DOCUMENTS

PROVIDED TO THE

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE 2012 TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

VOLUME 3 OF 3

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White House Documents

SCB 000112

From: Thompson, Rebecca B (PACE) <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:58 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: RRU Special report Update Libya/Egypt Pan-Arab Press 1:30 pm
Attachments: Rapid Response 09-12 Special Report on Egptian and Libyian Protestors Storming US Embassy 1300.doc

Looks like you didn't get this one, either, so here you go!

From: Barnes, Jennifer L (PACE)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:38 PM
To: Thompson, Rebecca B (PACE); Korman, Samuel I. (Shai); Gliha, Ryan M; Powell, David R; Caplan, Jared S; Bassil, Randa Y; 'davidrobertpowell[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; Pelletier, Michael P; Gilmour, David R; SES -O
Cc: Lieberman, Dean; PA RRU; Halus, Andrew; NEA -PD-DL; Snipe, Aaron D; Ventrell, Patrick H; Hensman, Chris D; USAID Press Officers (USAID)
Subject: RRU Special report Update Libya/Egypt Pan -Arab Press 1:30 pm

RRU SPECIAL REPORT
EGYPTIAN PROTESTORS STORM THE US EMBASSY
LIBYAN PROTESTORS ATTACK THE US CONSULATE
WEDNESDAY 09/12/2012 01:30PM

Arab outlets continue reporting on the protests in Libya and Egypt, and note President Obama and Secretary Clinton's statements regarding the killing of the US Ambassador in Libya. There is a focus on their condemnation of the killing and that "'the attack will not harm the US friendship with the Libyan people…there are several Libyans who helped to save Americans who were injured during the assault."

Pan-Arab

Al-Arabiya reports "the head of the Libya National Conference condemned the attack and pledged to t ake all actions necessary to capture the attackers."

The station notes "the injured Americans are transferred to a hospital in Tripoli… This is another tragedy that coincided with the 9/11 anniversary."

The station reports "US Secretary of State Clint on also condemned on Wednesday the attack as the work of a 'small and savage group' but said U.S.-Libyan ties would not suffer. 'I ask myself, how could this happen? How could this happen in a country we helped liberate, in a city we helped save from destr uction?' Clinton said."

Al-Arabiya's correspondent in Washington, Hisham Milhim explained "Washington strongly condemns the attack…this is the first assassination of US Ambassador since 1979, which shows the magnitude of the event."

Al-Arabiya reports "Obama pledges to hold the perpetrators accountable." It also notes that the US is "dispatching a Marine fleet anti-terrorist security team to boost security in Libya after an attack that killed the US ambassador."

Al-Arabiya carries the UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Jeffrey Feltman told the U.N Feltman's remarks "the UN rejects defamation of religion in all forms, but there is no justification for violence such as occurred in Benghazi…the UN's mission is to help in ending violence." The TV also notes that Feltman warned "weapons still exist out of the government control."

Al-Jazeera comments "in a moment of anger the unexpected happened. Protests turned into a clash which led to the burning of the whole consulate building. The security situation is tensed in Libya. "

Al-Jazeera reports "President Obama 'condemned the attack as shameful and don't represent the Libya people'. The President explained that 'the US will increase security measure…th is is an unjustified killing...it was implemented by group that is out of the government control. Obama also stressed that 'the attack will not harm the US friendship with the Libyan people…there are several Libyans who helped to save Americans who were in jured during the assault.' He also 'praised the Ambassador and what he did for Libya'."

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Al-Ghad notes "US officials say some 50 Marines are being sent to Libya to reinforce security at U.S . diplomatic facilities in the aftermath of an attack in the eastern city of Benghazi that killed the U.S. ambassador and three American members of his staff. The Marines are members of an elite group known as a Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team, whose rol e is to respond on short notice to terrorism threats and to reinforce security at U.S. embassies. They operate worldwide. The officials who disclosed the plan to send the Marines spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak pub licly."

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Gulf News headlines "US envoy, three consul officials killed in Benghazi," and reports "America's ambassador to Libya and three officials were killed when a mob attacked the US consulate in the eastern city of Benghazi to protest a film deemed offensive to Islam, an official said on Wednesday. 'The ambassador was killed along with three other officials,' said Wanis Al Sharif, the deputy minister of the interior. Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens' death in Tuesday's attack was confirmed in a tweet by Mustafa Abu Shagur, the deputy prime minister. 'I condemn these barbaric acts in the strongest possible terms. This is an attack on America, Libya and free people everywhere,' Shagur said in a separate tweet. Stevens, a career officer with the US foreign service, had been in the country for less than four months after taking up his post in the capital Tripoli in May. Fawzi Wanis, who heads the High Security Commission in Benghazi, confirmed that Stevens was at the consulate when it was attacked. The envoy died when the consulate was attacked by an armed mob protesting against a film deemed insulting to Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). The attack came just hours after Islamists also stormed Washington's embassy in the Egyptian capital Cairo in a similar protest against the movie. Before confirmation of Stevens' death, Secretary Clinton announced that a State Department official had been killed in the attack on the consulate, saying: 'We are heartbroken by this terrible loss'."

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SCB 000116

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From: Stevens, John C <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 11:53 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I
Cc: Roebuck, William V; Hicks, Gregory N; [redacted] (TRIPOLI TDY)
Subject: RE: CSO

I certainly share your eagerness to make progress with the Libyans. More advisers per se won't do it, as we all know, since we need an actual Libyan partner to succeed. I'm hopeful that the new gov't will be an improvement on the old and that there will be clearer opportunities for engagement. We shall see. In the meantime, we welcome additional help from CSO on the reporting/analysis/training management side. We're in touch with MAG and CSO on that. Thanks v much for corralling USG agencies back in D C on this and the trainings. -- C

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Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 4:43 PM
To: Stevens, John C
Cc: Roebuck, William V; Hicks, Gregory N; Abdalla, Alyce N
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My broader concern is that we still lack a solid game -plan for ramping up our security-related assistance to the GOL in the coming 6 months. I think it's fair to say that we haven't mad e much progress since April-May, certainly because of the Libyans' own disorganization, but also because we're still not ideally postured to help. No doubt [redacted] is a great addition, but his operation is still in its infancy and we're not yet set up to en sure we are operating collectively. I know we've got 4-5 good trainings lined up for Sept-Oct, all of which will help move the ball and hopefully identify areas for future work. But these initiatives don't come close to begin addressing the magnitude of the problem. DIRI is too infrequent on the MOD side. The FBI stuff and the ACYCUDA pieces are great but they're quite specific and only addressing the edges of some huge gaps. The judicial police program has great potential. The reason I've been pushing to get someone in with [redacted] ASAP, whether it's exactly the resume he wants since he can always reach out for particular specialists, is because the work on the strategic design of the key national security institutions is critical at this initial stage and will help set priorities and identify requirements for follow -on initiatives to build out those institutions (the failed police training program in Jordan is an example of what goes wrong when things move too fast). At the same time and particularly because [redacted] hasn't gotten off to a running start either - we should build toward having our own small team working every day on the military/mod issues and border security, assuming the Euros have the lead on MOI/police. That would entail having, for example, an MOD advisor from DOD, which we can get them to provide and who doesn't necessarily need to be an "embed" to work, and a borders person on hand from DHS or State. Hopefully the MOD piece can evolve from the next DIRI trip. Using the ACYCUDA th ing to work toward a broader DHS/CBP visit following the IVP would also be great (we've been spinning on a border security strategy/priorities paper that has been done largely without the benefit of engagements with the GOL or visibility to the actual sta te of the borders).

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Probably good to talk by phone on all this at some point rather than email. I'm eager to get your thoughts on where you see the best opportunities for progress.

-Ben

From: Stevens, John C [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 08, 2012 2:33 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Cc: Roebuck, William V; Hicks, Gregory N; [redacted]
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I've just read the CSO paper. We'll need to digest it here and discuss amongst ourselves and get back to Washington with our reaction. I can certainly see the value of backfilling [redacted] position and the Bgzi PO slot (as long as the Dept keeps that office open, which is another issue).

As for the two contractors in the east, it's unclear to me what they would do, as we've already got OTI- and MEPI-funded people out there doing governance/civil society work. Reporting and analysis? Programs? We'll need to discuss this further with CSO.

[redacted] has been very clear to us on his needs and we'll clarify them again in our conversation wi th CSO. As we understand it, he is seeking senior, policy-level expertise, preferably Arabic speaking, to advise the GOL on a TDY basis in "national security" architecture/process and borders. As we've noted, he has already reached out to a Geneva outfi t he respects as well as NDU. He has been on leave in Europe for the past two weeks so I don't know what progress he has so far. He will host a donor-wide security sector briefing on Sept 23 where he will report on UNSMIL's progress and plans in this area. Naturally, we'll attend and report.

In the meantime, we'll be in touch with MAG and CSO to discuss their latest proposal.

Thanks for your help.

C

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2012 7:30 PM
To: Stevens, John C; Hicks, Gregory N
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Had another discussion with CSO today. MAG saw them as well so you'll see a report of what they have in mind.

I think their proposal gets us very close to what we discussed last month with some details to work out. Basically they will support a backfill for [redacted] position, a security person to join the UNSMIL team (that could be USG or contractor) as well as the PO slot in Benghazi and two contractor support people to work on governance and security issues in the East. They are particularly interested in the work in the East but recognize the importance of tying it to developing the central government in Tripoli. I know CSO is working a time to touch base with you directly next week to review the plan. They'd also like to touch base with UNSMIL directly to better understand Smith's needs and where they can be

most supportive. It might be useful to consider br oadening such a call to include all the relevant security -related offices back here (CSO, ISN for borders, and DOD). That way everyone can hear directly what he is looking for and see exactly what resources we have available to meet those needs since each office back here has access to different expertise and resources. Right now a few emails back and forth is not generating what we need back here. If we can put a generalist in Smith's management team or someone working on the broader national security p iece as well as a border specialist, that would be significant step forward.

Thanks,
-Ben

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 1:57 PM
To: Pelofsky, Eric J ([redacted]
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We have a different view of what "advisors" do

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I've just read the CSO paper. We'll need to digest it here and discuss amongst ourselves and get back to Washington with our reaction. I can certainly see the value of backfilling [redacted] position and the Bgzi PO slot (as long as the Dept keeps that office open, which is another issue).

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[redacted] has been very clear to us on his needs and we'll clarify them again in our conversation with CSO. As we understand it, he is seeking senior, policy-level expertise, preferably Arabic speaking, to advise the GOL on a TDY basis in "national security" architecture/process and borders. As we've noted, he has already reached out to a Geneva outfit he respects as well as NDU. He has been on leave in Europe for the past two weeks so I don't know what progress he has so far. He will host a donor-wide security sector briefing on Sept 23 where he will report on UNSMIL's progress and plans in this area. Naturally, we'll attend and report.

In the meantime, we'll be in touch with MAG and CSO to discuss their latest proposal.

Thanks for your help.

C

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2012 7:30 PM
To: Stevens, John C; Hicks, Gregory N
Subject: CSO

Had another discussion with CSO today. MAG saw them as well so you'll see a report of what they have in mind.

I think their proposal gets us very close to what we discussed last month with some details to work out. Basically they will support a backfill for [redacted] position, a security person to join the UNSMIL team (that could be USG or contractor) as well as the PO slot in Benghazi and two contractor support people to work on governance and security issues in the East. They are particularly interested in the work in the East but recognize the importance of tying it to developing the central government in Tripoli. I know CSO is working a time to touch base with you directly next week to review the plan. They'd also like to touch base with UNSMIL directly to better understand [redacted] needs and where they can be most supportive. It might be useful to consider broadening such a call to include all the relevant security -related offices back here (CSO, ISN for borders, and DOD). That way everyone can hear directly what he is looking for and see exactly what resources we have available to meet those needs since each office back here has access to different expertise and resources. Right now a few emails back and forth is not generating what we need back here. If we can put a generalist in [redacted] management team or someone working on the broader national security piece as well as a border specialist, that would be significant step forward.

Thanks,
-Ben

SCB 000001

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:12 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Fw: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 04:10 PM
Cc: NEA-MAG-DL
Subject: Fw: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

From: OpsAlert[redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 04:05 PM
To: [redacted]; SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted] harry.b.harris.mil[redacted] <[redacted]>; Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; sioc[redacted] <[redacted]>; H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]>
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

(SBU) The Regional Security Officer reports the diplomatic mission is under attack. Embassy Tripoli reports approximately 20 armed people fired shots; explosions have been heard as well. Ambassador Stevens, who is currently in Benghazi, and four COM personnel are in the compound safe haven. The 17th of February militia is providing security support.

The Operations Center will provide updates as available.

SCB 000002

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:14 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Oh jeez.
You guys have anything further? Getting lots of questions here.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:12 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Fw: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 04:10 PM
Cc: NEA-MAG-DL
Subject: Fw: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 04:05 PM
To: [redacted]; SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL ; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted] harry.b.harris.mil[redacted]<[redacted]>; Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; siod[redacted] <[redacted]>; H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]>
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

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SCB 000003

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:15 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Not sure if you guys got this yet:

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:06 PM
To: [redacted]; SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]; harry.b.harris.mil[redacted]; Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; siod[redacted] H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

(SBU) The Regional Security Officer reports the diplomatic mission is under attack. Embassy Tripoli reports approximately 20 armed people fired shots; explosions have been heard as well. Ambassador Stevens, who is currently in Benghazi, and four COM personnel are in the compound safe haven. The 17th of February militia is providing security support.

The Operations Center will provide updates as available.

SCB 000004

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:15 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Yes, it's circulating now.
Were his events earlier today or scheduled for tomorrow?

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:15 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Not sure if you guys got this yet:

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:06 PM
To: [redacted] SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]; harry.b.harris.mil[redacted]; Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; sio[redacted] H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

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The Operations Center will provide updates as available.

SCB 000005

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:18 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I; [redacted]
Subject: RE: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

He had events today.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:15 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Yes, it's circulating now.
Were his events earlier today or scheduled for tomorrow?

From: [redacted] [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:15 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Not sure if you guys got this yet:

From: OpsAlert[redacted] [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:06 PM
To: [redacted]; SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted] harry.b.harris.mil[redacted] Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; siod[redacted]H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

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SCB 000006

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:19 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FW: Update on Benghazi attack

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:13 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: NEA-LIBYADESK
Subject: FW: Update on Benghazi attack

Additional Information from Ops, further to their targeted alert a short while ago:

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:10 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Update on Benghazi attack

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:05 PM
To: SES-O
Subject: Update on Benghazi attack

DCM Hicks reports from Tripoli:

- **Mission Benghazi is under attack by around 20 armed men, shots were fired and there are explosions**
- **They contacted RAO, who got in touch with the 17 th of February militia, which provides security for the compound**
- **The 17th of February militia is responding to defend the compound**
- **Ambassador Stevens is currently in Benghazi, he's in the compound safe haven with an IRM management officer and three RSOs**
- **DS Command updated the call that the attackers have breached the compound**

[redacted]
Watch Officer
State Department Operations Center
[redacted]

SCB 000007

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:21 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Will forward as I get it.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:14 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Oh jeez.
You guys have anything further? Getting lots of questions here.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:12 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Fw: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 04:10 PM
Cc: NEA-MAG-DL
Subject: Fw: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 04:05 PM
To: [redacted]; SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted] harry.b.harris.mil[redacted]<[redacted]>; Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL - FO-DL; sioc[redacted] H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]>
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

(SBU) The Regional Security Officer reports the diplomatic mission is under attack. Embassy Tripoli reports approximately 20 armed people fired shots; explosions have been heard as well. Ambassador Stevens, who is currently in Benghazi, and four COM personnel are in the compound safe haven. The 17th of February militia is providing security support.

The Operations Center will provide updates as available.

SCB 000008

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:22 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Thanks.
If we can help with anything, let us know.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:21 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Will forward as I get it.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:14 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Oh jeez.
You guys have anything further? Getting lots of questions here.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:12 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Fw: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 04:10 PM
Cc: NEA-MAG-DL
Subject: Fw: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 04:05 PM
To: [redacted]; SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted] harry.b.harris.mil[redacted]<[redacted]>; Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; sioc[redacted]H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]>
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

SCB 000009

(SBU) The Regional Security Officer reports the diplomatic mission is under attack. Embassy Tripoli reports approximately 20 armed people fired shots; explosions have been heard as well. Ambassador Stevens, who is currently in Benghazi, and four COM personnel are in the compound safe haven. The 17th of February militia is providing security support.

The Operations Center will provide updates as available.

SCB 000010

From: Nuland, Victoria J <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:35 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

And more

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:06 PM
To: [redacted]; SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]; harry.b.harris.mil[redacted]; Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; sioc[redacted]; H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

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SCB 000011

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:37 PM
To: [redacted]COL (USA) OSD POLICY ([redacted]; [redacted]Lt Col JCS J5 STS ([redacted]
Subject: FW: LIBYA - State Item of Interest: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Importance: High

Please make sure AFRICOM is tracking. Not much more than this to report yet.

From: Wolf, Sarah
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:10 PM
To: #SUITE; #WWSTAFF; #MENA; #STRATPLAN; #CT; #DEFENSE; #INTEL
Cc: DL-NSS-WHSR-PRESS OF INTEREST
Subject: LIBYA - State Item of Interest: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Per State Ops:

(SBU) The Regional Security Officer reports the diplomatic mission is under attack. Embassy Tripoli reports approximately 20 armed people fired shots; explosions have been heard as well. Ambassador Stevens, who is currently in Benghazi, and four COM personnel are in the compound safe haven. The 17th of February militia is providing security support.

SCB 000012

From: [redacted]COL (USA) OSD POLICY <[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:48 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted]Lt Col JCS J5 STS ([redacted]
Subject: RE: LIBYA - State Item of Interest: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

I just spoke to DATT. Mor eon SIPR.

COL[redacted]
Regional Director, North Africa
Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy
[redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:37 PM
To: [redacted]COL (USA) OSD POLICY; [redacted]Lt Col JCS J5 STS ([redacted]
Subject: FW: LIBYA - State Item of Interest: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)
Importance: High

Please make sure AFRICOM is tracking. Not much more than this to report yet.

From: Wolf, Sarah
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:10 PM
To: #SUITE; #WWSTAFF; #MENA; #STR ATPLAN; #CT; #DEFENSE; #INTEL
Cc: DL-NSS-WHSR-PRESS OF INTEREST
Subject: LIBYA - State Item of Interest: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

Per State Ops:

(SBU) The Regional Security Officer reports the diplomatic mission is under attack. Embassy Tripoli reports approximately 20 armed people fired shots; explosions have been heard as well. Ambassador Stevens, who is currently in Benghazi, and four COM pers onnel are in the compound safe haven. The 17th of February militia is providing security support.

SCB 000013

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:59 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FW: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:55 PM
To: [redacted]; SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted] harry.b.harris.mil[redacted]; Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; sioc[redacted]H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]
Subject: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

(SBU) Embassy Tripoli reports the firing at the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi has stopped and the compound has been cleared. A response team is on site attempting to locate COM personnel.

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:05 PM
To: [redacted]; SES_DutyDeputies[redacted]; S_SpecialAssistants[redacted]; D-B[redacted]; D-N[redacted]; Poffice[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_R_DL[redacted]; PAFOGroup[redacted]; OperationsCenter[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_S_ES-O_DL[redacted]; SES-Line_Only[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL[redacted]; #whsr[redacted]; harry.b.harris.mil[redacted]; BenghaziUpdate[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CA_DL[redacted]; COffice[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CSO_DL[redacted]; CT_FrontOffice[redacted]; DB_MET[redacted]; MDGHRFrontOffice[redacted]; (DNI-ROC-Watch[redacted]; DNI-ROC-Watch[redacted]); DRL-FO-DL[redacted]; sioc[redacted]; H_SeniorStaff[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_INL_DL[redacted]; INR-STAFFER[redacted]; INR-Watch[redacted]; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL[redacted]; M_Staff[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_NEA_DL[redacted]; OBO-SpecialAssistants-DL[redacted]; PM-Alerts[redacted]; NEA-SEMEP-DL[redacted]; Afront[redacted]
CC: Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL[redacted]; #whsr[redacted]
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

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SCB 000014

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:13 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] ([redacted])
Subject: RE: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

Anything more from Greg?

From: [redacted] ([redacted])
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:59 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FW: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:55 PM
To: [redacted]; SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N) ; P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted] harry.b.harris.mil[redacted]; Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; sioc[redacted]H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]
Subject: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

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Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:05 PM
To: [redacted]; SES_DutyDeputies[redacted]; S_SpecialAssistants[redacted]; D-B[redacted]; D-N[redacted]; Poffice[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_R_DL[redacted]; PAFOGroup[redacted]; OperationsCenter[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_S_ES-O_DL[redacted]; SES-Line_Only[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL[redacted]; #whsr[redacted]; harry.b.harris.mil[redacted]; BenghaziUpdate[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CA_DL[redacted]; COffice[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CSO_DL[redacted]; CT_FrontOffice[redacted]; DB_MET[redacted]; MDGHRFrontOffice[redacted]; (DNI-ROC-Watch[redacted]; DNI-ROC-Watch[redacted]); DRL-FO-DL[redacted]; sioc[redacted]; H_SeniorStaff[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_INL_DL[redacted]; INR-STAFFER[redacted]; INR-Watch[redacted]; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL[redacted]; M_Staff[redacted]; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_NEA_DL[redacted]; OBO-SpecialAssistants-DL[redacted]; PM-Alerts[redacted]; NEA-SEMEP-DL[redacted]; Afront[redacted]
CC: Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL[redacted]; #whsr[redacted]
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

(SBU) The Regional Security Officer reports the diplomatic mission is under attack. Embassy Tripoli reports

approximately 20 armed people fired shots; explosions have been heard as well. Ambassador Stevens, who is currently in Benghazi, and four COM personnel are in the compound safe haven. The 17th of February militia is providing security suppo rt.

The Operations Center will provide updates as available.

SCB 000016

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:39 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

There was no PO right now, right?

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:59 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FW: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:55 PM
To: [redacted]; SES_DutyDeputies; S_SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N) ; P; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_R_DL; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_S_ES-O_DL; SES-Line Only; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL; #whsr[redacted] harry.b.harris.mil[redacted] Benghazi Update; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CA_DL; C; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CSO_DL; CT_FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; sioc[redacted]H_SeniorStaff; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_INL_DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M_Staff; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_NEA_DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL; #whsr[redacted]
Subject: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

(SBU) Embassy Tripoli reports the firing at the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi has stopped and the compound has been cleared. A response team is on site attempting to locate COM personnel.

