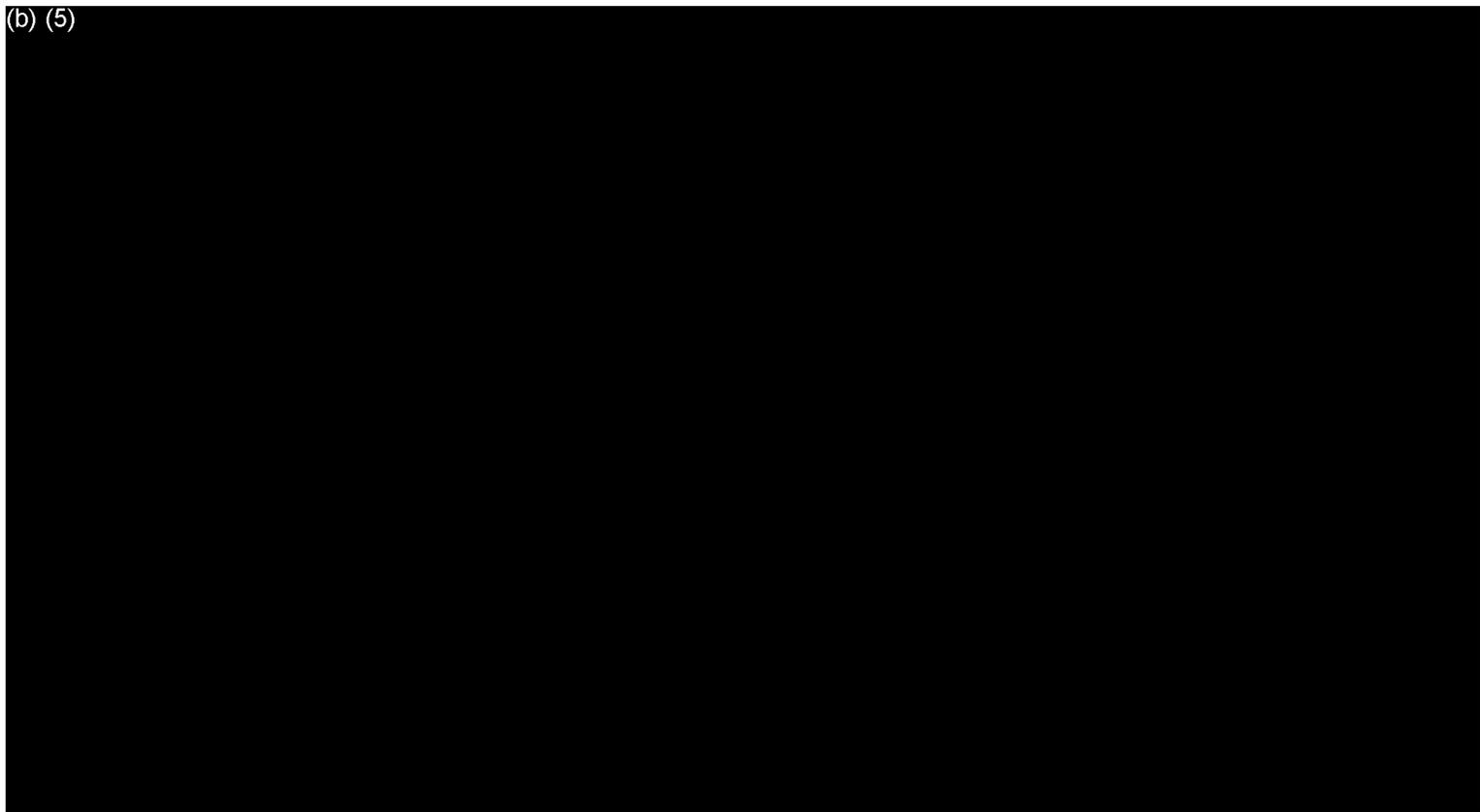
Attached is the BBG legal opinion to the GAO regarding duplication and overlap.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, October 26, 2012 8:08 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Fw: BBG Legal Opinion to GAO on Statutory Requirements RE Duplication and...

Thanks for this explanation. I do feel as a matter of courtesy you should share it with the general counsels of the three entities. RFERL has an interim or acting general counsel at present. This could be done with the proviso you outlined.

Victor Ashe

(b) (5)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 3:35:37 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Fw: BBG Legal Opinion to GAO on Statutory Requirements RE Duplication and...
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To: (b) (6)

Subject: BBG Legal Opinion to GAO on Statutory Requirements RE Duplication and
Overlap

(b) (6)

Attached is the BBG legal opinion to the GAO regarding duplication and overlap.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 27, 2012 11:49 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: (b) (6)

Dick

This coming week is (b) (6) last week with BBG as CFO. I wonder if you have made a decision on who will be the acting or interim replacement for her.

What is the formal process for replacing her? Will it be advertised? Please let me know the time frame.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 27, 2012 11:46 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6); Tara
Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Subject: Tonw Hall meeting

I am e mailing to voice the hope that a Town Hall meeting which has not occurred so far in 2012 will occur on November 15. It had been planned for our October 11 meeting but that meeting was reduced to half a day when presiding Governor Lynton's schedule required him to depart a little before noon for a luncheon in Washington. Our September meeting was cut short as well due to some Board members departing for evening events.

This event is always looked forward to each year by employees in the Cohen Bldg and it offers Board members a chance to hear concerns from employees on an annual basis.

I realize that the November meeting is questionable since Gov. Lynton is in Japan and cannot attend in person or by phone. Gov. McCue must participate by phone. However, even if less than 5 Governors are present for a Town Hall meeting it sends a strong signal of interest and concern to employees. If we miss November then I fear we will miss December and 2012 passes without a Town Hall meeting at all and our first 2013 meeting is not until February.

Hope it works out.

Victor Ashe,

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 27, 2012 11:17 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6);
(b) (6); Tara Sonenshine
Subject: Re: Tune in on this week's networking event

You indicated in a recent e mail that GSA is no longer in discussions with L88 for possible purchase of the Cohen Bldg. How was BBG advised of this? Orally or by letter/e mail? any reason given as to why discussions are ended. Are discussions terminated or simply suspended?

My concern was and is that this was not opened up to all interested parties to compete. It seemed most unusual if not illegal (at least in Knoxville where I was Mayor such a deal would have been illegal without open competition). My question is whether this is temporarily concluded or actually terminated.

Where does this place possible renovations to the Cohen Bldg?

I hope the Storm does not halt BBG operations.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/27/2012 9:14:55 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Justnfyi

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Date: October 26, 2012 5:51:06 PM EDT
To: Letitia King (b) (6)

Cc: "Richard M. Lobo" (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Subject: Tune in on this week's networking event

Thank you, (b) (6)

Folks, here's the link <<http://bbgtunein.blogspot.com/2012/10/october-networking-event.html>> to an item that was posted today on Tune In. And for those reading on mobile devices, the photos are here <<http://www.flickr.com/photos/43883181@N06/8124959189/in/set-72157631857419983/>> and the text is below.

Thought you'd appreciate seeing these items now in case you're prevented from checking them out on an agency desktop computer on Monday with the arrival of Frankenstorm, which is shaping up to be a real Halloween party-pooper.

Lynne

October Networking Event

There was a great turnout for this week's networking event, sponsored by the BBG Office of Communications and External Affairs. From 9:00am to 10:00am on October 25, the first floor of the Cohen Building was filled with people gathering to chat with colleagues from around the building and to eat a delicious array of autumnal-themed breakfast treats.

This event is the latest in a series of monthly networking events, jointly sponsored by VOA/IBB/BBG. These events started as a grassroots effort by (b) (6) who continue to organize the gatherings. They are a great way to participate, and connect with colleagues across the organization in a low-key setting!

Each month the event is sponsored by a different group from around the building. Stay tuned for more details on November's event, which will be sponsored by the CFC team. Does your office want to sponsor a future month?

Contact (b) (6)

to find out how!

From: Lynne Weil

Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 10:56 AM

To: Letitia King; (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Our fun networking event -- Thursday, Oct. 25

Colleagues,

Thanks so much to all who took part in today's festivities – from planning to baking to set-up to bringing in those decorative flourishes that made it a unique, seasonal event.

The financial contributions were put to full use; thanks to your generosity, we attracted a big, lively crowd and gave them something to sip and nosh on while enjoying one another's company.

A number of people on the spot, as well as a few others in the halls, said this event was a great success. I told each and every one that I feel immensely lucky to be part of such a terrific team.

For those who were unable to attend: We missed you, but you didn't miss out entirely. There will be a recap of the action on Tune In soon!

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 2:26 PM
To: Letitia King; (b) (6)

Subject: Our fun networking event -- Thursday, Oct. 25

Colleagues,

The agency networking event that we've volunteered to host - at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 25 - is a week away! (b) (6) Tish and I suggest a seasonal/autumn theme that allows for a bit of spooky creativity should anyone like to give a nod to Halloween.

We're looking to keep the logistics simple. We'll serve cider and other items that can be purchased in advance - a provisional list and cost estimate will be assembled over the weekend. Meantime, if there is a specialty item that you'd like to make at home, please say the word and we'll factor that in. The personal touch is always welcome at events like this, but certainly not mandatory.

Additionally, if you have decorative items at home that you'd like to bring to sit atop the refreshment tables or nearby, let us know. Better to use those than to take the time to create something new for these couple of hours. We'll be gathering in the same space as previous networking events: just off the main hallway, outside the auditorium.

Set-up will start at 8 a.m. on Thursday, but not everyone will be needed for that. However, please plan to be on hand to assist and participate in the event. I'll be doing the Costco run on the previous night. Contributions at whatever level you can afford will be welcome - Tuleda and Tish will handle the collections among their respective teams.

Many thanks,

Lynne

Lynne Weil

Director of Communications and External Affairs <<http://www.bbg.gov/about-the-agency/senior-management/lynne-weil-director-of-communications-and-external-affairs/>>

Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 11:57 PM
To: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Correct

Your opinion does not answer the question of whether he can also vote on issues. While you opine that this counts towards a quorum can this person also vote and attend Governors only briefings? Also who does the written opinion come from at State? Who must sign it to make it valid? I think it is important for you to issue a formal opinion on this to place in the minutes for the November 15 BBG meeting.

I am not trying to be argumentative but rather precise in terms of dotting the i's and crossing the t's.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/28/2012 11:51:21 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe -- The duly authorized representative of the Secretary of State has always counted toward the quorum requirement. This is clearly consistent with the International Broadcasting Act.

You are correct that there should be a written delegation in accordance with State Department rules. If the State Department were to issue a delegation of authority to (b) (6) (in accordance with State's rules) allowing him to represent the Secretary of State at this meeting, then his presence would count toward the quorum. This is entirely consistent with BBG practice.

By the way, my opinion is not based on convenience, but on a review of the provisions of the International Broadcasting Act and the existing delegation of authority from the Secretary of State to the Undersecretary of State for Public Diplomacy. I would be happy to review the relevant parts of the statute with you if that would be helpful.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:45:52 PM
To: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Correct

Frankly, if your opinion is correct it would make life easier in getting a quorum. However, making life easier is not the standard we act on. It must be whether it is legal or not and how it comports with past practice and precedent. State needs to weigh in on this which I assume Secretary Sonenshine can get to happen.

However, for the two years and 4 months I have been here, the representative of the Under Secretary has neither voted or counted towards a quorum. He/she is the representative of the representative of the Secretary who is a BBG member by law. It seems to me the Secretary must designate the representative as she has designated Sec. Sonenshine. A different representative cannot be named by Sec. Sonenshine but must be named by Sec. Clinton.

This is relevant as it applies to the three entities too. However a quorum there is 4 persons not 5 persons as it a majority of the existing members which is 7. BBG quorum is 5 as it is a majority of the 9 members.

I am not trying to make life difficult but rather assure we act by the rules and laws enacted by Congress. We cannot have legal opinions based on convenience but on the law. I am not suggesting this is based on convenience. State needs a written document here and there is time to secure it. It also sets a precedent for the future. Let the record show that Sec. Sonenshine is an able and effective Board member who participates fully when she is there.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/28/2012 6:28:51 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

If (b) (6) has a delegation of authority -- valid according to State Department rules -- stating that he can represent the Secretary of State on the Board, he will count toward a quorum. Undersecretary Sonenshine also has such a delegation of authority. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 2:56:25 PM
To: Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Correct

While we are happy to have him, he does NOT count towards a quorum unless the Secretary of State sends a letter designating him or someone else who is present as her representative for that specific meeting....perhaps that can happen. I am copying (b) (6) deputy general counsel on this.

We are close to NOT having a quorum.

Victor

In a message dated 10/28/2012 1:32:32 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

(b) (6) will represent me.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:46 PM
To: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Correct

Frankly, if your opinion is correct it would make life easier in getting a quorum. However, making life easier is not the standard we act on. It must be whether it is legal or not and how it comports with past practice and precedent. State needs to weigh in on this which I assume Secretary Sonenshine can get to happen.

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Victor Ashe

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 2:56:25 PM
To: Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Correct

While we are happy to have him, he does NOT count towards a quorum unless the Secretary of State sends a letter designating him or someone else who is present as her representative for that specific meeting....perhaps that can happen. I am copying (b) (6), deputy general counsel on this.

We are close to NOT having a quorum.

Victor

In a message dated 10/28/2012 1:32:32 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

(b) (6) will represent me.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:01 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting on November 1

looks good to me. I am pleased that The Russia strategy inon the agenda and hopefully, (b) (6) will be on as well as (b) (6) from Moscow. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/28/2012 4:43:48 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Strategy & Budget Committee members,

Attached please find a proposed agenda for the Strategy and Budget Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, November 1, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. EDT. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Meehan.

Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the agenda.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 11:29 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: must cancel on Nov 1

a November 15 meeting is looking less likely if Sonenshire is in Japan on November 14 along with Gov Lynton for different reasons...Perhaps Perino and McCue can call in to make a quorum. or will this meeting go to December???

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe@aol.com, (b) (6)
Sent: 10/28/2012 11:23:37 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Re: must cancel on Nov 1

I will be in Japan that week. Hope to see you next visit.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 10:29 AM
To: (b) (6) Sonenshire, Tara D
Subject: must cancel on Nov 1

Due to a strategy and Budget meeting on November 1 at 1000, I must cancel the 1000 meeting with Sec Sonenshire which I regret. Could we re schedule it for November 14?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2012 1:50 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Letter from (b) (6) Regarding RFA Lao Service

courtesy would suggest this also be sent to (b) (6) Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/31/2012 1:11:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

The attached letter from (b) (6) addressed to the Board arrived in the office today. This letter is very similar to the one you received last week from (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 02, 2012 8:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg by Phone on November 8, 2012

good...were you called about this before hand or not?

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

From: Susan McCue (b) (6) >
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Nov 2, 2012 3:02 pm
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg by Phone on November 8, 2012

yes, i can call in or come in person for governance on the 8th.

On Nov 2, 2012, at 5:40 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

there is no plan here for the CEO. Who made the decision to call this meeting without asking me as one member if I could participate or not? Who called around? Dennis Mulhaupt tell me that he assumed (wrongly as it turns out) that I was contacted? Dennis also says this is a discussion meeting with no decisions to be made.

Dick Lobo, did you know about this or Jeff Trimble? Have Govs. McCue and Lynton said they can call in?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Nov 2, 2012 12:12 pm
Subject: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg by Phone on November 8, 2012

Dear Governance Committee Members,

Attached please find a draft agenda for a telephonic meeting of the Governance Committee to be held on Thursday, November 8, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Mulhaupt.

Given the short window in which Committee members can meet, the Committee will consider the IBB Director's plan for the creation of a CEO as directed by the Board at its September 2012 meeting.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 11:06 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara
Sonenshine; (b) (6) Dana Perino;
(b) (6) Richard M. Lobo;
Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

I think we should develop a method by which this can be accommodated. If the BBG meetings are public then it should not be hard to let interested citizens who pay for BBG speak. There should be a time limit. Five minutes seems reasonable per person with a requirement to sign up on a first come basis. Other federal agencies do this. I do not think it would be difficult and would send positive signals as to our interest in hearing from not just employees but citizens in general. My experience with this over the years has been positive.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara
Sonenshine (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; susan (b) (6)
Dana Perino (b) (6) Michael Meehan (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Nov 30, 2012 10:30 am
Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting
Hello, (b) (6)

Thank you for the additional information, which will further inform the discussion.

As indicated below, the choice was not mine alone and involved consultation with Board leadership. Now that all of the Governors have been engaged on the matter, I'll be back in touch with you on their decision when it is made.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 10:17 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Dana Perino; Michael Meehan; (b) (6) Jeff Shell
Subject: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynn:

What a shame. If the BBG invites the public, why not allow for comment? Are there any specific rules within the BBG that prevent public comments at meetings?

Here are some links to show that the public's verbal comments are welcome at other federal agency meetings.

This is a link to the meeting regulations for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission:
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/brochures/br0297/br0297.pdf>

This is a link to a meeting announcement for Department of Health and Human Services Meeting of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS:
<http://aids.gov/federal-resources/pacha/meetings/2010/june-2010-meeting-notice.pdf>

It's my understanding that one benefit of the Sunshine Act was so that government wouldn't hold "closed door, we're not doing anything good and we don't want anyone to know that" type meetings.

I'd like to request the proper channels through which I can appeal your decision to deny a 3-minute comment at the BBG's December 14, 2012 Full Board Meeting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:
Date: Thu, 29 Nov 2012 18:01:54 +0000
Dear (b) (6)

Thanks again for your ongoing interest in US international broadcasting.

Sorry it took a little while to get back to you, but since the request from a member of the public to make remarks at the open meeting has no precedent that anyone here is aware of, I needed to check with several people, including Board leadership.

Unfortunately, the press of regular business at open Board meetings does not leave time for speaking requests from the public. There is an opportunity at periodic "town hall" type meetings. This board has held one such meeting and is working to identify the next available date.

When the notice is posted for the Board's December 14 open meeting in keeping with the Government in the Sunshine Act, there will be the usual opportunity for members of the public to attend as observers on a first-come, first-served basis. As a courtesy, I will flag the notice for your attention when BBG Public Affairs posts it. As you know, members of the public are invited to observe at these meetings.

If you have input you'd like to offer, I'm happy to facilitate that with the Board.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 11:21 AM

To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:

Good morning, (b) (6)

I've received your request and am checking on the process from this end. I hope to get back to you by the end of the day.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 9:01 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject:

Dear Lynne:

This is a request to attend and to speak for 3 minutes at the upcoming BBG Full Board Meeting on December 14, 2012.

Please let me know how to proceed with this request or to whom else I should direct this request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 5:27 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine;

(b) (6); Dana Perino; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I think an update is in order since we last discussed it in October or perhaps it was September...not sure exactly,

Victor

In a message dated 11/29/2012 5:23:04 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

We would be happy to discuss BBG research/Gallup issues further, in private, if the Board leadership wishes.

As to why the OIG at State is taking so long I cannot answer.

Dick Lobo

On Thu, Nov 29, 2012 at 5:05 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

I think we should discuss this in private when we meet on December 13-14. I am surprised the OIG inquiry may take another 3 to 4 months when it already has had it for two months and I was told at the start it would be 2 to 3 months but now appears to be 4 to 6 months...why is the time period doubled?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/29/2012 3:58:21 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Govenors,

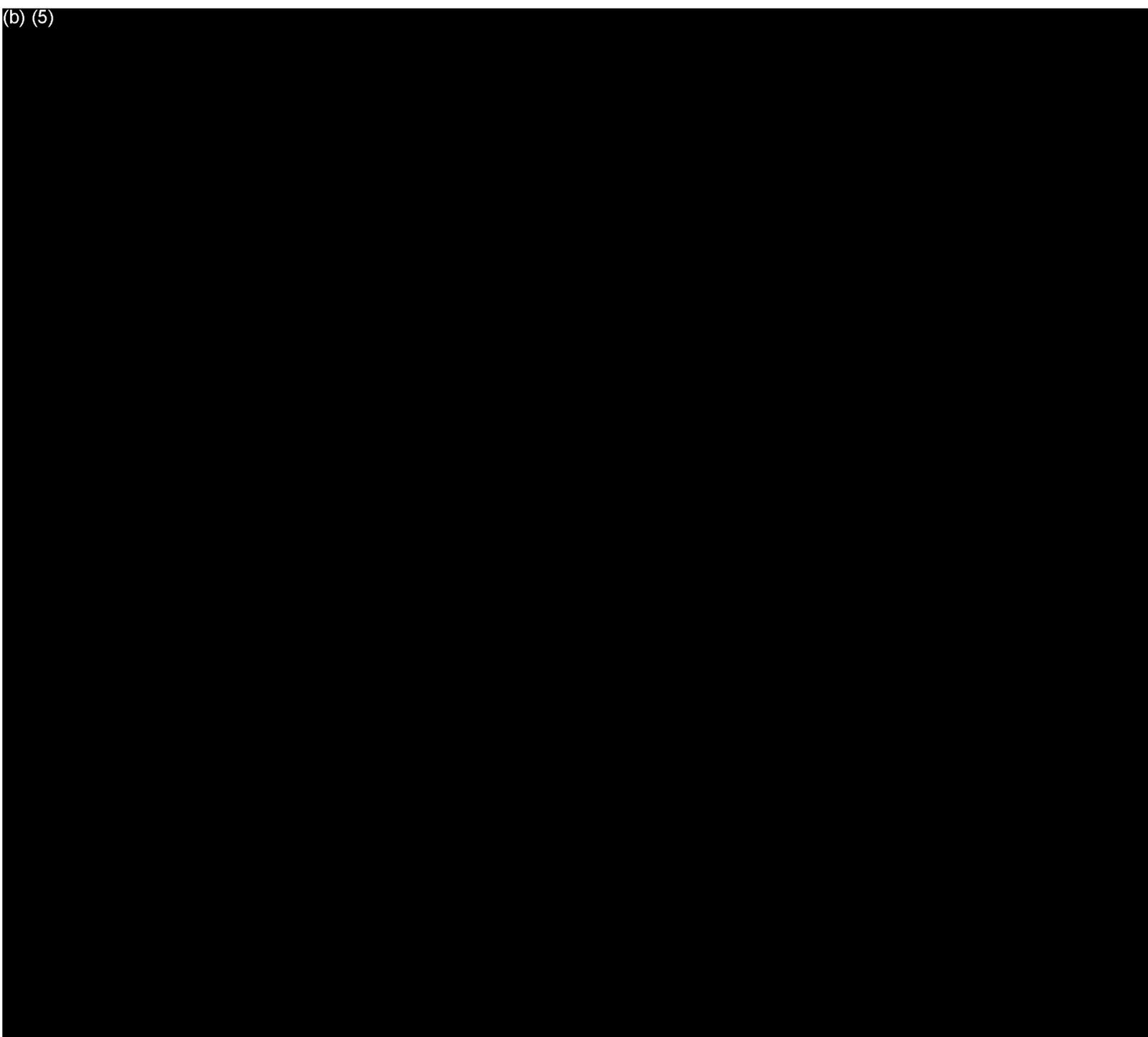
I asked (b) (6) to prepare the enclosed document.

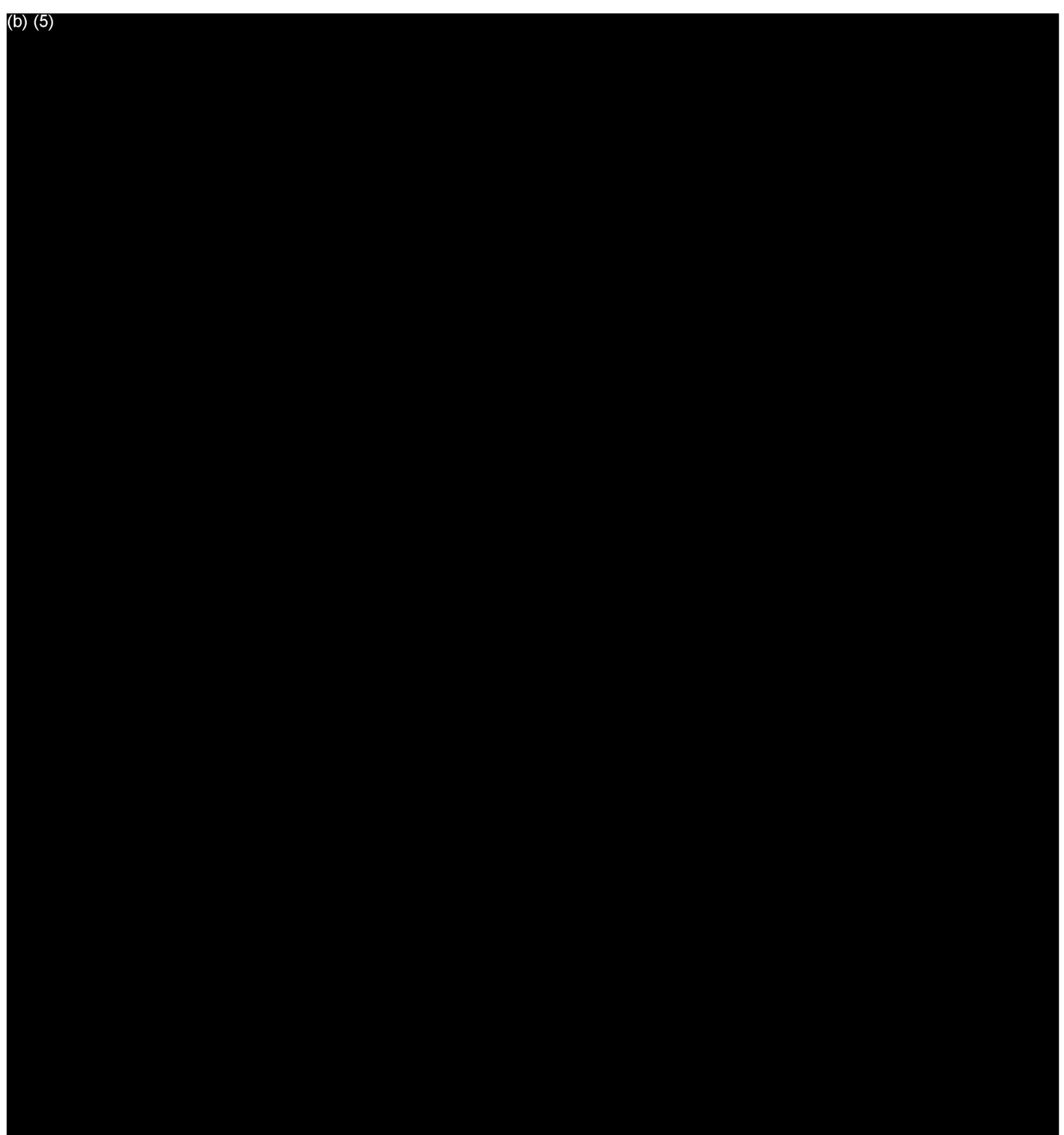
It is self-explanatory.

Please note it is not for public distribution.

Dick Lobo

(b) (5)





(b) (5)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 5:06 PM

To: [Redacted] (b) (6)

Tara Sonenshine; [Redacted] (b) (6) Dana Perino

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo; [Redacted] (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I think we should discuss this in private when we meet on December 13-14. I am surprised the OIG inquiry may take another 3 to 4 months when it already has had it for two months and I was told at the start it would be 2 to 3 months but now appears to be 4 to 6 months...why is the time period doubled?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/29/2012 3:58:21 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Govenors,

I asked (b) (6) to prepare the enclosed document.

It is self-explanatory.

Please note it is not for public distribution.

Dick Lobo

(b) (5)



(b) (5)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 8:34 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Gallup contract

this item appeared in the Washington Post today. What is the latest on the review of this matter by OIG and others for the BBG contract with Gallup?

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/gallup-accused-of-bilking-government/2012/11/28/27dcce1e-397e-11e2-b01f-5f55b193f58f_story.html We have a contract of up to \$10 a year for five years.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 12:04 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Rep. Royce Wins Foreign Affairs Chairmanship

should do the same for the ranking member when he/she is chosen as Congressman Berman was defeated. Victor Ashe
-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Jeffrey Trimble (U) (O)

Sent: Tue, 27 Nov 2012 17:08
Subject: Rep. Royce Wins Foreign Affairs Chairmanship

Governors,

As you are aware, Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA) had expressed interest in serving as the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in the 113th Congress. This afternoon, it became official. Please see the article below for more information.

We will work on drafting a congratulatory letter from the Board to Mr. Royce.

Best,

(b) (6)

Royce Wins Foreign Affairs Chairmanship
By Emily Cadei, CQ Roll Call

California Republican Ed Royce will be the new chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in the next Congress, according to a GOP leadership aide.

As anticipated, the 10-term congressman from Orange County defeated Rep. Christopher H. Smith, R-N.J., for the post in a Republican caucus vote on Tuesday. The current chairwoman, Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla., is stepping down due to House GOP term limits.

Royce currently chairs the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade and plans to

continue to emphasize oversight of U.S. counterterrorism programs. He is also a member of the House Financial Services Committee and hopes to tap that expertise to help shape U.S. trade and export control policies from the helm of Foreign Affairs.

Though a conservative, Royce is not considered to be as polarizing as Ros-Lehtinen, who has been a harsh critic of the Obama administration's foreign policies, particularly related to the Middle East, Cuba and the United Nations.

Democrats will also have a new face leading the committee's minority, after Rep. Howard L. Berman, D-Calif., lost reelection in November. Rep. Eliot L. Engel, D-N.Y., is the favorite to win the ranking member post.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2012 11:59 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: FYI

thanks for letting me have this. RFA at its Nov 15 Board meeting rreviewed this and did not come to the same conclusion. The review was in depth.

However, it is what the Congressman feels so we must look hard at it.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
CC: Lynne Weil (b) (6); Jeff Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, 27 Nov 2012 22:02
Subject: FYI

Rep Rohrabacher believes "abrupt dismissal" of Radio Free Asia
Tibetan director was "for political reasons."

Posted: 27 Nov 2012 05:27 AM PST

Tibet Sun, 20 Nov 2012, Lobsang Wangyal: "Radio Free
Asia (RFA) has dismissed Nagpo Jigme, its director of Tibetan Language Service, without revealing the reasons for his sacking. Npo has been director of the Radio Free Asia Tibetan Service since its inception 16 years ago. Jamyang Norbu, author, intellectual, and prominent supporter of Tibetan independence, also had his contract terminated by RFA, a few months ago. It is speculated that pressure from the Central Tibetan Administration in Dharamshala is responsible for the recent removal of the long-time Director. On being asked by Tibet Sun about the reasons for Ngapo's dismissal, RFA's Media Relations Manager Rohit Mahajan replied in an email: '... Speculation that Mr Ngapo's employment was terminated for political reasons is categorically untrue,' and that reports of Ngapo was escorted from the building by security personnel are false. ... In a letter to Radio Free Asia President Libby Liu on 15 November inquiring about Ngapo's dismissal, US Congressman Dana Rohrabacher expressed concerns about censorship in the radio service. Rohrabacher wrote, 'I have reason to believe that he was terminated for political reasons.'"

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2012 5:37 PM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Tara Sonenshine

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: New VOA Afghan Service Chief

Thanks for keeping us informed. It is an important service.

Dana has a different e mail now from what is used.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6); susan [REDACTED] (b) (6); Michael Meehan [REDACTED] (b) (6); dana [REDACTED] (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>;

[REDACTED] (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo [REDACTED] (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (P) (O); Bruce Sherman [REDACTED] (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Nov 20, 2012 5:33 pm

Subject: New VOA Afghan Service Chief

Governors,

I am pleased to inform you that an award-winning Afghan journalist and author, (b) (6) has been selected as the new VOA Afghanistan Service Chief. He is coming from Kabul in the near future to take charge of this important and strategic VOA language service. (b) (6) began his journalism career reporting on the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in the late 1980s. Following the Soviet withdrawal in 1989, he attended the Lawrenceville School in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, and Harvard College, from which he graduated in 1994 with a degree in history and politics. He spent the next 10 years working as a Dow Jones reporter and editor in New York, covering the United Nations and global energy markets for Dow Jones Newswires and the Wall Street Journal.

Starting in 2007, (b) (6) returned to Afghanistan working for Internews Network, providing oversight of news and cultural programming for "Salam Watandar" (Hello Countrymen) Radio and helping it become Afghanistan's largest network of independent radio stations. (b) (6) spent the 2011-2012 academic year as a John S. Knight Fellow in Journalism at Stanford University. As I write he is in Kabul, working for Internews, and preparing to move to Washington.

Veteran VOA television producer (b) (6), who served as Afghan Service Chief for some years, until a few months ago, did much to strengthen TV Ashna, our signature evening news broadcast in Dari and Pashto, which is broadcast on RTA, and started our second TV broadcast "Karwan", aimed at younger viewers, as well as overseeing steady growth in our radio audience.

I felt that it is important at this time that the new Service Chief be an Afghan. (b) (6) will lead our efforts even as President Obama draws down U.S. combat forces between now and 2014, and as full responsibility for Afghanistan's future transfers more and more into Afghan hands.

Regards,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2012 5:25 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: comments to OIG

thanks very much and Have a great Thanksgiving. Victor Ashe

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

From: richard m lobo (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6) Jeff Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Nov 20, 2012 5:19 pm

Subject: Re: comments to OIG

Governor Ashe,

The two week clock commences when I receive a formal electronic version of he draft report. I am told that could be as soon as tomorrow.

Governor Lynton will send an email to all Governors asking for their comments and providing a deadline for submission.

(b) (6)

On Tue, Nov 20, 2012 at 5:10 PM, <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Please advise how and when (deadlines) for submitting any comments on OIG draft to OIG over the next two weeks as discussed November 19 in our visit with the OIG team. I am not sure how Michael Lynton is co-ordinating this.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, November 18, 2012 1:47 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: PAR Report

thanks for this. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/18/2012 12:21:14 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors, on Friday we posted the Agency's annual Performance and Accountability Report on the BBG website:

<http://www.bbg.gov/about-the-agency/research-reports/performance-accountability/>

We are printing hard copies and will have them available on Monday, should you wish to have one.

We previewed the annual audience numbers -- one performance measure in the PAR -- in a press event and release, and at this past week's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting. The full report is an integrated presentation of the Agency's program performance, financial accountability, and managerial effectiveness and is intended to assist Congress, the President, and the public in assessing the BBG's performance during FY 2012.

Much hard work by many employees goes into this report. Special thanks goes to Senior Management Analyst (b) (6) as the lead author.

Please contact us with any questions or comments.

Regards
Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, November 17, 2012 10:29 AM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Dana
Perino; [REDACTED] (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
[REDACTED] Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Missing Correspondent

incredible...well done...we need to extend thanks to all involved. Makes for a great weekend.

Victor

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
To: Michael Lynton [REDACTED] (b) (6)
[REDACTED] Victor H. Ashe (vhashe@aol.com) <vhashe@aol.com>; Susan McCue
[REDACTED] (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine
[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Sat, Nov 17, 2012 8:43 am
Subject: FW: Missing Correspondent
Colleagues, some great news here. we authorized MBN to pay for this delegation earlier this week. they went commercially as we all suggested. fingers crossed about Bashar.

Michael Meehan
President & CEO
VennSquared Communications
Washington - Silicon Valley - London
[REDACTED] (b) (6)

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Sent: Saturday, November 17, 2012 8:01 AM
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Cc: Michael Meehan; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Missing Correspondent

I wanted to let you know that a Turkish delegation went into Syria this week to meet with Syrian President Bashar Assad to request the release of Alhurra correspondent Bashar Fahmi and cameraman Cuneyt Unal. They were able to meet with Assad today and Cuneyt Unal was released to the delegation. At this moment we are still waiting to hear if there is any information regarding Bashar Fahmi, which we expect within a few hours. The BBG has a statement will be issued as soon as we learn about Bashar. Below is an AFP article about Cuneyt's release.

Turkish journalist missing for months in Syria freed

(AFP) – 14 minutes ago

ANKARA — A Turkish journalist who went missing in Syria in August and was believed to have been held by government troops has been freed and handed to Turkish lawmakers touring the country on Saturday, the Anatolia news agency reported.

"I am very happy, I am doing well," Cuneyt Unal was quoted by the agency as saying by telephone from Syria.

One of the lawmakers, Hasan Akgol of Turkey's main CHP opposition party, told the agency that the cameraman was in good health.

The journalist and lawmakers were due to return to Turkey later in the day, Akgol said.

Cameraman Unal and his Jordanian colleague Bashar Fahmi, who were working for US broadcaster Al-Hurra, disappeared in the northern city of Aleppo on August 20.

The Anatolia report had no immediate information on Fahmi's whereabouts or fate.

(b) (6)



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From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2012 8:12 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Interim CFO oversight

thanks very much...this should be announced to the whole BBG community. Best to you both as you discharge your duties

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Nov 14, 2012 6:54 pm
Subject: Interim CFO oversight

Dear Victor,

(b) (6) indicated that you had asked about interim arrangements to oversee the CFO office until a new person is selected to replace (b) (6). Dick has designated me to oversee budgetary matters and (b) (6) to oversee all CFO administrative and financial management and reporting matters.

A search process is underway and we're hoping to have strong candidates for this crucial position.

Please feel free to call on (b) (6) or me with any questions about CFO-related issues.

Regards

Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2012 2:28 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Annual Global Audience Estimate

I always think it would be a good/nice idea to include those Governors on a conference call to the Hill where several Governors are acquainted so anyone wishing to listen could do so. This apparently is not done but I want to suggest it.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Nov 14, 2012 1:11 pm
Subject: BBG Annual Global Audience Estimate

Governors,

Attached and below, please find a news release about the BBG's annual global audience estimate that is about to go out; it will be familiar already to the members of the Communications Committee.

The news release and supporting documents, also attached, were prepared to coincide with a just-completed

conference call that Dick Lobo and Bruce Sherman held with key Hill staffers, public diplomacy bloggers and other interested stakeholders. The conference call on the BBG's global audience estimate is done annually as a precursor to release of the Performance Accountability Report (PAR).

As you may recall, the PAR goes to the White House and Congress and is made available to the public each November 15; this year's PAR will be delayed by a day due to complications involving Superstorm Sandy. It will be released this Friday, Nov. 16.

Should you have any questions regarding the PAR or the global audience estimate released today, Bruce Sherman is standing by. The PAR is to be discussed during tomorrow's open meeting of the Strategy and Budget Committee.

Lynne

BBG Measures Audience Growth in Key Markets

Washington, D.C. – U.S. government-funded, civilian international broadcasters reached an estimated 175 million people per week on a variety of media platforms in 2012, including large audiences in countries that are key priorities for U.S. foreign policy, the Broadcasting Board of Governors announced today.

The figure, which reflects the combined viewership and listenership of Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Radio and TV Martí, Radio Free Asia and the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa), is a net decrease of 12 million from last year's record total as detailed in the BBG's annual Performance Accountability Report. While this drop likely reflects actual loss in overall audience, some of it may also be attributable to a change in research providers and resulting changes in the survey questionnaire, both of which occurred during FY 2012.

“Reliable and high-quality research informs our strategies, which in turn helps us fulfill our critical mission of reaching marketplaces around the globe, such as Afghanistan, Iraq, and Pakistan,” said BBG Presiding Governor Michael Lynton. “This agency is committed to evaluating and assessing performance through a rigorous research program as required by law. And as audience preferences change, we will continue to innovate on all platforms -- radio, TV, the Internet and social media.”

Audiences grew substantially in Iran, where more than 10 million people watch or hear BBG programs, and in other key countries including Libya, and Ethiopia. The largest change was in Indonesia, where audience numbers dropped by 17.4 million, from 38 million to 21 million people, in part due to a potential overestimate in 2011. Among other countries that saw audience declines were Egypt, Nigeria, and Burma, as these markets became more competitive and open; in Haiti, where surge broadcasts instituted after the 2010 earthquake diminished; and in Russia, where government media regulations have curtailed distribution.

BBG broadcasts reached significant audiences in other important markets, including 75 percent of the adult population in Afghanistan, 75 percent in the Somaliland and Puntland regions of Somalia, 67 percent in Iraq, 30 percent in Libya, and 27 percent in the FATA region of Pakistan. In FY 2012, the BBG enhanced its distribution network, adding new FM transmitters in key cities in Libya and Afghanistan.

Consistent with the practice of other international broadcasters, the BBG measures and reports unduplicated audience; each individual, regardless of how many programs watched or listened to, or media platforms used, is counted only once. This is a conservative approach to quantifying the audience and in keeping with the mission of BBG to inform and engage people, rather than count individual interactions with them.

Other indices of impact -- such how trustworthy audiences find BBG programming and how much the broadcasts increase their understanding, the scope or quality of an individual's consumption of BBG programming, the level of social media engagement, website page views, file downloads or media citations of BBG news coverage -- are important factors considered for program and strategic planning purposes.

Radio and TV are increasingly close in terms of reach by platform, with radio reaching more than 95 million people per week and television measures in at 92 million people. The Internet audience was between 12 and 13 million, with the largest online audiences measured in Iraq, at 2.7 million.

The audience estimate includes research conducted within the past five years in over 70 countries and territories and surveys representing 2.8 billion people in markets around the globe. The 2012 Performance and Accountability Report will be available to download on Nov. 16.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2012 10:13 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

thanks for checking this out. Perhaps you can tell us more this Nov 15. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/13/2012 10:11:36 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:
Governor Ashe,

(b) (6) is not due back from vacation until next week. I'll try to get some more details about the RFA matter and get back with you as soon as possible.

Thanks and kind regards,

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2012 9:20 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: (b) (6)

Not sure when (b) (6) returns from vacation, but I look forward to learning more about the OCR inquiry into RFA and getting more details on it. Thanks for checking into this.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2012 2:31 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: BBG meetings

I gather that I am correct these dates are not listed. If am mistaken, please advise. It is a matter of public record that the Board has adopted all of these dates and would appear in the minutes of each of the meetings. Therefore, it would be hard to understand why they would not appear under future meetings on the BBG web site until such time (as has occurred with November 15) that the meeting is canceled.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/12/2012 2:15:17 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks for offering your personal views, Victor. I'll discuss them with the IBB's senior management team tomorrow, when the office is open.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2012 1:59:03 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: BBG meetings

Perhaps I am missing it on the BBG web site and you can direct me but I cannot located the Meetings set for December, February, March, April and May. The last 4 were approved by full Board vote in October.

If they are there, please send me the link to them.

Also there does not seem to be mention that the BBG November 15 full Board meeting has been canceled. Since it previously appeared as a meeting date and now has vanished, there ought to be some verbage as to why it is not occurring or it simply is not occurring in the interest of transparency and full explanation.

Just my personal views

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2012 1:59 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
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Just my personal views

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, November 11, 2012 8:09 AM

To: (b) (6)

Tara Sonenshine

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman;

(b) (6)

Subject: (b) (6) on tape

This is the actual tape from (b) (6) speaking to RFERL on the Moscow personnel firings as it appeared on BBG watch. I urge you to listen to it. Draw your own conclusions. Apparently someone recorded this while (b) (6) spoke.

<http://www.usgbroadcasts.com/bbgwatch/2012/11/11/radio-liberty-in-exile-posts-rferl-president-steven-korns-dismissive-comments-about-russian-opposition-leaders/>

However, I feel the content is stunning. As a manager myself when I was Mayor for 16 years and as Ambassador for 5 years at Embassy, it shows virtually no empathy for fired persons. He basically says it is my way or the highway. This approach can only incite fear and anger. As an American I cannot be proud of the way he is handling this. It sends the wrong message to working men and women who make up RFERL.

This approach can only leave lingering hostility towards him and his small management team. As a RFERL Board we have not faced up to the management issues we face now. Perhaps we will never face up to it and it may be that I am the only one who worries about (b) (6) management style which triggers so much unrest. We have not met as a Board on this. Missing is any sense of compassion or concern. They are key ingredients to a sound management approach.

Our chair, Dennis Mulhaupt, under the employment contract with (b) (6) has not done the annual evaluation after the first year of employment which passed several months ago. At least that is what Gov. Mulhaupt told me at the last September RFERL Board meeting. If he has done it since then, he did not seek views of all other Board members and/or share the results of his evaluation with the full Board. If it is done, I use this e mail to ask for a copy of it.

It may be that an RFERL audit committee meeting will occur in December and I hope all Board members will be invited to attend if such occurs. That is what I do as chair of MBN audit which is meeting November 15 and all MBN Board members can listen in if they wish.

If we continue to sidestep this building personnel/morale issue, we will continue the damage which is being done to RFERL, to its image, to freedom loving citizens and to US foreign policy.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2012 4:16 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft Minutes of IBB Director Mtg with Entity Heads on Oct 9

While I appreciate having this, getting it only two hours before the meeting over lunch makes it impossible to read and digest before the meeting. I notice it is dated October 9. Why are we only getting it a month later?

I could have had this with the booklet I got yesterday and had time last night to digest and ask better questions.

I really wish in the future we would get these materials a day or two out before significant meetings like the one today. Susan McCue said today she was unaware of (b) (6) views on this.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/8/2012 12:01:47 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governance Committee members,

Attached please find draft minutes of the meeting IBB Director Lobo had with the entity heads on October 9, 2012 to garner feedback on the Board's decision to create a CEO of U.S. international broadcasting within the Board's existing statutory authority under the U.S. International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (as amended).

The draft minutes will be provided to the entity heads prior to the Committee meeting today.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2012 10:18 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Materials

(b) (6)

That sounds good and look forward to making it all work. Important for optics as well as real work that something happen that day and we not just vanish. Glad it is moving.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/8/2012 10:01:13 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

victor,

i've been on the phone with michael meehan this morning trying to sort out how we proceed on the 15th...we're going to have an s&b meeting and rfa and mbn meetings.

looks like an 11am start most likely...probably stopping at 5pm. more later as we sort it out.

On Thu, Nov 8, 2012 at 9:36 AM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

I assume Governors will still get on this Saturday the materials for the various meetings still being held November 15...and monthly reports from grantees, VOA, IBB, OCB etc...is that right?

What will be starting time at RFA? Who will be the person holding the CFO position this next week?

Victor Ashe

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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2012 9:09 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Status of November Meeting

that is good to know Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/8/2012 8:41:05 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe -- (b) (6) told me this. I checked with him this morning and he confirmed that you should feel free to check with him or with Undersecretary Sonenshine if you have questions. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2012 6:24:11 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Status of November Meeting

where does this information come from? Who tells you this? Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/7/2012 5:08:52 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks. My understanding is that State is not going to pursue such a formal delegation of authority for this meeting. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2012 4:34 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Status of November Meeting

Good to know this...perhaps State would be willing to offer such formal delegation..but that is an internal matter for State.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/7/2012 4:32:35 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe –

Just to clarify: I did not say that Undersecretary Sonenshine “can send a rep which counts toward a forum”. I said that if the State Department provides a formal delegation of authority from the Secretary to (b) (6) or another State Department representative, then (b) (6) or such other representative may represent the Secretary and be counted toward a quorum. My understanding is that, at this point in time, the State Department has not issued a formal delegation to anyone other than the Undersecretary.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2012 4:09 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Status of November Meeting

(b) (6) has stated and opined that Sec Sonenshine can send a rep which counts towards a quorum. That does not seem to be noted here. If that happens then we have a quorum when Gov Perino and McCue call in for afternoon so why would this be canceled?

But in either case, the grantee Board meetings plus MBN audit should occur and the briefings for those Governors in attendance should occur plus Gov Meehan has called a Strategy and Budget Committee meeting that day for business. We will have a full gathering of the committee membership. No one will be absent.

I feel staff should still brief Governors for those issues outlined in the proposed agenda sent out a few days ago. Grantees can still meet.

Will there be a December meeting? Or will February, 2013 be the next meeting?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/7/2012 4:01:35 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

As of this afternoon, we have definitive word that Governors Lynton, Mulhaupt, and Under Secretary Sonenshine will not be able to attend the November 15 Board meeting.

Governors Meehan and Ashe have confirmed their availability to attend in person.

Governors McCue and Perino have confirmed their availability to participate by phone in the late afternoon.

Therefore, there will be no quorum for a public BBG meeting and no formal votes can be taken. The Government in the Sunshine Act does not require public observation (webcast) if no meeting takes place.

If you wish, Board members can still meet on November 15 to receive briefings by staff and to conduct RFA and MBN corporate Board meetings in the afternoon.

If the Board members who have indicated their availability on November 15 would like to hold briefings and RFA and MBN corporate Board meetings at RFA headquarters, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can prepare an amended, updated agenda.

Thank you.

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Governors McCue and Perino have confirmed their availability to participate by phone in the late afternoon.

Therefore, there will be no quorum for a public BBG meeting and no formal votes can be taken. The Government in the Sunshine Act does not require public observation (webcast) if no meeting takes place.

If you wish, Board members can still meet on November 15 to receive briefings by staff and to conduct RFA and MBN corporate Board meetings in the afternoon.

If the Board members who have indicated their availability on November 15 would like to hold briefings and RFA and MBN corporate Board meetings at RFA headquarters, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can prepare an amended, updated agenda.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2012 3:58 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Letter to RFA

Dear (b) (6),

I have received a copy of the November 1 letter to (b) (6). It was not received until November 7 at RFA outlining material needed for a meeting on tomorrow, November 8 and a later meeting on November 15. This is simply not enough time to comply.

Without speaking to the merits of the issue, I do wish to speak to the time frame both as a BBG Governor and RFA vice chairman. If a letter is dated November 1, it should be hand delivered the next day or sent by courier. Arriving the day before material is requested for an entrance conference is not adequate.

To request meetings the same day BBG is literally meeting at RFA is also not a good approach.

Second, if the letter is going to say clearly that the BBG thru OCR is conducting a compliance review then BBG Governors should be notified as we serve on both Boards. We need to be informed. We want to know it is happening and what the outcome it in case we need to take action.

This letter is not meant to be critical except to say that better and more timely communication is needed. I strongly support the purpose for which the OCR exists. I strongly oppose discrimination in all its ugly forms. I enjoyed visiting your office when I have been going to different areas within BBG/IBB.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe
BBG Governor

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 5:55 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Marie Lennon; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

(b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Confirming Governance Committee Meeting on Nov 8

Why are the legal counsels for the three grantees not invited to hear the IBB Director's report? Seems like the VOA and OCB legal counsel is there in the form of the deputy general counsel (b) (6) but not (b) (6) who are interim or regular general counsels for the three grantees. I think this is an error and sets up a "we versus them" scenario which can only cause long term problems. It does not build confidence. Courtesy and collegiality would suggest we include them. At least let them know the governance committee is meeting. I assume it must be announced on BBG web site even if it is by phone so they will learn of it anyway by compliance with federal regs.

I urge they be included and invited to participate. I am sure there will be questions on the IBB Director's report where Governors want the reaction of the three grantees? Why not have them there and send them the same advance copy being sent to the three Governors and already given to Gov. Lynton? This would shorten the process. Otherwise, we will have to do it at a second meeting.

With such a crowd apparently participating in this call, I have trouble believing they will not learn of it anyway.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/6/2012 5:23:49 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governance Committee members,

On Thursday, November 8, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST, the Governance Committee members will meet by phone, and we will contact each of you at the phone number previously provided to us. IBB Director Lobo and his key staff members will also join by phone.

Due to Governor Lynton's travel schedule, IBB Director Lobo and staff held a separate briefing for him this afternoon and shared with him an advanced copy of the IBB Director's plan for the creation of a CEO as directed by the Board at its September 2012 meeting.

We have sent to your home or office similar briefing materials, including a printed copy of the IBB Director's plan.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 5:38 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: d (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Confirming Governance Committee Meeting on Nov 8

I eagerly await the report in tomorrow's mail. Who will be on the call with the three Governors from the Committee on Thursday? It would be helpful to know.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/6/2012 5:23:49 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governance Committee members,

On Thursday, November 8, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST, the Governance Committee members will meet by phone, and we will contact each of you at the phone number previously provided to us. IBB Director Lobo and his key staff members will also join by phone.

Due to Governor Lynton's travel schedule, IBB Director Lobo and staff held a separate briefing for him this afternoon and shared with him an advanced copy of the IBB Director's plan for the creation of a CEO as directed by the Board at its September 2012 meeting.

We have sent to your home or office similar briefing materials, including a printed copy of the IBB Director's plan.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 11:43 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

that is all I ask. However, let us know who is on it...include DC think tanks like Brookings and Heritage.

Victor

In a message dated 11/6/2012 11:41:49 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

We'll make it work so that it's a professionally done panel. Looping in (b) (6) on my staff who will be helping put it together.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 11:40 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

The panel has to have credibility and not be full of excuses for (b) (6). Clearly this story continues.

Victor

In a message dated 11/6/2012 11:38:46 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Agreed. And we've also said we'd have media experts/practitioners from Russia who know the on-the-ground reality there and can speak to our services' competitive position and prospects. I think we're looking at about six people on the panel.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 11:37 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

critical who is on the panels. I suggest (b) (6) who lives in Arlington and is retired from state. We need to hear from some who have opposing views on Moscow RFERL personnel firings.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/6/2012 10:30:27 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Meehan,

Bruce will be returning from the DG-5 meeting in Germany on Dec 12 and in the office on Dec 13.

Given that each panel would take at least three hours, we could schedule on Dec 13 from 9 am to 12 pm a panel on Russia and from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm a panel on Iran.

Please let us know what you think.

Thanks.

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 3:14 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

Let's do it during the Dec board mtg. 12-13.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Date: Mon, 5 Nov 2012 15:01:53 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

I can do it Dec 12 to 18. victor

In a message dated 11/5/2012 2:55:21 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Strategy and Budget Committee members,

Following up on last week's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting, staff would like to get information on your availability for discussions with internal and external experts on USIB strategy in Russia and Iran.

Please let us know soon if you are available for three hours on December 17 and 18 to attend and participate in these panels.

Many thanks!

From: Vhashe@aol.com
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To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
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Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

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Please let us know soon if you are available for three hours on December 17 and 18 to attend and participate in these panels.

Many thanks!

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 9:15 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Schedule

Will the packet on materials for next week's meetings be sent to us on Friday? I will be here in Knoxville to receive it this Saturday?

I assume all meetings are at RFA including the Board meeting...if there is not a quorum the Board can hear and listen to reports, ask questions but NOT vote except to adjourn to another date. Is that correct, (b) (6) ?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 7:19 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: December Board Meeting

I am available for the December meetings. Surely we will meet. If we do not meet in December and there is no quorum for November then it means we go from October 11 to mid February with NO Meeting. That is 4 months. Shame on us if we let that happen. That will be awful.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/5/2012 4:04:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in December.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board, December 13 and 14 (Thursday and Friday) are designated as an optional meeting of the Board.

If for some reason the Board does not achieve a quorum on November 15, the Board could still meet to receive briefings by staff and hold Committee and entity meetings but there could be no formal votes taken.

Therefore, the Board, if it wishes, could consider holding a meeting in December as the next scheduled meeting after December is February 21-22, 2013.

Please let us know if you would be available for a Board meeting on Thursday, December 13 and/or Friday,

December 14 in the Cohen Building.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 7:17 PM

To: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Addendum to the November 5, 2012 BBG Media Highlights

this is another stunning indictment. We need to meet to discuss these issues. We cannot go to February before we meet again. What about November 19 after OIG report?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/5/2012 5:02:49 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Below is an addendum to the November 5, 2012 BBG Media Highlights:

The Bureaucratic Attack on International Broadcasting - Heritage Foundation

<<http://blog.heritage.org/2012/11/02/the-bureaucratic-attack-on-international-broadcasting/>> , November 2, 2012

By Caitlin Duvall

November 2, 2012

The recent layoff of Voice of America (VOA) employees in Russia comes at a time when U.S. international broadcasting is also losing ground to bureaucratic overkill.

Despite a continually expanding budget, many mission-critical broadcasting services are being cut, personnel are being let go, and broadcasters are being required to do more with less. Low job satisfaction within the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) has become a growing trend in recent years. Many employees attribute their dissatisfaction to accepted behaviors of underperformance from managers. Mere awareness of these and other problems has failed to bring about much-needed changes.

But perhaps the biggest problem facing U.S. international broadcasting is its very own leadership. The BBG's nine-person board, which oversees all government civilian broadcasting, was created to serve as a firewall between policymakers and broadcasters. However, as one VOA employee puts it, broadcasters "need more protection from the firewall than they need the firewall itself."

Many of the BBG members exercise little meaningful guidance to the group (if they even attend the meetings at all). The board has also been criticized for cracking down on the disclosure of “deliberative information” circulating internally. With its core mission being the promotion of America’s policy positions abroad, it seems counterproductive to stifle internal communications, especially when collaboration and exchange are essential for success.

The inefficiencies highlighted above are in need of real solutions. In order for the U.S. to effectively promote its policies abroad, Congress should consider rewriting the legislation that created the BBG in a way that ensures professional management and a transparent structure. It should also include an independent strategic overview of all broadcasting entities of the U.S. government.

A much-needed review of the BBG is underway at the State Department Office of the Inspector General, which will most likely find these solutions necessary to correcting the internal problems of U.S. international broadcasting.

In a time when the promotion of U.S. policies is sorely needed to combat a growing anti-American sentiment around the world, the U.S. should undertake reforms to improve the management practices and structures of the BBG. If not, the organization is in danger of remaining, in the words of Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK), the “most worthless organization in the federal government.”

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 2:18 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Letter from Reps Butterfield and Jones RE Greenville Transmitting Station

I hope all Governors are consulted on the response. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/5/2012 2:15:43 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Dick Lobo has received the attached letter from Rep. G.K. Butterfield (D-NC) and Walter B. Jones (R-NC) regarding the Edward R. Murrow Transmitting Station in Greenville, NC.

We are drafting a response.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 2:08 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Contracting out jobs at the Edward R. Murrow Transmission Station in Gr...
Attachments: Lobo.ltronmanningissues.pdf

Lynne

I do not know if you have seen this but I will look forward to seeing the response from Dick Lobo.

My views on this are that Murrow should stay open for many years and (b) (6) answer at the recent October 11 Board meeting to my inquiry may have triggered this letter as he danced all the way around the question I asked and avoided a direct answer.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)

hashe@aol.com,

(b) (6)

CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 11/5/2012 11:59:50 A.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Contracting out jobs at the Edward R. Murrow Transmission Station in Greenville, NC

Dear All:

Good afternoon! Attached is a letter from Congressmen Butterfield and Jones requesting information on the manning status to Mr. Lobo on the Edward R. Murrow Transmission Station.

Many thanks for your support and consideration of the Congressmen's request!

VR,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 9:45 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble;

(b) (6)

Tara Sonenshine; Dana Perino;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Response to RFA's position on Pangea paper

It is 4 members for MBN, RFE and RFA...as it is a majority of the current members which is 4 out of 7. It will stay at 4 even when Dana leaves on Dec 31 as 4 is a majority of 6. If Jeff Shell should be confirmed then it would be 5 if there are 8 members and 4 if there are 7 members. Not sure where the Shell nomination stands other than pending before US Senate.

Phone ins do count. For BBG it is 5 as quorum is a majority of the total membership even if the membership is down to 5 persons. (b) (6) has opined that Tara Sonenshine can send a rep and that counts towards a quorum for BBG if sending a rep is consistent with State Dept regs.

I have copied both (b) (6) as they are legal counsels for RFA and MBN and their views would be relevant and prevail for each of those corporate Boards while (b) (6) would be relevant for BBG where he is deputy legal counsel.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/5/2012 9:19:49 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

As chair of MBN and RFA, I plan on have those boards meet on the 15th.

Can each company let me know how many members are needed for a quorum at the Private companies.

I'm told 5 for the full BBG. Even though we have only 7 sitting members.

Thanks.

Michael.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 08:57 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Michael Meehan; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Response to RFA's position on Pangea paper

this should be discussed at the next RFA Board meeting which is November 15. Time not determined. Not sure if BBG will meet November 15 but should be discussed there too whenever BBG Meets. Apparently not determined. Also not sure there is a December meeting and none is scheduled for January so February, 2013 may be first time to discuss this as a BBG Board unless there is a special meeting before then. We could meet after we hear the OIG report on Monday, November 19 by phone if there is interest in doing so.

We also have the very negative OPM survey results which are consistent and in some cases worst than what we already knew but have not been solved. Additionally, the meltdown of RFERL in Moscow does not go away which merits a RFERL Board meeting and RFERL audit has not met since May despite ongoing RFERL audit and questions as to pay packages for the new Moscow hires.

I think going to February without a BBG Meeting is not defensible and impossible to explain in a credible way to the public or to the Hill. Hopefully, that will not happen but our July meeting was not held and October 11 meeting was reduced to two hours and most items scheduled discarded from the private session. Our September meeting ended with 85 Percent of the agenda not heard.

We have work to do. This week, and Tuesday in particular, promise to be fascinating. May all enjoy to some degree.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/5/2012 6:59:37 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Mulhaupt:

Enclosed is the response to RFA's position on Pangea paper.

Please let us know if you have any questions on its content.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 8:57 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Tara Sonenshine; Dana Perino; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Response to RFA's position on Pangea paper

this should be discussed at the next RFA Board meeting which is November 15. Time not determined. Not sure if BBG will meet November 15 but should be discussed there too whenever BBG Meets. Apparently not determined. Also not sure there is a December meeting and none is scheduled for January so February, 2013 may be first time to discuss this as a BBG Board unless there is a special meeting before then. We could meet after we hear the OIG report on Monday, November 19 by phone if there is interest in doing so.

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Victor Ashe

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Dear Governor Mulhaupt:

Enclosed is the response to RFA's position on Pangea paper.

Please let us know if you have any questions on its content.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

A solid black rectangular redaction box covers the text "(b) (6)".

The relevant text of the Board's September 13, 2012 decision is reproduced below for your convenience.

...That the Board instruct the IBB Director, under the guidance of the Governance Committee, to develop a plan to address the following issues:

- a. The authorities that should be delegated from the Board to the CEO;
- b. The agency officers who should report directly to the CEO;
- c. The relationship of the CEO and the IBB Director;
- d. The relationship between the CEO and the Grantees, including how the relationship should be formalized and expressed in the grant agreements;
- e. A proposed budget and timeline for implementation of a CEO.

Please let us know if you have any questions. Please also let us know what number we can contact you for this meeting.

Thank you.

susan mccue (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 02, 2012 5:41 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Lynne Weil;
(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg by Phone on November 8, 2012

there is no plan here for the CEO. Who made the decision to call this meeting without asking me as one member if I could participate or not? Who called around? Dennis Mulhaupt tell me that he assumed (wrongly as it turns out) that I was contacted? Dennis also says this is a discussion meeting with no decisions to be made.

Dick Lobo, did you know about this or Jeff Trimble? Have Govs. McCue and Lynton said they can call in?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
hashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6) Lynne Weil (b) (6)
(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Nov 2, 2012 12:12 pm
Subject: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg by Phone on November 8, 2012

Dear Governance Committee Members,

Attached please find a draft agenda for a telephonic meeting of the Governance Committee to be held on Thursday, November 8, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Mulhaupt.

Given the short window in which Committee members can meet, the Committee will consider the IBB Director's plan for the creation of a CEO as directed by the Board at its September 2012 meeting.

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Please let us know if you have any questions. Please also let us know what number we can contact you for this meeting.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, November 02, 2012 4:14 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg by Phone on November 8, 2012

First, I find it unfortunate that no one asked me if this time works for me. I assume Lynton and McCue were surveyed and I was not. This is not a good way Dennis for you to conduct the scheduling. When I was in DC yesterday on Nov 1 it was never mentioned to me by anyone and yet I am sure Dick Lobo, (b) (6), Jeff Trimble knew it was under consideration. No one mentioned it to me. Which Governors have said they will call in?

Is this meeting notice going to be placed on the BBG web site? How can this go forward when Gov Lynton has not named the committee which the Board in September voted to create and directed him to name? Should not that committee meet first as it has recommendations to make? On October 11 he acknowledged he had not named it.

Finally, concurrent with this we learn of the terrible results from the OPM survey of morale which shows things are worst than ever. Gov. Mulhaupt says we should meet on this as governance committee. Why is that not on the agenda for discussion November 8? Which is more important the CEO or the Morale or

Also will entity heads be included along with (b) (6) at governance by phone meeting? I have copied our nominated new chair on this so he is informed.

I think one hour on this topic is inadequate. It weakens the merit of the final product as it shows we did not take time in a thoughtful setting where we were all present to act.

Unhappily yours,

Victor Ashe

PS Dennis did call me a few minutes ago and said he assumed that I had been called and regretted that I had not been contacted. It was not intentional he said which I know is true from his vantage point.

It is beginning to look like December 14 will not be a Board meeting now and nothing is set for January. If this means BBG goes to February without a Board meeting then it is shameful and makes all look bad. There are really pressing issues especially with RFERL in Moscow continuing to implode and bad results from OPM.

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

hashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil (O) (O)

Jeffrey Trimble (O) (O)

Sent: Fri, Nov 2, 2012 3:12 pm

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- e. A proposed budget and timeline for implementation of a CEO.

Please let us know if you have any questions. Please also let us know what number we can contact you for this meeting.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, December 01, 2012 1:55 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo

Subject: Re: SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS

great..surely this can be resolved to all satisfaction...no need for anxiety on this one I trust.

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) m.meehan
Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Nov 30, 2012 8:30 pm

Subject: RE: SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS

(b) (6) let's work together to look into this and adjust as needed. I believe the time change was based on this email from (b) (6) in another email trail:

From: (b) (6)
Date: Wed, 21 Nov 2012 12:18:26 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Communication from SkyNet

Below is the info that came from VOA. I don't fully understand what they are proposing.

We are on Asiasat-3 right now and New Skies, NSS-12 , so I don't know what they mean when they talk about Asiasat-IOR and Asiasat-340.

The change to 1400-1430 UTC is fine as that is when we currently run our RRSat program on Apstar 7. According to research, Thaicom 5 is the most popular satellite in Burma with about half of satellite owners using it. I don't know if BBG has Thaicom time.

I doubt I have the full set of email exchanges, so I'd ask (b) (6) to work with you and others as needed to sort this out. Am I correct that the next scheduled program is on Monday? If so, that should give time to work this through. I suggest that the technical colleagues start another email correspondence.

Going forward we can work on procedures to make sure that there is no confusion

or misunderstanding.

Regards

Jeff

From: Bruce Sherman

Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 7:29 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman;

(b) (6) vhashe@aol.com; Jeffrey

Trimble;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS

Hi (b) (6) Looping in (b) (6) again and Jeff to troubleshoot. Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 30, 2012, at 7:03 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

> All:

>

> I am confused.

>

> RFA has not agreed to this.

>

> At the end of the last trail we agreed to moving satellites at our SAME
time
slot.

>

> Has anyone looked into this?

>

> If so, an assessment would have been greatly appreciated. As it stands,
this
is a unilateral decision.

>

> I look forward to alternate streams for our program as this time slot is
NOT
feasible nor desirable on our end.

>

> If you are going to bump RFA's only 30 minute slot and you have advised
that
you have "several" asian satellite streams, it seems you could make this
accommodation dictated by Skynet as a "deal-breaker".

>

> In the alternative, the long-awaited MPLS line could help us.

>

> Please advise.

>

> Thank you for your consideration,

>

> (b) (6)

>
> (b) (6)
>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: (b) (6)
> Date: Fri, 30 Nov 2012 10:33:52
> To: (b) (6)
> Cc: (b) (6)

> Subject: Fwd: FW: SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS

> Hi (b) (6), received this email below from (b) (6) at IBB a
> moment ago. She called to talk about today's change in broadcast time
> for RFA Burmese TV delivered by IBB on satellite.

