Mr. Chris Spannos
People’s Communication Inc
228 Park Ave S #77325
New York, NY 10003-1502

Dear Mr. Spannos:

In response to your request dated January 10, 2012 under the Freedom of Information Act (Title 5 USC Section 552), we have initiated searches of the following Department of State record systems: the Central Foreign Policy Records (the principal record system of the Department of State), the Bureau of Public Affairs, and the Office of the Executive Secretariat.

The search of the records of the Office of the Executive Secretariat has been completed and has resulted in the retrieval of one document responsive to your request. After reviewing this document, we have determined that it may be released in full. All released material is enclosed.

The searches of the records of the Central Foreign Policy Records and Bureau of Public Affairs have been completed, resulting in the retrieval of no documents responsive to your request.

The Freedom of Information Act provides for the recovery of the direct cost of duplicating records requested for non-commercial use by a representative of the news media. However, no fee is charged for the first one hundred pages of duplication. Since fewer than one hundred pages have been duplicated in this case, your request has been processed without charge to you.
We have now completed the processing of your case. If you have any questions, you may write to the Office of Information Programs and Services, SA-2, Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-8100, or telephone us at (202) 261-8484. Please be sure to refer to the case number shown above in all correspondence about this case.

We hope that the Department has been of service to you in this matter.

Sincerely,

Sheryl L. Walter, Director
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosure:
As stated.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

From: PA & S/P
Date: Thursday, September 8, 2011
Re: NYT “Publisher’s Lunch” (note: a light lunch will now be served)

This updated briefing includes:
- Context & Participants
- Guidance for on-the-record comments (p. 2)
- Memo on “The Positive Story: Where We Are in the Region” (p. 4)
- Supporting materials from Under Secretary Hormats (p. 8)
- Participant biographies (p. 12)
- Compilation of recent editorials (p. 22)
- Iraq/Afghanistan budget update (Tab 1)
- Q&A (Tab 2)

CONTEXT & PARTICIPANTS

On Friday, you will meet with members of The New York Times for what they call a “Publisher’s Lunch.” The distinction between a Publisher’s Lunch and an editorial board is that this meeting is hosted by Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, Jr. When you last met with members of the NYT – in September of last year – it was also a Publisher’s Lunch.

As was the case last year, we can determine the ground rules of the meeting. One option that we are recommending is to start the meeting ON the record and use the opportunity to briefly discuss the frame recently developed regarding America’s leadership in the world.

PARTICIPANTS

- Arthur Sulzberger Jr., Chairman and Publisher
- Jill Abramson, Executive Editor
- Dean Baquet, Managing Editor
- Charles Blow, Columnist
- Elisabeth Bumiller, Domestic Correspondent
- Sewell Chan, Deputy Op-ed Editor
- Gail Collins, Columnist
- Helene Cooper, Domestic Correspondent
- Maureen Dowd, Columnist
- Carol Giacomo, Editorial Board
- Joe Kahn, Deputy Foreign Editor
- David Leonhardt, DC Bureau Chief
- Steven Myers, Domestic Correspondent
- Joe Nocera, Columnist
- Sasha Polakow-Suransky, Staff Editor Op-ed
- Carla Robbins, Deputy Editorial Page Editor
- Andy Rosenthal, Editorial Page Editor
- Dick Stevenson, Political Editor
- Terry Tang, Editorial Board
WikiLeaks

NYT Editorial, November 29, 2010

While there are legitimate reasons for keeping diplomatic conversations secret and the release of cables will create awkward moments, the “claim by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton that the leaks threaten national security seems exaggerated.”

The first tranche of cables shows that the Obama administration’s “diplomatic wheeling and dealing is appropriate and, at times, downright skillful.”

Talking Points

- As I and others have said before, the United States strongly condemns any illegal disclosure of classified information.

- In addition to damaging our diplomatic efforts, it puts individuals’ security at risk, threatens our national security, and undermines our efforts to work with countries to solve shared problems.

- Beyond that, I won’t comment on the authenticity of the documents released by WikiLeaks.