



United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

DEC 21 2015

Case No.: F-2014-03625
Segment: EAN-0003, EAN-0004,
EAN-0006, EAN-0011, EAN-
0012, NEA-0001, NEA-0002, &
S/ES-0001

John H. Clarke, Esq.
1629 K Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Clarke:

I refer you to our letter dated December 4, 2015, regarding the release of certain Department of State material under the Freedom of Information Act (the "FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552.

The search of the Central Foreign Policy Records, the files of the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, and the files of the Office of the Executive Secretariat is partially complete and has resulted in the retrieval of 25 documents responsive to your request.¹ After reviewing these 25 documents we have determined that 1 may be released in full, 10 may be released in part, 5 must be withheld in full, and that 9 documents either originated in, or require consultation with, other U.S. Government agencies. We have referred the latter nine documents to the relevant agencies with a request to respond upon making a determination as to releasability. All released material is enclosed.

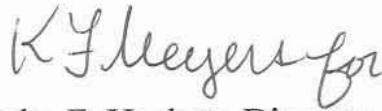
¹ As noted in the Department's December 21, 2015 Unopposed Motion for Extension of Final Production Deadline, State has very recently located a source of potentially-responsive documents that has not previously been searched. State will file a status report on January 22, 2016, in which it will provide the Court with an update on the status of the search and production of any responsive, non-exempt documents from this new source.

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Where documents are released to you in part, all non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released. Where we have made excisions, the applicable exemptions are marked on each document. Of the information withheld in full, all was withheld under FOIA Exemptions 1 and 5, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(1) and § 552(b)(5) . An enclosure provides information on FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material.

We will keep you advised as your case progresses. If you have any questions, please contact Trial Attorney Megan Crowley at (202) 305-0754 or at Megan.A.Crowley@usdoj.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "K F Hackett for".

John F. Hackett, Director
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

- (b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:
- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
 - 1.4(b) Foreign government information
 - 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
 - 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
 - 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
 - 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction
- (b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| ARMSEXP | Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c) |
| CIA PERS/ORG | Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g) |
| EXPORT CONTROL | Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c) |
| FS ACT | Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004 |
| INA | Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f) |
| IRAN | Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505 |
- (b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product
- (b)(6) Personal privacy information
- (b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
 - (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
 - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
 - (D) disclose confidential sources
 - (E) disclose investigation techniques
 - (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual
- (b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions
- (b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

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

000003

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
Page 1 of 2

From: Keshap, Karen
Sent: 8/16/2011 6:09:22 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: Approval: Travel into Benghazi

RELEASE IN PART B6

UNCLASSIFIED

MRN: 11 MDA 56348
Date/DTG: Aug 16, 2011 / 162208Z AUG 11
From: Keshap, Karen
Action: Myer, Jack (OFDA) ROUTINE ; Feltman, Jeffrey D ROUTINE ; Roebuck, William V ROUTINE ; Hulse, Jeffrey A ROUTINE ; Tarr, Bradley A (SA-21) ROUTINE ; Tillou, Patrick A ROUTINE ; Rademacher, Paul R ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: AMGT, OTRA, LY
Subject: Approval: Travel into Benghazi

On August 16, 2011, Under Secretary for Management Patrick Kennedy approved the following USDH employees for travel into Benghazi, Libya:

State/NEA	Feltman	Jeffrey	Assistant Secretary	o/a 8/17/2011 - 8/21/2011	Consultations with Special Representative Stevens and meetings with the Transitional National Council.
State/NEA/MAG	Roebuck	William	Office Director	o/a 8/17/2011 - 8/21/2011	Accompanying A/S Feltman for consultations.
NSS	Fishman	Benjamin	Director	o/a 8/17/2011 - 8/21/2011	Accompanying A/S Feltman for consultations.
State/NEA	Hulse	Jeffrey	Staff Assistant	o/a 8/17/2011 - 8/21/2011	Accompanying A/S Feltman for consultations.
USAID/OFDA	Myer	Jack	USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor	o/a 9/8/2011 - 9/18/2011	Monitor current OFDA programs and meet with implementing partners, monitor and report on the humanitarian situation, and make recommendations for future humanitarian funding, if needed. USAID/OTI personnel Erica Kaster and Camara Garrett will alternate their departures from Benghazi, allowing him to fill one existing USAID slot.
State/IRM/REACH	Tarr	Bradley	REACH Project Telecommunications Analyst, Senior Principal	o/a 8/29/2011 - 9/4/2011	Install VSAT, run OpenNet and ClassNet connectivity into Villa B office building. Institutional Contractor, carries diplomatic passport.
State/NEA/Libya	Tillou	Patrick	Reporting Officer	departing	You approved Patrick Tillou's travel