> (b) (6) says this change was made because there was an agreement between
> VOA and RFA to make this happen. Other than today's email from the IBBs
> Network Control Center (NCC), have not seen any communication confirming
> the time change, much less the date of that time change. Thx. (b) (6)

(b) (6)

>
> ----- Original Message -----
> Subject: FW: SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS
> Date: Fri, 30 Nov 2012 15:13:12 +0000
> From: (b) (6)
> To: (b) (6)
>
>
>
> *From:* Jeffrey Trimble
> *Sent:* Tuesday, November 27, 2012 12:40 PM
> *To:* (b) (6); Richard
> M. Lobo; Bruce Sherman
> *Cc:* (b) (6)

> *Subject:* RE: SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS
>
> Decision confirmed – please proceed to make the change to remove RFA
> from the stream that’s needed for the VOA SkyNet channel. I understand
> that RFA will be placed on an alternate path, as discussed in another
> email trail.
>
> Please let me know if there are further questions, particularly about
> the new RFA placement.
>
> Thanks and regards
>
> Jeff
>
> *From:* (b) (6)
> *Sent:* Wednesday, November 21, 2012 1:47 PM
> *To:* (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Bruce
> Sherman; Jeffrey Trimble
> *Cc:* (b) (6)
> *Subject:* RE: SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS

> Folks
>
> I have asked Dick Lobo, Jeff Trimble and/or (b) (6) to confirm this
> decision. I expect to hear from any of them shortly.
>
> Nothing personal of course just following our procedure.
>
> Best regards,

> (b) (6)
>
> Sent from my Windows Phone

>
> *From:* (b) (6)
> *Sent:* *11/21/2012 13:43
> *To:* (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Bruce
> Sherman; Jeffrey Trimble
> *Cc:* (b) (6)
> *Subject:* *SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS

> Hello, friends.
>
> Just got a call from (b) (6) in VOA Operations.
>
> They’re telling me that NCC needs to get a note from “Someone in IBB” to
> pull the RFA newscast from the IOR/AS satellite stream that will be used
> by our partner, SkyNet.
>
> Apparently, my request didn’t have the right amount of spin on it.
>
> I don’t exactly know who that person might be, but someone up the food

> chain from me needs to give that order.

>

> As you can see from my quick report on the discussion with our
> prospective partners at SkyNet, they aren't inclined to air RFA's
> program at the present time, and should it stay on the stream, it's my
> opinion that it would kill the deal.

>

> Please... someone upstream from me, please say the word.

>

> Thank you. Hope your holiday is pleasant.

>

> (b) (6)

>

> *From: (b) (6)

> *Sent: * Wednesday, November 21, 2012 9:27 AM

> *To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo

> *Cc: * Bruce Sherman (b) (6)

[Redacted]

> *Subject: * Communication from SkyNet

>

> Friends:

>

> Several things. First, I have heard from (b) (6) my point of contact
> at SkyNet.

>

> As you can see below, he is formally asking that RFA's content not be
> part of the video stream with which we begin the agreement.

>

> As he has said all along, there is the option to add RFA content later,
> and that discussion can begin as soon as 4 December, when we gather for
> the signing.

>

> Second – we're now being notified for the first time of changes that
> SkyNet wants to make to our standard agreement. We will need to work
> through these changes, highlighted in yellow on the attached documents.
> Some of the things they're including have halted previous deals, because
> they are simply not requests we can meet. I'll be working with our
> legal counsel, (b) (6), and with others on this chain, to work through
> these issues.

>

> Please keep me informed of ****any**** contact you have with anyone at
> SkyNet. For my purposes, the only points of contact for this are me for
> the BBG, and (b) (6) for SkyNet.

>

> Finally, if we believe there will be something to sign on 4 December,
> and I do, and if removing RFA from the appropriate satellite stream will
> take "a few days," as was communicated to me yesterday, then perhaps
> that process should start now. I'll not get into the rest of it,
> philosophical or operational, other than to say the prospective
> affiliate has communicated what they wish to rebroadcast, and that's the
> deal that's on the table.

>
> Thanks, all. I'll be in touch as appropriate.

>
> (b) (6)

>
> *From:* (b) (6)
> *Sent:* Tuesday, November 20, 2012 11:43 PM

>
> Dear (b) (6)

>
> Please go ahead with your plan to remove RFA from the video stream.
> We have previously agreed to do so with VOA.
> I believe that RFA President will have a good opportunity to discuss
> with us for the future of RFA with Sky net.
> Regarding the agreement, I will send some addition from our side. I need
> your answer asap regarding our addition.
> Please expect my email.

> Regards
> (b) (6)

>
>
>

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 4:24 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Lynne Weil;
Jeffrey Trimble; (D) (O)
Subject: Re: Draft Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on December 13, 2012

One question,,,,are entity heads plus (b) (6) being notified of this and invited to attend meeting?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6); Lynne Weil (D) (O); Jeffrey Trimble
(D) (O)
Sent: Tue, Dec 4, 2012 4:13 pm
Subject: Draft Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on December 13, 2012

Dear Governance Committee Members,

Attached please find a draft agenda for the Governance Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, December 13, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Mulhaupt.

Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the draft agenda.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 4:17 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Lynne Weil;
Jeffrey Trimble; (D) (O)
Subject: Re: Draft Agenda for Governance Committee Mtg on December 13, 2012

seems OK...Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
(D) (O); Lynne Weil (D) (O); Jeffrey Trimble
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Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the draft agenda.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 11:17 AM

To: Bruce Sherman

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Burma Interim Report (b) (6) Agreement to Review!

not disagreeing but saying we should have our eyes open and realize what is happening here.

Victor

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey

Trimble (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Dec 4, 2012 9:13 am

Subject: Re: Burma Interim Report - (b) (6) Agreement to Review!

Agree. But, in my opinion, we shouldn't let perfection be the enemy of the good, either.

Also, I recommend we consider the longer-term. SkyNet only reaches 80,000 or so households now while we already have direct-to-home service going. It's not the key yet to wider distribution.

But, the same folks who operate SkyNet also control the Shwe FM network, and FM is a large and growing medium that we need to be on to have increasing impact in the country.

Bottom line: the SkyNet deal, like the English learning programs we placed on Myanmar Radio and TV earlier in the year, is part of an evolutionary process there. It's important as a step toward where we want to be as much as destination in itself.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 4, 2012, at 8:48 AM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

several serious issues to discuss here. require reflection. urgency for a deal should not totally override all other considerations.

Victor

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)

To: Michael Meehan (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

<(b) (6)>

Sent: Tue, Dec 4, 2012 8:28 am

Subject: Fwd: Burma Interim Report - (b) (6) Agreement to Review!

Sharing here the latest on the SkyNet deal based on (b) (6) further negotiations today.

Do note SkyNet's proposal now to fashion a channel ultimately composed of both VOA and RFA content -- as well as (their proposal) Democratic Voice of Burma programming.

(b) (6) is in touch with you through emails exchanged earlier in your day. He sees (b) (6) tonight your time and will update him on the status of the talks. I think it is very important that you also weigh in and support a workable deal.

While I think not doing news now as the political environment matures is manageable (again, we have always known getting domestic distribution in Burma was going to be subject to many conditions), asking us to share a channel with DVB is something else. I find it problematic (and another new stipulation), but am open to other views.

Best, Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6)
Date: December 4, 2012 5:21:49 AM EST
To: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Burma Interim Report - (b) (6) Agreement to Review!

Bruce:

We met with the Sky Net team this morning, and into the afternoon for more than three hours. Share as you see fit.

We listened to their explanation of events - they expected to have approval for our agreement from the Ministry of Information by now; and they suspect that announcing the signing raised the visibility level of the whole event. They said they were contacted by the Ministry of Information this past Saturday (1 December), and while the subject of ordering VOA's news off the air never came up (and never would, directly, they say), they were asked words to the effect of, "You're not about to do anything foolish, are you?"

And that, they say, put a scare into them. They maintain that they *want* to run news, and acknowledge that their viewers would *want* to see VOA and RFA. But basically, they say we've got a business to run that goes beyond Sky Net, and we believe it would be dangerous to run any news content in Burmese right now. French, English, Japanese, German...all okay. Burmese - a problem.

So we began to roll out a Plan B, which would allow them to cherry pick from the "VOA Asia" schedule, and run it as a block. As the conversation rolled along, a number of things became clear:

- They do not intend to run VOA content 24 hours a day.
- They're reserving space for RFA to eventually join the stream on the same channel.
- They're reserving space for Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB) to also join the stream on the same channel.

(b) (6) claims that DVB will be paying big money for the placement. He says he's heard \$200K, and he swears that RFA has also offered Sky Net money for placement. If so, VOA becomes the loss leader that they believe will open the door to making money on this channel. I did make it clear to them that any RFA placement would come from our office, and could simply be added to the existing agreement at some later date. We also discussed that since VOA was the first, it should lay claim to prime time.

So. The way it stands is this: We negotiated the language of the placement agreement - the Basic "Affiliation and Licensing Agreement," which is attached. There were no changes made to this document. Annex I is also pristine. I did belatedly notice two remnants from earlier discussions in Annex II, both are highlighted, both are very minor. Annex III is where all the other changes are noted. Most of this language was approved by (b) (6) earlier. We spent nearly 90 minutes discussing their proposals, which they said had already been approved by the Ministry of Information, and why we would not and could not sign them.

The two new sections are five - which they ask for, and says they may take programs live from our feed, or record them and play them back at convenient times. So long as they're not news programs, we're okay with it.

Section six strikes some language that pertains to ownership of edited programs or programs created from excerpting other programs. Since all they're running are whole programs ("Agency Product"), this really didn't apply, and so I agreed to it.

Important to state once again, that I stressed that the agreement and all of the annexes needed to be blessed by our legal people (b) (6) and that (b) (6) who was very disappointed about no news content, would weigh in before deciding if he will sign.

Now. What would be signed. The agreement is covered by a "Letter of Intent," which I cribbed from an earlier letter (b) (6) wrote. It says nothing, except that we're going to work to finalize the Agreement by some date certain. We still need to agree to:

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- If we're comfortable with sharing a channel with DVB.
- Of course, if we're comfortable with no news
- Or might we want to figure out a way to do more news in English for this stream?

They still need to get Ministry of Information approval for the agreement we've just negotiated, since we threw out their proposed Annex III. They believe that will be pro forma, since there is no news content here. A nod

from the MOI while the governors or (b) (6) are in Naypyidaw would, they say, go a long way.

They do ask that (b) (6) or the Governors, should they speak with the MOI word any concern in positive terms.

Not: "We understand you're getting in the way of putting our news on Sky Net."

But rather: "We've been talking to Sky Net about placing our news on their platform. You wouldn't object, would you?"

More I know not. I'm going to sleep for a few hours before it's time to pick up (b) (6) late tonight.

I've briefed (b) (6) at the Embassy; I'm making tentative plans to fly to Naypyidaw with (b) (6) tomorrow, to speak to the Ministry of Information - assuming there's a meeting (not confirmed as of 430 this afternoon.) Copying them here, because I promised I would.

Feel free to call - closer to 9am your time, please, if that's okay.

(b) (6)

Thanks.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 8:48 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Burma Interim Report (b) (6) Agreement to Review!

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

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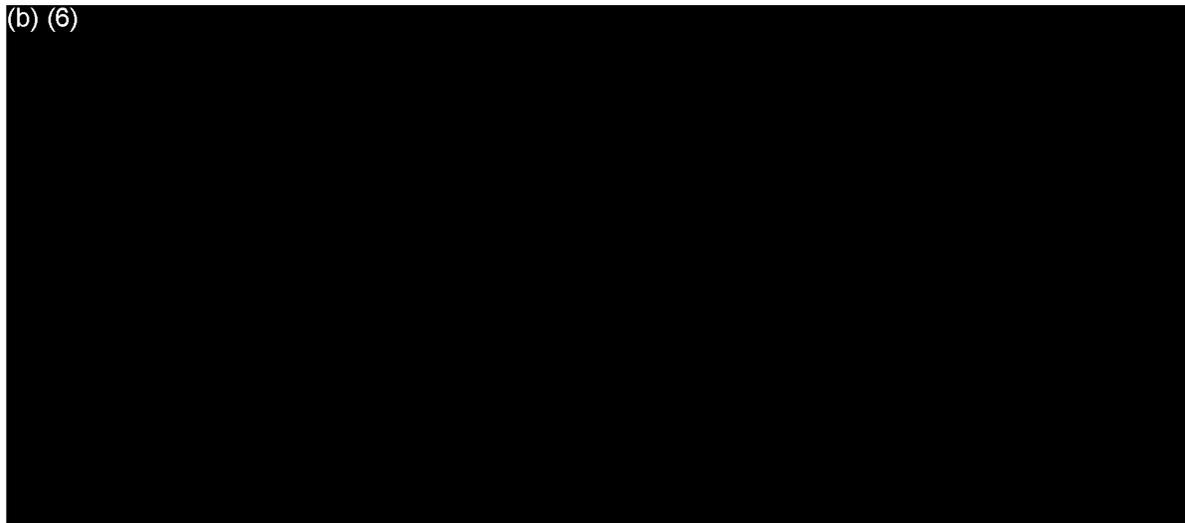
Feel free to call - closer to 9am your time, please, if that's okay.

(b) (6).

Thanks.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 8:02 AM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble;
(b) (6)

Subject: Fwd: Open Letter to (b) (6)

I have received this letter. It seems to me that the most appropriate action to take in light of the statements is for the BBG Office of Civil Rights headed by (b) (6) to undertake an inquiry on this and to determine if any laws of the US have been violated by an American entity. If an office other than OCR handles disability issues then it should be referred there. Certainly the RFERL Board should know if an inquiry actually occurs by BBG. I am not personally agreeing or disagreeing with the statements contained here.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Dec 5, 2012 2:10 am
Subject: Open Letter to (b) (6)

The Honorable
Victor H. Ashe
Governor

The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG)
330 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20237

Dear Governor Ashe,

We have been asked by representatives of the fired Radio Liberty journalists, as well those who resigned in protest, to share with you their open letter to Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) (b) (6) in which they ask that two of their colleagues with disabilities and a single mother with dependent children be allowed to return to work.

We also enclose a personal account written by (b) (6), one of the disabled employees, who was a fully performing web editor, multimedia specialist and reporter before being forced to resign. You may already be familiar with media accounts how RFE/RL-hired guards prevented these journalists from entering the Moscow bureau and directed them to a law firm where they were informed that they no longer had a job and had no other choice but to agree to a termination of their employment contracts. RFE/RL executives with the help of security guards prevented these well known, highly respected and dedicated journalists from saying good bye to their radio and online audience of many years.

(b) (6) account and Russian media reports all indicate that employees who were fired included many new media specialists with more experience and greater multimedia skills than some of the newly hired employees who replaced them. According to latest media reports, Radio Liberty's Russian website has lost more than 60 percent of its daily visitors since September when the mass dismissals took place. Many Russian media reports, as well as statements from leading Russian human rights and democratic political leaders, assert that Radio Liberty has been destroyed as an effective pro-democracy medium and its reputation ruined in Russia.

A similar situation has developed in Kazakhstan, where RFE/RL management -- after dismissing several experienced journalists -- tried to produce and place sexually suggestive videos with obscene content to attract a new audience but instead caused a moral outrage among many Radio Liberty website visitors.

We urge you to take immediate action to address this crisis. We appeal to you to order RFE/RL to re-employ all Radio Liberty staffers who were forced to resign and want to return to work, including (b) (6)

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Open Letter to (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Leaving aside the appropriateness and reasonableness of your ongoing reform of the Russian Service of Radio Liberty, it is our professional and human duty to make the following statement.

During the mass layoffs in the Russian Service combined at the same time with mass recruitment of new employees, two of our colleagues were fired from Radio Liberty's Russian Service - Radio Liberty website editor (b) (6) and coordinator of the Moscow office (b) (6), who because of the state of their health are considered persons with disabilities. Furthermore, (b) (6), a single mother of three young children, was also fired. Officially, they have left "by mutual agreement," in reality, your subordinates used psychological pressure to force them to resign.

We are convinced that this kind of treatment of vulnerable people violates the norms of civilized society and is directly contrary to the values which Radio Liberty defends in accordance with its mission. We are confident that the American taxpayers who fund the activities of the institution entrusted to you would strongly condemn the firing of vulnerable people with disabilities.

In this situation, we are convinced that the clarification of the circumstances of what happened to Radio Liberty must take place in the public forum.

We do not expect charity from you. This is about the persons who are able to fully serve the mission of spreading democratic values in Russia and in the world. (b) (6) worked effectively for many years for Radio Liberty. While they were employed, they have lost their health, which, despite the efforts of doctors, they did not fully regain. However, despite their status as persons with disabilities, (b) (6) and (b) (6) flawlessly continued to perform their duties.

We do not expect from your an apology - it is unlikely to make up for the moral damage RFE/RL corporate executives caused to these vulnerable people.

We demand the immediate return of our colleagues to work and are ready to defend their rights at every level, right up to the U.S. Congress.

This letter has been signed by former and current employees of Radio Liberty.

####

“Firing a disabled but fully employable and well performing person is extraordinary in any civilized country. I became disabled after a strike, which happened in 2008. My schedule, created at that time by RFE/RL management, was very demanding. I spent more than ten hours a week doing live broadcasts, three days – early in the morning. My stroke didn’t happen at the work place, but it came just one hour after my exhausting morning shift. I didn’t demand that RFE/RL pay for my medical treatment, although it wouldn’t have been hard to prove in court that my work schedule was the principle reason for my stroke.

I’ve always thought that RFE/RL’s mission is more important than my health, and that we would always come to an agreement, if needed.

We did. In 2008, RFE/RL management arranged my schedule in a different way. I started working from home on the

web team as an editor, coming to the editorial office just once a week. As a longtime disabled employee, I thought that I would never be thrown out on the street by an American publicly-funded and publicly-owned company. I did not think that given my employment record and the public nature of my employment, such a thing would be likely to happen to me if I were employed in the United States and that RFE/RL would treat its employees as if they were working in America. But I was employed in Russia and I was wrong.

The mass firings at the RFE/RL Moscow bureau were done so inappropriately and with the use of such strong psychological pressure, that many of my colleagues and I got a distressing impression that fighting for our rights would be fruitless and impossible.

When RFE/RL managers said I was fired, I reminded them that I was disabled. They suggested that I could work one more month as a freelancer, a prolongation of the suffering. It will be quite impossible for me to find a job in Moscow. I'm 52, and I'm disabled.

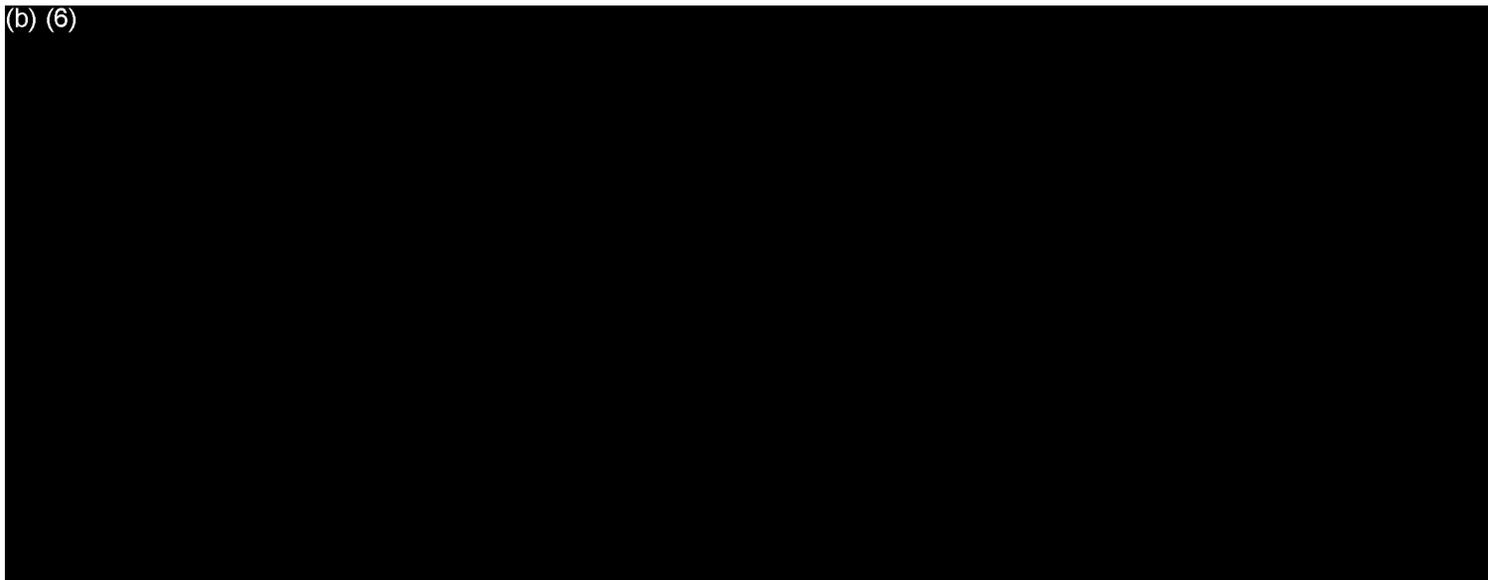
It is worth mentioning something that the chief executive did to increase our torment and humiliate us even more. Shortly before the mass firings, (b) (6) told us that we would finally be getting medical insurance. We spent years fighting for it, and this apparent victory seemed especially valuable for me. But as it turned out, we were not the ones to see the fruits of our struggles. Medical insurance will be a bonus for some other people who didn't become disabled working for RFE/RL. Not for someone like me.

The new RFE/RL management keeps bragging about Radio Svoboda's transformation into as a multimedia platform, which doesn't involve dividing staff into radio and Internet teams. I was one of the employees who worked exactly without such a division of functions as one of the website's editors, sports columnist and radio correspondent.

I also did photos and videos while covering UEFA championship in Kiev. I think my experience could become an example of new, multimedia Radio Svoboda.

But instead I was fired without any warning whatsoever or anyone bothering to talk to me or seek my input. I was informed of the fact that my experience in an area which coincides with RFE/RL multimedia strategy, as well as my health, are of no concern to the RFE/RL management. Such an attitude on the part of RFE/RL's top American executives is capricious, nonprofessional and disreputable at the same time." — (b) (6)

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 7:19 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Letter to two NC congressmen

why was it not shared with the Board prior to being sent as was done with letters to Congressman Rohrbacker? oversight or new policy? I think it always good to send these congressional letters out to Board members at same time as they go to Hill especially if they have not been shared with the Board in advance.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 5:17 pm
Subject: FW: Letter to two NC congressmen

Dear Victor,

I was happy to know you had a successful visit to Burma, and I'll look forward to hearing more about the trip upon your return.

In the meantime, I wanted you to know that we were able to resolve the matter I mentioned in an earlier e-mail (see below) involving thorough fact-checking of the information for the letter to Congress regarding the Murrow facility, and that letter went to the Hill. It will be included in the briefing books that (b) (6) and her team are sending to Board members tomorrow, but in the meantime I've attached a copy for you.

Wishing you a safe trip home,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 6:13 PM
To: Vhashe@aol.com
Subject: RE: Letter to two NC congressmen

I completely agree, both from the point of view of this agency and my previous job at State, which has a large legislative affairs team and still sometimes sees long delays in responding to incoming correspondence.

But as a former senior congressional staffer serving the chairmen of two foreign affairs committees, I also expected Executive Branch agencies to be thorough and accurate in their replies.

Appreciate your making the distinction between my team's effort and the source of the delay. We'll get it done a.s.a.p.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com <mailto:Vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 6:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Letter to two NC congressmen

I think it is important to be timely in answering congress...three weeks is pushing it in my view...not to be critical of you or your team but it should not take too long.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/29/2012 5:46:15 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good evening, Victor –

Apparently an internal fact-checking process involving more than one office is taking some time, but (b) (6) is staying on top of it. She received an update today, and is working to ensure that an accurate response is sent soon.

We'll send the final version to the Board.

Best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 5:30 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Letter to two NC congressmen

Lynne

Any idea when the letter from Congressmen Jones and Butterfield will be answered as it has been about three weeks now from when it arrived.

Thanks for letting me know. Will it be circulated to Board members?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 4:42 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Cc: Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: panel

we as Board members will get questions both before and afterwards. I want to know the ground rules in advance. With 15 to 20 persons present at the panels I am sure word will leak out as it always does anyway but if asked I want to know the ground rules. i think participants might ought to be asked.

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 4:35 pm
Subject: RE: panel

Victor, you will see my subsequent note about (b) (6) I reached him but, unfortunately, he is not available. We have told the panelists that the sessions are closed, so that they – including the journalists in harm's way in Russia – can speak frankly. To be fair to them we would have to ask them first about whether the mind their names being released.

Rgds
Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 4:31 PM
To: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: panel

What happened to (b) (6)? He was on the first list?

is this list public or private even though panel is closed?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Bruce Sherman (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 2:02 pm
Subject: RE: panel
Governor Ashe,

I've attached the bios for both sets of confirmed panelists. Jeff is still working on the final set of guidance to the panelists, so I'll send that along when it's complete, but for now I also attached the initial invite letter template that we used.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

(b) (6)

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 1:52 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: panel

(b) (6)
pls send Gov Ashe the list and guidance to the panelists.

Jeff, as you know, is a Russian expert (and speaker) and has been very involved in selecting panelists and framing issues and questions to address. He will moderate the panel discussion. So copying him.

Hope you had a good trip to Burma. I'll look forward to hearing your impressions.

Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 6, 2012, at 1:15 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Bruce

who will be on the Russia panels next Dec 13? What is the latest?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 4:33 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Cc: Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: panel

this answers the question I had sent on (b) (6) ...thanks for letting me know. Is the list for the panel considered close hold or can be told to people asking. I realize panel is closed.

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 3:02 pm
Subject: RE: panel

Victor, thanks for your continued interest in these panels. Wanted you to know that I had a good conversation with (b) (6) who you had suggested as a possible panelist and who was at the top of my list as well. John wanted to participate but could not, due to an out-of-town obligation in connection with consulting work that he is doing now in the private sector.

We have a good range of participants, including leading journalists who are working now in Russia or worked there in the past, and who can bring current, thoughtful knowledge about the worsening media situation and about the opportunities that might be available for VOA and RFE/RL.

We expect representatives from State and the Hill to be on hand as well – we don't yet have a final list of those who will attend.

Regards

Jeff

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 2:03 PM
To: Bruce Sherman; vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: RE: panel

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(b) (6)

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To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: panel

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Victor Ashe

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Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
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Victor Ashe

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Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
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Sent from my iPhone

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Bruce

who will be on the Russia panels next Dec 13? What is the latest?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, December 07, 2012 11:24 PM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble;

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Subject: Re: agenda for RFE/RL Board meeting

Who will be present for the audit report listed on agenda? Will the auditor be there? If so, which auditors? (b) (6) and/or someone on his team? Will CFO of RFE be there? other financial folks? Is audit completed? If not, what remains to be done? How much is done and will full Board and three audit committee members be sent a preliminary report to review prior to the meeting? In other words what will we have prior to the meeting which we can review and think over?

Hopefully someone from RFERL management can answer this?

Victor Ashe

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

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Dec 7, 2012 11:14 pm

Subject: agenda for RFE/RL Board meeting

Governors:

Attached is the agenda for the Board meeting of RFE/RL, Inc., which will take place on December 14 at 8:00 AM. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

Best regards,

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, December 07, 2012 10:11 PM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; [REDACTED] (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: BBG December Meeting Materials

Where is the agenda for the RFERL Board meeting? IS it here? I only saw monthly RFERL report. Am I missing it?
Victor Ashe

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

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <[REDACTED] (b) (6)>

Sent: Sat, Dec 8, 2012 6:56 am
Subject: BBG December Meeting Materials

Dear Governors,

Attached please find an agenda for next week's BBG meetings, briefing materials, minutes and monthly reports.

On Thursday, December 13, the Strategy and Budget Committee will hold a panel on Russia from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., followed by a panel on Iran from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. All Governors are welcome and encouraged to participate by phone or attend in person.

A Governance Committee meeting is also scheduled in the afternoon from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

On Friday, December 14, an RFE/RL Corporate Board meeting is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., followed by other BBG-related meetings.

Details are in the attached agenda.

Briefing books for the Committee and Board meetings have been sent by FedEx to your home or office.

See you next week!

(b) (6)

List of attached materials:

Meeting Agenda

Tab 1 Media Citations of BBG Broadcasters by Other Media

Tab 2 Draft Minutes of October 11, 2012 Meeting

Tab 3a Report of Strategy & Budget Cmte Meeting on Nov 15

Tab 3b Report of Strategy & Budget Cmte Meeting on Nov 1

Tab 3c Report of Strategy & Budget Cmte Meeting on Aug 28

Tab 3d Report of Strategy & Budget Cmte Meeting on Aug 2

Tab 4 Draft Resolution Honoring Dana Perino

Tab 5 Draft Resolution Honoring Maryjean Buhler

Tab 6 OCB Monthly Report

Tab 7 VOA Monthly Report

Tab 8 RFE/RL Monthly Report

Tab 9 RFA Monthly Report

Tab 10 MBN Monthly Report

Tab 11 IBB Monthly Report

BBG Online Mobile Statistics

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, December 08, 2012 10:57 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: MBN Resolutions (Approval Requested)

I am there whole time can do it anytime Victor

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeff Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, Dec 8, 2012 9:27 am
Subject: Re: MBN Resolutions (Approval Requested)

I will be at the meeting on Friday the 14th.
I will be away from noon til 2 that day.

if we need to do an MBN meeting we could go early or break from public meeting at 245 and do it then.

Lynton and McCue plan on leaving at 3.

Dana in Nevada for Fox and not sure if she can join by call.

Don't know of Dennis or Tara's schedule that day either.

we need 4 for quorum. maybe after the RFE meeting in the am?

Michael Meehan
(b) (6)

From: "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com>
To: (b) (6)
Sent: Saturday, December 8, 2012 8:56 AM
Subject: Re: MBN Resolutions (Approval Requested)

surely we can just do it...suggest working it in around noon. Meehan needs to approve. and (b) (6) send out notice.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) 'vhashe@aol.com' <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Sat, Dec 8, 2012 8:55 am

Subject: Re: MBN Resolutions (Approval Requested)

If time is available a short MBN meeting on Friday would be the preferred approach.

(b) (6)

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)

To: vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Fri Dec 07 22:21:18 2012

Subject: RE: MBN Resolutions (Approval Requested)

Can we meet on Friday to take up these resolutions?

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, December 07, 2012 10:14 PM

To: (b) (6) Michael Meehan; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: MBN Resolutions (Approval Requested)

I generally do not approve of such an approach. I do not see Tara Sonenshine included on this list and she is a Board member. While I am not declining to agree, please call me on Tuesday Dec 11 when I am back in USA to go over these with me. I feel MBN meeting even for 10 minutes is preferable to notational voting but I am willing to be persuaded in this case. My general view is that a

full meeting where this can be discussed and explained in front of all members is best.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) Vhashe <Vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Sat, Dec 8, 2012 3:56 am

Subject: MBN Resolutions (Approval Requested)

To: MBN Board of Directors

From: (b) (6)

Re: Resolutions (Attached)

Date: December 7, 2012

Please find, attached, three resolutions for your review and approval. All three concern issues of routine corporate housekeeping (two regarding MBN's registration in Egypt; one regarding MBN's registration in Israel).

The resolutions are being sent today because MBN's Director of Global Administrative Operations will be traveling to Israel early next week, and it would be helpful if he could deliver the sealed copy of the Israel resolution while there.

Thank you.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, December 08, 2012 8:43 AM

To: (b) (6)

Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: agenda for RFE/RL Board meeting

We should know who is expected to be present at the meeting. Is (b) (6) attending? Who else? Who from auditing firm?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Dec 7, 2012 11:14 pm

Subject: agenda for RFE/RL Board meeting

Governors:

Attached is the agenda for the Board meeting of RFE/RL, Inc., which will take place on December 14 at 8:00 AM. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2012 12:01 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: item with travel

Here in Bangkok, I ran into (b) (6) who will be moving to Bangkok in the near future. She told me a most unusual experience with travel office at BBG which ought to be corrected and I am bringing it to your attention.

She does not yet have a diplomatic passport and has to use her personal passport which the BBG Travel declined to include in its courier service because it was not diplomatic. Yet her trip to Myanmar and Thailand was on official business. Therefore she had to hire a taxi and take time off from work to secure this which cost BBG the taxi fare and time off. This is a case where there should be some flexibility to accommodate unusual but legitimate situations. Is there anyway this rule can be modified to prevent similar issues in the future?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:45 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

This is what makes it hard to understand why BBG gives them a waiver...because it would require extra work for us...and delay research....not sure I understand the logic here. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/10/2012 9:43:10 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

It sure seems like something serious if Homeland Security has suspended them across the entire Executive Branch. Has this happened before to other outside vendors as established as Gallup? Are there other polling companies with the international reach of Gallup that could be quickly considered? Many questions - we can discuss Thurs/Fri. Thanks

On Dec 10, 2012, at 9:36 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Fully agree with Gov. Meehan. While I do not mean to be critical of Director Lobo, I would have preferred that he had waited on his finding until the Board had met with him and talked it over. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/10/2012 7:16:56 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Let's put on the agenda for this week the need to reopen the polling contact. Thx.

From: (b) (6)

Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2012 22:42:10 +0000

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>

Subject: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

Governors,

We have learned that The Gallup Organization (GALLUP) was suspended from doing business with the Federal Government on December 6, 2012 by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA ("the Suspending Official"). GALLUP was notified by certified mail, but has not yet indicated that it knows about the suspension. Nevertheless, we anticipate that there could be press reports concerning the suspension soon.

We will provide additional information about this matter during Governors' Briefing this Friday morning.

The Suspending Official's action indicates there is evidence that immediate action is necessary to protect the Government's interest. GALLUP's suspension is effective throughout the Executive Branch, including BBG. Under the law, contractors suspended are excluded from receiving contracts and Executive Branch agencies are precluded from soliciting offers from or awarding contracts to, or consenting to subcontracts with these contractors, unless the Agency determines that there is a compelling reason to do so.

A contractor suspension endures for a temporary period, pending the completion of investigations and any ensuing legal proceedings, unless sooner terminated by the Suspending Official. If legal proceedings are not initiated within 12 months after the date of the suspension notice, the suspension shall be terminated unless the Assistant Attorney General requests its extension, in which case it may be extended for an additional 6 months.

What this means for BBG?

BBG may continue its existing contract with GALLUP, but may not issue task orders under the contract unless the Agency finds that there is a compelling reason to do so.

Based on input from the Director of Strategy and Development, the Office of General Counsel and the Agency's Procurement Executive, I believe that there is a compelling reason to continue to issue task orders for research to Gallup on an interim basis. The International Broadcasting Act mandates BBG to conduct audience research, which is used to evaluate and assess the impact of BBG-sponsored broadcasting activities, which is also required by law. To replace GALLUP as a source of research, BBG will have to initiate a new procurement activity, a competitive process which is governed by the Federal Acquisition Regulations (the FAR), and could take 3 – 5 months (but may take up to a year) to conclude.

Because of the statutory mandate for research and the important programmatic role of audience research in BBG's activities, I have determined, as IBB Director, that there is a compelling reason to continue to award task orders for research to GALLUP under its existing contract until an alternate source of research can be responsibly procured. The Agency will begin work forthwith on a new procurement to replace GALLUP.

If GALLUP's suspension is terminated during the pendency of the new procurement activity, BBG would have adequate justification to cancel the new procurement if it were in the Agency's interest to do so.

Dick

(b) (6)

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:37 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

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the law, contractors suspended are excluded from receiving contracts and Executive Branch agencies are precluded from soliciting offers from or awarding contracts to, or consenting to subcontracts with these contractors, unless the Agency determines that there is a compelling reason to do so.

A contractor suspension endures for a temporary period, pending the completion of investigations and any ensuing legal proceedings, unless sooner terminated by the Suspending Official. If legal proceedings are not initiated within 12 months after the date of the suspension notice, the suspension shall be terminated unless the Assistant Attorney General requests its extension, in which case it may be extended for an additional 6 months.

What this means for BBG?

BBG may continue its existing contract with GALLUP, but may not issue task orders under the contract unless the Agency finds that there is a compelling reason to do so.

Based on input from the Director of Strategy and Development, the Office of General Counsel and the Agency's Procurement Executive, I believe that there is a compelling reason to continue to issue task orders for research to Gallup on an interim basis. The International Broadcasting Act mandates BBG to conduct audience research, which is used to evaluate and assess the impact of BBG-sponsored broadcasting activities, which is also required by law. To replace GALLUP as a source of research, BBG will have to initiate a new procurement activity, a competitive process which is governed by the Federal Acquisition Regulations (the FAR), and could take 3 – 5 months (but may take up to a year) to conclude.

Because of the statutory mandate for research and the important programmatic role of audience research in BBG's activities, I have determined, as IBB Director, that there is a compelling reason to continue to award task orders for research to GALLUP under its existing contract until an alternate source of research can be responsibly procured. The Agency will begin work forthwith on a new procurement to replace GALLUP.

If GALLUP's suspension is terminated during the pendency of the new procurement activity, BBG would have adequate justification to cancel the new procurement if it were in the Agency's interest to do so.

Dick

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:34 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

This is most disturbing and suggests the Board needs to consider the matter this week. I feel the IBB Director should seek advice from the Board on this matter and not act without our advice.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/10/2012 5:42:48 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

We have learned that The Gallup Organization (GALLUP) was suspended from doing business with the Federal Government on December 6, 2012 by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA ("the Suspending Official"). GALLUP was notified by certified mail, but has not yet indicated that it knows about the suspension. Nevertheless, we anticipate that there could be press reports concerning the suspension soon.

We will provide additional information about this matter during Governors' Briefing this Friday morning.

The Suspending Official's action indicates there is evidence that immediate action is necessary to protect the Government's interest. GALLUP's suspension is effective throughout the Executive Branch, including BBG. Under the law, contractors suspended are excluded from receiving contracts and Executive Branch agencies are precluded from soliciting offers from or awarding contracts to, or consenting to subcontracts with these contractors, unless the Agency determines that there is a compelling reason to do so.

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If GALLUP's suspension is terminated during the pendency of the new procurement activity, BBG would have adequate justification to cancel the new procurement if it were in the Agency's interest to do so.

Dick

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2012 4:46 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

very important that we do so...Thanks Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/11/2012 1:32:36 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:
We'll discuss in full during this week's meetings.

Dick

Sent from my iPad

On Dec 11, 2012, at 1:17 AM, Michael Meehan (b) (6) wrote:
Let's put on the agenda for this week the need to reopen the polling contact.
Thx.

From: (b) (6)
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2012 22:42:10 +0000
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

Governors,

We have learned that The Gallup Organization (GALLUP) was suspended from doing business with the Federal Government on December 6, 2012 by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA ("the Suspending Official"). GALLUP was notified by certified mail, but has not yet indicated that it knows about the suspension. Nevertheless, we anticipate that there could be press reports concerning the suspension soon.

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If GALLUP's suspension is terminated during the pendency of the new procurement activity, BBG would have adequate justification to cancel the new procurement if it were in the Agency's interest to do so.

Dick

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 8:12 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Follow-up Letter from Rep. Rohrabacher RE: Non-Citizen Hiring

We should recognize that the congressman is not going to let this issue slide. I think it is important that Director Lobo make an appointment with the Congressman along with (b) (6) to talk it thru. We should reach out to him. These letter exchanges are going nowhere. We should discuss this at Governors meeting on Friday.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
(b) (6) Lynne Weil <(b) (6)> Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Dec 12, 2012 5:23 pm
Subject: Follow-up Letter from Rep. Rohrabacher RE: Non-Citizen Hiring

Dear Governors,

Rep. Rohrabacher (R-CA) has sent a follow-up letter regarding non-citizen hiring.

We will review and draft a response.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 3:57 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: UPDATED: Russia/Iran panel details

thanks for all your work and help on this. Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Dec 12, 2012 3:39 pm
Subject: UPDATED: Russia/Iran panel details

Dear Governors, attached are updated documents for Thursday's Russia and Iran strategy panels. We're pleased that (b) (6), State's main Iran watcher based in Dubai, will join the Iran panel in the afternoon.

It's important, due to logistics and time constraints, that we begin on time: 9 a.m. on Russia; 1 p.m. on Iran.

We look forward to robust, lively discussions.

Regards
Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2012 7:39 AM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: cannot print out materials

(b) (6)

I cannot print out the materials which you and Jeff Trimble have sent me...starting with the Dick Lobo letter on Gallup, Rohrabacker second letter, answer to congressman Jones, Trimble mail on today's panels, and add ons to BBG meeting tomorrow.

Can you print these out and give them to me today prior to panel discussion?

Hotel printer is lacking

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2012 9:00 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6) Dana Perino; (u) (u) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

If she wants to speak...fine with me...suggest a 4 or 5 minute limit for future and this one.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine
(b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (u) (u) Dana Perino
(u) (u) Michael Meehan (u) (u) Richard M. Lobo (u) (u) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 13, 2012 4:02 pm
Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Hello, (b) (6)

I am unaware of any further discussion among the Governors on this topic since your November 30 exchange about it with the recipients of this e-mail chain. Should there be a decision, I will be happy to let you know.

Looking forward to seeing you tomorrow,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2012 4:43:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)
Dana Perino; Michael Meehan; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynne:

My reservation to attend tomorrow's meeting has been confirmed. I have arrived in DC.

I am most hopeful that by now there has been a decision made about permitting me or not permitting me to provide a 3 minute comment during tomorrow's meeting. Please let me know.

Thank you.

All the best,

(b) (6)

From: lweil@bbg.gov
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com;
(b) (6)
Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting
Date: Fri, 30 Nov 2012 15:30:10 +0000

Hello, (b) (6)

Thank you for the additional information, which will further inform the discussion.

As indicated below, the choice was not mine alone and involved consultation with Board leadership. Now that all of the Governors have been engaged on the matter, I'll be back in touch with you on their decision when it is made.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 10:17 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)
Dana Perino; Michael Meehan; (b) (6)
Subject: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynn:

What a shame. If the BBG invites the public, why not allow for comment? Are there any specific rules within the BBG that prevent public comments at meetings?

Here are some links to show that the public's verbal comments are welcome at other federal agency meetings.

This is a link to the meeting regulations for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/brochures/br0297/br0297.pdf>

This is a link to a meeting announcement for Department of Health and Human Services Meeting of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS:

<http://aids.gov/federal-resources/pacha/meetings/2010/june-2010-meeting-notice.pdf>

It's my understanding that one benefit of the Sunshine Act was so that government wouldn't hold "closed door, we're not doing anything good and we don't want anyone to know that" type meetings.

I'd like to request the proper channels through which I can appeal your decision to deny a 3-minute comment at the BBG's December 14, 2012 Full Board Meeting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

CC: (b) (6)

Subject: RE:

Date: Thu, 29 Nov 2012 18:01:54 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

Thanks again for your ongoing interest in US international broadcasting.

Sorry it took a little while to get back to you, but since the request from a member of the public to make remarks at the open meeting has no precedent that anyone here is aware of, I needed to check with several people, including Board leadership.

Unfortunately, the press of regular business at open Board meetings does not leave time for speaking requests from the public. There is an opportunity at periodic "town hall" type meetings. This board has held one such meeting and is working to identify the next available date.

When the notice is posted for the Board's December 14 open meeting in keeping with the Government in the Sunshine Act, there will be the usual opportunity for members of the public to attend as observers on a first-come, first-served basis. As a courtesy, I will flag the notice for your attention when BBG Public Affairs posts it. As you know, members of the public are invited to observe at these meetings.

If you have input you'd like to offer, I'm happy to facilitate that with the Board.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 11:21 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:

Good morning, (b) (6)

I've received your request and am checking on the process from this end. I hope to get back to you by the end of the day.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 9:01 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject:

Dear Lynne:

This is a request to attend and to speak for 3 minutes at the upcoming BBG Full Board Meeting on December 14, 2012.

Please let me know how to proceed with this request or to whom else I should direct this request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 14, 2012 7:10 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; Dana Perino; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

no need to make this complicated....just establish public forum and a time limit for agenda.

I did it for 16 years at city council. It becomes routine pretty fast

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine <(b) (6)>; Dana Perino <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble (p) (o)
Sent: Fri, Dec 14, 2012 6:59 pm
Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

I am glad that the Board today decided to consider this matter. We will research and recommend policy options for the Governance Committee to review after the holidays as requested below.

Best regards to all,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, December 14, 2012 6:13 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; Dana Perino; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (p) (o)
Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

agree..should have a time limit 3 to 5 mins each....Victor

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

From: Susan McCue <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: lweil (b) (6)

(b) (6); jtrimble (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Dec 14, 2012 5:03 pm

Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Lynne (and team) can you give thoughts over the holidays about how to structure public comments in the future? With some ideas in hand, we'll convene the Governance Cmt to recommend a policy for the full board.

We should have one in place for the next meeting.

Thanks all, and if I do not see you before the New Year, have a safe, peaceful and inspiring holiday break.

Susan

On Dec 13, 2012, at 9:00 PM, vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

If she wants to speak...fine with me...suggest a 4 or 5 minute limit for future and this one.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine

(b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Dana Perino
<(b) (6)>; Michael Meehan (b) (6); Richard
M. Lobo (b) (6); >; Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Dec 13, 2012 4:02 pm

Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Hello, (b) (6)

I am unaware of any further discussion among the Governors on this topic since your November 30 exchange about it with the recipients of this e-mail chain. Should there be a decision, I will be happy to let you know.

Looking forward to seeing you tomorrow,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2012 4:43:21 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine;

vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com>; s (b) (6); Dana Perino; Michael Meehan;

(b) (6)

Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynne:

My reservation to attend tomorrow's meeting has been confirmed. I have arrived in DC.

I am most hopeful that by now there has been a decision made about permitting me or not permitting me to provide a 3 minute comment during tomorrow's meeting. Please let me know.

Thank you.

All the best,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

CC: (b) (6)

vhashe@aol.com;

(b) (6)

Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Date: Fri, 30 Nov 2012 15:30:10 +0000

Hello, (b) (6)

Thank you for the additional information, which will further inform the discussion.

As indicated below, the choice was not mine alone and involved consultation with Board leadership. Now that all of the Governors have been engaged on the matter, I'll be back in touch with you on their decision when it is made.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 10:17 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6)

Tara Sonenshine;

vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com>; s (b) (6); Dana Perino; Michael Meehan;

(b) (6)

Subject: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Dear Lynn:

What a shame. If the BBG invites the public, why not allow for comment? Are there any specific rules within the BBG that prevent public comments at meetings?

Here are some links to show that the public's verbal comments are welcome at other federal agency meetings.

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Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS:

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It's my understanding that one benefit of the Sunshine Act was so that government wouldn't hold "closed door, we're not doing anything good and we don't want anyone to know that" type meetings.

I'd like to request the proper channels through which I can appeal your decision to deny a 3-minute comment at the BBG's December 14, 2012 Full Board Meeting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:
Date: Thu, 29 Nov 2012 18:01:54 +0000
Dear (b) (6)

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If you have input you'd like to offer, I'm happy to facilitate that with the Board.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 11:21 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:

Good morning, (b) (6)

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Best regards,

Lynne

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Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 9:01 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject:

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Thank you.

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(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 14, 2012 6:14 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine;
Dana Perino; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

agree..should have a time limit 3 to 5 mins each....Victor
-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: lweil (b) (6)

jtrimble (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Dec 14, 2012 5:03 pm

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From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine

<(b) (6)> vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6) Dana Perino
(b) (6); Michael Meehan (b) (6) Richard
M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

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Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2012 4:43:21 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)

Dana Perino; Michael Meehan; (b) (6); Jeff Shell

Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

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All the best,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

CC: (b) (6)

vhashe@aol.com;

(b) (6)

Subject: RE: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

Date: Fri, 30 Nov 2012 15:30:10 +0000

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Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 10:17 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6)

Tara Sonenshine; vhashe@aol.com;

(b) (6)

Dana Perino; Michael Meehan; (b) (6) Jeff Shell

Subject: Request to comment at BBG Dec 14 Meeting

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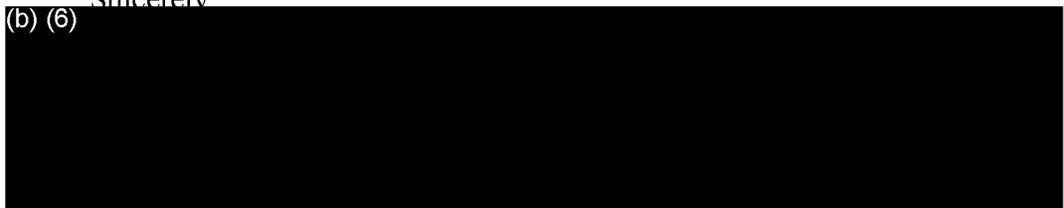
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Thank you.

Sincerely

(b) (6)



From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:
Date: Thu, 29 Nov 2012 18:01:54 +0000
Dear (b) (6)

Thanks again for your ongoing interest in US international broadcasting.

Sorry it took a little while to get back to you, but since the request from a member of the public to make remarks at the open meeting has no precedent that anyone here is aware of, I needed to check with several people, including Board leadership.

Unfortunately, the press of regular business at open Board meetings does not leave time for speaking requests from the public. There is an opportunity at periodic "town hall" type meetings. This board has held one such meeting and is working to identify the next available date.

When the notice is posted for the Board's December 14 open meeting in keeping with the Government in the Sunshine Act, there will be the usual opportunity for members of the public to attend as observers on a first-come, first-served basis. As a courtesy, I will flag the notice for your attention when BBG Public Affairs posts it. As you know, members of the public are invited to observe at these meetings.

If you have input you'd like to offer, I'm happy to facilitate that with the Board.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 11:21 AM
To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE:

Good morning, (b) (6)

I've received your request and am checking on the process from this end. I hope to get back to you by the end of the day.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 9:01 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject:

Dear Lynne:

This is a request to attend and to speak for 3 minutes at the upcoming BBG Full Board Meeting on December 14, 2012.

Please let me know how to proceed with this request or to whom else I should direct this request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, December 15, 2012 12:57 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

ana

Perino
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Secretary Clinton injured

very sorry.

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) Michael
Meehan (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Dana Perino (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Sat, Dec 15, 2012 12:25 pm
Subject: Secretary Clinton injured

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate
Release

December 15, 2012

2012/1993

STATEMENT BY PHILIPPE REINES, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

While suffering from a stomach virus, Secretary Clinton became dehydrated and fainted, sustaining a concussion. She has been recovering at home and will continue to be monitored regularly by her doctors. At their recommendation, she will continue to work from home next week, staying in regular contact with Department and other officials. She is looking forward to being back in the office soon.

###

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 17, 2012 6:18 PM
To: Lynne Weil; [REDACTED] (b) (6) Dana Perino;
Tara Sonenshine
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Senator Inouye

this is very sad and yes we should send a letter of condolences to his widow.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/17/2012 6:17:02 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, [REDACTED] (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

As you may have seen from news coverage*, Senator Daniel Inouye has passed away. We will be monitoring further coverage to establish the means by which to send a condolence note to his family if you would like to do that.

During Senator Inouye's hospitalization, Senator Patrick Leahy has been fulfilling his leadership duties, including floor-managing current appropriations legislation. There has been no announcement of a successor to Senator Inouye as chairman of the Appropriations Committee.

Lynne

Hawaii Sen. Daniel Inouye dies at age 88

By Chris Cillizza , Updated: December 17, 2012

Hawaii Democratic Sen. Daniel Inouye has died at age 88, his office confirmed Monday night.

His last word, according to a statement released by his staff, was "Aloha".

Inouye has been hospitalized since early December due to respiratory problems. His cause of death was "respiratory complications".

Inouye had served in the Senate since 1962 and represented Hawaii since 1954. He served as the Senate pro tempore — the designation for the chamber's longest serving Senator — and the person third in line to the presidency. He also chaired the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee at the time of his death.

As the Post's Jason Horowitz wrote in a 2010 profile of Inouye <<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/04/AR2010100403606.html>> :

“More than any other statesman in the history of these volcanic islands — more than Kamehameha the Great, who united them into a kingdom in 1810, or Gov. John Burns, who led the political revolution that established Democratic Party rule here in 1954 — Inouye, 86, has ruled over Hawaii.”

Immediately following Inouye's death, his colleagues took to the Senate floor to remember him. "His service to the Senate will be with the greats of this body," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (Nev.).

Inouye's seat will be filled by an appointment by Gov. Neil Abercrombie (D). He will pick from three finalists provided by the state Democratic Party. State law requires that Inouye must be replaced by a senator from the same political party. Inouye's seat is up for a full term in 2016.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 17, 2012 11:20 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Moscow review

Jeff

I want to urge you to do the Moscow RFERL review as quickly as possible and not take 6 months. While it is not your fault I am disturbed by comments attributed to (b) (6) claiming no one expressed concern about RFERL. Did she not hear (b) (6) ?

Your appointment is designed to bring back soon an objective analysis of what happened and suggestions on how to remedy it.

Feel free to call so we can discuss if you wish.

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 8:10 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; IBB (b) (6)

Subject: Re: GAO Draft Report - BBG: Additional Steps Needed to Address Overlap in Int...

I would also like to have a copy of the draft. You can fed ex to me here in Knoxville. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/18/2012 8:08:43 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

can i get a copy of the draft ?

On Dec 18, 2012, at 6:46 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Hopefully the Board will be consulted on the response. I believe we should have a phone call to go over what all this means and the full implications.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/18/2012 6:23:11 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Last Friday, we received a copy of the GAO draft report, "Broadcasting Board of Governors – Additional Steps Needed to Address Overlap in International Broadcasting."

As you will recall, the GAO began this engagement at the request of the Chair and Ranking Member and joined by other members of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the Federal Workforce. GAO's brief from its Congressional sponsors was to "examine the extent to which (1) BBG language services overlap with one another and (2) BBG broadcasts in the same languages as other international broadcasters."

While the draft report references efforts pursuant to the agency's strategic plan and budget requests to reduce overlap, its rather simplistic mandate and its methodology in quantifying the extent of overlap, as presented in GAO's summary findings, are misleading. GAO finds that "nearly two-thirds of the BBG's language services – offices that produce content for particular languages and regions – overlap with another BBG service by offering programs to the same countries in the same languages." GAO cites the cost of supporting these programs at about \$149 million – nearly 20 percent of the agency's total budget. Over the next few weeks, staff will be working with GAO to refine portions of its draft report and ask for modifications in its methodology to avoid "headlines" that will be misleading outside the context of the full report.

GAO's draft report also contains two recommendations for the BBG:

The BBG should ensure that BBG's annual language service review includes systematic consideration of the cost and impact of internal overlap among BBG entities' language services.

The BBG should ensure that BBG's annual language service review includes systematic consideration of the activities of U.S. commercial broadcasters and other democratic nations' broadcasters, such as the languages used and the countries served. GAO review started in March 2012 and included a review of agency proposals and strategies for streamlining USIB, focusing on challenges related to program overlap and coordination. GAO's researchers met with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity, and also met with officials of the State Department, USAID, and experts from other organizations, including the DG-5 broadcasters. GAO did not review management and administrative streamlining proposals of the BBG, except to the extent they might affect program overlap.

We will review and provide comments to the GAO by January 11. The final report will be a public document, and will include the BBG's formal comments in an appendix to the report.

Because the current report status is "restricted to official use only," we must safeguard it to prevent its improper disclosure. Please let us know if you are interested in receiving a copy of this draft report and we will send it to you.

The draft report includes this direction from GAO: "This draft report is being provided to obtain advance review and comment. It has not been fully reviewed within GAO and is subject to revision. Recipients of this draft must not, under any circumstances, show or release its contents for other than official review and comment. It must be safeguarded to prevent improper disclosure. This draft and all copies remain the property of, and must be returned on demand to, the Government Accountability Office."

Thank you.

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 6:47 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: OIG Notification - Audit of BBG Compliance with Improper Payments Informa...

Someone needs to translate this into English and tell us what is really going on here. What has occurred to trigger this?

Victor

In a message dated 12/18/2012 6:25:36 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) v writes:

Dear Governors,

The Board and IBB Director Lobo just received the attached OIG notification regarding a new audit entitled, "Audit of Broadcasting Board of Governors Compliance with the Improper Payments Information Act."

We will provide additional information about the audit as we receive it.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 6:47 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO Draft Report - BBG: Additional Steps Needed to Address Overlap in Int...

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Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 3:16 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Dana Perino;
(b) (6) Tara Sonenshine
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Proposed statement on events in Russia

I do not concur with support for (b) (6) at this stage. My hope is that the Board directed review by Jeff Trimble will include an assessment of (b) (6) and whether she is the right person to lead RFERL in Moscow or outside Russia if Putin removes RFERL from Russia which I think is more likely than not over the next year or so.

However, I find it disappointing and offensive that the current RFERL leadership has not provided the materials which the Strategy and Budget Committee requested on (b) (6). That includes a copy of her contract and salary information. Information on the search process which produced her. To date the information has been withheld. This was the subject of a strong conversation between (b) (6) and Gov. Meehan in November before a large number of persons at RFA headquarters on M Street.

Jeff Trimble needs to look at the current programming under (b) (6) how the fired employees are treated and strategy to win back dissidents to like RFERL again. We need to give a statement to Jeff as to what he needs to do. He also needs to complete it by April (not 6 months from now).

If a majority of the Board insists on backing (b) (6) then it seems to me that the Board has tacitly condoned the 41 firings in Moscow as I have been told that (b) (6) played a significant role in these firings. Trimble needs to review how her role as a paid consultant to RFERL prior to her becoming Moscow director may have impacted the decision to terminate these people and then quickly hire 11 to 13 of her people to fill some of those positions. I will not in good conscience sign off on a statement in support of (b) (6). Her future at RFERL is still to be determined in my opinion. Endorsing her at this stage is putting the cart before the horse. If a majority of the Board issues such a statement, I will issue an opposing view respectfully differing.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/18/2012 2:29:59 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

(b) (6) requested that we circulate this statement for Board consideration, to be released in the Board's name:

“We wish to reiterate our support for (b) (6) leadership as the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Russian Service Director. The review of the situation mandated by the Board will include an assessment of RFE/RL's operations in Russia and the events of the past few months in order to draw lessons as we reaffirm our historic mission and continue to work to strengthen the service in the months and years ahead.”

Please let us know your views.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 2:27 PM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (U) (S)
Subject: entities advised on Gallup

The three entities to the degree they are impacted by Gallup research should be advised of the Board's discussions and thinking from Dec 14 on this.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 5:32 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Moscow awards

great..but I assumed the holidays would effectively delay it to Dec 26 at earliest but if you can do it earlier terrific...it is the right call. It is a small step towards healing. I assume RFERL does not oppose it..(b) (6) but I do not know.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/21/2012 5:28:28 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

We will aim to post it next week, irrespective of religious observances, as soon as we have the facts straight.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 5:09 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Moscow awards

does this mean after Christmas (like Wed or Thurs) which would congratulate them?

Victor

In a message dated 12/21/2012 5:07:20 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

It has taken several people in three time zones --both within this agency and outside -- to determine the facts involving the recognitions to which (b) (6) has drawn the Board's attention, as well as the additional information that he e-mailed to you today.

We have been working with RFE/RL on a news release. Unfortunately, the information is incomplete. And given the hour in Prague, we do not expect to have everything in place today. But we will aim to post a release next week.

In the meantime, I return your cordial holiday greetings and wish you a peaceful weekend.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 10:50 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Moscow awards

wonderful

In a message dated 12/21/2012 10:47:56 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

I promise that you will hear from me again today.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 10:45 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Moscow awards

I look forward to hearing from all and hopefully sometime today if possible.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/21/2012 9:17:24 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning, Victor --

Thank you for the heads-up that you intend to issue a statement if the agency does not.

A bit of insight into how agency news releases regarding the grantees have been done until now: We do not control the grantees' websites. And if a grantee has not issued a release about a matter concerning its programming or personnel -- or worked in tandem with the agency on a release -- then the BBG has not issued one, either.

So if, for instance, the former head of an RFA language service were to receive an award, we would either elevate RFA's news release through BBG Public Affairs or work with RFA on a release.

This doesn't have to remain the case. I appreciate your reasoning, and am interested in hearing more views. Since not everyone who is relevant to this conversation is in the office yet or copied on this e-mail, let me come back to you with more thoughts a little later.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 7:32 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Moscow awards

Lynne

I have seen the e mails with you from (b) (6) on the awards given in Moscow to two former journalists at RFERL in Moscow for their work when they were employed at RFERL. They received the significant Sakharov awards. The people in question are (b) (6).

Apparently there has not been recognition by RFERL or BBG on this. Despite these two persons no longer working for RFERL, when they did work there they had an excellent record and obviously with these awards it was recognized by others.

Does BBG plan to issue a statement or recognize their achievements on our web site or RFERL web site? If (b) (6) for example received an award for his VOA work we would recognize it despite him no longer working at VOA.

If not, I am inclined to make a statement alone congratulating them and wishing them well but it would be more significant if it came from the whole BBG. I cannot think of a reason not to do it and it might be a giant step towards healing and reconciliation which is needed in Moscow at this time. Also coming at this season of the year it seems even more appropriate. As you recall I asked (b) (6) what her strategy to win back the disaffected was last week. This seems to me to be a small step in that direction.

Michael Lynton recently has asked me to share my possible public statements with you before I do them and in this case I am willing to forgo one if BBG or RFERL does something. However, in the absence of a BBG or RFERL statement I feel something positive about them ought to be said by at least one individual Board member unless someone can give me a good reason not to do so. I welcome feedback on this from my colleagues and management.

Happy Holidays

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jeff, are that sakharov awards like our pulitzers?

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Thank you for the heads-up that you intend to issue a statement if the agency does not.

A bit of insight into how agency news releases regarding the grantees have been done until now: We do not control the grantees' websites. And if a grantee has not issued a release about a matter concerning its programming or personnel -- or worked in tandem with the agency on a release -- then the BBG has not issued one, either.

So if, for instance, the former head of an RFA language service were to receive an award, we would either elevate RFA's news release through BBG Public Affairs or work with RFA on a release.

This doesn't have to remain the case. I appreciate your reasoning, and am interested in hearing more views. Since not everyone who is relevant to this conversation is in the office yet or copied on this e-mail, let me come back to you with more thoughts a little later.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 7:32 AM

To: Lynne Weil

Cc: m (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Moscow awards

Lynne

I have seen the e mails with you from (b) (6) on the awards given in Moscow to two former journalists at RFERL in Moscow for their work when they were employed at RFERL. They received the significant Sakharov awards. The people in question are (b) (6).

Apparently there has not been recognition by RFERL or BBG on this. Despite these two persons no longer working for RFERL, when they did work there they had an excellent record and obviously with these awards it was recognized by others.

Does BBG plan to issue a statement or recognize their achievements on our web site or RFERL web site? If (b) (6) for example received an award for his VOA work we would recognize it despite him no longer working at VOA.

If not, I am inclined to make a statement alone congratulating them and wishing them well but it would be more significant if it came from the whole BBG. I cannot think of a reason not to do it and it might be a giant step towards healing and reconciliation which is needed in Moscow at this time. Also coming at this season of the year it seems even more appropriate. As you recall I asked (b) (6) what her strategy to win back the disaffected was last week. This seems to me to be a small step in that direction.

Michael Lynton recently has asked me to share my possible public statements with you before I do them and in this case I am willing to forgo one if BBG or RFERL does something. However, in the absence of a BBG or RFERL statement I feel something positive about them ought to be said by at least one individual Board member unless someone can give me a good reason not to do so. I welcome feedback on this from my colleagues and management.

Happy Holidays

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 10:49 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting on January 10

this looks to be very complete as is always the case with Gov Meehan. I suggest we add fiscal cliff to the agenda in case on Jan 10 it is a live issue....also a report from Jeff Trimble on his first thoughts on his survey of issues with Moscow RFERL as directed by Board. Should someone at RFERL get this too?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/21/2012 9:52:39 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Strategy & Budget Committee members,

Attached please find a proposed agenda for the Strategy and Budget Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, January 10, 2013, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. EST. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Meehan.

Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the agenda.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 10:45 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Moscow awards

I look forward to hearing from all and hopefully sometime today if possible.

Victor Ashe

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Subject: Moscow awards

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Happy Holidays

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2012 9:22 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed telecon: 9 a.m. EST Thursday

works for me Victor

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
To: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Dec 26, 2012 5:54 pm
Subject: Re: Proposed telecon: 9 a.m. EST Thursday
Works for me. Thx.

Michael Meehan.

On Dec 26, 2012, at 5:43 PM, Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) wrote:
Dear Governors – several of you have indicated that you would like to have an informal discussion about ongoing RFE/RL issues. This is short notice, but could you be available to join a telecon at 9 a.m. Thursday Washington time (Michael L., that's 9 p.m. for you; Victor, I believe that's 10 a.m. where you are)?
Please let me know if you can participate at this suggested time, or indicate what other times on Thursday could work better for you (keep in mind, pls, Gov. Lynton's 12-hour time difference with DC).
Thank you and regards
Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 11:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Moscow

understood now thanks for explaining Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: m.meehan (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Dec 27, 2012 11:45 am
Subject: RE: Moscow

Governors,

The dates I gave February 3-11, 2013 is just padding for the visa application, because for Russia you cannot arrive before the date of departure or stay longer than the date of departure.

(b) (6)

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 1:58 PM
To: (b) (6); vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Moscow

I'm there feb 7 to 10. Need to be in london 11 and 12.

From: Susan McCue (b) (6)
Date: Thu, 27 Dec 2012 13:51:47 -0500
To: <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Moscow

i will not be there for 8 days, only 4.

On Dec 27, 2012, at 1:14 PM, vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

please send my name in...would we be there for 8 days? Victor Ashe

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From: (b) (6)
To: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)> <mailto:vhashe@aol.com>
(b) (6)
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Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>

(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Dec 27, 2012 8:17 am

Subject: RE: Moscow

Governors,

The proposed travel dates are February 3-11, 2013. The Russian online visa applications have to go through the State Department we cannot deliver them directly to the Embassy. The State Department stated that the visa process takes seven days.

Additional information needed to complete the Russian online visa application: parents' names, marital status; if married spouses; name, date of birth and place of birth; do you have medical insurance that covers your stay in Russia, I cannot complete the Russian online visa application without these questions being answered. Once the Russian online visa application is complete it needs an original signature in blue ink.

Hotel reservations have been made for Governors McCue and Meehan and Jeff Trimble at the Sheraton Palace Hotel Moscow.

The Russian Embassy will be closed December 31-January 8, 2013.

Also as of December 25, the Russian online visa application may have changed. The State Department has offered to review the applications prior to submitting the completed package because there may be glitches with the online submission process.

All delegations (five or more individuals traveling together with identical entry and departure dates) we must submit a list to the State Department. The list and the visa applications should be delivered to the State Department together.

(b) (6)

From: Jeffrey Trimble

Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 10:20 AM

To: vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo

Subject: RE: Moscow

Victor, Dennis, (b) (6) can provide travel details for Michael and Susan's proposed Moscow travel, book you as needed, and get working on your visas. The last point is most important, as it takes some time to work the Russian bureaucracy, especially during their extended holiday season (Russia more or less shuts down from Jan. 1 to Jan. 15).