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:05 PM
To: [redacted] SES_DutyDeputies [redacted] S_SpecialAssistants [redacted] D-B [redacted] D-N [redacted] Poffice [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_R_DL [redacted] PAFOGroup [redacted] OperationsCenter [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_S_ES-O_DL [redacted] SES-Line_Only [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL [redacted] #whsr [redacted] harry.b.harris.mil [redacted] BenghaziUpdate [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CA_DL [redacted] COffice [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CSO_DL [redacted] CT_FrontOffice [redacted] DB_MET [redacted] MDGHRFrontOffice [redacted] (DNI-ROC-Watch [redacted] DNI-ROC-Watch [redacted]; DRL-FO-DL [redacted] sioc [redacted] H_SeniorStaff [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_INL_DL [redacted] INR-STAFFER [redacted] INR-Watch [redacted] Legal-Ops-Alert-DL [redacted] M_Staff [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_NEA_DL [redacted] OBO-SpecialAssistants-DL [redacted] PM-Alerts [redacted] NEA-SEMEP-DL [redacted] Afront [redacted]
CC: Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL [redacted] #whsr [redacted]
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

(SBU) The Regional Security Officer reports the diplomatic mission is under attack. Embassy Tripoli reports approximately 20 armed people fired shots; explosions have been heard as well. Ambassador Stevens, who is

currently in Benghazi, and four COM personnel are in the compound safe haven. The 17th of February militia is providing security suppo rt.

The Operations Center will provide updates as available.

SCB 000018

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:40 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

Right, [redacted] was acting and left yesterday. [redacted] is due to head out next week but we're obviously going to rethink that.

It was just Chris, DS guys, and the poor IMO.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:39 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

There was no PO right now, right?

From: [redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:59 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FW: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

From: OpsAlert[redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:55 PM
To: [redacted]; SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL; PA FO Group; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]; harry.b.harris.mil[redacted]; Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; sioc[redacted]; H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr[redacted]
Subject: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

(SBU) Embassy Tripoli reports the firing at the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi has stopped and the compound has been cleared. A response team is on site attempting to locate COM personnel.

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:05 PM
To: [redacted] SES_DutyDeputies[redacted] S_SpecialAssistants[redacted] D-B[redacted] D-N[redacted] Poffice[redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_R_DL[redacted] PAFOGroup[redacted] OperationsCenter[redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_S_ES-O_DL[redacted] SES-Line_Only[redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL[redacted] #whsr[redacted] harry.b.harris.mil[redacted] BenghaziUpdate[redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CA_DL[redacted] COffice[redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CSO_DL[redacted] CT_FrontOffice[redacted] DB_MET[redacted]

SCB 000019

MDGHRFrontOffice [redacted] (DNI-ROC-Watch [redacted] DNI-ROC-Watch [redacted];
DRL-FO-DL [redacted] sioc [redacted] H_SeniorStaff [redacted]
Ops_Targeted_Alerts_INL_DL [redacted] INR-STAFFER [redacted] INR-Watch [redacted] Legal-Ops-Alert-DL [redacted] M_Staff [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_NEA_DL [redacted] OBO-SpecialAssistants-DL [redacted] PM-Alerts [redacted] NEA-SEMEP-DL [redacted] Afront [redacted]
CC: Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL [redacted] #whsr [redacted]
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

(SBU) The Regional Security Officer reports the diplomatic mission is under attack. Embassy Tripoli reports approximately 20 armed people fired shots; explosions have been heard as well. Ambassador Stevens, who is currently in Benghazi, and four COM pers onnel are in the compound safe haven. The 17th of February militia is providing security support.

The Operations Center will provide updates as available.

SCB 000020

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:41 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

Roughly how many people in Tripoli? 50+

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:40 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

Right, [redacted] was acting and left yesterday. [redacted] is due to head out next week but we're obviously going to rethink that.

It was just Chris, DS guys, and the poor IMO.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:39 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

There was no PO right now, right?

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To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FW: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

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Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:55 PM
To: [redacted]; SES DutyDeputies; S SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops Targeted Alerts R DL; PA FO Gr oup; Operations Center; Ops Targeted Alerts S ES-O DL; SES-Line Only; Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr [redacted] harry.b.harris.mil [redacted] Benghazi Update; Ops Targeted Alerts CA DL; C; Ops Targeted Alerts CSO DL; CT FrontOffice; D(B)/MET; MDGHR Front Office; DRL-FO-DL; sioc [redacted] H SeniorStaff; Ops Targeted Alerts INL DL; INR-STAFFER; INR-Watch; Legal-Ops-Alert-DL; M Staff; Ops Targeted Alerts NEA DL; OBO-Special Assistants-DL; PM-Alerts-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; A Front Office
Cc: Ops Targeted Alerts DS DL; #whsr [redacted]
Subject: Update 1: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi (SBU)

(SBU) Embassy Tripoli reports the firing at the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi has stopped and the compound has been cleared. A response team is on site attempting to locate COM personnel.

SCB 000021

From: OpsAlert[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:05 PM
To: [redacted] SES_DutyDeputies [redacted] S_SpecialAssistants [redacted] D-B [redacted] D-N [redacted] Poffice [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_R_DL [redacted] PAFOGroup [redacted] OperationsCenter [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_S_ES-O_DL [redacted] SES-Line_Only [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL [redacted] #whsr [redacted] harry.b.harris.mil [redacted] BenghaziUpdate [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CA_DL [redacted] COffice [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CSO_DL [redacted] CT_FrontOffice [redacted] DB_MET [redacted] MDGHRFrontOffice [redacted] (DNI-ROC-Watch [redacted] DNI-ROC-Watch [redacted]; DRL-FO-DL [redacted] sioc [redacted] H_SeniorStaff [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_INL_DL [redacted] INR-STAFFER [redacted] INR-Watch [redacted] Legal-Ops-Alert-DL [redacted] M_Staff [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_NEA_DL [redacted] OBO-SpecialAssistants-DL [redacted] PM-Alerts [redacted] NEA-SEMEP-DL [redacted] Afront [redacted]
CC: Ops_Targeted_Alerts_DS_DL [redacted] #whsr [redacted]
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

(SBU) The Regional Security Officer reports the diplomatic mission is under attack. Embassy Tripoli repo rts approximately 20 armed people fired shots; explosions have been heard as well. Ambassador Stevens, who is currently in Benghazi, and four COM personnel are in the compound safe haven. The 17th of February militia is providing security support.

The Operations Center will provide updates as available.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 7:00 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: s just called Magariaf

Asked for security in Tripoli, asked for security and firefighting forces in Benghazi, Magariaf said yes, he is calling an emerg meeting

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

SCB 000022

From: [redacted] <[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 8:03 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Sorry to hear about tonight's attack
Attachments: Consulate attack press.pdf

Hi Ben,
I just came back from presidential office where I was when Dr. Magariaf received the sad news of tonight's attack on US consulate in Benghazi. He was extremely upset and dismayed by news of the attack and possible news of losses of life. He is meeting now with prime minister in an emergency meeting to issue proper response. Here is a copy of the English version of the press release.. let me know if there is anything we can do from here.

[redacted]

SCB 000023

The General National Conference of Libya expresses outrage at the unfortunate attack against the American consulate in Benghazi tonight. This criminal attack has led to the regrettable injury and death of a number of individuals, not to mention damage to public property.

The General National Conference expresses disapproval in the strongest terms against tonight's attack, which reflects total disregard for the sanctity of life, and undermines Libya's obligation to protect the country's guests.

Whereas the General National Conference firmly believes in the right of every citizen to practice his or her right to peaceful demonstration, there is no justification for tonight's cowardly act.

The General National Conference has launched immediate investigation into tonight's attack. President of Libya's General National Conference, Dr. Mohamed Yousef Almagariaf, has called for emergency meeting with Prime Minister Alkieb and his cabinet.

SCB 000024

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:12 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Sorry to hear about tonight's attack

[redacted] thank you for the message and statement. It is important to do whatever is possible, to the extent the government can, to ensure the security of our remaining personnel on the ground both in Benghazi and Tripoli. We will be making a request to deploy additional security resources to Libya to help protect our people, which I hope the President will grant speedily.

If there are more details you have available, please do pass along what you can.

-Ben

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 8:03 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Sorry to hear about tonight's attack

Hi Ben,
I just came back from presidential office where I was when Dr. Magariaf received the sad news of tonight's attack on US consulate in Benghazi. He was extremely upset and dismayed by news of the attack and possible news of losses of life. He is meeting now with prime minister in an emergency meeting to issue proper response. Here is a copy of the English version of the press release.. let me know if there is anything we can do from here.

[redacted]

SCB 000025

From: [redacted] <[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:45 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: statement from the GNC

That's a good idea, I'll check in with Ops

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:28 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: statement from the GNC

Has there been any thought to outreach to Turkey to see what they may have present in Benghazi? I can't think of any others who might be in a position to help if needed.

From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:26 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: statement from the GNC

Nothing we're waiting for an update from the special folks.

I bet Kennedy is worried about further repercussions and attacks if US military is too obvious.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:19 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: statement from the GNC

You don't have anything further on Chris, right? I was sitting in that meeting for two hours.

I don't know why Pat Kennedy is so concerned about what extra security folks are wearing. Does that come from Greg? The time for being overly sensitive to Libyan concerns about military appearances seem s to be over.

From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:17 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted] [redacted]
Subject: RE: statement from the GNC

Thanks Ben....

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:10 PM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: statement from the GNC

For what it's worth, [redacted] sent this to me.

SCB 000026

I got a separate call from [redacted] the Congressman close to Magariaf, who claimed Feb 17 has Chris and he's alive, according to MOI. Clearly don't know reliability.

If you need anything from here, let me know.

SCB 000027

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 10:21 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: statement from the GNC

Our Turkey people will reach out and coordinate with EUR presumably.
Another thought. Has someone notified Jeff? Among other things, he could call the Qataris who I think are the only others in Benghazi with resources and potential information. Not sure that's the right channel but at least worth considering.

From: [redacted]
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From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:17 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted]
Subject: RE: statement from the GNC

SCB 000028

Thanks Ben....

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:10 PM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: statement from the GNC

For what it's worth, [redacted] sent this to me.

I got a separate call from [redacted] the Congressman close to Magariaf, who claimed Feb 17 has Chris and he's alive, according to MOI. Clearly don't know reliability.

If you need anything from here, let me know.

SCB 000029

From: [redacted] <[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 10:32 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Cc: [redacted]

Ops ([redacted] our mole in Ops) tells us Jeff is already on the phone with Beth to pass along some info he's gleaned. Qatar might be a good avenue.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 10:21 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: statement from the GNC

Our Turkey people will reach out and coordinate with EUR presumably.
Another thought. Has someone notified Jeff? Among other things, he could call the Qataris who I think are the only others in Benghazi with resources and potential information. Not sure that's the right channel but at least worth considering.

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Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:19 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: statement from the GNC

You don't have anything further on Chris, right? I was sitting in that meeting for two hours.

SCB 000030

I don't know why Pat Kennedy is so concerned about what extra securit y folks are wearing. Does that come from Greg? The time for being overly sensitive to Libyan concerns about military appearances seems to be over.

From: [redacted]
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To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted]
Subject: RE: statement from the GNC

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C05872462 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872462 Date: 10/30/2015

~~SECRET//NOFORN//NODIS~~ **CORRECTED COPY 201216328**

RELEASE IN PART B6

DECAPTIONED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

WATCH LOG
Tuesday, September 11, 2012
Shift III

Senior Watch Officers	: Mr. Fullerton/Mr. Cline/Ms. LeMar/Ms. Stana
Watch Officers	: Ms. Porter/Mr. Cobb/Mr. Long/Ms. Tubbs/Ms. Williams/Ms. Green
Emergency Action Officers	: Ms. Milner/Ms. Holcombe/Ms. Nguyen
Editor	: Ms. Pan Sloane
Operations Specialists	: Ms. Moore/Mr. Perez/Mr. Hom
Secure Communications	: Mr. Morrison
CA Watch Officers	: Ms. Schneider/Ms. Lorenzen
DS Representative	: Ms. Greenly-Doyle
INR Officer	: Ms. Mims

Time	Item
1530	Assumed the Watch.
1552	The Watch patched Ambassador A. Patterson, Embassy Cairo, in Washington, to Chargé J. Sievers, Embassy Cairo.
1559	The Watch patched Deputy Secretary Nides to Special Envoy for Guantanamo Closure and Camp Ashraf D. Fried, in Tunis.
1606	Upon receipt of information concerning an attack on the Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi, the Watch issued a targeted alert to: S, D(B), D(N), P, R, C, PA, M, DS, CA, CSO, PM, INR, INL, NEA, DNI, DRL,

SECRET//NOFORN//NODIS
CLASSIFIED BY: JOHN R. BASS, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, S/ES, DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REASONS: 1.4 B, C, D
DECLASSIFY: 30 YEARS FROM DATE OF LOG ENTRY

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872462 Date: 10/30/2015

C05872462 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872462 Date: 10/30/2015

~~SECRET//NOFORN//NODIS~~

WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: III

Time	Item
	OBO, L, H, CT, D(B)/MET, MDGHR, NEA-SEMEP, PMAT, Benghazi Update, S/ES, S/ES-O, S/ES-S, and WHSR via electronic mail.
1611	Ambassador Patterson telephoned the Watch with a request.
1615	Further to Item 1611, the Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Ms. R. Aicher, Embassy Cairo.
1620	ExecSec Mull visited the Watch.
1621	The White House Situation Room convened a NOIWON, on behalf of the Watch, in which INR also participated, to report on an attack on the Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi.
1628	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Egyptian Prime Minister Kandil.
1631	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Chargé Sievers.
1635	The ExecSec visited the Watch.
1655	The ExecSec visited the Watch.
1655	Upon receipt of updated information concerning the attack on the Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi, the Watch issued an updated targeted alert to: S, D(B), D(N), P, R, C, PA, M, DS, CA, CSO, PM, INR, INL, NEA, DNI, DRL, OBO, L, H, CT, D(B)/MET, MDGHR, NEA-SEMEP, PMAT, Benghazi Update, S/ES, S/ES-O, S/ES-S, and WHSR via electronic mail.
1705	Upon receipt of additional information concerning the protest at Embassy Cairo, the Watch issued a targeted alert to: S, D(B), D(N), P, M, R, PA, CT, DS, CA, INR, NEA, CT, OBO, S/ES, S/ES-O, S/ES-S, and WHSR via electronic mail.
1709	Upon receipt of further information concerning the attack on Embassy Cairo , the Watch issued an updated targeted alert to:

~~SECRET//NOFORN//NODIS~~

CLASSIFIED BY: JOHN R. BASS, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, S/ES, DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REASONS: 1.4 B, C, D
DECLASSIFY: 30 YEARS FROM DATE OF LOG ENTRY

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872462 Date: 10/30/2015

C05872462 IED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872462 Date: 10/30/2015

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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: III

Time	Item
	SES_DutyDeputies; S_SpecialAssistants; D(B); D(N); P; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_R_DL; PA FO Group; SES-O; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_S_ES-O_DL; SES-Line_Only; DS Command Center; WHSR; [redacted] Ops_Targeted_Alerts_CA_DL; CT_FrontOffice; DNI-ROC [redacted]; INR Staffer; INR Watch; M_Staff; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_NEA_DL; OBO-Special-Assistants-DL B6
1727	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Chargé Sievers.
1731	The Watch patched Ms. E. Dibble, NEA, to Chargé E. Nolan, Embassy The Hague.
1738	The Watch patched the Secretary to Central Intelligence Agency Director Petraeus.
1746	The Watch patched Ms. U. Zeya, D(B), to Deputy Secretary Burns, in Amman.
1747	Chargé Sievers telephoned the Watch with a briefing.
1750	The Watch patched Ms. E. Yovanovich, EUR, to Chargé Nolan.
1752	The Watch patched Chargé Nolan, Embassy The Hague, to Ms. Dibble.
1754	The ExecSec visited the Watch.
1758	Upon receipt of additional information concerning the protest at Embassy Cairo, the Watch issued a targeted alert to: S, D(B), D(N), P, M, R, PA, CT, DS, CA, INR, NEA, CT, OBO, S/ES, S/ES-O, S/ES-S, and WHSR via electronic mail.
1800	At the request of Spokesperson V. Nuland, the Watch convened a conference call, including: Ms. Dibble; Ms. B. Mehan, NSS; Mr. P. Ventrel, PA; and Spokesperson Nuland.

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REASONS: 1.4 B, C, D
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~~SECRET//NOFORN//NODIS~~

WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: III

Time	Item
1802	The Watch attempted to patch Emirati Ambassador to the United States al-Otaiba to Coordinator D. Benjamin, CT, who was unavailable.
1807	Upon receipt of updated information concerning the attack on the Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi, the Watch issued an updated targeted alert to: S, D(B), D(N), P, R, C, PA, M, DS, CA, CSO, PM, INR, INL, NEA, DNI, DRL, OBO, L, H, CT, D(B)/MET, MDGHR, NEA-SEMEP, PMAT, Benghazi Update, S/ES, S/ES-O, S/ES-S, and WHSR via electronic mail.
1812	The ExecSec visited the Watch.
1822	At the request of Ms. Dibble, the Watch convened a conference call, including: Under Secretary Sherman, P; Chargé Nolan; and Ms. Dibble.
1832	The Watch patched the ExecSec to Mr. K. Logsdon, S/ES-O.
1842	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Col. Hatm, Egyptian Ministry of the Interior.
1847	The Watch patched the ExecSec to Mr. Logsdon.
1849	The Watch patched the Secretary to Libyan President Magariaf.
1903	The ExecSec visited the Watch.
1905	At the request of the Secretary, the Watch convened a conference call, including: Deputy Secretary Nides; Under Secretary Kennedy, M; U/S Sherman; Counselor C. Mills; Director J. Sullivan, S/P; Spokesperson Nuland; the ExecSec; Acting Assistant Secretary B. Jones, NEA; Mr. G. Hicks, Embassy Tripoli; and the Secretary.
1905	The Watch telephoned Chargé Nolan with a question.
1922	At the request of Acting A/S Jones, the Watch convened a conference

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CLASSIFIED BY: JOHN R. BASS, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, S/ES, DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REASONS: 1.4 B, C, D
DECLASSIFY: 30 YEARS FROM DATE OF LOG ENTRY

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872462 Date: 10/30/2015

C05872462 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872462 Date: 10/30/2015

~~SECRET//NOFORN//NODIS~~

WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: III

Time	Item
	call, including: Chargé Nolan; Ms. Dibble; and Acting A/S Jones.
1924	The Watch telephoned Spokesperson Nuland with a briefing.
1928	Ms. M. Hanley, S, telephoned the Watch with a question.
2007	Assistant Secretary P. Goldberg, INR, visited the Watch.
2022	The Watch patched Ms. Dibble to Chargé Nolan.
2037	The Watch patched Acting A/S Jones to Rear Admiral Tidd, Joint Chiefs of Staff.
2051	The ExecSec visited the Watch.
2056	The Watch patched Mr. R. Thomas, CA, to Assistant Secretary J. Jacobs, CA.
2102	The Watch patched U/S Sherman to Ambassador Patterson.
2117	The Watch patched Chargé Nolan to Ms. Dibble.
2124	The Watch patched Counselor Mills to U/S Sherman.
2133	The Watch patched U/S Sherman to Counselor Mills.
2134	The Watch telephoned the ExecSec with a message.
2137	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Chargé Sievers.
2144	The Watch patched Counselor Mills to Acting A/S Jones.
2155	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Ms. C. Coleman, S.
2155	The Watch patched Mr. Hicks to Acting A/S Jones.
2156	The Watch patched Spokesperson Nuland to Ms. J. Moore, PA.

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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: III

Time	Item
2206	The Watch patched Director Sullivan to Deputy Secretary Nides.
2208	The ExecSec telephoned the Watch with a question.
2217	The Watch patched Ambassador G. Cretz, Embassy Accra, in Washington, to Ms. Dibble.
2218	The Watch patched UN Under Secretary General for Political Affairs J. Feltman to Acting A/S Jones.
2219	The Watch patched Assistant Secretary M. Posner, DRL, to U/S Sherman.
2227	The Watch patched President Obama to the Secretary.
2227	The Watch patched Acting A/S Jones to the ExecSec.
2235	The Watch patched Mr. Hicks to Acting A/S Jones.
2238	The Watch patched Deputy Secretary Nides to U/S Kennedy.
2240	The Watch telephoned Ms. Hanley with a message.
2241	The ExecSec telephoned the Watch with a message.
2242	The Watch telephoned Chargé Nolan with a question.
2244	The Watch patched Mr. Hicks to Acting A/S Jones.
2244	The Watch telephoned Ms. Hanley with a message.
2245	U/S Sherman telephoned the Watch with a request.
2246	U/S Sherman telephoned the Watch with a request.
2248	The DS Command Center telephoned the Watch with a question

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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: III

Time	Item
	regarding an American citizen. The Watch accessed ACRQ records to respond.
2259	The Watch patched Director Sullivan to Mr. D. Schwerin, S/P.
2321	At the request of the ExecSec, the Watch convened a conference call, including: Counselor Mills; U/S Sherman; U/S Kennedy; Spokesperson Nuland; Acting A/S Jones; and the ExecSec.
2327	The Watch attempted to patch Director Sullivan to Ms. A. Valliani, S/P, who was unavailable.
2328	The Watch patched U/S Sherman to Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister Ma.
2329	Relinquished the Watch.

Approved by: /s/Mr. Fullerton/Mr. Cline/Ms. LeMar/Ms. Stana
Senior Watch Officers

Dist: S S/ES S/ES-O S/ES-IRM S/ES-EX INR

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C05872465 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872465 Date: 10/30/2015

~~SECRET/NOFORN/NODIS~~ 201216361

2012 Sep 12 P 3:19

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

RELEASE IN PART B6

DECAPTIONED

WATCH LOG

Tuesday, September 11, 2012 - Wednesday, September 12, 2012

Shift I

Senior Watch Officers	: Mr. Veprek/Mr. Fullerton
Watch Officers	: Mr. Reilly/Ms. Porter
Emergency Action Officers	: Ms. Nguyen/Mr. Armiger
Editors	: Ms. Strollo/Ms. Pan Sloane
Operations Specialists	: Mr. Donaldson/Mr. Perez
Secure Communications	: Mr. Duncan
INR Officers	: Ms. Takats/Ms. Mims/Ms. Kim/Mr. Jones

Time	Item
2330	Assumed the Watch.
2334	The Watch patched Counselor C. Mills to Ms. A. Valliani, S/P.
2339	The Watch patched Deputy Secretary Burns to Ms. U. Zeya, D(B).
2345	Further to Item 2339, the Watch patched Deputy Secretary Burns to Ms. Zeya.
2354	The Watch patched Mr. G. Hicks, Embassy Tripoli, to Acting Assistant Secretary B. Jones, NEA.
2354	The Watch patched Counselor Mills to Spokesperson V. Nuland.