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer

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Page 1 of 2

000004

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
Page 2 of 2

Cell				o/a 8/24/2011	on 7/20 with an anticipated stay from 8/7/2011 -8/21/2011. Chris Stevens requests that he be permitted to overlap with Nathan Tek for 3 days, until August 24. Patrick is control officer and principal notetaker for A/S Feltman's visit. Feltman departs on 8/21; Patrick would remain on compound for the duration of the overlap to draft the memcons from Feltman's meetings. His presence would not require additional DS assets. AIC [] is ok with this overlap and there are sufficient beds.
State/H	Rademacher	Paul	Legislative Management Officer	8/31/2011 - 9/1/2011	Accompanying Senate Appropriations Committee Staffer Paul Grove

B6

Please contact PMO Karen Keshap in NEA-SCA/EX for additional information.

Drafted By: NEA-SCA/EX:Keshap, Karen
Approved By: NEA/SCA/EX:Keshap, Karen
Released By: NEA_SCA:Keshap, Karen
Info: Hulse, Jeffrey *ROUTINE* ; Smith, Rachel *ROUTINE* ; Smith-Levy, Rachel *ROUTINE* ; Grigola, Sandra T (NEA/FO) *ROUTINE* ; Devine, Kristin *ROUTINE* ; Hill, G. Kathleen *ROUTINE* ; Lohman, Lee *ROUTINE* ; Mincks, William L *ROUTINE* ; Stevens, John *ROUTINE* ; Keshap, Karen *ROUTINE* ; Drummond, Corrie (DCHA/OTI) *ROUTINE* ; Dar, Erfana *ROUTINE* ; Craynon, Laura E *ROUTINE*
Attachments: metadata.dat

Action Post:
Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

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Page 1 of 3RELEASED IN PART
B6

From: Pickens, Amber R
 Sent: 9/11/2012 9:51:48 AM
 To: SMART Core
 Subject: BENGHAZI WEEKLY REPORT - SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

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 SBU



MRN: 12 TRIPOLI 1098
 Date/DTG: Sep 11, 2012 / 111351Z SEP 12
 From: AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
 Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
 E.O.: 13526
 TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PHUM, SENV, ENRG, KDEM, KISL, LY
 Captions: SENSITIVE, SIPDIS
 Subject: BENGHAZI WEEKLY REPORT - SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

1. (SBU) **Summary:** This is Benghazi 's weekly round-up of political, economic, and social issues not included in previous reporting.
2. (SBU) **Benghazi Local Council Welcomes the Ambassador :** Members of Benghazi 's Local Council told the Ambassador about their frustrations with the slow pace of reforms instituted by the Transitional National Council (TNC) and its successor, the General National Congress (GNC). Members said they welcomed USG assistance across a broad range of political and economic issues, including specific programs and training from USAID and MEPI to improve the effectiveness of the Council, its communications with constituents, and its administrative processes. They pleaded for a regional balance to other USG programs to ensure participants from the east and west were equally represented in programming, noting the long-standing feeling in the east that the TNC and GNC had focused development efforts on Tripoli to the detriment of the rest of the country. Despite the challenges, members asserted that the security situation was improving and told the Ambassador that the USG should "pressure" American companies to invest in Benghazi. Twenty of the 41 council members, including President Jumaa al-Sahli, participated. The Benghazi Local Council oversees the work of approximately 600 employees.
3. (SBU) [redacted] **discusses security situation, dissolution of the SSC, extra-judicial killings of former regime security officers, political aspirations of militia leaders, reintegration of revolutionaries, and welfare of Iranian Red Crescent detainees:** In a September 2 meeting with Acting Principal Officer Benghazi, [redacted] [redacted] told us that senior Interior Ministry authorities had unceremoniously ended the "state of maximum alert" announced in Benghazi on August 29. The alert came amid fears of potential strikes by ex-regime supporters to mark the September 1, 1969, revolution and Qadhafi 's rise to power, [redacted] said. He continued that reintegrating revolutionaries remained a priority [redacted], and he expects that the SSC and militias would gradually dissolve (but not until a legitimate alternative for maintaining security emerged). [redacted] expressed growing frustration with police and security forces (who were too weak to keep the country secure) and commented that the Iranian Red Crescent detainees are still held by "unknown" kidnappers but in good accommodations). He speculated about possible motivations for the ongoing extra-judicial killings of interior ministry officials (personal vendettas, criminality, tribal conflicts, purge of pro-Qadhafi officials), and he noted indications that a

B6

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
 Page 1 of 3

000006

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Page 2 of 3

few key brigade commanders, who have been seeking government positions in security ministries, may be developing higher political and economic aspirations. (More details septel.)

