

# **Press Releases: On Ordered Departure at Consulate Basrah**

Press Statement  
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
September 28, 2018

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Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo has made the determination to place Consulate Basrah on ordered departure. U.S. Embassy Baghdad will continue to provide full consular services to for those in and around Basrah. The Department's updated Travel Advisory is available at [Travel.state.gov](http://Travel.state.gov). We remain strongly committed to supporting Iraqis in the southern provinces and throughout the country.

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# **Press Releases: Deputy Secretary Sullivan's Meeting With Irish Tanaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Coveney**

Readout  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
September 28, 2018

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The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert:□

Deputy Secretary of State John J. Sullivan met today with Irish Tanaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Coveney, on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly. The two reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening the United States' and Ireland's already strong bilateral ties across a wide range of issues, including the status of Brexit talks between the United Kingdom and the European Union, and the importance of supporting Middle East peace efforts. Finally, the Deputy Secretary thanked Ireland for its ongoing humanitarian efforts in Syria.

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## **Press Releases: Deputy Secretary Sullivan's Meeting With Pacific Island Leaders**

Readout  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
September 28, 2018

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The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert:□

On September 27, Deputy Secretary of State John J. Sullivan met with the Foreign Ministers and other senior representatives from Fiji, the Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Marshall Islands, Samoa, and Tonga, as well as representatives from the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, and the Pacific Community, on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly.

The group discussed the United States' enduring commitment to the Pacific Island countries, the region's role in maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific, our mutual interest in addressing climate change issues, and a collective commitment to maintaining pressure on the DPRK to achieve the final, fully-verified denuclearization of North Korea, as agreed to by Chairman Kim.

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## [Press Releases: Secretary Pompeo's Meeting With Burmese Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor Kyaw Tint Swe](#)

Readout  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
September 28, 2018

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The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert:□

Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo met September 27 with Burmese Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor Kyaw Tint Swe in New York on the

margins of the UN General Assembly meetings. While underscoring U.S. support for the democratic transition in Burma and efforts to achieve national peace and reconciliation, the Secretary urged the Government of Burma to take concrete steps to investigate the human rights abuses chronicled by the U.S. Documentation Report and UN Fact Finding Mission and to hold accountable members of the security forces and others responsible for these acts. The Secretary also called for the Burmese government to immediately release jailed Reuters reporters Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo and to strengthen and protect freedom of expression and the press.

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## **Press Releases: On the Occasion of Independence Day in the Republic of Cyprus**

Press Statement  
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC  
September 28, 2018

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On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, I offer congratulations to the people of the Republic of Cyprus on the 58th anniversary of your independence.

The bonds of friendship between the Republic of Cyprus and the United States are strong. We look forward to continuing our close cooperation in expanding our bilateral commercial ties, combatting terrorism, improving maritime security, and promoting regional stability. The United States continues to

support Cypriot-led, UN-facilitated efforts to reunify the island as a bizonal, bicomunal federation and believes a solution to the island's division would bring peace and prosperity to all Cypriots.

We extend our best wishes to you as you celebrate your Independence Day.

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