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C05872465 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872465 Date: 10/30/2015 UNCLASSIFIED U.S.

~~SECRET//NOFORN//NODIS~~

WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: I

Time	Item
2355	The Watch patched Under Secretary Sherman, P, to ExecSec Mull.
2358	Upon receipt of information concerning the situation in Benghazi, the Watch alerted: S, D(B), D(N), P, C, E, M, DG, T, R, PA, J, CSO, CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, CA/OCS, PMAT, INR, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR via electronic mail.
2359	The Watch attempted to patch the ExecSec to Deputy National Security Advisor D. McDonough, who was unavailable.
0003	The Watch patched Deputy NSA McDonough to Counselor Mills.
0008	The Watch attempted to patch Acting A/S Jones to Counselor Mills, who was unavailable.
0009	The ExecSec telephoned the Watch with a request.
0013	Deputy Secretary Burns telephoned the Watch with a request.
0014	Further to Item 0008, the Watch patched Counselor Mills to Acting A/S Jones.
0020	Further to Item 0013, the Watch patched Deputy Secretary Burns to Chargé S. Beecroft, Embassy Baghdad.
0026	The Watch patched Mr. Hicks to Acting A/S Jones.
0029	The Watch patched Acting A/S Jones to Counselor Mills.
0040	The Watch patched Mr. Hicks to Ms. Dibble.
0040	The Watch patched Mr. Hicks to Acting A/S Jones.
0043	The ExecSec telephoned the Watch with a request.
0047	The Watch attempted to patch Deputy NSA McDonough to Counselor Mills, who was unavailable.

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872465 Date: 10/30/2015

C05872465 FED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872465 Date: 10/30/2015

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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: I

Time	Item
0056	Further to Item 0047, the Watch telephoned Counselor Mills with a message.
0058	Mr. Hicks telephoned the Watch with a message.
0058	Further to Item 0056, the Watch patched Counselor Mills to Deputy NSA McDonough.
0059	Further to Item 0058, the Watch telephoned Acting A/S Jones with a message.
0108	Counselor Mills telephoned the Watch with a message.
0109	Upon receipt of information COM personnel were en route to the airport in Benghazi, the Watch alerted: S, D(B), D(N), P, C, E, M, DG, T, R, PA, J, CSO, CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, CA/OCS, PMAT, INR, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR via electronic mail.
0110	The ExecSec telephoned the Watch with a request.
0113	The Watch patched Counselor Mills to Deputy NSA McDonough.
0118	At the request of Mr. Hicks the Watch convened a conference call, including: Acting A/S B. Jones; Ms. E. Dibble, NEA; and Mr. Hicks.
0127	The Watch patched Counselor Mills to Under Secretary Kennedy, M.
0130	The Watch patched Counselor Mills to Director J. Sullivan, S/P.
0133	NTC e-mailed the Watch with a question regarding the possible revocation of a non-immigrant visa. The Watch accessed CCD records to respond.
0140	Upon receipt of information concerning the travel of evacuees from Benghazi to Tripoli, the Watch alerted: S, D(B), D(N), P, C, E, M, DG,

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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: I

Time	Item
	T, R, PA, J, CSO, CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, CA/OCS, PMAT, INR, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR via electronic mail.
0149	The Watch patched U/S Kennedy to Ms. C. Lamb, DS.
0234	The Watch patched Chargé G. Hicks, Embassy Tripoli, to Acting A/S Jones.
0238	The Watch telephoned the ExecSec with a briefing.
0244	The Watch telephoned Acting A/S Jones with a question.
0255	Further to Item 0244, Acting A/S Jones telephoned the Watch with a message.
0308	Further to Item 0133, the Watch telephoned Mr. D. Newman, CA/VO, with a briefing.
0314	The Watch patched Ambassador A. Patterson, Embassy Cairo, in Washington, to Mr. L. Schwartz, NEA, in Cairo.
0320	Further to Item 0133, upon notification of Mr. Newman's decision to revoke the visa, the Watch telephoned and e-mailed NTC.
0320	Further to Item 0255, concerning the death of Ambassador J. Stevens, Embassy Tripoli, the Watch called the following individuals: Mr. L. Randolph, S; Ms. U. Zeya, D(B); Ms. S. Sullivan, D(N); Ms. K. Lakhdhir, P; Ms. M. Maccallum, M; Ms. M. Lytell, DGHR; Ms. J. Moore, PA; [redacted] DS; Mr. C. Roe, M/FLO; Ms. K. McCray, MED; Ms. J. Young, OBO; Mr. R. Peterson, A; and WHSR. B6
0334	Upon receipt of information concerning the travel of evacuees, the Watch alerted: S, D(B), D(N), P, C, E, M, DG, T, R, PA, J, CSO, CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, CA/OCS, PMAT, INR, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR via electronic mail.

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REASONS: 1.4 B, C, D
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C05872465 FED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872465 Date: 10/30/2015

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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: I

Time	Item
0351	The Watch patched Ms. Zeya to Deputy Secretary Burns, in Baghdad.
0405	The Watch patched Deputy Secretary Burns to Ms. Zeya.
0413	The Watch patched Ms. Zeya to U/S Kennedy.
0413	Upon receipt of information concerning the departure of remaining COM personnel from Benghazi, the Watch alerted: S, D(B), D(N), P, C, E, M, DG, T, R, PA, J, CSO, CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, CA/OCS, PMAT, INR, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR via electronic mail.
0427	The Watch patched Deputy Secretary Burns to U/S Kennedy.
0430	The Watch patched A/S Jones to Chargé Hicks.
0436	The Watch patched U/S Kennedy to Ms. Zeya.
0440	The Watch patched Deputy Secretary Burns to Ms. Zeya.
0442	The Watch patched U/S Kennedy to Ms. M. Bernier-Toth, CA/OCS.
0444	The Watch telephoned Dr. K. McCray, MED, with a briefing.
0447	The Watch patched Deputy Secretary Burns to Acting A/S Jones.
0448	The Watch telephoned Ms. Maccallum with a briefing.
0452	The Watch telephoned Mr. R. Nolan, M/DGHR, with a briefing.
0521	The Watch patched Acting A/S Jones to Chargé E. Nolan, Embassy The Hague.
0600	Deputy Secretary Nides telephoned the Watch for a briefing.
0618	Upon receipt of information concerning the arrival of remaining COM personnel in Tripoli from Benghazi, the Watch alerted: S, D(B), D(N),

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CLASSIFIED BY: STEPHEN D. MULL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, S/ES, DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: I

Time	Item
	P, C, E, M, DG, T, R, PA, J, CSO, CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, CA/OCS, PMAT, INR, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR via electronic mail.
0619	U/S Sherman telephoned the Watch for a briefing.
0626	U/S Kennedy telephoned the Watch with a request.
0629	At the request of Counselor Mills, the Watch convened a conference call, including: Director Sullivan; Mr. P. Reines, PA; and Counselor Mills.
0633	The ExecSec telephoned the Watch with a request.
0636	Further to Item 0629, U/S Kennedy telephoned the Watch with a request.
0639	Further to Item 0629, Spokesperson Nuland telephoned the Watch with a request.
0640	The Watch attempted to patch Acting A/S Jones to Chargé Nolan, who was unavailable.
0655	DS Command Center telephoned the Watch with a question regarding an American citizen. The Watch accessed ACRQ application number [redacted] to respond. B6
0702	The Watch attempted to patch Ambassador Patterson to Chargé M. Sievers, Embassy Cairo, who was unavailable.
0706	Assistant Secretary P. Goldberg, INR, visited the Watch.
0715	The Secretary telephoned the Watch with a request.
0717	Further to Item 0715, Counselor Mills visited the Watch.
0718	The Watch patched Spokesperson Nuland to Deputy NSA for

~~SECRET/NOFORN/NODIS~~

CLASSIFIED BY: STEPHEN D. MULL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, S/ES, DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REASONS: 1.4 B, C, D
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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872465 Date: 10/30/2015

C05872465 IED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872465 Date: 10/30/2015

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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 11, 2012
SHIFT: I

Time	Item
	Strategic Communications B. Rhodes.
0725	Counselor Mills visited the Watch.
0728	The Watch patched The Secretary to Mr. Reines.
0729	Relinquished the Watch.

Approved by: /s/ Mr. Yeprek/Mr. Fullerton
Senior Watch Officers

Dist: S S/ES S/ES-O S/ES-IRM S/ES-EX INR

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CLASSIFIED BY: STEPHEN D. MULL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, S/ES, DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REASONS: 1.4 B, C, D
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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872465 Date: 10/30/2015

SCB 000031

From: NOC.SWO.Restricted <NOC.SWO.Restricted[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 12:48 AM
Cc: NOC.SWO.Restricted
Subject: Awareness (Initial): U.S. Embassy/Consulate Attacks - North Africa (NOC 1662-12)
Attachments: NOC Awareness 1662-12 - Initial Incident Report - U.S. Embassy Consulate Attacks - North Africa (0045 EDT 12 Sep 2012).pdf

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Overview: The U.S. Department of State (DOS) reports two U.S. diplomatic facilities have been attacked in North Africa. DOS reports one American fatality in Benghazi, Libya; open source media reports the individual killed was a DOS official.

In Egypt, protestors breached the west perimeter wall of the U.S. Embassy in Cairo. Diplomatic personnel were reportedly evacuated ahead of the breach. U.S. Marines have regained control of the embassy and secured all mission personnel, including eight permanent and ten temporary DHS personnel. The Egyptian Army was called in to help subdue the crowd; Egyptian police have arrested five individuals in connection with the protest. The crowd of protesters, whi ch had grown into the thousands during the day, has since dispersed.

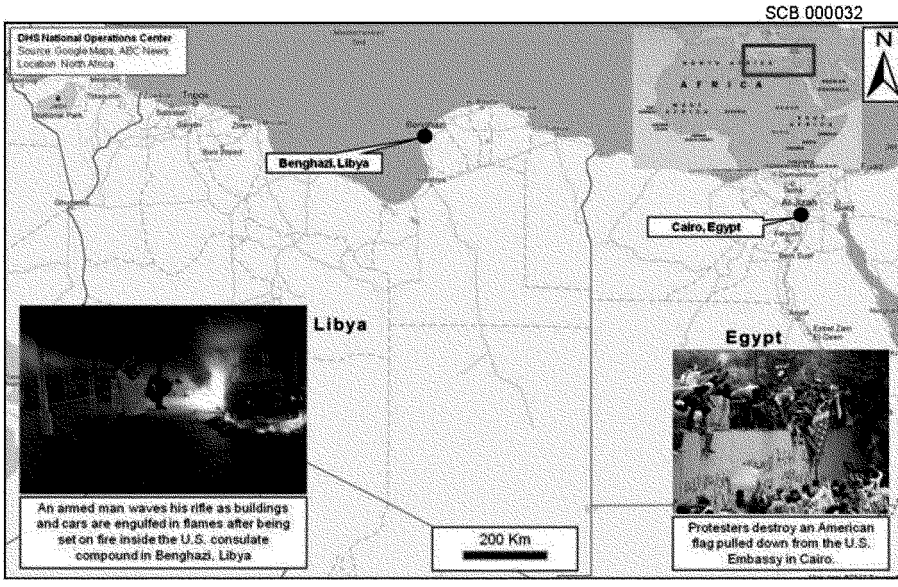
In Libya, 15 armed individuals attacked and entered the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi. Locals set fire to buildings in the area, including the U.S. Consulate building. The fire has been ext inguished and the compound has been cleared. Accountability of DOS personnel is ongoing. There are no reported DHS personnel in Benghazi.

First responders, including DOS, local law enforcement and military personnel, responded to the attacks. Post-attack assessments continue.

Open source media reports these incidents may be in response to a US -based film perceived as offensive to Muslims. Open source media reports that Ansar al Sharia, an offshoot of Al -Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, has claimed responsibility for the attack in Benghazi; there is no claim of responsibility for the attack in Cairo.

The DHS NOC will continue to monitor this incident and provide updates as warranted.

SCB 000032



An armed man waves his rifle as buildings and cars are engulfed in flames after being set on fire inside the U.S. consulate compound in Benghazi, Libya

Protesters destroy an American flag pulled down from the U.S. Embassy in Cairo.

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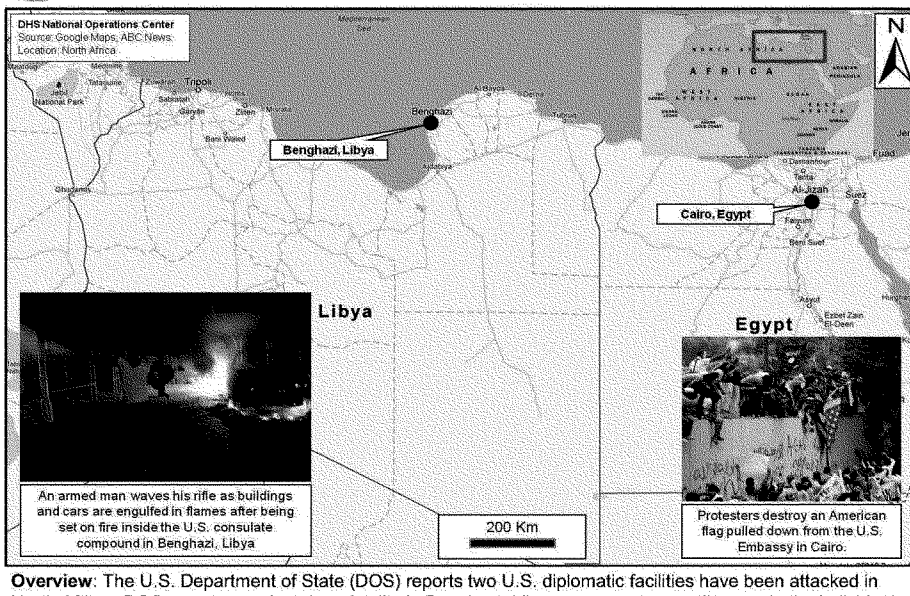
Vr.

Kevin M. Schaefer
Assistant Senior Watch Officer
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
National Operations Center - Washington, DC
[redacted]

Homeland Security



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The DHS NOC will continue to monitor this incident and provide updates as warranted.

SCB 000034

From: Rob Malley [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:29 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Seriously? Am in frankfurt about to board. Have seen news from benghazi and tripoli but is there more?
Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

From: "Fishman, Benjamin I." <[redacted]
Date: Wed, 12 Sep 2012 05:15:02 +0000
To: 'rmalley[redacted]<[redacted]>
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Do not go!
Big security concerns.

From: Rob Malley [[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 01:13 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Arriving later today

Tx
Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

From: "Fishman, Benjamin I." <[redacted]>
Date: Wed, 12 Sep 2012 02:55:36 +0000
To: rmalley[redacted]
Subject: are you in Tripoli?

Can't remember if you arrived today or tom orrow.

SCB 000035

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:32 AM
To: 'rmalley[redacted]
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Seriously. Not worth the risk.

From: Rob Malley [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 01:29 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Seriously? Am in frankfurt about to board. Have seen news from benghazi and tripoli but is there more?
Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

From: "Fishman, Benjamin I." <[redacted]
Date: Wed, 12 Sep 2012 05:15:02 +0000
To: 'rmalley[redacted]<[redacted]
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Do not go!
Big security concerns.

From: Rob Malley [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 01:13 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Arriving later today

Tx
Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

From: "Fishman, Benjamin I." <[redacted]>
Date: Wed, 12 Sep 2012 02:55:36 +0000
To: rmalley[redacted]>
Subject: are you in Tripoli?

Can't remember if you arrived today or tomorrow.

SCB 000036

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:23 AM
To: 'rmalley[redacted]
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

That mean you're going?
You should really get them out soon. We can't vouch for safety and will have limited resources to help if something bad does happen. Tripoli isn't benghazi but we just don't know at this point what's next.

From: Rob Malley [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 02:08 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Thanks for the warning, really appreciate it

Problem is, half my team already there. I'll be careful , promise...

Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

From: "Fishman, Benjamin I." <[redacted]>
Date: Wed, 12 Sep 2012 05:32:01 +0000
To: 'rmalley[redacted]<[redacted]>
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Seriously. Not worth the risk.

From: Rob Malley [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 01:29 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Seriously? Am in frankfurt about to bo ard. Have seen news from benghazi and tripoli but is there more?
Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

From: "Fishman, Benjamin I." <[redacted]>
Date: Wed, 12 Sep 2012 05:15:02 +0000
To: 'rmalley[redacted]<[redacted]>
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Do not go!
Big security concerns.

SCB 000037

From: Rob Malley [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 01:13 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: are you in Tripoli?

Arriving later today

Tx
Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

From: "Fishman, Benjamin I." <[redacted]>
Date: Wed, 12 Sep 2012 02:55:36 +0000
To: rmalley[redacted]
Subject: are you in Tripoli?

Can't remember if you arrived today or tomorrow.

SCB 000038

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 3:04 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Is Chris ok or no?

It's literally unbelievable.
His first time back to benghazi since last year.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 02:58 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Is Chris ok or no?

I'm horribly sorry.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:56 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Is Chris ok or no?

He's gone

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 02:03 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Is Chris ok or no?

SCB 000039

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 3:12 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Is Chris ok or no?

3

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 03:05 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Is Chris ok or no?

Sickening to lose him. And were there two others as well?

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:04 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Is Chris ok or no?

It's literally unbelievable.
His first time back to benghazi since last year.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 02:58 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Is Chris ok or no?

I'm horribly sorry.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:56 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Is Chris ok or no?

He's gone

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 02:03 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Is Chris ok or no?

SCB 000040

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 3:28 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Sorry to hear about tonight's attack

Ben,
I am so sorry to hear about Chris. I had heard so much from everyone about him and was looking forward to meeting this great friend of Libya. I am heading to the president's office shortly and will make sure I recommend speedy facilitation of your request. Keep me posted if there is anything I can do.

[redacted]

On Tue, Sep 11, 2012 at 9:12 PM, Fishman, Benjamin I. <[redacted]> wrote:

[redacted] thank you for the message and statement. It is important to do whatever is possible, to the extent the government can, to ensure the security of our remaining personnel on the ground both in Benghazi and Tripoli. We will be making a request to deploy additional security resources to Libya to help protect our people, which I hope the President will grant speedily.

If there are more details you have available, please do pass along what you can.

-Ben

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 8:03 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Sorry to hear about tonight's attack

Hi Ben,

I just came back from presidential office where I was when Dr. Magariaf received the sad news of tonight's attack on US consulate in Benghazi. He was extremely upset and dismayed by news of the attack and possible news of losses of life. He is meeting now with prime minister in an emergency meeting to issue proper response. Here is a copy of the English version of the press release.. let me know if there is anything we can do from here.

[redacted]

SCB 000041

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:19 AM
To: bernadette m meehan[redacted]
Subject: Fw: Reuters Reporting Ambassador Killed

Fyi - I now understand that Libyans confirming live on TV.

----- Original Message -----
From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 06:04 AM
To: NEA-FO-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL
Cc: NEA-Press-DL
Subject: Reuters Reporting Ambassador Killed

BEIRUT, Sept 12 (Reuters) - The U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other embassy staff were killed in a rocket attack on Tuesday in the Libyan city of Benghazi, a Libyan official said.

It was not clear if the ambassador was in his car or the Libyan consulate when the attack occurred.

"The U.S. ambassador and three staff members were killed when gunmen fired rockets at them," the official in Benghazi told Reuters.

SCB 000042

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:24 AM
To: [redacted] COL (USA) OSD POLICY ([redacted]
Subject: FW: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

From: OpsAlert [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:09 AM
Subject: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

SPOT REPORT

Attack On U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi

Wednesday, September 12, 2012
0600 EDT

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

- (SBU) Four COM personnel were killed and three were wounded in an attack by dozens of fighters on the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi beginning approximately 1550 Eastern Time. ***(Ops/DS Command telcon and e-mail)***
- (SBU) All COM personnel have evacuated Benghazi and are in Tripoli. The wounded are receiving medical treatment at a local hospital pending evacuation. ***(Ops/DS Command telcon and e-mail, Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)***
- (SBU) The U.S. Mission is drawing down to emergency personnel. U.S. military aircraft are scheduled to arrive in Tripoli at 1030 Eastern Time to evacuate COM personnel. A military medevac flight will arrive at 1110 Eastern Time. ***(Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)***
- (SBU) A Marine FAST team is en route to Tripoli from Spain. ***(Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)***
- (SBU) Embassy Tripoli has drafted an Emergency Message to Americans announcing the drawdown and encouraging Americans to leave Libya via commercial f lights. ***(Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)***
- (U) A number of media sources report the death of U.S. Ambassador Stevens. ***(Reuters, Al Jazeera)***

Please see our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted] Approved: [redacted]
Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SCB 000043

From: [redacted] COL (USA) OSD POLICY <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:26 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

Thinks says FAST team enroute.

COL [redacted]
Regional Director, North Africa
Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy
[redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:24 AM
To: [redacted] COL (USA) OSD POLICY
Subject: FW: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

From: OpsAlert [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:09 AM
Subject: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

heading.gif

SPOT REPORT

Attack On U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

0600 EDT

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

SCB 000044

. (SBU) Four COM personnel were killed and three were wounded in an attack by dozens of fighters on the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi beginning approximately 1550 Eastern Time. (Ops/DS Command telcon and e -mail)

. (SBU) All COM personnel have e vacuated Benghazi and are in Tripoli. The wounded are receiving medical treatment at a local hospital pending evacuation. (Ops/DS Command telcon and e -mail, Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

. (SBU) The U.S. Mission is drawing down to emergency personnel. U.S. military aircraft are scheduled to arrive in Tripoli at 1030 Eastern Time to evacuate COM personnel. A military medevac flight will arrive at 1110 Eastern Time. (Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

. (SBU) A Marine FAST team is en route to Tripoli from S pain. (Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

. (SBU) Embassy Tripoli has drafted an Emergency Message to Americans announcing the drawdown and encouraging Americans to leave Libya via commercial flights. (Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

. (U) A number of media s ources report the death of U.S. Ambassador Stevens. (Reuters, Al Jazeera)

Please see our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted] Approved: [redacted]

Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SCB 000045

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:40 AM
To: bfishman[redacted]
Subject: FW: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

From: OpsAlert [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:09 AM
Subject: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

SPOT REPORT

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Please see our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: JSArmiger Approved: AVeprek
Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SCB 000046

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:54 AM
To: Holgate, Laura; Floyd, Carolyn; 'madelyn.creedon [redacted] 'Rebecca.Hersman [redacted] 'Anne.Harrington [redacted]; 'Andrew.Weber [redacted]; 'ronald.fizer [redacted]; 'William.Faircloth [redacted]; Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Fw: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

Media reporting Ambassador Stevens killed. Confirming that sources are credible.