4. (SBU) **Militia commanders discuss the Muslim Brotherhood, Jibril, their political aspirations, the economy, and security:** In a September 9 meeting, local area militia commanders [redacted]

[redacted] discussed the very fluid relationships and blurry lines they say define membership in Benghazi-based brigades under the February 17, Libya Shield, and SSC umbrellas. [redacted] They debated – hotly and without resolution – about which brigades supported or opposed specific causes. They claimed to exercise “control” over Libyan Armed Forces Chief of Staff Yousef Mangoush, who “depends” on them to secure eastern Libya. In times of crisis, Mangoush has no other choice than to turn to their brigades for help, they said, as he did recently with unrest in Kufra. As part of this arrangement, Mangoush often provides the brigades direct stocks of weapons and ammunition, they said. [redacted] support the Libyan Muslim Brotherhood’s Justice and Construction Party backed candidate Minister of Electricity Awad Al Barasi for Prime Minister and said that, if elected, al-Barasi would appoint Fawzi Bukatif, Commander of the February 17 Brigade, as Minister of Defense. Bukatif’s appointment would open the MOD and other security ministries and offices to plum-appointments for his most favored brigade commanders – giving February 17 and Libya Shield tacit control of the armed forces. They criticized the USG for “supporting” National Forces Alliance (NFA) leader and Prime Minister candidate Mahmoud Jibril. If Jibril won, they said, they would not continue to guarantee security in Benghazi, a critical function they asserted they were currently providing. Growing problems with security would discourage foreign investment and led to persistent economic stagnation in eastern Libya, but the USG could play a role by “pressuring” American businesses to invest in Benghazi.

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5. (SBU) **Salafists reported killed in clashes with locals defending Sufi shrines:** The Ministry of Interior confirmed press reports that a September 8 gun battle about 35 kilometers outside Benghazi resulted in three killed and seven injured during an attempt to destroy a Sufi shrine in Rajma. Press reports credit local residents and the late-responding Libya Shield brigade with defending the Sidi Al-Lafi mausoleum. Some contacts here, however, assert that Salafists within the Libya Shield were actually fighting against the local residents in support of efforts to destroy the shrine.

6. (SBU) **Expanding Islamist influence in Derna:** A growing number of anecdotal reports from residents, NGOs, and USG contractors link the Abu Salim Brigade with a troubling increase in violence and Islamist influence in Derna. Complaints against the Abu Salim Brigade range from their efforts to close radio and other media outlets, enforce strict rules against co-mingling of men and women at the local university, and increased criminality, including carjacking, thefts, and murders. One e-mail to the Ambassador asserts Abu Salim Brigade members have undercut police presence by accusing the police of being loyal to the former regime. The e-mail ends by pleading to the U.S. Embassy to “Please send someone to see the truth for yourselves.”

7. (SBU) **Car Bomb Kills One, Injures Another:** A September 1 car bomb on Benghazi’s largest and busiest street, Gamal-Abdel-Nasser, killed Abdul Baset Hufaitha and injured Col. Jumaa Kadeki, both former Interior Ministry security officers under the Qadhafi regime. The bombing occurred during the “state of maximum alert” announced by Interior Ministry officials on August 29, and fueled rampant speculation in the press and among our contacts that unknown actors continue to work down a list of former Qadhafi regime officials who had been targeted for extra-judicial killings. Security contacts at United Nations Benghazi who were on the scene within minutes and questioned eye-witnesses, tell us that it is just as likely that the driver of the car, Abdul Baset Hufaitha, may have been in possession of the explosive device and detonated it accidentally.