Rgds

Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com> [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]

Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 10:02 AM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Moscow

Jeff

thanks for your help on this. With fiscal cliff looming it is a very tough time.

I would be interested in going to Moscow in February with Suan and Michael..perhaps Dennis as well based on his

comments this morning,. I just need to know the proposed or perspective dates in Moscow.

I will make myself available for any phone calls over the next 6 days. The only day I cannot do it is Jan 3 when I am in flight back to Knoxville.

Victor

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 2:19 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo

Subject: Re: Moscow

(b) (6).same schedule for me too. Prefer United to Germany and Lufthansa into Moscow if doable.

Victor

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

From: Susan McCue <(b) (6)>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Dec 27, 2012 2:15 pm

Subject: Re: Moscow

yes i think 3 or 4 days is plenty to accomplish our goals. Based on Michael's schedule, I'll plan to depart evening of Feb 6 and return Feb 10.

On Dec 27, 2012, at 2:13 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

we need a more compact trip...hard to justify or take off 8 or 9 days.

Victor

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From: Susan McCue <(b) (6)>

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From: (b) (6)

To: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

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Cc: (u) (u)

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To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo

Subject: Re: Moscow

Feb 7 to 10 work better for me.

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
To: Susan McCue <(b) (6)>; Victor H. Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Jeff Trimble (b) (6); Dennis Mulhaupt
(b) (6); Dick Lobo (b) (6)

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Subject: Re: Moscow

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Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Moscow

(b) (6)

please let me know what dates are planned for Moscow. Visa should start early

Victor

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From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) >
Sent: Thu, Dec 27, 2012 10:25 am
Subject: RE: Moscow

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I would be interested in going to Moscow in February with Suan and Michael..perhaps Dennis as well based on his

comments this morning,. I just need to know the proposed or perspective dates in Moscow.

I will make myself available for any phone calls over the next 6 days. The only day I cannot do it is Jan 3 when I am in flight back to Knoxville.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 10:02 AM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Moscow

Jeff

thanks for your help on this. With fiscal cliff looming it is a very tough time.

I would be interested in going to Moscow in February with Suan and Michael..perhaps Dennis as well based on his comments this morning,. I just need to know the proposed or perspective dates in Moscow.

I will make myself available for any phone calls over the next 6 days. The only day I cannot do it is Jan 3 when I am in flight back to Knoxville.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 28, 2012 8:03 PM
To: Dana Perino
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)
[REDACTED] Tara Sonenshine; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

Dana

we will miss you. Hope you stay in touch on a private basis. Lynton is in Asia while I am in PR...both of us with respective families unable to escape BBG/RFERL. Happy New Year.

Victor

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

From: Dana Perino [REDACTED] (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Dec 28, 2012 4:59 pm
Subject: Re: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

well, actually, dc and puerto rico are quite different...but anyway, Happy New Year everyone...will miss serving on the board. Last day is Monday - Dana

Dana Perino
[REDACTED] (b) (6)

On Dec 28, 2012, at 7:53 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

I am not out of the country. I am in Puerto Rico which is as American as DC, Virgin Islands and Guam. However, Jeff Trimble has the number where I am staying.

Is there not an agenda or a purpose for the meeting to be included in the official call? I am sure i know what the purpose is but it seems like it should be stated in the official Call.

Who will be on the call? I suggest that the CFO, [REDACTED] (b) (6) be on stand by for the call in case there is need to ask questions relating to money which I suggest will be the case.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo <

(b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Dec 28, 2012 4:30 pm

Subject: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

Directors:

Pursuant to Sections 2.8 and 2.10 of the Bylaws of RFE/RL, Inc. ("RFE/RL"), the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of RFE/RL has requested a special meeting of the Board, to be held by telephone on Monday, December 31 at 10:00 AM Washington time.

The call-in information is as follows:

Toll free number:

(b) (6)

Access Code:

(b) (6)

Directors Ashe and Lynton: Since you will be out of the country when the meeting takes place, the Washington-based participants will call you to patch you into the meeting.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, December 28, 2012 8:01 PM

To: Jeffrey Trimble

Cc: Richard M. Lobo;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Proposed RFE/RL Board meeting: 10 a.m. EST Monday, December 31

not sure your check is accurate but let's assume it is...I still feel we would be wise to place it on RFERL web site and/or BBG web site given intense media interest in RFERL lately...It is Dennis Mulhaupt's call. Why not? what is there to lose on being up front??

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) >

Sent: Fri, Dec 28, 2012 3:28 pm

Subject: Re: Proposed RFE/RL Board meeting: 10 a.m. EST Monday, December 31

Hi Victor -- I asked that this be checked, and we did not find instances in the past when grantee Board meetings were announced in advance on the BBG web site. I assure you that any news coming from the meeting will be put into a press release immediately -- as soon as possible -- after the session.

Yes, we will call your hotel room -- if the meeting takes place as proposed, that would at 11 a.m. Monday San Juan time.

Rgds
Jeff

On Dec 28, 2012, at 4:28 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Jeff

As has been past practice I strongly believe notice of RFERL meeting if it happens should be posted on BBG web site when determined. Especially given the news which might emanate from this.

I assume you will call my hotel room as you did this week if there is a Dec 31 call

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Dec 28, 2012 11:33 am

Subject: Proposed RFE/RL Board meeting: 10 a.m. EST Monday, December 31

Dear Governors – I'm writing at Governor Mulhaupt's request to inquire whether you can be available for a telephonic special meeting of the RFE/RL Board of Directors on Monday, December 31, at 10 a.m. EST.

Please let me know if you can participate at this suggested time, or please indicate what other times on Monday could work better for you. Once we confirm the time, you'll receive (per RFE/RL's bylaws) a notice about the meeting from RFE/RL's acting corporate secretary.

Thank you and regards,
Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, December 28, 2012 7:54 PM

To: (b) (6)

Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

(b) (6)

I am not out of the country. I am in Puerto Rico which is as American as DC, Virgin Islands and Guam. However, Jeff Trimble has the number where I am staying.

Is there not an agenda or a purpose for the meeting to be included in the official call? I am sure i know what the purpose is but it seems like it should be stated in the official Call.

Who will be on the call? I suggest that the CFO, (b) (6), be on stand by for the call in case there is need to

ask questions relating to money which I suggest will be the case.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Dec 28, 2012 4:30 pm

Subject: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

Directors:

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The call-in information is as follows:

Toll free number: (b) (6)

Access Code: 3 (b) (6)

Directors Ashe and Lynton: Since you will be out of the country when the meeting takes place, the Washington-based participants will call you to patch you into the meeting.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, December 28, 2012 4:29 PM

To: Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Proposed RFE/RL Board meeting: 10 a.m. EST Monday, December 31

Jeff

As has been past practice I strongly believe notice of RFE/RL meeting if it happens should be posted on BBG web site when determined. Especially given the news which might emanate from this.

I assume you will call my hotel room as you did this week if there is a Dec 31 call

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Dec 28, 2012 11:33 am

Subject: Proposed RFE/RL Board meeting: 10 a.m. EST Monday, December 31

Dear Governors – I'm writing at Governor Mulhaupt's request to inquire whether you can be available for a telephonic special meeting of the RFE/RL Board of Directors on Monday, December 31, at 10 a.m. EST.

Please let me know if you can participate at this suggested time, or please indicate what other times on Monday could work better for you. Once we confirm the time, you'll receive (per RFE/RL's bylaws) a notice about the meeting from RFE/RL's acting corporate secretary.

Thank you and regards,

Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Friday, December 28, 2012 4:07 PM

To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Proposed RFE/RL Board meeting: 10 a.m. EST Monday, December 31

Yes, I can do so...will there be an agenda? That should be part of the call.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Dec 28, 2012 11:33 am

Subject: Proposed RFE/RL Board meeting: 10 a.m. EST Monday, December 31

Dear Governors – I'm writing at Governor Mulhaupt's request to inquire whether you can be available for a telephonic special meeting of the RFE/RL Board of Directors on Monday, December 31, at 10 a.m. EST.

Please let me know if you can participate at this suggested time, or please indicate what other times on Monday could work better for you. Once we confirm the time, you'll receive (per RFE/RL's bylaws) a notice about the meeting from RFE/RL's acting corporate secretary.

Thank you and regards,

Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, December 29, 2012 7:12 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

Happy weekend..you deserve it Victor

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeff Trimble (b) (6) Richard Lobo <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Dec 28, 2012 8:32 pm

Subject: Re: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

This is a matter best decided by the Communications Committee as to whether we should announce grantee board meetings on the BBG website. Has other implications which the Comm Comm can address. Have no problem if they decide to do it and Jeff Trimble can refer to them.

A resolution outlining what the board will address will be circulated this weekend.

FYI, I will be offline starting in a few minutes until Monday morning.

Happy New Year.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: vhashe@aol.com
Date: Fri, 28 Dec 2012 20:25:09 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

That is unfortunate and a serious omission in our bylaws....all meeting notices as best practice should contain a reason for the meeting and agenda...This is most unfortunate especiall for a meeting which will receive great attention.

While not required, Dennis, please do it....list personal as topic or something..hard to defend having nothing on the agenda or a topic.

Again not trying to be difficult but trying to prevent grief afterwards.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Dec 28, 2012 5:19 pm

Subject: Re: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

Victor, I checked the Bylaws before sending out the notice--the Bylaws do not require that the notice include an agenda.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
To: (b) (6)
Date: 12/28/2012 08:16 PM
Subject: Re: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

the call should relate what the chair told you in my view...IN other words the reason for a public notice to all Board members in addition to making the call is to inform the Board members of the purpose so they can prepare for the meeting. Do not mean to be picky but I do feel it is important to note. Do bylaws speak to this? You may wish to check.

Dennis, nothing wrong in stating "personnel" in the call...I want to make sure the call is totally legal and it is clear what we are voting on...should send out an agenda especially if there are several motions to vote on which I suspect will be the case.

I am not trying to cause you headaches but do feel the call should speak to what we are going to consider.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Dec 28, 2012 5:04 pm
Subject: Re: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

Dear Victor,

The Chairperson informs me that the purpose of the meeting is a personnel action and that the question of the CFO's participation will be addressed later. I hope Puerto Rico is treating you well.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Date: 12/28/2012 07:55 PM
Subject: Re: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

(b) (6)

I am not out of the country. I am in Puerto Rico which is as American as DC, Virgin Islands and Guam. However, Jeff Trimble has the number where I am staying.

Is there not an agenda or a purpose for the meeting to be included in the official call? I am sure i know what the purpose is but it seems like it should be stated in the official Call.

Who will be on the call? I suggest that the CFO, (b) (6), be on stand by for the call in case there is need to ask questions relating to money which I suggest will be the case.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

(b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Dec 28, 2012 4:30 pm

Subject: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

Directors:

Pursuant to Sections 2.8 and 2.10 of the Bylaws of RFE/RL, Inc. ("RFE/RL"), the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of RFE/RL has requested a special meeting of the Board, to be held by telephone on Monday, December 31 at 10:00 AM Washington time.

The call-in information is as follows:

Toll free number:

(b) (6)

Access Code:

(b) (6)

Directors Ashe and Lynton: Since you will be out of the country when the meeting takes place, the Washington-based participants will call you to patch you into the meeting.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, December 30, 2012 8:20 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Dana Perino;
Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

same here...hope it is a formal meeting...we can always adjourn the formal meeting and continue informally.

Victor

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

From: Susan McCue <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Sun, Dec 30, 2012 8:11 pm
Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

fine here. i'm dialing in at 10 am ET, formally or informally :)

On Dec 30, 2012, at 8:04 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

There are only 7 of us...Lynton is in Asia...Dana may or may be there but it seems there were going to be 5 persons...Meehan and Ashe favor a formal Board meeting...I do not know how Susan or Tara feel. Once a meeting is called we should meet as a Board whether we vote or do not vote on soemthing.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6); Susan McCue <(b) (6)>; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6) Michael Lynton (b) (6) Dana Perino (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine <(b) (6)>
Richard Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Sun, Dec 30, 2012 7:38 pm
Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

If board members want to have a formal meeting, that is certainly their right and I have no objection.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Date: Sun, 30 Dec 2012 16:12:10 -0800 (PST)
To: (b) (6) Susan McCue <(b) (6)>; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
ReplyTo: Michael Meehan (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Michael Lynton (b) (6) >; Dana Perino (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine (b) (6) Richard Lobo (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

I would prefer a board meeting. I understand that once there is a board meeting set, we need a majority vote to cancel it.

Ben is that accurate?

Michael Meehan
(b) (6)

From: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6)
To: Susan McCue (b) (6) >; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Michael Meehan (b) (6)
(b) (6) Dana Perino (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine (b) (6)
(b) (6) Richard Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Sunday, December 30, 2012 7:10 PM
Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

Just seeing this string of messages now. Yes on attendees. Yes, reason for informal call (which some board members have requested) is there is nothing to vote on (accepting an officer's resignation does not require board action according to RFE's bylaws). My understanding is that (b) (6) final day will be Fri 1/25.

As to things to discuss, that appears logical to me.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Susan McCue (b) (6) >
Date: Sun, 30 Dec 2012 18:53:50 -0500
To: <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

Dennis, correct me if i'm wrong but tomorrow's call is Govs who can join, with Dick and Jeff?
Reason for postponing formal board meeting is because we are pausing on Enders, so there's nothing to vote on,

right?

And items to discuss and resolve are the following:

- * interim leadership
- * final effective date for Steve
- * press release(s)
- * permanent leadership process
- * other ?

Thx

On Dec 30, 2012, at 4:30 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

Will (b) (6) be on the call? Who will be on it? We deserve an explanation why the formal meeting was canceled. either on or offline. This is not a wise way to operate things without an explanation I regret to say. After tomorrow, we lose Dana as a participant.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

Dennis Mulhaupt

(b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Sun, Dec 30, 2012 3:51 pm

Subject: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

Directors:

Tomorrow's call at 10:00 AM Washington time is confirmed, but it will be an informal call, not a meeting of the RFE/RL Board of Directors.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

-----Forwarded by (b) (6) on 12/30/2012 03:48PM -----

To: vhashe@aol.com (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

Date: 12/28/2012 07:30PM

Cc: "Richard M. Lobo" (b) (6)

Subject: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

Directors:

Pursuant to Sections 2.8 and 2.10 of the Bylaws of RFE/RL, Inc. ("RFE/RL"), the Chairperson of the Board

of Directors of RFE/RL has requested a special meeting of the Board, to be held by telephone on Monday, December 31 at 10:00 AM Washington time.

The call-in information is as follows:

Toll free number: (b) (6)

Access Code: (b) (6)

Directors Ashe and Lynton: Since you will be out of the country when the meeting takes place, the Washington-based participants will call you to patch you into the meeting.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, December 30, 2012 8:07 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Dana Perino;

Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

we do need a vote to establish the search committee for a successor...we need a Board meeting in case the (b) (6) letter

contains any surprises which merit action...no one seems to have seen it yet. We may need to vote on a process for interim CEO as well if Jan 25 is final date for (b) (6).

Plus any other business which may come up.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Susan McCue (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Sun, Dec 30, 2012 7:01 pm

Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

Dennis, correct me if i'm wrong but tomorrow's call is Govs who can join, with Dick and Jeff?

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Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

Dennis Mulhaupt

(b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

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Best regards,

(b) (6)

-----Forwarded by (b) (6) on 12/30/2012 03:48PM -----

To: vhashe@aol.com, (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

Date: 12/28/2012 07:30PM

Cc: "Richard M. Lobo" (b) (6)

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The call-in information is as follows:

Toll free number: 8 (b) (6)

Access Code: (b) (6)

Directors Ashe and Lynton: Since you will be out of the country when the meeting takes place, the Washington-based participants will call you to patch you into the meeting.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, December 30, 2012 8:04 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine;

(b) (6)

There are only 7 of us...Lynton is in Asia....Dana may or may be there but it seems there were going to be 5

persons...Meehan and Ashe favor a formal Board meeting...I do not know how Susan or Tara feel. Once a meeting is called we should meet as a Board whether we vote or do not vote on something.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6); Susan McCue (b) (6) Victor Ashe
<vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Michael Lynton <(b) (6)> Dana Perino
(b) (6); Tara Sonenshine (b) (6)
Richard Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Sun, Dec 30, 2012 7:38 pm
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To: (b) (6) Susan McCue<susan@message-global.com>; Victor
Ashe<vhashe@aol.com>
ReplyTo: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Michael Lynton<(b) (6)>; Dana
Perino (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine (b) (6)
(b) (6) Richard Lobo<(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

I would prefer a board meeting. I understand that once there is a board meeting set, we need a majority vote to cancel it.

(b) (6) is that accurate?

Michael Meehan
(b) (6)

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Susan McCue (b) (6) Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Michael Lynton (b) (6) Michael Meehan
(b) (6); Dana Perino <(b) (6)> Tara Sonenshine <(b) (6)>

(b) (6); Richard Lobo <(b) (6)>
Sent: Sunday, December 30, 2012 7:10 PM
Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

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Thx

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Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6)
(b) (6) Michael Meehan (b) (6) Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6)
(b) (6) >
Cc: (b) (6)
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Best regards,

(b) (6)

-----Forwarded by (b) (6) on 12/30/2012 03:48PM -----

To: vhashe@aol.com, (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

Date: 12/28/2012 07:30PM

Cc: "Richard M. Lobo" (b) (6)

Subject: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

Directors:

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Toll free number: (b) (6)

Access Code: (b) (6)

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Best regards,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, December 30, 2012 8:00 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine;

(b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

I was never consulted on canceling the Board meeting...do not understand why this is being done. Are only a few governors consulted but not all?

Sorry to be so direct but this is not a good way to run things. We need a vote on establishing the search committee for (b) (6) successor and its time frame.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Susan McCue

(b) (6)

Victor Ashe

<vhashe@aol.com>

(b) (6)

Michael Lynton

(b) (6)

Dana Perino

(b) (6)

; Tara Sonenshine

(b) (6)

Richard Lobo

(b) (6)

Sent: Sun, Dec 30, 2012 7:12 pm

Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

I would prefer a board meeting. I understand that once there is a board meeting set, we need a majority vote to cancel it.

Ben is that accurate?

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

From: Dennis Mulhaupt

(b) (6)

To: Susan McCue

(b) (6)

Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Michael Lynton

(b) (6)

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

Dana Perino

(b) (6)

Tara Sonenshine

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

; Richard Lobo

(b) (6)

Sent: Sunday, December 30, 2012 7:10 PM

Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

Just seeing this string of messages now. Yes on attendees. Yes, reason for informal call (which some board members have requested) is there is nothing to vote on (accepting an officer's resignation does not require board action according to RFE's bylaws). My understanding is that (b) (6) final day will be Fri 1/25.

As to things to discuss, that appears logical to me.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Susan McCue (b) (6)

Date: Sun, 30 Dec 2012 18:53:50 -0500

To: <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

Dennis, correct me if i'm wrong but tomorrow's call is Govs who can join, with Dick and Jeff?
Reason for postponing formal board meeting is because we are pausing on Enders, so there's nothing to vote on, right?
And items to discuss and resolve are the following:

- * interim leadership
- * final effective date for Steve
- * press release(s)
- * permanent leadership process
- * other ?

Thx

On Dec 30, 2012, at 4:30 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

Will (b) (6) be on the call? Who will be on it? We deserve an explanation why the formal meeting was canceled. either on or offline. This is not a wise way to operate things without an explanation I regret to say. After tomorrow, we lose Dana as a participant.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

>; Dennis Mulhaupt <

(b) (6)

Cc:

(b) (6)

Sent: Sun, Dec 30, 2012 3:51 pm

Subject: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

Directors:

Tomorrow's call at 10:00 AM Washington time is confirmed, but it will be an informal call, not a meeting of the RFE/RL Board of Directors.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

-----Forwarded by (b) (6) on 12/30/2012 03:48PM -----
To: vhashe@aol.com, (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Date: 12/28/2012 07:30PM
Cc: "Richard M. Lobo" <(b) (6)>
Subject: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

Directors:

Pursuant to Sections 2.8 and 2.10 of the Bylaws of RFE/RL, Inc. ("RFE/RL"), the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of RFE/RL has requested a special meeting of the Board, to be held by telephone on Monday, December 31 at 10:00 AM Washington time.

The call-in information is as follows:

Toll free number: (b) (6)

Access Code: (b) (6)

Directors Ashe and Lynton: Since you will be out of the country when the meeting takes place, the Washington-based participants will call you to patch you into the meeting.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, December 30, 2012 4:31 PM
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6) Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

Will (b) (6) be on the call? Who will be on it? We deserve an explanation why the formal meeting was canceled, either on or offline. This is not a wise way to operate things without an explanation I regret to say. After

tomorrow, we lose Dana as a participant.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

Dennis Mulhaupt

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

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To: vhashe@aol.com, (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

Date: 12/28/2012 07:30PM

Cc: "Richard M. Lobo" (b) (6)

Subject: notice of special meeting of RFE/RL Board of Directors

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Best regards,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, December 30, 2012 4:16 PM

To: (b) (6)

(b) (6) Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Board telephone meeting tomorrow

Why? someone ought to tell us why. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

Dennis Mulhaupt

(b) (6)

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From: (b) (6)

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Access Code: (b) (6)

Directors Ashe and Lynton: Since you will be out of the country when the meeting takes place, the Washington-based participants will call you to patch into the meeting.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 31, 2012 12:45 PM
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Jan 9-10 Strat & Budget Trip to DC

Do not get me a hotel reservation for Jan 9...I already have it at govt rate of \$183. I always get my own hotel rooms. Thanks for offering and Happy New Years Eve tonight and a good 2013.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Dec 31, 2012 9:21 am
Subject: RE: Jan 9-10 Strat & Budget Trip to DC

Hi Gov. Ashe,

Thank you for the clarification. We'll get the accommodation for the one night arranged at government rate and will let you know when it's finalized. In the meantime, this is a screenshot the flight itinerary from E2.

Wednesday, January 9, 2013 – TYS to DCA – Departing TYS at 10:25 am
Thursday, January 10, 2013 – DCA to TYS – Departing DCA at 1:20 pm

Please let us know if you would like us to tweak your flight.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com <mailto:vhashe@aol.com?>]
Sent: Monday, December 31, 2012 12:04 PM
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Jan 9-10 Strat & Budget Trip to DC

I do not have a hotel from Jan 9 to 15...who said that? What hotel? I have a hotel for one night on Jan 9 only at govt rate....can you send me the flight itinerary again please?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Dec 31, 2012 11:26 am
Subject: Jan 9-10 Strat & Budget Trip to DC

Governor Ashe,

Happy New Year!

I'm reaching out to you regarding your Strategy and Budget Committee travel coming up January 9, as (b) (6) is out until Thursday of this week. There are two elements of the trip that are not matching up in our system - you're scheduled to fly in to DC on January 9 and fly out January 10. Your hotel is currently reserved from January 9-15. What should the trip actually look like? Do we need to tweak the hotel or flight?

Many thanks,

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From: vhashe@aol.com
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To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Jan 9-10 Strat & Budget Trip to DC

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Many thanks.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 4:09 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Burma

the story on the meeting with the President of Myanmar (Burma) is also misleading in describing it as a courtesy meeting...perhaps this has been changed. However, the three of us met for an hour and 15 minutes...that was a serious discussion of numerous issues...a courtesy visit suggests a photo op and 15 mins which this was not at all. Urge it be corrected.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 4:25 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Governance committee

great

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

From: Letitia King <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 3:28 pm
Subject: RE: Governance committee

Dear Ambassador Ashe,

Hope your trip is going well and you have enjoyed Burma. It looks from the pictures VOA sent along like there was quite a signing ceremony. Glad you could make it.

On your question, we have the Board meeting and Governance Committee meetings on the BBG website. We have not publicized internal panels in the past such as China and Indonesia in recent months. Individual entity board meetings are up to the entities themselves to handle.

Thanks so much and look forward to seeing you next week.

- Tish

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 1:23 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Governance committee

is anything being carried on the BBG web site on the Governance committee meeting on Dec 13 at 430 and RFERL Board meeting Dec 14 at 0800?

or the panel on Russia (even if all are closed?)

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 1:23 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Governance committee

is anything being carried on the BBG web site on the Governance committee meeting on Dec 13 at 430 and RFERL Board meeting Dec 14 at 0800?

or the panel on Russia (even if all are closed?)

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 6:16 PM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Re: FW: Attention: please forward to Governor VICTOR ASHE

Glad you are so active at the young age of 86. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/28/2012 3:42:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Ambassador Ashe,

We received this email addressed to you in our general email mailbox.

Regards,

Tish

From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 5:03 AM
To: Public Affairs
Subject: Attention: please forward to Governor VICTOR ASHE

Dear Ambassador Ashe:

I recently observed the work of the BBG online at one of its recent monthly board meetings, and got better acquainted with some of the issues facing it. I write you now to seek your guidance in possibly exploring some role in advancing our country's work in exploiting the power of media to further our foreign policy objectives.

I'm aware that appointments to that body are made by Presidential appointment, and require approval by the Senate. With the pending resignation of Governor Perino next month, in addition to the two other vacant positions on the Board, I thought the timing might be right to tell you of my interest in being considered for one of those unfilled appointments.

I am not unfamiliar with the workings of media in Washington.

- During the early 1950s, I produced and directed many short films in Iran under the Marshall Plan for the U.S. State Department. When the forces of Prime Minister Mossadegh overthrew the Shah the first time in 1953, I was there in the streets amid the rioters shooting newsreels of the revolution.

- While on leave from my post as a professor at UCLA in 1959, under a Ford Foundation Mass Media Fellowship, I earned the first Ph.D. awarded by Stanford University in a specially approved mutli-disciplinary program called “Communications and International Relations.”

- When the USIA was created I served as an early advisor and contract producer. One of my films (on the history of mosaic art) was translated into several languages and used by a number of our posts abroad.

- As the recipient of four Fulbright Senior Fellowships, I helped found the 9,000 member Fulbright Association in 1976.

- For five years I headed the University of California’s Statewide Media Production Center in Berkeley making films under government grants and contracts in many parts of the world for all nine campuses of the University.

- I also represented the United States in a number of international organizations, and at one such meeting was in Prague the night hundreds of Soviet tanks rumbled into the city to crush Dubcek’s Prague Spring movement. I have a modest working knowledge of seven languages.

- Among my scholarly publications in nine books and many journals are several research studies about the credibility of films, and how attitude change communication works in the mass media.

□ Following my retirement from academic life, I was called back to Washington during 1997 and 1998 to be a consultant on films to the U.S. Department of Justice. I served there as an expert witness in a dispute with members of the Zapruder family over the dollar value of the 8mm movie documenting the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas which was placed in the National Archives by the U.S. Government.

□ For nearly a decade, as dean of a large liberal arts college in California, and later, one of the leading colleges of fine arts in the U.S., I have learned to work with a wide range of people with differing views, and to help find ways of working together to find solutions to a variety of difficult problems.

Among those who might be willing to provide personal and professional references, if asked, are Robert Corrigan (recently retired President of San Francisco State University), Bruce Herschenson (political broadcaster, formerly a top aid to President Nixon, and currently a professor of Public Policy at Pepperdine University), Michael J. Kittross (editor of such scholarly journals as *Media Ethics* and the *Journal of Broadcasting*, and retired Provost & Academic V.P. of Emerson University), William T. Murphy (recently retired after 30 years as head of audiovisual collections at the National Archives and Records Administration), and Kirk Manhardt (former Assistant Director, Civil Division, U.S. Justice Dept., D.C.) Concerning the bi-partisan balance of BBG members, I am a lifelong registered Democrat but not a partisan ideologue.

I believe this experience could be helpful in adding an additional measure of diversity and perspective to the deliberations of the BBG. It includes (1) extensive practical experience in creating non-fiction programs for overseas consumption, (2) a reputation for international leadership and innovation in the professional training of communication specialists, and (3) a knowledge of how persuasion works in the mass media, and some of the scholarly research that has contributed in that field.

I have shared these thoughts in e-mails with both of my senators from California. Given all of the far more urgent tasks demanding attention in Washington, I am not surprised that I have not yet heard back from them, except for a routine response from Senator Feinstein saying that, because of the Hatch Act, she cannot forward my letter elsewhere since she does not know me personally. Since I gather that it is Senator Coburn of Oklahoma who has put a hold on any additional appointments to the BBG, I thought it could do no harm also to copy him in on this matter.

Being far more knowledgeable about how things get done in Washington than I am, I'd be most grateful for any thoughts you may have on what further steps I should consider taking, who in the White House deals with such matters for the President, how to get in touch with them, and how your fellow Governors might feel about working with an "outside person" such as me.

In conclusion, I am 86 years old, in good health, and quite busy with a number of active commitments. But the embers of public service still burn in my gut, and I would welcome the opportunity to stoke them once again.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 3:49 PM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Re: FW: Attention: please forward to Governor VICTOR ASHE

thanks for sharing it with me but he surely has the wrong person on this matter.

Victor Ashe

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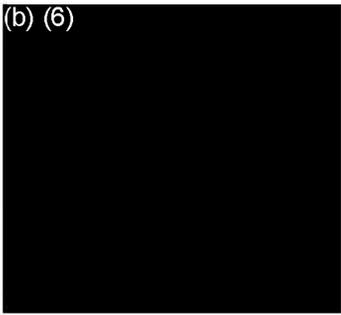
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In conclusion, I am 86 years old, in good health, and quite busy with a number of active commitments. But the embers of public service still burn in my gut, and I would welcome the opportunity to stoke them once again.

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 6:01 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Governance committee

How can we have a legal meeting of Governance committee and not have it announced on BBG web site? Admittedly it is by phone. Will it be recorded? Who will take the minutes?

When will it go on the BBG web site for Thurs Nov 8 at 2 PM EST? as well as agenda? Dennis we have come too far on transparency not to announce this meeting by phone as has been done on all prior Governance Committee meetings. It is not secret? is it?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 2:08 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Contracting out jobs at the Edward R. Murrow Transmission Station in Gr...
Attachments: Lobo.ltrnmanningissues.pdf

Lynne

I do not know if you have seen this but I will look forward to seeing the response from Dick Lobo.

My views on this are that Murrow should stay open for many years and (b) (6) answer at the recent October 11 Board meeting to my inquiry may have triggered this letter as he danced all the way around the question I asked and avoided a direct answer.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) Vhashe@aol.com,
(b) (6)
CC: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: 11/5/2012 11:59:50 A.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Contracting out jobs at the Edward R. Murrow Transmission Station in Greenville, NC

Dear All:

Good afternoon! Attached is a letter from Congressmen Butterfield and Jones requesting information on the manning status to Mr. Lobo on the Edward R. Murrow Transmission Station.

Many thanks for your support and consideration of the Congressmen's request!

VR,

(b) (6)



(b) (6)



=

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2012 8:31 AM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: RFE/RL turns into the media spreading Sexism, Xenophobia, Homophobia, Ra...

Dear Fellow Board members,

I am sharing this e mail with you which I just received. I do not know the person but feel it raises issues which we should all know about. Senior management at RFERL was copied on the original.

Lots is happening at RFERL which is attracting wide comment and attention. Unfortunately, it is not positive for us. I truly believe we need a RFERL Board meeting (not a briefing) as well as an RFERL audit committee meeting which has been postponed for months now.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) Vhashe@aol.com, (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Sent: 10/31/2012 8:25:13 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Subj: RFE/RL turns into the media spreading Sexism, Xenophobia, Homophobia, Racism and Platitude

Congratulations, ladies and gentlemen, RFE/RL has quickly turned into obscene, vulgar, racial and tabloid media after its president (b) (6) declared his struggle to attract new audience. For almost three months there has been a new video project at RFE/RL, which on the outside looks like as satirical review of clumsy video recordings or unsuccessful professional video clips from Kazakhstan but, in reality, it is derision at readers and morale. Performers of the video project - young Kazakh actors themselves build their original projects based on platitude, racism, homophobia, propagating dirty sex and shoddy tabloid journalism. The group entitled Wi-Fi 25 has an odious image in Kazakhstan. They often not only use obscene language but also demonstrate sex and show genitals using their hands in their video project. Here is the typical video show that is already available in the Internet. I am sorry but I need to provide the link to this dirty product because RFE/RL has been implementing its joint project exactly with this very odious and vulgar group, using money of American taxpayers. Since their vulgar, obscene manners and moderators' smutty faces, grins and swearing words are obvious without any interpretation, it is not necessary to translate them into English.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5GRhb25xBz8>

RFE/RL has invited the group - Wi-Fi 25, which has an odious and dirty image, for cooperation and already produced their joint first three video shows. You still can find the video products on RFE/RL's website. The first video show is called "Shopaq" (which in slang means male genital organ) and was published on 2 August 2012.

Cynicism of the video project starts with the following warning caption: "Warning!!! There are dirty, swearing words in this video product. People with high morale and distinct culture are prohibited to watch it". RFE/RL also issues this kind of warning in other two video shows,

probably because it thinks that somehow they adhered the corporation's journalism ethics and laws of the USA and Kazakhstan. There are the website of RFE/RL's Kazakh service www.azattyq.org and RFE/RL logo (the torch that is supposed to represent light to people and serve them by promoting democratic values) on the left side corner of the video show's screen. However, the performers of the video show use obscene language, pouring platitudes, cynicism and sexism. There is also propaganda of child violence. In those videos you can see a fight between children. At the end of video show you can also see how one of the moderators examines his zipper (XYZ). The hosts of the video show tell goodbye to RFE/RL readers with gesture meaning sex.

<http://www.azattyq.org/media/video/24664714.html>

RFE/RL and Wi-Fi 25 published the next joint video product entitled "Sol Paskal" on 3 September 2012. It is also full of sexism, filthy language and swearing words.

<http://www.azattyq.org/media/video/24696177.html>

In its third video show entitled "Agent" on 18 October, RFE/RL promotes sexism even further by showing, focusing on intimate parts of beautiful girls' seminude body and hinting that one of the hosts masturbating at the same time during moderation of the program. On the fourth minute of the show there is obvious and direct swearing words: "Fuck! you stepped on my foot...". On the seventh minute of the show you hear racism when the hosts of the video show call a representative of allegedly Latino-American race "Cacao".

<http://www.azattyq.org/media/video/24744067.html>

These are the certain examples of reforms at RFE/RL, the new president of which, (b) (6), declared to the whole world that he will make breakthrough by introducing new digital technology. Under the external "dog and pony show" of pseudo-reforms, and (as Russian say) under Potemkin Villages, there is just a hidden cheap literary production issued at the expense of American taxpayers.

(b) (6) a journalist from Kazakhstan (I prefer to use my nickname because I have no choice other than live forever in Kazakhstan)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:34 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Strategy meeting

the needed information is the notice (b) (6) e mailed out an hour ago which I will forward to you. Victor Ashe
In a message dated 10/28/2012 6:33:23 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hello, Victor --

Yes, Tish can ensure that her someone on her team posts the notice as soon as they have the needed info.
They'll work with (b) (6) on that, as always.

Have a good evening,

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:06:33 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Strategy meeting

Lynne

I trust the meeting of the Strategy and Budget committee will be posted on the BBG web site as it is meeting on November 1.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 6:07 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Strategy meeting

Lynne

I trust the meeting of the Strategy and Budget committee will be posted on the BBG web site as it is meeting on November 1.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 7:05 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
(b) (6); (b) (6); Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from Deputy General Counsel - FLRA Decision RE Non-U.S. Citizen Hiring

This really requires a BBG briefing and meeting...not simply an e mail that we all acquiesce to ...I would like to hear the arguments on both sides. I am surprised my friends and colleagues on this Board are not seeking more information on this. If BBG loses this appeal, the price tag just escalated by millions. Only a few weeks ago, I asked what the current cost to settle is and what the potential cost would be. There has not been an answer to this.

I really worry that we are not meeting our fiduciary duties here with absolutely no discussion of this latest development. Has Mr Lobo conferred with the White House or Labor Dept. on this? I want this placed on the agenda for November 15 BBG meeting for a full review.

Does (b) (6) agree with this? was he part of the decision making process? Who did Mr Lobo consult besides (b) (6) (b) (6) ?

Please record me as not agreeing to this recommendation pending the receipt of further information and dialogue. Morale at VOA/OCB is at a low and this action will not help improve the situation.

Victor Ashe

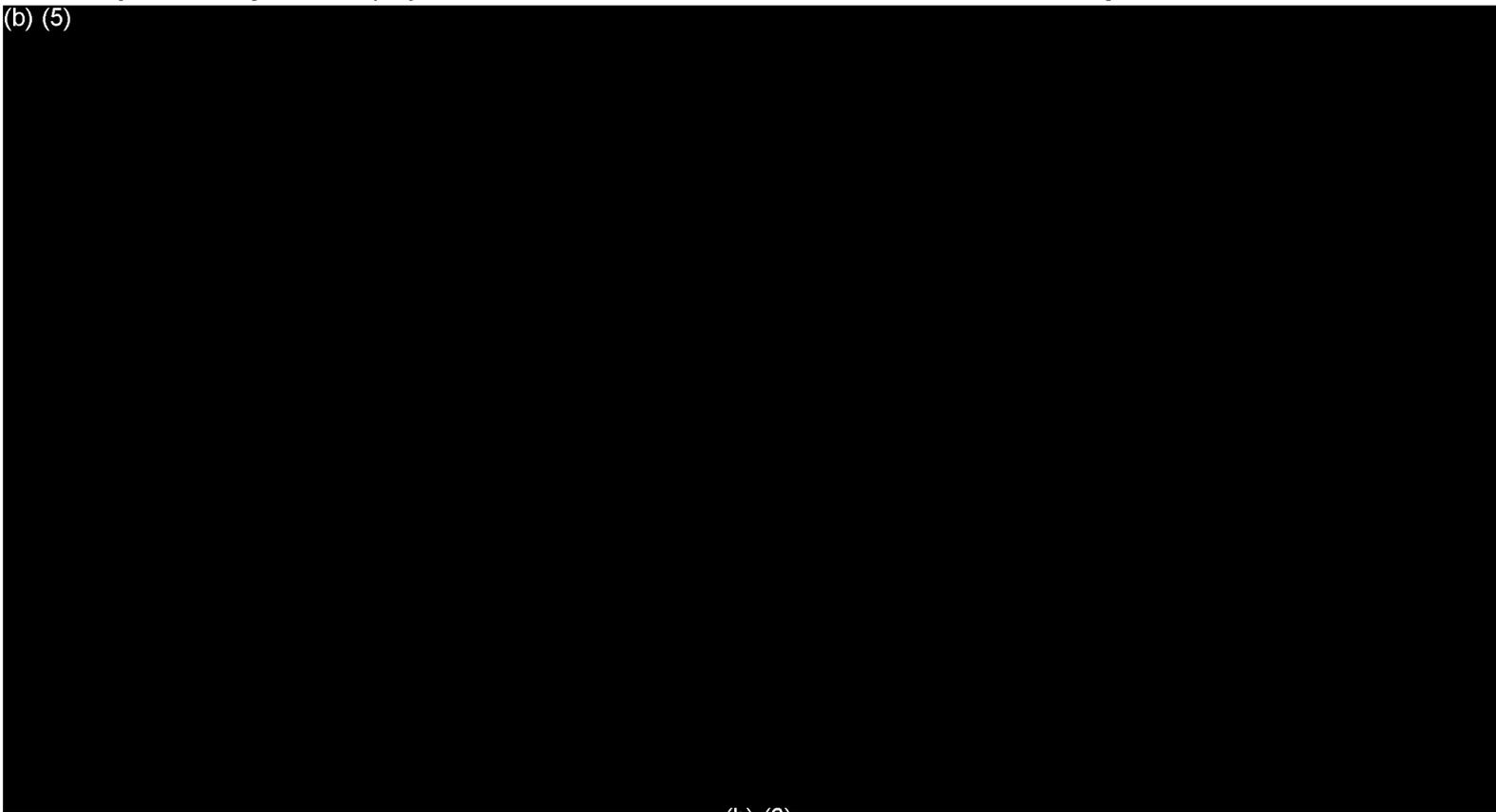
-----Original Message-----

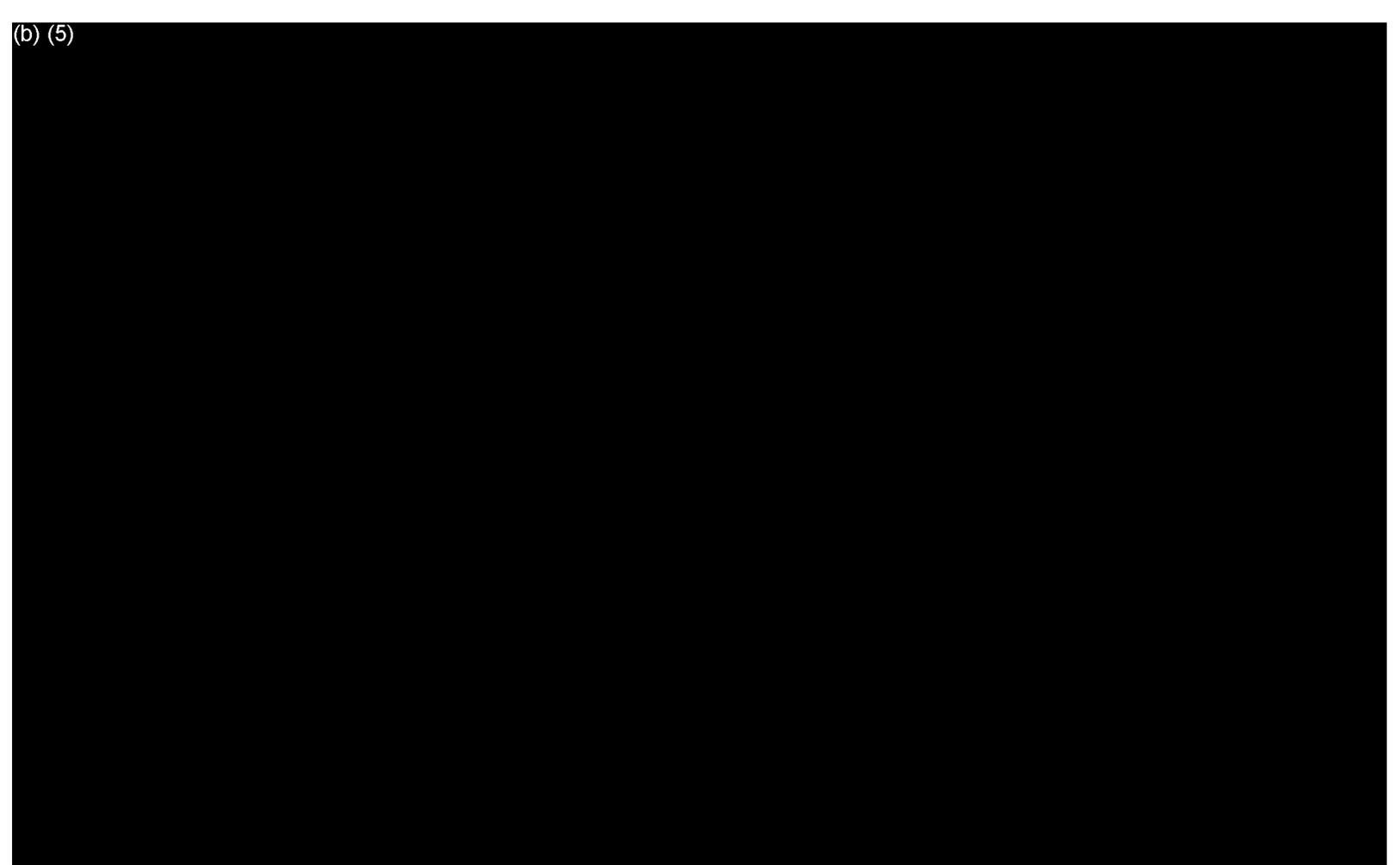
From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (l (b) (6) (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (l (b) (6) Lynne Weil (l (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Sent: Tue, Oct 23, 2012 6:10 pm

Subject: Message from Deputy General Counsel - FLRA Decision RE Non-U.S. Citizen Hiring

(b) (5)





(b) (5)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 2:31 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: is there a BBG response to the US NEWS article by Flock

Tish and Lynne,

Would like to see the BBG response to the Flock article in US News. The mailout of news items contained a short paragraph which appeared to be a response. Thanks

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2012 5:41 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Media Highlights, October 22, 2012

thanks

In a message dated 10/22/2012 5:39:06 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hi Ambassador Ashe,

We are working with VOA on both of those possibilities.

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2012 11:34 AM
To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Media Highlights, October 22, 2012

Not sure what you mean that there are issues with the US News article which you are addressing...does that mean there will be a correction or rebuttal? Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/22/2012 11:25:20 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

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BBG Media Highlights - October 22, 2012

About Our Broadcasters

Jamming interrupts Western broadcasters - [Deutsche Welle](#), October 19, 2012
Western radio and television broadcasts to parts of the Middle East have apparently

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Internet anti-censorship tools are being overwhelmed by demand - [Washington Post](#), October 21, 2012

"Every time we provide them with additional funding, those bottlenecks are alleviated for a time but again fill to capacity in a short period of time," said **André Mendes**, director of the Office of Technology, Services and Innovation at the **Broadcasting Board of Governors** (BBG), which funds some of the initiatives. "One could reasonably state that more funding would translate into more traffic and, therefore, more accessibility from behind these firewalls." Also posted in the [Independent](#)

Broadcasting Board of Governors offers buyouts, early outs - [Government Executive](#), October 19, 2012

Those eligible for buyouts include employees at **Voice of America**, the **International Broadcasting Bureau** and the **Office of Cuba Broadcasting**. BBG is offering 287 buyouts, and employees in various grades and job series throughout the agency qualify. Employees interested in a buyout must apply by Nov. 9 and leave the government by Dec. 31. BBG is offering the early retirement option to those who are eligible through Sept. 30, 2013.

Voice of America, 70 Years Later, Faces Bureaucratic Troubles - [U.S. News & World Report](#), October 19, 2012

When prominent Burmese dissident-turned-opposition politician Aung San Suu Kyi visited Washington last month, she made a stop at a nondescript WWII-era government building on Independence Avenue for an interview that would be broadcast throughout Burma. The broadcaster, **Voice of America**, has been the U.S. government's method of communication with populations abroad since 1942, when the institution broadcast anti-Nazi radio addresses to the German people in their native language.

[**Note:** There are issues with this article that we are addressing]

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Radio Liberty is hiring dozens of staff to rebuild its operations in Russia in a modern multimedia format, a senior executive of the station's parent company **Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty** said Friday. After moving to a new bureau in Moscow, **Radio Liberty's** staff is to number 40 to 50 people, Julia Ragona, Radio Free Europe's vice president of content, distribution and marketing, told The Moscow Times.

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He is fluent in Persian -- and can sometimes be seen on the **Voice of America** and Los Angeles-based satellite stations being interviewed about his comedy projects, including his current one: the "I Come in Peace" comedy tour where he continues on his popular theme of pointing out the stereotypes of minorities in America.

Citations of BBG Broadcasters

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From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2012 11:34 AM
To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Media Highlights, October 22, 2012

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 20, 2012 4:04 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: : U.S. News piece

I will be interested in knowing how BBG intends to respond to the inaccuracies which Dick Lobo says exist.

You have an incorrect e mail for Tara Sonenshine as she is at the Department of State now...no longer at Institute for Peace as this e mail suggests.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/20/2012 3:52:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Here is a link to an online article which was posted Friday evening on U.S. News.com

It will receive normal distribution Monday morning. Thought you'd like to see it first.

We are taking a close look at it since it contains a number of inaccuracies.

Dick

>
>
> <http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2012/10/19/voice-of-america-70-years-later-faces-bureaucratic-troubles>
>
>
>
>
>
>

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2012 10:27 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: change on Ashe bio

thanks much Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/17/2012 8:21:47 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

Certainly. We will work on these changes.
Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2012 8:04:32 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: change on Ashe bio

Tish and Lynne,

Please add to my bio the following." Ashe serves on the audit committee of each of the three grantees which are Radio Free Europe, Radio Free Asia and is chair of the MBN audit committee."

Also add to the bio in the paragraph on National Trust for Historic Preservation." Ashe is president of the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association located in Knoxville, TN and chair of the Douglas Henry State Museum Commission located in Nashville, TN. He is also chair of the Tennessee Clean Water Network based in Knoxville, TN."

After the final sentence which lists my e mail. Please add "Ashe can receive mail at 3 (b) (6) [REDACTED]."

Thanks for making these additions.

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2012 8:05 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: change on Ashe bio

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After the final sentence which lists my e mail. Please add "Ashe can receive mail at [REDACTED] (b) (6)"

Thanks for making these additions.

Victor

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 6:09 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom

I would like to discuss a statement here which is inaccurate as it relates to me. I would appreciate being called.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Letitia King (l [REDACTED] (b) (6))

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Sent: Thu, Oct 11, 2012 5:16 pm

Subject: BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom

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**Broadcasting
Board of
Governors**

BBG Condemns Jamming, Intimidation as Threats to Media Freedom

October 11, 2012



Michael Lynton

The Broadcasting Board of Governors today expressed its enduring outrage over persistent attempts to stifle the free flow of news and information through satellite jamming, intimidation and the detention of journalists in Iran, Syria, Cambodia, Ethiopia and elsewhere.

During the BBG's Oct. 11 meeting, Presiding Governor Michael Lynton condemned the jamming of BBG satellite signals in Iran and said BBG journalists are encountering new impediments to free reporting almost daily.

"Just yesterday, Radio Free Asia and Voice of America reporters were summoned to a meeting with officials in a blatant attempt to discourage objective reporting on the Cambodian government," Lynton said. As reported by Reuters, AFP and others, RFA and VOA...are among the few radio stations in Cambodia considered free of government influence."

The Board also expressed concern about the cases of Marthe van der Wolf, a VOA reporter in Ethiopia who was forced by local police to erase recordings of a protest rally, and Gulnur Raqifqizi Kazimova, a Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) freelancer who was prohibited from taking pictures in Azerbaijan.

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Members of the Board renewed their condemnation of recent illegal jamming of BBG Persian broadcasts to Iran that also affected many other BBG radio and TV programs around the globe, including broadcasts in Arabic, Georgian, Armenian, Bosnian, and Korean.

"The Board calls on Iran to cease disrupting broadcast signals, and to respect the well-established international agreements that prohibit jamming," Lynton said.

The Board also noted that Monday marked 50 days since the capture of Alhurra TV journalist Bashar Fahmi and his cameraman Cüneyt Ünal in Syria, and renewed its demand that the pair be released.

Fahmi and Ünal were last heard from on August 20, when they were reporting from Aleppo, Syria. On August 26th, Ünal appeared on Syrian television, but the Syrian government said it has no information on Fahmi.

Lynton spoke at length of recent Russian legislative steps that have imposed restrictions on freedom of expression, including a law that is forcing RFE/RL programs off of the organization's last AM affiliate in Moscow. He noted, "This board strongly objects to the tightening stranglehold on the free flow of information taking place today in Russia." Lynton reiterated Governors' support for Steve Korn's leadership of RFE/RL in its efforts throughout the region.

The BBG [recognized the David Burke Distinguished Journalism Awards winners](#). This year's winners are: Mukarram Khan Aatif of the VOA's Deewa Radio; Karen Caballero of Radio and TV Martí; Sailab Mahsud of RFE/RL's Radio Mashaal; RFA's Korean Service; and Mohamed Moawad and Lamia Rezgui Bourogaa of the Middle East Broadcasting Networks' Radio Sawa.

Several events at the meeting honored the legacy and ongoing work of the Voice of America.



Gov. Susan McCue honors Leo Sarkisian, standing

Board members enjoyed a presentation honoring VOA Ethnomusicologist Leo Sarkisian, the creator of Music Time in Africa, VOA's oldest English-language music program. They presented a resolution expressing the agency's appreciation to Sarkisian, who retired recently after a career that spanned more than half a century and took him to every country in

Africa.

The Board also recognized the 20th anniversary of VOA's Kurdish Service and the 50th anniversary of its Swahili Service.

Discussion at the meeting included the BBG's expanded broadcasting reach in China via the Telstar satellite and other developments intended to modernize and extend the reach of the agency and its media worldwide.

Public documents related to this meeting will be posted here, and video

of this meeting will be available on-demand shortly.

For more information, please call the BBG's Office of Public Affairs at 202-203-4400, or e-mail (b) (6)

The Broadcasting Board of Governors is an independent federal agency, supervising all U.S. government-supported, civilian international broadcasting, whose mission is to inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy. BBG broadcasts reach an audience of 187 million in 100 countries. BBG broadcasting organizations include the Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa), Radio Free Asia, and the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (Radio and TV Marti).

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Broadcasting Board of Governors 330 Independence Ave., SW Washington DC 20237

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 3:29 PM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Board Meeting, October 11, 2012

glad to be of help. thanks for moving on it

Victor

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

From: Letitia King ((b) (6))
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; External Affairs Public Inquiries <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Oct 9, 2012 3:28 pm
Subject: RE: BBG Board Meeting, October 11, 2012

Apologies - It was an oversight in the release although it has been on the event page for some time. We are sending an updated release out to clarify the Board meeting time.

Regards,
Tish

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 3:05 PM
To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Board Meeting, October 11, 2012

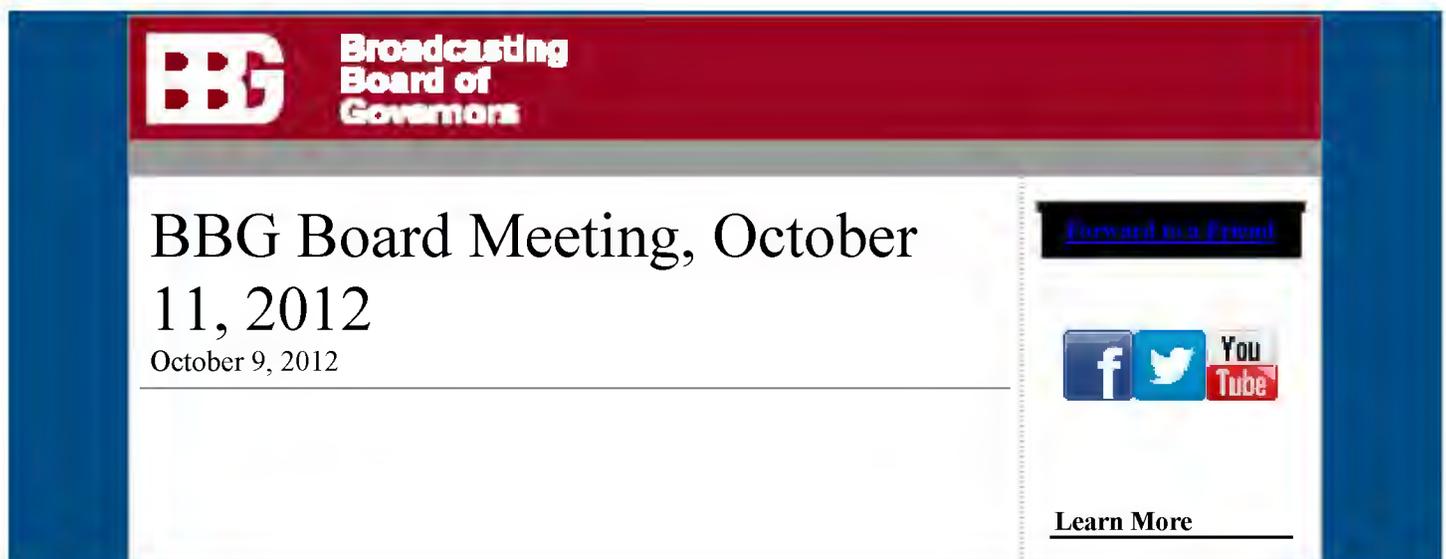
does the news release state the time the Board shall convene which is 115 PM and got o 315PM..seems like that should be there unless it is and I am missing it.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Letitia King ((b) (6))
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, Oct 9, 2012 1:16 pm
Subject: BBG Board Meeting, October 11, 2012

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The banner features a red header with the BBG logo and the text "Broadcasting Board of Governors". Below this, the main title "BBG Board Meeting, October 11, 2012" is displayed in a large, black serif font, with the date "October 9, 2012" underneath. To the right, there is a "Forward to a Friend" button, social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, and a "Learn More" link.



The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) will hold a full board meeting on Oct. 11, 2012, at BBG Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

The BBG will recognize the David Burke Distinguished Journalism Awards winners. The Board also will receive and consider proposed BBG meeting dates in 2013 and consider a resolution honoring an employee for his service. The BBG will recognize the anniversaries of Agency language services, receive a Middle East trip report, receive a distribution/technology initiatives update, receive a budget update, and receive reports from the International Broadcasting Bureau Director, the Technology, Services and Innovation Director, the Communications and External Affairs Director, the VOA Director, the Office of Cuba Broadcasting Director, and the Presidents of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Radio Free Asia, and the Middle East Broadcasting Networks.

The public may attend this meeting in person at BBG headquarters in D.C. as seating capacity allows. Members of the public seeking to attend the meeting in person must register at <http://bbgboardmeetingoct2012.eventbrite.com> by 12 p.m. (EDT) on October 10. This meeting will also be available via streamed webcast, both live and on-demand, on the BBG's public website at www.bbg.gov.

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From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 3:05 PM
To: (b) (6); Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Board Meeting, October 11, 2012

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Victor Ashe

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

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To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, Oct 9, 2012 1:16 pm
Subject: BBG Board Meeting, October 11, 2012

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BBG Board Meeting, October 11, 2012

October 9, 2012



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Broadcasting Board of Governors 330 Independence Ave., SW Washington DC 20237

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 11:42 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King
Subject: Re: OCB / FLRA RIF Litigation

Dick

I feel you should bring this matter to the full Board for resolution with your recommendation so the Board can discuss it and vote on it. I would like to know whether you plan to do this.

The Washington Post had an article on it October 3 on page B4.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/3/2012 10:29:32 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Some of you have inquired about recent coverage concerning last week's decision of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) to uphold an arbitrator's decision against the Agency in connection with the Agency's 2009 reduction-in-force at OCB.

Our staff has not yet finished reviewing and digesting the case, nor have we formulated any formal response. It should be noted that the fact that the FLRA affirmed the arbitrator's decision does not necessarily mean that either the arbitrator or the FLRA decided the case correctly on the merits. There are more than a few cases where agencies have successfully challenged FLRA decisions.

The BBG has sixty days in which to respond and it is extremely important for the Agency to analyze the case carefully before deciding how to proceed. There are a number of issues at play in the OCB RIF case that go beyond the issue of possible financial exposure or reinstatement of employees, including substantive issues that may affect other RIFs that may be contemplated in the budgetary decisions that the Board has made. I plan to make a decision on how to proceed based on a sober analysis of the merits of the case. Like you, I of course share the desire to do what is in the best interest of the Agency and its employees. I will certainly take your concerns into account and will consult closely with the OCB Director as well as our Labor and Employee Relations team.. At the appropriate time, I will brief the Board on how best to proceed.

In the meantime, it would be advisable for individual Governors to refrain from discussing the case with BBG Union members or officials. If you are contacted by the media, please consult with our communications team before commenting. Such outreach can be affirmatively harmful to the Agency's interests because it can unnecessarily embolden the stance taken by other stakeholders in this important litigation and may complicate or undermine the Agency's litigation and settlement posture. I appreciate your understanding of and compliance with this point.

Dick Lobo

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 3:36 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King
Subject: Re: OCB / FLRA RIF Litigation

I cannot tell if you plan to bring the final decision to the BBG Board for a vote or whether you plan to act on your own? Which is it?

I believe this is serious enough to come to the full Board for a vote on whether to proceed with an appeal or halt the process. I am eager to have your recommendation as well as the deputy general counsel and (b) (6).

We should be sensitive to those persons who were terminated and it is now three years later. We should be sensitive to how this impacts the agency too. We should consult with DOJ on this. We should consult with plaintiffs to determine their interest in a settlement and what it would be. We should be advised what the current financial exposure is today, October 3 and what it could be two years from now if the appeals proceed and fail. In other words the plaintiffs win.

While this is not our personal money it is the public's money and we must be sensitive to this.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
(b) (6) Lynne Weil (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Oct 3, 2012 10:29 am
Subject: OCB / FLRA RIF Litigation

Governors,

Some of you have inquired about recent coverage concerning last week's decision of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) to uphold an arbitrator's decision against the Agency in connection with the Agency's 2009 reduction-in-force at OCB.

Our staff has not yet finished reviewing and digesting the case, nor have we formulated any formal response. It should be noted that the fact that the FLRA affirmed the arbitrator's decision does not necessarily mean that either the arbitrator or the FLRA decided the case correctly on the merits. There are more than a few cases where agencies have successfully challenged FLRA decisions.

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Dick Lobo

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: October 11

The BBG web site might want to give the time of the October 11 meeting and that it is on webcam. Also that persons wishing to attend in person can contact you or Lynne Weil to secure admission.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 9:33 AM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Re: October 11 meeting

thanks for explaining

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

From: Letitia King (l [REDACTED] (b) (6))
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Lynne Weil (l [REDACTED] (b) (6))
Cc: (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Oct 2, 2012 9:29 am
Subject: Re: October 11 meeting

Thought you would like the reassurance that the October meeting has been up under events for some weeks - Just heard from our editor. Turns out it was an anomaly of our page that a more recently posted event appeared up front. All is fixed manually now.

Regards,
Tish

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 8:07:31 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6) [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: October 11 meeting

thanks to you too for updating this Victor

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

From: Letitia King (l [REDACTED] (b) (6))
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Lynne Weil (l [REDACTED] (b) (6))
Cc: (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Oct 2, 2012 7:16 am
Subject: Re: October 11 meeting

Thanks for flagging this item to update.
We will be sure to take care of it.
Tish

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 6:54:52 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: October 11 meeting

It seems strange that the BBG November meeting is a headline event on teh BBG web site on front page but no mention is made of the upcoming October 11 Board meeting. Why?

It seems to me the October 11 meeting should be highlighted along with the November meeting. Hope this is changed and I look forward to your comments.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 8:08 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: October 11 meeting

thanks to you too for updating this Victor

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

From: Letitia King <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Lynne Weil (l (b) (6))
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Oct 2, 2012 7:16 am
Subject: Re: October 11 meeting

Thanks for flagging this item to update.
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Tish

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 6:54:52 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: October 11 meeting

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Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 9:59 AM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) (b) (6)
Bruce Sherman; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Russia

Dear Dennis

I have had thought further about this since my last e mail and prefer a Board meeting over a briefing but feel either is better than nothing. However, the occasion should be more than RFE management giving us their view. We should have private time for Governors to discuss this maong ourselves (obviously OIG would be there if they wish). We also need to have contact with one or more the dissidents signing the letter which has become so public. There needs to be outreach here.

We are faced with a serious morale and public perception issue at the very least. However, there could be more and duty is to ascertain in an objective way all sides so a factual determination can be made. A briefing by staff is only a start not an ending to this crisis for RFE in Moscow. If this turns out to be staff only and that ends it, then we have failed.

Your email suggests that it is all "misinformation and misconceptions." I am not sure we have enough knowlege to reach that conclusion any more than we have enough information to state that RFE management erred in full or in part. I urge you to be more neutral and even handed as chair until we hear all the facts.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Michael Lynton <(b) (6)> Susan McCue <(b) (6)> Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>
(b) (6) Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Dana Perino <(b) (6)> Tara Sonenshine <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)
Richard Lobo <(b) (6)> Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)> Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
(b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Sep 27, 2012 6:26 pm
Subject: Russia

Colleagues:

I believe it would be worthwhile to have a briefing on where things stand with respect to the reorganization of RFERL's Russian Service that is being forced on us by the changes in Russian law. This will be a followup to the report given by (b) (6) and his colleagues at the RFE board meeting a few weeks ago. There is a significant amount of misinformation and misconceptions about what we are actually doing and our plans going forward.

Within the next several days, we will organize a call-in briefing for those who are interested in participating. RFE management will update us on the current state of affairs and answer any questions you may have. As soon as this can be organized, we will be back to you.

Best,
Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2012 7:32 PM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Ashe in Tbilisi

Tish
Just a heads up that I will be in Tbilisi, Georgia as part of an election monitoring team. I plan on visiting the RFE office there as well as the proposed new space on October 2. If interested I can provide more information and RFE can send a photo if one is taken.

let me know if you want information from the October 2 visit.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 08, 2012 6:10 PM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Cc: Letitia King; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

I believe in full information as soon as BBG knows it. Sorry we differ. In this case there is a clear effort to adopt the consolidation of the three entities and the CEO proposal which Congress ignored at the upcoming meeting. Why else is BBG being asked to vote on something three hours after governance committee considers it?

I feel transparency is taking a back seat to other goals. Have a great weekend. Folks in Knoxville really like your work on Fox.

The communications committee was not consulted when this release was drafted so why the consultation now except to avoid dealing with it?

Best

Victor

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

From: Dana Perino <(b) (6)>
To: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Letitia King ((b) (6)); Jeffrey Trimble ((b) (6)); Michael Meehan ((b) (6))
Sent: Sat, Sep 8, 2012 5:44 pm
Subject: Re: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

i don't think we need to revise anything - i'd just update with one on wednesday, the day before, to drive more attention (to the few people who even see these things).

Dana Perino
(b) (6)

On Sep 8, 2012, at 5:16 PM, Lynne Weil wrote:

Hello, Victor --

Am adding Susan and Dana so that the entire Communications Committee will be aware of your concerns.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 08, 2012 5:07:26 PM

To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

this notice is very misleading. I really feel it merits revision. For example, the agenda I have for the public meeting states that the Board may vote on consolidation of the entities which you call streamlining. That is a whole lot different from simply receiving a report. As for the resolutions on anniversaries why are no specific names and years mentioned? This is usually given to me and I have heard not one word on this. I do not have a clue what I am being asked to do on this subject. Perhaps someone else is now doing it,

I urge a revised news release

Victor Ashe

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

From: Letitia King ((b) (6))

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Sent: Sat, Sep 8, 2012 12:48 pm

Subject: September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors



**Saturday, September 8,
2012**

[September Meeting of the Broadcasting Board of Governors](#)



Washington, D.C. — The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) will meet on Thursday, September 13 at BBG headquarters in Washington, D.C. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 4:45 p.m.

The Board will receive budget and distribution/technology initiatives updates, receive and consider a progress report from the Strategy and Budget Committee, receive recommendations from the Governance Committee regarding grantee administrative streamlining and hear reports from the director of the International Broadcasting Bureau and other BBG broadcast executives regarding agency activities and programming initiatives.

The BBG will also recognize the anniversaries of broadcast language services and consider resolutions honoring employees for their service.

The public may attend this meeting as seating capacity allows. Members of the public wishing to attend in person must register at

<http://bbgboardmeetingsept2012.eventbrite.com> by 10:00 a.m. on September 12. This meeting will also be available for public observation via streamed webcast, both live and on-demand, at www.bbg.gov.