From: OpsAlert
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 06:08 AM
Subject: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

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Please see our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted] Approved: [redacted]
Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SCB 000047

From: Harrington, Anne <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:17 AM
To: [redacted] laura s. holgate[redacted] carolyn m floyd[redacted] madelyn.creedon[redacted] rebecca.hersman[redacted] andrew.weber[redacted] ronald.fizer[redacted] william.faircloth[redacted] benjamin i. fishman[redacted]
Subject: Re: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)
Attachments: image001.gif

Just received a report from Embassy Paris confirming the death of the Ambassador. Absolutely shocking.

From: [redacted] ([redacted])
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 06:54 AM
To: 'Laura S. Holgate[redacted] <Laura S. Holgate[redacted]>; 'Carolyn M Floyd[redacted] <Carolyn M Floyd[redacted]>; 'madelyn.creedon[redacted] <madelyn.creedon[redacted] 'Rebecca.Hersman[redacted] <Rebecca.Hersman[redacted] Harrington, Anne; 'Andrew.Weber[redacted] <Andrew.Weber[redacted] 'ronald.fizer[redacted] <ronald.fizer[redacted] 'William.Faircloth[redacted] <William.Faircloth[redacted] 'Benjamin I. Fishman[redacted] <Benjamin I. Fishman[redacted]
Subject: Fw: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

Media reporting Ambassador Stevens killed. Confirming that sources are credible.

From: OpsAlert
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 06:08 AM
Subject: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

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- (SBU) A Marine FAST team is en route to Tripoli from Spain. ***(Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)***

SCB 000048

- (SBU) Embassy Tripoli has drafted an Emergency Message to Americans announcing the drawdown and encouraging Americans to leave Libya via commercial flights. ***(Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)***
- (U) A number of media sources report the death of U.S. Ambassador Stevens. ***(Reuters, Al Jazeera)***

Please see our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted] Approved: [redacted]
Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: NATO Press Office <no-reply [redacted] on behalf of NATO Press Office <[redacted]>

Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:42 AM

To: [redacted]

Subject: Statement by the NATO Secretary General on the Benghazi attack

Wednesday, 12 September 2012
Press Release (2012) 110

Statement by the NATO Secretary General on the Benghazi attack

[redacted] **I strongly condemn the attack on the US mission in Benghazi which led to the tragic loss of four Americans, including the Ambassador. Such violence can never be justified. I offer my deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those who lost their lives and my thoughts are with those who are injured.**

I welcome the Libyan President's condemnation and condolences and his pledge of his government's full cooperation. It is important that the new Libya continues to move towards a peaceful, secure and democratic future.

back to top

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Do not use the 'View in browser' link for sharing purposes, instead use the sharing button at the top right. If not, others will be able to change your preferences.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:50 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Statement from Dr Aref Al Nayed on Amb Stevens

Statement from Dr Aref Ali Nayed

"This is to express my deepest condolences to the families and friends of the late Ambassador Christopher Stevens and his fallen colleagues, and to the American people and government. I had the honor of personally knowing Ambassador Stevens, and witnessed, firsthand, in Benghazi and later in Tripoli, the care and hard work that he devoted to fulfilling his duties towards his country and towards Libya and the Libyan people. He was a man of dedication and honor, and I am shocked and deeply anguished for the loss of a dear friend and supporter of the Libyan people's struggle against tyranny. Tyranny and darkness may wear a thousand guises, including pseudo-religiosity, but must never deceive us. Islam is a religion of peace and understanding, and Islam's Prophet (peace be upon him) is the Prophet of Compassion. It is outrageous and totally unacceptable for criminals to kill and destroy in the name of defending Islam and its Prophet (peace be upon him). The criminals who committe d this cowardly act must be rigorously pursued and rapidly brought to justice. May this tragic loss make us even more dedicated and determined to building our respective countries, based on the values of dialogue, understanding, and peace."

Aref Ali Nayed,
Former Ambassador of Libya to the UAE,
Member of the League of Libyan Ulema.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:57 AM
To: [redacted] Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: LIBYA: NATO Statement

Statement by the NATO Secretary General on the Benghazi attack

Press Release (2012) 110

Issued on 12 Sep. 2012

I strongly condemn the attack on the US mission in Benghazi which led to the tragic loss of four Americans, including the Ambassador. Such violence can never be justified. I offer my deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those who lost thei r lives and my thoughts are with those who are injured.

I welcome the Libyan President's condemnation and condolences and his pledge of his government's full cooperation. It is important that the new Libya continues to move towards a peaceful, secure and democratic future.

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/news_89939.htm?mode=pressrelease

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:34 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: LIBYA: NATO Statement

Here is the POTUS statement that went ou,t for everyone's reference. Defer to Toria on the timing for any others.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012

Statement by the President on the Attack in Benghazi

I strongly condemn the outrageous attack on our diplomatic facility in Benghazi, which took the lives of four Americans, including Ambassador Chris Stevens. Right now, the American people have the families of those we lost in our thoughts and prayers. They exemplified America's commitment to freedom, justice, and partnership with nations and people around the globe, and stand in stark contrast to those who callously took their lives.

I have directed my Administration to provide all necessary resources to support the security of our personnel in Libya, and to increase security at our diplomatic posts around the globe. While the United States rejects efforts to denigrate the religious be liefs of others, we must all unequivocally oppose the kind of senseless violence that took the lives of these public servants.

On a personal note, Chris was a courageous and exemplary representative of the United States. Throughout the Libyan revolution, he selflessly served our country and the Libyan people at our mission in Benghazi. As Ambassador in Tripoli, he has supported Libya's transition to democracy. His legacy will endure wherever human beings reach for liberty and justice. I am profoundly grate ful for his service to my Administration, and deeply saddened by this loss.

The brave Americans we lost represent the extraordinary service and sacrifices that our civilians make every day around the globe. As we stand united with their families, let us now redouble our own efforts to carry their work forward.

###

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:30 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: LIBYA: NATO Statement

Hold until after US statements are out. Shortly

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 07:27 AM
To: [redacted] Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]>
Subject: RE: LIBYA: NATO Statement

No objections here.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:25 AM
To: [redacted] Nuland, Victor ia J; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: LIBYA: NATO Statement

+ DAS Yovanovitch, Marie, Tara, Amanda

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 07:20 AM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: LIBYA: NATO Statement

NATO SecGen would like to release as soon as possible the following statement on Libya, but has expr essed willingness to coordinate with us if any concerns.

I strongly condemn the attack on the US mission in Benghazi which led to the tragic loss of four Americans, including the Ambassador. Such violence can never be justified. I offer my deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those who lost their lives and my thoughts are with those who are injured.

I welcome the Libyan president's condemnation and condolences, and note that he pledged his government's full cooperation. It is important that the new Libya continues to move towards a peaceful, secure and democratic future.

Thanks,

Kirk

[redacted]
Deputy Public Affairs Advisor & Press Officer
U.S. Mission to NATO - Brussels
Tel: [redacted]
GSM: [redacted]
Email: [redacted]
Visit us at nato.usmission.gov
Check out USNATO's facebook page
Follow Ambassador Daalder on twitter

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:37 AM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Mills, Cheryl D; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] Posner, Michael H; Sherman, Wendy R; Jones, Beth E; [redacted] PA FO Group; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: OIC Statement

Importance: High

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:33 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Urgent: Anti-Islamic Film and violence
Importance: High

Dear [redacted],
Our sincere condolences on the loss of US diplomatic staff in Benghazi. Please find below the OIC press release on the subject matter which is being issued.
Regards,
Cenk

The OIC Condemns Violent Acts at American Missions in Cairo and Benghazi

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu strongly condemned the tragic killing of the US Ambassador to Libya along with three other Consulate officials in Benghazi. In a statement issued in Jeddah today, the OIC Secretary General said that he was shocked by the reprehensible act which could not be condoned on any grounds. He also expressed grave concern attack at the US Embassy in Cairo. He said the violence that had emanated from emotions aroused by a production of a film had hurt the religious sentiments of Muslims. The two incidents demonstrated serious repercussions of abuse of freedom of expression that OIC had consistently been warning against. The OIC Secretary General added that while the film was a deplor able act of incitement, resorting to violence resulting in loss of innocent lives could not be condoned. The OIC Secretary General called for restraint and urged the concerned law enforcing officials to take all necessary measures to bring the situation under control. He added that the international community could not be held hostage to the acts of extremists on either side. The Secretary General believed that the solution could only be found by addressing the issues pertaining to the freedom of religio n and freedom of expression through structured international engagement and referred to the OIC initiative

embodied in UN Human Rights Council Resolution 16/18 and the Istanbul Process for its consensual implementation which provide with the avenues for su ch engagement.

Jeddah, 12 September 2012

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 3:10 PM
To: Ufuk Gokcen; Cenk Uraz
Subject: Urgent: Anti-Islamic Film and violence

Ambassador Gokcen and Cenk,

I hope you are doing well. I am sure you are considering putting out a statement on the film and the related violence. In addition to the condemnation of the disgusting depictions, it will be important to emphasize the need to respond in a way that is consistent with Islamic principles, i.e., not engaging in viol ence and taking innocent life. We are concerned about violence that could spread across the region, particularly on Friday after prayers. Thanks for your attention to this and I look forward to catching up with you by phone as well.

[redacted]

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:39 AM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: Feedback from Post re Cairo, Benghazi, and Terry Jones

FYI from Riyadh

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:25 AM
To: [redacted] NEA -PD-PAO-DL; NEA-PD-IO-DL; NEA-PD-CAO-DL
Cc: [redacted] NEA Press Officers DL; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Feedback from Post re Cairo, Benghazi, and Terry Jones

[redacted]

Here is what we can glean from Saudi Arabia on the Cairo and Benghazi attacks:

Response from Saudi Arabia

Headlines in Saudi press are mostly factual and neutral. More importantly, most papers -- and TV broadcasts on the issue -- prominently highlighted Embassy Cairo's stateme nt to the protesters in which it condemns denigration of any religion, while supporting freedom of speech. Social media chatter on the issue, though not as neutral or as controlled, is not out of control either. The majority of Twitter users discussing th e topic are criticizing the film's depiction of Prophet Muhammad and one influential Saudi religious figure is calling for "jihad" on his Twitter account, criticizing the U.S. for what he termed as its double standards on the just released film in the U.S. viewed by some in the Muslim world as anti-Islamic. The topic of the attack in Benghazi is trending widely in Saudi Arabia, with a significant amount of users praising the reported deaths of American. Some users, however, have sympathized and stated tha t the response by Libyans was wrong.

Contacts in the country we have been able to reach have been sympathetic to us, with one calling IO to express condolences for the U.S. officers who were killed in the Benghazi attack Tuesday. This contact, a prominen t Saudi reporter, commented that "freedom doesn't mean chaos or violence."

Sample Print Headlines

-- Al-Riyadh: "Demonstrators Storm U.S. Embassy in Cairo Protesting a Film Insulting the Prophet"

--Al-Hayat: "Protesting an Insulting Film in the U.S. Produced by Immigrant Copts, Protesters in Cairo Hoist 'Jihad Flag' on American Embassy Walls."

--Al-Jazirah: "U.S. Condemns Film that Insults Muslims on 9/11 Anniversary"

--Al-Watan: "Egypt: Demonstrations before the American Embassy against In sulting the Prophet."

--ASharq Al-Awsat: "American Embassy in Cairo under Siege on 9/11 Anniversary"

Saudi TV Headlines

- Saudi Channel One (Arabic): Protesters Storm US Embassy in Cairo, Protesting Anti -Islamic Film

- Saudi Channel Two (English): U.S. Cair o Embassy, Benghazi Consulate Attacked by Protesters Condemning Anti - Prophet Film
- Al-Ekhbariya (Arabic): Thousands Storm U.S. Embassy Cairo, U.S. Flag Taken Down; U.S. Ambassador Killed in Benghazi Consulate

Social Media

Under the hashtag # الا رسولنا محمد !(except our Prophet Mohammed), Twitter users are discussing the controversy surrounding a film that criticizes Prophet Muhammad. The Twitter users are sharing pictures from the demonstration that took place at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo. Hashtag

One user tweeted that President Morsi should not visit Washington, D.C. unless the U.S government blo cks the production of this movie and apologizes to Muslims. Tweet

Another user tweeted, "All Americans are impure. Did we insult you? Are we talking about your religion? Why are you insulting our prophet? Really - you don't know understand our anger." Tweet | Hashtag

Under the hashtag # العريفي يدعو للجهاد (Al-Arefe calls for jihad), Twitter users are discussing a tweet sent by the prominent Saudi religious cleric Sheikh Mohammed Al -Arefe calling for jihad. Saudis responded negatively to Al -Arefe's tweet, saying that jihad should be done in Syria, instead. Tweet | Hashtag

The topic of the attack in Benghazi is trending widely in Saudi Arabia, with a significant amount of users praising the reported deaths of American. Some users, however, have sympathized a nd stated that the response by Libyans was wrong.

[redacted]
Press Attache
Embassy of the United States of America
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Tel: [redacted]
Fax: [redacted]
Cell: [redacted]
Email: [redacted]

SCB 000049

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:45 AM
To: bfishman[redacted]
Subject: FW: Sorry to hear about tonight's attack
Attachments: Consulate attack press.pdf

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 8:03 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Sorry to hear about tonight's attack

Hi Ben,
I just came back from presidential office where I was when Dr. Magariaf received the sad news of tonight's attack on US consulate in Benghazi. He was extremely upset and dismayed by news of the attack and possible news of losses of life. He is meeting now with prime minister in an emergency meeting to issue proper response. Here is a copy of the English version of the press release.. let me know if there is anything we can do from here.

[redacted]

SCB 000050

The General National Conference of Libya expresses outrage at the unfortunate attack against the American consulate in Benghazi tonight. This criminal attack has led to the regrettable injury and death of a number of individuals, not to mention damage to public property.

The General National Conference expresses disapproval in the strongest terms against tonight's attack, which reflects total disregard for the sanctity of life, and undermines Libya's obligation to protect the country's guests.

Whereas the General National Conference firmly believes in the right of every citizen to practice his or her right to peaceful demonstration, there is no justification for tonight's cowardly act.

The General National Conference has launched immediate investigation into tonight's attack. President of Libya's General National Conference, Dr. Mohamed Yousef Almagariaf, has called for emergency meeting with Prime Minister Alkieb and his cabinet.

SCB 000051

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:58 AM
To: Sandy Charles [redacted]
Subject: statement
Attachments: Consulate attack press.pdf

This is what they put out yesterday before Chris' death was confirmed.

It could be much stronger. Chris was a hero for Libya and the tragedy is unspeakable. He gave his life to helping the country earn and build its freedom. That should be acknowledged along with our fundamental role in the liberation last year, which makes this act so egregious, as you know.
More broadly speaking and in light of the video which may or may not have been related, messages about calm, non - violence, and tolerance are welcome but the perpetrators should be brought to justice.

Some initial thoughts.

Are they going to go ahead with the PM election today?

SCB 000052

The General National Conference of Libya expresses outrage at the unfortunate attack against the American consulate in Benghazi tonight. This criminal attack has led to the regrettable injury and death of a number of individuals, not to mention damage to public property.

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SCB 000053

From: Holgate, Laura
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:02 AM
To: 'Harrington, Anne'; [redacted]; Floyd, Carolyn; 'madelyn.creedon [redacted] 'Rebecca.Hersman[redacted]; 'Andrew.Weber[redacted] 'ronald.fizer [redacted] 'William.Faircloth[redacted]; Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

Outrageous.

From: Harrington, Anne [[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:17 AM
To: [redacted]; Holgate, Laura; Floyd, Carolyn; 'madelyn.creedon [redacted]; 'Rebecca.Hersman [redacted] 'Andrew.Weber[redacted]; 'ronald.fizer[redacted]; 'William.Faircloth[redacted]; Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

Just received a report from Embassy Paris confirming the death of the Ambassador. Absolutely shocking.

From: [redacted] [[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 06:54 AM
To: 'Laura S. Holgate[redacted] <[redacted]>; 'Carolyn M Floyd[redacted] <Carolyn_M_Floyd[redacted]>; 'madelyn.creedon[redacted] <[redacted] 'Rebecca.Hersman[redacted] <Rebecca.Hersman[redacted] Harrington, Anne; 'Andrew.Weber [redacted] <Andrew.Weber[redacted] 'ronald.fizer[redacted] <ronald.fizer[redacted] 'William.Faircloth[redacted] <William.Faircloth[redacted] 'Benjamin I. Fishman[redacted] <Benjamin_I._Fishman[redacted]
Subject: Fw: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

Media reporting Ambassador Stevens killed. Confirming that sources are credible.

From: OpsAlert
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 06:08 AM
Subject: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

SPOT REPORT

Attack On U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi

Wednesday, September 12, 2012
0600 EDT

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

- (SBU) Four COM personnel were killed and three were wounded in an attack by dozens of fighters on the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi beginning approximately 1550 Eastern Time. ***(Ops/DS Command telcon and e-mail)***

SCB 000054

- (SBU) All COM personnel have evacuated Benghazi and are in Tripoli. The wounded are receiving medical treatment at a local hospital pending evacuation. ***(Ops/DS Command telcon and e-mail, Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)***
- (SBU) The U.S. Mission is drawing down to emergency personnel. U.S. military aircraft are scheduled to arrive in Tripoli at 1030 Eastern Time to evacuate COM personnel. A military medevac flight will arrive at 1110 Eastern Time. ***(Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)***
- (SBU) A Marine FAST team is en route to Tripoli from Spain. ***(Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)***
- (SBU) Embassy Tripoli has drafted an Emergency Message to Americans announcing the drawdown and encouraging Americans to leave Libya via commercial flights. ***(Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)***
- (U) A number of media sources report the death of U.S. Ambassador Stevens. ***(Reuters, Al Jazeera)***

Please see our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted] Approved: [redacted]
Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:22 AM
To: [redacted] Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted] USNATO Senior Staff DL; USNATO Libya DL
Cc: [redacted] EUR-Press; [redacted]
Subject: NATO Press Conference - Libya comments

NATO Spokesman Oana Lungescu opened her joint press conference this afternoon with SACT Gen. Abrial by reading the NATO SecGen's statement on the Benghazi attack (below). There was only one request for a comment about the incident by a journalist from the Spanish news agency, and in response Oana reworded the main points of the SecGen's statement. Otherwise the press conference, attended by just a dozen international journalists, focused on NATO transformation/capabilities/Smart Defense.

Kirk

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:57 PM
To: [redacted] Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] EUR-Press; [redacted]
Subject: RE: LIBYA: NATO Statement

Statement by the NATO Secretary General on the Benghazi attack

Press Release (2012) 110

Issued on 12 Sep. 2012

I strongly condemn the attack on the U S mission in Benghazi which led to the tragic loss of four Americans, including the Ambassador. Such violence can never be justified. I offer my deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those who lost their lives and my thoughts are with those who are injured.

I welcome the Libyan President's condemnation and condolences and his pledge of his government's full cooperation. It is important that the new Libya continues to move towards a peaceful, secure and democratic future.

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/news_89939.htm?mode=pressrelease

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

[redacted]
Deputy Public Affairs Advisor & Press Officer
U.S. Mission to NATO - Brussels

Tel: [redacted]
GSM: [redacted]
Email: [redacted]
Visit us at nato.usmission.gov
Check out USNATO's facebook page
Follow Ambassador Daalder on twitter

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:44 AM
To: H Egypt; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Berman Statement

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:43 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Berman Statement

Berman Remembers Ambassador Chris Stevens, Condemns Attack on U.S. Consulate in Libya

Washington, DC Congressman Howard L. Berman, the top Democrat on the House Foreign Affairs Committee made the following statement in response to the attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens, and three others U.S. officials:

"I am horrified by the murder of the US ambassador to Libya and three other USofficials. Absolutely nothing justifies this despicable act," said Rep. Berman. "I am particularly angry that this sickening attack occurred in a country that the US did so much to liberate.

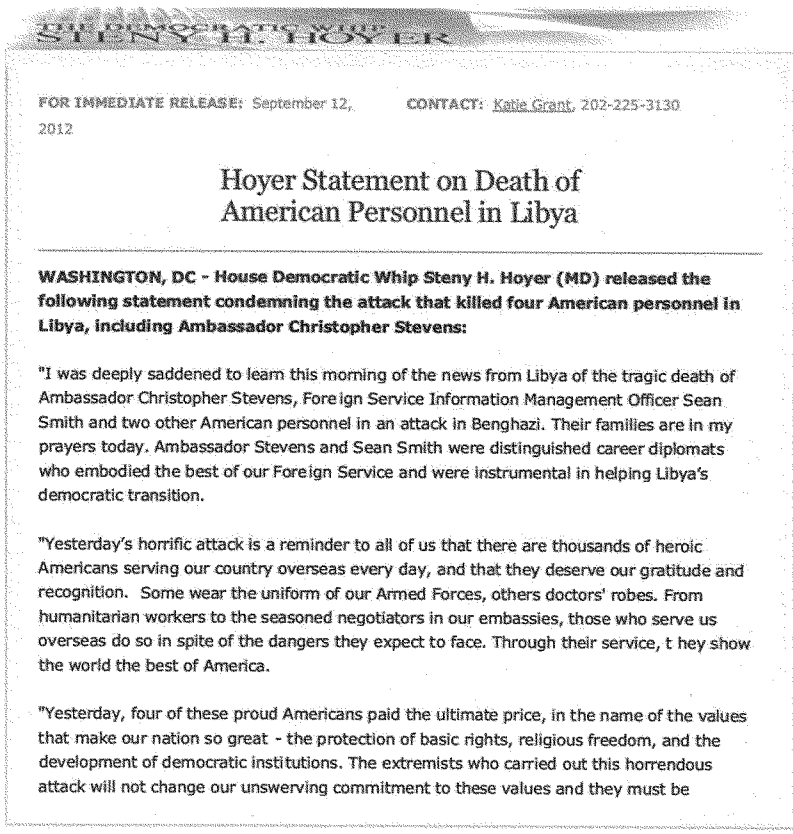
"Ambassador Stevens was one of our best and brightest -- and most courageous. He was on the ground in Benghazi leading US diplomatic efforts from the earliest days of the revolution. He worked tirelessly on behalf of US-Libyan relations and the well being of US citizens living in Libya. He will be missed for his knowledge of the Middle East, his exemplary commitment to service, and his basic human decency. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of all the dedicated foreign service officers whose lives were lost today.