8. (SBU) **Great Manmade River Authority (GMRA):** Press reported a September 9 explosion that targeted power lines in the Wadi Mansour area between Tarhouna and Bani Walid and cut the major source of electrical power to parts of the Great Manmade River. On September 10, GMRA Acting Chairman Nasser Bubteina told us that auxiliary power lines had kept the GMMR running, but confirmed press reports that “huge 400 kilowatt” lines and towers, including their foundations, had been completely destroyed by the explosion. Bubteina told us that repairs would take a minimum of two weeks, but quite possibly longer because he first had to secure permission from local militias and mobilize security forces to insert workers from the Ministry of Energy and the General Electric Company into the area. With about USD 10 billion invested since its inception in the 1980s, the Great Manmade River (GMMR) Project links wholesale water supplies

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Page 2 of 3

000007

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
Page 3 of 3

from underground aquifers in southern and eastern Libya to municipal, agricultural, and industrial end users in Benghazi and points west toward Tripoli. The GMMR Authority manages the system, a structure of about 2500 miles of pipes, about one hundred operational wells, multiple reservoirs, and multiple supply, pump, and delivery stations that supply water to more than two-thirds of Libya's population. Details to follow septel.

9. (SBU) **Ambassador to Open American Space Benghazi:** The Ambassador will launch American Space Benghazi, a public platform for cultural and educational outreach by U.S. Mission Libya. The American Space will contain a small library, computer lab, and open space for programming. Embassy Tripoli will support the center with regular programs and speakers. We have already used the space to engage in dialogue with 15 young adults about U.S. foreign policy in the country and Libya's political transition.

10. (SBU) **MEPI Projects:** In our ongoing effort to assist and monitor USG implementers, we visited with some of the two dozen civil society organizations that operate in Benghazi with MEPI assistance, including: the *Libyan Society for Industrial Engineering*, which has created eastern Libya's first mobile public library; *My Environment Society*, which conducts environmental education campaigns with school-age children; *Rayhan Elshohadaa Association*, which works to empower disadvantaged youth with employable skills, including computer literacy and English education; and *the Cure Foundation*, which has conducted education campaigns about cancer and hemophilia to patients and their families. Additionally, the Embassy-supported ACCESS program in Benghazi, offers evening English-language instruction to disadvantaged teenagers.

11. (SBU) **UK Presence:** British Charge d'Affairs Gill Frasier visited U.S. Mission Benghazi during a September 5 trip to determine whether conditions were appropriate for the re-opening of the British Consulate. According to Frasier, London will make its decision about reopening the consulate sometime in October. The British withdrew their presence from Benghazi after the widely reported June 11 RPG attack on the British Ambassador's motorcade.

Signature: STEVENS

Drafted By: POL-ECON:McFarland, David C
Cleared By: EXEC:Hicks, Gregory N
Approved By: EXEC:Stevens, John C
Released By: TRIPOLI:Pickens, Amber R
Info: DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ;
 DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ; FBI WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ;
 CIA WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ; CDR USAFRICOM STUTTGART GEROUTINE ;
 DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ; DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC
 ROUTINE ; DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ;
 DEPT OF AGRICULTURE USD FAS WASHINGTON DC RUEHRC ROUTINE ;
 ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE ; AFRICAN UNION COLLECTIVE ROUTINE

Action Post:
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 SBU

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Page 3 of 3

RELEASED IN PART
B5, B6

Jaramillo, Edgar E

From: Smith, Gale L
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 7:18 AM
To: Sayles, Ambrose G; Hanson, Kathleen D; DS-Press
Cc: NEA-LIBYADESK; Sidereas, Evyenia; Halus, Andrew; Vasquez, Edgar J; Boduszynski, Mieczyslaw P; [redacted]
Subject: Re: INPUT REQUESTED: Benghazi Query from Washington Post

B6

Ambrose - Good morning. I sent this out to DS last night and it's moving through the org. I'll get it to you as quickly as I can.
Gale

From: Sayles, Ambrose G
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 06:51 PM
To: Hanson, Kathleen D; DS PA Media
Cc: NEA-LIBYADESK; Sidereas, Evyenia; Halus, Andrew; Vasquez, Edgar J; Boduszynski, Mieczyslaw P; [redacted]
Subject: INPUT REQUESTED: Benghazi Query from Washington Post

EX and DS Colleagues –

We received an inquiry earlier today from the Washington Post with some questions on Libya and Ambassador Stevens' time in Benghazi. Please see the below points originally provided by the journalist as a list of "facts." [redacted]

B5

[redacted] We are looking to get back to the journalist first thing tomorrow morning.

Thank you,
Ambrose

Ambrose Sayles | Press Officer | Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs | U.S. Department of State
2201 C St, NW Rm 2234, Washington, DC 20520 | ☎: 202.647.4184 | ✉: saylesag@state.gov

- Ambassador Stevens arrived in Benghazi on Sept. 10. The main purpose of his trip was to open the American Space in Benghazi, an education and cultural center, and to make sure that there was coverage in Benghazi between the departure of one principal officer and the arrival of the next. This was his first visit as ambassador to Benghazi.