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 5:22 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

thanks...please give me precise numbers attending and rough cost for each convention. Travel to Tampa would be less for OCB I assume

Victor

In a message dated 8/24/2012 5:20:21 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good point. I believe the head count is 15 but will confirm and inform accordingly. Thank you. (b) (6)

(b) (6)

On Aug 24, 2012, at 5:04 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

(b) (6)

My question is how many persons from OCB are covering each convention...not how important it is to be there or not be there. I do feel it is significant to be present. Please tell me how many from OCB are going to Tampa and Charlotte and approximate cost. That is what I want to know. I assume naturally you would defend whatever it is you decided to send.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/24/2012 4:25:52 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good afternoon to all of you. As with VOA this is a great opportunity to provide as (b) (6) stated" civic lessons... on American democracy." It is part of our mission and a tremendous opportunity to report on the democratic process in this country. Whether the Cuban people decide to adopt a similar process will ultimately be up to their free will, when it is free, but at the very least we provide information that will be useful to their future. I am also ready to defend the use of these funds. Thank you for your time and consideration. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 3:53 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: (b) (6) Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

Victor,

In 2008, VOA sent 90 to Minneapolis and 98 to Denver. (The Denver number was higher because of the late add of the outdoor venue on the final night which required more technical people). This year we cut the numbers back to 75 per convention. As the item below notes this is one of the best opportunities VOA gets—every four years--to provide civics lessons, if you will, on American democracy. Twenty language services will be represented on location. All services will use material from Central News journalists at the conventions. I am pleased to defend this appropriate use of funds—the kind of coverage that is in effect called for by the VOA Charter.

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

then let me know what VOA and OCB are doing . Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/24/2012 12:11:35 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time (b) (6) writes:

Good afternoon, Victor --

The BBG Public Affairs team does not control the numbers of participants from each of the broadcast entities covering the conventions. To address your question, I'm looping in a few of the right colleagues.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 11:48 AM
To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

many people are we sending to each for entities and VOA/OCB?

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

From: Letitia King (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Aug 24, 2012 11:38 am
Subject: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

<image001.jpg>

**Friday, August 24,
2012**

BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

<image002.jpg> The road to the White House gets a little steeper over the next several weeks as the political parties gather for their quadrennial conventions, and journalists from U.S. international broadcasting stations will be there to cover the proceedings for audiences in dozens of languages and across multiple platforms.

The Republicans gather in Tampa, Fla., Aug. 27-30, to nominate former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney as their standard-bearer. The Democrats follow Sept. 4-6 in Charlotte, N.C., where President Barack Obama is to be nominated to run for a second term.

Voice of America, Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa, and Radio and TV Martí will share workspace and live positions at both conventions, bringing comprehensive coverage of political America's showcase gatherings to millions worldwide. In addition to broadcasts, journalists will be posting to Facebook, Twitter and blogs.

Voice of America is sending a team of writers, producers, correspondents, VJs, editors, and technicians to both cities. Twenty VOA language services will be represented: The Horn of Africa, French to Africa, Swahili, Central Africa; Indonesian, Khmer, Mandarin; Russian, Ukrainian, Serbian, Albanian; Turkish, Armenian; Spanish, Creole; Persian; Dari, Pashto, Deewa and Urdu.

At the same time, VOA will be providing live remote feeds from the conventions to affiliate stations, including the acceptance speeches of both candidates and other proceedings.

Alhurra TV will broadcast a nightly program, "Road to the White House," from 7-11 p.m. each night of both conventions. The show will feature key speeches live with simultaneous translations along with expert analysis and packages on a range of topics, including the impact of Arab-Americans on the upcoming election. Radio Sawa will broadcast the keynote speeches and the addresses by Obama and Romney live with simultaneous translations.

The Office of Cuba Broadcasting is sending a team of reporters, two anchors, producers, technicians and others to cover the conventions. Antena Live, a TV Marti half-hour magazine style show, will broadcast live for four consecutive nights at 6:30 p.m. during both conventions. On the last two nights of each convention there will be programming from 9 to 11 p.m., including live speeches from Obama, Romney and others with translation, interviews with Hispanic political leaders, community representatives and expert analysis.

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<image003.jpg>

| | =

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 5:10 PM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

(b) (6)

What is the cost for 75 persons to each convention? \$3000 per person for \$225,000 per convention for \$450,000 for both or a different amount? I do not need or seek an exact amount but a ball park figure which I assume you considered when you decided on 75 instead of 90 or 98 as in 2008.

I am not asking you to defend as I assume you would naturally defend what you directed to happen. However, it is fair and legitimate for me as a Governor to ask what the cost is especially when BBG issues a news release on it without numbers of personnel or cost involved. Once one knows the cost then one is in a better position to assess and evaluate.

I am only asking the questions you would have asked when you were a distinguished working journalist. I still believe you are distinguished.

No one should be surprised I am asking. I am asking (b) (6) the same. And the entity heads.

Victor

In a message dated 8/24/2012 3:54:16 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

In 2008, VOA sent 90 to Minneapolis and 98 to Denver. (The Denver number was higher because of the late add of the outdoor venue on the final night which required more technical people). This year we cut the numbers back to 75 per convention. As the item below notes this is one of the best opportunities VOA gets—every four years--to provide civics lessons, if you will, on American democracy. Twenty language services will be represented on location. All services will use material from Central News journalists at the conventions. I am pleased to defend this appropriate use of funds—the kind of coverage that is in effect called for by the VOA Charter.

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

then let me know what VOA and OCB are doing . Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/24/2012 12:11:35 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good afternoon, Victor --

The BBG Public Affairs team does not control the numbers of participants from each of the broadcast entities covering the conventions. To address your question, I'm looping in a few of the right colleagues.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 11:48 AM
To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

many people are we sending to each for entities and VOA/OCB?

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

From: Letitia King ((b) (6))
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Aug 24, 2012 11:38 am
Subject: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World



**Friday, August 24,
2012**

[BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World](#)



The road to the White House gets a little steeper over the next several weeks as the political parties gather for their quadrennial conventions, and

journalists from U.S. international broadcasting stations will be there to cover the proceedings for audiences in dozens of languages and across multiple platforms.

The Republicans gather in Tampa, Fla., Aug. 27-30, to nominate former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney as their standard-bearer. The Democrats follow Sept. 4-6 in Charlotte, N.C., where President Barack Obama is to be nominated to run for a second term.

Voice of America, Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa, and Radio and TV Martí will share workspace and live positions at both conventions, bringing comprehensive coverage of political America's showcase gatherings to millions worldwide. In addition to broadcasts, journalists will be posting to Facebook, Twitter and blogs.

Voice of America is sending a team of writers, producers, correspondents, VJs, editors, and technicians to both cities. Twenty VOA language services will be represented: The Horn of Africa, French to Africa, Swahili, Central Africa; Indonesian, Khmer, Mandarin; Russian, Ukrainian, Serbian, Albanian; Turkish, Armenian; Spanish, Creole; Persian; Dari, Pashto, Deewa and Urdu.

At the same time, VOA will be providing live remote feeds from the conventions to affiliate stations, including the acceptance speeches of both candidates and other proceedings.

Alhurra TV will broadcast a nightly program, "Road to the White House," from 7-11 p.m. each night of both conventions. The show will feature key speeches live with simultaneous translations along with expert analysis and packages on a range of topics, including the impact of Arab-Americans on the upcoming election. Radio Sawa will broadcast the keynote speeches and the addresses by Obama and Romney live with simultaneous translations.

The Office of Cuba Broadcasting is sending a team of reporters, two anchors, producers, technicians and others to cover the conventions. Antena Live, a TV Marti half-hour magazine style show, will broadcast live for four consecutive nights at 6:30 p.m. during both conventions. On the last two nights of each convention there will be programming from 9 to 11 p.m., including live speeches from Obama, Romney and others with translation, interviews with Hispanic political leaders, community representatives and expert analysis.

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 5:04 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

(b) (6)

My question is how many persons from OCB are covering each convention...not how important it is to be there or not be there. I do feel it is significant to be present. Please tell me how many from OCB are going to Tampa and Charlotte and approximate cost. That is what I want to know. I assume naturally you would defend whatever it is you decided to send.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/24/2012 4:25:52 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good afternoon to all of you. As with VOA this is a great opportunity to provide as (b) (6) stated" civic lessons... on American democracy." It is part of our mission and a tremendous opportunity to report on the democratic process in this country. Whether the Cuban people decide to adopt a similar process will ultimately be up to their free will, when it is free, but at the very least we provide information that will be useful to their future. I am also ready to defend the use of these funds. Thank you for your time and consideration. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 3:53 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

Victor,

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(b) (6)

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Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:05 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

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Lynne

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Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 11:48 AM
To: External Affairs Public Inquiries; Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World

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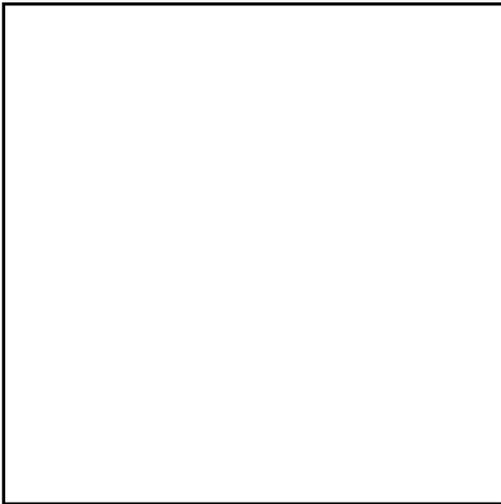
-----Original Message-----

From: Letitia King ((b) (6))
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Aug 24, 2012 11:38 am
Subject: BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World



**Friday, August 24,
2012**

[BBG Bringing Political Conventions to the World](#)



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From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2012 12:54 PM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Re: Invitation - 7-11 Wikimania Library of Congress Opening Reception

thanks..will try to be there...will you be going?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Letitia King (l (b) (6))
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Jun 27, 2012 12:51 pm
Subject: RE: Invitation - 7-11 Wikimania Library of Congress Opening Reception

Hi Ambassador Ashe,

Google Opening Reception
Showcasing the World Digital Library
www.wdl.org

July 11, 2012
7:00 - 8:30 PM

Library of Congress
Thomas Jefferson Building Great Hall
10 First St. SE
Washington, DC 20540

The invitation itself was attached to Lesley's earlier email. I've attached it again here fyi.

Regards,
Tish

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2012 12:24 PM
To: (b) (6); Letitia King
Subject: Re: Invitation - 7-11 Wikimania Library of Congress Opening Reception

what time does it open? Sounds interesting...also location?

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

From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
To: Letitia King (l (b) (6))
Sent: Wed, Jun 27, 2012 9:55 am
Subject: Invitation - 7-11 Wikimania Library of Congress Opening Reception

Colleagues,

We are forwarding here an invitation to the Wikimania 2012 Google Opening Reception for the World Digital Library at the Library of Congress on July 11. The Library of Congress is particularly interested in engaging national cultural organizations, libraries, and museums to join the World Digital Libraries especially in Algeria, Ethiopia, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Turkey.

The reception marks the start of the Washington DC component of Wikimania, the premier annual international gathering of the Wikimedia community, including experts, academics, and enthusiasts whose vision is to empower people around the world through free access to global knowledge. For your information, Wikimania has chapters and members from around the world. They serve users in 283 languages.

Please RSVP by July 6 to [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Regards,
BBG Public Affairs

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 2:44 PM
To: Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Spiking of VOA story- Board correspondence

I had not seen this. Please send it by postal mail to me in Knoxville. Is this confidential?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Letitia King (l (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Jun 14, 2012 11:58 am
Subject: FW: Spiking of VOA story- Board correspondence

Hello Ambassador Ashe,

I want to close the loop on this correspondence - which is about 15 printed pages - I thought you might like to know it came in while the Board was in Prague and David Ensor was overseas. As per normal, this correspondence will be included in the upcoming mailing to the Board.

Regards,
Tish

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

From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 12:34 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Letitia King
Subject: Re: Spiking of VOA story

To: Governor Victor Ashe
CC: BBG, c/o Letitia King

Dear Governor Ashe:

I trust that you and the other Governors received my June 4th email forwarded by Tish King prior to your last meeting. It lays out the unprecedented and, I believe, retaliatory killing of a VOA story by Central News chief (b) (6), who has refused to provide an explanation or to reconsider the decision.

(b) (6) told me last week that (b) (6) would respond to my appeal in (b) (6) absence. He still has not yet done so, although the facts are undisputed and the issue not complicated.

I did not appeal directly to (b) (6) originally because he had already had ample occasion to intervene with (b) (6) in this matter, prior to my appeal to (b) (6) and had not done so.

His delay in responding now is another example of something new and unfortunate at VOA: an attitude among senior news managers that they are above the need to explain or justify any decision regarding our journalism.

At leading news outlets, in contrast, top editors are at pains that substantive journalism decisions be ethical, well-reasoned, and transparent to staff -- lest journalists in their employ lose trust in the integrity of their own

agency.

I believe that is what has happened at VOA in the last five years. OPM surveys have shown that VOA staff morale and trust in agency management is at rock-bottom. What those surveys do not indicate, because they do not ask questions about it, is the lack of confidence that many senior VOA correspondents also feel in the professional integrity and ethical journalism of senior news managers.

In addition to the killing of the story detailed below, senior news managers have simply stopped responding to story proposals on discomfiting subjects. Two veteran correspondents (I was one of them) independently proposed stories on the growing use of drones, in the U.S and abroad. Both pitches were ignored, despite (b) (6) assurances at a Newseum/CJR panel that VOA does not and would not shy away from reporting on the issue.

Regards,

(b) (6)

June 5, 4:52 pm

(b) (6)

to (b) (6)

(b) (6), (b) (6) has not had an opportunity to address this yet in anyway. You should not interpret today's actions or responses as his actions. You will get a direct response of some sort, although it's Board meeting week and (b) (6) is Acting for (b) (6), so it might not be for a few days. Please stand by. (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2012 4:45 P

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Spiking of VOA story

Hi (b) (6),

(b) (6) tells me that he received an email from (b) (6) today, perhaps a response to his inquiry from Friday, stating only that the Klimt story was "dead," and again offering no reason or explanation.

I assume this may mean that (b) (6) has chosen not to overrule her, as expected, given that he received the earlier emails on the topic and did not intervene then. Is that correct?

Thus my direct appeal to (b) (6) remains. Will he be back in the office later this week to rule on this matter?

Thanks,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, June 04, 2012 1:26 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Letitia King

Subject: Spiking of VOA story

To: (b) (6)

cc: Broadcasting Board of Governors c/o Letitia King

Dear (b) (6) :

I am appealing to you to reverse news chief (b) (6) snap decision last week to spike a story on which we had invested nearly a week of staff-days setting up, shooting and writing. Her decision to kill the story, which she refused to explain, was retaliatory, I believe, constituting an abuse of her authority, and a willful waste of thousands of dollars in agency resources. Neither she nor executive editor (b) (6) has responded to my requests for an explanation and reconsideration of this decision.

As you know, some weeks ago I was assigned a TV arts feature about the Neue Galerie's show marking the 150th birthday of painter Gustav Klimt. Knowing that, as Wikipedia has it, "Klimt's primary subject was the female body, and his works are marked by a frank eroticism," I raised the point with (b) (6), the copy editor/arts editor who pushed the story, that it would have to deal in part with that central aspect of his work.

I didn't want to again invest time in a piece that (b) (6) would attempt to slant or bowdlerize with her editing, as she had in previous pieces, including a story about (b) (6) at MoMA, which she tried to rewrite top-to-bottom to match her memory of the fictionalized history in the feature film, "Frida." For example, she argued, "That's not the way the movie had it," when I told her that lines she had written describing Rivera's "final confrontation" with John D. Rockefeller, could not stand, since the two had never met. She also pressed me to go to Rockefeller Center to interview passersby about their thoughts on a 1931 arts censorship controversy.

The story took an extra month of work -- and caused considerable stress in days of negotiating with (b) (6), who, rather than admit that (b) (6) was handling the story inappropriately, making misstatements and inserting errors, assigned me to do a redo.

With the Klimt assignment, (b) (6) brushed my concerns off, insisting that coverage editors wanted the piece and that it need not include nudity. Senior executive producer (b) (6) also weighed in and told New York bureau chief (b) (6) in answer to his question, that we would not cover up Michelangelo's David, so we need not worry about what the Klimt story might entail.

In (b) (6) emails about how I should cover the Klimt story, she made much of the fact that the museum cafe would be selling a special "Klimt cake" with a bit of gold leaf on it, and wondered if we could shoot the cakes being baked and decorated, etc. She also wanted reaction to the show from museum visitors. Most of all, she wanted an interview with the museum's billionaire co-founder, Ronald Lauder.

The museum said Lauder would do the interview and set up the shoot for May 23, just before the show opened and again for May 24, when we could interview museum-goers and shoot in the cafe. Lauder canceled at the last minute, handing off the interview to museum director and art historian Renee Price, who was excellent. The next day, (b) (6) insisted that I again request that the Lauder interview be rescheduled, even though the museum had already twice told me no.

I was off through Tuesday the 29th, when I received an email from (b) (6) telling me the story must be written and produced by Thursday night.

(I am off Fridays). So, I stayed late on Wednesday to log and write the story in one day. I also canceled my plans for Thursday evening, in case production took long.

The script I wrote was, I thought, innocuous but accurate and entertaining. It described some of Klimt's portraits of women, and included the reaction to his art from museum-goers. I "opted" a couple of lines that referred to a painting showing a woman's bottom that some language services might not want to show.

The only other painting in the story with nudity was a full-length portrait that showed partly-revealed breasts. This part of the portrait might be finessed by language services that had issues with that, or shown only fleetingly. Sending in the script Wednesday night, I expected it would get a quick turnaround by copy editors so it could be produced on Thursday.

On Thursday, however, VOA Central News chief (b) (6) unilaterally decided not to delay but to kill the story. "We don't have time" for it, she wrote, as if putting stories out is not exactly what we have time for. She refused to explain or give any reason. She had earlier received an email from (b) (6) that said in part, "(b) (6) has focused on the erotic aspects of Klimt. She was opposed to doing this story because she said there were naked portraits."

As noted, we had spent days discussing, shooting and writing this story, and it remains timely for two more months -- even more timely next month. The actual Klimt anniversary is not until July 14 and the show will remain up through August.

(b) (6) unnecessary spiking of the story is damaging to my productivity and standing, and retaliatory, I believe, for my having pointed out and attempted to negotiate corrections to (b) (6) editing errors in many past stories and for appealing to (b) (6) to put a stop to (b) (6) unprofessional conduct and bullying.

In February, I informed (b) (6) that (b) (6) who is ranked a supervisor, had sent angry, untrue emails about me on at least two occasions to groups of my colleagues and supervisors. One said, "As usual, (b) (6) has used abuse and bizarre allegations to discredit my comments about her piece." (b) (6) responded to my appeal by saying that I had offended (b) (6) too.

According to a petition from 1999 signed by 50 Central News staff members, (b) (6) in her first stint as news chief engaged in arbitrary, vindictive and/or retaliatory actions against ten highly-regarded employees, some of whom subsequently left VOA. Following the petition, she was removed as news chief, and returned to a job as an overseas correspondent. I did not sign that petition, incidentally, and had never worked with (b) (6) until she was reinstated as news chief two years ago by (b) (6), over the protests of Central News staff.

I have worked at VOA for many years. I have never before had a completed script killed. One editor attempted to kill a two-part radio series of mine about a controversial anti-malaria drug. The VOA director at the time, (b) (6), was familiar with the issue. He overruled her and ordered the story be issued.

Nor have I heard before of a Central News chief who killed a story without offering a reason for doing so. It strikes at everything our journalism is supposed to be based on: honesty, integrity, impartiality, professionalism, good faith, transparency, candor. Not to mention morale. We are to invest ourselves in stories -- and impose on our sources to give us their time in interviews and shoots -- and then have them killed without explanation?

Below is a record of email exchanges on the Klimt script (with my spelling of Munch and Ungar corrected), including the script itself.

Regards,

(b) (6)

from: (b) (6)
to: (b) (6) (b) (6)
cc: (b) (6)
date: Wed, May 30, 2012 at 10:18 AM
subject: RE: klimt

(b) (6) :

Coverage editors want to run Klimt this week. We're short on features.

(b) (6) : Please come ahead with a script today.

from: (b) (6) (b) (6)
to: (b) (6) (b) (6)
cc: (b) (6)
date: Wed, May 30, 2012 at 4:24 PM
subject: RE: (b) (6) script on Gustav Klimt exhibit in NYK

Editors:

When this script comes in, could you kindly put it in Dalet /Media/Central News/Hold for Release?

I will copy edit tomorrow morning and then get a second read from someone.

Many thanks,

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 8:37 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Klimt show script for editing -- with "The Goldfish" and "The Kiss" attached, FYI

Note to Eds: The "Kiss" section seems important to include because it is the most recognizable Klimt painting (and we can use a jpeg, since it is in the public domain as the work of an artist dead more than 70 years. Ditto with The Goldfish, and the works for the Vienna University Commission, for which we have a high-res image in color, and one of his charcoal drawings from the show.)

Also, (b) (6) Regarding the Klimt cake being sold in the museum's café during the show: I couldn't find an opening where it wouldn't seem like a PR puff/digression. It is a piece of chocolate cake with a bit of gold on top - nothing evocative of art or Klimt. I also couldn't make it work in the Intro either, again because it seems like a PR gambit, and of no interest or value to audiences even closer to NYC than Indonesia, Nigeria, etc..

((INTRO))

Museums in Vienna are celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of the Austrian modernist painter Gustav Klimt this coming July. New York City's Neue Galerie - a private museum co-founded ten years ago by billionaire collector Ronald S. Lauder - is also marking the anniversary with a special show of Klimt's paintings, drawings and photographs of the artist. VOA's Carolyn Weaver reports.

((NARRATOR))

The small Neue Galerie show's centerpiece is Klimt's 1907 portrait of an Austrian socialite, Adele Bloch-Bauer -- a painting as mosaic-like and blazing with gold leaf as the Byzantine icons that Klimt admired.
Neue Galerie director Renee Price:

((RENEE PRICE))

"He used Old Master techniques, he applied gesso to the canvas. And of course this woman is sort of almost in an armor of ornament, or sea of ornament around her and considerable portion of the canvas is a flat abstract space. This is extremely modern for the time."

((NARRATOR))

Museum co-founder Ronald S. Lauder paid \$135 million for the portrait in 2006 - the largest sum ever spent on a single work of art at the time - and it has drawn new visitors to Neue Galerie's collection of early 20th century Austrian and German art and design.

(([[BEGIN OPT TWO LINES ABOUT "THE KISS"] Many said they first discovered Klimt through an even more famous painting from his "golden" period, "The Kiss," which is owned by a Vienna museum.

SOPHIE KARBJINSKI:

"I love 'The Kiss,' I just fell in love with it the first time I saw it."

END OPT LINES))

((NARRATOR))

High school student Sophie Karbjinski:

((SOPHIE KARBJINSKI))

"The women he paints have something mysterious but vulnerable, and so beautiful about them, in such a natural way, though - they're never perfect."

((NARRATOR))

She points to "The Dancer," for example, another portrait at the Neue Galerie. Like many of Klimt's works, the subject - partially undressed and surrounded by flowers - glows as if lit from within by a rosy eroticism.

((RENEE PRICE))

"Klimt loved women, and many of his women and drawings are extremely sensuous. Even today, they still make people look twice."

((NARRATOR))

Riley Steiner, visiting from Virginia, said she approved:

((RILEY STEINER))

"That's a good thing, as far as I'm concerned. I always look for the grittiness and the eros in a piece of work. I love it."

((OPT THE BITE FROM GUSTAVO BELOW, OR THE STEINER ONE ABOVE, IF NEC. FOR TIME]))

((NARRATOR))

Mexican law student Gustavo Acebes agreed:

((GUSTAVO ACEBES))

"I can very well see how they were shocking in their time, particularly in the beginning of the 20th century. I can imagine my grandmother being horrified and unable to appreciate many things that my mother is now able to admire."

((NARRATOR))

In addition to his portraits of women, Klimt also painted many landscapes during summers in the lake region. He withdrew from public art after the University of Vienna rejected as "obscene" his works for their schools of science, medicine and philosophy.

((BEGIN OPT LINES; Note to EDS: See the image attached. It is a beautiful, humorous painting, but still could be optional for services whose audiences might object.))

His painting "The Goldfish" was a rejoinder to that, Price says, presenting the viewer with the ample backside of a curvy woman.

((RENEE PRICE))

That was his answer, literally saying, 'Why don't you just kiss my posterior,' in a very sort of nice way. Everybody knew what he meant when that painting came. ((END OPT)) And that was really the end for him of any public commissions. And yet he was the greatest living artist in Vienna at the time."

((NARRATOR))

Most of Klimt's works are in other collections, so the anniversary show in New York is relatively small: seven paintings and about 40 drawings and photographs, including some never shown before of Klimt - often wearing the long robe he favored.

((BEGIN OPT LINE))

He never married, but lived at home with his mother and sisters - while fathering at least six children with his models.

((END OPT))

The Neue Galerie exhibit is on view through August 27.

((SIGNED))

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 9:48 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Thurs. Insight : Klimt - Art Show (TV)

We're putting a hold on this piece for look on Thursday. thanks much

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2012 9:58 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Thurs. Insight : Klimt - Art Show (TV)

(b) (6) :
When do you want to talk about this. I think (b) (6) has focused on the erotic aspects of Klimt. She was opposed to doing this story because she said there were naked portraits. The museum assured me that most of the paintings were not naked.
Bottom line: (no pun intended) Klimt has a huge and cultish following here and abroad. His paintings are lush, beautiful, like collages of dense fabrics. Hopefully the video is beautiful (they were shot by Daniela). There's no need to

focus on naked bodies.

In fact, we'd have a shorter piece, and that's not bad.

By the way, having (b) (6) in this piece, explaining what he loves about Klimt, would have been terrific.

Anyway, I am reading the original script before the first edit by (b) (6).

Best,

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2012 12:14 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Klimt story

Dear Editors:

(b) (6) email mischaracterizes both Klimt's work and the backstory of the assignment. And it really should have been cc'd to me, among the dozens of others who received it.

Klimt's paintings of women, particularly semi-clothed and naked women, are a central aspect of his work. He would not be remembered today for his occasional landscapes. His paintings are sensuous rather than sexual, for the most part, and my script did not mention his explicitly erotic drawings of sexual acts. His "golden period" paintings are not "lush" (a niche-luxury magazine word) -- they are flat paintings with gold and silver leaf that refer to Byzantine art and mosaics.

Regardless, my script -- as you can see below-- covered Klimt's painterly eroticism tastefully. I opted the lines about one "bare-bottom" painting. The only other painting that has nudity in it is The Dancer. It has only partly exposed breasts, and the treatment is of something beautiful, not "sexual." We can also edit even that innocuous image in a way that will make it even more discreet and fleeting, if necessary. So, there simply is not an issue of explicit nudity in the story -- and no reason to agonize over it.

Further, I was not "opposed" to doing this story. I raised the point with (b) (6) that the story would inevitably present issues of sensuality and nudity and censorship. This is something editors need to consider prior to assignment.

(b) (6) denied this, choosing to overlook the art itself, while focusing on the big-money aspect of the central portrait, the prestige of possibly getting an interview with the museum's billionaire founder, and a PR gimmick about cake.

Her reference to it "would have been nice" to have (b) (6) in the piece beats a dead horse. We did not have the option of including Lauder. He first agreed, then canceled at the last minute with no excuse, giving us the museum director instead. I asked twice more if he might consider rescheduling; the museum was firm that it was not going to happen. Indeed, why would it pester its billionaire founder?

And -- last -- I wrote a fine script on short notice, staying late to do it, and canceling my own plans for tonight in case of a late production. How extraordinary that the copy editor would fail in the courtesy of cc'ing me, the reporter, her email about my script, and even fail to communicate as of this writing that the script was being held over.

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2012 12:51 PM

To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: FW: Klimt story & arts coverage (b) (6) :

(b) (6) continues to eat up enormous resources and time with her editing errors and wild-goose chase assignments (having a videographer spend half a day searching Chinatown for coffee-mug reproductions of the Munch painting "The Scream," is just one recent example.)

She is grossly incompetent as a copy editor, rewriting (and botching) sentences willy-nilly, inserting factual errors, and taking longer to "edit" a script than it does to write it.

In the Barnard profile I did, she pressured the second copy editor to include footage of Meryl Streep giving a commencement speech, and wrongly identified Streep as a Barnard graduate. He would have capitulated had I not pushed back.

As a largely self-appointed "arts and culture" editor, she is interested mainly in wealthy people, celebrities, fashion, blockbuster plays, and big-ticket art auctions and other niche luxury items of interest to elite westerners. Art and culture stories in other categories, particularly about not-yet-famous immigrants from our target audiences, is ignored.

I think we would do better without any one editor specifically assigned to arts coverage rather than allow (b) (6) to continue to misdirect our scarce resources here.

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2012 1:51 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Klimt story & arts coverage

(b) (6) ,

Your note is unprofessional and unacceptable. This kind of behavior on your part cannot be tolerated.

As I've told you and others on many occasions - a spirited discussion between reporter and editor can be a good thing. There will at times no doubt be differences. These need to be resolved in a professional manner. Nothing can be gained from these kinds of notes.

Please refrain from such behavior and let's get back on a proper track.

Thank you

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Thu, May 31, 2012 at 2:14 PM
RE: Klimt story

(b) (6)

We are spiking the Klimt story. We have other stories we need to focus on and have no time for this.

Thanks much

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2012 3:10 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: CQ Re: SPIKING the Klimt story & arts coverage

Dear (b) (6) :

Thank you for your reply and of course, I'm sorry if my note was out of line. I would not knowingly send an unprofessional or uncivil note, and I would be grateful if you would explain to me, if you wish, exactly how it is unprofessional to communicate specifically to an employee's superiors, and to their superiors, that we are spending enormous amounts of time dealing with errors, delays, and errant assignments by that employee.

This situation has gone on for years, as you know, with story after story.

More seriously. (b) (6) treatment of me personally, as I have also indicated to you before, amounts to harassment and bullying. You have tolerated that conduct, even when I told you that (b) (6) a supervisor, has on at least two occasions vented anger and slurred me as "malicious" in emails she sent to entire mail groups. In response, you told me that my attempts to correct errors inserted by her editing were equivalent offenses against her. (i.e.: "Malicious" emailed by a supervisor to a broadcast group is the equivalent of "Can we fix this?" spoken by a subordinate to an editor.)

Your most recent note says that the Klimt story is to be KILLED, because "we" do not have "time" to deal with it. May I ask how that could be? I don't understand why this would take much time, beyond an hour's worth of copy editing and an afternoon of production?

Note again that the script I wrote has no essential nudity in it -- two shots that can be elided or opted out -- or indeed anything controversial. And (b) (6) when we discussed the question of nudity in this story weeks ago, told (b) (6) that we would not cover up Michelangelo's David -- yet we cannot do this story, even though the nudity can be sidestepped? Are we really to waste several days' worth of work by (b) (6) and me, again? This is exactly the outcome that I feared when (b) (6) first broached the assignment.

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2012 5:11 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: CQ Re: SPIKING the Klimt story & arts coverage

(b) (6)

I've been reading through a list of e-mail exchanges between you and (b) (6) and find that they tend to be more "pointed" than they should be and usually include a large group of recipients. As I have so very often said, I encourage discussion between reporter and editor and it can be spirited. It is best to keep e-mail discussions between reporter and editor and not include a wide e-mail group. Part of the job of an editor is not just to copy edit, but to also decide what stories are wanted, which ones not, what angle might prove most interesting, what not. Of course, most times the correspondent will and should have a good idea what stories work best and how and what angle a story should take. That's part of the story pitch and discussion. Usually differences can

be talked through and resolved.

If there is a major difference it can warrant calling in a more senior editor, for example - but this should really not be par for the course. Bottom line is that differences must not turn into personal attacks, which will likely cause great offense and are simply not acceptable.

I ran across an e-mail from late last year in which I wrote a similar note to you about maintaining a professional tone in your e-mails.

You replied November 12, 2011 that you agreed with, as you put it, my "wise reminder" to conduct exchanges in a professional manner. Let follow that please.

It was my decision to spike the Klimt story.

I understand that tomorrow is your day off? Let's get back on track Monday. If you've already got a story you're working on, please advise. Otherwise there will time for pitches or assignments on Monday. Have a good weekend.

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2012 6:00 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: CQ Re: SPIKING the Klimt story & arts coverage

(b) (6),

Would you be so kind as to tell me your reason for spiking the Klimt story? It is the first story in all my years at VOA that has been spiked after scripting. It represents several days of agency time and resources spent by both (b) (6) and me. There need be no nudity in it

-- no breasts, no buttocks. It is a charming story and well-written script, if I say so myself, with beautiful visuals.

It seems only fair that you should share your reasoning as to why it should be thrown away. And I would like to share with the inspector general the waste that I believe spiking it would represent.

I do recall that (b) (6) once tried to spike a story of mine about an anti-malaria drug. (b) (6), whose wife worked in public health, intervened in defense of our journalistic integrity and common sense.

I am sorry you think my emails are unduly pointed. It is sometimes challenging to smooth over unpleasant realities. And that is not really our job as journalists, is it? But I have always attempted to be diplomatic in pointing out errors introduced by (b) (6) rewriting and editing of my scripts, and in suggesting corrections. Except to you and her superiors, I have not criticized her generally, only worked to repair specific problems in specific scripts.

When (b) (6) emails to a large group, I use "reply all" to the same group, lest they receive only partial information that is relevant to their work. I have not initiated recent emails about her errors broadly, although one night when she went home, I had to email the central editors who would be putting the story out.

In any case, are we not responsible for our work? Is this something to cover over, that there are errors in a story that need to be corrected -- even if it happens with every single story that one editor works on? If I did not tell other editors when (b) (6) refused to correct an error, errant stories would go out. Is that what you say I should accept -- to knowingly track and produce stories with errors in them?

Is that what our audience and the taxpayers are paying for?

Below is the February note where I attempted to lay out for you the nature of

the situation. You responded with a false equivalence between a supervisor angrily slurring an employee to her colleagues, and my attempts, as her subordinate, to correct scripts prior to their release. I don't think my note was too pointed.

Regards,

(b) (6)

FEBRUARY NOTE:

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 1:07 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: re: your note

Hi (b) (6),

Thanks for your note. I hope this will further clarify what is happening here. With most of my editors, I have only one thing to say: "Thanks." Or, "Nice catch!" Unfortunately, this situation is not about an editor and a writer having a spirited debate, but about an editor who arbitrarily and carelessly rewrites scripts, frequently inserting errors. It is an irrational situation that has continued for several years, wasting hundreds of agency hours and pushing off production.

As you know from previous episodes, I have attempted to negotiate careful corrections to errors inserted by her editing, trying not to offend her as I do so. Sometimes she'll correct one error, but introduce a new one with her next iteration of the script. When errors are pointed out to her, however diplomatically, she sometimes gets angry and verbally abusive.

You will recall that during her month's-long reworking of my Diego Rivera story, at one point she cited a fictional film as a historical authority for a dramatic incident she wanted included in my script.

When I said that the incident had never taken place, she argued, "But that's not how the movie had it." She disputed the scholars we interviewed and made incorrect statements about the exhibit itself and about the historical period. She claimed she never had asked for documentary footage that she had emailed me about asking me to try to obtain.

There is no such tolerance in our agency for errors or misstatements committed by the rank and file. When I tell people outside the agency about these incidents, their jaws drop.

Obviously, this costs the agency. I could have covered the Viktor Bout court hearing yesterday had I not had to spend much of the day working to amend the errors she inserted into my latest feature script. I could have done several other stories in the weeks we spent doing and redoing the Diego Rivera story.

(b) (6) has twice now written slurring notes about me to my colleagues, including a blanket note she sent to the web desk. As far as I know, she hasn't been called to account for that wildly unprofessional behavior, or asked to retract or apologize for those notes.

Best,

(b) (6)

AND AN UNSENT NOTE FROM FEBRUARY OR MARCH:

(b) (6),

It was nice to see you in the bureau last week. I wanted to answer your note below, now that I have a minute on the weekend again. I was disappointed that your response to my email did not address the serious concerns that mine raised, concerns that are causing me to become stressed and sleepless.

My email described to you a wasteful, unpleasant and harassing situation: the wholesale, clumsy rewriting and constant insertion of errors into scripts by (b) (6), a copy editor, and the delays in issuing stories and reduced productivity caused by this.

When (b) (6) is done with an edit of my story, the result is often simply embarrassing. The style becomes that almost of a computer translation by a computer that doesn't know English well. Sentences are chopped up willy-nilly, sometimes creating a singsong-y effect along the lines of "Look at Spot. See Spot run." Nuances and humor and anything like gracefulness are excised. It's editing as an exercise in bullying.

I appealed to you to exercise your responsibility as news chief to correct this situation, one that would not be tolerated in a rationally-run organization.

My note also described (b) (6) anger at having to correct her errors, and the two attack-emails she has sent to other supervisors and rank-and-file falsely slurring me in response.

You wrote back stating that you had not read the script then in question, but advising me that when a disagreement about copy cannot be resolved with the editor directly, then I should appeal to a manager. Since you had acted as supervisory editor in my last editing imbroglio with (b) (6) over the (b) (6) story, I assumed you meant yourself.

I responded by sending you an email appealing an inaccuracy that (b) (6) had written into the story that was being produced that day that she had refused thus far to correct.

You did not respond to my email or to a follow-up around 5 p.m. At 9 p.m. you finally wrote back, telling me I should refer such questions to other, lower-ranking managers such as (b) (6).

In the meantime, (b) (6) also refused to consider the correction, on the grounds that I had put the ball in your court and it was now up to you to decide.

I produced the piece that evening with the modified phrase wild-tracked at the end. The next day, (b) (6) chose to put the story out with the misleading line instead. So, between the two of you, the responsibility to ensure the accuracy and integrity of a story was evaded.

Your note also suggested that the emails (b) (6) has sent slurring me to colleagues are not a problem, because, as you note, (b) (6) is equally offended by my attempts to correct errors she inserts in my scripts. These two situations are not equivalent, obviously.

I believe that (b) (6) "editing" of my stories (or rather, her wholesale rewriting), has become a means of personal harassment. I think she is now consciously retaliating against me, both by obstructing my work and slurring me to colleagues.

As you may know, I have been a journalist for many years. Feature stories and long-form investigative pieces of mine have been published in The New York Times and national magazines. I have freelanced as a copy editor myself for national magazines. Both in my freelance writing in the past and my many years at VOA, I can assure you that I have never dealt with an editor like (b) (6)

Short of filing a grievance, I would suggest a simple solution: that other editors edit my work. (b) (6) -- are all good editors who conduct themselves professionally. They answer questions and resolve issues immediately and collegially. ((b) often leaves questions unanswered rather than admit to an error.) They edit scripts with dispatch, and their edits improve the script. They do not rewrite routinely.

This won't solve the entire problem, given that other reporters I have spoken with in DC and the bureaus have similar issues with (b) (6) work, but at least it will remove the ugly personal situation that has developed here.

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 5:32 PM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: FW: SFRC/Lugar thoughts on BBG Grantee Consolidation

It seems to me that this response from (b) (6) should go to the responses being collected on the BBG consolidation plan on the BBG web site. as it references it in his e mail.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 5/21/2012 4:53:57 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: RE: FW: SFRC/Lugar thoughts on BBG Grantee Consolidation

Victor –

No problem if this is forwarded.

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 4:52 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FW: SFRC/Lugar thoughts on BBG Grantee Consolidation

thanks very much. I concur fully. Frankly little thought was given to this...a three week study by Deloitte.

I am now concerned that the CEO being envisioned to be created on the House side according to Lynne Weil is a mistake as well given the BBG Board has not discussed it in any depth.

We can discuss if you wish.

Is this e mail confidential (ie not to be forwarded or not?)

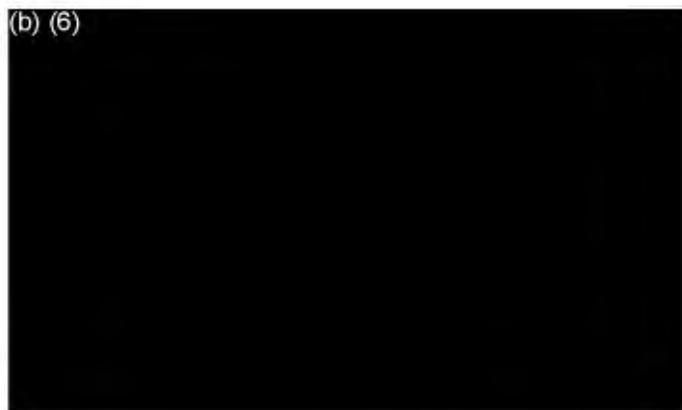
Victor

In a message dated 5/21/2012 4:48:30 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor –

FYI.

(b) (6)



From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 4:41 PM
To: Lynne Weil (b) (6) (b) (6) 'Jeff Trimble'
Cc: (b) (6) Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Subject: SFRC/Lugar thoughts on BBG Grantee Consolidation

Jeff -

Had a chance to review the Consolidation plan that was posted on BBG website. <http://www.bbg.gov/wp-content/media/2012/05/Draft-Grantee-Consolidation-Plan-April-12-2012A.pdf>

As my note below from January indicated when the initial Deloitte report came out, I am still not convinced in the efficacy or efficiencies the plan envisions, and will recommend Senator Lugar oppose it.

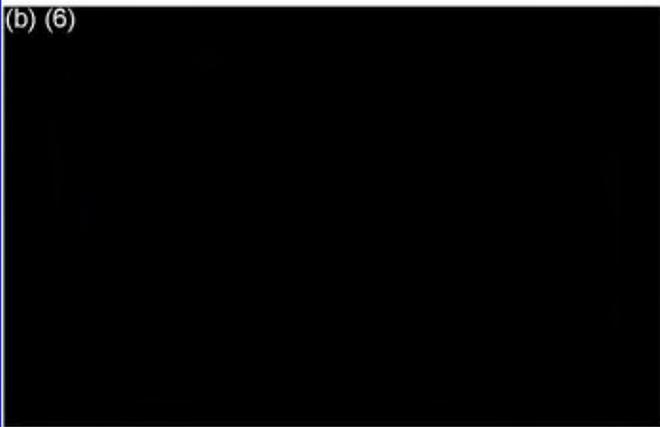
I continue to believe that the Consolidation will disrupt the operations of those portions of the BBG family which have the least need of tinkering.

I grant you their salary and benefit structures may be different, but they are clearly not an impediment to operations and, b/c of language differences do not result in the 3 grantees poaching from one another.

Rather than comparing them to each other, they should be compared to VOA, language duplications eliminated, DC-colocation and de-federalization discussions laid upon the table.

Such “small ball” as the Consolidation proposes may score you a run or two, but if you don’t “swing for the fences” it will not win you the game (apologies to Nats fans for the baseball metaphor abuse).

(b) (6)



From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2012 08:51 AM
To: 'Dana Perino' <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Thoughts on BBG Grantee Consolidation before tomorrow's Board mtg

I read the Deloitte rpt.

<http://media.voanews.com/documents/Deloitte+Grantee+Consolidation+AssessmentRedacted.pdf>

While I agree that there is potential for marginal savings by combining/harmonizing the HR and Budget shops, I don’t really see how, absent co-location, you will see that significant of a savings.

Based on the report, I am not convinced that you will see significant Tech savings given the disparities in platforms used and the vast distances between Dubai-Prague, DC/Sterling.

I think it IS worth looking at harmonizing the HR structures of each so that each profession/skill earns the same wage/benefit (the report notes that a “significant” # of RFA employees are unionized, but gives no # or %, which was unhelpful).

While the plan calls for a CEO/President over the 3 Grantees, each would still need a head/Director to run them who would have the day to day operational issues to deal with.

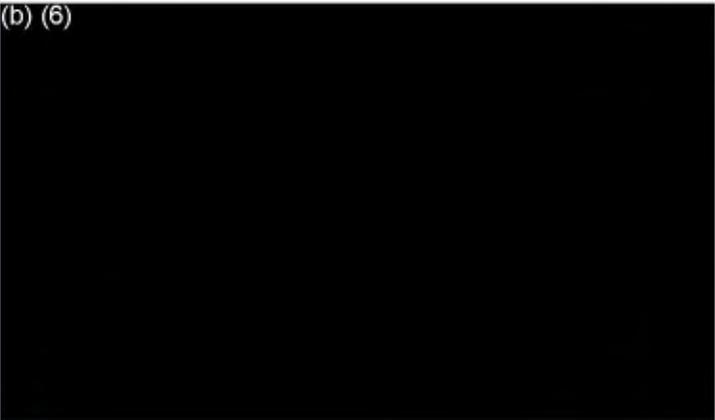
I am unconvinced that this is any different from the existing situation except to add another layer, esp if RFE remains in Prague and one or more Grantees remain in DC.

Given, as the report notes, the only-crossover language between any of the services is Arabic, it is clear that no real savings will come from there.

Absent a grander reorganization that addresses/includes VOA in the mix, the only real savings I see would be moving MBN to Prague and/or co-locating MBN/RFA/RFE(DC) into a single building in the DC Metro area.

Regards,

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 7:37 AM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: comments to Consolidation Summary

I assume you are keeping the reports on consolidation...this one came to me this morning to be added to the group.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 5/17/2012 7:02:30 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: comments to Consolidation Summary

To Whom It May Concern:

Below are some comments to requested by the Broadcasting Board of Governors on your website. The plan as presented is lacking in specificity, and a true review cannot be accomplished without a thorough review of the underlying data from which the expected savings were calculated. If the full data is to be made available at a future date, I can be more specific in my comments.

Comments BBG Consolidation Plan

- 1) **Bias** - The plan is very MBN centric, making it seem as if the youngest of the three grantees knows best. Putting forward the most homogenized and localized entity as the model of the merged entity seems specious at best. Of course, having the two main authors of the report being senior management at MBN might have something to do with the obvious bias in the report.

Structure - The proposed management structure actually adds a layer of management to the operation of the "brands." Changing the titles of the CEOs to General Manager of the brands does not appear to lead to efficiency. The support of these positions will necessarily mean that some of the positions forecast to be eliminated by the reduction of the number of Presidents is overstated.
- 3) **Culture** - There is no mention of the distinct differences in the cultures of the three entities, and how a new structure will affect the individual nature of the three entities. There is mention of maintaining the individual brands, but nothing is said of protecting that which makes each entity unique. This consolidation over time risks the homogenization into a singular entity, so that all the three brands would be nothing but names.
-) **Timeline** - The timeline as presented is too quick to allow for an optimal structure of the new organization. A proper procedure would be for the new consolidated entity to begin operations, then look to choosing the management structure and underlying systems that will best work for the new organization. By putting these decisions early on in the process, the best systems will not be chosen and the costs could be higher than otherwise. Further to this, there is not enough time in the process for proper procurement as outlined in OMB Circular A-110.
-) **Cost/Benefit Analysis** - The information provided talks about the savings without showing any numbers to back them up. Further to this, the savings appear to be based on the immediate consolidation of all activities. There is no mention of the costs associated with canceling already contracted services, including rent on current facilities. There is also the mention of eliminating

fifty-one support positions as the basis for 50% of the proposed cost savings. How many of those positions that are currently vacant/frozen is not mentioned. Any position eliminated that is not filled does not actually lead to savings. These funds have already been diverted for broadcasting, so they should not be counted toward the total.

- 6) **Balance Sheet** - There is no mention about the costs associated with combining balance sheets. There are assets and liabilities that come with each of the entities, and will necessarily have to be paid off or merged into the new entity. Along with this will be then necessary revaluation at current levels. This could lead to starting the new entity with major expenses that will necessarily need to be charged off in the first year of operations.
- 7) **Employee Comparisons** - There is a mention of the cost of benefits for employees in the various location without any context or actual numbers. Having employees in Prague may have benefits to the overall organization based on their being closer to their broadcast regions. This allows for more timely news gathering and reporting. As for the actual comparison of benefit percentages this is very disingenuous, as it does not show the total cost per employee, and doesn't look at the productivity of the employees. For example, even with the cost of local social taxation in the Czech Republic the total cost of support personnel is 30% to 50% of the cost of the same position in Springfield, VA.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 9:45 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Cc: (D) (b) Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Letitia King; (D) (b)
Subject: Re: Message from (b) (6)

Dear Colleagues

I am responding to the joint memo sent to Dick Lobo by Governor Mulhaupt and Lynton. While I respect the difference of opinion which exists here, I also profoundly differ. There is an absence of discussion on the points I have raised. I feel the public process is enhanced when there is debate in a public setting on these issues. Tax dollars are involved. The memo references that I would receive answers from Mr. Lobo on the questions I raised. His email to me and copied to the full Board said I would receive them Monday (today). Unless they arrive in the next two and half hours, I have not received them on Monday. I do not know when or if I will receive them. All Governors should have responses to their questions. I look forward to the Lobo response.

Since the Lynton-Mulhaupt memo refers to the legislative process as being one in which this proposal will be fully vetted, I assume this is an assertion that the legislative process should work its way and hear from all interested citizens on all sides of this issue. I believe the legislative process should include public hearings on this which, in my view, did not happen in an adequate way on our Board. I do not feel there should be a rush to judgment.

I trust that prior e mails on this subject including the Lynton-Mulhaupt e mail should be posted on the BBG web site and it should be public that BBG is pursuing this. This is no longer pre-decisional given this memo. The decision has been now been made by memo and without a Board meeting/discussion. It seems to me that this is now in the public arena and the discussion on the topic should be fully public even if it is not in a Board setting. I welcome the thoughts of others.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
To: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (f (b) (6) Lynne Weil (f (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Sent: Mon, May 14, 2012 6:56 pm
Subject: Message from Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt

To: Richard Lobo

CC: BBG Governors

From: Michael Lynton and Dennis Mulhaupt

You have asked for the Board's comments and guidance on offering the proposed CEO draft legislation to the House Foreign Affairs Committee for review and possible inclusion in a bill now under consideration. We are responding to this request in our roles as the Presiding Governor and Chair of the Governance Committee.

Based on the facts as outlined below and a number of conversations with Board colleagues, and absent specific contrary instructions expressed by a majority of Governors (as outlined below), please move forward with this initiative.

The entire Board has more than once approved the concept of an empowered CEO, to be achieved through legislation as appropriate. We discussed the need for and the means to create a BBG CEO position for almost a year and a half before unanimously and formally approving it in January 2012. In fact, it was one of the first issues and priorities that we discussed after being seated in July 2010. Formal approval this January came after extensive consultations and

discussions with a number of relevant stakeholders, both inside and outside the agency, including Members of Congress and Congressional staff and on several occasions with the executives heading VOA, OCB, and the grantees. We also note that most of these five executives have repeatedly expressed support for this initiative. To our knowledge, not one of them has spoken out in opposition to it (unlike the case of the potential grantee merger, where one of three people heading the grantees has expressed opposition to that separate plan).

It is therefore clear that the Board has already approved the creation of a CEO. When your team identified a potential opportunity to implement this decision through draft legislation being prepared in Congress now, quite appropriately the Board was informed of this opportunity, starting with the Communications Committee 10 days ago. When asked, a majority of Board members then indicated they were comfortable with this specific approach, and they directed staff to proceed. Only one Governor expressed a negative opinion on proceeding and has raised questions and concerns; you have affirmed that you will provide answers and information to address them. In the interval, the legislative proposal was provided to the Board several days ago. A number of legitimate questions and issues have been raised about how the CEO position will be implemented and how it will work in practice, some of them by Governor Ashe. The Board will discuss and decide these issues in due course. Again, it is clear that a majority favors moving ahead without delay on the basic issue of creating the position, whether through legislation or otherwise. If individual Governors have a contrary view, please let us and the entire Board know as soon as possible. If a majority expresses a definitive contrary view at this time, the entire Board will revisit this matter. Of course, Congress will consider this provision carefully and it will be fully vetted through the legislative process.

We wish to thank you and your senior colleagues, particularly (b) (6) for your excellent and useful work in bringing this important opportunity to the Board's attention.

Michael Lynton
Presiding Governor

Dennis Mulhaupt
Chair, Governance Committee

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, May 12, 2012 8:06 AM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Re: Comment on the BBG Proposal to Consolidate Entity Support Functions

what is the difference between the BBG Highlights and addendum (fewer in number) which go out and I receive? Do the two go to a different list of recipients?

Also how do I secure a list of the emails of those receiving the Highlights? Have a good weekend.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/12/2012 8:03:49 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Great. I was out yesterday but have tasked a staffer to track the inbox. We will be sure to share with the board whatever is received.

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 10:36:45 PM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Comment on the BBG Proposal to Consolidate Entity Support Functions

I suppose this is the first response...I just got it.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Sent: 5/11/2012 9:17:15 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Comment on the BBG Proposal to Consolidate Entity Support Functions

I want to express my appreciation to the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) for seeking [public comment](#) on the proposal to consolidate various support functions for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), Radio Free Asia (RFA), and the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (MBN). I trust this is a sincere request and that the views of individuals such as myself will be taken seriously.

First, let me state that my comments are based on four decades of experience in U.S. International Broadcasting (USIB). I worked for RFE/RL in New York and Munich for 11 years, becoming Assistant News Director before I left to join Voice of America. At VOA I served many years as a correspondent abroad and domestically before becoming Managing Editor of Central News. At then Director (b) (6) request, I then served as Acting Director of the Persian News Network, launching the successful Parazit show and other initiatives. Before retiring in 2011, I was a Senior Advisor to the Director,

focused on Afghanistan and Pakistan programming as well as general news issues.

I am proud of my service and want the institution I served to be as successful as possible. To achieve that goal, I believe it is incumbent on the Board to consider more far-reaching consolidation measures that will achieve both substantial taxpayer savings while preserving the journalistic mission of USIB.

I am of the firm opinion that the plan offered by the Board to merge support functions at RFA, RFE/RL, and MBN into a single new grantee organization, eliminating 51 positions and saving approximately \$10 million per year beginning in FY 2014, does not go far enough and will only exacerbate existing tensions within USIB.

The creation of a new executive position, presumably highly-paid, to oversee the new entity while preserving the existing highly-paid top leadership at RFE/RL, RFA and MBN is, quite simply, a bad move. Creating another managerial position while gutting the journalistic and technical staffs of the entities will provoke open outrage at a time when the Board can least afford it.

No. It's time for the BBG, if it truly wants to save taxpayers' money and enhance the global mission of U.S. International Broadcasting, to consider a much bigger and bolder kind of consolidation.

I would integrate the non-federal RFE/RL, RFA and MBN entities together with the federal Voice of America (VOA) and Radio/TV Marti into a single, federal organization, eliminating all language duplication. Salaries would be public information and limited by law. [As I have proposed before](#), this new operation would be headquartered in Washington D.C. at the existing VOA center with satellite production bureaus as needed in strategic locations in addition to smaller news bureaus.

Because VOA is the oldest (70 years) and best-known brand, the new consolidated entity would be known as the Voice of America. If there was compelling reason to preserve any of the other entity names, I would re-label existing VOA programming. For example, Radio/TV Marti could be part of VOA's Latin America Division and any shows directed at Cuba could be called "Marti on VOA." Similarly, like VOA's current "Persian News Network", we could have "The Middle East Broadcasting Network on VOA."

The integration of the entities and the closure of selected facilities (the RFE/RL and RFA offices in Washington, for example, as well as RFE/RL HQ in Prague) would yield substantial cost savings as would personnel reductions stemming from the consolidation of language services and support staff. It would then be possible to trim substantially the executive ranks, as there would no longer be

need for separate entity directors, legal counsels, personnel directors, budget chiefs and the various technical and engineering directors. This would help keep peace with the rank-and-file who see in the current environment that working journalists and studio technicians usually carry the heaviest burden when staffs are cut while the managerial ranks inevitably seem to grow.

Unfortunately, the [BBG staff maintains](#) that “one organization, many brands” is integral to the BBG’s new strategy and contends that the ability to have multiple brands offers several advantages.

Frankly, I believe it creates consumer confusion instead and there is no benefit from confusing audiences. VOA once had a respected Arabic service. It was closed and MBN was created (at great cost). Wouldn’t it have been more efficient and cheaper to simply provide the already well-established VOA with additional transmitters and staff?

The same is true of RFA. Instead of creating it, Congress could have given half the funds required to VOA’s Asia Division to expand its programming.

RFE/RL? That entity has long lost its original target audience and is now jokingly referred to as “Radio free of Europe.” It broadcasts to many of the same countries VOA already has significant audiences in.

Two more points, if you will. I believe the BBG needs to adopt a new mission statement. I propose:

“U.S. International Broadcasting (USIB) will serve as a consistently reliable and authoritative source of accurate, objective and comprehensive news in support of freedom of the press and the free flow of information worldwide.”

Your staff strategists maintains their choice of a new mission statement – “To inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy” – covers objective journalism and press freedom. But I am of the opinion that this statement overreaches and in so doing undermines audience confidence in the actual objectivity of USIB programming.

My final point is this: it is time for Congress and the Administration to consider revamping the BBG itself and a consolidation of the various existing entities offers the best opportunity to do so.

If Congress and the Administration were to agree on creation of a single, unified USIB entity, there would be no further need for the BBG as it is presently constituted. Instead I would recommend there be a Broadcasting Board of Advisors (BBA) to select and advise a single new Director of USIB, who should **not** be subject to Senate confirmation. This Board of Advisors should be entirely non-partisan and professional. I would suggest giving seats to representatives of

the U.S. news media, to appointees representing journalism education, to USIB retirees and, perhaps, to retired U.S. public diplomacy specialists. I would also remove the Secretary of State from the Board and allow the eight other members to elect their own Chairman.

I believe a restructuring of USIB and the BBG along these lines would truly spark a renaissance in our nation's efforts to communicate to the world.

Thank you for considering my views.

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 10:37 PM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Comment on the BBG Proposal to Consolidate Entity Support Functions

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Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Sent: 5/11/2012 9:17:15 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
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I believe a restructuring of USIB and the BBG along these lines would truly spark a renaissance in our nation’s efforts to communicate to the world.

Thank you for considering my views.

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 8:07 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Governance committee

there may also be a strategy and budget committee meeting on May 23 but a firm has not been set to my knowledge.

Victor

In a message dated 5/6/2012 8:05:23 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thanks, Victor, got it. Will get on it on Monday.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 7:57:11 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Governance committee

Lynne and Tish

Perhaps I did not find it but the May 24 governance committee meeting from 0900 to 1130 ought to be listed on BBG web site as occurring even though it may not be open to public...Find with me to be open but it is not my call.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 7:57 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Governance committee

Lynne and Tish

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Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2012 2:56 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: wrong photo of April 20

Very good answer...and all understandable. The idea of a photo is a good one. The other photos in the carousel are really quite good. It is easy to not notice that the current photo is not from the real Miami meeting and while no one else may notice it is still not the real meeting, updating it to include a real photo of the actual Miami meeting makes sense. I think the carousel idea is sound and ought to continue.

Thanks for checking it all out. I thought you could easily handle this and it looks like you have done so.

Victor

In a message dated 5/6/2012 2:48:27 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

A good thought, Victor, thank you. Hadn't noticed that until you pointed it out. And I wanted to get the complete story from the BBG PA team before replying to you.

The photo was posted when advance notice of the April 20 meeting went on-line -- posting a photo alongside text is one way to draw attention to the latter.

BBG PA's long-standing practice has been to convert the web page with the advance notice for a given meeting into the location for storing relevant documents and archived video after that meeting. Without having easy access to a photo of the Board in action in Miami, the team simply added the documents and video, and left the old photo up.

Through Tish, I've asked that the team create a screen grab from the video of the April 20 meeting and post that one instead. I'm also asking colleagues at OCB whether any stills were taken; if so, we'll use one of those. In either case, the swap normally would happen on Monday.

In the meantime, the "carousel" where this item appears at the top of the homepage includes several other, compelling pieces about the agency's work, each of which is on-screen briefly as it cycles through. Hopefully folks will pay attention to those.

Thanks,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, May 05, 2012 4:32:08 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: wrong photo of April 20

Lynne and Tish

I am sorry to point out that the current photo on the BBG web site page of the April 20 Board meeting is not the April 20 Board meeting in Miami but another one as it shows Michael Lynton and Dana Perino at the meeting along with me. I wish, of course, that they could have attended the meeting.

While it does not state precisely that this photo was of that Miami meeting, the implication is that they were there. It seems to me that if BBG is going to run a photo of a Board meeting next to the language which points the way to hear and see the tape of a specific meeting (namely, the April 20 meeting) then the photo should be from the

meeting being promoted and not a different one as two of the three people in the photo were not at the meeting and did not appear on the tape/video.

I know this was not intentional but in the interest of truth in advertising either there should be a photo from the actual meeting or a disclaimer that the photo is from a different meeting than April 20. Just a thought.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 9:09 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Letitia King
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Good event

To all

It would be hard to see how the Murrow re dedication could have been better yesterday..from weather to minister to talks to crowd to enthusiasm of band and music, it all came together and it will be a lasting memory for that community and IBB/BBG archives.

Many thanks to staff both on site and in Washington for making it go. Dick, your remarks were well researched and your comments on your Cuban heritage well taken. (b) (6) your comments on listening to short wave in Communist Portugal (for the few years that occurred) were well taken and you presided well.
Good television coverage from local area too.

All in all a great event which only occurred because all pulled together to make it happen. A well spent sum of money whatever the final costs may be. I was honored to be there.

Victor Ashe

Victor:

I don't think (b) was trying to be critical here. I believe he was just trying to point out some of the institutional barriers to cooperation and to our ability to deliver as effectively as possible on USIM's over-arching global mission. Clearly, and understandably given the current structure, all the networks have their individual priorities which do not always fit with their sister institutions' priorities. Even with the best will the world, which I believe all our business leaders have, absent some new approaches these problems will continue to arise and the cooperation and mission success we all seek in different parts of the world, and on different platforms, will continue to present a challenge.

I sure (b) (6) has, or will, discuss this individual case with (b) (6) but again I don't see it as criticism of MBN or its leadership, but rather an effort to bring to the board's attention some of the "on the ground" challenges all our networks face.

Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Date: Sat, 28 Apr 2012 19:39:11 -0400 (EDT)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Fw: Tripoli problem

this should be shared with (b) (6) and others too as it involves MBN and criticism of MBN. This type of issue could be resolved easily right now by you (b) letting the Board know and/or Lobo and asking for his involvement. You could have told the 6 Board members present in Miami only 8 days ago about this and we could have discussed it with (b) (6) present. I assume you knew about it then as the story broke on April 5 according to the e mail.

Frankly I am disappointed that this was not bumped up to you (b) much earlier and then you should have picked up the phone and called (b) (6) as well relative Governors if you thought it merited action.

Consolidation has many unanswered questions and missing documentation on cost and savings which I raised on April 20 at the BBG Board meeting. Even a so called streamlined organization which you favor will have these issues too. As Gov Meehan pointed out, this consolidation does not impact VOA so the VOA issue mentioned here would not be solved by merger of grantees.

Cooperation and/or sharing may be an issue today but the current structure can solve if the relevant people raise it to the right people like the April 20 BBG Board meeting or you calling (b) (6) and/or (b) (6) direct when those below you were unable to make the progress they desired. Is this trial still going on and is there still time for VOA/MBN to participate? Do (b) (6) agree with (b) (6) assessment of the merit of the story? That is why I have copied them on this e mail. Cooperation and sharing would suggest that you let MBN and VOA know of your unhappiness when you are e mailing the entire BBG Board and IBB Director Lobo so they can respond.

Sincerely yours and thanks for letting us know,

Victor Ashe

Bottom

In a message dated 4/28/2012 10:41:33 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

All: for those of you who think who there will be little editorial/newsgathering benefit to the merger of the grantees, consider the email below. For those of you who think that cooperation and sharing of resources is easy to achieve voluntarily, you might also consider the email below. Food for thought.

Cheers,

(b)

<FONT color=#800080 size=-Your data has been truncated. =

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 5:23 PM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Audio/Video

this segment to which he refers might be made available inside the bldg after ceremony for persons to listen to should they wish to do so. Victor

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/24/2012 1:52:02 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Audio/Video

Mr. Ashe,

Have sent (FEDEX) you a CD containing audio and video files of the initial dedication ceremony.

Video files do not have sound, but, station had the sound tracks on file.

The Edward R. Murrow audio segment is nothing short of inspirational. I would have hoped that this segment be played during this re-dedication ceremony, but the idea wasn't well received. Thought you'd find these interesting. Have higher quality video copies, but large files and hard to disseminate.

Enjoy,

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 4:28 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Murrow May 2 event

Tish

this is super. The web cam could be available on BBG web site like BBG Board meetings.

Urge you to find out who represents the major papers like Raleigh and Durham in Pitt County and invite them to event as they would be interested as would area TV from those cities.

Victor

In a message dated 4/24/2012 4:17:09 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

We have reached out to the Reflector and just confirmed that they are sending a reporter. Not sure about an advance story but we can see.

Separately, you asked about a webcam for the event. We are getting a video tape recording of the event which we will be glad to make available online once it is available. We are also working with a local photographer for still photos.

Regards,

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 3:46 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Murrow May 2 event

thanks so much. Encourage you to reach out to the Greenville Reflector which is local paper for them to do an advance story on the event so the public will know. (b) (6) is city editor. Victor

In a message dated 4/24/2012 11:46:59 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good Morning Ambassador Ashe,

We are pleased to have Congressman Jones' confirmation. (b) was also in touch with his district office yesterday and we distributed an additional set of invitations this morning per their request.

We are happy to send the updated invitation information to all the governors.

Thanks again for the update.

Regards,

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 7:34 PM

To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil

Subject: Murrow May 2 event

Tish

It seems to me it is time to show Congressman Jones as more than invited to the May 2 event but that he is attending and speaking...his office assures me he is coming. In fact he and I are dining before the event.

Also, can someone can an invitation to me as to what was actually sent out? I think it would be nice if all Governors got one even though they may not be able to attend.

Victor Ashe

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 3:32 PM
To: Letitia King
Subject: Re: Invitation to May 2 Rededication Ceremony of the Edward R. Murrow Transmi...

thanks so much.

Wonder if there will be a webcam at the event so it can be filmed and placed on BBG web site after the event.

Best

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/24/2012 12:30:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Following up on the discussion at your meeting last week, we wanted to share the updated invitation to the May 2nd Edward R. Murrow transmitting station in North Carolina. We hope you can join us. Please let me know if you have additional information. Regards, Tish

[Edward R. Murrow Transmitting Station Dedication](#)

*You are cordially invited to the Rededication Ceremony of the
Edward R. Murrow Transmitting Station*



Date: Wednesday, May 2, 2012

Time: 10:00 AM

Place: 3919 VOA Site B Road

Grimesland, North Carolina 27837

Please join the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) for the rededication ceremony in honor of the renowned broadcaster and director of the USIA (1961-1964), Edward R. Murrow, and in recognition of World Press Freedom Day.

Speakers will include: **Congressman Walter Jones**; (b) (6); (b) (6); **Victor Ashe**, BBG Governor, former ambassador to Poland and former mayor of Knoxville; and **Richard M. Lobo**, award-winning media executive and journalist and Director of the International Broadcasting Bureau.

Program

Welcome:

(b) (6) Director, Office of Technology, Services and Innovation, International Broadcasting Bureau

Invocation:

(b) (6), Burney Chapel Free Will Baptist Church

Presentation of Colors:

D. H. Conley High School ROTC

National Anthem:

(b) (6) Choral Director, J. H. Rose High School

Musical Accompaniment by:

A.G. Cox Middle School Band

(b) (6) Band Director

Remarks about Edward R. Murrow:

(b) (6)

Remarks:

Ambassador Victor Ashe, BBG Governor

Introduction:

Richard M. Lobo, Director, International Broadcasting Bureau

Keynote:

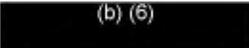
Congressman Walter Jones

Please join us for a light reception in the lobby and tours of the station following the program.