"Libya owes the American people a full investigation of this incident, in completecooperation with U.S. authorities. The killers must be found and brought tojustice."

###

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:46 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Hoyer Statement on Death of American Personnel in Libya

From: Democratic Whip Press
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:45 AM
To: SHH All Staff
Subject: Hoyer Statement on Death of American Personnel in Libya



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 12, 2012 CONTACT: Katie Grant, 202-225-3130

Hoyer Statement on Death of American Personnel in Libya

WASHINGTON, DC - House Democratic Whip Steny H. Hoyer (MD) released the following statement condemning the attack that killed four American personnel in Libya, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens:

"I was deeply saddened to learn this morning of the news from Libya of the tragic death of Ambassador Christopher Stevens, Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith and two other American personnel in an attack in Benghazi. Their families are in my prayers today. Ambassador Stevens and Sean Smith were distinguished career diplomats who embodied the best of our Foreign Service and were instrumental in helping Libya's democratic transition.

"Yesterday's horrific attack is a reminder to all of us that there are thousands of heroic Americans serving our country overseas every day, and that they deserve our gratitude and recognition. Some wear the uniform of our Armed Forces, others doctors' robes. From humanitarian workers to the seasoned negotiators in our embassies, those who serve us overseas do so in spite of the dangers they expect to face. Through their service, t hey show the world the best of America.

"Yesterday, four of these proud Americans paid the ultimate price, in the name of the values that make our nation so great - the protection of basic rights, religious freedom, and the development of democratic institutions. The extremists who carried out this horrendous attack will not change our unswerving commitment to these values and they must be

brought to swift justice."

Visit http://www.democraticwhip.gov/ for more press, floor and member resources.

Permalink

Change subscription settings

SCB 000055

From: NOC.SWO.Restricted <NOC.SWO.Restricted[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:48 AM
Cc: NOC.SWO.Restricted
Subject: Awareness (Update 1): U.S. Embassy/Consulate Attacks - North Africa (NOC 1662-12)
Attachments: NOC Awareness 1662-12 - Update Report 1 - U.S. Embassy Consulate Attacks - North Africa (0945 EDT 12 Sep 2012).pdf

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Overview: The Department of State (DOS) confirms four U.S. officials, including the U.S. Ambassador to Libya, have been killed in a Tuesday attack on the U.S. Consulate in the city of Benghazi, Libya. In addition to the four deceased, three other DOS employees were wounded in the attacks. The Department of State Operations Center reports protesters are amassing approximately 12 miles away from the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum, Sudan with the intention of marching on the U.S. Embassy.

DOS reports all consulate personnel assigned to Benghazi have been evacuated to Tripoli. The U.S. Mission plans to evacuate all non-emergency personnel from Libya via U.S. military aircraft. There are no permanent, but there are four temporary DHS personnel in Tripoli. The U.S. Embassy in Tripoli has drafted an emergency message to Americans encouraging them to leave Libya via commercial flights. A U.S. Marine Fleet Anti-terrorism Security Team is en route to Tripoli to enhance existing security teams.

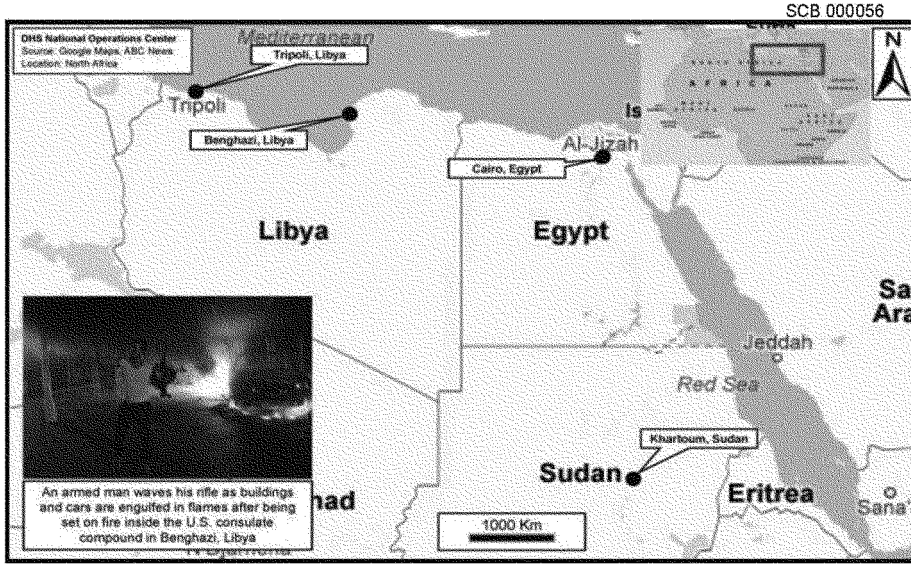
In Egypt, U.S. Marines have regained control of the embassy after the west perimeter wall was breached by protesters. All mission personnel, including eight permanent and ten temporary DHS personnel have been secured.

The President and the DOS Secretary have condemned the attacks. The President has ordered all necessary resources to support the security of U.S. personnel in Libya and to increase security at the diplomatic posts around the globe; he will publicly address the nation at 1035 EDT.

Arab media outlets attribute these attacks to a US-based film perceived as offensive to Muslims.

The DHS NOC will continue to monitor this incident and provide further updates as warranted.

SCB 000056



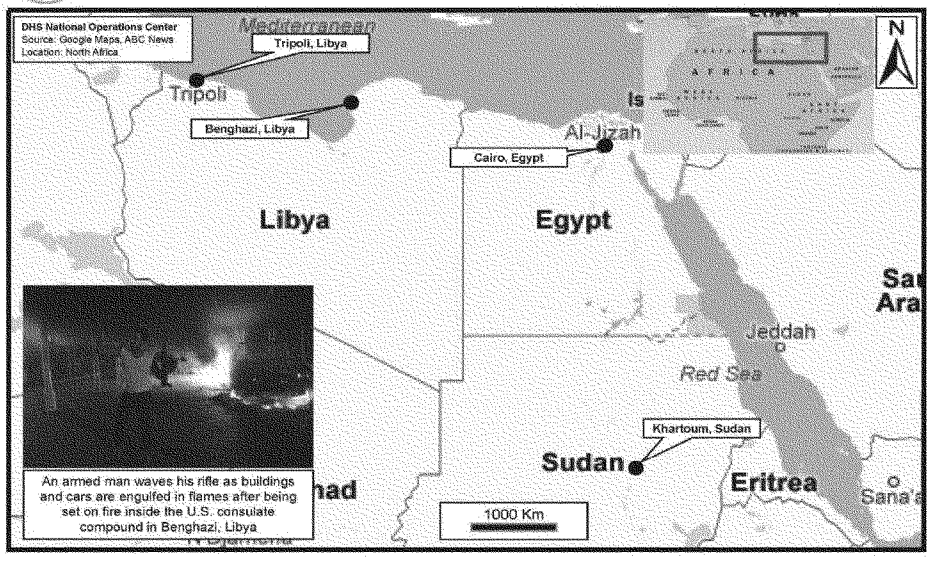
Debby Hassel
Senior Watch Officer (SWO)
DHS National Operations Center (NOC)
Washington, DC
[redacted](NOC)
[redacted](STE-S)

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

NOC Awareness 1662-12 Update Report 1: U.S. Embassy/Consulate Attacks – North Africa

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Report as of 0945 EDT 12 Sep 2012



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Prepared by the DHS National Operations Center

From: News, HCFA <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:51 AM
To: News, HCFA
Subject: HOWARD BERMAN -- Berman Remembers Ambassador Chris Stevens, Condemns Attack on U.S. Consulate in Libya

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE *on* FOREIGN AFFAIRS *Democrats*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 12, 2012

CONTACT: Adam Sharon
Adam.Sharon@mail.house.gov
202.225.8110

Berman Remembers Ambassador Chris Stevens, Condemns Attack on U.S. Consulate in Libya

Washington, DC Congressman Howard L. Berman, the top Democrat on the House Foreign Affairs Committee made the following statement in response to the attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens, and three others U.S. officials:

"I am horrified by the murder of the US ambassador to Libya and three other U.S. officials. Absolutely nothing justifies this despicable act," said Rep. Berman. "I am particularly angry that this sickening attack occurred in a country that the U.S. did so much to liberate.

"Ambassador Stevens was one of our best and brightest -- and most courageous. He was on the ground in Benghazi leading U.S. diplomatic efforts from the earliest days of the revolution. He worked tirelessly on behalf of U.S.-Libyan relations and the well being of U.S. citizens living in Libya. He will be missed for his knowledge of the Middle East, his exemplary commitment to service, and his basic human decency. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of all the dedicated foreign service of ficers whose lives were lost today.

"Libya owes the American people a full investigation of this incident, in complete cooperation with U.S. authorities. The killers must be found and brought to justice."

###

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:52 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: HOWARD BERMAN -- Berman Remembers Ambassador Chris Stevens, Condemns Attack on U.S. Consulate in Libya

FYI

From: News, HCFA
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:51 AM
To: News, HCFA
Subject: HOWARD BERMAN -- Berman Remembers Ambassador Chris Stevens, Condemns Attack on U.S. Consulate in Libya

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE *on* FOREIGN AFFAIRS *Democrats*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 12, 2012

CONTACT: Adam Sharon
Adam.Sharon@mail.house.gov
202.225.8110

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###

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:53 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: HOWARD BERMAN -- Berman Remembers Ambassador Chris Stevens, Condemns Attack on U.S. Consulate in Libya

Thanks, [redacted]

From: [redacted] [mailto: [redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:52 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: HOWARD BERMAN -- Berman Remembers Ambassador Chris Stevens, Condemns Attack on U.S. Consulate in Libya

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UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE *on* FOREIGN AFFAIRS *Democrats*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 12, 2012

CONTACT: Adam Sharon
Adam.Sharon@mail.house.gov
202.225.8110

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###

From: [redacted] (Lieberman) < [redacted] > on behalf of Lieberman, Press (Lieberman)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:53 AM
To: Lieberman, Press (Lieberman)
Subject: **STATEMENT BY SENATORS LIEBERMAN, McCAIN, AND GRAHAM ON ATTACK ON U.S. CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012

CONTACT
Whitney Phillips (Lieberman) 202-224-4041
Rachael Dean (McCain) 202-224-7130
Tate Zeigler (Graham) 202-224-5972

STATEMENT BY SENATORS LIEBERMAN, McCAIN, AND GRAHAM ON ATTACK ON U.S. CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI

WASHINGTON, DC- U.S. Senators **Joe Lieberman** (I-CT), **John McCain** (R-AZ) and **Lindsey Graham** (R-SC) today released the following joint statement regarding the attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya yesterday.

"We are anguished and outraged by the death of four citizens of the United States, including Ambassador Chris Stevens, during an attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.

"Chris was one of America's finest and bravest diplomats, and also someone we considered a friend. In the midst of last year's uprising in Libya, Chris traveled at great personal risk to Benghazi to represent the country he loved as the U.S. envoy to the Libyan opposition. He advanced American interests and values in Libya and stood with the Libyan people throughout their struggle for freedom and during the challenging times that followed. His death at the hands of extremists is a tragic and awful loss for the people of both the United States and Libya.

"There is still much we do not know about what happened in Benghazi yesterday. What is clear, however, is that the attackers must be apprehended and punished. We appreciate that senior L ibyan leaders have condemned these cowardly attacks, and we now look to the Libyan government to ensure that the perpetrators are swiftly brought to justice, and that U.S. diplomats are protected. We have confidence that our own government will provide all necessary assistance to this end.

"Yesterday's attack is a tragic and terrible reminder that despite the hopes of the Arab Spring the forces of violent extremism in the Middle East are far from defeated, and that the revolutions inspired by millions of people who dream of freedom and democracy can still be hijacked by small groups of violent extremists who are eager to kill to advance their evil ideology.

"Despite this horrific attack, we cannot give in to the temptation to believe that our support for the democratic aspirations of people in Libya, Egypt, and elsewhere in the broader Middle East is naive or mistaken. We cannot resign ourselves to the false belief that the Arab Spring is doomed to be defined not by the desire for democracy and freedo m that has inspired millions of people to peaceful action, but by the dark fanaticism of terrorists.

"To follow this misguided path would not only be a victory for the extremists and their associates, but a betrayal of everything for which Chris Stevens and his colleagues stood and gave their lives. In short, it would be a betrayal of our own best ideals as Americans and our own enduring interest in using our great influence to support the overwhelming majority of people in the Middle East who want to be free from the kinds of murderers and terrorists who killed our people yesterday in Benghazi."

###

[redacted]
Communications Director
U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman (I-CT)
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:02 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: HLB Approved this version

Thanks Rick. So sad.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:42 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: HLB Approved this version

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###

SCB 000058

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:03 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Meeting with [redacted] next week

Thank you. We'll try for his mom since s talked to his sister.

From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:45 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Meeting with [redacted] next week

Brother is Tom, sisters are Hillary and Ann. Chris loved tennis and running he used to run outside the compound in Benghazi, with DS in tow. He was known to everyone there. Everyone I met praised him.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 7:09 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Meeting with [redacted] next week

When is good for you?

From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 6:53 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Meeting with [redacted] next week

Sure.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 06:49 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Meeting with [redacted] next week

Sorry for delayed response.
[redacted] can you get together a bit later in the week, maybe on Thursday?

-Ben

From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 6:06 PM

SCB 000059

To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Meeting with [redacted] next week

Hi Ben and [redacted]

[redacted] has just returned from U.S. Diplomatic Mission Benghazi, and will be back in CSO home offices on Monday. I'd like to set you both up for a conversation with her at 11am on Tuesday, June 26. As I'll be on leave tomorrow and next week, please connect directly with [redacted] if you need to reschedule.

Thank you,
[redacted]

[redacted]
Syria Team and Libya Engagement Lead
Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations (CSO)
Department of State, SA 3
[redacted]

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:10 AM
To: H Egypt; [redacted]
Subject: FW: Speaker Boehner Condemns Attack on Americans in Libya

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:04 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Speaker Boehner Condemns Attack on Americans in Libya

From: Speaker Boehner Press Office [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:38 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Speaker Boehner Condemns Attack on Americans in Libya

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012
Permalink

CONTACT:
Kevin Smith
202-225-0600

Speaker Boehner Condemns Attack on Americans in Libya

WASHINGTON, DC - House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) released the following statement this morning:

"We mourn for the families of our countrymen in Benghazi, and condemn this horrific attack. Eleven years after September 11, this is a jolting reminder that freedom remains under siege by forces around the globe who relish violence over free expression, and terror over democracy -- and that America and free people everywhere must remain vigilant in defense of our liberties."

#####

Speaker Boehner's Press Office | H-232 The Capitol | 202-225-0600
This email was sent to [redacted] | Unsubscribe | Privacy Policy
Sent from an unattended mailbox, please do not reply.
Contact the Office of Speaker Boehner.

SCB 000060

From: mark.kelly[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:15 AM
To: [redacted] [redacted] benjamin i. fishman[redacted] [redacted] nea-libyadesk[redacted]
Subject: Libya: Condolences

Guys

Just wanted to send a quick email to say we are appalled by what has happened in Benghazi. Please accept condolences from me and my colleagues for your loss. I understand the Foreign Secretary will speak to Secretary Clinton later today to express his own condolences and underscore that HMG stands ready to offer any assistance that is needed. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if there is anything we can do here - if I'm not in the office I can be reached on my cell [redacted]

Mark

Mark Kelly

Mark Kelly | Foreign Security Policy Group - Middle East | British Embassy | 3100 Massachusetts Avenue, NW | Washington, D.C. | 20008 | United States of America
[redacted] | [redacted] | ✉ [redacted] | ✉ BBerry: [redacted]

****
Visit http://www.fco.gov.uk for British foreign policy news and travel advice and http://blogs.fco.gov.uk to read our blogs.

This email (with any attachments) is intended for the attention of the addressee(s) only. If you are not the intended recipient, please inform the sender straight away before deleting the message without copying, distributing or disclosing its contents to any other person or organisation. Unauthorised use, disclosure, storage or copying is not permitted.
Any views or opinions expressed in this e -mail do not necessarily reflect the FCO's policy.
The FCO keeps and uses informa tion in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. Personal information may be released to other UK government departments and public authorities.
All messages sent and received by members of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and its missions overseas may be automatically logged, monitored and/or recorded in accordance with the Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000.
****

SCB 000061

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:21 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] [redacted]
Subject: Re: Meeting with [redacted] next week

Are tom hillary and anne all his mother's children?

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:03 AM
To: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Subject: Re: Meeting with [redacted] next week

Thank you. We'll try for his mom since s talked to his sister.

From: [redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:45 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Meeting with [redacted] next week

Brother is Tom, sisters are Hillary and Ann. Chris loved tennis and running he used to run outside the compound in Benghazi, with DS in tow. He was known to everyone there. Everyone I met praised him.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 7:09 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Meeting with [redacted] next week

When is good for you?

From: [redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 6:53 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Meeting with [redacted] next week

Sure.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 06:49 PM
To: [redacted]

SCB 000062

Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Meeting with [redacted] next week

Sorry for delayed response.
[redacted], can you get together a bit later in the week, maybe on Thursday?

-Ben

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2012 6:06 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Meeting with [redacted] next week

Hi Ben and [redacted]

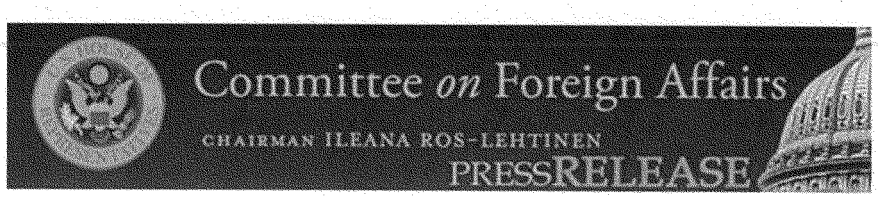
[redacted] has just returned from U.S. Diplomatic Mission Benghazi, and will be back in CSO home offices on Monday. I'd like to set you both up for a conversation with her at 11am on Tuesday, June 26. As I'll be on leave tomorrow and next week, please connect directly with [redacted] if you need to reschedule.

Thank you,
[redacted]

[redacted]
Syria Team and Libya Engagement Lead
Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations (CSO)
Department of State, SA 3
[redacted]

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: House Foreign Affairs Press Office <[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:26 AM
Subject: VIDEO: No Justification for the Murder of U.S. Diplomats, We Have Nothing to Apologize For, Ros-Lehtinen Says



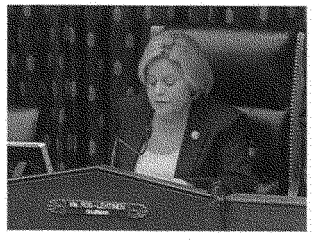
CONTACT: Steve Sutton 202-225-5021 ◦ Alex Cruz (South Florida) 202-225 8200

***** Video and Statement*****
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – **September 12, 2012**

House Foreign Affairs Committee:
Ileana Ros Lehtinen, Chairman

No Justification for the Murder of U.S. Diplomats, We Have Nothing to Apologize For, Ros-Lehtinen Says

Washington, D.C. –U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, today made the following statement on the brutal murders of four U.S. Embassy personnel in Libya, including the Honorable J. Christopher Stevens, Ambassador of the United States to Libya. Statement by Ros -Lehtinen:



(Click here for video)

"Before we begin today's mark-up and hearing, I would like to ask my colleagues and all who are joining us today, to please stand for a moment of silence to honor: United States Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens; Foreign Service Information Management Officer, Sean Smith; and the two other fellow Americans killed in Libya yesterday. I know I speak for all the Members of our Committee when we say our prayers go out to their families and friends. They died in the service of our nation and we are forever gra teful. They risked their lives to help the people of Libya free themselves from the oppression of

SCB 000063

From: [redacted] COL (USA) OSD POLICY <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:29 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted]
Subject: RE: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

Any more spot reports?

COL [redacted]
Regional Director, North Africa
Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy
[redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:24 AM
To: [redacted] COL (USA) OSD POLICY
Subject: FW: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

From: OpsAlert [[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:09 AM
Subject: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

heading.gif

SPOT REPORT

Attack On U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

0600 EDT

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

SCB 000064

. (SBU) Four COM personnel were killed and three were wounded in an attack by dozens of fighters on the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi beginning approximately 1550 Eastern Time. (Ops/DS Command telcon and e -mail)

. (SBU) All COM personnel have e vacuated Benghazi and are in Tripoli. The wounded are receiving medical treatment at a local hospital pending evacuation. (Ops/DS Command telcon and e -mail, Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

. (SBU) The U.S. Mission is drawing down to emergency personnel. U.S. military aircraft are scheduled to arrive in Tripoli at 1030 Eastern Time to evacuate COM personnel. A military medevac flight will arrive at 1110 Eastern Time. (Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

. (SBU) A Marine FAST team is en route to Tripoli from S pain. (Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

. (SBU) Embassy Tripoli has drafted an Emergency Message to Americans announcing the drawdown and encouraging Americans to leave Libya via commercial flights. (Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

. (U) A number of media s ources report the death of U.S. Ambassador Stevens. (Reuters, Al Jazeera)

Please see our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted] Approved: [redacted]

Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kerry Press Office (Kerry) <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:32 AM
To: Kerry Press Office (Kerry)
Subject: Kerry Statement on Embassy Attacks, Death of Ambassador Stevens

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 12, 2012
CONTACT: Jodi Seth, (202) 224-4159

Kerry Statement on Embassy Attacks, Death of Ambassador Stevens

Washington, DC - Senator John Kerry, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, made the following statement today in response to the violence that took place at the Egyptian and Libyan Embassies, resulting in the death of U.S. Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens and thr ee other American embassy personnel.