- He held meetings on Sept. 10 with local officials. His movements that day were routine and didn't convey a heightened state of alert.

- He spent all or most of the following day at the U.S. diplomatic compound in Benghazi.

- The U.S. mission in Benghazi was not yet an official consulate. It was a temporary facility staffed by the Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations and other staff deployed on a temporary basis.
- The building was not in compliance with State building and safety standards for permanent missions abroad. It received waivers because the facility was a temporary hub and because establishing a U.S. presence in eastern Libya was seen as a high priority.
- State signed a \$387,413 security contract with British firm Blue Mountain in May. The company was tasked with hiring local guards for the compound.
- In May, Africom dispatched a team of 20 or so service members to Libya to help establish a security infrastructure at the embassy in Tripoli. A contingent that size remains in place, but it has been under State authority since July. That team was not asked to assist with bolstering the security infrastructure at the compound in Benghazi.
- The first location targeted on Sept. 11 was the so-called consulate. Stevens and Smith were killed there. A group of Americans were evacuated to a second site, more than a kilometer away, that has been described as an annex. That site was a CIA facility. Doherty and Woods died defending it. They were agency security contractors.

RELEASED IN PART B5, B6

Jaramillo, Edgar E

From: Sayles, Ambrose G
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 6:32 PM
To: Sidereas, Evyenia; Snipe, Aaron D; Halus, Andrew
Cc: Abdalla, Alyce N; Sizer, Lydia
Subject: RE: Benghazi query from Ernesto

Thank you, Evyenia. I'll follow-up with Kathleen.

Ambrose Sayles | Press Officer | Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs | U.S. Department of State
2201 C St, NW Rm 2234, Washington, DC 20520 | ☎: 202.647.4184 | ✉: saylesag@state.gov

From: Sidereas, Evyenia
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 6:21 PM
To: Sayles, Ambrose G; Snipe, Aaron D; Halus, Andrew
Cc: Abdalla, Alyce N; Sizer, Lydia
Subject: Benghazi query from Ernesto

Ambrose – see our proposed changes below – we need to push back on almost all of this. you'll need to go to Kathleen Hanson for the EX bits.

Sorry for the delay.

From: Sayles, Ambrose G
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 2:01 PM
To: NEA-LIBYADESK
Cc: Halus, Andrew
Subject: FW: Fwd: Benghazi query -- washington post

B5

Hi Libya Team –

Can you please help us ensure the below highlighted "facts" are correct? Also, but can you please provide any background we have in response to the questions presented by Ernesto? Please let me know what I can do to help.

Thank you,
Ambrose

Ambrose Sayles | Press Officer | Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs | U.S. Department of State
2201 C St, NW Rm 2234, Washington, DC 20520 | ☎: 202.647.4184 | ✉: saylesag@state.gov

From: Anne Gearan [mailto:
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 12:31 PM
To: Vasquez, Edgar J
Subject: Fwd: Benghazi query -- washington post

B6

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Ernesto Londono" [redacted]
Date: September 27, 2012 12:29:40 PM EDT
To: vasquezej@state.com, nulandvj@state.gov
Cc: "Anne Gearan" [redacted]
Subject: Benghazi query -- washington post

B6

Dear Eddie and Victoria,

I'm putting together a story about the Sept. 11 attack on U.S. installations in Benghazi. I realize the ongoing probes may limit what you can say, but I wanted to give you guys a rundown of facts I've gathered along with a few questions. My deadline is late Friday. Story is expected to run in the Sunday paper.

Facts:

