

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 7/26/97 1:55:00 PM
FROM Barks-Ruggles, Erica
CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SUBJECT RE: Status of Jackson Papers [~~CONFIDENTIAL~~]
TO Davies, Glyn T.

CARBON_COPY Barks-Ruggles, Erica
Battenfield, Pat A.
McCormick, Shawn H.
Prendergast, John P.
Rice, Susan E.
Orr, Robert C.
Wilson, Joseph C.
Wilson, Damon M.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526 5/16/2017
White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006
By VZ NARA, Date 1/4/2018
204-0927-F

TEXT_BODY Glyn -
Yes, State Africa bureau has the paperwork as of Thursday
(7/24) and is working on writing a job description. No time frame
yet on this. I will keep you posted. - Erica

From: Davies,
Glyn T.
To: @AFRICA - African Affairs
Subject: Status of Jackson
Papers [UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Saturday, July 26, 1997 12:33 PM

Any
update on the paperwork for Jesse Jackson? Does State have it all?
Thanks.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 7/30/97 10:04:57 AM

FROM Crowley, Philip J.

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT Kamen and Jackson [UNCLASSIFIED]

TO Wilson, Damon M.
Orr, Robert C.
Wilson, Joseph C.
Rice, Susan E.
Barks-Ruggles, Erica
Battenfield, Pat A.
McCormick, Shawn H.
Prendergast, John P.

CARBON_COPY Johnson, David T.
Luzzatto, Anne R.
Wozniak, Natalie S.
Crowley, Philip J.
Dohoney, James P.

TEXT_BODY Al Kamen hints that Jesse Jackson is about to be appointed as permanent
emisary to Africa for human rights and democracy. Is there something
pending? What can we say about that, if anything?

PJ

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 9/23/97 6:47:27 PM
FROM Barks-Ruggles, Erica
CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CLASSIFICATIONREASON 1.5(d)
DATECLASSIFIEDON 09/23/1997
DECLASSIFYON 09/23/2007
SUBJECT Jesse Jackson - Nigeria role [~~CONFIDENTIAL~~]
TO Wilson, Joseph C.
CARBON_COPY Battenfield, Pat A.

TEXT_BODY

Joe - Per your request. Arguments for a phone call to Sandy.

-

Erica

We understand that Jackson has expressed interest in working on Nigeria issues once he is officially announced as the Special Advisor to the President and the Secretary of State for Promotion of Democracy in Africa. We would strongly argue against this for the following reasons:

-- Our long-term goals include not only improving human rights and promoting a return to democratic civilian rule via open elections on a level playing field, but ensuring the stability of Nigeria, while increasing cooperation on counter-narcotics and crime and maintaining good mutual efforts on Liberia. These are complex, long-term questions that do not lend themselves to the intermittent, limited nature of Jackson's appointment. They necessarily require long-term bridge-building efforts between engaged, low-profile personalities.

-- Jackson is seeking a public role where he can "make a difference" in Africa. Public statements and pressure may be appropriate from time to time, but the high-intensity, high-visibility effort that is Jackson's forte could stall or damage nascent policy initiatives on Nigeria.

-- Jackson has a history in Nigeria, having failed in August 1994 to obtain Abiola's release. Jackson had been perceived as friendly to the government, and shocked all involved

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By 12 NARA, Date 1/8/2018
2014-0927-f

(including the USG) when he issued a strong indictment of Abacha during his visit. The statement enflamed Abacha and caused great consternation within the GON.

IF SANDY INSISTS WE MUST BE ACCOMODATING

--

If we wish to have Jackson play a role in Nigeria, he could potentially be helpful in the area of prisoner releases. This would be in keeping with his position as Special Advisor on Promotion of Democracy in Africa. Jackson's role would necessarily have to be limited and focused specifically on the human rights situation.

-- The most

potentially constructive mission for Jackson would be a single trip to Nigeria to secure the release and transportation out of the country for M.K.O. Abiola after our policy review and an initial approach to the GON on improving bilateral relations. Previous efforts to convince the GON to release Abiola have met with no success.

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The GON has repeatedly hinted that they are willing to release Abiola, but continues to hold him even after a court ordered he be released on bail. Any offer by the GON to release Abiola should be viewed with great skepticism. Therefore, in order to avoid a public fiasco, Abiola's release would have to be solidly settled before Jackson publicly agreed to go to Nigeria, and should come after we have begun to re-engage the GON.

-- Congressman Rangel had been working

on this issue in early summer. We should ensure he is kept informed of any Jackson initiative on this front.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 9/25/97 7:35:33 PM
FROM Wilson, Joseph C.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: Jesse Jackson [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Barks-Ruggles, Erica

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY Erica, Great. thanks.

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

From: Barks-Ruggles,
Erica

Sent: Thursday, September 25, 1997 6:42 PM

To: Malley, Robert;

Wilson, Joseph C.

Cc: Battenfield, Pat A.

Subject: Jesse Jackson
[UNCLASSIFIED]

Rob - FYI here is the redrafted announcement I have shared with Jesse's people. I am trying to talk them out of a lot of detail noting that there will be press guidance done to accompany this where we can put in details of how many times he's been to Africa, etc. Jesse is looking this over (I sent it Wed) and they will get back to me this evening or tomorrow. I will then incorporate their changes and State changes and get you a version to share with Sandy.

Just wanted you to have this in case JJ gets on the phone to SRB again.

- Erica

<< File: jjannounce.doc

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