Edward R. Murrow's legacy as a journalist and his rich understanding of the importance of press freedom as part of the bedrock of democracy along with the key role of U.S. international broadcasting as a model of a free press will be highlighted in the ceremony to be held in the lead-up to World Press Freedom Day, May 3rd.

The transmitting station, a 24/7 broadcast facility, supports the mission of the Broadcasting Board of Governors to "*inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy*" through about 2,200 hours of transmissions each month.

Register through Eventbrite by April 27, 2012 -
<http://bbgmurrowrededication.eventbrite.com/>

For more information, please call 202-203-4400 or email  (b) (6)

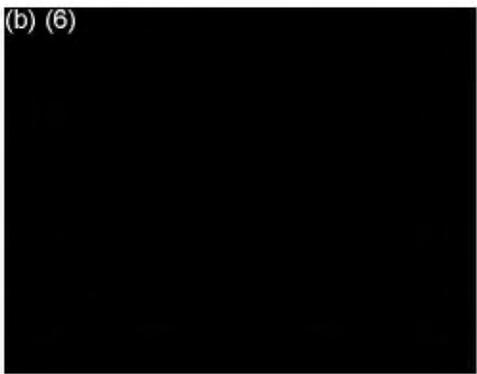
Letitia King

Director, Office of Public Affairs

Broadcasting Board of Governors

330 Independence Ave, SW

Washington, DC 20237

 (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 6:41 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: directions to Murrow dedication

thanks so much. I look forward to getting the directions. Make sure the Congressman knows about the construction issue too. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/23/2012 9:39:09 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

Not sure if (b) (6) has answered your message. Just in case he has not, I would allow 35 to 40 minutes driving time from the Hotel to the Station. Make sure that you access VOA Site B road from the town of Black Jack. The bridge just south of the site entrance is under construction thus, is not passable.

Will send driving instructions in the morning from the Hotel in the morning.

Tish,
Could you please send Governor Ashe an invitation.

Regards,
(b) (6)

From: "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com>
To: (b) (6); (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 6:23 AM
Subject: directions to Murrow dedication

Can you please mail me one of the invitations to the Murrow facility dedication on May 2? Also can you send me directions from the Courtyard Marriott to the Murrow facility as I will be driving there from the marriott? How long should I allow?

Victor Ashe
(b) (6) is my cell

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 7:34 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Murrow May 2 event

Tish

It seems to me it is time to show Congressman Jones as more than invited to the May 2 event but that he is attending and speaking...his office assures me he is coming. In fact he and I are dining before the event.

Also, can someone can an invitation to me as to what was actually sent out? I think it would be nice if all Governors got one even though they may not be able to attend.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 10:31 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Greenville Transmitting Station Photos

sounds great...have a photographer there on May 2 for this event which can then be placed on some of the walls..as there do not appear to be pictures around from the 1963 dedicaiton.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6) (b) (6)
To: Vhashe <Vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6) Letitia King (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Apr 18, 2012 9:32 pm
Subject: Re: Greenville Transmitting Station Photos

Dear Governor Ashe,

Thank you for checking back in. Your continued interest is much appreciated. We, the Station and the folks in IBB Hqs. are fully engaged in planning and implementing your previously suggested steps.

The Pastor of the local Free Will Baptist Church agreed to provide an invocation and maybe a short choral arrangement. Unsure on the choral part, it's not been firmed up just yet. (b) (6) our Chief Engineer attained band services from the local A.G. Cox middle school along with a vocalist for the Star Spangled Banner and some other songs. Any suggestions?

(b) (6) the Station's Program Specialist acquired a set of risers, a podium and PA system. He is also working to arrange the catering, invitations, funding, various loose ends etc. We've invited people from the local community, Greenville Chamber, the Mayor, the Pitt County Sheriff, employees and retired employees and folks from the East Carolina School of Journalism. Various news services are invited.

Regarding signs, we've installed new signs designed and prepared by IBB's graphic artists in the three panel marquee at the main entrance and installed new 10 inch high gold colored block letters over the main entrance to the building. IBB Hqs is also providing new 4 X 8 ft murals highlighting Edward R. Murrow, the BBG and all the broadcast services. We expect to have the murals installed next week.

IBB Hqs also provided an edited CD of the original dedication of the Station by Edward R. Murrow. We plan to play it on a large screen TV in the lobby. I think (b) (6) located a technician who worked at the Station back then.

We were unable to attain enough signatures necessary to request the Pitt County planning committee to change the name of the local road from VOA Site-B Rd to Edward R. Murrow Rd. We will continue to work on gaining signatures. Also, coordinating changing the name on the highway direction signs with the NC DOT has proved very difficult. Personally, I don't expect new direction signs will be installed in time for the event.

Public Affairs Leticia King and my boss (b) (6) are coordinating event activities closely with us so they can draft a written Program. I believe another telephone meeting will take place tomorrow between the planning folks in WashDC and (b) (6) at the Station. I am off work this week but have been following some of the event planning activities. I'll be back in the office on Monday.

Leticia King can best advise of ongoing activities at her end. So I'll copy her on this response.

For your information, (b) (6) from Congressman Jones' office visited the Station today. (b) (6) was provided a tour of the Station and had a small lunch on site.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)

From: "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com>
To: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 8:46 PM
Subject: Re: Greenville Transmitting Station Photos

How is planning going for May 2 event?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/8/2011 1:36:02 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Forwarded to Ms. King this date as requested.

Regards,

(b) (6)

=====

On 12/8/2011 12:50 PM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

I cannot forward this to anyone. Can you forward this directly to Tish King at (b) (6)

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/8/2011 11:10:08 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor,

Thank you for taking time from your busy schedule to visit us at the Edward R. Murrow Transmitting Station near Greenville, NC.

Attached are a few photos that you may have an interest. The staff was most elated by your visit.

Best Regards and Merry Christmas,

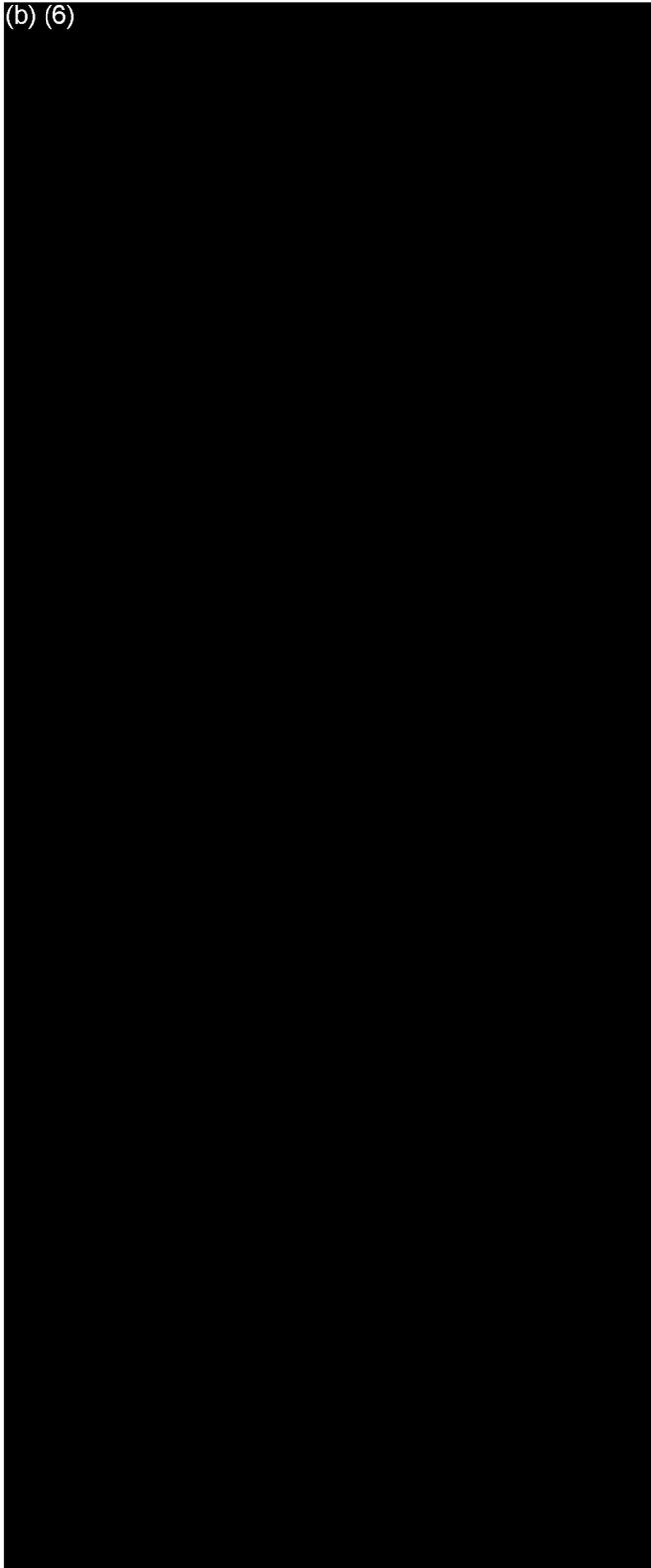
(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the majority of the text in this block, obscuring the name and any other details that might have been present.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2012 2:35 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Names to get annual report

please send the BBG annual report to the following persons please

(b) (6)



(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the majority of the text in the top left corner of the page.

Let me know when they go out please.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2012 1:39 PM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: annual report

thanks so much Victor

In a message dated 4/15/2012 11:01:03 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning!

Glad to hear the report reached you. I suspect by now you will have seen Lynne's note to all the governors about the annual report. She explains the idea of giving governors a small supply for you to pass along to contacts you make along your way. We are pleased to handle any mail delivery you might like. Just send along the addresses and we will make sure they are sent out!

Enjoy the rest of the weekend!

Regards,

Tish

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2012 8:39:45 AM
To: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: annual report

Tish

perhaps there was a misunderstanding as I recently got 20 copies of the BBG annual report. I had only wanted 2 or 3. It is true I had inquired about sending 10 to 15 copies out to interested observers but I had thought and hoped BBG would do that. I do not have the resources here as I do not have an office but operate out of my house.

I will bring the extra copies back to DC on April 25-26 as I do not need them. Can your office mail out copies to a list of 10 to 15 if I give you the names and addresses? Please advise

Thanks

sorry for confusion.

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 7:55 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Murrow station

Dick

Just want to tell you how pleased I am with the way the former dedication of the Edward Murrow facility is moving. I got an excellent briefing from Tish and Lynne Thursday. (b) (6) coming from Vermont at his own expense is a wonderful development and will give added significance to the occasion. I hope the media outreach stresses his participation. Glad you will be there. That sends a strong signal.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 11:38 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

Happy to wait...but your email correctly senses my true interest here. Was not aware (b) (6) is involved nor (b) (6). This is news for me. However, speaking only for myself, I want to see copies of all letters sent to BBG only which relates to policy or Governors unless you tell me this is too heavy a volume to be practical. This particular issue is solved due to the fame of (b) (6). It might not happen for a lesser know correspondent but hwo has relevant and valid concerns. Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)> Letitia King <(b) (6)> Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
<(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Apr 12, 2012 8:04 am
Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Victor, (b) (6) oversees the mail operation and (b) (6) is most familiar with procedures and practices that ensure that correspondence reaches the Governors. (b) (6) were not on the email trail yesterday in which you were asking about the (b) (6) letter. (b) (6) returns today from vacation and we can provide a report on this matter.

This is an extremely busy time, with follow-up to this week's Committee meeting and preparation for next week's Board meetings, so we will appreciate your patience as we juggle the many demands on staff.

Rgds
Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 7:19 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I do want a full report as to what happened to the (b) (6) letter as well as policies in general...not so much because of her but because I would like to know how a letter addressed to BBG only is handled. I also want to know if BBG ever got her letter addressed to BBG. This is something I know Lynne and Tish will want to be up to speed on as well.

I am the only Governor to have ever visited the mail room in the basement of Cohen Bldg.

Jeff. you are the first responder who seems to know something about how this is handled.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 10:29:34 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

There are well-established procedures for receiving, recording and distributing incoming mail to BBG. The IBB has a fully functioning Secretariat. We can provide a full report on these procedures and practices if you wish. Security scanning procedures implemented across the federal government after the anthrax attacks often delay receipt of mail sent by standard post.

Rgds
Jeff

On Apr 11, 2012, at 8:41 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

this is ridiculous that we do not know how mail addressed to BBG and no one is handled...I am sure there is mail weekly with only that on it. Someone at top level should know the answer. Sorry if someone is offended.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:54:45 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

And (b) (6) has been on leave since April 2. I should imagine that another member of the support staff is handling incoming mail in her stead. We should look into that tomorrow.

Lynne

From: Letitia King
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:52 PM
To: Lynne Weil; vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

In my experience, such snail mail correspondence has been scanned and transmitted via email by (b) (6) to the Board. I believe there was a letter from Rohrbacher distributed that way not long ago.

Regards,
Tish

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:46:56 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Dear Victor,

I'd be happy to help, but I don't know how the mail is handled in this agency.

Am looping back in the people who've worked here for a while and who might have missed the earlier message. There have been issues with the e-mail system on and off today.

And if your source does offer a copy of the letter that you can share, we'll be happy to coordinate a response right away.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:12 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Subject: Re: (b) (6)

again what happens to mail at Cohen Bldg only addressed to BBG..who gets it? some human must see it.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:09:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Victor – we'd appreciate seeing it.

You have an extraordinary source.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:30 PM

To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: (b) (6)

My source who has not shared the letter says it was dated April 4 on her personal stationery. It was sent to Broadcasting Board of Governors at Cohen Bldg...no further address in terms of a name. What happens to mail sent in general to BBG but not to the chair, a specific Governor or IBB Director? Who gets it and what happens?

If I get a copy, I will forward it to you.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 5:23:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

To our knowledge, the BBG Office of Public Affairs has received no communication from (b) (6), widow of the late (b) (6) concerning the BBG.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:17 PM

To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble

Subject: (b) (6)

I have been told that (b) (6), widow of the late Congressman (b) (6), has written a letter to BBG on the Tibetan and Mandarin language cutbacks.

I have not seen it. Does anyone know about this and who has it?
When will it be distributed to Board members?

as a general procedure, when a letter comes in to BBG, are they then sent to BBG Board members if address to BBG in general? At what point do they get forwarded?

As one Member only, I want to see them all as quickly as they arrive.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 11:29 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

Jeff...this is fine...all good to know...however, I still want to know when this specific letter is received and also I want to know what happens to mail addressed only to BBG which survives the security checks ...who gets it and who opens it and responds to it and who decides whether to share it with Governors. That is is separate from security. Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan <(b) (6)> vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)> Letitia King <(b) (6)> Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>

Sent: Thu, Apr 12, 2012 7:59 am
Subject: RE: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

Governors, there are well-established and standard practices, consistent with those at other Federal agencies, for handling mail at BBG. Governor Meehan is correct that delivery of hard copy mail correspondence is delayed due to security screening procedures that are conducted at another facility.

We will be happy to provide a report to the Governors about procedures for handling mail.

Rgds
Jeff

From: Michael Meehan [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 7:54 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) (b) (6) Sherman; (b) (6) Bruce
Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

I left government 4 years ago. Since 9 11 the hard copy of mail takes 3 plus weeks post irradiation to land at any government office

No one wants fast Government response than those of us on the board But we are still on the path of still inside the margin of error.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 11, 2012, at 9:30 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

all excellent points from Lynne...however, we should all know the process by which mail addressed to BBG only is handled once it reaches the Cohen Bldg as apparently we do not know.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 9:18:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Dana.

The letter has been converted here to Adobe format, which should work on most systems.

I recommend that any response to (b) (6) be copied to (b) (6), who has been running the foundation named for her late father, and who sent the letter to (b) (6) by e-mail.

Suggestion: That VOA begin drafting something in coordination with the agency's Office of Strategy and Development, as well as that of the CFO, to be approved as usual after that. As Dana noted, under the circumstances the turnaround time won't be inordinate.

Looping in Bruce and (b) (6) here, along with the chiefs of staff at VOA and the IBB.

I further suggest that as this effort gets under way the Governors not be subjected to process-related messages, but that they be copied on the final version per normal procedures.

Have a good night, all.

Lynne

From: Dana Perino [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:08 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

i just tried to open the letter - it comes up just as characters - so i'll read it when i can. And though i am having to do this from nyc and with a different working situation than i had before, i don't see why there would need to be anything directed toward Lynne when there could be a perfectly reasonable explanation for where the letter went or an unintentional oversight...it has only been 7 days, 1 of which was an observed holiday for many, 2 of which were weekend days. From what I can tell, everyone's doing more with less and doing it pretty darn well.

On Apr 11, 2012, at 8:49 PM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

(b) (6) head of one of the unions, sent the (b) (6) letter to me two hours ago which I am forwarding. Hopefully, all can access the letter. Clearly, it was addressed to Broadcasting Board of Governors and no one else (or an individual) and no one at top management has a clue where the letter dated April 4 is within the Cohen bldg or even if it got there. I do not know how (b) (6) had the letter as my original source on this was not him.

It seems to me that top management needs to know how mail addressed to BBG only is handled and someone needs to read it, and share with Governors items like this from significant and distinguished private citizens. Governors need to know how mail so addressed is handles. (b) [redacted] was more than (b) (6) [redacted] spouse. She was his right hand and worked unpaid in his office every day. She knows foreign policy.

Lynne is new on the job but this will be a learning experience for all of us.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6) [redacted]
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/11/2012 6:33:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6) [redacted]

Victor:

Just in case this letter was not shared with the Board members.

(b) (6) [redacted]

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

From: (b) (6) [redacted]
Date: Tue, Apr 10, 2012 at 10:18 AM

Here you go.

All the best,

(b) (6) [redacted]

--
(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:38 PM
To: (b) (6) (b) (6) Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Bruce Sherman;
(b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

(b) (6) sent the (b) (6) letter to me in a different format which I believe is readable. I am forwarding it to all. Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/11/2012 9:30:04 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Re: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

It doesn't look as nice this way but here it is.

(b) (6)

April 4, 2012

Members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Avenue
Washington, DC 20237

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in support of Voice of America radio and television broadcasting, particularly to China, Tibet and Russia. In addition, I write in support of the efforts of the Committee for U.S. International Broadcasting. The CUSIB works to ensure that U.S. government-funded broadcasts promote respect for human rights and freedom of the press, especially in nations where these basic freedoms are under attack.

I write to you on a personal basis to express dismay that Voice of America radio and television broadcasts to Russia ceased in 2008. I am deeply concerned that although last year's proposed cuts of VOA Mandarin and Cantonese radio and television programs were halted, this year's proposal includes the elimination of VOA Cantonese services and VOA Tibetan Radio Services, at a time when there is significant unrest in Tibet. I urge you to continue the Cantonese and Tibetan broadcasts, and to restore them to Russia.

I well remember as a girl in Nazi-occupied Hungary, how every Sunday afternoon my family would draw the shades, close the curtains, and gather around the shortwave radio, pressing our ears close so that we could catch each precious word of freedom and hope that poured out of that radio receiver like manna from heaven. We had to strain to hear over the static caused by Nazi attempts to block the signal, but we were grateful to do so, because these words of truth were pure gold in the ubiquitous mire of Nazi propaganda. The VOA and BBC broadcasts were our one connection to freedom, our one connection to hope, and our lifeline that gave the resistance the courage to endure to the end. The VOA broadcasts fanned the fires of resistance in the brave underground fighters who sought to destroy the brutal Nazi totalitarianism from within. To cut off the VOA broadcasts would have been to cut off the very legs of the resistance. The same is true today in nations ruled by totalitarian regimes.

Now, the people of China and Tibet are suffering at the hands of a brutal, heartless regime. They also cannot speak openly without fear of punishment. The Chinese Communist Party seeks to maintain complete control over the information available to the people of China and Tibet. The CCP blocks the Internet and controls the flow of information, distorting the truth and promoting distrust of America. VOA has been the voice of freedom and democracy in China for 70 years. It is highly respected, even venerated, in China. Human rights activists like Chinese Nobel Peace Prize laureate Liu Xiaobo and Chinese campaigner for women's rights Chen Guangcheng languish in prison and under house arrest. VOA broadcasts may be the only link with the free

world for their families and supporters.

Millions of Cantonese speaking and Mandarin speaking Chinese people depend on VOA daily as their lifeline to the light of truth, freedom and hope. Millions of Tibetans also depend upon VOA's Tibetan radio broadcasts. Radio reaches hundreds of millions who are too poor to afford television or the Internet, especially in rural China and Tibet.

Further, VOA radio and satellite television serve to counter anti-American propaganda in the most powerful way, giving a positive view of America, which is so necessary during this time of increasing Chinese militarism and anti-American militancy. Thus, these broadcasts are important to our national security.

I know that my late husband, (b) (6), would have fought to save the VOA Russian, Tibetan, and Cantonese Broadcast Services -- to use all available means to deliver uncensored news, hope and encouragement to those seeking freedom. How could I do any less? Recent pro-democracy protests around the world and attempts to suppress them show that giving up radio and television broadcasting to rely exclusively on the Internet would be a mistake, because the Internet can so easily be monitored and blocked. I commend the CUSIB's efforts to urge the Broadcasting Board of Governors to maintain broadcasting ? especially Voice of America radio and television broadcasting ? into China and Tibet, and to restore it to Russia.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

On 04/11/12, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

can you send this to me in another form or the body of the letter as it does not print out when forwarded to other board members???

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:33:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor:

Just in case this letter was not shared with the Board members.

(b) (6)

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

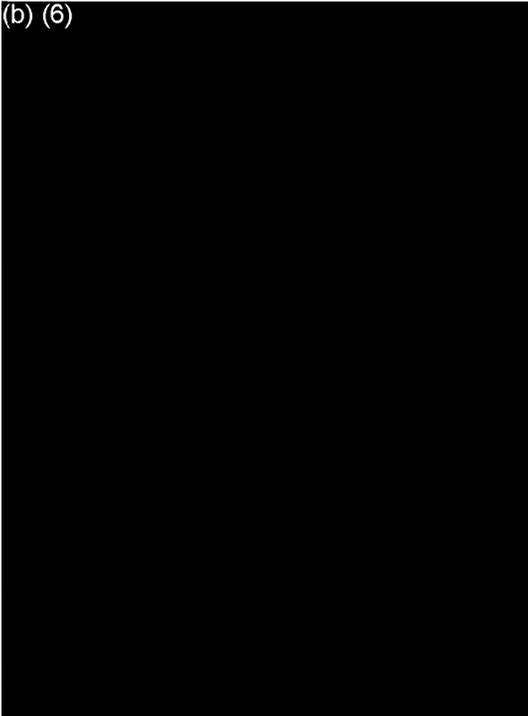
From: (b) (6)

Date:
Tue, Apr 10, 2012 at 10:18 AM

Here you go.

All
the best,

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:49 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)
Attachments: (b) (6)

(b) (6) head of one of the unions, sent the (b) (6) letter to me two hours ago which I am forwarding. Hopefully, all can access the letter. Clearly, it was addressed to Broadcasting Board of Governors and no one else (or an individual) and no one at top management has a clue where the letter dated April 4 is within the Cohen bldg or even if it got there. I do not know how (b) (6) had the letter as my original source on this was not him.

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Lynne is new on the job but this will be a learning experience for all of us.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/11/2012 6:33:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

Victor:

Just in case this letter was not shared with the Board members.

(b) (6)

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

From: (b) (6)
Date: Tue, Apr 10, 2012 at 10:18 AM

Here you go.

All the best,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:42 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I have been sent the letter now...will forward it. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:58:10 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Victor,

I'd be happy to help, but I don't know how the mail is handled in this agency.

Am looping back in the people who've worked here for a while and who might have missed the earlier message. There have been issues with the e-mail system on and off today.

And if your source does offer a copy of the letter that you can share, we'll be happy to coordinate a response right away.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

again what happens to mail at Cohen Bldg only addressed to BBG..who gets it? some human must see it.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:09:29 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Victor – we'd appreciate seeing it.

You have an extraordinary source.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:30 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

My source who has not shared the letter says it was dated April 4 on her personal stationery. It was sent to Broadcasting Board of Governors at Cohen Bldg...no further address in terms of a name. What happens to mail sent in general to BBG but not to the chair, a specific Governor or IBB Director? Who gets it and what happens?

If I get a copy, I will forward it to you.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 5:23:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

To our knowledge, the BBG Office of Public Affairs has received no communication from (b) (6) widow of the late (b) (6) concerning the BBG.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:17 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: (b) (6)

I have been told that (b) (6) widow of the late (b) (6) has written a letter to BBG on the Tibetan and Mandarin language cutbacks.

I have not seen it. Does anyone know about this and who has it? When will it be distributed to Board members?

as a general procedure, when a letter comes in to BBG, are they then sent to BBG Board members if address to BBG in general? At what point do they get forwarded?

As one Member only, I want to see them all as quickly as they arrive.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 5:22 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: (b) (6)

I should have said (b) (6) not (b) (6) my error

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 4/11/2012 5:16:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: (b) (6)

I have been told that (b) (6), widow of the late (b) (6) has written a letter to BBG on the Tibetan and Mandarin language cutbacks.

I have not seen it. Does anyone know about this and who has it? When will it be distributed to Board members?

as a general procedure, when a letter comes in to BBG, are they then sent to BBG Board members if address to BBG in general? At what point do they get forwarded?

As one Member only, I want to see them all as quickly as they arrive.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 8:49 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Congressman Jones

The BBG web site lists Cong Jones as invited...is he not confirmed...I thought the date was built around him. Should invited not be removed if he is confirmed...it suggests his attendance is a maybe

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 11:56 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I am happy to take him to dinner on May 1..the night before. good rates at Courtyard Marriott

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: Letitia King <(b) (6)>; vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; Jeffrey Trimble <(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Apr 9, 2012 10:14 am
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

Great news! Thank you, Tish, for your diligent efforts.

Let us know when (b) (6) has purchased his ticket and provided his itinerary. And let's you and I confer on related details.

Lynne

From: Letitia King
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 10:00:04 AM
To: Lynne Weil; vhashe@aol.com; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: (b) (6)

Hi All,
Thought I'd update you that (b) (6) says he think he CAN come to the May 2 program in NC. Neither of his sons can make it.
Naturally, I invited him to speak on the program and suggested, depending on his schedule, that our delegation would be pleased to have lunch with him following the program at the station.
Given that he is traveling some distance, that seemed the hospitable idea but I realize the travel schedules are still being finalized.
Dashing off to join a conference call and will share any updates.
Thanks,
Tish

Letitia King
Director, Office of Public Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20237

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 31, 2012 9:45 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Fw: Dedication May 2

Dear (b) (6),

I really think outside in the front yard area is better unless weather works against you then move to the garage area. If you have a high school band which plays not only the National Anthem but also other music as folks arrive, that would be 20 or so persons. You ought to consider an honor guard which could be a high school ROTC or Boy Scout group. A stage to hold honored guest and podium is needed but decorations on it. A minister is needed for invocation. Who will MC the event? Who will actually speak? A printed program is needed as well as printed invitations to be mailed out. Printed program should have a nice photo of Murrow on the front.

There is a possibility a member of the Murrow might attend...and he/she should speak along with Cong Walter Jones, a rep of BBG Board, IBB Director Lobo. Someone might sing the national anthem.

Ample parking is needed. I suggest a reception afterwards..Light refreshments like lemonade and cookies...so people can visit. In addition to county officials, previous employees who worked there and are now retired should be asked. Area neighbors, Chamber leaders, business leaders, persons who do business in the area with facility should be invited....journalism students at community college should be asked...

this needs to be a grand occasion..an open house afterwards for people to see it.

I look forward to being there. Such be a wonderful occasion.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 3/31/2012 9:33:07 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

Thank you for your timely e-mail. Your thoughts for the event will help to make the event highly successful. We are in the planning phase for the event and your suggestions will most certainly be incorporated.

I agree with your comments on the lobby as being too small. We have been cleaning up the garage area. Equipment and junk were removed, the floor thoroughly scrubbed and a clear sealer applied. The area is large and should accommodate 50 - 100 folks. With the large doors open, the ramp area could hold perhaps another 50 to 100 people.

(b) (6) and I have been coordinating plans with Ms King and Ms. Weil along with (b) (6). A telephone conference call was held this past Friday.

Ms. King, our Public Affairs official is more up to date on the plans ongoing at the WashDC end. She is best to brief you on their plans.

(b) (6) and I will canvas the neighborhood along with all the other invitees you mention.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 31, 2012 4:09 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Dedication May 2

I want to offer any help I can provide on the May 2 dedication as I have done many of them as Mayor of Knoxville. I really hope this will be a big event for a long neglected and even forgotten station.

First, unless rainy or inclement weather dictates it, it should be outside so as many people as possible attend. There should be a high school band to play the National Anthem while a local person sings it. There should be chairs, a platform, sound system. A tent could be erected. If a high school band comes, it brings more people plus their parents. Area residents should be asked...neighbors (not just public officials), mediaStudents should be invited. Journalism students should be invited from community college in Pitt County. Make sure County officials as well as city Mayor of Greenville are invited..do not leave out one and invite the other.

It is a mistake to plan it in the lobby of the bldg as that limits the crowd to 50 persons at best. That is much too small. Audience should be biracial.

Sheriff's office needs to be asked to assist in traffic planning. Sheriff should be asked to attend as he is an elected county official. All elected officials in Pitt County should be asked.

Best

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 31, 2012 4:22 AM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: Letitia King
Subject: May 2

Dear Lynne and Tish

I am so excited about the May 2 event in Greenville which can be a wonderful occasion. I got up early this morning and googled (b) (6). I found he lives in Vermont and his e mail is (b) (6). I copied Lynne on an e mail I sent him which I hope you do not mind as I know it would be marvelous if the only child of (b) (6) could attend and represent his father on May 2. I hope BBG would offer to pay his travel to attend. I recall him from our days at Yale. He was in President George W Bush's class at Yale.

He is head of (b) (6) and it is located in Vermont.

I will arrive May 1 as there are NO flight which arrive before 1030..all go thru Charlotte. US Airways is only carrier into Greenville, NC. I will depart at 2 on May 2 back to Knoxville.

I also checked out Pitt County where the facility is located and found out it is governed by a 9 member commission and six members are from districts. It is important that you determine whose county commission district the Murrow Facility is located in and give him/her a role in the ceremony. Commissioners will be sensitive to who actually represents the area. Someone should go there and scout out where the ceremony should be and if a tent is needed, chairs rented, sound system installed, platform created, reception afterwards, parking and media leading up to the event. This is different from what Tish and her staff normally do but I know she and all of them are up to this...The event should go up on our web site now.

I am anxious to help as I know from my Mayor days how events like this must work in southern counties.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 6:26 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: Re: Greenville transmitter rededication to be held May 2

Main thing is to make the most of this...someone also needs to be there to install sound system, platform, special seating.., have enough chairs, get an American flag, a BBG banner if there is one.....welcome Cong Walter Jones, etc...who will go early...who will be there to handle the check list. There is lots to do to make it come off well. Someone needs to contact local Sheriff (who also should be invited) to assist in traffic on county road outside facility.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 3/30/2012 5:45:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Victor. I appreciate both the advice on cultural sensitivity and your dedication to making this occasion special.

Am adding to the conversation the members of the Communications Committee and IBB/BBG leadership for any additional insights.

On Monday I'll raise the ideas below with (b) (6), who will handle congressional contacts, and Tish King, who's the point person for this event together with the gents in Greenville.

We welcome further guidance.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 5:14 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Greenville transmitter rededication to be held May 2

Lynne

Over the years I have done a lot of these and they are handled somewhat differently in the south. I suggest the following...invite a high school area band to play the national anthem, and consider having a local person sing the national anthem, have a minister give an invocation, choose the right MC...probably the head of the local facility...find and invite a member of the Edward Murrow family..a child or grand child...and let him/her speak on behalf of family. I believe Edward Murrow's son was (b) (6) ...not sure where he lives now or if he is alive. He would be in mid 60s age wise.

Make Sure Senator Hagen (think that is her name) and Senator Burr are invited as well as Gov. Beverly Perdue are invited and speak if they attend...invite them to send a rep if they cannot attend but representative would be recognized but not speak.

Local officials of this county should be asked.

The event should be outdoors unless it rains...make sure there is parking...have a reception with light refreshments after the event. Make sure the picture of Murrow inside the bldg has a bio under it which was missing when I was last there.

Invite immediate neighbors on the road near facility ..would not be many as it is a rural area but effort is underway to change name of road to edward Murrow Rd...Invite county commission and head of county...not sure what the office might be called. Invite leaders of chamber of Commerce....

Print up nice invitations...mail them out at least 20 days out if possible...invite former employees of facility who are still alive....also former BBG Board members.

Someone needs to call local media and TV and invite them. not just a news release.

I may have other ideas and will pass them on. This is exciting and can be a big deal.

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Mar 30, 2012 3:43 pm

Subject: RE: Greenville transmitter rededication to be held May 2

Dick and (b) (6) will attend. We're working on other invitations.

Your suggestions are quite timely, since the program is being hammered out now. Fortunately, more than a month remains before it takes place. Some of the people listed below have to plan that far in advance.

Best regards,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 3:41 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Greenville transmitter rededication to be held May 2

the actual program will be important as well. Who will MC it? Who will speak? Make sure the two Senators are asked, the local county Mayor or Commission and area State Senator and State Rep as well as Governor of NC...I will come in night before if flights are not available in time to be there at 1000 which I suspect will be the case. Who will represent the BBG Board at event? Does Dick Lobo or (b) (6) plan attending? Victor

In a message dated 3/30/2012 3:36:24 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

10 a.m. See separate message to all Governors for further details. Just wanted to give you a heads-up with the message below.

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 3:21 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Greenville transmitter rededication to be held May 2

can you give me the time so I can book my flight over??? someone can meet me at airport? (b) (6)
do travel voucher for me please...one day trip. Victor

In a message dated 3/30/2012 1:25:22 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

The Greenville transmitter rededication will take place on May 2. Rep. Walter B. Jones will be in his district and plans to attend, barring a change to his schedule during that Constituent Work Week.

We have a great event in store featuring historic video/audio and photos, brief remarks, an exhibit and a tour. Local media will be invited, along with community figures.

All this, and more, courtesy of a creative team involving the Greenville transmitter staff, engineering/technical folks in DC, and BBG communications and public affairs. Special thanks to Tish King for driving this effort and ensuring that it all gets done right, to (b) (6) and her talented colleagues in the graphics unit led by (b) (6), and to (b) (6) for her diligence in engaging Rep. Jones on this and related matters.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:23 PM
To: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King;
(b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Until BBG asks Gallup about this and gets their response the reasons for delay remain uncertain. Why not remove the proprietary information and release the rest of the contact?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
<(b) (6)> Letitia King <(b) (6)> Richard M. Lobo
<(b) (6)> Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:19 pm
Subject: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Per previous message, am sharing this first of two e-mail chains on this matter.

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2012 2:16:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information

Dear Lynn:

Thank you for your note, and for helping with a FOIA request.

Best,
(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: request for information
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 2012 20:06:39 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

It was good to talk with you, albeit briefly, on Tuesday. I'm glad that you were able to find the basic information about the research contract on-line.

As promised, I've checked with all the right people here, some of whom were away from the office last week, to see what more is available. Thanks for your patience regarding this request.

I'd like first to ensure that you're aware that the BBG currently spends roughly \$10 million per year on research, and that this is only 1.3% of the agency's \$750 million budget. The proposed FY 2013 budget includes \$8.8 million for research, or 1.1% of the total -- a fraction of what commercial media spend.

For FY2013, the BBG research budget is being reduced more than 10% while overall reductions are 4.2%.

To ensure value for taxpayer dollar, we need solid information about audiences.

And as you may know, BBG's enabling legislation mandates a "reliable research capacity." Research is a broad and serious statutory requirement, not a frill.

The BBG plans to release results from the Gallup research when available. In the meantime, we cannot make the full Gallup contract available since it may include proprietary information. To ensure fair, equitable, and transparent treatment for this contractor and all others, as well as any who may request information about the contract, it will need to be reviewed under a FOIA process before release.

I've forwarded your request to the BBG's FOIA office. You can expect to receive an acknowledgment letter from them in the coming days.

Please let me know if there is more that I can do to assist you with this matter.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 8:34:48 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Subject: RE: request for information

Thank you so much, Lynne.
Your prompt response will be appreciated.

Best,
(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 2012 20:44:05 +0000

Hello again,

Conversation is ongoing about this request among several offices here since it involves a contract; just wanted you to know it hasn't been forgotten.

Best regards,

Lynne W.

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 6:43 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: RE: request for information

Dear (b) (6),

Happy to help however I can. Let me check with colleagues in the a.m. and get back to you with an answer.

Best regards,

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 4:40 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Subject: request for information

Dear Ms. Weil:

This is a request for information regarding the BBG's contact with Gallup. I am to understand that it's a \$50 million dollar contract over 5 years - \$10 million dollars a year for research. Is it possible for me to obtain a copy of this contract and any other information about it, including its implementation and results?

I would greatly appreciate your help with this timely information.

Thank you.

Best regards,

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 2:05 PM
To: (b) (6) Letitia King; Lynne Weil
Subject: Re: Trip Update

(b) (6)

In Vientiane I did not meet with RFA staff as there is NOT any RFA staff in Laos. We are not allowed. I did meet with Vice Minister of Information and raised the issue of RFA having correspondents in Laos as RFA does in Cambodia. I was told the government was willing to discuss it. I felt that was a positive start. I did meet with the Deputy Chief of Mission in Vientiane, (b) (6) and several Laotian journalists.

thought I should clarify this.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Letitia King <(b) (6)> Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 1:34 pm
Subject: Trip Update

Hi Gov. Ashe,
Here's the latest update to the item about your trip for bbg.gov. I wanted to run it past you before I publish.

(b) (6)

BBG Gov. Victor Ashe wrapped up his tour of Southeast Asian broadcast facilities with a stop at the BBG's Thailand transmission facility, where he met with staff and delved into the plant's history. Ashe, a former U.S. ambassador to Poland, expressed a keen interest in the facility's history, which dates to the Vietnam conflict, as well as current operations in the region. During the 10-day trip, Ashe's itinerary has included stops at BBG facilities, meetings with agency staff and talks with U.S. embassy officials and local authorities in Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos. In the Udon Thani province of northeast Thailand, Ashe toured a BBG transmission facility and presented 30-year and 20-year service awards to staff members. In Phnom Penh, Ashe toured the Voice of America facilities and met with staff, including (b) (6) director of the RFA's Cambodian Service. The first BBG member to visit Laos, Ashe met there with RFA staff, U.S. embassy officials and Laotian officials.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 6:53 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station
Attachments: IMG_0003.JPG

You may want this too. Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 6:38 am
Subject: Image of Gov Ashe visit to Bangkok MW Station

Trish,

Greetings from Bangkok. Earlier today Governor Ashe visited the IBB Bangkok Transmitter plant north of Bangkok near Ayuttaya to tour the site and meet with staff. During our visit, we took a group photo in front of the station. Governor Ashe asked me to forward this image to you so that it could be posted on the BBG web page. The Station email server is off line so I am sending this photo to you from my hotmail account. Since our email service is off line, I am also unable to verify your email address. Hopefully, I have addressed this to you correctly.

regards

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 2:50 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Governor visit bkk station pic 03.22.2012
Attachments: IMG_0030.JPG; IMG_0001.JPG; IMG_0002.JPG; IMG_0003.JPG; IMG_0004.JPG; IMG_0005.JPG; IMG_0006.JPG; IMG_0007.JPG; IMG_0008.JPG; IMG_0009.JPG; IMG_0010.JPG; IMG_0011.JPG; IMG_0012.JPG; IMG_0013.JPG; IMG_0014.JPG; IMG_0015.JPG; IMG_0016.JPG; IMG_0017.JPG; IMG_0018.JPG; IMG_0020.JPG

to see from my visit to transmission station near Bangkok on March 22

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

From: (b) (6)
To: VHAShe <VHAShe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Mar 22, 2012 1:30 pm
Subject: Governor visit bkk station pic 03.22.2012

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 10:43 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6) Letitia King
Subject: Re: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

I am the first BBG member as well as RFA member to visit Laos where I am at present. Thanks

Victor

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

From: Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Letitia King <(b) (6)>
Sent: Sat, Mar 17, 2012 8:49 pm
Subject: Re: Fwd: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

Thank you, Victor. On Monday we'll add the photo and caption to our ongoing, on-line coverage of your trip.

Safe travels,

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 8:02:10 PM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

FYI from Phnom Penh

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, Mar 17, 2012 10:30 am
Subject: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

Dear Governor and all,

Please find attached our group photo taken during the governor's visit to our filing center on Friday. The photo credit goes to (b) (6), RFA.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)



(b) (6)



--- On Fri, 3/16/12, vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

From: vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com>

Subject: Re: A note of thanks from VOA Khmer Service in Phnom Penh

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)



Date: Friday, March 16, 2012, 5:28 AM

we appreciate all you do. Thanks so much. Am in Bangkok now

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)



Sent: Fri, Mar 16, 2012 12:24 pm

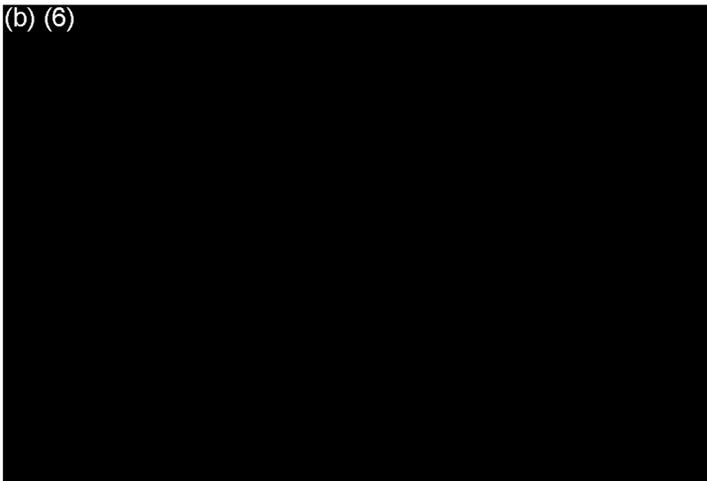
Subject: A note of thanks from VOA Khmer Service in Phnom Penh

Dear Governor Ashe,

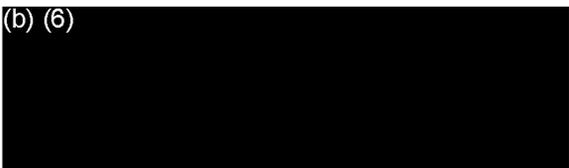
Thank you very much for visiting us this morning. Your visit is our great honor and, as always, another encouragement for us to wholeheartedly continue our mission here in this country.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)



(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 8:02 PM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh
Attachments: With_Governor_Victor_H._Ashe.jpg

FYI from Phnom Penh

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, Mar 17, 2012 10:30 am
Subject: VOA Khmer team with Governor Victor H. Ashe in Phnom Penh

Dear Governor and all,

Please find attached our group photo taken during the governor's visit to our filing center on Friday. The photo credit goes to (b) (6), RFA.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)



--- On Fri, 3/16/12, vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

From: vhashe@aol.com <vhashe@aol.com>
Subject: Re: A note of thanks from VOA Khmer Service in Phnom Penh
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Date: Friday, March 16, 2012, 5:28 AM

we appreciate all you do. Thanks so much. Am in Bangkok now

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Mar 16, 2012 12:24 pm

Subject: A note of thanks from VOA Khmer Service in Phnom Penh

Dear Governor Ashe,

Thank you very much for visiting us this morning. Your visit is our great honor and, as always, another encouragement for us to wholeheartedly continue our mission here in this country.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2012 8:24 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Photos at VOA
Attachments: _MG_0223.jpg; _MG_0225.jpg; _MG_0205.jpg; _MG_0207.jpg; _MG_0227.jpg

you are free to use these on BBG web site if you wish. From my visit on March 16 to VOA in Phnom Penh.

Victor

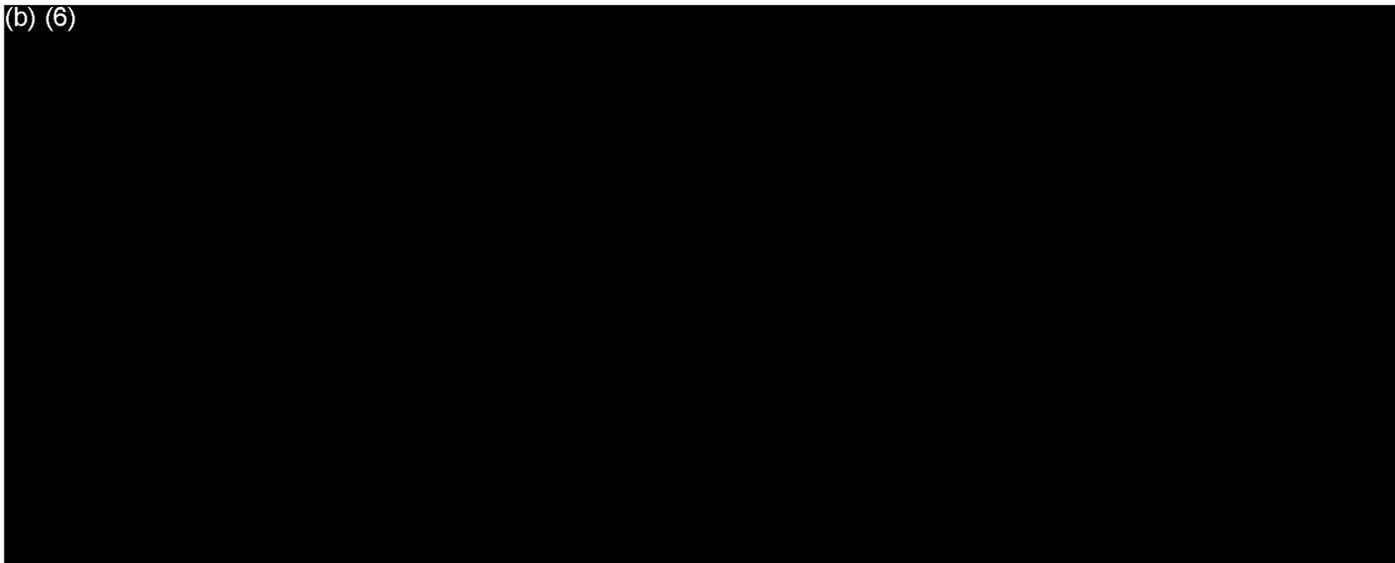
-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 16, 2012 4:12 pm
Subject: FW: Photos at VOA

Dear (b) (6) ,

Please find photos of Governor Ashe with VOA reporters in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The governor visited the office on Friday (03/16/12) at 10 AM.

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 2:05 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Governor Ashe's Visit

this gives you an overview of my visit to the Udon Thani transmission station.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, Mar 13, 2012 6:50 pm
Subject: Re: Governor Ashe's Visit

No problems! The Governor met the assembled staff in our multi-purpose room shortly after arriving at the station and was kind enough to present 30 year and 20 year service awards to staff members. He spoke briefly about our mission and how much the Board appreciated the quality work they do in support of US international broadcasting and was quite sincere and personable with the staff.

He invited questions and was asked about the future of the station to which the Governor assured everyone that the Board had no intention or plan to close and he expected that the station would continue operating for quite some time.

We re-assembled on the front steps and took several pictures so the Governor has at least one image that he can place on the BBG web page when he returns. Several personal photos were taken individually with nearly every staff member lining up to get a photo with the Governor.

Then we toured the entire station. he wanted to see everything he could... He was shown the interior of one of the off-line Marconi transmitters, cooling room and power supply, the antenna switchbay and then toured the facilities maintenance building. By the end of the tour I think he managed to meet and greet each member of the staff before we went into Ban Dung for lunch.

The signage was not an issue for us as it was in Greenville, though he spoke at some length with me about the name of the Greenville station and wondered if the Thailand station had ever had a namesake. A couple months ago, I had the front wall repainted and letters on the signs regilded so our signage looked like new.

The Ambassador part of Governor Ashe took particular interest in the activities that we undertake to maintain a relationship with our local community and asked me to develop a brief narrative that he can take back to the next BBG meeting to share with the Board since none of the other members has ever been to the Thai station. I'll draft that and give it to him next week when we tour the MW station.

He pointed out that visiting the Stations was not his primary purpose in coming to SE Asia, but that he felt that it was important to meet the staff and present the flag to the troops in the field and to assure them that he and the Board value the work they do in support of our mission.

He will meet with the acting-PAO at the Embassy in the morning.

Regards from Thailand.

(b) (6)

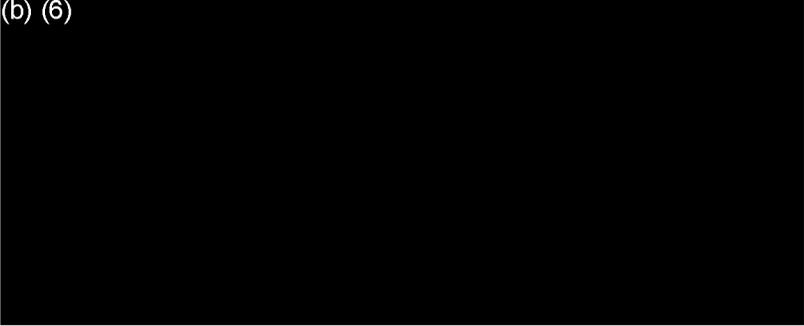
On 03/13/12, (b) (6) wrote:

(b) (6)

How did it go today? I expect that (b) (6) will want to mention the Governor's visit at the IBB staff meeting this morning.

Thanks,

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 11:20 AM
To: Lynne Weil; Letitia King
Subject: Fwd: Withdrawal from Labor/Management Forum
Attachments: Forum_mtgs.doc

to see Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Mar 6, 2012 10:59 am
Subject: Withdrawal from Labor/Management Forum

Dear Board Members:

Attached for your information is a letter AFGE Local 1812 sent to (b) (6) regarding the Labor/Management Forum.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2012 7:59 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

Thanks...I think given the nature of the work we are in...that full discussion and rebuttal, agreement, modification, self examination of all comments, criticism etc are worthwhile..even when painful.
I comment Lynne Weil for reaching out to respond to some groups/individuals who previously were not responded to in an adequate manner. We should remember that responses will not always convince but an unanswered charge often becomes true if not answered. Certainly in politics that is the case. We must be players and not spectators.

Russia is difficult. We should discuss it at RFE and BBG for VOA. Putin is no friend of democracy. Journalists have been murdered during his tenure with little apparent effort on the government's part to track down the guilty parties. What is the best way to get into Russia? How successful are we?

I am genuinely worried that the proposed budget cuts especially for Tibetan and Laos are setting our ourselves up for another congressional slap in the face. Personally, I certainly did not know about them when I voted for the budget last fall at Walter's personal urging. Not being on Strategy and Budget, I was not privy to any lengthy analysis of the budget. After the fact I learn about specific cuts which I find unfortunate and unacceptable. My view is we should proactively save these cuts before Congress makes us do it.

Strategy and Budget Committee is now down to two members only while governance has 4 members. There seems to be imbalance here in terms of numbers.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6); Letitia King; (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 2, 2012 2:49 pm
Subject: RE: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

Dear Governor Ashe,
Thanks for your e-mail. I am copying in those better informed than I am on this matter in order to get you the most accurate response. Of course, I'll be happy to help in any way that I can.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2012 2:06 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

would like to know answers to these charges...Victor

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo <

(b) (6)

Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Letitia King (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Mar 2, 2012 12:29 pm

Subject: ADDENDUM: Digital Journal op-ed

FYI: This opinion piece appeared overnight in the online content-aggregator Digital Journal. Facts are still being verified.

Digital Journal Op-Ed: America's radios dancing to Putin's tune in Moscow

Moscow - Voice of America and Radio Liberty, funded by US taxpayers to promote media freedom abroad, self-censor news on two stations in Moscow to comply with Russian media law prior to Russia's presidential elections on March 4.

US government-funded media freedom broadcasters, Voice of America (VOA) and Radio Liberty (Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, RFE RL), have resorted to self-censorship of their news to keep broadcasting on two leased radio stations in Moscow in the days leading up to Russian presidential elections. Self-censorship affects only their radio newscasts on two AM Moscow transmitters, which are leased and paid for by the US government to rebroadcast VOA and RL programs. It does not extend to their other program delivery options, such as their websites. The newscasts on these stations were changed in response to a request from Russian operators of the transmitters who had warned that broadcasting political programming or poll results several days before the elections would violate Russian media law.

Because uncensored VOA and RL newscasts are still available online and, in the case of Radio Liberty, also through shortwave radio transmissions, a spokeswoman for the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), which manages and funds these two broadcasters, said that the restrictions "do not interfere with the ability of the Voice of America or Radio Liberty to cover the elections or to carry on with their other duties." In the case of the Voice of America, however, removing news even from some broadcasts may violate Public Law 94-350 which mandates that

"VOA will serve as a consistently reliable and authoritative source of news." Furthermore, the law, also known as the VOA Charter, stipulates that "VOA news will be accurate, objective, and comprehensive."

The BBG's newly-hired director of communications Lynne Weil said in a response to an inquiry from Free Media Online, a US-based media freedom NGO, that "the BBG and its content providers, including the many individuals who risk their lives to shine the light of truth on some of the world's darkest corners, are fiercely protective of their journalistic independence and integrity, and vigilant about any obstacles - real or potential - to getting their work done." Free Media Online said that any kind self-censorship of news, especially by stations established by US law and funded by American taxpayers to promote free press and democracy, sets a dangerous precedent and reveals a serious problem, particularly in the case of Russia where most of the media is controlled by the government and supporters of Prime Minister and presidential candidate Vladimir Putin.

"At the very least, the Broadcasting Board of Governors should have made a strong public announcement that its mission in Russia is being obstructed instead of keeping nearly silent about this problem and hoping that no one would notice," a spokesman for Free Media Online said.

Free Media Online has been critical of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for lacking transparency, over-dependence on authoritarian regimes for local program placement, and BBG's most recent decision to terminate Voice of America shortwave radio broadcasts to Tibet and all VOA news programs in Cantonese to China.

The letter sent to the Broadcasting Board of Governors by the operator of the Radio Liberty station in Moscow warned of a five-day ban on opinion polls, forecasts and use of research related to the campaigns or elections. The ban applies to the period from February 28 to March 4, 2012. Additionally, the letter states that on the day before and day of the election, there are what Russian authorities call "silence days" during which it is prohibited to broadcast (or print) positive or negative information about any of the candidates and/or political parties. This means no analysis or opinions pertaining to the candidates or elections and no information that can in any way "influence" voters. While a few Western democracies have laws that place less severe restrictions on media reporting, usually only on the election day, in Russia Prime Minister Putin has established effective control over most media to guarantee his reelection to the presidency. Numerous independent journalists who were outspoken in their criticism of the Kremlin and other Russian government bodies have been assassinated during the last decade.

BBG spokeswoman suggested that other Western media organizations whose news programs are available directly through local media outlets in Russia received similar letters and are also complying with requests for altering their news coverage. It is one thing, however, to comply with laws in democratic nations and another to accept restrictions on media

freedom in a country ruled by an authoritarian regime, especially for an American institution created to set an example for local independent media and to promote media freedom abroad. The BBG pays hundreds of thousands of dollars a year for these two weak AM transmitters in Moscow. Since the BBG claims that its newscasts also can be easily accessed online, that money might be better spent on US-operated shortwave transmitters to reach those without Internet access in Russia rather than making Putin supporters richer and allowing them to dictate VOA and RL news coverage. Some of the money could be used to advertise shortwave frequencies in Russian media, for as long as that is allowed, and the remainder on improving radio, TV and new media coverage of human rights issues.

BBG spokeswoman insisted that that the Russian media law has virtually no impact on the Voice of America Russian Service because nearly all of its audience accesses its programming online. The BBG terminated all VOA shortwave radio and satellite television broadcasts to Russia in 2008, losing all of its Russian radio and TV audience.

The VOA Russian Service intends to report on the elections and update its website and blogs throughout the election cycle, without any restriction on its activities, BBG spokeswoman said. The VOA Russian Service prepares, however, a 30 minute radio program that gets broadcast Monday through Friday on another AM station in Moscow. The rest of VOA's programming on the Moscow medium-wave station is in English. Because the frequency is on a local lease, it is subject to the Russian law. To comply, in the five days before the election the VOA English Service is making a change to the 24/7 stream sent to Moscow -- replacing its five-minute hourly newscast with a pre-recorded segment that invites audiences to go online to VOANews.com for news and information about Russia and the world, Lynne Weil said. The remainder of English stream to Moscow is unchanged.

Prior to 2008, the Russian secret police put pressure on private radio and television stations in Russia to stop rebroadcasting VOA and RL programs. Experts speculate that the two AM stations in Moscow were allowed to carry these programs because they are directly controlled by the Russian authorities. This highly-controlled arrangement allows them to claim that there is media freedom in Russia and that Russian programs such as Russia Today and Voice of Russia should have unlimited access to US cable networks and private US radio stations, which they do.

Critics charge that the BBG's overeagerness to place programs on local networks in countries like Russia and China has resulted in many examples of removal of VOA brand name and downplaying the media freedom mission to achieve program placement and higher audience ratings even at the price of self-censorship. An influential independent Russian journalist and new media scholar Dr. Nikolay Rudenskiy has accused the VOA Russian Service staff of having a pro-Putin bias and downplaying human rights reporting. After the BBG terminated VOA Russian broadcasts in 2008, many seasoned VOA Russian Service reporters and editors were replaced with poorly-paid contractors hired from Russia. They had recently placed on the VOA website an interview with a leading Russian opposition figure Alexei Navalny that turned out to be fake. Navalny suggested that they should all be replaced.

Human rights organizations in Russia have also criticized Radio Liberty's Russian Service of a similar pro-Kremlin bias and for providing a forum for nationalist extremists. One expert pointed out that with the large Radio Liberty news bureau in Moscow, it would be inconceivable that the Russian security services which take their orders from a former KGB officer Vladimir Putin are not actively engaged in a campaign of behind the scenes intimidation and infiltration against the US supported broadcaster.

The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) also has its critics in the United States, including its employees who anonymously access and report for an independent website BBG Watch (www.bbgwatch.com). Many question why programs for Tibet, China, Chechnya in the Russian Federation, Georgia as well as VOA English and many other programs were chosen for severe cuts and layoffs while BBG executives, rated as the worst managers in the federal government, give themselves bonuses, create new bureaucratic positions and promote a programming philosophy that encourages self-censorship.

It appears that not even all BBG members have confidence in the executive staff. Senior Republican Victor Ashe -- the Board has four Democrats and four Republicans with the Secretary of State serving as an ex officio ninth member -- has been highly critical of poor employee morale and foreign control of BBG program delivery channels. Other part-time BBG members, however, still seem more inclined to rely on the executive staff which can claim no support of its journalists and other rank-and-file employees. These executives have developed a strategic restructuring plan, which critics argue would give them even more power and limit accountability, transparency and public scrutiny over US international broadcasting.

Employees also suspect that there may be also political reasons for focusing the BBG's cuts on countries with the most severe restrictions on media and the greatest human rights violations. Removing the Voice of America brand-name, which implies prestige and support of the American people, may be the Obama Administration's attempt to soothe the Chinese communist dragon, one BBG employee said. Employees do not believe that the BBG's claim of trying to save money in the environment of tight federal budgets is credible in light of the lavish spending on BBG executives and contractors such as the Gallup Organization which received a \$50 million five-year contract just before program cuts and layoffs were

announced. The BBG claims that Radio Free Asia (RFA), which it also manages, can fill the gap left by VOA in Tibet and China. Human rights groups argue, however, that while RFA broadcasts are both excellent and needed, Voice of America broadcasting offers a special measure of credibility and moral support from the American people that a private radio cannot provide. One anonymous BBG journalist wrote a desperate commentary:

"The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) budget submission requests cutting seven employees out of 22 in the Voice of America (VOA) Tibetan Service, ending all six hours of daily VOA Tibetan radio broadcasts. This is happening on the day China's Vice President Xi Jinping, heir apparent of the communist regime, arrives in Washington on a get-to-know-you visit. This is happening while Tibet is burning. A day after the 23rd Tibetan monk self-immolated to protest unprecedented Chinese crackdown on their religion. This is happening one week after CCTV, China's state TV, launched its first live daily broadcast from its brand new 36000 sq ft studio in Washington DC, the first step of China's \$7 billion media offensive in America. What is the BBG thinking? Has the Broadcasting Board of Governors gone mad?"

The independent, nongovernmental Committee for U.S. International Broadcasting (CUSIB - www.cusib.org), whose members include many human rights activists, joined forces with BBG employees to convince members of Congress of both parties to stop last year the BBG's plan to end all VOA broadcasts to China. This year CUSIB again issued an open letter to Congress adamantly objecting to the BBG's latest plan to end or reduce broadcasts to Tibet, China and other countries without free media.

Ted Lipien is a former Voice of America journalist and former VOA acting associate director. He co-founded Free Media Online and the Committee for U.S. International Broadcasting.

This opinion article was written by an independent writer. The opinions and views expressed herein are those of the author and are not necessarily intended to reflect those of DigitalJournal.com

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 9:44 AM
To: Letitia King; (b) (6) Lynne Weil
Subject: sign installed

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Tish and (b) (6)

I assume the sign for Greenville re naming it Edward Murrow is done...when will it be installed?

Are you waiting on the local government to change the road name? That should not hold by erecting the new sign.

Has the decision been made on when and whether to have a ceremony installing the sign? It would be nice to invite the living children of Edward Murrow to it. I am sure they could be found.
I look forward to hearing about this.

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 2:45 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Burma/Myanmar

Bruce

Naturally I am sorry that the fuller trip you and others had envisioned for Burma/Myanmar has met headwinds from State. However, my original purpose for the trip had little to do with the expansion which you and others such (b) (6) planned. Rather it was purely for Michael Meehan as chair of RFA and me as vice chair to accompany (b) (6) president of RFA to Myanmar as she explores potential for RFA activities in Myanmar so we could learn more about the opening in Myanmar.

I think it is most unfortunate and unfair that this limited purpose also be negated because State is reluctant to move ahead with BBG/VOA and others on the more expanded purpose of the trip you had hoped for in March.

Therefore, I shall continue to seek approval for the limited purpose of the original trip and I trust you will support this in your talks with State. There is no reason this need be an either or choice but both can work out.

I am simply unable to go in April and most of May as planning for this trip has been in the works for over 4 weeks now and other plans in my life for April and May moved ahead.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 8:51 AM
To: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

thanks so much. This is very helpful and I appreciate your willingness to discuss it. Knoxville awaits a visit if your schedule permits.

Victor

In a message dated 5/3/2012 8:16:57 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

Good morning. BBG broadcasts to more than 100 countries, but we have never had the resources to survey all of those annually, or even biannually. Typically we do survey research in 50 or so countries a year.

For example, for the 22 countries of the Middle East served by Alhurra TV and Rado Sawa, we have surveyed 9-11 countries per year. For the 31 countries of Francophone Africa served by VOA French to Africa, we do just a few annually, again due to limited resources. The same holds true for our research in the many Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America.

On the other hand, for top-priority countries or territories such as China, Tibet, Russia, Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, et al, we have always tried to do annual work.

(b) (6) BBG's research manager who works for me, can send you the list of countries we surveyed last year and those we have identified to survey thus far this year under the new Gallup contract. Among the first Gallup projects were Tibet and Iran, and we should have the final results from both studies very soon. (Looking at these two specifically will also allows us to discuss with you and the Board how we approach difficult-to-research areas to procure nonetheless actionable data.)

The cost range for a nationally representative media survey across our universe of countries is \$125,000-250,000. This is for a random sample of 2000 respondents (or much higher in larger countries like China, where national samples go as high as 8500 respondents) with a questionnaire that can run 45 minutes in length to obtain the diversity of data our language services require in terms of ownership of/access to and actual use of TV, radio, Internet, mobile phones, and social media as well as preferences for media outlets and subject areas.

From the surveys, we derive most of our key performance data on audience reach, news reliability, audience understanding, etc., which we are required to report to OMB and Congress. The data also inform our strategy and budget formulation, drive the annual language service review, and help determine distribution/transmission decisions, etc.

This said, audience and media surveys are only part of the BBG's research program. Qualitative and evaluative research are the other, equally important, parts.

Qualitative research includes focus groups and in-depth interviews to probe specific issues of interest to the language services regarding their programs, to test program concepts and pilots, to explore audience perceptions of competing media outlets, etc.

Evaluative research involves listener and viewer panels, which have been done for every service for many years to gauge program quality on both substance and style, and custom-commissioned reviews of program content such as the evaluations the Board (Enders was the lead) asked be done of PNN.

All BBG research is archived in our offices and at the broadcast entities. You can see any of it whenever you wish. In fact, we'll also send you a complete set of studies for a single country so you can see the specific work products.

For years we routinely distributed all BBG research in summary form to the Board. But the sheer volume of the work proved overwhelming -- tallying up all quantitative (surveys), qualitative, and evaluative studies annually, the number of discrete projects with corresponding reports runs between 200-300.

I hope this answers your immediate questions. I appreciate your interest. The research program is an open book. We'll follow up as noted and will gladly walk you through any of the studies or reports, or any aspects of actual research methodologies or program administration that you'd care to explore.

Best, Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

On May 3, 2012, at 6:54 AM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Bruce and Jeff

It is my understanding that the Gallup contract provides for surveys in 100 countries as part of the research project. Is that number correct? How can I find out which nations those are? Does the type of survey done in each nation vary or the same in each? Does the contract do 100 countries annually? When those surveys are done who at BBG maintains them?

If I should be asking someone else about this please advise or share it with them?

I look forward to hearing from you about this. Feel free to call if this inquiry is too burdensome so we can discuss.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:09 AM
To: (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

but I assume (b) (6) you have a copy of it as CFO of BBG..right? How do I get a copy?

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 10:03 am
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I'll defer to Bruce since his team manages the contract.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 10:22:55 PM
To: (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: Gallup contract

(b) (6) and Bruce

What is the best way for me to secure a copy of the Gallup contract? Is it a lengthy one..like a 100 pages or much shorter?

I am getting lots of questions on it and would like to have a copy.

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 11:06 AM
To: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

understood...after June 18 may work best due to my upcoming hip replacement surgery on June 18...like after June 25 or so when I am more mobile...Victor

In a message dated 5/3/2012 9:18:51 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

My pleasure, Victor. Stay tuned for more from us on research as indicated. As to travel to Knoxville, perhaps after the current crush of work on language service review and the FY2014 budget formulation. Best, Bruce

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On May 3, 2012, at 8:51 AM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

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If I should be asking someone else about this please advise or share it with them?

I look forward to hearing from you about this. Feel free to call if this inquiry is too burdensome so we can discuss.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 5:06 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6) Dana Perino
Subject: Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Re: Gallup contract

I think we should discuss this in private when we meet on December 13-14. I am surprised the OIG inquiry may take another 3 to 4 months when it already has had it for two months and I was told at the start it would be 2 to 3 months but now appears to be 4 to 6 months...why is the time period doubled?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/29/2012 3:58:21 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Govenors,

I asked (b) (6) to prepare the enclosed document.