- Ambassador Stevens arrived in Benghazi on Sept. 10. The main purpose of his trip was to open the American Space in Benghazi, an education and cultural center, and to make sure that there was coverage in Benghazi between the departure of one principal officers and the arrival of the next. This was his first visit as ambassador to Benghazi.
- He held meetings on Sept. 10 with NGO folks, city officials and friends and dined at a hotel owned by a friend. His movements that day were routine and didn't convey a heightened state of alert. I can't confirm that. We'd have to go to A/DCM Dave McFarland on it.
- He spent all or most of the following day at the U.S. diplomatic compound in Benghazi. Similar to the above we'd need A/DCM McFarland to let us know.
- The U.S. mission in Benghazi was not yet an official consulate. It was a temporary facility staffed by the The Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations and other staff deployed on a temporary basis. (CSO staffed the Principal Officer position for a few months.)
- The building was not in compliance with State building and safety standards for permanent missions abroad. It received waivers because the facility was a temporary hub and because establishing a U.S. presence in eastern Libya was seen as a high priority. (NEA/MAG cannot speak to this. Defer to NEA/EX and DS)
- State signed a \$387,413 security contract with British firm Blue Mountain in May. The company was tasked with hiring local guards for the compound. (NEA/MAG cannot speak to this. Defer to NEA/EX and DS)
- In May, Africom dispatched a team of 20 or so service members to Libya to help establish a security infrastructure at the embassy in Tripoli. A contingent that size remains in place, but it has been under State authority since July. That team was not asked to assist with bolstering the security infrastructure at the compound in Benghazi. (NEA/MAG cannot speak to this. Defer to NEA/EX and DS)

- The first location targeted on Sept. 11 was the so-called consulate. Stevens and Smith were killed there. A group of Americans were evacuated to a second site, more than a kilometer away, that has been described as an annex. That site was a CIA facility. Doherty and Woods died defending it. They were agency security contractors. (NEA/MAG cannot speak to this. Defer to DS)

Questions:

I think we have to wait for the Accountability Review Board on all of these questions.

- Did State consider evacuating its staff from Benghazi after summertime attacks on the U.S. mission and other Western targets? Besides asking the Libyans to bolster security outside temporarily and reinforcing the perimeter, were other actions taken?

- The Benghazi mission was not a formal consulate. What was it? Did it have a CG? How was it configured? What was its mission?

- What is an American Space? Are there several around the world, or was this a unique concept?

- Did State contemplate using a Worldwide Protective Services Agreement contract for Benghazi? Was the Blue Mountain contract fully operational?

- Is there a rough timeline of how soon the accountability board will finish its review? Does the government anticipate to make its findings -- or certain portions -- public?

I know this is a lot of ground to cover and I will appreciate any help you can provide on getting the questions answered. Please let me know if anything is unclear or warrants discussion.

Best regards,

Ernesto Londoño
The Washington Post
202.334.9178 w



B6

RELEASE IN PART B6

Jaramillo, Edgar E

From: Abdalla, Alyce N
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:51 PM
To: NEA-MAG-DL
Subject: FW: Update on where the story is going -- Protest in Cairo, Violent Protest and Deaths in Benghazi

From: Thompson, Rebecca B (PACE) [mailto:ThompsonRB2@state.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 3:27 PM
To: Korman, Samuel I. (Shai); Gliha, Ryan M; Powell, David R; Caplan, Jared S; Bassil, Randa Y; [redacted]; White, Margaret B (USEU); Schmierer, Richard J; Ernst, Daniel J; PA FO Group; PA-IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA-Desk Officers-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; PA PRS Duty Press Asst Group; Lewis, Andrew R; Gilmour, David R; SES-O; (U) Bernadette M Meehan [redacted]
Cc: Lieberman, Dean; PA RRU; Halus, Andrew; NEA-PD-DL; Snipe, Aaron D; Ventrell, Patrick H; Hensman, Chris D; USAID Press Officers (USAID)
Subject: Update on where the story is going -- Protest in Cairo, Violent Protest and Deaths in Benghazi

B6

Colleagues,

RRU Analyst Kathryn Nute has been monitoring international media, and as of now, here's how she summarizes where the story is going:

International observers are criticizing US domestic political responses to the Benghazi attack and forecast possible effects of the incident upon the upcoming presidential election. The UK's *BBC* headlines "Romney's Libyan Gamble," cautioning that Romney is "taking a big risk using these tragic attacks to further this political argument." Another piece from the *BBC* asks "Could the Benghazi deaths affect the US elections?" Also in the UK, a *Guardian* commentary by Glenn Greenwald rails against what he calls "America's hierarchy of human life" as well as the "ludicrous and hypocritical" standard by which "the two political parties in the US wasted no time in displaying their vulgar attributes by rushing to squeeze these events for political gain." Russia's *RT* headlines "Clinton and Obama's shock over Libya violence 'naïve'." Another piece from the UK's *The Guardian* headlines "Libyan attack: it should have been clear deposing Gaddafi was the easy bit" with the tagline "The west has once again started a fire it cannot extinguish, with the revolution it fanned in danger of degenerating into chaos."

RRU will continue to monitor traditional and social media and send special reports as new major stuff comes up.