"The deaths of Ambassador Stevens and his team are heartbreaking. It's easy for a lot of people to forget that our diplomats are on the frontlines of the world's most dangerous places and they're there trying to make t he world safer at great risk to themselves and their families. Chris Stevens was all that and more. He was a foreign service professional down to his toes, a guy who had served on the Foreign Relations Committee and embraced tough odds and tough assignment s overseas. He had the guts and grit to serve as our envoy during the rebellion, and his presence there reminded Libyans that America stood with them for freedom in the face of violence. He was continuing that noble work as Ambassador with enormous skill. He was an important part of the work we are doing in Libya, and we will not let this deplorable violence turn back the progress he helped make possible.

"The violence in Cairo and Benghazi is unacceptable and unjustifiable. The stupidity of one filmmaker, no matter how offensive, is not now, and never, a rationale for violence. A despicable act like this hurts us all Americans and peaceful people who aspire to build their own democracy.

"This is one of those moments when Americans must unite as American s. It is exactly the wrong time to throw political punches. It is a time to restore calm and proceed wisely."

# # #

** This mailbox is not attended. Please send any inquiries to jodi_seth@kerry.senate.gov **

SCB 000065

From: NOC.SWO.Restricted <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:34 AM
Cc: NOC.SWO.Restricted
Subject: (Correction) Awareness (Update 1): U.S. Embassy/Consulate Attacks - North Africa (NOC 1662-12)
Attachments: (Correction) NOC Awareness 1662-12 - Update Report 1 - U.S. Embassy Consulate Attacks - North Africa (0945 EDT 12 Sep 2012).pdf

Correction: *We have updated the number of DHS personnel in Tripoli (none) and Cairo (four permanent and one temporary).*

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Overview: The Department of State (DOS) confirms four U.S. officials, including the U.S. Ambassador to Libya, have been killed in a Tuesday attack on the U.S. Consulate in the city of Benghazi, Libya. In addition to the four deceased, three other DOS employees were wounded in the attacks. The Department of State Operations Center reports protesters are amassing approximately 12 miles away from the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum, Sudan with the intention of marching on the U.S. Embassy.

DOS reports all consulate personnel assigned to Benghazi have been evacuated to Tripoli. The U.S. Mission plans to evacuate all non-emergency personnel from Libya via U.S. military aircraft. There are no DHS personnel in Tripoli. The U.S. Embassy in Tripoli has drafted an emergency message to Americans encouraging them to leave Libya via commercial flights. A U.S. Marine Fleet Anti-terrorism Security Team is en route to Tripoli to enhance existing security teams.

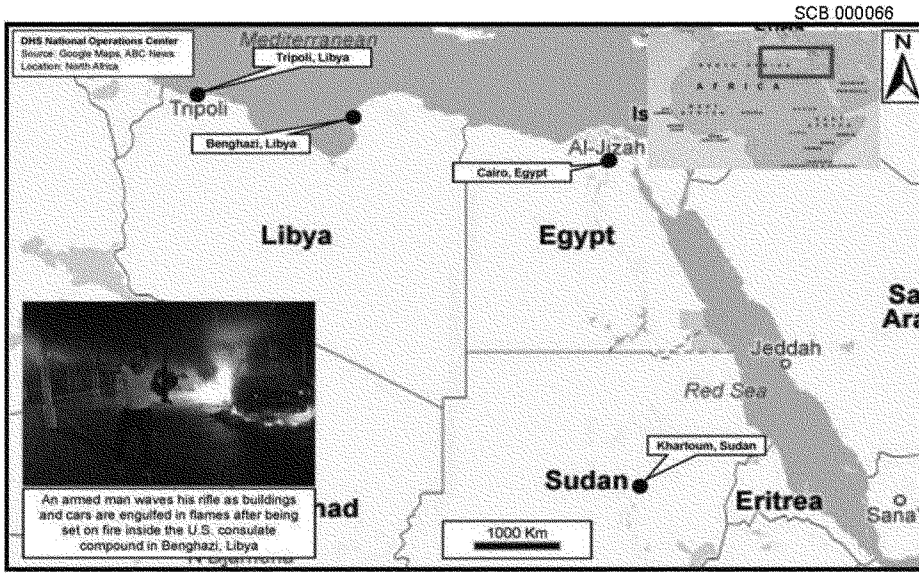
In Egypt, U.S. Marines have regained control of the U.S. embassy in Cairo, after the west perimeter wall was breached by protesters. All mission personnel, including four permanent and one temporary DHS personnel have been secured.

The President and the DOS Secretary have condemned the attacks. The President has ordered all necessary resources to support the security of U.S. personnel in Libya and to increase security at the diplomatic posts around the globe; he will publicly address the nation at 1035 EDT.

Arab media outlets attribute these attacks to a US-based film perceived as offensive to Muslims.

The DHS NOC will continue to monitor this incident and provide further updates as warranted.

SCB 000066



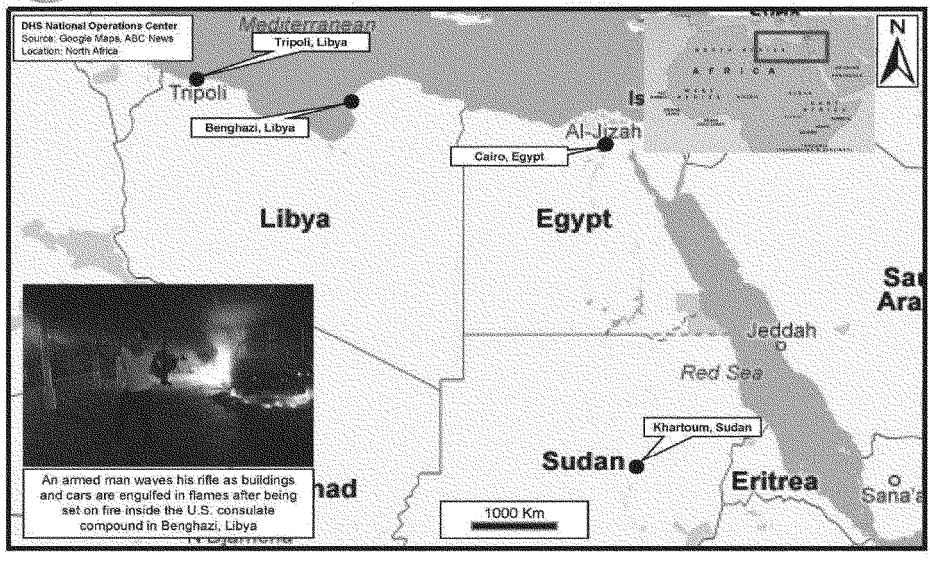
Debby Hassel
Senior Watch Officer (SWO)
DHS National Operations Center (NOC)
Washington, DC
[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

(Correction) NOC Awareness 1662-12 Update Report 1: U.S. Embassy/Consulate Attacks – North Africa

SCB 00006/

U.S. Department of Homeland Security — Report as of 0945 EDT 12 Sep 2012



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Prepared by the DHS National Operations Center

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:36 AM
To: [redacted] H Egypt; [redacted]
Subject: RE:

Re the House: Boehner will lower the flag and conduct a moment of silence in the House. Also, there is a Gold Medal Ceremony today for Arnold Palmer, at which there will also be a moment of silence.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:52 AM
To: H Egypt; [redacted]
Subject:

Some House reaction so far. Julie is keeping the complete list and it will be updated continually.

All, please note IRL below.

Boehner/Stewart: Just expressions of sorrow and confirmations of basic information.

Pelosi: Requests for confirmations of deaths of Stevens and Sean Smith, as well as any information when we have it. Also called last night to ask what's up. Statement below. (statement below)

Hoyer/Sixkiller: Requests for confirmation on Stevens.

IRL/Yleem: Joy- we were already planning an Egypt hearing for next Thursday, September 20th and were going to send the official invite today and issue the notice tomorrow. However, in light of recent developments, we will be sending the invite ASAP and issuing the notice today.

Berman: Statement below.

Pelosi statement:

September 12, 2012 Contact: Nadeam Elshami/Drew Hammill, 202-226-7616

Pelosi Statement on the Attack on Americans in Benghazi

Washington, D.C. - Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi released the following statement today after rocket attacks on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya, took the lives of Ambassador Christoph er Stevens, Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith, and two other Americans:

"Our thoughts and prayers rest with the families and loved ones of Ambassador Stevens and the three other Americans killed in this vicious and heinous attack a gainst the U.S. diplomatic post in Benghazi. We condemn this brazen assault in the strongest possible terms.

"These American diplomats served on the front lines of our efforts to work with the Libyan people toward a future of democracy, freedom, justic e, and stability. Their commitment to peace and security stand in stark contrast to those who perpetrated this violent act.

"On my visit to Libya and the region earlier this year, I met with some of the courageous foreign service officers representing our nation in the Middle East, despite enormous risk to their own safety. As we mourn the loss of the Americans in Benghazi, we pay tribute to all of the men and women standing their post abroad on behalf of our values and our partnerships across the globe."

Hoyer:

Hoyer Statement on Death of American Personnel in Libya

WASHINGTON, DC - House Democratic Whip Steny H. Hoyer (MD) released the following statement condemning the attack that killed four American personnel in Libya, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens:

"I was deeply saddened to learn this morning of the ne ws from Libya of the tragic death of Ambassador Christopher Stevens, Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith and two other American personnel in an attack in Benghazi. Their families are in my prayers today. Ambassador Stevens and Sean Sm ith were distinguished career diplomats who embodied the best of our Foreign Service and were instrumental in helping Libya's democratic transition.

"Yesterday's horrific attack is a reminder to all of us that there are thousands of heroic Americans servin g our country overseas every day, and that they deserve our gratitude and recognition. Some wear the uniform of our Armed Forces, others doctors' robes. From humanitarian workers to the seasoned negotiators in our embassies, those who serve us overseas do so in spite of the dangers they expect to face. Through their service, they show the world the best of America.

"Yesterday, four of these proud Americans paid the ultimate price, in the name of the values that make our nation so great - the protection of basic rights, religious freedom, and the development of democratic institutions. The extremists who carried out this horrendous attack will not change our unswerving commitment to these values and they must be brought to swift justice."

Berman statement:

Berman Remembers Ambassador Chris Stevens, Condemns Attack on U.S. Consulate in Libya

Washington, DC Congressman Howard L. Berman, the top Democrat on the House Foreign Affairs Committee made the following statement in response to t he attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens, and three others U.S. officials:

"I am horrified by the murder of the US ambassador to Libya and three other USofficials. Absolutely nothing justifies this despicable act," said Rep. Berman. "I am particularly angry that this sickening attack occurred in a country that the US did so much to liberate.

"Ambassador Stevens was one of our best and brightest -- and most courageous. He was on the ground in Benghazi leading US diplomatic efforts from the earliest days of the revolution. He worked tirelessly on behalf of US-Libyan relations and the well being of US citizens living in Libya. He will be missed for his knowledge

of the Middle East, his exemplary com mitment to service, and his basic human decency. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of all the dedicated foreign service officers whose lives were lost today.

"Libya owes the American people a full investigation of this incident, in complete cooperation with U.S. authorities. The killers must be found and brought tojustice."

###

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:36 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE:

Thank you.

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Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:36 AM
To: [redacted] H Egypt; [redacted]
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###

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:36 AM
To: H Egypt; [redacted]
Subject: FW: House of Representatives to Honor Americans Killed in Libya, Flags to Fly at Half-Staff

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:35 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: House of Representatives to Honor Americans Killed in Libya, Flags to Fly at Half -Staff

From: Speaker Boehner Press Office [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:34 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: House of Representatives to Honor Americans Killed in Libya, Flags to Fly at Half -Staff

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012
Permalink

CONTACT:
Kevin Smith
202-225-0600

House of Representatives to Honor Americans Killed in Libya, Flags to Fly at Half-Staff

WASHINGTON, DC - House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) has ordered flags over the United States Capitol to be flown at half-staff in honor of U.S. Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens and American personnel killed yesterday in Benghazi, Libya. Additionally, Speaker Boehner will lead the House of Representatives in a moment of silence today.

This morning, Speaker Boehner issued a statement mourning the loss of these distinguished public servants and condemning this attack.

#####

Speaker Boehner's Press Office | H-232 The Capitol | 202-225-0600
This email was sent to [redacted] | Unsubscribe |
Privacy Policy
Sent from an unattended mailbox, please do not reply.
Contact the Office of Speaker Boehner.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:40 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc:
Subject: FW: SEN Inhofe calls for Hearing on Libya
Attachments: Sen. Inhofe Condemns Embassy Attacks Calls for Hearings.pdf

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:34 AM
To: H Egypt
Subject: FW: SEN Inhofe calls for Hearing on Libya

FYI

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:33 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: SEN Inhofe calls for Hearing on Libya

In case you didn't see.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 12, 2012

CONTACT: Jared Young
Donelle Harder

INHOFE CONDEMNS EMBASSY ATTACKS; CALLS FOR HEARINGS

WASHINGTON, D.C. U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.), a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (SFRC) today responded to the embassy attacks in Cairo and Benghazi that resulted in the death of the U.S. Ambassador to Libya:

"We mourn the tragic murder of Ambassador John Christopher Stevens, a friend whom I met with in February of this year, and the three others. These individuals lost their lives in service to their country, and Ambassador Stevens was a brave American who was acting to protect his fellow citizens. Kay and I offer our prayers to their families.

"These attacks, the murder of our ambassador, and the disgraceful treatment of his body must have consequences. The timing of this on the eleventh anniversary of 9/11 is more than just coincidence. Sadly, America has suffered as a result of President Obama's failure to lead and his failed foreign policy of appeasement and apology. The world must know beyond doubt that America will not allow these types of attacks on our people. Obama's failed leadership is in direct contrast with the Ambassador Stevens brave leadership and effort to protect Americans at the consulate.

"There are many disturbing facts about these attacks that raise many troubling questions. For this reason, today I am calling on Chairmen Levin and Kerry to hold hearings immediately on the lack of intelligence, security, and appropriate response. We must have answers to these questions to prevent similar attacks in the future....#157;

SCB 000068

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:41 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: RE: RRU SPECIAL REPORT: EGYPTIAN PROTESTORS STORM US EMBASSY, ATTACK ON US CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI KILLS AMBASSADOR, OTHER STAFF
Attachments: image001.jpg

[redacted] Can you please add Bernadette from NSS to these.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:39 AM
To: [redacted]; PA FO Group; PA-IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA -Desk Officers-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; PA PRS Duty Press Asst Group
Cc: [redacted]; PA RRU; [redacted] NEA-PD-DL; [redacted] USAID Press Officers (USAID)
Subject: RRU SPECI

SCB 000069

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:43 AM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Meehan, Bernadette; Sullivan, Jacob J; Nuland, Victoria J; Reines, Philippe I
Subject: FW: RRU SPECIAL REPORT: EGYPTIAN PROTESTORS STORM US EMBASSY, ATTACK ON US CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI KILLS AMBASSADOR, OTHER STAFF

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:39 AM
To: [redacted]; PA FO Group; PA-IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA -Desk Officers-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; PA PRS Duty Press Asst Group
Cc: [redacted]; PA RRU; [redacted]; NEA-PD-DL; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted] USAID Press Officers (USAID)
Subject: RRU SPECIAL REPORT: EGYPTIAN PROTESTORS STORM US EMBASSY, ATTACK ON US CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI KILLS AMBASSADOR, OTHER STAFF

For your information and internal use.

Best regards,

[redacted]
Director, Rapid Response Unit
Bureau of Public Affairs

RAPID RESPONSE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE • BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RRU SPECIAL REPORT
EGYPTIAN PROTESTORS STORM US EMBASSY
ATTACK ON US CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI KILLS AMBASSADOR, OTHER STAFF
WEDNESDAY 09/12/2012 10:00AM

Coverage of the killing of the US Ambassador to Libya and other Embassy staff and developments around it is the top story around the Middle East with broadcast media dedicating most of their news to the topic with straightforward coverage, official reactions and interviews with protestors and analysts. Condemnation as expressed by President Obama was immediately noted and commentators see "v eiled accusation by Libyan officials to American diplomats for not heeding security warnings and being zealous about opening diplomatic posts." A photo of the Ambassador being pulled out of the burnt consulate circulates on the Internet including *Al-Arabiya*. Both *Al-Arabiya* and *Al-Jazeera* are now airing live Secretary Clinton's remarks.

Meanwhile coverage of the protests outside the US Embassy in Cairo and the replacing of the American flag with a black Islamist flag dominate the print media which post front page photos of the event. Reporting though is mostly on Muslim indignation with the movie and condemnation of those who produced it including an Israeli-American and Egyptian Copts. Egyptian media express worry about sectarian violence and witnesses speak of conspiracy to divide Egypt. Outlets note US Embassy officers in Egypt contacting Salafi representatives to "express their respect to the Prophet" as well as to "freedom of expression."

Pan-Arab

With urgent breaking news at around 4:45 am that the US Ambassador to Libya was killed in the protestors' attack on the US Consulate in Benghazi, *Al-Jazeera* and *Al-Arabiya* placed a running ticker in large letters on the news until their 5:00 am news broadcast which overwhelmingly concentrated on the event.

Both *Al-Jazeera* and *Al-Arabia* report that the Ambassador was "not shot but died from smoke inhalation." *Al-Jazeera* further reports that the Ambassador came to the Consulate from Tripoli when he learned of the protests, and that two marines who also traveled from Tripoli, were shot as they left the consulate. The station reports the attack, with light weapons and RPGs, was carried out by members of the Ansar al-Sharia in response to a film produced in the US insulting Islam and Muhammad. Later in the broadcast the station interviews a representative of the group who denies that there was an order to attack the consulate and stresses the protest was a popular uprising fueled by extreme anger over the film, there was no order to attack the Consulate or burn it, and though some belong to Ansar al-Sharia, the protestors ended up being from all sectors of the society who just came to express their anger against the movie which resulted in an "explosion of anger inside Libya."

Al-Jazeera also interviews, Fawzi Wanees, a security official from Benghazi who says that Libyan security were forced to vacate the premises of the consulate when they came under attack. He indirectly blamed the US for "being so zealous about wanting to open consulates in different parts of Libya." At the time, *Al-Jazeera* correspondent in Washington questioned the US and Libyan "silence" over the event and offered that the Libyan government is probably very embarrassed by the incident. Later, both *Al-Jazeera* and *Al-Arabiya* feature President Obama's condemnation of the attack. Also both stations broadcast live a joint news conference by President of the Libyan National Assembly Mohammed Magarief and Prime Minister Abdurrahim El-Keib in which they both strongly condemned the attack on the consulate and expressed condolences to the US with Magarief saying "Libya will not be used as a place for cowardly acts of vengeance and Libya stands with the US in opposing outlaws." *Al-Jazeera* correspondent, however, depicts some of the comments from the briefing as "veiled criticism of the US for its ignoring security concerns and wanting to have diplomatic representation despite the fragile situation."

Al-Arabiya website posts a photo of the US Ambassador being pulled out of burnt consulate.

The story on *Al-Jazeera's* website generates about 150 readers' comments, all condemn the film with some condemning the attack on the consulate and expressing hopes that Muslims can protest in a "civilized manner," and learn to "counter the Zionist lobby and reveal its vile plans, while others applaud the killings as a "deserved revenge" with some wondering why "all the fuss about the death of four US citizens when nobody even notes the killing by the US of so many innocent Muslims."

News of the death of the Ambassador and other Embassy staff came too late for print media but all pan-Arab papers front-page protestors' photos and news on Egyptian protestors scaling the fence of the US embassy in Cairo.

All media report protestors replaced the US flag with an Islamic flag during a protest over a film being produced in the US reportedly that insults Prophet Mohammad. TV stations say claim 2,000 people demonstrated and note calls for another peaceful demonstration on Friday.

Al-Jazeera interviews some Egyptians who link the demonstration to the continued imprisonment in the US of Sheikh Omar Abdul-Rahman and call for his immediate release as he was tried under "suspicious laws."

Al- Arabiya reports the Muslim Brotherhood condemning the attacks as damaging to Egypt's image and a "failed attempt to stoke civil strife."

All stations report condemnation of the violence by State Dept spokeswoman Victoria Nuland who is quoted saying "some people were misguided and that the US respects Islam."

Al-Sharq al-Awsat headlines: "American embassy in Cairo is under siege on 9/11 anniversary … Demonstrators climb wall and try to storm embassy in protest of demeaning film."
Al-Hayat headlines: "Egyptian demonstrators tear up American flag at US Embassy, Cairo … demonstrators raise 'jihadi flag' over walls of US embassy."
Al-Quds al-Arabi headlines: "Egypt: thousands of demonstrators attack American embassy and burn flag in condemnation of film demeaning Prophet … They call on Morsi to put pressure on Washington to apologize and stop film."

In its main editorial, *Al-Quds al-Arabi* attacks the anti-Islam film produced in the US by expatriate Copts. The author thinks the film is an attempt to implode Egyp tian national unity and that churches and Copts in Egypt condemned the production of such a film. He urges that Western governments should stand up to such provocative actions through strict laws, as there is a difference between freedom of expression and insults to religions and Prophets. He notes that British Channel 4 TV cancelled a film on Islam for security reasons after receiving more than a thousand complaints. He concludes that Egypt is targeted by a small minority who do not represent the Christi an community as a whole.

Egypt
The media widely criticizes the US film, "offensive to the Prophet," which has provoked violent protests in Egypt and Libya, stressing it was produced by an Israeli -American and promoted by "US -based Egyptian Copts." Various Egyptian media platforms on 12 September highlight the protests.

A front-page headline in *Al-Misri al-Yawm*, the largest-circulation independent daily, says protesters pulled down a US flag from the embassy "in protest against the film offensive to the Prophet."

Another daily, *Al-Youm7*, says Egypt's Coptic community distanced itself from the film. The Coalitio n of Egypt's Copts has rejected "any attempts to insult or show contempt for religions and trigger sedition between people of religion at the international level", the paper said.

Pro-government daily *Rose al-Yusuf* leads with: "The authority of expatriat e Copts insults Egypt's Copts: You are cowards."

State-run *Al-Ahram* carries a picture of protesters carrying a banner saying: "Anything but God's Prophet".
"Triggering sedition"

The presenter of the morning show on state -run *Nile News* TV says the film was aimed at "triggering sedition", but, she went on to say, Egyptian society stood firm against such attempts.