It is self-explanatory.

Please note it is not for public distribution.

Dick Lobo

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 5:27 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6); Dana Perino; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; Lynne Weil; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

I think an update is in order since we last discussed it in October or perhaps it was September...not sure exactly,
Victor

In a message dated 11/29/2012 5:23:04 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

We would be happy to discuss BBG research/Gallup issues further, in private, if the Board leadership wishes.

As to why the OIG at State is taking so long I cannot answer.

Dick Lobo

On Thu, Nov 29, 2012 at 5:05 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

I think we should discuss this in private when we meet on December 13-14. I am surprised the OIG inquiry may take another 3 to 4 months when it already has had it for two months and I was told at the start it would be 2 to 3 months but now appears to be 4 to 6 months...why is the time period doubled?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/29/2012 3:58:21 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Govenors,

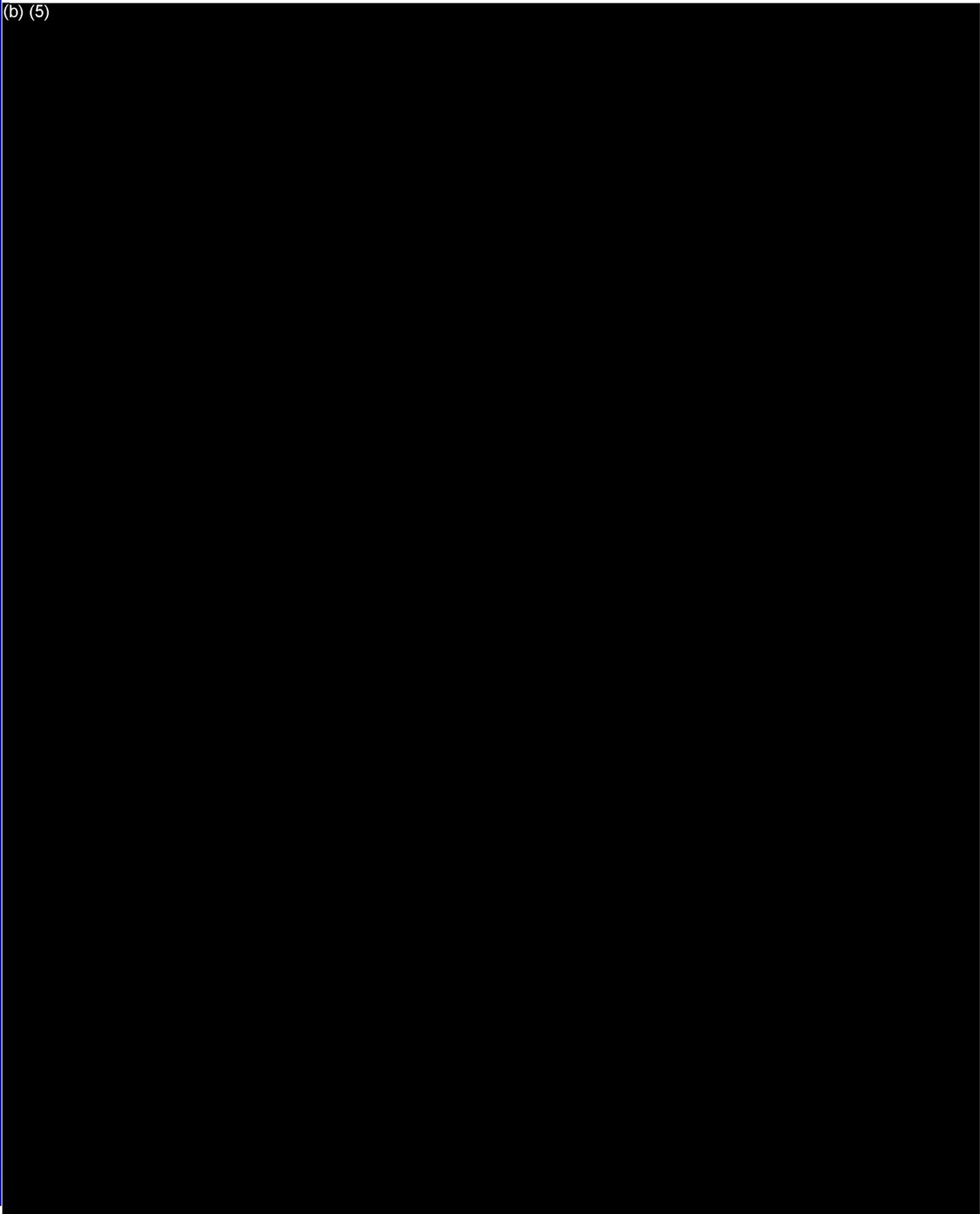
I asked (b) (6) to prepare the enclosed document.

It is self-explanatory.

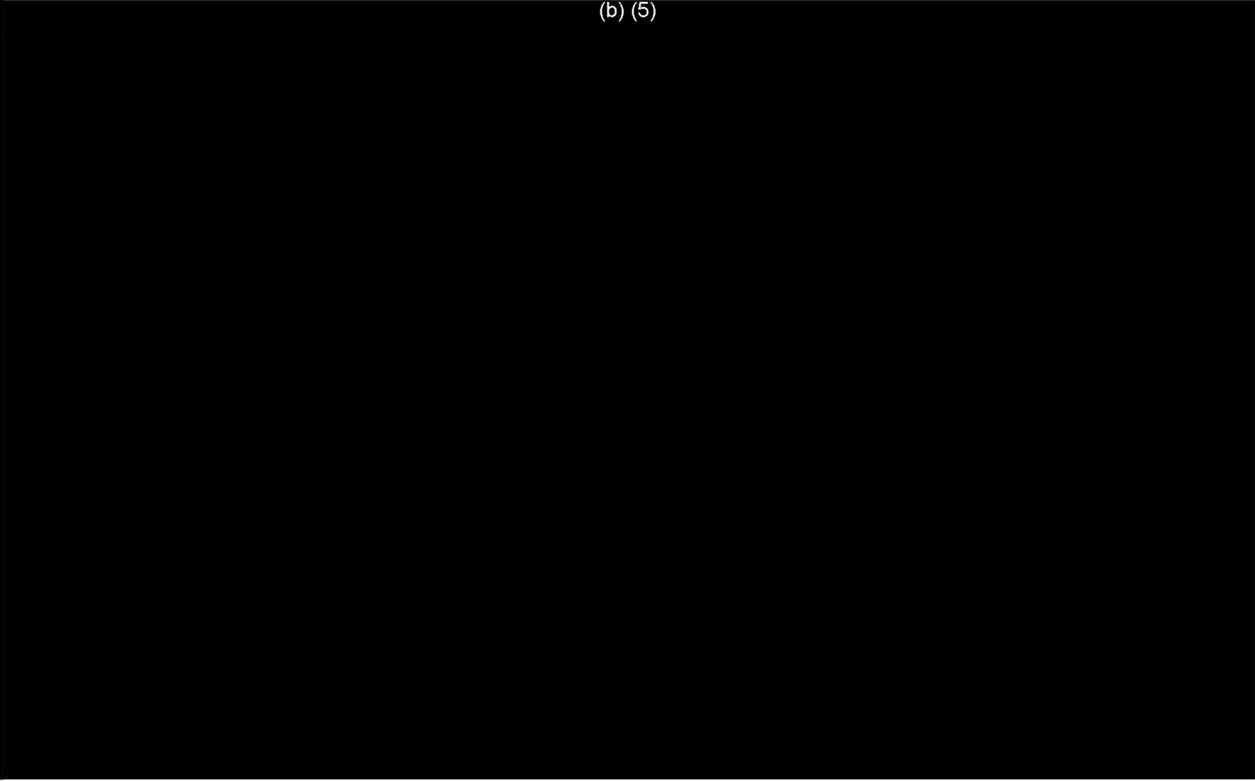
Please note it is not for public distribution.

Dick Lobo

(b) (5)



(b) (5)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 9:23 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King;
(b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Until BBG asks Gallup about this and gets their response the reasons for delay remain uncertain. Why not remove the proprietary information and release the rest of the contact?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6); Letitia King (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 9:19 pm
Subject: Gallup contract and FOIA -- part one

Per previous message, am sharing this first of two e-mail chains on this matter.

Lynne

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2012 2:16:12 PM
To: Lynne Weil
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information

Dear Lynn:

Thank you for your note, and for helping with a FOIA request.

Best
(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: request for information
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 2012 20:06:39 +0000

Dear (b) (6)

It was good to talk with you, albeit briefly, on Tuesday. I'm glad that you were able to find the basic information about the research contract on-line.

As promised, I've checked with all the right people here, some of whom were away from the office last week, to see what more is available. Thanks for your patience regarding this request.

I'd like first to ensure that you're aware that the BBG currently spends roughly \$10 million per year on research, and that this is only 1.3% of the agency's \$750 million budget. The proposed FY 2013 budget includes \$8.8 million for research, or 1.1% of the total -- a fraction of what commercial media spend.

For FY2013, the BBG research budget is being reduced more than 10% while overall reductions are 4.2%.

To ensure value for taxpayer dollar, we need solid information about audiences.

And as you may know, BBG's enabling legislation mandates a "reliable research capacity." Research is a broad and serious statutory requirement, not a frill.

The BBG plans to release results from the Gallup research when available. In the meantime, we cannot make the full Gallup contract available since it may include proprietary information. To ensure fair, equitable, and transparent treatment for this contractor and all others, as well as any who may request information about the contract, it will need to be reviewed under a FOIA process before release.

I've forwarded your request to the BBG's FOIA office. You can expect to receive an acknowledgment letter from them in the coming days.

Please let me know if there is more that I can do to assist you with this matter.

Best regards,

Lynne

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 8:34:48 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information

Thank you so much, Lynne.
Your prompt response will be appreciated.

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: request for information
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 2012 20:44:05 +0000

Hello again,

Conversation is ongoing about this request among several offices here since it involves a contract; just wanted you to know it hasn't been forgotten.

Best regards,

Lynne W.

From: Lynne Weil
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 6:43 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: RE: request for information

Dear (b) (6),

Happy to help however I can. Let me check with colleagues in the a.m. and get back to you with an answer.

Best regards,

Lynne Weil
Director of Communications and External Affairs
Broadcasting Board of Governors

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 4:40 PM

To: Lynne Weil

Subject: request for information

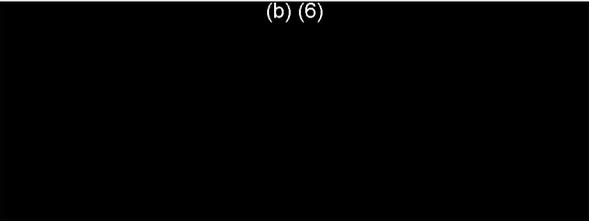
Dear Ms. Weil:

This is a request for information regarding the BBG's contact with Gallup. I am to understand that it's a \$50 million dollar contract over 5 years - \$10 million dollars a year for research. Is it possible for me to obtain a copy of this contract and any other information about it, including its implementation and results?

I would greatly appreciate your help with this timely information.

Thank you.

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 8:10 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO Draft Report - BBG: Additional Steps Needed to Address Overlap in Int...

I would also like to have a copy of the draft. You can fed ex to me here in Knoxville. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/18/2012 8:08:43 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:
can i get a copy of the draft ?

On Dec 18, 2012, at 6:46 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Hopefully the Board will be consulted on the response. I believe we should have a phone call to go over what all this means and the full implications.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/18/2012 6:23:11 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Last Friday, we received a copy of the GAO draft report, "Broadcasting Board of Governors – Additional Steps Needed to Address Overlap in International Broadcasting."

As you will recall, the GAO began this engagement at the request of the Chair and Ranking Member and joined by other members of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the Federal Workforce. GAO's brief from its Congressional sponsors was to "examine the extent to which (1) BBG language services overlap with one another and (2) BBG broadcasts in the same languages as other international broadcasters."

While the draft report references efforts pursuant to the agency's strategic plan and budget requests to reduce overlap, its rather simplistic mandate and its methodology in quantifying the extent of overlap, as presented in GAO's summary findings, are misleading. GAO finds that "nearly two-thirds of the BBG's language services – offices that produce content for particular languages and regions – overlap with another BBG service by offering programs to the same countries in the same languages." GAO cites the cost of supporting these programs at about \$149 million – nearly 20 percent of the agency's total budget. Over the next few weeks, staff will be working with GAO to refine portions of its draft report and ask for modifications in its methodology to avoid "headlines" that will be misleading outside the context of the full report.

GAO's draft report also contains two recommendations for the BBG:

- The BBG should ensure that BBG's annual language service review includes systematic consideration of the cost and impact of internal overlap among BBG entities' language services.
- The BBG should ensure that BBG's annual language service review includes systematic consideration of the activities of U.S. commercial broadcasters and other democratic nations' broadcasters, such as the languages used and the countries served. GAO review started in March 2012 and included a review of agency proposals and strategies for streamlining USIB, focusing on challenges related to program overlap and coordination. GAO's researchers met with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity, and also met with officials of the State Department, USAID, and experts from other organizations, including the DG-5 broadcasters. GAO did not review management and administrative streamlining proposals of the BBG, except to the extent they might affect program overlap.

We will review and provide comments to the GAO by January 11. The final report will be a public document, and will include the BBG's formal comments in an appendix to the report.

Because the current report status is "restricted to official use only," we must safeguard it to prevent its improper disclosure. Please let us know if you are interested in receiving a copy of this draft report and we will send it to you.

The draft report includes this direction from GAO: "This draft report is being provided to obtain advance review and comment. It has not been fully reviewed within GAO and is subject to revision. Recipients of this draft must not, under any circumstances, show or release its contents for other than official review and comment. It must be safeguarded to prevent improper disclosure. This draft and all copies remain the property of, and must be returned on demand to, the Government Accountability Office."

Thank you.

(b) (6)

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 6:47 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO Draft Report - BBG: Additional Steps Needed to Address Overlap in Int...

Hopefully the Board will be consulted on the response. I believe we should have a phone call to go over what all this means and the full implications.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/18/2012 6:23:11 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Last Friday, we received a copy of the GAO draft report, "Broadcasting Board of Governors – Additional Steps Needed to Address Overlap in International Broadcasting."

As you will recall, the GAO began this engagement at the request of the Chair and Ranking Member and joined by other members of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the Federal Workforce. GAO's brief from its Congressional sponsors was to "examine the extent to which (1) BBG language services overlap with one another and (2) BBG broadcasts in the same languages as other international broadcasters."

While the draft report references efforts pursuant to the agency's strategic plan and budget requests to reduce overlap, its rather simplistic mandate and its methodology in quantifying the extent of overlap, as presented in GAO's summary findings, are misleading. GAO finds that "nearly two-thirds of the BBG's language services – offices that produce content for particular languages and regions – overlap with another BBG service by offering programs to the same countries in the same languages." GAO cites the cost of supporting these programs at about \$149 million – nearly 20 percent of the agency's total budget. Over the next few weeks, staff will be working with GAO to refine portions of its draft report and ask for modifications in its methodology to avoid "headlines" that will be misleading outside the context of the full report.

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and strategies for streamlining USIB, focusing on challenges related to program overlap and coordination. GAO's researchers met with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity, and also met with officials of the State Department, USAID, and experts from other organizations, including the DG-5 broadcasters. GAO did not review management and administrative streamlining proposals of the BBG, except to the extent they might affect program overlap.

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Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2012 7:31 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil;
(b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO study

Thanks for sending the information. I noticed it was dated March 2 but the full BBG Board was not told about the GAO study until this week..the week of May 1...almost two months after the original notice of March 2. Even in our Miami meeting this was not discussed in open or private session. What was the reason for the delay in providing such important information? GAO doing a study is not an everyday event but significant especially in terms of our congressional relations and oversight. I feel this two month delay in notice to the full BBG Board needs some explanation.

Jeff, is there any additional information in writing from GAO since March 2 on this study and review?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Lynne Weil
(b) (6) Bruce Sherman (b) (6)

Sent: Tue, May 1, 2012 3:39 pm
Subject: RE: GAO study

Governors, colleagues – as Dick wrote last evening, the GAO has begun a study in cooperation with this agency that looks at the proposals and strategy for streamlining U.S. international media.

In its notification to the agency of the engagement (attached here, and pls not for further distribution), the GAO referenced the multiple international broadcast entities that BBG oversees and noted challenges and opportunities identified by both the Board and others for streamlining U.S. international media.

The study is in its very early days. (b) (6), working with (b) (6), is the agency lead contact. The agency met with the GAO staff in late March for an initial “entrance” discussion. At that time, the GAO stressed that they were in the “design phase” of the study, and would be working on their methodology and the scope of the report. As yet the GAO has not fully defined the scope of the project or its methodology, and these could change with time. They are in a “data collection” stage in the project, after which they will confer with interested parties on the Hill to agree on the overall approach of the study. We’ll learn more as they enter more deeply into discussions with us. The GAO does not expect to finish its report until this autumn.

So far, the GAO has expressed an interest in the new strategic plan and agency implementation of it, stating that they do not take issue with what we have done, but are interested in how we derived the plan. They have asked for extensive background information related to the development of the strategic plan, such as the convening of expert panels, SWOT analysis, and other research. Going forward, the GAO’s researchers will want to speak with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity.

The lead staff member of the GAO group, (b) (6), will attend the rededication event at Greenville. Her purpose is to see a BBG transmitting station.

We view this study as an opportunity to make the GAO - and its ultimate audience and client, Congress - aware of the agency’s robust efforts to operate more efficiently and effectively amid the current budget environment. We have asked the GAO about the appropriateness of posting information about the GAO engagement on our website. Consulting with the GAO’s public affairs and congressional relations offices, we were told that they are not

aware of any instance where an agency posted this information. It is GAO's policy not to confirm or deny any engagement until the scope and methodology of the job are settled. These issues have not been settled with respect to the current BBG engagement, and are not likely to be settled for several more months. Thus, if the GAO were to get an inquiry pursuant to our posting, the GAO would offer no information.

In addition, the GAO cautioned that reports are "owned" by the requesters from the Congress, rather than the GAO. Therefore it is possible that the requesters in Congress would not find the web posting appropriate and it could in fact anger them.

Rgds
Jeff

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2012 5:40 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO study

From my years on the hill GAO investigations are requested often by members of Congress. Can we learn when the request was written and what did they ask for GAO to look at? What did they ask and when did the GAO begin the investigation?

Who is the lead for the BBG?

Thanks.
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Date: Mon, 30 Apr 2012 22:33:48 +0000
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil (b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Subject: GAO study

Governors, colleagues, a message from Dick Lobo:

I wanted to make sure you know that the GAO has begun a study in cooperation with this agency that looks at the proposals and strategy for streamlining U.S. international media. To begin, they are talking with us about the challenges related to overlap and coordination.

As they start the project, the GAO's researchers will be speaking with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity. At this time, the GAO has not fully defined the scope of the project or its methodology. We'll learn more as they enter more deeply into discussions with us.

The GAO study was requested by Senators Akaka (D-Hawaii) and Johnson (R-Wisconsin), who serve as Chair and Ranking Member, respectively, on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the Federal Workforce. The GAO is also looking at other Federal programs, including democracy assistance, assistance to Afghanistan, and food aid.

We view this study as an opportunity to make the GAO - and its ultimate audience and client, Congress - aware of the agency's robust efforts to operate more efficiently and effectively amid the current budget environment. We will keep you informed as this study progresses.

Dick L.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 2:12 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Budget

Bruce

Look forward to working with you on Budget and Strategy. I am out March 11 to 25 but in USA then to Prague trip. Let me know when meeting might be needed. With Michael in DC it should now be easier to get a quorum and hopefully, enders can participate by phone if not in person.

Best

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2012 6:38 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Lynne Weil;
(b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: GAO study

Should this not be announced publicly and placed on BBG web site? Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/30/2012 6:33:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors, colleagues, a message from Dick Lobo:

I wanted to make sure you know that the GAO has begun a study in cooperation with this agency that looks at the proposals and strategy for streamlining U.S. international media. To begin, they are talking with us about the challenges related to overlap and coordination.

As they start the project, the GAO's researchers will be speaking with senior agency officials and the broadcast executives at the head of every entity. At this time, the GAO has not fully defined the scope of the project or its methodology. We'll learn more as they enter more deeply into discussions with us.

The GAO study was requested by Senators Akaka (D-Hawaii) and Johnson (R-Wisconsin), who serve as Chair and Ranking Member, respectively, on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the Federal Workforce. The GAO is also looking at other Federal programs, including democracy assistance, assistance to Afghanistan, and food aid.

We view this study as an opportunity to make the GAO - and its ultimate audience and client, Congress - aware of the agency's robust efforts to operate more efficiently and effectively amid the current budget environment. We will keep you informed as this study progresses.

Dick L.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2012 5:00 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Itinerary + Country Clearance

I will go the capital city too

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Nov 19, 2012 1:09 pm
Subject: Fwd: RE: Itinerary + Country Clearance

Governors

As you know, we will be leaving for Naypidaw, the capital of Burma, early on the morning of the 4th. It is a 6 hour drive from Yangon.

Bruce is well aware of our schedule as he has been guiding this Skynet thing. We will be in Yangon on the 3rd and on the 6th.

Perhaps one or more of you would like to remain in Yangon to attend (b) (6) signing ceremony?

(b) (6)

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

Subject: RE: Itinerary + Country Clearance

Date: Mon, 19 Nov 2012 16:35:05 +0000

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

CC: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)

[REDACTED]

On Friday, November 16 I sent a country clearance cable to Burma and Thailand posts for Governors Ashe, McCue, Meehan and (b) (6). Please see attached.

Thanks

(b) (6)

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2012 11:18 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Itinerary + Country Clearance

All:

I'm doing a country clearance cable for Yangon - for myself and (b) (6), who's in line to be the new OSD Regional Marketing Officer in Bangkok - to arrive on 2 December, and depart on 7 December - for the signing ceremony with SkyNet, set for the morning of 4 December.

Protectively, I'll be including (b) (6) in the cable. (b) (6) will cover for me in the event I cannot go.

I've asked several times, and I'm asking again, if others planning to go on this trip - Governors, (b) (6) - are covered with a country clearance cable, or if I should include them in ours.

To do that, I really need itineraries; and if any of us plan to visit with officials in Naypyitaw, we really need to alert the embassy to that fact.

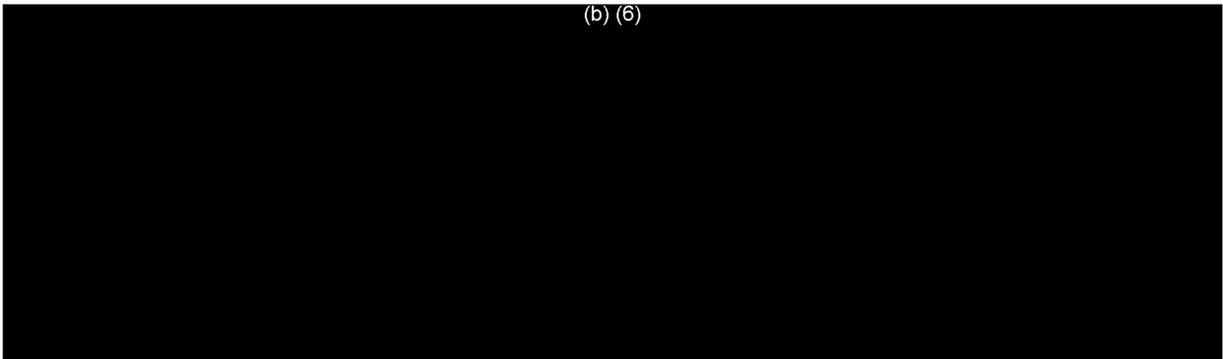
This all needs to go out as soon as possible, as the Embassy needs a heads-up.

If Country Clearance Cables are being handled by others, just let me know, please.

Thanks.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 11:07 AM
To: (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: greetings

I suggest we use a word other than 'holistic'. This is an inside the beltway term. We need to use words which average Americans who pay for BBG understand immediately and do not have to find a dictionary to look up. I say this as a Yale graduate. We will be discussing this in open webcam session and we want to make sure our listening audience knows what we are talking about. This is not Dick's term but was used at Strategy and Budget Committee on April 10.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/17/2012 11:00:15 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) :

i'm interested in how the work of your holistic china plan task force is proceeding.

the board meets on thursday morning to discuss this matter and they are expecting to hear to hear your various plans, recommendations, etc.

can someone summarize for me the progress you've made thus far?

thanks.

dick

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2012 7:04 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Internet Freedom in Cuba follow-up

good to hear. Victor Ashe

---- Original Message ----

From: (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6); 'Vhashe@aol.com' <Vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Aug 29, 2012 11:13 pm
Subject: Internet Freedom in Cuba follow-up

Dear Strategy & Budget committee- Governors:

As you requested f2c Cuba Pocket Server project proposal information was provided to all in the email chain after the Strategy and Budget meeting on 8/28. (previously referred to as "Shazaam" and "the Cuba Project at f2c")

(b) (6) Jeff and RFAs f2c team met this morning to discuss any concerns or questions (b) (6) may have about the project. Having had a chance to dive into the project proposal, (b) (6) gave it his blessing for FY2013. (b) (6) also weighed in via email with thoughts and questions which we will integrate as we move forward.

We all agreed that we will schedule a time when (b) (6) returns to talk about how to use the remaining \$10.1m of Internet Freedom funds for FY2013.

With your approval, RFA will immediately begin work on the project using FY2012 cash flow with the commitment that we will be granted the \$1.5m in FY2013 funds.

Also, we engaged in a four-hour "peer review" session with 3 outside peers walking through and discussing each project in the IAC and in the RFA portfolios for FY2011-2012.

We look forward to their report as we welcome all input and feedback on our program. Hopefully we can apply some of their suggestions to our future funding decisions.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 8:43 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Jamming of Signals into Iran, News Release Being Distributed

we need to more than a statement although a resolution should be added to Board agenda this October 11 updated to reflect more recent developments if they occur.

BBG should meet with relevant folks at State on this too. We need a report on this October 11.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/3/2012 6:29:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

As of today, we've seen a spike in the jamming of a number of our satellite signals to Iran. TSI, VOA and RFE/RL are working very closely to track the interference and respond accordingly in order to continue to reach audiences. VOA's Persian Service and RFE/RL's Radio Farda are the principal victims, though other languages on those satellite carriers are affected.

We believe raising public awareness of the jamming is important. Pasted below is the news release we are distributing to provide news of the situation.

We will continue to work aggressively to respond to the signal interference and will keep you informed.

Dick

BBG Condemns Jamming of Broadcasts to Iran

Washington, DC – October 3, 2012 – U.S. international broadcasting signals to Iran are once again being jammed, possibly in connection with street demonstrations and arrests there, and the Broadcasting Board of Governors has condemned the resumption of interference in its programming for Iranians.

“The jamming of news delivered by satellite into Iran is an outrage, a deplorable violation of well-established international agreements,” said International Broadcasting Bureau Director Richard M. Lobo. “Freedom of information is a universal human right as well as an essential component for the health of any nation.”

The practice of deliberate interference with broadcast signals, known as “jamming,” is prohibited under rules of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

The most recent interference began on Wednesday, October 3, and affected both video and audio signals of the Voice of America’s Persian Service and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty’s Radio Farda.

The jamming coincided with reports of street demonstrations and mass arrests of Iranians protesting falling currency exchange rates. Both VOA and RFE/RL report that, in some instances, interference starts just before newscasts, and ends just afterwards.

The jamming affected three satellite transponders operated by Eutelsat and those most popular among Iranian viewers: HotBird 13B, Eutelsat 25A and Eutelsat 7A. Viewers said the signals reappear intermittently, and that less-popular satellites are not impacted.

The interference has affected other U.S. international broadcasting programs on the Eutelsat satellites, including Georgian, Armenian and Balkan-language broadcasts.

VOA and RFE/RL programs continue to be broadcast on diverse media platforms, including digital audio and video streams on other satellite paths and on the Internet.

In February 2012, the ITU called upon the world’s nations to take “necessary actions” to stop intentional interference with satellite transmissions. -- <http://www.bbg.gov/press-release/new-pressure-on-jammers-of-international-broadcasts/>

Related -- <http://www.bbg.gov/press-release/international-broadcasters-call-for-end-of-satellite-jamming/>

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 9:34 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

this really should happen but committee meetings need to occur. There has to be serious discussion of the budget...not 30 minutes and no strategy and budget before hand.

If it goes to August then is consolidaiton being voted on by phone or conference? and no goverance committee prior to that?

Victor ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 9:31 pm
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

i can get to video in NYC. maybe Dana and i can do together from NYC?

On Jul 11, 2012, at 9:23 PM, <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

This is very disappointing even if understandable. I strongly feel that as many as possible should meet in august to discuss in person (not by phone) these critical issues. Strategy and Budget surely should meet prior to a vote on the budget. Just reading papers without persons there to respond and have a dialogue back and forth among Governors is a poor way to run a \$700 million plus budget. I am available all of August to august 27. I am not available sept 1 to 9 due to previously planned business.

It is stunning to me that we would vote on the budget or consolidation without a face to face meeting preceded by committee meetings such as governance and strategy and budget. Gov Mulhaupt and I have a perfect attendance record. Others have different schedules but we should try to co-ordinate our agendas to meet as a group. otherwise we look less than diligent in my view.

I plan on being in Washington July 24-25 and will visit more areas of the Cohen Bldg where I have not previously been or it was over a year ago.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 6:04 pm
Subject: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

Dear Governors,

In April, the Board voted to change the previously selected date for the July 2012 meeting and asked Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt to choose a new date. Having canvassed the Board, they selected July 24 as the best available option.

As that date approaches, it has become apparent that many Governors' attendance cannot be assured. Some of you are available only at limited times -- or perhaps not at all -- on July 24. Guaranteeing a quorum under these conditions would not be possible.

For this reason, Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt have agreed to postpone the July meetings of the Board and Governance Committee. They will suggest an alternate date.

While most of the work on the July agenda may be safely deferred until the scheduled September meeting, it is critical for the Board to discuss the proposed FY 2014 budget sometime in early August by telephone or videoconference. We will be back in touch as soon as possible with a proposed date.

Finally, a number of Governors have pointed out the importance and complexity of the key issues requiring detailed discussion before any votes could take place. The postponement will provide time for you to review any materials sent in advance.

Dick Lobo

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

It is important that materials which were going to be assembled for July 24 be sent to all Governors anyway so we can have time to review them in adequate time but that does not replace the need for a meeting of the relevant committees to discuss and look into issues. Budget must be considered in depth.
Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 6:04 pm
Subject: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

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Dick Lobo

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 6:55 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman
Cc: Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Gallup contract

Bruce and Jeff

It is my understanding that the Gallup contract provides for surveys in 100 countries as part of the research project. Is that number correct? How can I find out which nations those are? Does the type of survey done in each nation vary or the same in each? Does the contract do 100 countries annually? When those surveys are done who at BBG maintains them?

If I should be asking someone else about this please advise or share it with them?

I look forward to hearing from you about this. Feel free to call if this inquiry is too burdensome so we can discuss.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 11:37 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Jamming of Signals into Iran, News Release Being Distributed

there must be a Board resolution. Victor

In a message dated 10/3/2012 9:37:18 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good evening, Victor --

As Tara and (b) (6) can attest, and (b) (6) can fill in the details when appropriate, the BBG is, indeed, speaking with State about the matter.

One can imagine that with your background in foreign policy, all the bases would be covered in any subsequent Board briefing. Meantime, we'll get to work on a resolution -- in each sense of the word.

All the best,

Lynne

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 8:42:45 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Jamming of Signals into Iran, News Release Being Distributed

we need to more than a statement although a resolution should be added to Board agenda this October 11 updated to reflect more recent developments if they occur.

BBG should meet with relevant folks at State on this too. We need a report on this October 11.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/3/2012 6:29:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

As of today, we've seen a spike in the jamming of a number of our satellite signals to Iran. TSI, VOA and RFE/RL are working very closely to track the interference and respond accordingly in order to continue to reach audiences. VOA's Persian Service and RFE/RL's Radio Farda are the principal victims, though other languages on those satellite carriers are affected.

We believe raising public awareness of the jamming is important. Pasted below is the news release we are distributing to provide news of the situation.

We will continue to work aggressively to respond to the signal interference and will keep you informed.

Dick

BBG Condemns Jamming of Broadcasts to Iran

Washington, DC – October 3, 2012 – U.S. international broadcasting signals to Iran are once again being jammed, possibly in connection with street demonstrations and arrests there, and the Broadcasting Board of Governors has condemned the resumption of interference in its programming for Iranians.

“The jamming of news delivered by satellite into Iran is an outrage, a deplorable violation of well-established international agreements,” said International Broadcasting Bureau Director Richard M. Lobo. “Freedom of information is a universal human right as well as an essential component for the health of any nation.”

The practice of deliberate interference with broadcast signals, known as “jamming,” is prohibited under rules of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

The most recent interference began on Wednesday, October 3, and affected both video and audio signals of the Voice of America’s Persian Service and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty’s Radio Farda.

The jamming coincided with reports of street demonstrations and mass arrests of Iranians protesting falling currency exchange rates. Both VOA and RFE/RL report that, in some instances, interference starts just before newscasts, and ends just afterwards.

The jamming affected three satellite transponders operated by Eutelsat and those most popular among Iranian viewers: HotBird 13B, Eutelsat 25A and Eutelsat 7A. Viewers said the signals reappear intermittently, and that less-popular satellites are not impacted.

The interference has affected other U.S. international broadcasting programs on the Eutelsat satellites, including Georgian, Armenian and Balkan-language broadcasts.

VOA and RFE/RL programs continue to be broadcast on diverse media platforms, including digital audio and video streams on other satellite paths and on the Internet.

In February 2012, the ITU called upon the world's nations to take "necessary actions" to stop intentional interference with satellite transmissions. -- <http://www.bbg.gov/press-release/new-pressure-on-jammers-of-international-broadcasts/>

Related -- <http://www.bbg.gov/press-release/international-broadcasters-call-for-end-of-satellite-jamming/>

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 10:00 AM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

I will try to be there July 27 as well as at Strategy and Budget whenever it is held. cannot make July 17 as it is the day after I have surgery in Knoxville.

Victor

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
To: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Jul 12, 2012 9:54 am
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

Dear Colleagues,

Budget update. I have been able to secure a meeting at OMB on Tuesday, July 17th at 11 am in Washington. If any of you are in town and interested in attending please let me know. Our goal is to make a case about 5-10 percent cuts and what it does to our agency.

I am hopeful to schedule a meeting of the Strategy and Budget Committee in the next couple of weeks. We can make it a committee of the whole and have any board member, who wishes for a deeper dive into the 2014 budget and an update on the 2013 budget status participate by phone or in person. I know the staff has been sending us update materials.

China. On Friday July 27th, we have assembled several outside experts to convene in Washington that morning. It's part of an effort to bring outside voices into our internal discussions about a comprehensive approach to USIB in China. Board members are encouraged to join by phone or in person on the 27th. It's with this input that I am hopeful we can advance a more comprehensive strategy that leverages all of USIB assets in Asia.

Iran. The staff is still working on recruiting panelist. I am hope for us to have conducted a similar effort before the September board meeting and our 2014 budget submission. Stay tuned.

If you are interested in participating directly in the Budget committee meeting, please let me know and we will work to accommodate your schedule. The staff needs our guidance and as Dick points out, September is too late to start.

Best,

Michael

Michael Meehan

(b) (6)

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 6:03 PM

Subject: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

Dear Governors,

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As that date approaches, it has become apparent that many Governors' attendance cannot be assured. Some of you are available only at limited times -- or perhaps not at all -- on July 24. Guaranteeing a quorum under these conditions would not be possible.

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Finally, a number of Governors have pointed out the importance and complexity of the key issues requiring detailed discussion before any votes could take place. The postponement will provide time for you to review any materials sent in advance.

Dick Lobo

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 9:23 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

This is very disappointing even if understandable. I strongly feel that as many as possible should meet in August to discuss in person (not by phone) these critical issues. Strategy and Budget surely should meet prior to a vote on the budget. Just reading papers without persons there to respond and have a dialogue back and forth among Governors is a poor way to run a \$700 million plus budget. I am available all of August to August 27. I am not available Sept 1 to 9 due to previously planned business.

It is stunning to me that we would vote on the budget or consolidation without a face to face meeting preceded by committee meetings such as governance and strategy and budget. Gov Mulhaupt and I have a perfect attendance record. Others have different schedules but we should try to co-ordinate our agendas to meet as a group. Otherwise we look less than diligent in my view.

I plan on being in Washington July 24-25 and will visit more areas of the Cohen Bldg where I have not previously been or it was over a year ago.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Jul 11, 2012 6:04 pm
Subject: July 24th Board Meeting Postponed

Dear Governors,

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Finally, a number of Governors have pointed out the importance and complexity of the key issues requiring detailed discussion before any votes could take place. The postponement will provide time for you to review any materials sent in advance.

Dick Lobo

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 10:23 PM
To: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Gallup contract

(b) (6) and Bruce

What is the best way for me to secure a copy of the Gallup contract? Is it a lengthy one..like a 100 pages or much shorter?

I am getting lots of questions on it and would like to have a copy.

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 9:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: March Board Meetings

Is the town hall meeting for MBN employees only or all BBG/IBB employees as well. This town hall open meeting should not replace the one we have held annually in Cohen Bldg. Seems late in the day to start BBG at 4 and end it at 5 in time to hit rush hour traffic (although much of it will be leaving Washington). Our last January 13 BBG meeting went almost two hours.

I think the March BBG meeting should start earlier around 3 or 330 as I can see the March meeting going over one hour. Limiting the BBG meeting to one hour limits serious discussion of current and future issues. We also have a governance committee meeting February 9 which may produce recommendations for the March meeting.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/17/2012 7:00:34 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

For your planning purposes, we will be able to arrange for all BBG-related meetings to be held on Thursday, March 8, at MBN headquarters in Springfield, VA. Please plan for an all-day meeting at MBN.

On Thursday, March 8, you will have a closed Governors' Briefing, followed by a town hall meeting with employees and an MBN and/or other corporate board meetings. A BBG open meeting (webcast) is planned for the afternoon starting at 4 pm. You should be finished with meetings by 5 p.m.

At this time, we do not have additional information that may require a meeting on Friday, March 9. We will keep you posted.

Also, please indicate whether you favor a Governors-Only dinner (Self Paid). Staff is prepared to make arrangements as needed.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 10:15 AM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
Cc: Bruce Sherman; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: memo on Hungary

(b) (6) The memo should be changed to show Bruce Sherman as the author. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
Cc: Bruce Sherman (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Mar 5, 2012 9:21 am
Subject: RE: memo on Hungary

Victor – Bruce drafted the memo with input from his staff. I think his name got left off because of a production glitch. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2012 6:06 PM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
Subject: memo on Hungary

I have seen the memo on Hungary and media issues there. However, there is no names associated with it as to the author...therefore, if I have questions, which I do, to whom do I address those questions. (b) (6) I think it is good practice to include the author's name on all memos sent to the Board.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:37 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

Fully agree with Gov. Meehan. While I do not mean to be critical of Director Lobo, I would have preferred that he had waited on his finding until the Board had met with him and talked it over. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/10/2012 7:16:56 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Let's put on the agenda for this week the need to reopen the polling contact. Thx.

From: (b) (6)
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2012 22:42:10 +0000
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

Governors,

We have learned that The Gallup Organization (GALLUP) was suspended from doing business with the Federal Government on December 6, 2012 by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA ("the Suspending Official"). GALLUP was notified by certified mail, but has not yet indicated that it knows about the suspension. Nevertheless, we anticipate that there could be press reports concerning the suspension soon.

We will provide additional information about this matter during Governors' Briefing this Friday morning.

The Suspending Official's action indicates there is evidence that immediate action is necessary to protect the Government's interest. GALLUP's suspension is effective throughout the Executive Branch, including BBG. Under the law, contractors suspended are excluded from receiving contracts and Executive Branch agencies are precluded from soliciting offers from or awarding contracts to, or consenting to subcontracts with these contractors, unless the Agency determines that there is a compelling reason to do so.

A contractor suspension endures for a temporary period, pending the completion of investigations and any ensuing legal proceedings, unless sooner terminated by the Suspending Official. If legal proceedings are not initiated within 12 months after the date of the suspension notice, the suspension shall be terminated unless the Assistant Attorney General requests its extension, in which case it may be extended for an additional 6 months.

What this means for BBG?

BBG may continue its existing contract with GALLUP, but may not issue task orders under the contract unless the Agency finds that there is a compelling reason to do so.

Based on input from the Director of Strategy and Development, the Office of General Counsel and the Agency's Procurement Executive, I believe that there is a compelling reason to continue to issue task orders for research to Gallup on an interim basis. The International Broadcasting Act mandates BBG to conduct audience research, which is used to evaluate and assess the impact of BBG-sponsored broadcasting activities, which is also required by law. To replace GALLUP as a source of research, BBG will have to initiate a new procurement activity, a competitive process which is governed by the Federal Acquisition Regulations (the FAR), and could take 3 – 5 months (but may take up to a year) to conclude.

Because of the statutory mandate for research and the important programmatic role of audience research in BBG's activities, I have determined, as IBB Director, that there is a compelling reason to continue to award task orders for research to GALLUP under its existing contract until an alternate source of research can be responsibly procured. The Agency will begin work forthwith on a new procurement to replace GALLUP.

If GALLUP's suspension is terminated during the pendency of the new procurement activity, BBG would have adequate justification to cancel the new procurement if it were in the Agency's interest to do so.

Dick

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:45 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

This is what makes it hard to understand why BBG gives them a waiver...because it would require extra work for us...and delay research....not sure I understand the logic here. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/10/2012 9:43:10 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

It sure seems like something serious if Homeland Security has suspended them across the entire Executive Branch. Has this happened before to other outside vendors as established as Gallup? Are there other polling companies with the international reach of Gallup that could be quickly considered? Many questions - we can discuss Thurs/Fri. Thanks

On Dec 10, 2012, at 9:36 PM, <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Fully agree with Gov. Meehan. While I do not mean to be critical of Director Lobo, I would have preferred that he had waited on his finding until the Board had met with him and talked it over. Victor Ashe

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Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
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If GALLUP's suspension is terminated during the pendency of the new procurement activity, BBG would have adequate justification to cancel the new procurement if it were in the Agency's interest to do so.

Dick

(b) (6)

=

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 6:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from IBB Director Lobo RE October Board Meeting

I will be there but again I feel we are not doing the work we signed up for. I do not enjoy saying this but we need to have a governance committee meeting. There are important topics to discuss in the morning which will not be discussed. RFE audit committee needs to meet.

Will we have a two day meeting in November?

Victor ashe

In a message dated 10/9/2012 4:10:00 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

It appears a few Governors have new scheduling conflicts this Thursday, October 11, and will require moving the meetings to the morning.

After consulting with Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt, they suggest that the Board meet this Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in Governors' Briefing which would include an OIG briefing with the Governors only, and hold the BBG open meeting from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There will be no meetings after 11:30 a.m. Also, the strategy and budget briefing is being postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date at Governor Meehan's request.

In order to ensure a quorum for the BBG open meeting, please advise us of your availability from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. by COB today.

With your input, we will amend the Federal Register notice for the BBG open meeting in order to maximize notice to the public.

Dick

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 3:40 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine
Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - Research Briefings at Gallup

I would like to be added to all e mails on briefings should I be able and wish to attend. Perhaps other Governors wish that too but I am not speaking for them. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/30/2012 1:44:03 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor,

The expected location for each event is Gallup's headquarters, but that depends in part on the dates.

A number of parties are involved, and this is a season when vacations and other travel plans intervene, so the dates for July, August and September are in flux.

The Communications Committee received word of a tentative July date (the 31st), but that might change.

We intend to hold all the briefings in the morning.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 11:08 AM
To: (b) (6) Lynne Weil; Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - Research Briefings at Gallup

I would like to know the dates and times plus location of these briefings in case I am able to attend. While I am not on the Communications Committee, I request copies of the material you sent them so I can be better informed and such sharing prevents stove piping from occurring. Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Lynne Weil

(b) (6) ; Bruce Sherman (b) (6)

Letitia King

(b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, May 30, 2012 9:52 am

Subject: Message from Lynne Weil - Research Briefings at Gallup

Governors --

We're about to launch a project involving public presentation of new audience research results from several countries.

Spearheaded by the BBG's Strategy and Development Office, together with BBG Public Affairs and the team at Gallup, this roll-out of audience data and information about the media environment is envisioned as a series starting in June. Research from Iran would be first in the line-up, on June 12, to be followed by other key countries monthly through September. The location will be at Gallup headquarters.

We expect only modest media interest, but stakeholders such as think tanks, NGOs and academia would likely take note. Through this proposed series, we expect to broaden awareness and understanding of our work in priority global media markets. News releases and any coverage by media would add up to a winning narrative about our programs' reach and impact that we could re-package in the fall for other purposes, including briefings on the Hill.

The Communications and Outreach Committee has been briefed on this proposed series. The public notice for the first event will be issued shortly.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
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To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Message from Lynne Weil - Research Briefings at Gallup

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From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil (b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6); Letitia King (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

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Governors --

We're about to launch a project involving public presentation of new audience research results from several countries.

Spearheaded by the BBG's Strategy and Development Office, together with BBG Public Affairs and the team at Gallup, this roll-out of audience data and information about the media environment is envisioned as a series starting in June. Research from Iran would be first in the line-up, on June 12, to be followed by other key countries monthly through September. The location will be at Gallup headquarters.

We expect only modest media interest, but stakeholders such as think tanks, NGOs and academia would likely take note. Through this proposed series, we expect to broaden awareness and understanding of our work in priority global media markets. News releases and any coverage by media would add up to a winning narrative about our programs' reach and impact that we could re-package in the fall for other purposes, including briefings on the Hill.

The Communications and Outreach Committee has been briefed on this proposed series. The public notice for the first event will be issued shortly.

Lynne

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2012 5:37 PM
To: (b) (6) Tara
Sonenshine
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: New VOA Afghan Service Chief

Thanks for keeping us informed. It is an important service.
Dana has a different e mail now from what is used.

Victor

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) Michael Meehan
(b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>;
(b) (6) Tara Sonenshine (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo <rlobo@bbg.gov>; Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>

Sent: Tue, Nov 20, 2012 5:33 pm
Subject: New VOA Afghan Service Chief

Governors,

I am pleased to inform you that an award-winning Afghan journalist and author, (b) (6) has been selected as the new VOA Afghanistan Service Chief. He is coming from Kabul in the near future to take charge of this important and strategic VOA language service. (b) (6) began his journalism career reporting on the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in the late 1980s. Following the Soviet withdrawal in 1989, he attended the Lawrenceville School in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, and Harvard College, from which he graduated in 1994 with a degree in history and politics. He spent the next 10 years working as a Dow Jones reporter and editor in New York, covering the United Nations and global energy markets for Dow Jones Newswires and the Wall Street Journal.

Starting in 2007, (b) (6) returned to Afghanistan working for Internews Network, providing oversight of news and cultural programming for "Salam Watandar" (Hello Countrymen) Radio and helping it become Afghanistan's largest network of independent radio stations. (b) (6) spent the 2011-2012 academic year as a John S. Knight Fellow in Journalism at Stanford University. As I write he is in Kabul, working for Internews, and preparing to move to Washington.

Veteran VOA television producer (b) (6) who served as Afghan Service Chief for some years, until a few months ago, did much to strengthen TV Ashna, our signature evening news broadcast in Dari and Pashto, which is broadcast on RTA, and started our second TV broadcast "Karwan", aimed at younger viewers, as well as overseeing steady growth in our radio audience.

I felt that it is important at this time that the new Service Chief be an Afghan. (b) (6) will lead our efforts even as President Obama draws down U.S. combat forces between now and 2014, and as full responsibility for Afghanistan's future transfers more and more into Afghan hands.

Regards,
(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 9:34 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Message from the IBB Director RE Gallup

This is most disturbing and suggests the Board needs to consider the matter this week. I feel the IBB Director should seek advice from the Board on this matter and not act without our advice.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/10/2012 5:42:48 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

We have learned that The Gallup Organization (GALLUP) was suspended from doing business with the Federal Government on December 6, 2012 by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA ("the Suspending Official"). GALLUP was notified by certified mail, but has not yet indicated that it knows about the suspension. Nevertheless, we anticipate that there could be press reports concerning the suspension soon.

We will provide additional information about this matter during Governors' Briefing this Friday morning.

The Suspending Official's action indicates there is evidence that immediate action is necessary to protect the Government's interest. GALLUP's suspension is effective throughout the Executive Branch, including BBG. Under the law, contractors suspended are excluded from receiving contracts and Executive Branch agencies are precluded from soliciting offers from or awarding contracts to, or consenting to subcontracts with these contractors, unless the Agency determines that there is a compelling reason to do so.

A contractor suspension endures for a temporary period, pending the completion of investigations and any ensuing legal proceedings, unless sooner terminated by the Suspending Official. If legal proceedings are not initiated within 12 months after the date of the suspension notice, the suspension shall be terminated unless the Assistant Attorney General requests its extension, in which case it may be extended for an additional 6 months.

What this means for BBG?

BBG may continue its existing contract with GALLUP, but may not issue task orders under the contract unless the Agency finds that there is a compelling reason to do so.

Based on input from the Director of Strategy and Development, the Office of General Counsel and the Agency's Procurement Executive, I believe that there is a compelling reason to continue to issue task orders for research to Gallup on an interim basis. The International Broadcasting Act mandates BBG to conduct audience research, which is used to evaluate and assess the impact of BBG-sponsored broadcasting activities, which is also required by law. To replace GALLUP as a source of research, BBG will have to initiate a new procurement activity, a competitive process which is governed by the Federal Acquisition Regulations (the FAR), and could take 3 – 5 months (but may take up to a year) to conclude.

Because of the statutory mandate for research and the important programmatic role of audience research in BBG's activities, I have determined, as IBB Director, that there is a compelling reason to continue to award task orders for research to GALLUP under its existing contract until an alternate source of research can be responsibly procured. The Agency will begin work forthwith on a new procurement to replace GALLUP.

If GALLUP's suspension is terminated during the pendency of the new procurement activity, BBG would have adequate justification to cancel the new procurement if it were in the Agency's interest to do so.

Dick

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 4:06 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

I am available. If the full BBG board cannot meet due to 5 persons not being present (I assume Lynton cannot even attend by phone?)

However, the RFA Board can meet with 4 members present which is a quorum for RFA and Governance can meet if Ashe, McCue and Mulhaupt are present. I hope these groups will meet even if BBG lacks 5 persons for its quorum. Governance has failed to meet now since May..almost five months. RFE audit has not met for months either. MBN may need to meet as well.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/16/2012 4:00:01 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in November.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board in December 2011, the Board is scheduled to meet on November 15 and 16, and the meeting will be held at RFA headquarters.

Because Presiding Governor Lynton cannot attend the November Board meeting, Alternate Presiding Governor Mulhaupt has suggested that all BBG-related meetings to take place on Thursday, November 15, at RFA headquarters. No meetings will be scheduled on Friday, November 16.

In the event that the Board cannot achieve a quorum for a meeting on November 15, even by phone or videoconference, the Board will need to decide whether to meet in December as it is currently scheduled as an optional meeting on December 13 and 14. (The next scheduled meeting after December is February 21-22, 2013.)

Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

| Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 5:31 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

Glad you can call in for the afternoon portion if it happens. Seems to me we can make this work. We look bad as a Board if this meeting falls apart.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/16/2012 5:26:33 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
with regrets, i cannot make it on nov 15. i can call in in the afternoon.

On Oct 16, 2012, at 3:52 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in November.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board in December 2011, the Board is scheduled to meet on November 15 and 16, and the meeting will be held at RFA headquarters.

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Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

(b) (6)

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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 09, 2012 2:46 PM
To: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Next Thursday

There is also a MBN audit committee meeting at 5...could be earlier if MBN full board ends earlier. I would point out that chairman Meehan is an ex officio member of MBN audit as chair of MBN.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/9/2012 2:40:58 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Hi everyone:

There has been A LOT of discussion around what and who will attend which meetings next thursday.

With the approval of the RFA Chairman and through this message I am inviting Dick Lobo, (b) (6) and Bruce Sherman to attend a large portion of the RFA Corporate Board meeting.

I have organized the meeting so that the portions which are relevant and non-privileged to Dick, (b) (6) and Bruce will occur near the end which will segue into the awards.

I understand this is where we stand:

There will be NO BBG meeting

11 - 2 pm (including lunch from Meiwah) will be Strategy & Budget Committee mtg

2 - 3 pm Webcast Public session

3 - 4 pm: RFA Corporate Board meeting (partly closed)

approve minutes

Room is cleared including RFA staff except for:

(b) (6)

Personnel issues

Burmese

Lao

Tibetan

Restructuring

[All Senior Staff join + (b) (6) + (b) (6) + Dick + (b) (6) + Bruce]

Internet freedom update (Dick Lobo, (b) (6) Bruce Sherman)

Country strategies (Dick Lobo/Bruce Sherman, (b) (6))

Award Ceremonies (award winning staff to join and others interested)

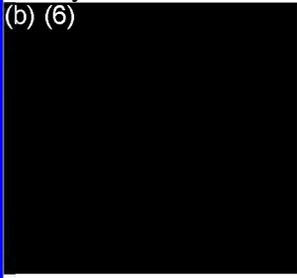
adjournment

4 - 5 pm MBN Board of Directors Meeting

I hope this clarifies and of course, I defer to Chairman Meehan for any additional tweaks.

See you next week!

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 1:53 PM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil
Subject: Gallup contract

I do want to see and read the Gallup Contract. Please advise how I can best do this. I am in Washington on Thursday, March 29.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 4:39 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

I should point out that the Board as a Board has voted to meet November 15. Only a Board vote can cancel what the Board has voted to do. If it appears a quorum is not present and some wish to cancel the November 15-16 meeting, then a called Board meeting or a notational vote is needed to cancel the meeting. This decision cannot be arrived at informally or by the IBB Director with one or two Governors concurring with him. I urge Governors to consider an alternative date if the 15th and 16th do not work. I could attend earlier in the week or come Nov 19 or 20 if that worked. That too requires a Board vote.

Who is going to be our new interim replacement for (b) (6) ?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/16/2012 4:00:01 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in November.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board in December 2011, the Board is scheduled to meet on November 15 and 16, and the meeting will be held at RFA headquarters.

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In the event that the Board cannot achieve a quorum for a meeting on November 15, even by phone or videoconference, the Board will need to decide whether to meet in December as it is currently scheduled as an optional meeting on December 13 and 14. (The next scheduled meeting after December is February 21-22, 2013.)

Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

| Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 11:42 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (U) (O)
Cc: Letitia King
Subject: Re: OCB / FLRA RIF Litigation

Dick

I feel you should bring this matter to the full Board for resolution with your recommendation so the Board can discuss it and vote on it. I would like to know whether you plan to do this.

The Washington Post had an article on it October 3 on page B4.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/3/2012 10:29:32 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors,

Some of you have inquired about recent coverage concerning last week's decision of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) to uphold an arbitrator's decision against the Agency in connection with the Agency's 2009 reduction-in-force at OCB.

Our staff has not yet finished reviewing and digesting the case, nor have we formulated any formal response. It should be noted that the fact that the FLRA affirmed the arbitrator's decision does not necessarily mean that either the arbitrator or the FLRA decided the case correctly on the merits. There are more than a few cases where agencies have successfully challenged FLRA decisions.

The BBG has sixty days in which to respond and it is extremely important for the Agency to analyze the case carefully before deciding how to proceed. There are a number of issues at play in the OCB RIF case that go beyond the issue of possible financial exposure or reinstatement of employees, including substantive issues that may affect other RIFs that may be contemplated in the budgetary decisions that the Board has made. I plan to make a decision on how to proceed based on a sober analysis of the merits of the case. Like you, I of course share the desire to do what is in the best interest of the Agency and its employees. I will certainly take your concerns into account and will consult closely with the OCB Director as well as our Labor and Employee Relations team.. At the appropriate time, I will brief the Board on how best to proceed.

In the meantime, it would be advisable for individual Governors to refrain from discussing the case with BBG Union members or officials. If you are contacted by the media, please consult with our communications team before commenting. Such outreach can be affirmatively harmful to the Agency's interests because it can unnecessarily embolden the stance taken by other stakeholders in this important litigation and may complicate or undermine the Agency's litigation and settlement posture. I appreciate your understanding of and compliance with this point.

Dick Lobo

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 3:36 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6);
(b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (u) (o); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King
Subject: Re: OCB / FLRA RIF Litigation

I cannot tell if you plan to bring the final decision to the BBG Board for a vote or whether you plan to act on your own? Which is it?

I believe this is serious enough to come to the full Board for a vote on whether to proceed with an appeal or halt the process. I am eager to have your recommendation as well as the deputy general counsel and (b) (6).

We should be sensitive to those persons who were terminated and it is now three years later. We should be sensitive to how this impacts the agency too. We should consult with DOJ on this. We should consult with plaintiffs to determine their interest in a settlement and what it would be. We should be advised what the current financial exposure is today, October 3 and what it could be two years from now if the appeals proceed and fail. In other words the plaintiffs win.

While this is not our personal money it is the public's money and we must be sensitive to this.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Bruce Sherman <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil (b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King (b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Oct 3, 2012 10:29 am
Subject: OCB / FLRA RIF Litigation

Governors,

Some of you have inquired about recent coverage concerning last week's decision of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) to uphold an arbitrator's decision against the Agency in connection with the Agency's 2009 reduction-in-force at OCB.

Our staff has not yet finished reviewing and digesting the case, nor have we formulated any formal response. It should be noted that the fact that the FLRA affirmed the arbitrator's decision does not necessarily mean that either the arbitrator or the FLRA decided the case correctly on the merits. There are more than a few cases where agencies have successfully challenged FLRA decisions.

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Dick Lobo

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 5:03 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

There will also be an MBN audit committee meeting that day. All Governors are welcome to attend but only Susan McCue and I are members. We will work out a time when Gov. McCue can participate. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/18/2012 10:45:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

We need to have a board meeting of RFA and MBN on Nov. 15th. Will the staff make the proper notifications to the public and other sources.

thank you.

Michael Meehan

[Michael Meehan](#)

(b) (6)

From: "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com>

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 5:31 PM

Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

Glad you can call in for the afternoon portion if it happens. Seems to me we can make this work. We look bad as a Board if this meeting falls apart.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/16/2012 5:26:33 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

with regrets, i cannot make it on nov 15. i can call in in the afternoon.

On Oct 16, 2012, at 3:52 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

Dear Governors,

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Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

(b) (6)



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From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 10:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

not at all Victor

In a message dated 10/19/2012 6:47:23 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:
i can dial in at 3 pm - is that too late?

On Oct 19, 2012, at 5:03 PM, vhashe@aol.com wrote:

There will also be an MBN audit committee meeting that day. All Governors are welcome to attend but only Susan McCue and I are members. We will work out a time when Gov. McCue can participate. Victor Ashe

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thank you.

Michael Meehan

[Michael Meehan](#)

(b) (6)

From: "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com>

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 5:31 PM

Subject: Re: November Board Meeting

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Victor Ashe

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Please confirm your availability for a Board meeting on November 15 at RFA headquarters. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

(b) (6)



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(b) (6)



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From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 4:42 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Cc: Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: panel

we as Board members will get questions both before and afterwards. I want to know the ground rules in advance. With 15 to 20 persons present at the panels I am sure word will leak out as it always does anyway but if asked I want to know the ground rules. i think participants might ought to be asked.

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 4:35 pm
Subject: RE: panel

Victor, you will see my subsequent note about (b) (6) – I reached him but, unfortunately, he is not available. We have told the panelists that the sessions are closed, so that they – including the journalists in harm's way in Russia – can speak frankly. To be fair to them we would have to ask them first about whether the mind their names being released.

Rgds
Jeff

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 4:31 PM
To: (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: panel

What happened to Ambassador (b) (6)? He was on the first list?

is this list public or private even though panel is closed?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Bruce Sherman (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 2:02 pm
Subject: RE: panel

Governor Ashe,

I've attached the bios for both sets of confirmed panelists. Jeff is still working on the final set of guidance to the panelists, so I'll send that along when it's complete, but for now I also attached the initial invite letter template that we used.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

(b) (6)

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 1:52 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: panel

(b) (6) Is send Gov Ashe the list and guidance to the panelists.

Jeff, as you know, is a Russian expert (and speaker) and has been very involved in selecting panelists and framing issues and questions to address. He will moderate the panel discussion. So copying him.

Hope you had a good trip to Burma. I'll look forward to hearing your impressions.

Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 6, 2012, at 1:15 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Bruce

who will be on the Russia panels next Dec 13? What is the latest?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 3:30 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Bruce Sherman; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: October 11 Board Meeting Issues

No offense to anyone personally but when do we plan to put in a full day?

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

From: Lynton, Michael (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Cc: <vhashe@aol.com> <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

[Redacted]

Sent: Wed, Oct 3, 2012 10:11 am
Subject: Re: October 11 Board Meeting Issues

and i have to get up to nyc
On Oct 3, 2012, at 3:58 AM, Michael Meehan wrote:

I have a family matter in NYC on Thursday night that is a priority for me. I had told staff that we would hold a strategy and budget briefing during some part of the weeks end.

So to be fair to them, I know the fluidity of my schedule has been a complication for them as well

Michael Meehan.

On Oct 3, 2012, at 12:53 AM, <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Obviously we will agree to disagree. The Board is not putting in a full day on October 11 and I would like to know why 3:15 PM is the quitting time? I am prepared to work to night. Also prepared to work on October 12. I do not think two hours for the public session is adequate for the multitude of issues facing BBG on October 11 unless we simply try to fast track everything by avoiding discussion, deliberation and serious questioning. I know my fellow Governors would not want that to happen. The public is entitled to see and hear our deliberations.

The BBG governance committee is not meeting despite chairman Mulhaupt saying there would be one. He certainly did not ask me as a committee member about skipping a meeting. The same applies to RFE audit committee where serious issues are on the table. All three audit committee members will be in DC on October 11 and we are told there is not time for a meeting. That is inaccurate. It may be inconvenient for some due to issues which may be discussed but there is time. The three audit committee members of RFE are Mulhaupt, Ashe and McCue. The 4 governance committee members are Mulhaupt, Ashe, Lynton and McCue. All will be in DC on October 11 but there is no meeting. Why? An answer is merited. Governance has several issues to consider. Apparently, Governance is skipping the calendar for 2013 which normally it reviews. Why? Why is protection for union activities not being considered as was discussed at Sept 13 meeting as being referred to governance committee?

The more important issue here is that you and Gov Lynton should consult with the other 6 Governors on the agenda. That is not too many to contact. For two years plus I have shown keen interest in these matters. You know of my interest. I am the only Governor to have visited all language services of VOA. while in Tbilisi on October 2, I took time out to visit the current RFE offices and see the new space

as well. I have even been to the mail room of the Cohen Bldg. In other words, I take time to do my job. Common courtesy would suggest that when I ask for items to go on the agenda that you or someone contact me and let me know whether it is the open or private meeting. If my request failed to be specific, then call and ask me what was meant. I would extend the same courtesy to you.

As we say in Knoxville at this time of the year, GO VOLS.

Victor Ashe

-----Ursprüngliche Mitteilung-----

Von: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

An: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

Sherman (b) (6)

Lynne Weil (b) (6)

Bruce

Verschickt: Di, 2 Okt 2012 11:12 pm

Betreff: October 11 Board Meeting Issues

Victor,

I would like to clear the air about a few things concerning the upcoming October 11 Board meeting agenda.

To begin with, all of the issues that you requested are on the meeting agenda. Your September 20 email to (b) (6) is set forth below. You did not request these issues be placed on the open meeting agenda. Moreover, the provision of the bylaws relating to the requests of individual Governors does not require that the agenda topics requested by individual Governors have to necessarily be discussed in the open meeting. For your convenience, I have reproduced the relevant provision of the by-laws below. There has been no failure of compliance with the BBG bylaws as you suggest.

In addition, it is important for you and all of the Governors to understand and accept that the staff does not set the agenda of Board deliberations or determine when meetings of the Board of Governors, its committees, or of any grantee Board will occur. This is within the Board's exclusive authority. In this case, we have followed the procedures laid out in the by-laws and worked with the Presiding Governor on the development of the agenda. Given the number of topics that have to be covered by the Board in the open meeting – including picking up where we left off last time, as you requested– and the fact that you are the only Governor who has expressed interest in these particular topics, I made the recommendation to the Presiding Governor to place the discussion in the Governors briefing, as reflected in the draft agenda that we circulated to the Board.

If you or any Governor have a disagreement with the proposed agenda, it is appropriate for you to address your suggestions to the other members of the Board and to obtain their agreement on the items that should be discussed during the open meeting. (b) (6) email clearly stated that she was transmitting a draft agenda and soliciting the comments of the Governors. Perhaps the Board can have a further discussion about whether any of the agenda topics that you have suggested should be moved to the open session, as well as how to deal with these questions going forward.

Finally, you have suggested on several occasions that the Board, certain Governors and/or the staff have conspired to reduce the number of meetings and meeting times in order to avoid the attendance and scrutiny of the Office of Inspector General (OIG).

Nothing could be further than the truth. The Board and the staff welcome the current OIG inspection. Board leaders and I personally invited the team to attend all Board-related meetings while they were here. I am very pleased to have had OIG staff at all the Board's meetings thus far and to have given them full visibility into all communications related to the Board and its members and proceedings.

In your October 1 email regarding these matters, you cite a saying by the late Tennessee Governor McWherter. Allow me to cite a couple of quotes regarding teamwork as it should apply to any organization, including the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

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"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." – Henry Ford

"No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent." – John Donne

Thank you,
Dick Lobo

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 1:51 PM

To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: October 11 BBG agenda

Dear (b) (6)

Pursuant to the BBG bylaws I want to add several topics to the October 11 agenda and should there not be an October 11 meeting then whenever the next BBG Board meeting does occur.

The topics I wish to add are as follows:

- 1-consideration of the non disclosure policy and how potential violations are handled..what process exists and what rights the accused have?
- 2-setting meeting dates for January, February, March, and April 2013 as well as meeting at RFA which has not happened in 2012..also setting date for Meeting at OCB in Miami
- 3-discussion of morale and contract employees
- 4-statement on union membership by employees that membership and activities in an union for all employees shall not be basis for discrimination by management in the workplace.

I believe I am meeting the notice requirement set out in BBG bylaws.

On another subject, I do not when governance committee is set to meet on October 11 or what its agenda may be. I do not know if RFE audit committee will meet October 11 or not and what its agenda may be.

Victor Ashe

BBG BY-LAWS 2.11 AGENDAS

Where practicable, agendas for regular meetings shall be developed beginning thirty (30) days prior to each meeting and distributed electronically to each Governor at least fourteen (14) days prior to each meeting. The Director of the International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB Director) shall propose agenda items for plenary Board meetings to the Chair based on discussions with individual Governors. Individual Governors may designate specific agenda topics and/or resolutions.