Best regards,

Rebecca

000014

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Classification Extended on : 11/14/2014 ~ Class: ~ Authority:
DSCG 11-1 ~ Declassify on: 09/11/2037

RELEASED IN PART
B1,1.4(D)

The Secretary's Call Sheet for



1.4(D)
B1

(C) Background: Armed extremists attacked U.S. Mission Benghazi on September 11, setting fire to the Principal's Office and killing on Mission staff member, IMO Sean Smith, on TDY from The Hague.

Call Notes:

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASE IN PART B5

Quatannens, Stephen D

From: Abdalla, Alyce N
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 3:07 PM
To: Rose, Jonathan S; NEA-LIBYADESK; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL
Cc: Roebuck, William V; Sidereas, Evyenia M
Subject: RE: AA input [redacted]
Attachments: Egypt input [redacted]

B5

Staffers, per your advice I'll keep this separate from the Libya part of the AA, which I sent up via epaper a few minutes ago.

Thanks,
Alyce

This document is UNCLASSIFIED when separated from CONFIDENTIAL attachment(s).

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Classified by: Beth Jones, Acting Assistant Secretary, NEA, State
Reason: 1.4(b), (d)
Declassify On: 2022/09/12

From: Rose, Jonathan S
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 3:03 PM
To: NEA-LIBYADESK
Subject: FW: AA input [redacted]

Egypt input for AA is attached.

Best,
Jon

Sensitive
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Alzayat, Wa'el N
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:56 PM
To: Rose, Jonathan S
Subject: RE: AA input [redacted]

Here you go with edits.

Sensitive
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Rose, Jonathan S
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:36 PM
To: Alzayat, Wa'el N
Subject: AA input

B5

Attached.

Jon

Jonathan Rose
NEA/ELA Regional Economic Officer
Office: 202-647-4453
classified email: rosejs@state.sgov.gov
unclass email: rosejs@state.gov

Sensitive
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

RELEASE IN FULL

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

201107660

BENGAZI SITUATION REPORT COVER SHEET A 10:20

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



OPERATIONS CENTER

Number of Pages Excluding Coversheet: _____

Date/Time of Report: 5/2/2011 @ 12:00 EDT

RWT

S/ES-O Approving Officer: _____

Remarks: S/E Status update as delivered to

Emb. Tripoli DCM Joan Polaschik.

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASE IN PART B6

201107485

Macklin, Nathan L

From: Macklin, Nathan L
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2011, 7:04 AM
To: SES_DutyDeputies; S_SpecialAssistants; D(S); D(N); P; M_Staff
Cc: Feltman, Jeffrey D; Schlicher, Ronald L; Sanderson, Janet A; Holtz, Greta C (NEA); NEA-MAG-DL; Tripoli Cooperation; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Dibble, Elizabeth L; Harris, Rian H; EUR-RPM-Libya; USNATO Libya DL; 'GRETCLH [redacted] DS Command Center; SES-O; PA FO Core; Malin, Mary Catherine; 'Amanda M. Catanzano [redacted] 'Benjamin J. Fishman [redacted]; 'Shawn W. Brimley [redacted] 'Loren Schulman [redacted] 'Derek H. Chollet [redacted] 'Nisha J. Desai [redacted]; Maier, Christina A; Gotch, Kay E; INR-STAFFER; SES-O Shift-II; SP_Staff Assistants
Subject: S/E Stevens' mtg with TNC chairman
Attachments: image001.jpg; Jalil4-27.docx

B6

Colleagues,

Please find attached a summary of S/E Stevens' April 27 meeting with TNC chairman Mustafa Abd al-Jalil.

Regards,

Nathan

Nathan L. Macklin
 Senior Watch Officer
 State Department Operations Center
 macklinnl@state.gov (202) 647-1512



OPERATIONS CENTER
 The Ops Center celebrates its 50th anniversary with 24 hours of worldwide service on April 30th. Register now to participate.

000019

RELEASE IN PART
B6**Langenkamp, Daniel B**

From: Tomlinson, Christina
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2011 12:36 PM
To: SES_DutyDeputies; S_SpecialAssistants; D(S); D(N); M_Staff; P
Cc: Feltman, Jeffrey D; Schlicher, Ronald L; Sanderson, Janet A; Holtz, Greta C (NEA); NEA-MAG-DL; Tripoli Cooperation; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Dibble, Elizabeth L; Harris, Rian H; EUR-RPM-Libya: USNATO Libya DL; Gotoh, Kav E; Maier, Christina A; 'Amanda_M_Catanzano'; 'Benjamin_I_Fishman'; 'Shawn_W_Brimley'; 'Loren_Schulman'; 'Derek_H_Choller'; 'Nisha_J_Desai'; 'GRETCLH'
Subject: DS Command Center, SES-O
 S/E Stevens Update from Benghazi - May 2 at 1200 (SBU)

Importance: High

Categories: Rena Mike or Christina
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
SensitivityCode: Sensitive

B6

Dear Colleagues,

Embassy Tripoli DCM Joan Polaschik asked that we forward to you the following update from Special Envoy Chris Stevens from 1200 today.