"All Egyptian churches condemn this film and any other film that insults any of the prophets," the presenter said.
A talk show on another state-owned TV in Egypt, *Channel One*, hosts Mahmud Nafadi, the deputy editor -in-chief of the state-owned *Al-Jumhuriyah* newspaper who points out that Christians as well as Muslims in Egypt condemned the film, and praised the press for describing the protests as "public anger" rather than "religious anger."
The online website of the state -owned *Al-Jumhuriyah* newspaper quotes Khalid Sa'id, the spokesman for the Salafist Front which helped organize the protests, as saying that a US political liaison officer from the embassy telephoned him to explain the rejection of the US government of "any humiliation against the Prophet." Sa'id says the officer expounded that the film producers express their own thoughts only and not the state's policy, but the US law guarantees t he freedom of expression and hence they cannot be punished. The Salafist spokesman criticizes the "unclear" and "unsatisfactory" position of the US government and said that Washington could apply anti -terrorism law on the film producers. Sa'id said

that the protests staged on 11 September were only a beginning, calling on Muslims to join protests planned on 12 September.

The official spokesperson for Salafist Al-Nur Party, Nadir Bakkar was quoted by the private *Al-Misri al-Yawm* news website, as saying that he received two telephone calls from the US embassy to show its "understanding of the peacefulness and reasons of protests". Bakkar said on his twitter account that he "does not agree on pulling down the US flag by enthusiastic young people who belong to the Ultras [football fans]". He said that the Ultras positively responded to calls to get down from the wall.

Libya

In Libya itself, the media on 12 September largely relied on foreign news organizations such as *Al-Jazeera* and *Reuters* to report the attack on the US consulate in Benghazi the previous evening.

Privately-owned *Al-Tadamun* news agency publishes a brief factual report, and private *Al-Watan* newspaper carries a report with an image of a screen caption from *Al-Jazeera* TV reporting the incident in an "urgent" news caption.

Private newspaper *Quryna* publishes a *Reuters* account of the attack.

English-language *Libya Herald* reports factually:" Deputy Prime Minister Mustafa Abu-Shagur has said that US ambassador Chris Stevens was killed in yesterday's attack on the US mission in Benghazi. 'I do condemn the cowardly act of attacking the US consulate and the killing of Mr. Stevens and the other diplomats' he has said on Twitter. Interior minister Fawzi Abdelal has also confirmed the death. It is reported in Benghazi that the ambassador suffocated from smoke fumes when the building caught fire. Pictures of his body being removed from the mission are circulating on the internet. Stevens had gone to Benghazi for a meeting earlier in the day with AGOCO , the oil company."

From: [redacted] (Foreign Relations) <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:45 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc:
Subject: FW: Kerry Statement on Embassy Attacks, Death of Ambassador Stevens

Fyi

From: Kerry Press Office (Kerry)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:32 AM
To: Kerry Press Office (Kerry)
Subject: Kerry Statement on Embassy Attacks, Death of Ambassador Stevens

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 12, 2012
CONTACT: Jodi Seth, (202) 224-4159

Kerry Statement on Embassy Attacks, Death of Ambassador Stevens

Washington, DC - Senator John Kerry, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, made the following statement today in response to the violence that took place at the Egyptian and Libyan Embassies, resulting in the death of U.S. Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens and three other American embassy personnel.

"The deaths of Ambassador Stevens and his team are heartbreak ing. It's easy for a lot of people to forget that our diplomats are on the frontlines of the world's most dangerous places and they're there trying to make the world safer at great risk to themselves and their families. Chris Stevens was all that and more. He was a foreign service professional down to his toes, a guy who had served on the Foreign Relations Committee and embraced tough odds and tough assignments overseas. He had the guts and grit to serve as our envoy during the rebellion, and his presence there reminded Libyans that America stood with them for freedom in the face of violence. He was continuing that noble work as Ambassador with enormous skill. He was an important part of the work we are doing in Libya, and we will not let this deplorable vio lence turn back the progress he helped make possible.

"The violence in Cairo and Benghazi is unacceptable and unjustifiable. The stupidity of one filmmaker, no matter how offensive, is not now, and never, a rationale for violence. A despicable act like th is hurts us all Americans and peaceful people who aspire to build their own democracy.

"This is one of those moments when Americans must unite as Americans. It is exactly the wrong time to throw political punches. It is a time to restore calm and procee d wisely."

# # #

** This mailbox is not attended. Please send any inquiries to jodi_seth@kerry.senate.gov **

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:46 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc:
Subject: RE: Kerry Statement on Embassy Attacks, Death of Ambassador Stevens

Thanks team Kerry.

From: [redacted] (Foreign Relations) [mailto: [redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:45 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc:
Subject: FW: Kerry Statement on Embassy Attacks, Death of Ambassador Stevens

Fyi

From: Kerry Press Office (Kerry)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:32 AM
To: Kerry Press Office (Kerry)
Subject: Kerry Statement on Embassy Attacks, Death of Ambassad or Stevens

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 12, 2012
CONTACT: Jodi Seth, (202) 224-4159

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"This is one of those moments when Americans must unite as Americans. It is exactly the wrong time to throw political punches. It is a time to restore calm and proceed wisely."

# # #

** This mailbox is not attended. Please send any inquiries to jodi_seth@kerry.senate.gov **

From: Mills, Cheryl D <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:48 AM
To: [redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] Posner, Michael H; Sherman, Wendy R; Jones, Beth E; [redacted] PA FO Group; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: OIC Statement

thank you so much Rashad

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:36 AM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Mills, Cheryl D; Rhodes, Benjamin J. <[redacted]>; [redacted] <[redacted]>; Posner, Michael H; Sherman, Wendy R; Jones, Beth E; [redacted] PA FO Group; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: OIC Statement

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:33 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Urgent: Anti-Islamic Film and violence
Importance: High

Dear [redacted]
Our sincere condolences on the loss of US diplomatic staff in Benghazi. Please find below the OIC press release on the subject matter which is being issued.
Regards,
Cenk

The OIC Condemns Violent Acts at American Missions in Cairo and Benghazi

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu strongly condemned the tragic killing of the US Ambassador to Libya along with three other Consulate officials in Benghazi. In a statement issued in Jeddah today, the OIC Secretary General said that he was shocked by the reprehensible act which could not be condoned on any grounds. He also expressed grave concern attack at the US Embassy in Cairo. He said the violence that had emanated from emotions aroused by a production of a film had hurt the religious sentiments of Muslims. The two incidents demonstrated serious repercussions of abuse of freedom of expression that OIC had consistently been warning against. The OIC Secretary General added that while the film was a deplorable act of incitement, resorting to violence

resulting in loss of innocent lives could not be condoned. The OIC Secretary General called for restraint and urged the concerned law enforcing officials to take a ll necessary measures to bring the situation under control. He added that the international community could not be held hostage to the acts of extremists on either side. The Secretary General believed that the solution could only be found by addressing t he issues pertaining to the freedom of religion and freedom of expression through structured international engagement and referred to the OIC initiative embodied in UN Human Rights Council Resolution 16/18 and the Istanbul Process for its consensual implementation which provide with the avenues for such engagement.

Jeddah, 12 September 2012

From: [redacted] [mailto: [redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 3:10 PM
To: Ufuk Gokcen; Cenk Uraz
Subject: Urgent: Anti-Islamic Film and violence

Ambassador Gokcen and Cenk,

I hope you are doing well. I am sure you are considering putting out a statement on the film and the related violence. In addition to the condemnation of the disgusting depictions, it will be important to emphasize the need to respond in a way that is consistent with Islamic princi ples, i.e., not engaging in violence and taking innocent life. We are concerned about violence that could spread across the region, particularly on Friday after prayers. Thanks for your attention to this and I look forward to catching up with you by pho ne as well.

[redacted]

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:53 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Chairman McKeon Reacts to Tragic Events in Libya

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
Buck McKeon
Chairman

PRESS RELEASE

Home | About | News | Contact

For Immediate Release: September 12, 2012 Contact: Claude Chafin or Robert McAlister 202-225-2539

Chairman McKeon Reacts to Tragic Events in Libya

WASHINGTON - House Armed Services Committee Chairman Howard P. "Buck" McKeon made the following statement regarding the recent tragic events in Benghazi, Libya:

"This morning we were reminded once more of what a dangerous world we live in, and the risk many Americans take to serve our country abroad. My thoughts and prayers - together with those of this committee- are with the families of those we've lost in Libya."

###

From: Democratic Whip <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:02 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: THE DAILY WHIP: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2012

THE DEMOCRATIC WHIP'S DAILY HOUR

DemocraticWhip.gov - (202) 225-3130

FLOOR SCHEDULE FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2012 DOWNLOAD PDF VERSION

HOUSE MEETS AT:	FIRST VOTE PREDICTED:	LAST VOTE PREDICTED:
10:00 a.m.: Morning Hour 12:00 p.m.: Legislative Business Fifteen "One Minutes" per side	1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

H.R. 5544 – Minnesota Education Investment and Employment Act (Rep. Cravaack – Natural Resources) H.R. 5544 authorizes the exchange of 86,000 acres of land in the Superior National Forest in Northern Minnesota for educational trust lands owned by the State of Minnesota that are located within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The exchange would allow th e state to manage these lands to generate revenue for local schools by allowing mining and logging, but the bill fails to acknowledge that Minnesota counties are already compensated for the presence of federal land within their boundaries.

The bill does not specifically identify the federal Forest Service lands be acquired by Minnesota through this exchange. It declares that the land exchange is not a "major federal action," thereby waiving the environmental review and public participation requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The bill specifies that the valuation of those lands should be dictated by Minnesota statute and not a third party appraisal as is typically required in legislated federal land exchanges. If the land exchange does not occur within 18 months of enactment, the Forest Service would be required to submit a report to Congress regarding its status.

The Rule, which the House adopted yesterday makes in order 4 amendments, each debatable for 10 minutes, equally divided between the offeror and an opponent. The amendments are:

Rep. McCollum Amendment. Ensures tribal treaty rights (to hunt, fish and gather) are preserved and tribes are consulted
Rep. Holt Amendment. Would restore public participation and transparency in development of this proposed land exchange, which is prohibited under H.R. 5544
Rep. Ellison Amendment. Would ensure that no National Forest System lands shall be included in the exchange where the inclusion or use of the lands is likely to have a negative impact on private property, property values, and small businesses
Rep. Grijalva Amendment. Would strike the unusual appraisal language from H.R. 5544 and replaces it with standard appraisal provisions used in federal land exchanges to protect the public interest

Bill Text for H.R. 5544:
PDF Version

Background for H.R. 5544:
House Report (HTML Version)
House Report (PDF Version)

H.R. 5949 – FISA Amendments Reauthorization Act of 2012 (Rep. Smith (TX) – Judiciary/Intelligence) H.R. 5949 reauthorizes the 2008 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) Amendments for five years, through December 31, 2017.

In 2008, Congress enacted the FISA Amendments Act in response to 2005 press reports that the National Security Agency had been conducting surveillance of U.S. residents without judicial review. The law was designed to restore the oversight role of the FISA Court in approving surveillance before it begins, or in certain emergency situations, after the surveillance has begun. The measure allows the Intelligence Community to use FISA authorities to acquire information about terrorist plans, cyber threats, weapons of mass destruction, nuclear weapons proliferation and other important intelligence about foreign adversaries by targeting foreign persons reasonably believed to be outside the United States. H.R. 5949 does not modify or change the existing requirements or authorities provided under current law – it is a straight five-year extension of current law.

The Rule for H.R. 5949 was adopted yesterday. The Rules Committee recommended

a closed Rule that provides for 40 minutes of general debate equally divided between the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Judiciary and 20 minutes of general debate equally divided between the Chair and Ranking Member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Bill Text for H.R. 5949:
HTML Version
PDF Version

Postponed Suspensions (4 Votes)

1. **H.R. 1775** – Stolen Valor Act of 2011 (Rep. Heck – Judiciary)
2. **S. 3245** – A bill to extend by 3 years the authorization of the EB -5 Regional Center Program, the E-Verify Program, the Special Immigrant Nonminister Religious Worker Program, and the Conrad State 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program (Sen. Leahy – Judiciary)
3. **H.R. 3857** – Public Transit Security and Local Law Enforcement Support Act (Rep. Turner (NY) – Homeland Security
4. **H.R. 5865** – American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2012 (Rep. Lipinski – Energy and Commerce)

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK
The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule for Thursday, September 13: The House will meet at 12:00 p.m. for legislative business. The House is expected to consider H.R. 6365 – National Security and Job Protection Act (Rep. West – Budget) Subject to a Rule, and H.J.Res. 117 - Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (Rep. Rogers (KY) Appropriations) Subject to a Rule.

THE DAILY QUOTE

"I strongly condemn the outrageous attack on our diplomatic facility in Benghazi, which took the lives of four Americans, including Ambassador Chris Stevens. Right now, the American people have the families of those we lost in our thoughts and prayers. They exemplified America's commitment to freedom, justice, and partnership with nations and people around the globe, and stand in stark contrast to those who callously took their lives.... While the United States rejects efforts to denigrate the religious beliefs of others, we must all unequivocally oppose the kind of senseless violence that took the lives of these public servants.... The brave Americans we lost represent the extraordinary service and sacrifices that our civilians make every day around the globe. As we stand united with their families, let us now redouble our own efforts to carry

their work forward."

- President Barack Obama, 9/12/12

Visit http://www.democraticwhip.gov/ for more press, floor and member resources.

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From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:08 AM
To: EMAIL-SUBSCRIBERS-FL17[redacted]
Subject: (updated) Congresswoman Wilson's Statement on Deadly Rocket Attack on U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya

CONGRESSWOMAN FREDERICA WILSON
REPRESENTING THE 17TH DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012

Contact: Eric Parker
Phone: (202) 225-4506

Congresswoman Wilson's Statement on Deadly Rocket Attack on U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya

WASHINGTON, D.C. Today, Congresswoman Frederica Wilson (D -Fla.), a member of the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs, issued the following statement on the deadly rocket attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya that claimed the lives of Amba ssador Chris Stevens and three other Americans:

"I strongly condemn this assault on the U.S. diplomatic post in Benghazi. Ambassador Stevens and his colleagues were part of our effort to help the Libyan people build a bright future after the fall of Muamm ar Gaddafi's oppressive regime. This deadly attack is a chilling reminder to all of us that our fellow Americans in embassies and consulates around the world sometimes serve in harm's way and that we need to thank and support them just as we do our brave men and women in uniform. My thoughts and prayers are with the families of Ambassador Stevens and his fellow career foreign service officers who gave their lives serving our country."

###

U.S. Rep. Frederica S. Wilson is a first-term Congresswoman fro m South Florida representing parts of Northern Miami-Dade and Southeast Broward counties. A former state legislator and school principal, she is the founder of the 5000 Role Models for Excellence Project, a mentoring program for young males at risk of dropping out of school.

[redacted]

Communications Director
Office of Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson (D -Fla.)
208 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

[redacted] (email)
[redacted] (office)
[redacted] (fax)

Updates from Congresswoman Wilson:

Sign up for Congresswoman Wilson's e -newsletter here

Unsubscribe from this newsletter

SCB 000073

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:18 AM
To: RRU SPECIAL REPORTS[redacted]
Subject: RRU Special Report Libya/Egypt Intl press (non-Arab) 11:00 am
Attachments: Rapid Response 09-12 Special Report Egypt-Libya International Coverage 1100EST.doc

RAPID RESPONSE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE • BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RRU SPECIAL REPORT
EGYPTIAN PROTESTORS STORM THE US EMBASSY
ATTACK ON US CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI KILLS AMBASSADOR, OTHER STAFF
WEDNESDAY 09/12/2012 11:00AM

Global coverage of demonstrations against, and attacks on the US Embassy in Cairo and the US Consulate in Benghazi, is front page news everywhere, with developments on the Libya situation dominating coverage of the less serious, non-fatal demonstrations in Egypt. Outlets worldwide cite President Obama's statement condemning the attacks and lamenting the deaths of US Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other US personnel, as well as condemning comments issued by high -level Libyan officials, including interim President Magariaf and Deputy Prime Minister Abu -Shagur. Conflicting news reports remain "unclear" on exactly how, when, and where the Ambassador died, but there is a general consensus that he died of suffocation due to smoke inhalation. Limited commentary worries the US is facing a severe "foreign policy crisis" in the Middle East and depict the President facing "few options" on how to proceed in response.

EUROPE

Breaking news in European media headline variations of "US Ambassador among 4 killed in m ilitia attack on Benghazi consulate." Reports note the White House's confirmation of the deaths and President Obama's condemnation of the attack. The President "condemned the outrageous attack on our diplomatic facility in Benghazi, which took the lives of four Americans, including Ambassador Chris Stevens…Right now, the American people have the families of those we lost in our thoughts and prayers. They exemplified America's commitment to freedom, justice, and partnership with nations and people around t he globe, and stand in stark contrast to those who callously took their lives." Some articles add that Secretary Clinton also named Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith as one of the other three US personnel to have died. Additional breaking news on *BBC* highlights that the Afghan government has blocked access to Youtube to prevent citizens from watching clips of the US -produced film.

Reports generally agree that Ambassador Stevens died of suffocation from smoke inhalation. A few reports cite the UK's *Guardian*, which notes "there are reports that Stevens was not killed in the Tuesday night assault, but was attacked by a second mob when he arrived in Benghazi Wednesday morning."

Many outlets note comments this morning by Libyan offi cials. Libya's interim President Mohammed Magariaf is quoted "apologizing to the United States, the people and to the whole world for what happened" in a news conference broadcast live on *Al-Jazeera*, and confirming "no one will escape from punishment and questioning." Earlier, Deputy Prime Minister Mustafa Abu -Shagur "condemned the cowardly act of attacking the US consulate and the killing of Mr. Stevens" in a comment posted to Twitter. He also said security forces have launched a manhunt to find the kil lers.

Italy's *La Stampa* urges Morsi to "stop the emotional wave at the outset" to avoid a similar reaction to "the one which followed the publication of the publication of Mohammed's cartoons in 2005."

The UK's *Daily Mail* outlines "How the murder of the U.S. ambassador to Libya plunges Obama's re -election campaign into crisis."

The Daily Telegraph warns "President Barack Obama will come under overwhelming pressure to respond when he wakes in Washington this morning. Put bluntly, the destruction of dipl omatic premises resulting in the murder of an ambassador would amount to an act of war… Mr Obama will have little choice but to insist that America leads the investigation into the incident and that everything is done to hunt down those responsible. He will demand free rein for the FBI and the US military to do whatever they feel necessary to find the perpetrators and protect American diplomats and their premises in Libya… Libya's new government, for its part, can be expected to condemn the attack and pledg e full cooperation with the US. But the fact that such a serious incident could have taken place at all delivers a harsh message about the state of post -Gaddafi Libya."

Another *Telegraph* piece negatively comments, "The reported murder of the American ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, on September 11 is a crude and sickening attempt by Islamists to disturb the internal peace of the United States in such a way as to throw its electio n process into disarray. And it seems to be working."

Telegraph correspondent David Blair "says there is little Obama can do beyond trying to appear in command of the situation and leading the US in mourning." Con Couglin, meanwhile, calls the ambassador 's death "a wake-up call for Obama to address America's security concerns properly, rather than trying to avoid them all the time."

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SOUTH ASIA

South Asian media report similar coverage to that of Europe, with breaking news focus on P resident Obama's condemning statement and confirmed reports that the US Ambassador and three other embassy staff were killed in Benghazi overnight. India's *NDTV* and Pakistan's *The Nation* also note Obama ordered "increased security" for US diplomatic posts around the globe. Coverage is "unclear" on whether Stevens was in his car or the Libyan consulate when the attack occurred, citing a Benghazi "official" who said the four Americans died "when gunmen fired rockets at them." *The Pioneer* cites an *Al-Jazeera* report alleging Stevens was "paying a short visit to Benghazi when the consulate came under attack last night and he died of suffocation along with two US security personnel who were accompanying him." A *Zee News* report notes Stevens was killed when "he and a group of embassy employees went to the consulate to try to evacuate staff." The same report cites a witness who said the violence at the consulate "last for about three hours, but the situation has now quieted down."

The Hindu reports comments by Magariaf, who said "This cowardly deed is an episode in the series of evil and conspiracy against the February 17 revolution (that toppled the Qadhafi regime)," and calling on Libyans to be united to "block attempts to harm the country's security." Abu-Shagur's condemnation is also picked up in the regional press.

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Canadian outlets are up-to-date with the President's statement and comments from Libyan offici als Abu-Shagur and Magariaf. Headlines and photos in other Western Hemisphere countries are current, with Argentina's *Clarin* posting pictures showing Stevens' lifeless body, though much of the reporting content is overtaken by events due to the later time zone. Argentina's *InfoBAE.com* reports Libyan Deputy Interior Minister Wanis al-Sharif said Stevens "died in hospital." Venezuela's *Telesur* notes that *Al-Jazeera* reports "the bodies of the Ambassador and the three other US personnel will be taken by airp lane to Tripoli and then on to Germany."

Canada's *Globe and Mail*, meanwhile, headlines in a commentary: "Despite US' help in the Arab world, anti-Americanism still simmers." The column cautions, "The furor over the film produced in California and promoted by an extreme, anti-Muslim group may spread, just as Muslim fury over Danish cartoons lampooning the prophet raged worldwide a few years ago… The killings in Benghazi starkly illustrate the potency of Islam as a political force, not only capable of t oppling authoritarian regimes but also igniting raging violence against real or imagined wrongs… In the absence of any clear, over-arching U.S. policy objectives rather than seeming to arbitrarily pick and choose among which regimes to back, which to dep lore and which to actively topple anti-American anger will simmer and flare."

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RRU SPECIAL REPORT
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From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:19 AM
To: peltone[redacted]
Subject: FW: Statements by Members of Congress on Libya
Attachments: 20120912 Statements on Libya.docx

Statements by Members of Congress on Libya
9/12/12

STATEMENT BY SENATORS MCCAIN, LIEBERMAN AND GRAHAM:

"We are anguished and outraged by the death of four citizens of the United States, including Ambassador Chris Stevens, during an attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.

"Chris was one of America's finest and bravest diplomats, and also someone we considered a friend. In the midst of last year's uprising in Libya, Chris traveled at great personal risk to Benghazi to represent the country he loved as the U.S. envoy to the Libyan opposition. He advanced Amer ican interests and values in Libya and stood with the Libyan people throughout their struggle for freedom and during the challenging times that followed. His death at the hands of extremists is a tragic and awful loss for the people of both the United Stat es and Libya.