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, October 01, 2012 10:48 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Richard M. Lobo;

(b) (6)

Jeffrey Trimble;

(b) (6)

(b) (6) Lynne Weil; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft October BBG Meetings Agenda

To my fellow Governors and staff,

Thanks for sending this schedule. I am very disappointed that my requests listed as item VII in the Governor's briefing are not listed for the public meeting as I had requested them be discussed at the full BBG Board meeting and my request was filed with the deputy general counsel in a timely manner as provided by the bylaws. No one has the right to move a Governor's request from the Board meeting to the private session. This is directly contrary to my request and I ask that this be adjusted to be included at the BBG meeting. Surely we will abide by our bylaws.

Second, it is virtually unheard of in a setting such as ours to place approval of the minutes from the prior meeting at the end of the agenda. Such action always comes at the first of the meeting and that has been our BBG practice since we all joined the Board on June 30, 2010. Item F on the agenda should be Item A and each renumbered accordingly.

To be honest, this does not appear to be the result of checking with all the Governors. Certainly I was not consulted and I had asked for several items on the discussion list including (b) (6) from the prior meeting which is now missing. While it is good for Gov Lynton to review the proposed agenda, why not consult with all of us first before it is made up and sent out? This would produce a more collegial approach.

Third, given that the day ends at 315 PM in the afternoon, it is now abundantly and sadly clear that the governance committee could have met but for reasons Chairman Mulhaupt has not shared with me, he has decided not to hold the meeting which he said at the Sept 13 full BBG meeting he would hold to deal with issues referred Sept 13 to governance such as unions. Why? The same holds for his decision for the RFE audit committee not to meet that same day due to lack of time. Well, this schedule shows there is time. What is missing is the will to meet and honor the pledge made in mid September in a public setting. There is time from 0730 to 0830 and with planned adjournment at 315 there would be time to meet from 315 to 6 PM if people are willing to work.

In Tennessee, our late Gov Ned McWhertter when he was Speaker of the Tenn House and I was a minority party member under his leadership, he often told the 99 members when some wanted to adjourn early without finishing the days's business the following: "You should not hire out, if you are not willing to work." Enough said.

BBG faces serious issues which are not receiving attention. RFE faces serious programming issues and management style questions not to mention issues involving fiduciary responsibility and the best answer is to dodge discussion of them. Transparency is jettisoned here.

This is not good. It reflects poorly on all. I urge reconsideration and a response. I am back in USA on Wednesday evening and happy to talk to any Governor or anyone else about this.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Oct 1, 2012 9:45 am

Subject: Draft October BBG Meetings Agenda

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a draft agenda for all BBG-related meetings to be held next Thursday, October 11, in the BBG-IBB Conference Room of the Cohen Building from 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. EDT. This draft agenda has been reviewed and approved by Presiding Governor Lynton.

Please note that a BBG open meeting via webcast is planned in the afternoon from 1:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. EDT.

We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the BBG open meeting.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 12:53 AM
To: Richard M. Lobo
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: October 11 Board Meeting Issues

Obviously we will agree to disagree. The Board is not putting in a full day on October 11 and I would like to know why 315 PM is the quitting time? I am prepared to work to night. Also prepared to work on October 12. I do not think two hours for the public session is adequate for the multitude of issues facing BBG on October 11 unless we simply try to fast track everything by avoiding discussion, deliberation and serious questioning. I know my fellow Governors would not want that to happen. The public is entitled to see and hear our deliberations.

The BBG governance committee is not meeting despite chairman Mulhaupt saying there would be one. He certainly did not ask me as a committee member about skipping a meeting. The same applies to RFE audit committee where serious issues are on the table. All three audit committee members will be in DC on October 11 and we are told there is not time for a meeting. That is inaccurate. It may be inconvenient for some due to issues which may be discussed but there is time. The three audit committee members of RFE are Mulhaupt, Ashe and McCue. The 4 governance committee members are Mulhaupt, Ashe, Lynton and McCue. All will be in DC on october 11 but there is no meeting. Why? An answer is merited. Governance has several issues to consider. Apparently, Governance is skipping the calendar for 2013 which normally it reviews. Why? Why is protection for union activities not being considered as was discussed at Sept 13 meeting as being referered to governance committee?

The more important issue here is that you and Gov Lynton should consult with the other 6 Governors on the agenda. That is not too many to contact. For two years plus I have shown keen interest in these matters. You know of my interest. I am the only Governor to have visited all language services of VOA. while in Tbilisi on October 2, I took time out to visit the current RFE offices and see the new space as well. I have even been to the mail room of the Cohen Bldg. In other words, I take time to do my job. Common courtesy would suggest that when I ask for items to go on the agenda that you or someone contact me and let me know whether it is the open or private meeting. If my request failed to be specific, then call and ask me what was meant. I would extend the same courtesy to you.

As we say in Knoxville at this time of the year, GO VOLS.

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-----Ursprüngliche Mitteilung-----

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An: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

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Verschickt: Di, 2 Okt 2012 11:12 pm

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To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

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Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Oct 1, 2012 9:45 am

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We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the BBG open meeting.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 6:47 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: OIG Notification - Audit of BBG Compliance with Improper Payments Informa...

Someone needs to translate this into English and tell us what is really going on here. What has occurred to trigger this?

Victor

In a message dated 12/18/2012 6:25:36 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

The Board and IBB Director Lobo just received the attached OIG notification regarding a new audit entitled, "Audit of Broadcasting Board of Governors Compliance with the Improper Payments Information Act."

We will provide additional information about the audit as we receive it.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 4:33 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Cc: Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: panel

this answers the question I had sent on (b) (6) ...thanks for letting me know. Is the list for the panel considered closed or can be told to people asking. I realize panel is closed.

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 3:02 pm
Subject: RE: panel

Victor, thanks for your continued interest in these panels. Wanted you to know that I had a good conversation with (b) (6), who you had suggested as a possible panelist and who was at the top of my list as well.

(b) (6) wanted to participate but could not, due to an out-of-town obligation in connection with consulting work that he is doing now in the private sector.

We have a good range of participants, including leading journalists who are working now in Russia or worked there in the past, and who can bring current, thoughtful knowledge about the worsening media situation and about the opportunities that might be available for VOA and RFE/RL.

We expect representatives from State and the Hill to be on hand as well – we don't yet have a final list of those who will attend.

Regards

Jeff

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 2:03 PM
To: Bruce Sherman; vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: RE: panel

Governor Ashe,

I've attached the bios for both sets of confirmed panelists. Jeff is still working on the final set of guidance to the panelists, so I'll send that along when it's complete, but for now I also attached the initial invite letter template that we used.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

(b) (6)

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 1:52 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: panel

(b) (6) pls send Gov Ashe the list and guidance to the panelists.

Jeff, as you know, is a Russian expert (and speaker) and has been very involved in selecting panelists and framing issues and questions to address. He will moderate the panel discussion. So copying him.

Hope you had a good trip to Burma. I'll look forward to hearing your impressions.

Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 6, 2012, at 1:15 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Bruce

who will be on the Russia panels next Dec 13? What is the latest?

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, November 18, 2012 1:47 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: PAR Report

thanks for this. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/18/2012 12:21:14 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors, on Friday we posted the Agency's annual Performance and Accountability Report on the BBG website:

<http://www.bbg.gov/about-the-agency/research-reports/performance-accountability/>

We are printing hard copies and will have them available on Monday, should you wish to have one.

We previewed the annual audience numbers -- one performance measure in the PAR -- in a press event and release, and at this past week's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting. The full report is an integrated presentation of the Agency's program performance, financial accountability, and managerial effectiveness and is intended to assist Congress, the President, and the public in assessing the BBG's performance during FY 2012.

Much hard work by many employees goes into this report. Special thanks goes to Senior Management Analyst (b) (6) as the lead author.

Please contact us with any questions or comments.

Regards
Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2012 10:49 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble;
Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Proposed Agenda for Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting on January 10

this looks to be very complete as is always the case with Gov Meehan. I suggest we add fiscal cliff to the agenda in case on Jan 10 it is a live issue....also a report from Jeff Trimble on his first thoughts on his survey of issues with Moscow RFERL as directed by Board. Should someone at RFERL get this too?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 12/21/2012 9:52:39 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Strategy & Budget Committee members,

Attached please find a proposed agenda for the Strategy and Budget Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, January 10, 2013, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. EST. This draft agenda has been approved by Governor Meehan.

Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions on the agenda.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 9:32 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobb (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

It should be determined as Michael mentions when Miami and Prague would occur., I recommend March for Miami and June for Prague.

Victor Ashe
-----Original Message-----
From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Sep 28, 2012 3:21 am
Subject: Re: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

any sense of when we do the miami and prague meetings in this proposed 2013 schedule.

[Michael Meehan](#)
(b) (6)

From: "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com>
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 9:41 AM
Subject: Re: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

all dates work for me although surely there will be new Governors at some point. I must ask the inconvenient question asto whether my colleagues plan on two day meetings in 2013 as there have not been any in 2012 and this October 11 all grantee board meetings have disappeared as have BBG committee meetings. I wonder if the OIG doing its review is the reason this has happened so they would not see any more deliberations. Or some do not want to face the important issues the committees have. Also which Governors were consulted on the October 11 reduced schedule...certainly not me. Victor Ashe

-----Ursprüngliche Mitteilung-----
Von: (b) (6)
An: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobb (b) (6)
Verschickt: Mi, 26 Sept 2012 11:13 pm
Betreff: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

Dear Governors,

Below are proposed dates for BBG meetings in calendar year 2013. These dates have been cleared by Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt.

We plan to propose these dates for your consideration at the October Board meeting. Among issues the Board will need to determine is how many times you wish to meet as a full Board during the year.

Thank you.

Year 2013:

January – No Meeting

February 21-22 (Thursday, Friday)

March 20- 21 (Wednesday, Thursday)

April 10-11 (Wednesday, Thursday)

May 16-17 (Thursday, Friday)

June 19-20 (Wednesday, Thursday)

July 10-11 (Wednesday, Thursday)

August – No Meeting

September 19-20 (Thursday, Friday)

October 16-17 (Wednesday, Thursday)

November 6-7 (Wednesday, Thursday)

December 11-12 (Wednesday, Thursday)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 4:31 PM
To: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: panel

What happened to Ambassador (b) (6)? He was on the first list?

is this list public or private even though panel is closed?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: Bruce Sherman (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Dec 6, 2012 2:02 pm
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Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 22, 2012 8:30 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Panels on Dec 13

Bruce

let me know your thoughts on my two suggestions and whether they can happen.

Victor

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

From: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>

To: (b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Nov 19, 2012 9:51 am

Subject: Panels on Dec 13

Bruce

IN addition to those you have on the list I think the panel should hear from (b) (6) from the Hudson Institute who also works at John Hopkins (SAIS).

Should see if it is possible to hear from (b) (6) who was an employee at RFERL in Moscow.

This would provide balance on the Moscow situation.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 3:42 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

all dates work for me although surely there will be new Governors at some point. I must ask the inconvenient question as to whether my colleagues plan on two day meetings in 2013 as there have not been any in 2012 and this October 11 all grantee board meetings have disappeared as have BBG committee meetings. I wonder if the OIG doing its review is the reason this has happened so they would not see any more deliberations. Or some do not want to face the important issues the committees have. Also which Governors were consulted on the October 11 reduced schedule...certainly not me. Victor Ashe

-----Ursprüngliche Mitteilung-----

Von: (b) (6)
An: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Verschickt: Mi, 26 Sept 2012 11:13 pm
Betreff: Proposed Dates for BBG Meetings in 2013

Dear Governors,

Below are proposed dates for BBG meetings in calendar year 2013. These dates have been cleared by Governors Lynton and Mulhaupt.

We plan to propose these dates for your consideration at the October Board meeting. Among issues the Board will need to determine is how many times you wish to meet as a full Board during the year.

Thank you.

Year 2013:

January – No Meeting

February 21-22 (Thursday, Friday)

March 20- 21 (Wednesday, Thursday)

April 10-11 (Wednesday, Thursday)

May 16-17 (Thursday, Friday)

June 19-20 (Wednesday, Thursday)

July 10-11 (Wednesday, Thursday)

August – No Meeting

September 19-20 (Thursday, Friday)

October 16-17 (Wednesday, Thursday)

November 6-7 (Wednesday, Thursday)

December 11-12 (Wednesday, Thursday)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 12:12 PM
To: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: RFA: Record number of pick-ups

Just outstanding what RFA is doing here. A real tribute to a fine organization.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) Jeff Trimble
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, May 29, 2012 12:02 pm
Subject: RFA: Record number of pick-ups

Dear RFA Board, Dick, Bruce and Jeff

As surprising as it seems, RFA has beat our own pick-up record with the latest tragic Tibetan self-immolations reported this weekend.

This latest news has caused immediate and mass reaction from the government both in terms of physical military intimidation and internet/press censorship.

On Monday, Radio Free Asia's Tibetan service broke the news that two Tibetans in Lhasa had self-immolated in protest of China's rule of the Tibetan regions. The report was translated into English and sent out as a news release. The incident, being the first reported case of self-immolations occurring in the Tibetan capital city, quickly spread around the world when the Associated Press and numerous other global newswires picked up RFA's exclusive report. Global news networks such as BBC, CNN, and Al Jazeera, as well as sources like the New York Times, The Guardian, Daily Telegraph, among many others, reported on the incident citing RFA's original coverage.

RFA has broken the news on roughly half of the 37 Tibetan self-immolations and followed with in-depth stories surrounding the final desperate acts.

Here's the summary from this morning:

ASSOCIATED PRESS (Also in CNN, BBC, REUTERS, NEW YORK TIMES, AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, AL JAZEERA, DEUTSCHE WELLE, UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, BANGKOK POST, TELEGRAPH, HINDUSTAN TIMES, GLOBAL POST)
May 28 ""

Two men engulfed themselves in a burst of flames outside a Buddhist temple popular with tourists and pilgrims in Lhasa, marking the first time a recent wave of self-immolations to protest Chinese rule has reached the tightly guarded Tibetan capital.

... **Radio Free Asia** reported Monday that Lhasa was under heavy police and paramilitary guard following the immolations and that the situation was very tense.

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 9:59 AM
To: (b) (6)
Dana Perino; Tara Sonenshine
Cc: (b) (6)
Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Bruce Sherman; Letitia King; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Russia

Dear Dennis

I have had thought further about this since my last e mail and prefer a Board meeting over a briefing but feel either is better than nothing. However, the occasion should be more than RFE management giving us their view. We should have private time for Governors to discuss this maong ourselves (obviously OIG would be there if they wish). We also need to have contact with one or more the dissidents signing the letter which has become so public. There needs to be outreach here.

We are faced with a serious morale and public perception issue at the very least. However, there could be more and duty is to ascertain in an objective way all sides so a factual determination can be made. A briefing by staff is only a start not an ending to this crisis for RFE in Moscow. If this turns out to be staff only and that ends it, then we have failed.

Your email suggests that it is all "misinformation and misconceptions." I am not sure we have enough knowlege to reach that conclusion any more than we have enough information to state that RFE management erred in full or in part. I urge you to be more neutral and even handed as chair until we hear all the facts.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Dennis Mulhaupt <(b) (6)>
To: Michael Lynton <(b) (6)>; Susan McCue <(b) (6)>; Michael Meehan <(b) (6)>; Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Dana Perino <(b) (6)>; Tara Sonenshine <(b) (6)>

Cc: (b) (6); Richard Lobo <(b) (6)>; Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>; Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>

Sent: Thu, Sep 27, 2012 6:26 pm
Subject: Russia

Colleagues:

I believe it would be worthwhile to have a briefing on where things stand with respect to the reorganization of RFERL's Russian Service that is being forced on us by the changes in Russian law. This will be a followup to the report given by Steve and his colleagues at the RFE board meeting a few weeks ago. There is a significant amount of misinformation and misconceptions about what we are actually doing and our plans going forward.

Within the next several days, we will organize a call-in briefing for those who are interested in participating. RFE management will update us on the current state of affairs and answer any questions you may have. As soon as this can be organized, we will be back to you.

Best,
Dennis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 11:39 AM
To: 'Vhashe@aol.com'; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: RE: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

Agreed. And we've also said we'd have media experts/practitioners from Russia who know the on-the-ground reality there and can speak to our services' competitive position and prospects. I think we're looking at about six people on the panel.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 11:37 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

critical who is on the panels. I suggest former Ambassador (b) (6) who lives in Arlington and is retired from state. We need to hear from some who have opposing views on Moscow RFERL personnel firings.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/6/2012 10:30:27 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Meehan,

Bruce will be returning from the DG-5 meeting in Germany on Dec 12 and in the office on Dec 13.

Given that each panel would take at least three hours, we could schedule on Dec 13 from 9 am to 12 pm a panel on Russia and from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm a panel on Iran.

Please let us know what you think.

Thanks.

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 3:14 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

Let's do it during the Dec board mtg. 12-13.

From: Vhashe@aol.com

Date: Mon, 5 Nov 2012 15:01:53 -0500 (EST)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

I can do it Dec 12 to 18. victor

In a message dated 11/5/2012 2:55:21 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Strategy and Budget Committee members,

Following up on last week's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting, staff would like to get information on your availability for discussions with internal and external experts on USIB strategy in Russia and Iran.

Please let us know soon if you are available for three hours on December 17 and 18 to attend and participate in these panels.

Many thanks!

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 7:24 PM
To: (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

is this confirmed? I need to know to make travel reservations to save on costs? Is (b) (6) on this e mail chain?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>;
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
(b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Mar 19, 2012 10:56 am
Subject: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Dear Governors,

Staff is proposing a meeting of the Strategy & Budget Committee to be held on April 10, from 2 pm to 4 pm.

Please confirm your availability.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 7:38 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Bruce...thanks but is meeting confirmed so I can buy ticket?

Victor

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Mar 20, 2012 7:36 pm
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Yes. (b) (6) knows but copied here as well.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 20, 2012, at 7:24 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

is this confirmed? I need to know to make travel reservations to save on costs? Is (b) (6) on this e mail chain?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) vhashe
<vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Bruce
Sherman <(b) (6)>
Sent: Mon, Mar 19, 2012 10:56 am
Subject: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

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Please confirm your availability.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:17 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

thanks...sorry to bug you on this but I always try to get cheap tickets to keep expenses down. Victor

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Mar 20, 2012 8:36 pm
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Yes. But let me copy (b) (6) and ask her to doubly confirm.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 20, 2012, at 7:38 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Bruce...thanks but is meeting confirmed so I can buy ticket?

Victor

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Please confirm your availability.

Thank you.

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 11:45 AM
To: 'Vhashe@aol.com'; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

We'll keep you posted.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 11:43 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

that is all I ask. However, let us know who is on it...include DC think tanks like Brookings and Heritage.

Victor

In a message dated 11/6/2012 11:41:49 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

We'll make it work so that it's a professionally done panel. Looping in (b) (6) on my staff who will be helping put it together.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 11:40 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

The panel has to have credibility and not be full of excuses for (b) (6). Clearly this story continues.

Victor

In a message dated 11/6/2012 11:38:46 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Agreed. And we've also said we'd have media experts/practitioners from Russia who know the on-the-ground reality there and can speak to our services' competitive position and prospects. I think we're looking at about six people on the panel.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 11:37 AM
To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

critical who is on the panels. I suggest former Ambassador (b) (6) who lives in Arlington and is retired from state. We need to hear from some who have opposing views on Moscow RFERL personnel firings.

Victor Ashe

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Thanks.

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Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

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From: Vhashe@aol.com

Date: Mon, 5 Nov 2012 15:01:53 -0500 (EST)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

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Please let us know soon if you are available for three hours on December 17 and 18 to attend and participate in these panels.

Many thanks!

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 7:17 PM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Addendum to the November 5, 2012 BBG Media Highlights

this is another stunning indictment. We need to meet to discuss these issues. We cannot go to February before we meet again. What about November 19 after OIG report?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/5/2012 5:02:49 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Below is an addendum to the November 5, 2012 BBG Media Highlights:

The Bureaucratic Attack on International Broadcasting - [Heritage Foundation](#), November 2, 2012

By Caitlin Duvall

November 2, 2012

The recent layoff of Voice of America (VOA) employees in Russia comes at a time when U.S. international broadcasting is also losing ground to bureaucratic overkill.

Despite a continually expanding budget, many mission-critical broadcasting services are being cut, personnel are being let go, and broadcasters are being required to do more with less. Low job satisfaction within the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) has become a growing trend in recent years. Many employees attribute their dissatisfaction to accepted behaviors of underperformance from managers. Mere awareness of these and other problems has failed to bring about much-needed changes.

But perhaps the biggest problem facing U.S. international broadcasting is its very own leadership. The BBG's nine-person board, which oversees all government civilian broadcasting, was created to serve as a firewall between policymakers and broadcasters. However, as one VOA employee puts it, broadcasters "need more protection from the firewall than they need the firewall itself."

Many of the BBG members exercise little meaningful guidance to the group (if they even attend the meetings at all). The board has also been criticized for cracking down on the disclosure of “deliberative information” circulating internally. With its core mission being the promotion of America’s policy positions abroad, it seems counterproductive to stifle internal communications, especially when collaboration and exchange are essential for success.

The inefficiencies highlighted above are in need of real solutions. In order for the U.S. to effectively promote its policies abroad, Congress should consider rewriting the legislation that created the BBG in a way that ensures professional management and a transparent structure. It should also include an independent strategic overview of all broadcasting entities of the U.S. government.

A much-needed review of the BBG is underway at the State Department Office of the Inspector General, which will most likely find these solutions necessary to correcting the internal problems of U.S. international broadcasting.

In a time when the promotion of U.S. policies is sorely needed to combat a growing anti-American sentiment around the world, the U.S. should undertake reforms to improve the management practices and structures of the BBG. If not, the organization is in danger of remaining, in the words of Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK), the “most worthless organization in the federal government.”

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 11:41 AM
To: 'Vhashe@aol.com'; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

We'll make it work so that it's a professionally done panel. Looping in (b) (6) on my staff who will be helping put it together.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]
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Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

The panel has to have credibility and not be full of excuses for (b) (6) Clearly this story continues.

Victor

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Agreed. And we've also said we'd have media experts/practitioners from Russia who know the on-the-ground reality there and can speak to our services' competitive position and prospects. I think we're looking at about six people on the panel.

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Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

critical who is on the panels. I suggest former Ambassador (b) (6) who lives in Arlington and is retired from state. We need to hear from some who have opposing views on Moscow RFERL personnel firings.

Victor Ashe

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Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

Let's do it during the Dec board mtg. 12-13.

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To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling Expert Panels on Russia and Iran

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Please let us know soon if you are available for three hours on December 17 and 18 to attend and participate in these panels.

Many thanks!

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 8:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Yes I can attend Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>;
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
(b) (6)
Sent: Mon, Mar 19, 2012 10:56 am
Subject: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Dear Governors,

Staff is proposing a meeting of the Strategy & Budget Committee to be held on April 10, from 2 pm to 4 pm.

Please confirm your availability.

Thank you.

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 11:29 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Subject: Re: Sherman to Knoxville

Gov Ashe,
Thx very much. Let me look closely at my calendar tomorrow at the office and suggest a day or two they could work. Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 11, 2012, at 10:29 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Bruce

You mentioned that you would be glad to visit Knoxville to brief me on various issues impacting the Strategy and Budget Committee. I would be glad to see you here or in Washington.

I am here next week on April 17...then in Miami...
April 23 and 24 and April 30..May 3 and 4 and May 7 thru 11 and May 21 and 22.

Let me know if any of those dates work.

flights are such you could leave DC at 0820 arriving at 1000 and return at 6 PM...same day all on US Air

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, December 01, 2012 1:55 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS

great..surely this can be resolved to all satisfaction...no need for anxiety on this one I trust.

Victor

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6) >
To: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Nov 30, 2012 8:30 pm
Subject: RE: SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS

(b) (6) let's work together to look into this and adjust as needed. I believe the time change was based on this email from (b) (6) in another email trail:

From: (b) (6)
Date: Wed, 21 Nov 2012 12:18:26 -0500 (EST)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Communication from SkyNet

Below is the info that came from VOA. I don't fully understand what they are proposing.

We are on Asiasat-3 right now and New Skies, NSS-12 , so I don't know what they mean when they talk about Asiasat-IOR and Asiasat-340.

The change to 1400-1430 UTC is fine as that is when we currently run our RRSat program on Apstar 7. According to research, Thaicom 5 is the most popular satellite in Burma with about half of satellite owners using it. I don't know if BBG has Thaicom time.

I doubt I have the full set of email exchanges, so I'd ask (b) (6) to work with you and others as needed to sort this out. Am I correct that the next scheduled program is on Monday? If so, that should give time to work this through. I suggest that the technical colleagues start another email correspondence.

Going forward we can work on procedures to make sure that there is no confusion or misunderstanding.

Regards
Jeff

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 7:29 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)
(b) (6)

Subject: Re: SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS

Hi (b) (6) Looping in (b) (6) again and Jeff to troubleshoot. Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 30, 2012, at 7:03 PM, (b) (6) wrote:

> All:
>
> I am confused.
>
> RFA has not agreed to this.
>
> At the end of the last trail we agreed to moving satellites at our SAME time slot.
>
> Has anyone looked into this?
>
> If so, an assessment would have been greatly appreciated. As it stands, this is a unilateral decision.
>
> I look forward to alternate streams for our program as this time slot is NOT feasible nor desirable on our end.
>
> If you are going to bump RFA's only 30 minute slot and you have advised that you have "several" asian satellite streams, it seems you could make this accommodation dictated by Skynet as a "deal-breaker".
>
> In the alternative, the long-awaited MPLS line could help us.
>
> Please advise.
>
> Thank you for your consideration,

> (b) (6)
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: (b) (6)
> Date: Fri, 30 Nov 2012 10:33:52
> To: (b) (6)
> Cc: (b) (6)

> Subject: Fwd: FW: SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS

> Hi (b) (6), received this email below from (b) (6) at IBB a moment ago. She called to talk about today's change in broadcast time for RFA Burmese TV delivered by IBB on satellite.

> (b) (6) says this change was made because there was an agreement between VOA and RFA to make this happen. Other than today's email from the IBBS Network Control Center (NCC), have not seen any communication rming the time change, much less the date of that time change. Thx. (b) (6)

> (b) (6)
>
>
>
>

> -----
>
> *From: (b) (6)
> *Sent: *11/21/2012 13:43
> *To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Bruce
> Sherman; Jeffrey Trimble
> *Cc: (b) (6)
> *Subject: *SkyNet/Burma + "VOA Asia" + IOR/AS

> Hello, friends.

> Just got a call from (b) (6) and (b) (6) in VOA Operations.

> They're telling me that NCC needs to get a note from "Someone in IBB" to
> pull the RFA newscast from the IOR/AS satellite stream that will be used
> by our partner, SkyNet.

> Apparently, my request didn't have the right amount of spin on it.

> I don't exactly know who that person might be, but someone up the food
> chain from me needs to give that order.

> As you can see from my quick report on the discussion with our
> prospective partners at SkyNet, they aren't inclined to air RFA's
> program at the present time, and should it stay on the stream, it's my
> opinion that it would kill the deal.

> Please...someone upstream from me, please say the word.

> Thank you. Hope your holiday is pleasant.

> (b) (6)

> *From:*(b) (6)
> *Sent:* Wednesday, November 21, 2012 9:27 AM
> *To:* (b) (6) Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
> *Cc:* Bruce Sherman (b) (6)

> *Subject:* Communication from SkyNet

> Friends:

> Several things. First, I have heard from (b) (6), my point of contact
> at SkyNet.

> As you can see below, he is formally asking that RFA's content not be
> part of the video stream with which we begin the agreement.

> As he has said all along, there is the option to add RFA content later,
> and that discussion can begin as soon as 4 December, when we gather for
> the signing.

> Second - we're now being notified for the first time of changes that
> SkyNet wants to make to our standard agreement. We will need to work
> through these changes, highlighted in yellow on the attached documents.
> Some of the things they're including have halted previous deals, because
> they are simply not requests we can meet. I'll be working with our
> legal counsel, (b) (6), and with others on this chain, to work through
> these issues.

>
> Please keep me informed of ****any**** contact you have with anyone at
> SkyNet. For my purposes, the only points of contact for this are me for
> the BBG, and (b) (6) for SkyNet.

>
> Finally, if we believe there will be something to sign on 4 December,
> and I do, and if removing RFA from the appropriate satellite stream will
> take "a few days," as was communicated to me yesterday, then perhaps
> that process should start now. I'll not get into the rest of it,
> philosophical or operational, other than to say the prospective
> affiliate has communicated what they wish to rebroadcast, and that's the
> deal that's on the table.

>
> Thanks, all. I'll be in touch as appropriate.

> (b) (6)

> *From:*(b) (6)
> *Sent:* Tuesday, November 20, 2012 11:43 PM

> Dear (b) (6)

>
> Please go ahead with your plan to remove RFA from the video stream.
> We have previously agreed to do so with VOA.
> I believe that RFA President will have a good opportunity to discuss
> with us for the future of RFA with Sky net.
> Regarding the agreement, I will send some addition from our side. I need
> your answer asap regarding our addition.
> Please expect my email.

> Regards

> (b) (6)

>
>
>

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:16 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

they have let me book online and avoid those costs Victor

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Mar 20, 2012 9:39 pm
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Not a problem. I agree completely with cheap tickets. If we could only book on the Internet instead of using the relatively expensive government travel agency and negotiated airline contracts, we'd save a bundle of money.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 20, 2012, at 9:17 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

thanks...sorry to bug you on this but I always try to get cheap tickets to keep expenses down. Victor

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Mar 20, 2012 8:36 pm
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Yes. But let me copy (b) (6) and ask her to doubly confirm.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 20, 2012, at 7:38 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Bruce...thanks but is meeting confirmed so I can buy ticket?

Victor

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Mar 20, 2012 7:36 pm
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Yes. (b) (6) knows but copied here as well.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 20, 2012, at 7:24 PM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

is this confirmed? I need to know to make travel reservations to save on costs? Is (b) (6) on this e mail chain?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>;

(b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Bruce Sherman

(b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Mar 19, 2012 10:56 am

Subject: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Dear Governors,

Staff is proposing a meeting of the Strategy & Budget Committee to be held on April 10, from 2 pm to 4 pm.

Please confirm your availability.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 10:25 AM
To: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

I will buy ticket at \$480 plus taxes if it is still available

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Mar 21, 2012 5:11 pm
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Governor Ashe,

This meeting is confirmed.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 7:24:18 PM
To: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

is this confirmed? I need to know to make travel reservations to save on costs? Is (b) (6) on this e mail chain?

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>;
(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
(b) (6)

Sent: Mon, Mar 19, 2012 10:56 am
Subject: Scheduling Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

Dear Governors,

Staff is proposing a meeting of the Strategy & Budget Committee to be held on April 10, from 2 pm to 4 pm.

Please confirm your availability.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 5:22 PM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble;
Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: State Legal Clearance on Proposed Burma Deal

still no country clearance from State on visiting Burma. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/28/2012 4:54:47 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Happy to report we now have State Legal's clearance on BBG's proposed provision of English learning programs to Burmese media outlets. Head of placement (b) (6) and BBG lawyer (b) (6) secured the approval in a meeting with State this afternoon. Next step is for (b) (6) to convey the affiliate agreement to the prospective Burmese partners for their review and acceptance. He will do that immediately. We will keep you posted on progress. Recall that the Burmese have asked to see the agreement. We're working a live deal.

Getting this first piece of program placement done is just one of the Burma action steps in play as agreed to at the BBG Burma meeting on February 14 (another copy of the issues paper attached) consistent with our evolving Burma strategy (strategy map also attached). All are up to speed, I think, on the upcoming trip by (b) (6) and governors Meehan and Ashe. On Friday I conveyed in writing a reiteration of the purposes of that trip to State East Asia Pacific Bureau and have asked that a decision be taken soonest on country clearance for the governors.

That's it for now. Kudos to (b) (6) and (b) (6) Bruce

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 5:11 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Re: Strategy & Budget Committee Meeting

I assume there will be a full and complete discussion of the budget to be submitted to OMB. I trust (b) (6) will submit to the committee a budget which includes consolidation of the three entities and one which does not include consolidation. so we can consider both approaches. I would like to see areas of proposed savings in our July 31 meeting. I hope the three entities are invited to be represented so they can respond to questions along with VOA and OCB.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/13/2012 3:34:11 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Please be advised that a meeting of the Strategy and Budget Committee has been scheduled for July 31, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

A draft agenda will be sent to you in the coming days.

Thanks.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 01, 2012 6:35 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Strategy and Budget Briefing Book

I got it last night. Thanks Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Nov 1, 2012 5:45 am
Subject: Strategy and Budget Briefing Book

Governors,

We sent a copy of the Strategy and Budget briefing book to your home or hotel last night. In this case, to Governor Meehan's home and to hotel as provided by Governor Ashe (check front desk).

Please confirm receipt.

Thank you.

See you real soon.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 11:53 AM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: (b) (6)

I consider this a serious issue. Having good relations with employees is important. That is why the governance committee has held hearings on this which you have attended. Yes, I have heard complaints. As I stated, I am not taking sides but in the interests of openness these matters need to be aired and discussed. If that makes you uncomfortable I regret it but it goes with the job.

The failure to have a contract with AFGE bothers me. The Board was not told this. This is not the first time either. I had to learn it. BBG needs to improve morale and having a working contract is part of it.

BBG needs to be told what is happening here. (b) (6) I appreciate what you do but I do not always agree with your approach.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Cc: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Apr 12, 2012 11:35 am
Subject: RE: (b) (6)

Governor Ashe:

In regard to your first issue, I want to state for the record that I am not "at odds" with anyone. Unfortunately, difficult decisions sometimes must be made. I did my job and I did it properly. I had a personal meeting with (b) (6) to discuss this case, and, yes, he disagreed with the outcome – that is to be expected given the fact that he is a union representative. The meeting was pleasant, or as pleasant as any meeting with (b) (6) can be.

Given these facts, I cannot understand why you would send a message to my entire supervisory chain implying that the Office of Human Resources does not work well with the Department of State. In fact, this office has an excellent professional and collaborative relationship with State and has had for many years. This case involved immigration laws over which this agency has no jurisdiction, and I have no intention of using my federal position to influence State to ignore immigration laws.

Thank you,
(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com [mailto:Vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:52 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: Fwd: (b) (6)

Here is an employee issue from this week where (b) (6) president of the AFGE union voices really strong views on how (b) (6) and HR handled this issue. I am not taking sides on the issue but I do feel it raises significant questions in light of our March 9 governance committee meeting and the good will created there from just listening. (b) (6) and (b) (6) are clearly at odds here. It is not a good situation. BBG does not seem to work well with State here either.

As mayor of Knoxville, I tried to work with employees. I maintained strong communications with unions and individual employees. Dick Lobo has reached out to contractors. However, he learned in one meeting a contractor who had appeared before us was sent a termination notice shortly thereafter followed shortly thereafter by a new notice saying it was all a mistake. While he has NOT been fired there are those who wonder if this was just an error or intended to have a chilling impact by seeming to terminate but then not doing it. Someone seems to not have gotten the Board message that we want to work to solve these issues. These 'mistakes' cause us lasting damage. Under Dennis Mulhaupt's leadership the governance committee is listening. Lobo is holding more contractor meetings even at 0700. We must not allow other incidents to undercut top level actions.

It also bothers me that BBG does not have a new contract with AFGE. Why is this? What are the hurdles to overcome? If morale is to improve we must do better. I am told more meetings are not even scheduled. I worry that the second level folks in a few cases are not getting the message from Lobo and the Board as evidenced by this e mail and the contractor firing followed by rescinding the termination. There is suspicion that this is designed to create an impasse and send it arbitration.

We have lots to discuss in Miami.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)

To: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: 4/7/2012 10:00:57 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Subj: (b) (6)

Victor:

(b) (6) contacted me and wanted to respond regarding putting the issue on our website. He didn't know that we had already discussed this but yes we will address this on our website. I have discussed it with (b) (6) because I didn't want to do it without her knowledge and permission. She has given her permission so we will do it.

(b) (6) description of our meeting with (b) (6) is accurate. One thing that shocked me (although I should be used to this by now) was her complete lack of concern or empathy for (b) (6) plight. I told her that the problem I had with this whole process was that this individual was told that her Visa had expired and she would have to leave the country by March 14th or face deportation and the possibility of never being able to enter the U.S. again. (b) (6) asked her what would have happened if she had left the country by March 14th - what if the Agency decided that she should not have been fired. (b) (6) said that if she left there would be no reconsideration of her removal because the Agency would not agree to bring her back.

I told her that the process put her in a catch 22 then. She responded that she knew the conditions when she was hired - she knew what she was getting into. She then said that she was not a good employee anyway because they had Program Review go through her reports and she was mediocre at best. I then told her that Program Review directly contradicted what her two former Service Chiefs and her direct supervisor stated - in writing no less. She dismissed what they said claiming that the first Service Chief (the one who hired her) was only there for a short time so her statement didn't count. The other one was acting only for a few months and she just completely discredited her direct supervisor. Keep in mind the Service Chief who wanted her out had only been in the position since this past November and had only just returned after leaving the Agency to work for some firm in Pakistan.

The whole thing stinks.

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2012 5:16 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Updated Schedule & Agendas for June Meetings

are there no meetings in Prague on June 7 in the morning? Free time? Dinner each evening? What is Friday, June 8?

In a message dated 5/25/2012 5:12:06 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Attached is an updated schedule and agendas for the June 6-8 BBG meetings.

Here are key highlights:

Wednesday, June 6

- 2:30 pm Prague/8:30 am DC: RFE/RL Board of Directors' Meeting
- 3:30-6:00 pm Prague/9:30 am-Noon DC: Strategy & Budget Briefing (all Governors; network heads also will participate)

Thursday, June 7

- 1:00 pm Prague/7 am DC: Governors-Only Session
- 2:00 pm Prague/8 am DC: Governors' Briefing (including discussions of the IBIA and Grantee Consolidation)
- 4:00 pm Prague/10 am DC: Broadcasting Board of Governors' Open Meeting
- 6:15 pm Prague/12:15 pm DC: MBN Board of Directors' Meeting
- 6:30 pm Prague/12:30 pm DC: Meeting Adjourned

Have a nice weekend!

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 1:16 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Subject: panel

Bruce

who will be on the Russia panels next Dec 13? What is the latest?

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2012 9:51 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Panels on Dec 13

Bruce

IN addition to those you have on the list I think the panel should hear from (b) (6) from the Hudson Institute who also works at John Hopkins (SAIS).

Should see if it is possible to hear from (b) (6) who was an employee at RFERL in Moscow.

This would provide balance on the Moscow situation.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 11:06 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: VOA Deewa Stringer Killed

You can certainly include me in condemning this dreadful act. I assume our Embassy led by (b) (6) (who was my DCM in Warsaw) will be on this as best they can.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 1/17/2012 10:18:50 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governors, we've just received news that (b) (6) a VOA Radio Deewa stringer, has been shot and killed in Pakistan. It appears to have been a targeted killing.

VOA will take the lead on releasing this information. The Board may wish to make a statement as well, or provide comment for VOA's use in its news coverage and public information release.

We and VOA will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Regards

Jeff

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 10:28 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Sherman to Knoxville

Bruce

You mentioned that you would be glad to visit Knoxville to brief me on various issues impacting the Strategy and Budget Committee. I would be glad to see you here or in Washington.

I am here next week on April 17...then in Miami...
April 23 and 24 and April 30..May 3 and 4 and May 7 thru 11 and May 21 and 22.

Let me know if any of those dates work.

flights are such you could leave DC at 0820 arriving at 1000 and return at 6 PM...same day all on US Air

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, November 11, 2012 8:09 AM
To: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine
Cc: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: (b) (6) on tape

This is the actual tape from (b) (6) speaking to RFERL on the Moscow personnel firings as it appeared on BBG watch. I urge you to listen to it. Draw your own conclusions. Apparently someone recorded this while (b) (6) spoke.

<http://www.usgbroadcasts.com/bbgwatch/2012/11/11/radio-liberty-in-exile-posts-rferl-president-stein-korns-dismissive-comments-about-russian-opposition-leaders/>

However, I feel the content is stunning. As a manager myself when I was Mayor for 16 years and as Ambassador for 5 years at Embassy, it shows virtually no empathy for fired persons. He basically says it is my way or the highway. This approach can only incite fear and anger. As an American I cannot be proud of the way he is handling this. It sends the wrong message to working men and women who make up RFERL.

This approach can only leave lingering hostility towards him and his small management team. As a RFERL Board we have not faced up to the management issues we face now. Perhaps we will never face up to it and it may be that I am the only one who worries about (b) (6) management style which triggers so much unrest. We have not met as a Board on this. Missing is any sense of compassion or concern. They are key ingredients to a sound management approach.

Our chair, Dennis Mulhaupt, under the employment contract with (b) (6) has not done the annual evaluation after the first year of employment which passed several months ago. At least that is what Gov. Mulhaupt told me at the last September RFERL Board meeting. If he has done it since then, he did not seek views of all other Board members and/or share the results of his evaluation with the full Board. If it is done, I use this e mail to ask for a copy of it.

It may be that an RFERL audit committee meeting will occur in December and I hope all Board members will be invited to attend if such occurs. That is what I do as chair of MBN audit which is meeting November 15 and all MBN Board members can listen in if they wish.

If we continue to sidestep this building personnel/morale issue, we will continue the damage which is being done to RFERL, to its image, to freedom loving citizens and to US foreign policy.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2012 2:10 PM
To: (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: strategy and budget

any word on if this committee has set May 23 as a meeting time and if so, what time of the day? or is it another day...trying to buy cheapest possible air ticket.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 8:51 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: word approval

looks great...glad (b) (6) has it..thanks Victor

In a message dated 2/16/2012 6:54:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Roger that. Here's the short rationale statement.

With Burma's political opening and thawing relations with the U.S., opportunities have emerged for the BBG to engage the Burmese media sector in ways that could benefit BBG's reach and impact in Burma and advance U.S. strategic interests. The purpose of the trip is to pursue these objectives in meetings with senior government officials and media representatives in close cooperation with U.S. diplomatic personnel, including the U.S. Special Envoy for Burma.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 16, 2012, at 6:10 PM, "Vhashe@aol.com<<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>>" <Vhashe@aol.com<<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>>> wrote:

Bruce

(b) (6) says you are going over approval of language for Burma trip. I hope it can move along as I need to have the ticket issued as soon as possible in order to get into the line to use my own miles for an upgrade. It still has other hoops to go thru.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, November 09, 2012 6:02 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Bruce Sherman
Subject: RFE

Michael

who will come from RFERL for the Strategy meeting at 1100?

Victor

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 6:10 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: word approval

Bruce

(b) (6) says you are going over approval of language for Burma trip. I hope it can move along as I need to have the ticket issued as soon as possible in order to get into the line to use my own miles for an upgrade. It still has other hoops to go thru.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2012 9:08 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Strategy and Budget

Being new to the Strategy and Budget Committee, I opened the book on the April 10 meeting with great anticipation. However, I was struck by the absence of names (authors) on each tab as that is important should I wish to ask questions in advance of the meeting. Is it Bruce or who?

Also I was disappointed not to see a serious discussion of alternatives on the proposed Tibetan language services cuts. The Board voted to ask the Committee to review this. Staff should prepare options for us to consider including full restoration. There was not a single proposal presented to us. Waiting until the committee actually meets does not provide adequate time for discussion and thinking it all over.

We are charged with important tasks which include interested observers on the Hill who are fully prepared to weigh in on these issues. Our mission statement must be a work in progress as we adjust to reality. It is not etched in stone and can never be altered.

We must be prepared to address all the issues raised to date and consider options. We need to discuss whether spending up to \$10 million a year with Gallup is wise or would a lesser sum achieve our desired goals. We need to discuss areas of savings such as a travel contract with Carlson which costs us 50 to 80 percent more every time a ticket is booked. For example, I was prepared to buy direct from United a \$1800 ticket to Prague and I am advised by (b) (6) that the contract forces me to use the \$3600 ticket...all economy class. Why must I spend taxpayers money in such a foolish fashion? This never would have happened on my watch as Mayor of Knoxville. We must insist on fewer people attending international conferences like the one in Delhi last year where 12 persons went and 4 or 6 could have sufficed in my view.

These savings could help prevent language cuts which are triggering anger towards BBG.

I am sorry to raise these issues over Easter and Passover but I only got the material Friday for a Tuesday afternoon meeting.

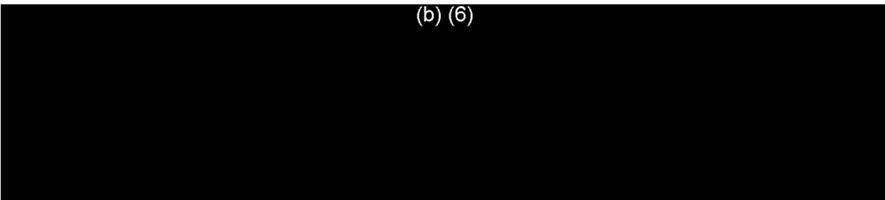
Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 22, 2012 2:00 PM
To: (b) (6) Dana Perino; (b) (6)
Tara Sonenshine (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: two items on (b) (6)

Without voicing a view, here are two items on (b) (6) who now heads up RFE in Moscow.

I think all will find it interesting.

(b) (6)



It offers a fuller picture of her background than what I have had at least and suggests she is well known within Russian circles. Whether it turns out to be the right hire I do not know. One can and should hope it works. My view is that this is a story still unfolding and we are not at the end of it from several perspectives which makes it all the more interesting to serve on the RFE Board.

Personally, I have no confidence in Putin and feel it is only a matter of time before he forces RFE out of Russia. What approach he uses is the only unknown. RFE should approach this all with caution and our eyes wide open. The neighborhood there is dangerous to freedom.

Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 8:19 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Research Contract and Program

Thanks for your response. I understand your views. When I have had time to digest it, I will get back with further questions and comments. I appreciate your time to respond to this.

To be honest, while I think research is important and needed, I think the current proposed layoffs and reduction in services force difficult choices upon us with which reasonable people can differ. This is where we may part company on this issue as I am troubled by spending 10 million a year (\$8.8 million one year) while 200 fine employees are discharged and services like Tibetan language are reduced. I wonder if we should not cut even more in the Gallup contract for a few years to produce the savings needed to keep more of these lost jobs and Tibetan language. I feel sure Congress will take steps to halt the reduction in Tibetan language and based on what I know I would agree with Congress on that. Our priorities need further thought in my view.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Lynne Weil (p) (c)
Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 2:56 pm
Subject: BBG Research Contract and Program

Governors,

Please see attached a memo on the BBG research program intended for internal Board use only along with related talking points for use with external audiences. The former responds to a request from Governor Ashe and the latter to any queries or comments that may come your way concerning both the new Gallup contract and the agency's research efforts overall. Bruce

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2012 2:28 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG Annual Global Audience Estimate

I always think it would be a good/nice idea to include those Governors on a conference call to the Hill where several Governors are acquainted so anyone wishing to listen could do so. This apparently is not done but I want to suggest it.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo <rlobo@bbg.gov>; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Sent: Wed, Nov 14, 2012 1:11 pm
Subject: BBG Annual Global Audience Estimate

Governors,

Attached and below, please find a news release about the BBG's annual global audience estimate that is about to go out; it will be familiar already to the members of the Communications Committee.

The news release and supporting documents, also attached, were prepared to coincide with a just-completed conference call that Dick Lobo and Bruce Sherman held with key Hill staffers, public diplomacy bloggers and other interested stakeholders. The conference call on the BBG's global audience estimate is done annually as a precursor to release of the Performance Accountability Report (PAR).

As you may recall, the PAR goes to the White House and Congress and is made available to the public each November 15; this year's PAR will be delayed by a day due to complications involving Superstorm Sandy. It will be released this Friday, Nov. 16.

Should you have any questions regarding the PAR or the global audience estimate released today, Bruce Sherman is standing by. The PAR is to be discussed during tomorrow's open meeting of the Strategy and Budget Committee.

Lynne

BBG Measures Audience Growth in Key Markets

Washington, D.C. – U.S. government-funded, civilian international broadcasters reached an estimated 175 million people per week on a variety of media platforms in 2012, including large audiences in countries that are key priorities for U.S. foreign policy, the Broadcasting Board of Governors announced today.

The figure, which reflects the combined viewership and listenership of Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Radio and TV Martí, Radio Free Asia and the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa), is a net decrease of 12 million from last year's record total as detailed in the BBG's annual Performance Accountability Report. While this drop likely reflects actual loss in overall audience, some of it may also be attributable to a change in research providers and resulting changes in the survey questionnaire, both of which occurred during FY 2012.

"Reliable and high-quality research informs our strategies, which in turn helps us fulfill our critical mission of reaching marketplaces around the globe, such as Afghanistan, Iraq, and Pakistan," said BBG Presiding Governor Michael Lynton. "This agency is committed to evaluating and assessing

performance through a rigorous research program as required by law. And as audience preferences change, we will continue to innovate on all platforms -- radio, TV, the Internet and social media.”

Audiences grew substantially in Iran, where more than 10 million people watch or hear BBG programs, and in other key countries including Libya, and Ethiopia. The largest change was in Indonesia, where audience numbers dropped by 17.4 million, from 38 million to 21 million people, in part due to a potential overestimate in 2011. Among other countries that saw audience declines were Egypt, Nigeria, and Burma, as these markets became more competitive and open; in Haiti, where surge broadcasts instituted after the 2010 earthquake diminished; and in Russia, where government media regulations have curtailed distribution.

BBG broadcasts reached significant audiences in other important markets, including 75 percent of the adult population in Afghanistan, 75 percent in the Somaliland and Puntland regions of Somalia, 67 percent in Iraq, 30 percent in Libya, and 27 percent in the FATA region of Pakistan. In FY 2012, the BBG enhanced its distribution network, adding new FM transmitters in key cities in Libya and Afghanistan.

Consistent with the practice of other international broadcasters, the BBG measures and reports unduplicated audience; each individual, regardless of how many programs watched or listened to, or media platforms used, is counted only once. This is a conservative approach to quantifying the audience and in keeping with the mission of BBG to inform and engage people, rather than count individual interactions with them.

Other indices of impact -- such how trustworthy audiences find BBG programming and how much the broadcasts increase their understanding, the scope or quality of an individual’s consumption of BBG programming, the level of social media engagement, website page views, file downloads or media citations of BBG news coverage -- are important factors considered for program and strategic planning purposes.

Radio and TV are increasingly close in terms of reach by platform, with radio reaching more than 95 million people per week and television measures in at 92 million people. The Internet audience was between 12 and 13 million, with the largest online audiences measured in Iraq, at 2.7 million.

The audience estimate includes research conducted within the past five years in over 70 countries and territories and surveys representing 2.8 billion people in markets around the globe. The 2012 Performance and Accountability Report will be available to download on Nov. 16.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 09, 2012 7:07 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: BBG September Meeting Materials

It will require a vote to hold a closed meeting. That should be noted. What is the agenda for the closed meeting? Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

[Redacted]

Sent: Sat, Sep 8, 2012 10:27 pm
Subject: BBG September Meeting Materials

Dear Governors,

Attached please find an agenda for next week's BBG meetings on Thursday, briefing materials, minutes and entity monthly reports. I will send materials for the RFE/RL corporate meeting in a separate email.

The Governance Committee will meet on Thursday, September 13, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Also on Thursday, your meeting with Secretary Clinton is confirmed for 11:15 a.m. Transportation will be arranged to take you to and from the State Department.

Details on other BBG-related meetings throughout the day are in the attached agenda.

Following a brief closed meeting to further consider the FY 2014 budget submission, the Board will move into the open meeting which is currently scheduled for 4:45 p.m.

Briefing books for the Committee and Board meetings have been sent by FedEx to your home or office.

See you Thursday.

Regards,
(b) (6)

- List of attached materials:
- Meeting Agenda
- Tab 1 Biographies of OIG Inspection Team
- Tab 2 Draft Minutes of June 7, 2012 Meeting
- Tab 3 MBN Monthly Report
- Tab 4 OCB Monthly Report
- Tab 5 VOA Monthly Report
- Tab 6 RFA Monthly Report
- Tab 7 RFE/RL Monthly Report
- Tab 8 IBB Monthly Report

Tab 9 Draft Resolution Honoring Susan Andross
Tab 10 Draft Resolution Honoring John Lindburg
BBG Web Traffic Statistics

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 8:48 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Burma Interim Report (b) (6) Agreement to Review!

several serious issues to discuss here. require reflection. urgency for a deal should not totally override all other considerations.

Victor

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6)

Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Dec 4, 2012 8:28 am
Subject: Fwd: Burma Interim Report (b) (6) Agreement to Review!

Sharing here the latest on the SkyNet deal based on (b) (6) further negotiations today.

Do note SkyNet's proposal now to fashion a channel ultimately composed of both VOA and RFA content -- as well as (their proposal) Democratic Voice of Burma programming.

(b) (6) is in touch with you through emails exchanged earlier in your day. He sees (b) (6) tonight your time and will update him on the status of the talks. I think it is very important that you also weigh in and support a workable deal.

While I think not doing news now as the political environment matures is manageable (again, we have always known getting domestic distribution in Burma was going to be subject to many conditions), asking us to share a channel with DVB is something else. I find it problematic (and another new stipulation), but am open to other views.

Best, Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6)
Date: December 4, 2012 5:21:49 AM EST
To: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Burma Interim Report (b) (6) Agreement to Review!

Bruce:

We met with the Sky Net team this morning, and into the afternoon for more than three hours. Share as you see fit.

We listened to their explanation of events - they expected to have approval for our agreement from the Ministry of Information by now; and they suspect that announcing the signing raised the visibility level of the whole event. They said they were contacted by the Ministry of Information this past Saturday (1 December), and while the subject of ordering VOA's news off the air never came up (and never would,

directly, they say), they were asked words to the effect of, "You're not about to do anything foolish, are you?"

And that, they say, put a scare into them. They maintain that they *want* to run news, and acknowledge that their viewers would *want* to see VOA and RFA. But basically, they say we've got a business to run that goes beyond Sky Net, and we believe it would be dangerous to run any news content in Burmese right now. French, English, Japanese, German...all okay. Burmese - a problem.

So we began to roll out a Plan B, which would allow them to cherry pick from the "VOA Asia" schedule, and run it as a block. As the conversation rolled along, a number of things became clear:

- They do not intend to run VOA content 24 hours a day.
- They're reserving space for RFA to eventually join the stream on the same channel.
- They're reserving space for Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB) to also join the stream on the same channel.

(b) claims that DVB will be paying big money for the placement. He says he's heard \$200K, and he swears that RFA has also offered Sky Net money for placement. If so, VOA becomes the loss leader that they believe will open the door to making money on this channel. I did make it clear to them that any RFA placement would come from our office, and could simply be added to the existing agreement at some later date. We also discussed that since VOA was the first, it should lay claim to prime time.

So. The way it stands is this: We negotiated the language of the placement agreement - the Basic "Affiliation and Licensing Agreement," which is attached. There were no changes made to this document. Annex I is also pristine. I did belatedly notice two remnants from earlier discussions in Annex II, both are highlighted, both are very minor. Annex III is where all the other changes are noted. Most of this language was approved by (b) earlier. We spent nearly 90 minutes discussing their proposals, which they said had already been approved by the Ministry of Information, and why we would not and could not sign them.

The two new sections are five - which they ask for, and says they may take programs live from our feed, or record them and play them back at convenient times. So long as they're not news programs, we're okay with it.

Section six strikes some language that pertains to ownership of edited programs or programs created from excerpting other programs. Since all they're running are whole programs ("Agency Product"), this really didn't apply, and so I agreed to it.

Important to state once again, that I stressed that the agreement and all of the annexes needed to be blessed by our legal people (b) (6) and that (b) (6) who was very disappointed about no news content, would weigh in before deciding if he will sign.

Now. What would be signed. The agreement is covered by a "Letter of Intent," which I cribbed from an earlier letter (b) wrote. It says nothing, except that we're going to work to finalize the Agreement by some date certain. We still need to agree to:

- Which programs they will take, and when they will air the "block" they intend to make.
- If we're even comfortable with the idea of a non-24 hour stream
- If we're comfortable with sharing a channel with DVB.
- Of course, if we're comfortable with no news
- Or might we want to figure out a way to do more news in English for this stream?

They still need to get Ministry of Information approval for the agreement we've just negotiated, since we threw out their proposed Annex III. They believe that will be pro forma, since there is no news content here. A nod from the MOI while the governors or (b) (6) are in Naypyidaw would, they say, go a long way.

They do ask that (b) (6) or the Governors, should they speak with the MOI word any concern in positive terms.

Not: "We understand you're getting in the way of putting our news on Sky Net."

But rather: "We've been talking to Sky Net about placing our news on their platform. You wouldn't object,

would you?"

More I know not. I'm going to sleep for a few hours before it's time to pick up (b) late tonight.

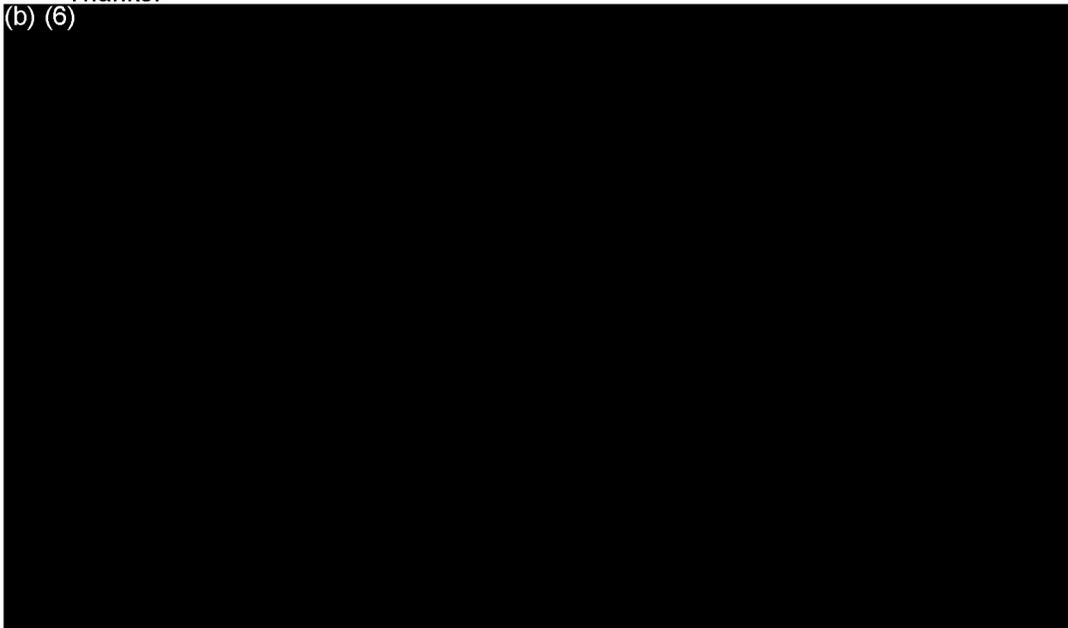
I've briefed (b) (6) at the Embassy; I'm making tentative plans to fly to Naypyidaw with (b) tomorrow, to speak to the Ministry of Information - assuming there's a meeting (not confirmed as of 430 this afternoon.) Copying them here, because I promised I would.

Feel free to call - closer to 9am your time, please, if that's okay.

(b) (6) .

Thanks.

(b) (6)



From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2012 1:08 PM
To: IBB Notices Administration
Subject: FW: Bullying As It Impacts Morale and Productivity - July 12, 2012
Attachments: Bullying As It Impacts Morale.docx

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2012 12:57 PM
To: IBB Notices Admin
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Bullying As It Impacts Morale and Productivity - July 12, 2012

Please also send the attachment.

"Bullying As It Impacts Morale
And Productivity"

Mary Switzer Building
330 C. Street, SW
Washington, DC 20237
Training Room 4207

July 12, 2012
Session I – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Session II – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

If interested in attending this workshop R.S.V.P. by calling the Office of Civil Rights or email (b) (6) Please provide your name, session preference, office symbol, email address and phone number.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 11:18 AM
To: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6); Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Burma Meeting

is this where the call will be held? Victor Ashe

In a message dated 2/8/2012 10:31:49 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Good morning,

Please join for a meeting on Burma in Dick's office 1:30pm tomorrow, Thursday, February 9th. This meeting will immediately precede the Governance Committee meeting that is scheduled to start at 2:00pm.

If you have any questions, please call me at (b) (6)

Thanks,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2012 4:57 PM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Burma

glad all are working together on Burma..very important that RFA and VOA be together. Also feel that should a visit to the new Burma occur in next several months that RFA Board member or two be included so as to bring Board fully into this dramatic change in a nation's direction (assuming it is for real).

Victor Ashe

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
Sent: Thu, Jan 12, 2012 2:50 pm
Subject: Fw: Burma

Supporting what I just said to (b) (6), FYI, on which you were copied, I'd already reached out to her as one of my first actions in heading the new Strategy & Development Office to say we needed to meet on Burma. Distribution decisions need to follow strategy, and all BBG media properties need to be in the mix. We'll now coordinate an overall strategy and sort out the TV, radio, etc. pieces. We will likely need your support to avoid, once again, unnecessary duplication of effort. This is the practical, hands-on stuff of BBG integration.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2012 8:15:16 AM
To: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Burma

Agree

Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 2012 02:05:12
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Burma

Hi (b) (6) I'll see you tomorrow but wanted to say in advance that I want to talk to you about Burma. VOA reached an agreement in principle, as you know, with Burma to distribute selected VOA "soft" programming over domestic outlets. Now there's a return trip in the offing to follow up and discuss terms. But we also have to factor in RFA. We need an integrated BBG strategy. So I'd like to propose that you and I and our placement folks headed by (b) (6) and our VOA colleagues all sit together to talk through how we see the Burmese market/situation now and opportunities and how we how best to seize them. I know you've had ideas and plans for Burma. So with the proposed VOA/IBB return trip, it's time we looked at our overall interests and strategies. Just wanted to lay this out here since it's on my mind. We'll talk tomorrow. Bruce

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2012 2:21 PM
To: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Burma

fully agree. Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/29/2012 2:20:16 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

This is great and it is why it is at the top of the agenda for the Strategy and Budge committee on Thursday.

Victor and I look forward to setting the BBG wide strategy straight on Thursday.

Thank you,

Michael

Michael Meehan
President & CEO
VennSquared Communications
Washington Silicon Valley

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2012 2:16 PM
To: Michael Meehan; vhashe@aol.com; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Burma

Dear Governors, and (b) (6)

I understand you are discussing a possible trip to Burma in December, and write to suggest broadening its focus to include the full spectrum of BBG opportunities--VOA as well as RFA matters.

As you know, we have been in discussions for quite some time now about an opportunity to have a VOA television presence on Burma's most popular dish network, Skynet, an opportunity that was first discussed when (b) (6) of OSD and I met with the owner of the company.

There is now a tentative target date of December 3rd for a signing ceremony for a VOA memorandum of understanding which is being negotiated for VOA and the BBG by (b) (6) and his team. Skynet has already signed some agreements for channels with major international broadcasters and they convinced top executives to attend those events—it means a lot to them to have a high level delegation attending.

I wonder whether we could arrange to have those governors planning to travel to Burma attend this significant event, along with me? Your added "star" power would mean a lot. (I imagine the date could move a bit if needed.)

Best,

(b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 11:17 AM
To: Bruce Sherman
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Burma Interim Report (b) (6) Agreement to Review!

not disagreeing but saying we should have our eyes open and realize what is happening here.

Victor

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Cc: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
(b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Dec 4, 2012 9:13 am
Subject: Re: Burma Interim Report (b) (6) Agreement to Review!

Agree. But, in my opinion, we shouldn't let perfection be the enemy of the good, either.

Also, I recommend we consider the longer-term. SkyNet only reaches 80,000 or so households now while we already have direct-to-home service going. It's not the key yet to wider distribution.

But, the same folks who operate SkyNet also control the Shwe FM network, and FM is a large and growing medium that we need to be on to have increasing impact in the country.

Bottom line: the SkyNet deal, like the English learning programs we placed on Myanmar Radio and TV earlier in the year, is part of an evolutionary process there. It's important as a step toward where we want to be as much as destination in itself.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 4, 2012, at 8:48 AM, "vhashe@aol.com" <vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

several serious issues to discuss here. require reflection. urgency for a deal should not totally override all other considerations.

Victor

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

From: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6); vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, Dec 4, 2012 8:28 am
Subject: Fwd: Burma Interim Report (b) (6) : Agreement to Review!

Sharing here the latest on the SkyNet deal based on (b) (6) further negotiations today.

Do note SkyNet's proposal now to fashion a channel ultimately composed of both VOA and RFA content - as well as (their proposal) Democratic Voice of Burma programming.

(b) (6) s in touch with you through emails exchanged earlier in your day. He sees (b) (6) tonight your time and will update him on the status of the talks. I think it is very important that you also weigh in and support a workable deal.

While I think not doing news now as the political environment matures is manageable (again, we have always known getting domestic distribution in Burma was going to be subject to many conditions), asking

us to share a channel with DVB is something else. I find it problematic (and another new stipulation), but am open to other views.

Best, Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6)
Date: December 4, 2012 5:21:49 AM EST
To: Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Burma Interim Report (b) (6) Agreement to Review!

Bruce:

We met with the Sky Net team this morning, and into the afternoon for more than three hours. Share as you see fit.

We listened to their explanation of events - they expected to have approval for our agreement from the Ministry of Information by now; and they suspect that announcing the signing raised the visibility level of the whole event. They said they were contacted by the Ministry of Information this past Saturday (1 December), and while the subject of ordering VOA's news off the air never came up (and never would, directly, they say), they were asked words to the effect of, "You're not about to do anything foolish, are you?"

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Section six strikes some language that pertains to ownership of edited programs or programs created from excerpting other programs. Since all they're running are whole programs ("Agency Product"), this really didn't apply, and so I agreed to it.

Important to state once again, that I stressed that the agreement and all of the annexes needed to be blessed by our legal people (b) (6) and that (b) (6) who was very disappointed about no news content, would weigh in before deciding if he will sign.

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They do ask that (b) (6) or the Governors, should they speak with the MOI word any concern in positive terms.

Not: "We understand you're getting in the way of putting our news on Sky Net."

But rather: "We've been talking to Sky Net about placing our news on their platform. You wouldn't object, would you?"

More I know not. I'm going to sleep for a few hours before it's time to pick up (b) (6) late tonight.

I've briefed (b) (6) and (b) (6) at the Embassy; I'm making tentative plans to fly to Naypyidaw with (b) (6) tomorrow, to speak to the Ministry of Information - assuming there's a meeting (not confirmed as of 430 this afternoon.) Copying them here, because I promised I would.

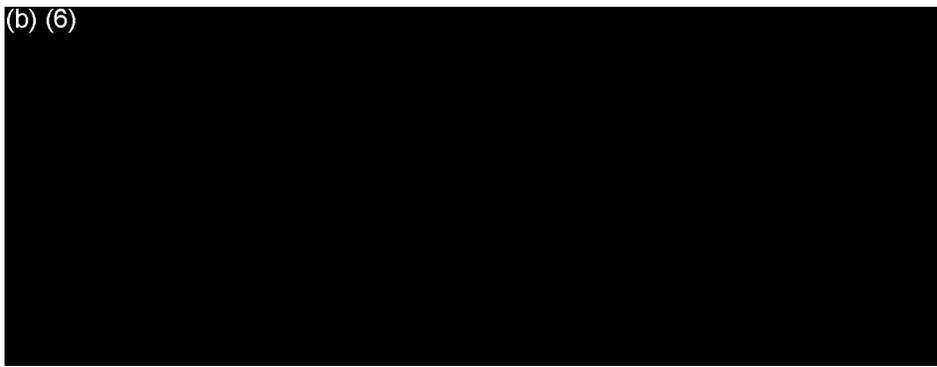
Feel free to call - closer to 9am your time, please, if that's okay.