Christina Tomlinson
 Senior Watch Officer
 Department of State Operations Center
 (202) 647-1512

- **TNC/Tunisia:** TNC Coordinator for Foreign Affairs Ali Essawi is in Tunisia, reportedly to discuss the possibility of transferring arms to western Libya through Tunisia. He also will discuss a TNC proposal to start regular flights between Tunis and Benghazi. (The TNC has control of 2-3 planes formally operated by Libyan Airlines.)
- **Jibril:** TNC PM-equivalent Mahmoud Jibril will brief all foreign envoys, including Chris, tomorrow morning. Jibril will immediately depart for Europe following that meeting and is not expected to spend significant time in Benghazi. Rumors are circulating that Essawi may take over some executive responsibilities in a newly appointed deputy PM position.
- **Arms dealers:** TNC informed Chris that two American citizens, representing a company called "BGI," have approached the TNC with an "arms for oil" deal. The TNC refused the deal, and noted that these kinds of approaches are leaving a very bad impression. Chris commented that he is aware of other arms merchants, mostly British citizens, plying Benghazi with similar offers.
- **Civil Society:** Poloff Nathan Tek met today with the leader of a newly formed civil society umbrella organization, which includes 49 NGOs. Report to follow.

SBU
 This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

1

000020

(SBU)

April 27, 2011

RELEASE IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

Meeting with TNC chairman Abd al-Jalil

1.(SBU) Summary: In an hour-long meeting with US Rep to the TNC on April 27, Transitional National Council chairman Mustafa Abd al-Jalil expressed his appreciation for US support and predicted that the recent uptick in NATO activity would lead to Qadhafi's removal from power.

[Redacted]

He thanked the US for its efforts to end Libyan state broadcasts. Regarding internal affairs, he said the Council would expand the interim cabinet to include a deputy prime minister and ministers of defense and interior, among other portfolios. End summary.

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

Military matters

[Redacted]

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

Broadcasting, and economic issues

4.(SBU) Briefed on US efforts to curtail Libyan state broadcasting, Abd al-Jalil said that cutting off such broadcasting would reduce Qadhafi's military effectiveness "by 70 percent." Persuading Arabsat and Nilesat to stop broadcasting was key. On economic matters, he said that his finance "minister" Ali Tarhouni was in Doha meeting with experts from the UK, France, Italy, and Qatar on the mechanics of the Temporary Financial Mechanism and on ways to tap frozen Libyan state assets. He emphasized that the TNC wanted a "transparent" mechanism to avoid the mistakes that were made in Iraq. If the TNC obtained sufficient funding, it would be able to increase services to the people and pay the scholarships

Classified by U/S M, DoS on 12/21/2015 ~
Class: SECRET ~ Reason: B1 1.4(b), 1.4(d)
~ Declassify on: 12/21/2040

of the thousands of Libyan students overseas that had been cut off by the regime (Comment: This is a particular concern of Abd al-Jalil's, which he raised with Senator McCain as well. End comment).

5.(SBU) On the oil sector, he said that the main problem was protecting the oilfields in eastern Libya from attack by Qadhafi's forces. [redacted]

(Comment: Qadhafi's forces attacked two critical oil facilities in the southeast on April 4 – Sarir and Meslah – putting them out of commission. The Benghazi-based, Libyan oil company AGOCO has done a damage assessment and believes it can repair the major damage within weeks, but believes it is essential to have a security arrangement in place first. End comment).

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

More governance

[redacted]

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

Comment

7.(SBU) Abd al-Jalil is genuinely grateful for what he sees as a recent positive shift in the level of US support for the Libyans who are fighting against Qadhafi's regime. He believes that with US backing, others will follow. Despite the relentless shelling of Misurata, he appeared confident that people in the western cities would soon rise up again. Continued NATO strikes and arming those resisting the regime will protect civilians and hasten the regime's end, in his view. [redacted]

[redacted] End comment.

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)