(b) (6)

Thanks.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 10:41 AM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

can we be told how many persons are actually let go by entity and section. (b) (6) is meeting Monday to brief the unions. Who briefs contractors? What is the timetable? I feel the statements raise as many questions as they answer.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Lynne Weil (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
CC: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo
(b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Sent: Sat, 11 Feb 2012 2:27
Subject: CLOSE HOLD, please: Draft messaging documents on the FY13 budget submission

Dear Governors,

Attached for your review are the draft messaging materials prepared by agency staff in collaboration with the network heads and communications teams across all entities. They are:

- A message from the Board to agency employees
- A news release
- Talking points on the top nine most anticipated questions, in rank order of likelihood
- Examples of ways that we are ending duplication and streamlining services
- A budget overview, strategic principles guiding BBG budgeting decisions, and a comparison across broadcast entities at the request of some of the entity heads.

Much of what is in the talking points has been pulled from existing and in some cases published agency documents for consistency. Similarities between the board statement and the news release are intentional, as are the differences. Apart from those two items, which will be distributed, please forgive any typos or formatting errors arising from the production process this week.

Your feedback will help strengthen these items so that we can most effectively convey the reasoning and goals underlying this budget request. It would be most useful if comments could be made within the next 24 hours to ensure timely incorporation into these materials.

In a separate message, (b) (6) has sent you the actual budget documents.

Best regards,

Lynne W.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 9:26 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Fwd: eCC - [INFO ONLY, NO ACTION] - Itinerary #801672/Ashe REQUEST GRANTED, A...

fast turnaround from Laos. Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 2/22/2012 8:56:18 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: eCC - [INFO ONLY, NO ACTION] - Itinerary #801672/Ashe REQUEST GRANTED, ARRIVAL: 3/17/2012

Request Summary

Itinerary #:801672 Date Requested:2/22/2012

Request Summary

Travel Itinerary

Destination Country	Destination Cities	Start Date	End Date	Status
THAILAND	Bangkok	3/12/2012	3/17/2012	PENDING
LAOS	Vientiane and Luang Prabang	3/17/2012	3/21/2012	APPROVED

Travelers

Name: Victor H Ashe
Contact Info: (b) (6)
Country of Birth: USA
Emergency Contact:
Clearance: Top Secret
Request Unescorted CAA Access: No
Additional Info: Mr. Ashe is a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.
Other Group Members:
None

Agency: International Broadcasting Bureau
Employment Type: Direct Hire
Passport Type: Diplomatic
Passport #: (b) (6)
Passport Country: USA

Carrier Information

Carrier and #	Mode	Departure Point	Departure Date/Time	Arrival Point	Arrival Date/Time
United Airlines - flight 837	AIR	San Francisco, CA	3/11/2012 12:39:00 PM	Tokyo Narita	3/12/2012 3:45:00 PM
United Airlines - flight 803	AIR	Tokyo Narita	3/12/2012 6:30:00 PM	Bangkok Suvarnabhumi, Thailand	3/12/2012 11:40:00 PM
Bangkok Airways	AIR	Bangkok	3/17/2012	LPQ	3/17/2012

- flight 941		Suvarnabhumi, Thailand	9:15:00 AM		11:15:00 AM
QV - flight 102	AIR	LPQ	3/19/2012 1:30:00 PM	VTE	3/19/2012 2:15:00 PM
Thai Airways - flight 571	AIR	VTE	3/21/2012 1:50:00 PM	Bangkok Suvarnabhumi, Thailand	3/21/2012 2:55:00 PM
United Airlines - flight 804	AIR	Bangkok Suvarnabhumi, Thailand	3/23/2012 7:15:00 AM	Tokyo Narita	3/23/2012 2:55:00 PM
United Airlines - flight 882	AIR	Tokyo Narita	3/23/2012 6:10:00 PM	Chicago, IL	3/23/2012 3:35:00 PM
United Airlines - flight 6061	AIR	Chicago, IL	3/23/2012 6:30:00 PM	Knoxville, TN	3/23/2012 9:01:00 PM

Request Details
LAOS

Clearance From	Agency/Section/Other	Arrival Date	Departure Date	Status
LAOS/VIENTIANE	MGMT - MANAGEMENT SECTION	3/17/2012	3/21/2012	APPROVED

Other Posts & Sections to be Informed	Access to Building Required?
Post	None
Section	None
Destination Cities	Access to PCC Required? No
Vientiane and Luang Prabang	Fiscal Data: <i>None</i>
VIP Visit? No	Other Comments/Remarks: <i>None</i>
Purpose of Visit Meet with Radio Free Asia and Voice of America employees in country and to observe activities under purview of Broadcasting Board of Governors.	Hotel Reservations? No
	Airport Assistance/Transportation? No
	Accompanying Pouch? No
	Appointment Request? Yes; Request meeting with U.S. Ambassador to discuss international broadcasting.
	Other Needed Assistance? No

Hotel Accommodations

Hotel Name Street Address City Rate Local Telephone # Confirmation #

Control Officer:

Post: VIENTIANE

Email:

Phone:

**Airport Assistance /
Transportation:**

**Appointment
Request:**

Expediter:

**Other Provided
Assistance:**

Comments:

List of recipients:

[ACTION]-REQUEST APPROVER:

(b) (6)
[REDACTED]

[ACTION]-REQUEST DRAFT RESPONSE:

(b) (6)
[REDACTED]

[INFO]-COUNTRY CODE:

(b) (6)
[REDACTED]

[INFO]-GROUP CC:

(b) (6)
[REDACTED]

[INFO]-REQUESTOR CC:

(b) (6)
[REDACTED]

vhashe@aol.com =

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 6:46 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Confirming Time to Review Research Contract

yes

In a message dated 3/27/2012 5:53:33 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

Given your recent schedule change, I wanted to confirm your availability to review the research contract this Thursday, March 29, at 1 pm in Bruce's office.

Bruce and (b) (6) will be available to answer any questions you might have.

Please confirm.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2012 7:19 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)
Subject: Re: December Board Meeting

I am available for the December meetings. Surely we will meet. If we do not meet in December and there is no quorum for November then it means we go from October 11 to mid February with NO Meeting. That is 4 months. Shame on us if we let that happen. That will be awful.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 11/5/2012 4:04:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

At the request of IBB Director Lobo, I am polling the Board to determine its ability to meet in December.

According to the schedule previously approved by the Board, December 13 and 14 (Thursday and Friday) are designated as an *optional* meeting of the Board.

If for some reason the Board does not achieve a quorum on November 15, the Board could still meet to receive briefings by staff and hold Committee and entity meetings but there could be no formal votes taken.

Therefore, the Board, if it wishes, could consider holding a meeting in December as the next scheduled meeting after December is February 21-22, 2013.

Please let us know if you would be available for a Board meeting on Thursday, December 13 and/or Friday, December 14 in the Cohen Building.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 8:15 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
(b) (6); Dana Perino; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

We need to be briefed on what Gallup says about this, perhaps they will have someone at the meeting...what does DOJ say as well as State which may be being ripped off according to the lawsuit. We all need to know fully what is happening here. What safeguards exist in the current BBG contract with Gallup to protect BBG if wrongdoing is proven? The problem here is that the lawsuit may take 3 years to be resolved by which time the current contract has ended but BBG may not have received an honest accounting of what the taxpayers are paying for in this. This lawsuit clearly places a cloud over it all.

When Justice joins a whistleblower suit, there must be a lot going on there and is this issue company wide at Gallup?

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com> (b) (6); Tara Sonenshine <(b) (6)> susan (b) (6); Dana Perino <(b) (6)>; Richard M. Lobo <(b) (6)>

Sent: Thu, Aug 23, 2012 6:45 am

Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

Will do.

rgds

jeff

On Aug 22, 2012, at 9:51 PM, "Michael Meehan" (b) (6) wrote:

> please add to the S and B agenda this Gallup issue and have the appropriate staff who handles our polling contract available to discuss this matter.

>

> thank you,

>

> Michael

>

> Michael P. Meehan CEO

> VennSquared Communications

> Washington Silicon Valley

>

> From: vhashe@aol.com [vhashe@aol.com]

> Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 7:09 PM

> To: (b) (6) Michael Meehan; (b) (6)

(b) (6)

> Subject: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

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> In light of the news a few hours ago that DOJ has joined the
> whistleblower lawsuit against Gallup over false polling, I am urging
> this issue be added to strategy and budget meeting this Tuesday. We
> need to pull out of this contract and take our business elsewhere.

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> We should not hang around spending \$8 million plus a year with Gallup
> hoping the lawsuit fails. BBG could be embarrassed and we ought to
> remove ourselves from this ASAP.

>

> I am not faulting anyone for this but rather given developments we
> should act prudently and quickly.

>

> Victor Ashe

>

>

>

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 11:49 AM
To: (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: DRAFT AGENDA for August 28 S&B Committee Meeting

Agree. Victor

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

From: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)

Sent: Wed, Aug 22, 2012 10:05 am
Subject: Re: DRAFT AGENDA for August 28 S&B Committee Meeting

For the PNN discussion.

I want (b) (6) as I want to expand it to farda as well.

From: [Vhashe@aol.com](mailto:vhashe@aol.com) [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 08:36 AM

To: (b) (6); Michael Meehan
Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: DRAFT AGENDA for August 28 S&B Committee Meeting

Jeff

thanks for sending this. I understand (b) (6) is on vacation this week.

I may not be able to join the call until 0945 due to a 0915 medical appointment. I will work out with (b) (6) when she can contact me that morning so I can join the call

As you know the full Board voted on August 17 for this committee to review PNN and the parazit show issue. I feel this subject must be on the agenda ..for 1000 and afterwards.Perhaps this may require fewer persons present for a candid discussion. Also I want to know how many people work to produce Parazit. What is the total budget? What have these people been doing while off the air for 9 months? What plans exist to get the show back on the air with new or same leadership? Why was the Board not informed earlier?

Why did state decline to fund proposals for Radio Sawa?

I look forward to the meeting with these changes.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/22/2012 9:25:07 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors, Attached and pasted in below is a draft agenda for the August 28 Strategy and Budget Committee meeting. We would appreciate your comments and suggestions, after which we'll make needed revisions and get the agenda and background materials out to you and the entity chiefs. As we understand your guidance, we have shaped this agenda to address ongoing, challenging strategic issues, with particular emphasis on those that concern cooperation and collaboration across and among the broadcast entities. We'd appreciate your feedback today if possible, so that we can get the final materials to you promptly. Thanks and regardsJeff
Agenda Topic 1 FY 2014 Budget Update
Agenda Topic 2 Burma: Updating Prior Board Discussion/Decisions Regarding VOA-RFA Collaboration to Address Duplication and Move Forward on Joint Efforts
Agenda Topic 3

Balkans: Further Review of Proposed RFE/RL Service Elimination for FY

2014
Agenda Topic 4 Opera Web/Mobile Web Distribution Opportunity:

Considering the Project (Requires BBG-Wide Participation and On-Air

Promotion)
Agenda Topic 5 Crisis Contingency Planning
Syria: State Declines to Fund BBG/MBN Proposals for Radio

Sawa and Alhurra: Further Actions
BBG Might Take
BBG Crisis Planning for Mali

Iran: State of BBG Readiness for a Possible Crisis Situation

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 9:37 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: DRAFT AGENDA for August 28 S&B Committee Meeting

Jeff

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Thanks and regards

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Agenda Topic 1 **FY 2014 Budget Update**

Agenda Topic 2 **Burma: Updating Prior Board Discussion/Decisions Regarding VOA-RFA Collaboration to Address Duplication and Move Forward on Joint Efforts**

Agenda Topic 3 **Balkans: Further Review of Proposed RFE/RL Service Elimination for FY 2014**

Agenda Topic 4 **Opera Web/Mobile Web Distribution Opportunity: Considering the Project (Requires BBG-Wide Participation and On-Air Promotion)**

Agenda Topic 5 **Crisis Contingency Planning**

- Syria: State Declines to Fund BBG/MBN Proposals for Radio Sawa and Alhurra: Further Actions BBG Might Take
- BBG Crisis Planning for Mali
- Iran: State of BBG Readiness for a Possible Crisis Situation

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 7:07 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Dana Perino; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman;
Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

This makes sense and seems like a prudent approach. Ultimately, I believe we should just disengage from Gallup as there seems to be risk and potential exposure here. Another firm ought to do the research which is not distracted by litigation and whistleblower issues.

Victor Ashe

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

From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine
(b) (6) Dana Perino
(b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
(b) (6); Lynne Weil <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thu, Aug 23, 2012 6:04 pm
Subject: RE: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

Dear Governors,

We have added discussion of the Gallup situation to the agenda for next Tuesday's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting, and we're gathering information as quickly as possible ahead of that session in order to be able to answer your questions and recommend possible actions.

We were in contact today with DOJ and will remain so as the investigation and case develop. We also have spoken with Gallup and are arranging a meeting with them to discuss the situation and our contract.

Regards,
Jeff

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

From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 8:15 AM
To: Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Dana Perino; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

We need to be briefed on what Gallup says about this, perhaps they will have someone at the meeting...what does DOJ say as well as State which may be being ripped off according to the lawsuit. We all need to know fully what is happening here. What safeguards exist in the current BBG

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When Justice joins a whistleblower suit, there must be a lot going on there and is this issue company wide at Gallup?

Victor Ashe

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From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)

To: Michael Meehan (b) (6)

Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)

(b) (6) Tara
Sonenshine (b) (6)

(b) (6) Dana Perino (b) (6)

Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

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Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

Will do.

rgds

jeff

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> Michael

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> Michael P. Meehan CEO

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> Washington Silicon Valley

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> Subject: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

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- > I am not faulting anyone for this but rather given developments we
- > should act prudently and quickly.
- >
- > Victor Ashe
- >
- >
- >

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:38 PM
To: (b) (6); Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Bruce Sherman;
(b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

(b) (6) sent the (b) (6) letter to me in a different format which I believe is readable. I am forwarding it to all. Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/11/2012 9:30:04 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Re: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

It doesn't look as nice this way but here it is.

(b) (6)

April 4, 2012
Members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Avenue
Washington, DC 20237

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in support of Voice of America radio and television broadcasting, particularly to China, Tibet and Russia. In addition, I write in support of the efforts of the Committee for U.S. International Broadcasting. The CUSIB works to ensure that U.S. government-funded broadcasts promote respect for human rights and freedom of the press, especially in nations where these basic freedoms are under attack.

I write to you on a personal basis to express dismay that Voice of America radio and television broadcasts to Russia ceased in 2008. I am deeply concerned that although last year's proposed cuts of VOA Mandarin and Cantonese radio and television programs were halted, this year's proposal includes the elimination of VOA Cantonese services and VOA Tibetan Radio Services, at a time when there is significant unrest in Tibet. I urge you to continue the Cantonese and Tibetan broadcasts, and to restore them to Russia.

I well remember as a girl in Nazi-occupied Hungary, how every Sunday afternoon my family would draw the shades, close the curtains, and gather around the shortwave radio, pressing our ears close so that we could catch each precious word of freedom and hope that poured out of that radio receiver like manna from heaven. We had to strain to hear over the static caused by Nazi attempts to block the signal, but we were grateful to do so, because these words of truth were pure gold in the ubiquitous mire of Nazi propaganda. The VOA and BBC broadcasts were our one connection to freedom, our one connection to hope, and our lifeline that gave the resistance the courage to endure to the end. The VOA broadcasts fanned the fires of resistance in the brave underground fighters who sought to destroy the brutal Nazi totalitarianism from within. To cut off the VOA broadcasts would have been to cut off the very legs of the resistance. The same is true today in nations ruled by totalitarian regimes.

Now, the people of China and Tibet are suffering at the hands of a brutal, heartless regime. They also cannot speak openly without fear of punishment. The Chinese Communist Party seeks to maintain complete control over the information available to the people of China and Tibet. The CCP blocks the Internet and controls the flow of information, distorting the truth and promoting distrust of America. VOA has been the voice of freedom and democracy in China for 70 years. It is highly respected, even venerated, in China. Human rights activists like Chinese Nobel Peace Prize laureate Liu Xiaobo and Chinese campaigner for women's rights Chen Guangcheng languish in prison and under house arrest. VOA broadcasts may be the only link with the free

world for their families and supporters.

Millions of Cantonese speaking and Mandarin speaking Chinese people depend on VOA daily as their lifeline to the light of truth, freedom and hope. Millions of Tibetans also depend upon VOA's Tibetan radio broadcasts. Radio reaches hundreds of millions who are too poor to afford television or the Internet, especially in rural China and Tibet.

Further, VOA radio and satellite television serve to counter anti-American propaganda in the most powerful way, giving a positive view of America, which is so necessary during this time of increasing Chinese militarism and anti-American militancy. Thus, these broadcasts are important to our national security.

I know that my late husband, (b) (6), would have fought to save the VOA Russian, Tibetan, and Cantonese Broadcast Services -- to use all available means to deliver uncensored news, hope and encouragement to those seeking freedom. How could I do any less? Recent pro-democracy protests around the world and attempts to suppress them show that giving up radio and television broadcasting to rely exclusively on the Internet would be a mistake, because the Internet can so easily be monitored and blocked. I commend the CUSIB's efforts to urge the Broadcasting Board of Governors to maintain broadcasting ? especially Voice of America radio and television broadcasting ? into China and Tibet, and to restore it to Russia.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

On 04/11/12, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

can you send this to me in another form or the body of the letter as it does not print out when forwarded to other board members???

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 6:33:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor:

Just in case this letter was not shared with the Board members.

(b) (6)

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

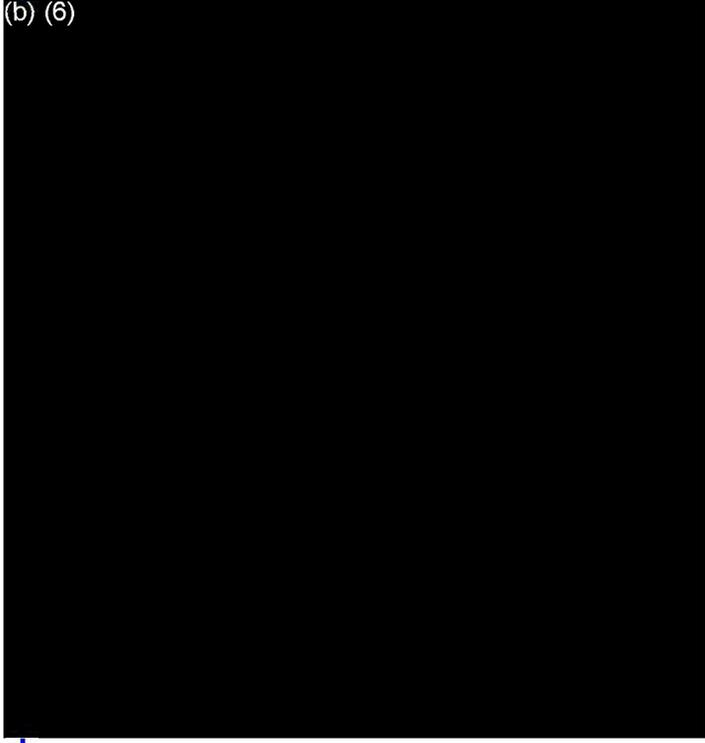
From: (b) (6)

Date:
Tue, Apr 10, 2012 at 10:18 AM

Here you go.

All
the best,

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 5:34 PM
To: Jeffrey Trimble;(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Dana Perino; Richard M. Lobo (b) (6) Bruce Sherman;
Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

I think it is relevant to see the actual lawsuit or a summary of it. What does DOJ recommend to BBG? Also what steps are being taken to assure that the BBG contract does not suffer from the charges filed in federal court? Should we be doing business with this entity which has a major lawsuit against it for fraud by another federal agency? What is proper procedure here? What steps should the Board take to meet its fiduciary responsibility? If we continue with Gallup but Gallup is later held liable in the current charges against it, are we as Board members liable for not having suspended or canceled the contract? I am deeply concerned about this and feel we should disengage and seek research elsewhere.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 8/23/2012 6:04:28 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

We have added discussion of the Gallup situation to the agenda for next Tuesday's Strategy and Budget Committee meeting, and we're gathering information as quickly as possible ahead of that session in order to be able to answer your questions and recommend possible actions.

We were in contact today with DoJ and will remain so as the investigation and case develop. We also have spoken with Gallup and are arranging a meeting with them to discuss the situation and our contract.

Regards,
Jeff

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To: Jeffrey Trimble;(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
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Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

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From: Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6)
To: Michael Meehan (b) (6)
Cc: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Tara Sonenshine (b) (6)
(b) (6) Dana Perino <(b) (6)> Richard M. Lobo

(b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Aug 23, 2012 6:45 am

Subject: Re: DOJ joins Lawsut against Gallup on polling data

Will do.

rgds

jeff

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> Michael P. Meehan CEO

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> should act prudently and quickly.

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> Victor Ashe

>

>

>

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 6:59 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft July BBG Meetings Agenda

In looking over the agenda, I have several more questions and concerns.

First, can someone let at least the Governors know what the classified session on July 24 between 1045 and 1 PM will cover in terms of topics so we can be thinking about it. Simply saying it is classified does not give a clue as to what might be discussed. If the powers that be do not want this whole list to know, then perhaps send it to Governors only. I do not feel we should have a classified session unless there is some heads up to Governors as to what it is about.

Second, I do not understand how we can vote on the budget when strategy and budget committee has not met to go over the budget. No one has briefed me on its contents. When will we receive information on the budget? However, I thought it was and is the role of the Strategy and budget committee to go over the budget before the full Board considers it. Am I mistaken? It seems Strategy and Budget does not have a meeting planned. Going over the budget should take more than the 30 minutes allotted on July 24. Only having 30 minutes for this without a strategy and budget committee meeting makes the Board appear less than diligent in its discharge of its duties. As one Governor, I have not been briefed on the budget and feel allocating 30 minutes only is totally inadequate for a budget of over \$700 million.

Third, I wish to register a protest that my request for discussion of the non disclosure protocol is placed virtually last on the agenda of the full Board behind congratulatory resolutions. I requested this in a timely manner. It seems to me that items requested by Governors should have a higher priority than what is being given to this issue which has triggered much public discussion and questions. The reality is that the Board has failed to conclude its full agenda at the last two meetings. Placing this item last if that happens at this meeting almost guarantees that the Board does not reach it and a thoughtful discussion does not occur on this significant issue.

Fourth, I feel entity heads and network heads should be allowed to attend all of the Governor's briefing not simply as directed.

Hopefully, someone can answer these concerns. (b) (6) Mr. Lobo, Gov, Lynton or others.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 7/10/2012 1:07:48 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governors,

Attached please find a draft agenda for all BBG-related meetings to be held on Tuesday, July 24, in the BBG-IBB Conference Room of the Cohen Building. This draft agenda has been reviewed and approved by Presiding Governor Lynton.

A Governance Committee meeting is scheduled from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. EDT. Committee members (Chair Mulhaupt, Ashe, McCue and Lynton) are confirmed for attendance, but we urge other Governors to participate as the Committee will, among other issues, examine the grantee consolidation plan and make a recommendation to the plenary Board.

As Jeff mentioned to you on June 28, the Board needs to decide on grantee consolidation – a decision with significant implications for the FY 2014 budget process. In addition, the Board must consider, provide guidance, and adopt the key elements of the Agency’s FY 2014 budget proposal in a closed meeting because of the need to preserve the confidentiality of pre-decisional budget information per OMB guidelines. That said, in a separate email per usual procedures, we will circulate a notice to the Board with a request to close a portion of the Board meeting.

Given the importance of these issues, it is anticipated that the Governors’ Briefing morning session (starting at 10:45 a.m. EDT) would be attended by Governors, key staff and network heads.

Please note that a BBG open meeting is planned in the afternoon from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT. Following the open meeting, Governors’ Briefing would continue, including a substantial discussion about the Agency’s digital/on-line programs per Governor McCue’s request.

We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the BBG open meeting.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 11:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

How do you propose that the Board vote on a bylaw change for which it has not received a copy of 21 days in advance? I still have not seen the by law change proposal and I had asked you for it.

I had not seen the agenda until this evening when it was emailed out. The text of the by law change is simply not available even now. Current bylaws say 21 day notice...this means the full text...not just notice that the subject matter will be considered. Of course amendments are always in order both at the committee level and by the full Board. In other words the full Board cannot vote on this until April without violating the current bylaw requirement of 21 days notice.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 9:28 pm
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Victor --

Thanks for your email.

As you point out, the issue will be dealt with in the Governance Committee at its March 7 meeting. It is on the agenda which was sent you yesterday. We are planning to propose a bylaw amendment to meet your request, as I explained to you by email last week.

A report of the Governance Committee is scheduled during both the Governors' briefing and the open meeting on March 8. The intention is for the Committee to report out on this issue and others considered the day before.

I am not clear why it would have made sense for me to propose a bylaw change to the plenary Board 21 days before it would have been considered by the Governance Committee when the change itself is on the Committee meeting agenda only 1 day before the plenary Board meeting. It is certainly possible that the Committee members will propose amendments to the draft.

In any case, my intention all along has been to comply with your requests, Victor. So, I really don't understand the nature of your objection or why you are raising it in this email. (I would have been happy to speak with you about it today when you were in the BBG offices. I was readily available to meet with you if you had requested.)

In any case, I will be available all day tomorrow to meet with you in person or by phone at (b) (6). I would be delighted to speak with you about this or any other topic. Is there a time that would be convenient for you to talk?

Thanks, Victor. Have a nice evening. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 8:36:31 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Dear (b) (6)

I had requested to you several weeks ago by law changes to be voted on at the March 8 meeting to deal with the presiding Governor issue. I do not see it on the proposed agenda. I have not received in a timely manner the proposed change either. The current bylaws clearly state in section 1.02 that a proposed by law change must go to full Board 21 days in advance of the meeting. While it is true the governance committee will consider this on March 7 at my request, you do not appear to have carried out my request sent to you over 10 days ago asking that this bylaw change appear on the March 8 BBG Board agenda and that the text of it be sent to all Governors in compliance with the time frame spelled out in the bylaws which is 21 days. This now means that the Board cannot consider any by law change until its April meeting. Even if the March 7 governance committee approves and recommends by law changes failure to comply with the 21 notice means this now goes to the April meeting.

Perhaps you can explain why this is as we had by e mail discussed this more than 21 days in advance of the March meeting and I had asked this proposed change be sent to all Governors in compliance with the bylaws.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 5:54 pm

Subject: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Dear Governors,

Attached is a draft agenda for the March 2012 meetings. This draft agenda has been reviewed and approved by presiding Governor Lynton.

There will be two sessions of the Governance Committee meeting, March 7 and March 9, to be held at the Cohen Building.

All BBG-related meetings will be held on Thursday, March 8, at MBN Headquarters in Springfield, VA, from 9 am to 4:30 pm.

We welcome your comments and requests for additional topics and/or other changes in the closed session (Governors' Briefing) or in the open BBG meeting.

While some Governors might prefer to handle their own transportation, we would be happy to make arrangements for a group transfer from the Cohen Building to MBN as well as a return transfer. Please indicate your preference at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 12:18 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Jeffrey Trimble
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

(b) (6) My request was to have a bylaw change drafted and presented March 8. That request was sent to you in ample time to comply with the bylaws.. I am a Board member. Whether you agree or disagree with my approach, I am entitled to have my request implemented when I asked for it. If there was a problem with doing that then I am entitled to have you as deputy legal counsel tell me why you are not doing it. You failed to honor my request and are only telling me your reason for not doing it since I have raised the issue after it is too late to do much about it as the 21 day notice requirement has passed.

As an attorney myself, I differ with your legal analysis that this can be done without a bylaw change. What is the basis for your rationale? On your theory the Board can do anything and ignore the bylaws. You give me the impression of making legal opinions based on your hope for certain outcomes and not on the law.

I find this whole process most disappointing.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Fri, Feb 24, 2012 9:21 am
Subject: RE: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Victor – Thanks for your follow-up. A by-law change is not required in order to create the presiding Governor's authorities. This can be done by Board decision. So, if we follow the Board's precedent, the Board would consider and adopt the recommendation of the Governance Committee about the authorities and roles of the Presiding Governor -- including the text of a proposed bylaw change -- at the March 8 meeting. The Board decision would go into effect immediately and could then be reflected subsequently in a formal bylaw change as a housekeeping matter. Thanks. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 11:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

How do you propose that the Board vote on a bylaw change for which it has not received a copy of 21 days in advance? I still have not seen the by law change proposal and I had asked you for it.

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Victor Ashe

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To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

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In any case, I will be available all day tomorrow to meet with you in person or by phone at (b) (6). I would be delighted to speak with you about this or any other topic. Is there a time that would be convenient for you to talk?

Thanks, Victor. Have a nice evening. (b) (6)

From: vhashe@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 8:36:31 PM

To: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

; Richard M. Lobo;

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Dear (b) (6)

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Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6)

Sent: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 5:54 pm

Subject: Draft March Meetings Agenda

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While some Governors might prefer to handle their own transportation, we would be happy to make arrangements for a group transfer from the Cohen Building to MBN as well as a return transfer. Please indicate your preference at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, November 18, 2012 1:51 PM
To: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Fwd: Invites for Russia and Iran Panels on Dec 13

Bruce

thanks. let me think this over in case I have some other ideas besides these to forward to you.

Victor

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6), vhashe@aol.com
CC: (b) (6)
Sent: 11/16/2012 6:22:42 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Invites for Russia and Iran Panels on Dec 13

Dear Strategy & Budget Committee members,

At Bruce's request, a list of invites for the Russia and Iran panels is pasted in below for your information.

We will keep you posted on the final list of panelists.

Have a nice weekend!

Russia

(b) (6)



(b) (6)



From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 8:37 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft March Meetings Agenda

Dear (b) (6)

I had requested to you several weeks ago by law changes to be voted on at the March 8 meeting to deal with the presiding Governor issue. I do not see it on the proposed agenda. I have not received in a timely manner the proposed change either. The current bylaws clearly state in section 1.02 that a proposed by law change must go to full Board 21 days in advance of the meeting. While it is true the governance committee will consider this on March 7 at my request, you do not appear to have carried out my request sent to you over 10 days ago asking that this bylaw change appear on the March 8 BBG Board agenda and that the text of it be sent to all Governors in compliance with the time frame spelled out in the bylaws which is 21 days. This now means that the Board cannot consider any by law change until its April meeting. Even if the March 7 governance committee approves and recommends by law changes failure to comply with the 21 notice means this now goes to the April meeting.

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Victor Ashe

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

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To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
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While some Governors might prefer to handle their own transportation, we would be happy to make arrangements for a group transfer from the Cohen Building to MBN as well as a return transfer. Please indicate your preference at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 5:23 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6) Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

After further review, I wish to be recorded in the section on re-affirming one organization and many brands as abstaining. The minutes should reflect that. I feel the views of the entity heads merit more consideration and thoughtful discussion.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/13/2012 4:49:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Committee members:

Please find attached a draft Strategy and Budget Committee report from the April 10 meeting.

We propose to include the draft Committee report in the briefing book for the April Board meeting.

Please let us know if you have any comments or questions.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 8:42 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

My recollection is that all of us agreed to restore China funding...including Tibetan. The minutes do not reflect that.

Victor

In a message dated 4/13/2012 6:15:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Victor -- We will note your abstention on "one organization, many brands" as you have requested.

I prepared an initial draft of the report which was circulated for comments to IBB staff who attended the meeting. You may recall that, after the discussion of each agenda item at the meeting, I raised my hand and summarized what I understood to be the recommendations of the Committee. I then prepared the draft based on the concurrence of the Governors and circulated it for comment to the other IBB staff members who attended the meeting.

With respect to China, the agreement was to create a working group to develop a "holistic plan" for broadcasting to China (including Tibet and Cantonese), which is reflected in the draft report.

This does not foreclose any outcome, including the possibility of restoring funding, once the requested plan is reviewed by the Committee and the Board. If you wish, we can note your view that China funding should be fully restored.

Thanks. (b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 5:18:31 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

I am stunned by reading this draft report on Strategy and Budget. Whoever wrote it must have attended a different meeting than I did. We clearly restored all China funding including Tibet. Why is this not stated here? Other Governors agreed that Laos funding should be restored too. It was not just me.

There is no name on this. Who wrote this? No name is listed.

Victor Ashe

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Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 8:47 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

well, let the record reflect that Enders and I have very different memories of the same meeting which we both attended. So the Board will have to decide which way the Board wishes to go.

failure to restore Tibetan language and the China cuts will only result in Congress doing it for us. I prefer we do it but in either case it will happen as congress will override any failure of the Board to restore.

Victor ashe

In a message dated 4/13/2012 6:58:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I beg to differ. This is exactly the meeting I co-chaired. We did not vote to restore all funding to China/Tibet. Rather, we instructed the subcommittee we formed at the time (Sherman, (b) (6), with (b) (6) added later) to provide a draft plan for a holistic approach to China/Tibet and to proceed as if we had made no cuts. The purpose of this approach was to give this group free rein to come up with the best possible solution. If their recommendation appeals to the entire board, and if it includes restoring cuts that have already been voted by the board, then by a favorable vote of the entire board those cuts may be restored. The S&B committee has no such power on its own. We only recommend to the whole board.

In all respects, including noting Victor's opinion on Laos broadcast issues, this is an excellent summary of what actually took place at the meeting, exactly, as far as I can tell, as (b) (6) read our recommendations back to us after each issue was discussed. My compliments to whomever compiled the report.

sew/

From: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Date: Fri, 13 Apr 2012 17:18:31 -0400 (EDT)
To: (b) (6) "Wimbush S. Enders" (b) (6) Michael Meehan
(b) (6), Michael Lynton (b) (6) Dennis Mulhaupt
(b) (6)
Cc: Dick Lobo (b) (6) Jeff Trimble (b) (6)
Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

I am stunned by reading this draft report on Strategy and Budget. Whoever wrote it must have attended a different meeting than I did. We clearly restored all China funding including Tibet. Why is this not stated here? Other Governors agreed that Laos funding should be restored too. It was not just me.

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Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 9:01 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

I was also clear in my view that we should have more than one recommendation on China from this committee...we needed several options. I am firmly convinced that full restoration is needed and is what Congress wants. We have engaged in enough non productive battles with Congress. Furthermore given what is occurring in Tibet we cannot and should not be cutting back.

Enders and I differ on the writing of the report as we have very different recollections on what transpired.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 4/13/2012 6:58:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

I beg to differ. This is exactly the meeting I co-chaired. We did not vote to restore all funding to China/Tibet. Rather, we instructed the subcommittee we formed at the time (Sherman, (b) (6), with (b) (6) added later) to provide a draft plan for a holistic approach to China/Tibet and to proceed as if we had made no cuts. The purpose of this approach was to give this group free rein to come up with the best possible solution. If their recommendation appeals to the entire board, and if it includes restoring cuts that have already been voted by the board, then by a favorable vote of the entire board those cuts may be restored. The S&B committee has no such power on its own. We only recommend to the whole board.

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sew/

From: Victor Ashe <vhashe@aol.com>
Date: Fri, 13 Apr 2012 17:18:31 -0400 (EDT)
To: (b) (6), "Wimbush S. Enders" (b) (6), Michael Meehan (b) (6), Michael Lynton (b) (6), Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6)
Cc: Dick Lobo <Rlobo@bbg.gov>, Jeff Trimble <(b) (6)>, Bruce Sherman (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

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Please let us know if you have any comments or questions.

Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:30 PM
To: Lynne Weil; (b) (6)
Cc: Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
[Redacted]
Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

all excellent points from Lynne...however, we should all know the process by which mail addressed to BBG only is handled once it reaches the Cohen Bldg as apparently we do not know.

Victor

In a message dated 4/11/2012 9:18:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Thank you, Dana.

The letter has been converted here to Adobe format, which should work on most systems.

I recommend that any response to (b) (6) be copied to (b) (6), who has been running the foundation named for her late father, and who sent the letter to (b) (6) by e-mail.

Suggestion: That VOA begin drafting something in coordination with the agency's Office of Strategy and Development, as well as that of the CFO, to be approved as usual after that. As Dana noted, under the circumstances the turnaround time won't be inordinate.

Looping in Bruce and (b) (6) here, along with the chiefs of staff at VOA and the IBB.

I further suggest that as this effort gets under way the Governors not be subjected to process-related messages, but that they be copied on the final version per normal procedures.

Have a good night, all.

Lynne

From: Dana Perino [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:08 PM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Lynne Weil; Letitia King; Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble;(b) (6)
Subject: Re: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

i just tried to open the letter - it comes up just as characters - so i'll read it when i can. And though i am having to do this from nyc and with a different working situation than i had before, i don't see why there would need to be anything directed toward Lynne when there could be a perfectly reasonable explanation for where the letter went or an unintentional oversight...it has only been 7 days, 1 of which was an observed holiday for many, 2 of which were weekend days. From what I can tell, everyone's doing more with less and doing it pretty darn well.

On Apr 11, 2012, at 8:49 PM, Vhashe@aol.com wrote:

(b) (6) head of one of the unions, sent the (b) (6) letter to me two hours ago which I am forwarding. Hopefully, all can access the letter. Clearly, it was addressed to Broadcasting Board of Governors and no one else (or an individual) and no one at top management has a clue where the letter dated April 4 is within the Cohen bldg or even if it got there. I do not know how (b) (6) had the letter as my original source on this was not him.

It seems to me that top management needs to know how mail addressed to BBG only is handled and someone needs to read it, and share with Governors items like this from significant and distinguished private citizens. Governors need to know how mail so addressed is handles. (b) (6) was more than (b) (6) spouse. She was his right hand and worked unpaid in his office every day. She knows foreign policy.

Lynne is new on the job but this will be a learning experience for all of us.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/11/2012 6:33:14 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Fwd: Forward the Letter from (b) (6)

Victor:

Just in case this letter was not shared with the Board members.

(b) (6)

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

From: (b) (6)

Date: Tue, Apr 10, 2012 at 10:18 AM

Here you go.

All the best,

(b) (6)

--
(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 5:19 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Draft Strategy and Budget Committee Report

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Thank you.

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:52 PM
To: Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble; (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Subject: Fwd: (b) (6)

Here is an employee issue from this week where (b) (6) president of the AFGE union voices really strong views on how (b) (6) and HR handled this issue. I am not taking sides on the issue but I do feel it raises significant questions in light of our March 9 governance committee meeting and the good will created there from just listening. (b) (6) and (b) (6) are clearly at odds here. It is not a good situation. BBG does not seem to work well with State here either.

As mayor of Knoxville, I tried to work with employees. I maintained strong communications with unions and individual employees. Dick Lobo has reached out to contractors. However, he learned in one meeting a contractor who had appeared before us was sent a termination notice shortly thereafter followed shortly thereafter by a new notice saying it was all a mistake. While he has NOT been fired there are those who wonder if this was just an error or intended to have a chilling impact by seeming to terminate but then not doing it. Someone seems to not have gotten the Board message that we want to work to solve these issues. These 'mistakes' cause us lasting damage. Under Dennis Mulhaupt's leadership the governance committee is listening. Lobo is holding more contractor meetings even at 0700. We must not allow other incidents to undercut top level actions.

It also bothers me that BBG does not have a new contract with AFGE. Why is this? What are the hurdles to overcome? If morale is to improve we must do better. I am told more meetings are not even scheduled. I worry that the second level folks in a few cases are not getting the message from Lobo and the Board as evidenced by this e mail and the contractor firing followed by rescinding the termination. There is suspicion that this is designed to create an impasse and send it arbitration.

We have lots to discuss in Miami.

Victor Ashe

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: 4/7/2012 10:00:57 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: (b) (6)

Victor:

(b) (6) contacted me and wanted to respond regarding putting the issue on our website. He didn't know that we had already discussed this but yes we will address this on our website. I have discussed it with (b) (6) because I didn't want to do it without her knowledge and permission. She has given her permission so we will do it.

(b) (6) description of our meeting with (b) (6) is accurate. One thing that shocked me (although I should be used to this by now) was her complete lack of concern or empathy for (b) (6) plight. I told her that the problem I had with this whole process was that this individual was told that her Visa had expired and she would have to leave the country by March 14th or face deportation and the possibility of never being able to enter the U.S. again. (b) (6) asked her what would have happened if she had left the country by March 14th - what if the Agency decided that she should not have been fired. (b) (6) said that if she left there would be no reconsideration of her removal because the Agency would not agree to bring her back.

I told her that the process put her in a catch 22 then. She responded that she knew the conditions when she was hired - she knew what she was getting into. She then said that she was not a good employee anyway because they had Program Review go through her reports and she was mediocre at best. I then told her that Program

Review directly contradicted what her two former Service Chiefs and her direct supervisor stated - in writing no less. She dismissed what they said claiming that the first Service Chief (the one who hired her) was only there for a short time so her statement didn't count. The other one was acting only for a few months and she just completely discredited her direct supervisor. Keep in mind the Service Chief who wanted her out had only been in the position since this past November and had only just returned after leaving the Agency to work for some firm in Pakistan.

The whole thing stinks.

(b) (6)

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 4:29 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: FW: Possible Mtg w/Gov Ashe?

I cannot do the 0900 meeting I fear. I can do it at 330 PM or 4. If Bruce is not available for the contract in later afternoon, I can and will look at it myself and then talk to him later. Contract visit should not last one hour. Morale should be 30 mins or so...Can we work it out at 330 or 4?

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 3/28/2012 3:55:15 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe,

After checking Dick's schedule, I would like to propose the following schedule for you tomorrow.

9 am Review Research Contract in BBG (Bruce and (b) (6))

1 pm Meeting with Dick

2 pm Office of Contracts Visit

3 pm Briefing by Morale Task Force

Please let me know if you approve.

Thanks.

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 2:56 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: FW: Possible Mtg w/Gov Ashe?

need to leave by 430 Victor

In a message dated 3/28/2012 2:54:54 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

What time do you need to leave? Is it still by 4 pm? Let me check if Dick is available at 3:30 pm. Half hour good?

From: Vhashe@aol.com [<mailto:Vhashe@aol.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 2:48 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: FW: Possible Mtg w/Gov Ashe?

yes..also want to drop by Dick Lobo

Victor

In a message dated 3/28/2012 2:45:34 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Dear Governor Ashe,

Are you interested? Do you want to schedule this after the Office of Contracts visit tomorrow?

Just let me know.

Thanks.

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

From: (b) (6) non

Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 2:42 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: Possible Mtg w/Gov Ashe?

(b) (6)

If Governor Ashe has time after his visit with the contracts staff tomorrow the co-chairs of the morale task force would like to take a few minutes to brief him on recommendations the group forwarded to the VOA and IBB directors re actions

(b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:16 AM
To: (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo; Jeffrey Trimble; Bruce Sherman; Lynne Weil
Cc: Dana Perino; (b) (6) Tara Sonenshine; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Fw: Letter to BBG from (b) (6)
Attachments: CUSIBMail.png

this is a serious issue which has legs. It is not going away. I look forward to the call tomorrow.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 10/4/2012 9:54:38 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Got a dozen of these overnight and will in the MidEast. A campaign is well underway. Whats the plan?

I know Dennis has a call teed up fo Friday and i know we need a full response push back here.

Thanks

Michael.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 08:48 AM
To: (b) (6) vhashe Ashe <yhashe@aol.com>; Susan McCue; Dana Perino
(b) (6) Dennis Mulhaupt (b) (6) Michael Meehan
Subject: Letter to BBG from (b) (6)

Dear Governors and Secretary Sonenshine,

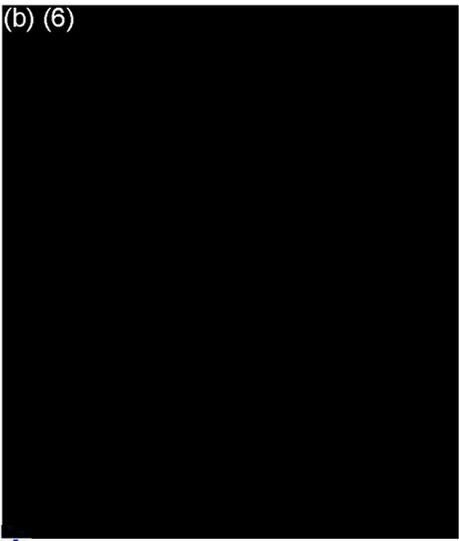
Since we have emailed you the letter from (b) (6), she has informed us that 27 of her colleagues attached their signatures to her letter. We include their names here:

(b) (6) letter was signed by former RFE/RL staffers who share the author's opinions (27 signatures):

(b) (6)



(b) (6)



The next letter is from former Radio Liberty employee (b) (6).

I am exasperated and confused. I worked with RFE/RL Russian Service for 14 years, and witnessed such a notorious ending!

People, who gave years of hard work to popularize democracy and human rights activism, are caught unawares, and fired one by one in no time.

I remember guards at our beloved RFE/RL Moscow editorial office and frozen eyes of bureaucrats saying "Thank you, we no longer need your service. Here is your compensation, hope you are satisfied."

As time goes by I begin to more fully realize what happened. Seizure, devastation? What will happen to the Radio, what will happen to my colleagues? Will everyone have a knack to stay healthy after such a strike?

Why did RFE/RL top management decide that we can't and don't want to work in a new – multimedia – format?

Everyone knew about the switch to multimedia, and was getting prepared for it. Everyone dreamed of working with new equipment on an updated radio station.

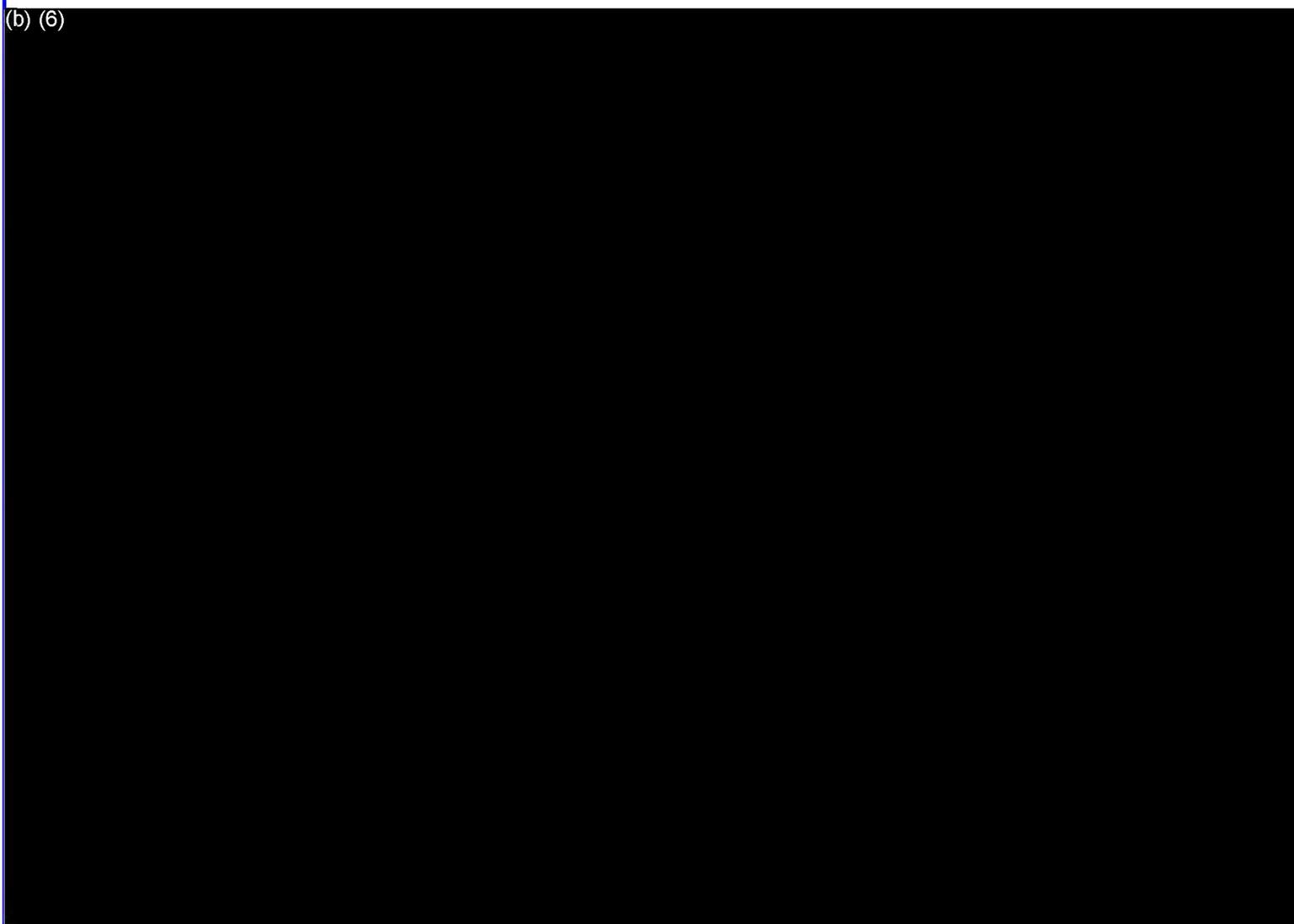
Why were we fired? Still no answer.

Our RFE/RL Moscow bureau team consisted of professionals, who were invited to Radio Svoboda by different directors. Directors changed, and my colleagues carried on doing their job with great talent and honesty.

Many of them, due to their political beliefs and censorship in Russia, will not be able to find jobs in Russian media. Training for a new profession and the unemployment office are awaiting most of us.

(b) (6), former producer and sound editor in RFE/RL's Moscow bureau

(b) (6)



From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 8:54 AM
To: (b) (6); Bruce Sherman
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

thanks so much. If you send one or two countries (unless they are just a couple of pages) please send them snail mail as my home computer cannot print out 50 or 60 pages....would be interested in Tibet, Iran and Cuba. Thanks for your prompt response. Most helpful.

Victor Ashe

In a message dated 5/3/2012 8:48:18 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Governor Ashe, I will send you a list of surveys from 2011/2012 later this morning. I'll also gather some representative research reports to send. Let me know if there's a particular country you're interested in.

Regards,

(b) (6)

From: Bruce Sherman
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 8:15:45 AM
To: vhashe@aol.com
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

Victor,

Good morning. BBG broadcasts to more than 100 countries, but we have never had the resources to survey all of those annually, or even biannually. Typically we do survey research in 50 or so countries a year.

For example, for the 22 countries of the Middle East served by Alhurra TV and Rado Sawa, we have surveyed 9-11 countries per year. For the 31 countries of Francophone Africa served by VOA French to Africa, we do just a few annually, again due to limited resources. The same holds true for our research in the many Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America.

On the other hand, for top-priority countries or territories such as China, Tibet, Russia, Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, et al, we have always tried to do annual work.

(b) (6), BBG's research manager who works for me, can send you the list of countries we surveyed last year and those we have identified to survey thus far this year under the new Gallup contract. Among the first Gallup projects were Tibet and Iran, and we should have the final results from both studies very soon. (Looking at these two specifically will also allows us to discuss with you and the Board how we approach difficult-to-research areas to procure nonetheless actionable data.)

The cost range for a nationally representative media survey across our universe of countries is \$125,000-250,000. This is for a random sample of 2000 respondents (or much higher in larger countries like China, where national samples go as high as 8500 respondents) with a questionnaire that can run 45 minutes in length to obtain the diversity of data our language services require in terms of ownership of/access to and actual use of TV, radio, Internet, mobile phones, and social media as well as preferences for media outlets and subject areas.

From the surveys, we derive most of our key performance data on audience reach, news reliability, audience understanding, etc., which we are required to report to OMB and Congress. The data also inform our strategy and budget formulation, drive the annual language service review, and help determine distribution/transmission decisions, etc.

This said, audience and media surveys are only part of the BBG's research program. Qualitative and evaluative research are the other, equally important, parts.

Qualitative research includes focus groups and in-depth interviews to probe specific issues of interest to the language services regarding their programs, to test program concepts and pilots, to explore audience perceptions of competing media outlets, etc.

Evaluative research involves listener and viewer panels, which have been done for every service for many years to gauge program quality on both substance and style, and custom-commissioned reviews of program content such as the evaluations the Board (Enders was the lead) asked be done of PNN.

All BBG research is archived in our offices and at the broadcast entities. You can see any of it whenever you wish. In fact, we'll also send you a complete set of studies for a single country so you can see the specific work products.

For years we routinely distributed all BBG research in summary form to the Board. But the sheer volume of the work proved overwhelming -- tallying up all quantitative (surveys), qualitative, and evaluative studies annually, the number of discrete projects with corresponding reports runs between 200-300.

I hope this answers your immediate questions. I appreciate your interest. The research program is an open book. We'll follow up as noted and will gladly walk you through any of the studies or reports, or any aspects of actual research methodologies or program administration that you'd care to explore.

Best, Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

On May 3, 2012, at 6:54 AM, "Vhashe@aol.com" <Vhashe@aol.com> wrote:

Bruce and Jeff

It is my understanding that the Gallup contract provides for surveys in 100 countries as part of the research project. Is that number correct? How can I find out which nations those are? Does the type of survey done in each nation vary or the same in each? Does the contract do 100 countries annually? When those surveys are done who at BBG maintains them?

If I should be asking someone else about this please advise or share it with them?

I look forward to hearing from you about this. Feel free to call if this inquiry is too burdensome so we can discuss.

Victor Ashe

From: Vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 9:04 AM
To: Bruce Sherman; (b) (6)
Cc: Jeffrey Trimble; Richard M. Lobo
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

Pakistan suits me too.

Victor

In a message dated 5/3/2012 9:01:03 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, (b) (6) writes:

Let's do Pakistan, as it's a much-studied, high-priority place, unless Gov. Ashe has another country he prefers. In fact, I can send the Pak studies easily, as I just grouped them in my own online folder in tandem with the deep dive on Pakistan we recently did at the US Institute of Peace. I'll do that in about 30 minutes. Bruce

Sent from my iPhone

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Victor Ashe

From: Bruce Sherman
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Victor Ashe

From: vhashe@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 8:55 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6) Richard M. Lobo;
(b) (6) Bruce Sherman
Subject: Re: Gallup contract

Then your office should explain all of this to (b) (6) who is seeking this information. The (b) (6) does NOT offer this explanation. This explanation gives BBG a somewhat more credible explanation but in the end I feel we have an obligation to let the public see how \$50 million is being spent. I urge a second letter from (b) (6) to (b) (6) which contains basically the material you have sent me in two e mails. This would make it appear BBG actually cares and is taking the matter seriously. The first response strikes me as typical government jargon with no end in sight.

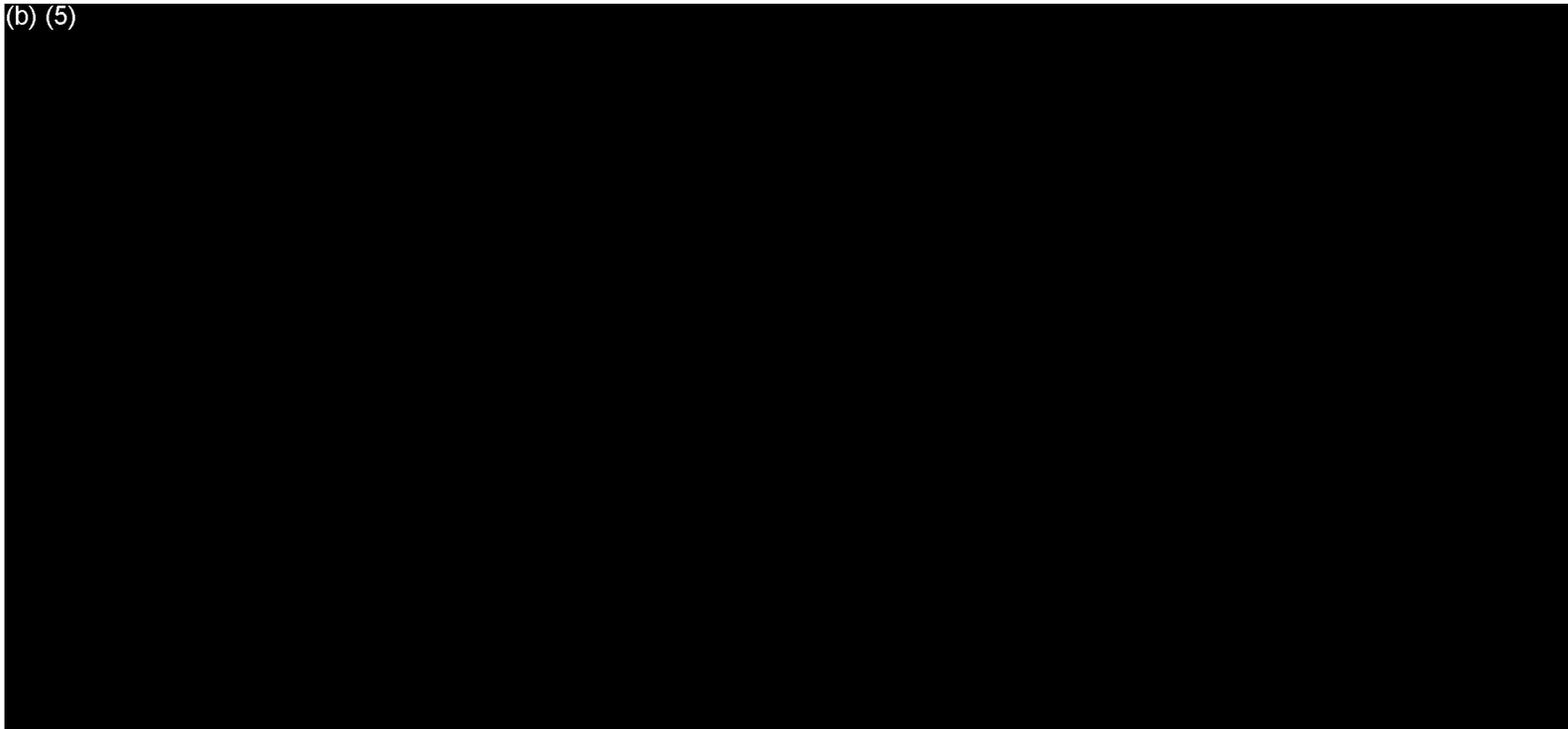
I also believe that I as a Governor am entitled to see the contract subject to the limitations of the law.

Victor Ashe

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

From: (b) (6)
To: vhashe <vhashe@aol.com>; (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil (b) (6); Jeffrey Trimble (b) (6); Letitia King (b) (6);
(b) (6) Richard M. Lobo (b) (6); Bruce
Sherman (b) (6)
Sent: Fri, Mar 23, 2012 5:52 pm
Subject: RE: Gallup contract

(b) (5)

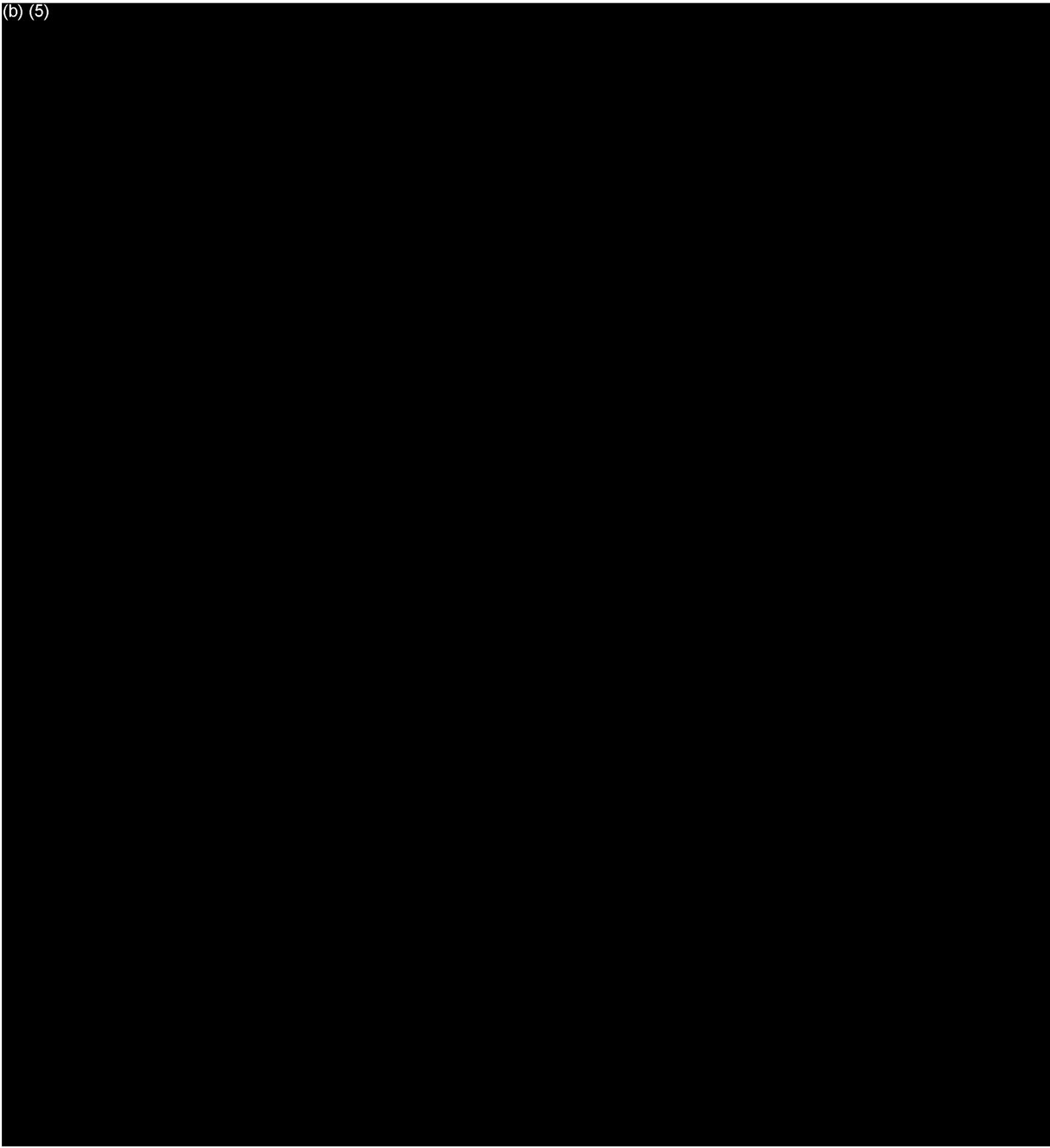


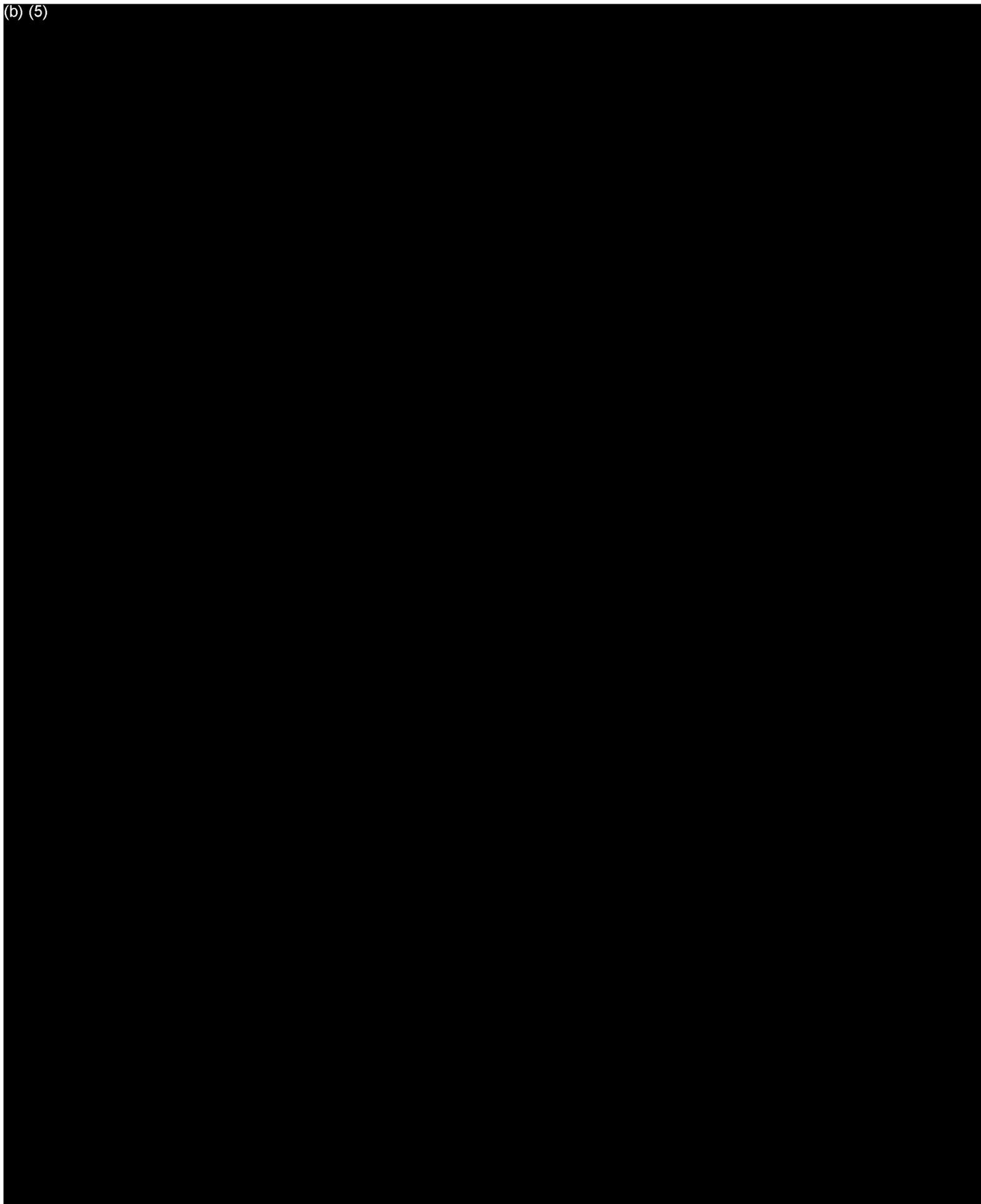
From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:52 PM
To: 'vhashe@aol.com'; (b) (6)
Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King (b) (6); Richard M. Lobo; (b) (6) Bruce

Sherman

Subject: RE: Gallup contract

(b) (5)





From: vhashe@aol.com [mailto:vhashe@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:15 PM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: Lynne Weil; Jeffrey Trimble; Letitia King; (b) (6)

Subject: Gallup contract

Dear (b) (6)

I want to go on record as one BBG member saying that the Gallup contract for almost \$50 million should be released to inquiring persons asking under FOIA without delay or cost. In fact, it ought to be placed on the BBG web site. I should remind you that the President in his first year in office urged more openness. We should honor his executive order. When BBG thru your office responds to such a request outling potential costs and seems less than anxious to comply, it places BBG in a bad light. I urge prompt release of this significant contract to those who wish to review it. BBG should not receive negative publicity over this issue which delay to release will cause. Why not just place it online and let people download it?

Victor Ashe