"There is still much we do not know about what happened in Benghazi yesterday. What is clear, however, is that the attackers must be apprehended and punished. We appreciate that senior Libyan leaders have condemned these cowardly attacks, a nd we now look to the Libyan government to ensure that the perpetrators are swiftly brought to justice, and that U.S. diplomats are protected. We have confidence that our own government will provide all necessary assistance to this end.

"Yesterday's attack is a tragic and terrible reminder that despite the hopes of the Arab Spring the forces of violent extremism in the Middle East are far from defeated, and that the revolutions inspired by millions of people who dream of freedom and democracy can stil l be hijacked by small groups of violent extremists who are eager to kill to advance their evil ideology.

"Despite this horrific attack, we cannot give in to the temptation to believe that our support for the democratic aspirations of people in Libya, Eg ypt, and elsewhere in the broader Middle East is naive or mistaken. We cannot resign ourselves to the false belief that the Arab Spring is doomed to be defined not by the desire for democracy and freedom that has inspired millions of people to peaceful act ion, but by the dark fanaticism of terrorists.

"To follow this misguided path would not only be a victory for the extremists and their associates, but a betrayal of everything for which Chris Stevens and his colleagues stood and gave their lives. In shor t, it would be a betrayal of our own best ideals as Americans and our own enduring interest in using our great influence to support the overwhelming majority of people in the Middle East who want to be free from the kinds of murderers and terrorists who ki lled our people yesterday in Benghazi."

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER BOEHNER:

"We mourn for the families of our countrymen in Benghazi, and condemn this horrific attack. Eleven years after September 11, this is a jolting reminder that freedom remains under siege by forces around the globe who relish violence over free expression, and terror over democracy -- and that America and free people everywhere must remain vigilant in defense of our liberties."

STATEMENT BY LEADER REID:

I was deeply disturbed and saddene d to learn of the deaths of Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other American personnel in an attack on the U.S. Consulate in Libya. I join President Obama in condemning these senseless acts of violence. And my thoughts are with the families of those who w ere killed in this horrific attack.

It is too often forgotten that American diplomats risk their lives on a daily basis. Our diplomatic corps is filled with admirable and dedicated public servants. And the four Americans who lost their lives yesterday exemplified the courage and sacrifice that happens every day at diplomatic posts across the globe.

I have traveled to many of America's embassies abroad, and I have always been impressed by and grateful for the leadership and commitment of America's ambassa dors and State Department personnel. Ambassador Stevens was a career Foreign Service officer and a former Peace Corps volunteer, who spent his life giving of his time and his talents to promote democracy and American values.

I support President Obama' s directive to increase security at our diplomatic posts around the world, and to provide whatever resources necessary to keep our personnel in Libya safe. And I will continue to the monitor the situation as we learn more about these terrible events.

STATEMENT BY LEADER CANTOR:

"I condemn the attacks on our consulate in Benghazi and Embassy in Cairo by violent extremists. My prayers are with the families of Ambassador Chris Stevens and the other brave Americans who lost their lives in this unjustifiable a nd hateful assault. Ambassador Stevens and his colleagues were known for having stood firmly on the side of the Libyan people against tyranny, and were untiring in their efforts to help the Libyan people establish a peaceful and tolerant democracy. These b rave and honorable public servants deserve the respect of the American and Libyan people, for whom they tragically gave their lives.

"These terrible incidents highlight the ongoing security challenges in Libya and Egypt, and I call upon the Libyan and Egyptian governments to protect diplomatic facilities, secure their borders, and redouble efforts to combat extremist terrorism within their countries. Eleven years after September 11, it is clear that Islamic extremist terrorism still poses a tremendous thre at to the Middle East, to the United States, and to the international community. These attacks will not deter America from continuing to promote peace, democracy, individual and religious freedom and an unwavering respect for human life throughout the regi on and the world."

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"Our thoughts and prayers rest with the families and loved ones of Ambassador Stevens and the three other Americans killed in this vicious and heinous attack against the U.S. diplomatic post in Benghazi. We condemn this brazen assault in the strongest possible terms.

"These American diplomats served on the front lines of our efforts to work with the Libyan people toward a future of democracy, freedom, justice, and stability. Their commitment to peace and security stand in stark contrast to those who perpetrated this violent act.

"On my visit to Libya and the region earlier this year, I met with some of the courageous foreign service officers representing our nation in the Middle East, despite enormous ri sk to their own safety. As we mourn the loss of the Americans in Benghazi, we pay tribute to all of the men and women standing their post abroad on behalf of our values and our partnerships across the globe."

STATEMENT BY REPRESENTATIVE HOYER:

"I was deeply saddened to learn this morning of the news from Libya of the tragic death of Ambassador Christopher Stevens, Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith and two other American personnel in an attack in Benghazi. Their families ar e in my prayers today. Ambassador Stevens and Sean Smith were distinguished career diplomats who embodied the best of our Foreign Service and were instrumental in helping Libya's democratic transition.

"Yesterday's horrific attack is a reminder to all of us that there are thousands of heroic Americans serving our country overseas every day, and that they deserve our gratitude and recognition. Some wear the uniform of our Armed Forces, others doctors' robes. From humanitarian workers to the seasoned negoti ators in our embassies, those who serve us overseas do so in spite of the dangers they expect to face. Through their service, they show the world the best of America.

"Yesterday, four of these proud Americans paid the ultimate price, in the name of the v alues that make our nation so great - the protection of basic rights, religious freedom, and the development of democratic institutions. The extremists who carried out this horrendous attack will not change our unswerving commitment to these values and the y must be brought to swift justice."

STATEMENT BY LEADER MCCONNELL:

"We learned yesterday, and are receiving reports this morning, of the attacks against the United States Embassy in Cairo and the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

"In Benghazi our Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans were killed in service to our nation. Our thoughts and sympathy today are with the families of these brave Americans.
"These attacks remind us of the sacrifices made on a daily basis by foreign service offi cers, diplomatic security personnel, and our Marine Security Guards.

"I join my colleagues in strongly condemning the murder of these innocent Americans. And I support employing every available tool at our disposal to ensure the safety of Americans overse as and to hunt down those responsible for these attacks.

"Yesterday we commemorated the anniversary of the attacks of September 11, and today we are reminded that brave Americans serve us every day at the risk of their own lives. We honor the Americans we lost in Libya, and we will stand united in our response.

"Among the things we can all agree on in Washington is that attacks on the U.S. and its representatives will be met with resolve, and that America's presence and defense of our national interests a cross the globe will not be deterred by the acts of violent extremists."

STATEMENT BY REPRESENTATIVE BERMAN:

"I am horrified by the murder of the US ambassador to Libya and three other USofficials. Absolutely nothing justifies this despicable act," said Rep. Berman. "I am particularly angry that this sickening attack occurred in a country that the US did so much to liberate.

"Ambassador Stevens was one of our best and brightest -- and most courageous. He was on the ground in Benghazi leading US diplomatic efforts from the earliest days of the revolution. He worked tirelessly on behalf of US-Libyan relations and the well being of US citizens living in Libya. He will be missed for his knowledge of the Middle East, his exemplary commitment to service, and his basic human decency. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of all the dedicated foreign service officers whose lives were lost today.

"Libya owes the American people a full investigation of this incident, in complete cooperation with U .S. authorities. The killers must be found and brought to justice."

STATEMENT BY SENATOR RUBIO:

"I am deeply saddened and troubled by the mob attacks in Libya that led to the murder of our ambassador and three members of his staff. I had the chance of meeting Ambassador Chris Stevens during his confirmation process and again when I visited Libya last year. He was an exemplary diplomat and his embassy staff could not have been more helpful and knowledgeable during my visit. My prayers are with the families and loved ones of these courageous diplomats who were working to help the Libyan people rise from the ashes of Gaddafi's rule. "It is imperative that these senseless mob attacks be condemned by the Libyan government and that it commit to stop this violence and bring those responsible for the deaths of our American diplomats to justice. In both Libya and Egypt, their governments have an obligation to resolutely condemn these violent attacks and protect American diplomatic missions and personnel based on their soil.

"The Libyan and Egyptian people should understand that the U.S. shares their commitment to building more hopeful and prosperous nations. However, if left unchecked, violent attacks like these against our embassies and diplomats will lead Libya and Egypt down a dark path and rob them of their hopes of a more prosperous and democratic future. The broader publics in Libya and Egypt should condemn the violence and distance themselves from the unruly and intolerant elements of their society that threaten the security and future of their nations."

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STATEMENT BY LEADER MCCONNELL:

"We learned yesterday, and are receiving reports this morning, of the attacks against the United States Embassy in Cairo and the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

"In Benghazi our Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans were killed in servic e to our nation. Our thoughts and sympathy today are with the families of these brave Americans. "These attacks remind us of the sacrifices made on a daily basis by foreign service officers, diplomatic security personnel, and our Marine Security Guards.

"I join my colleagues in strongly condemning the murder of these innocent Americans. And I support employing every available tool at our disposal to ensure the safety of Americans overseas and to hunt down those responsible for these attacks.

"Yesterday we commemorated the anniversary of the attacks of September 11, and today we are reminded that brave Americans serve us every day at the risk of their own lives. We honor the Americans we lost in Libya, and we will stand united in our response.

"Among the things we can all agree on in Washington is that attacks on the U.S. and its representatives will be met with resolve, and that America's presence and defense of our national interests across the globe will not be deterred by the acts of violent extremists ."

STATEMENT BY REPRESENTATIVE BERMAN:

"I am horrified by the murder of the US ambassador to Libya and three other USofficials. Absolutely nothing justifies this despicable act," said Rep. Berman. "I am particularly angry that this sickening attack occurred in a country that the US did so much to liberate.

"Ambassador Stevens was one of our best and brightest -- and most courageous. He was on the ground in Benghazi leading US diplomatic efforts from the earliest days of the revolution. He worked tirelessly on behalf of US-Libyan relations and the well being of US citizens living in Libya. He will be missed for his knowledge of the Middle East, his exemplary commitment to service, and his basic human decency. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of all the dedicated foreign service officers whose lives were lost today.

"Libya owes the American people a full investigation of this incident, in complete cooperation with U.S. authorities. The killers must be found and brought to justice."

STATEMENT BY SENATOR RUBIO:

"I am deeply saddened and troubled by the mob attacks in Libya that led to the murder of our ambassador and three members of his staff. I had the chance of meeting Ambassador Chris Stevens during his confirmation process and a gain when I visited Libya last year. He was an exemplary diplomat and his embassy staff could not have been more helpful and knowledgeable during my visit. My prayers are with the families and loved ones of these courageous diplomats who were working to help the Libyan people rise from the ashes of Gaddafi's rule.
"It is imperative that these senseless mob attacks be condemned by the Libyan government and that it commit to stop this violence and bring those responsible for the deaths of our American diplomats to justice. In both Libya and Egypt, their governments have an obligation to resolutely condemn these violent attacks and protect American diplomatic missions and personnel based on their soil.

"The Libyan and Egyptian people should understand that the U.S. shares their commitment to building more hopeful and prosperous nations. However, if left unchecked, violent attacks like these against our embassies and diplomats will lead Libya and Egypt down a dark path and rob them of their hopes of a more prosperous and democratic future. The broader publics in Libya and Egypt should condemn the violence and distance themselves from the unruly and intolerant elements of their society that threaten the security and future of their nations."

SCB 000079

From: [redacted] <[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:20 AM
To: Cunningham, James B; Llorens, Hugo; [redacted] Kabul Front Office; Kabul Exec CDDEA Deputies; Kabul IPA Coordinator; Kabul PolMil Americans; Kabul POL Americans; Kabul Press; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] SCA-Press; Hayden, Caitlin; West, Thomas; [redacted]
Subject: IPA Field Reporting -- Reaction to Events in Benghazi -- Wed 12 Sept @ 1930

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED / FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
From the Office of Interagency Provincial Affairs (IPA)

Please find below a compilation of field reports to date covering civilian engagement with Afghan counterparts and observed local reactions regarding the events in Benghazi and Cairo of September 11, 2012.

Key Leader Engagements (KLE) and other discussion s are conducted by various field units at the level of the Platform, Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) and District Support Team (DST).

IPA continues to collect reports from the field and will update this information periodically.

WEDNESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2012

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- Consulate Herat convened an EAC meeting and will be watching the local reaction very carefully.
- Consul/SCR [redacted] will meet with Gov Saba later this evening to discuss.
- New provincial police chief has pledged support if needed in the next couple days to protect the Consulate.
- The Platform is concerned that some of the extremist ulama and outsiders will exploit this situation to fo ment the kind of violent demonstration that occurred 24 February 2012.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- The general consensus at the Platform is that when the story about the new anti -Islamic video finally hits Afghanistan, the reaction in RC-East will be severe.
- RP-E staff will rely on contacts developed in previous similar situations to help preserve calm. In the past, a radio station in Parwan worked with us to broadcast messages from local mullahs, officials and A NSF who appealed to the people for calm, which greatly helped defuse tensions. Once a message/talking points are released by the Embassy, the Platform will work with local media outlets, mullahs and community leaders in places like Parwan, Bagram and Jalal abad.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

SCB 000080

- The Platform is following the situation closely. There were no demonstrations in Kandahar today, but there is certainly concern.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

No report as of this writing.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

No report as of this writing.

Office of Interagency Provincial Affairs (IPA)
US Embassy Kabul, Afghanistan

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:41 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Statement on murder of U.S. ambassador to Libya

U.S. SENATOR CHRIS COONS of DELAWARE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 19, 2015
CONTACT: Ian Koski at 202-224-4216 or Ian_Koski@coons.senate.gov

Statement from Senator Coons on murder of U.S. ambassador to Libya

WASHINGTON U.S. Senator Chris Coons (D-Del.), a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, issued the following statement on the deaths of four Americans, including U.S. Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens, during anattack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

"I join President Obama, Secretary Clinton and my colleagues in the Senate in strongly condemning the horrific attack targeting American diplomats and personnel in Libya. My heart goes out to the families of Ambassador Stevens and the oth er brave Americans who were killed in this senseless act of violence. They were committed public servants who courageously risked theirlives supporting the Libyan people and political transition. The service ofthese brave Americans epitomizes the best of our values, and their sacrifice will not be forgotten. "

###

Ian Koski | Communications Director
U.S. Senator Chris Coons (DE) [redacted]
See the latest at http://coons.senate.gov/blog | @SenCoonsOffice

SCB 000081

From: Kaan Soyak <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:54 AM
To: Me
Cc: Gabe Ross
Subject: Re: E-introductions

Dear Ben,

First of all, my friend Moin sends his condolences to you for this unfortunate event. I am also very sorry for the losses. Our Libyan friends think that Ambassador Stevens has been very instrumental in providing peace in the country and helped their revolution.
Our friends informed me that, there will be a demonstration in Benghazi tonight condemning this terrorist act.
All law enforcement agencies and army and revolutionary brigades are working right now to bring those people to justice.
And Libya expects their friends to stand by Libya to fight against this terrorist act.

Moin asked me to pass this information to you.

All the best,

Kaan Soyak

Trusa Consulting Services
Manhasset, New York 11030
Direct: [redacted]
Mobile [redacted] (U.S.)
Mobile [redacted] (Turkey)
Email: [redacted]
Website: www.trusa.com - www.soyak.net

On Sep 8, 2012, at 4:02 AM, Ben Fishman <benfishman1[redacted]> wrote:

Hi Kaan,
Thanks for the email.
I'd be happy to get together when you're back in town and be glad to meet with Mr. El Kikhia.
I'm adding my work address above, which I check more regularly during the week.

All the best,
-Ben

On Fri, Sep 7, 2012 at 6:11 PM, Kaan Soyak <kaan[redacted]> wrote:

SCB 000082

Hi Gabe

Thank you for the introduction.

Hello Ben

Hope all is well with you.

Libyan Interim President is coming to DC starting from September 12th until 15th. His sist er, his niece and 2 nephews are in Istanbul and their trip to Istanbul was arranged by a friend of mine Mohamed Moin El Kikhia who has been deeply involved in revolution.
We had a wonderful dinner with US Acting Principal Officer in Istanbul Deborah Mennu ti the other night.

Awaiting your email.

All the best,

------Original Message------
From: Gabe Ross
To: 'kaan[redacted]
To: Ben Fishmen
Subject: E-introductions
Sent: Sep 7, 2012 9:32 PM

Hi Ben:

I want to introduce you to Kaan Soyak. I met Kaan through Jeff Collins, and I've gotten to know him quite well over the last year and a half. Kaan is a Turkish -American businessman based in New York. He's currently in Istanbul with some Libyan businessmen who are very i nterested in establishing a connection with the U.S. Kaan can fill you in on the details when you get a chance to connect, and he can be reached at [redacted]

Thank you very much,
Gabe
Kaan Soyak

Trusa Consulting Servic es
Manhasset, New York 11030
Direct: +[redacted]
Mobile:+[redacted] (U.S.)
Mobile:+[redacted] (Turkey)
Email: [redacted]
Website: www.trusa.com - www.soyak.net

SCB 000083

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:55 AM
To: Meehan, Bernadette; SES-O
Subject: FW: RRU Special Report Libya/Egypt Intl press (non-Arab) 11:00 am
Attachments: Rapid Response 09-12 Special Report Egypt-Libya International Coverage 1100EST.doc

For you as well. Thanks.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:27 AM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]; PA FO Group; PA-IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA-Desk Officers-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; PA PRS Duty Press Asst Group; SES-O
Cc: [redacted]; PA RRU; [redacted]; NEA-PD-DL; [redacted] USAID Press Officers (USAID)
Subject: RRU Special Report Libya/Egypt Intl press (non-Arab) 11:00 am

RAPID RESPONSE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE • BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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ATTACK ON US CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI KILLS AMBASSADOR, OTHER STAFF
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EUROPE

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three US personnel to have died. Additional breaking news on *BBC* highlights that the Afghan government has blocked access to Youtube to prevent citizens from watching clips of the US -produced film.

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Many outlets note comments this morning by Libyan officials. Libya's interim President Mohammed Magariaf is quoted "apologizing to the United States, the people and to the whole world for what happened" in a news conference broadcast live on *Al-Jazeera*, and confirming "no one will escape from punishment and questioning." Earlier, Deputy Prime Minister Mustafa Abu-Shagur "condemned the cowardly act of attacking the US consulate and the killing of Mr. Stevens" in a comment posted to Twitter. He also said security forces have launched a manhunt to find the killers.

Italy's *La Stampa* urges Morsi to "stop the emotional wave at the outset" to avoid a similar reaction to "the one which followed the publication of the publication of Mohammed's cartoons in 2005."

The UK's *Daily Mail* outlines "How the murder of the U.S. ambassador to Libya plunges Obama' s re-election campaign into crisis."

The Daily Telegraph warns "President Barack Obama will come under overwhelming pressure to respond when he wakes in Washington this morning. Put bluntly, the destruction of diplomatic premises resulting in the murder of an ambassador would amount to an act of war… Mr Obama wi ll have little choice but to insist that America leads the investigation into the incident and that everything is done to hunt down those responsible. He will demand free rein for the FBI and the US military to do whatever they feel necessary to find the p erpetrators and protect American diplomats and their premises in Libya… Libya's new government, for its part, can be expected to condemn the attack and pledge full cooperation with the US. But the fact that such a serious incident could have taken place at all delivers a harsh message about the state of post - Gaddafi Libya."

Another *Telegraph* piece negatively comments, "The reported murder of the American ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, on September 11 is a crude and sickening attempt by Islamists to disturb the internal peace of the United States in such a way as to throw its election process into disarray. And it seems to be working."

Telegraph correspondent David Blair "says there is little Obama can do beyond trying to appear in command of the situation and leading the US in mourning." Con Couglin, meanwhile, calls the ambassador's death "a wake -up call for Obama to address America's security concerns properly, rather than trying to avoid them all the time."

More headlines:
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Ireland's *Belfast Telegraph*: "US diplomat Stevens killed by mob in Libya as Islam movie sparks outrage"

SOUTH ASIA

South Asian media report similar coverage to that of Europe, with breaking news focus on President Obama's condemning statement and confirmed reports that the US Ambassador and three other embassy staff were killed in Benghazi overnight. India's *NDTV* and Pakistan's *The Nation* also note Obama ordered "increased security" for US diplomatic posts around the globe. Coverage is "unclear" on whether Stevens was in his car or the Libyan consulate when the attack occurred, citing a Benghazi "official" who said the four Americans died "when gunmen fired rockets at them." *The Pioneer* cites an *Al-Jazeera* report alleging Stevens was "paying a short visit to Benghazi when the consulate came under attack last night and he died of suffocation along with two US security p ersonnel who were accompanying him." A *Zee News* report notes Stevens was killed when "he and a group of embassy employees went to the consulate to try to evacuate staff." The same report cites a witness who said the violence at the consulate "last for about three hours, but the situation has now quieted down."

The Hindu reports comments by Magariaf, who said "This cowardly deed is an episode in the series of evil and consp iracy against the February 17 revolution (that toppled the Qadhafi regime)," and calling on Libyans to be united to "block attempts to harm the country's security." Abu-Shagur's condemnation is also picked up in the regional press.

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Pakistan's *Dawn*: "US Ambassador killed in Libya mission"

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Canadian outlets are up-to-date with the President's statement and comments from Libyan officials Abu -Shagur and Magariaf. Headlines and photos in other Western Hemisphere count ries are current, with Argentina's *Clarin* posting pictures showing Stevens' lifeless body, though much of the reporting content is overtaken by events due to the later time zone. Argentina's *InfoBAE.com* reports Libyan Deputy Interior Minister Wanis al -Sharif said Stevens "died in hospital." Venezuela's *Telesur* notes that *Al-Jazeera* reports "the bodies of the Ambassador and the three other US personnel will be taken by airplane to Tripoli and then on to Germany."

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SCB 000086

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SCB 000089

From: Heian-Engdal Olav <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:55 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Condolences

Dear Ben

It's with deep sorrow and shock that I learned about the deaths of your colleagues in Benghazi yesterday.

Please accept my sincere condolences on the tragic deaths of Ambassador Stevens and his staff.

Take care!
Olav

Olav Heian-Engdal
1st Secretary, Political Affairs
Norwegian Embassy, Washington DC
Cell: +[redacted]
Office: +[redacted]

SCB 000090

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:58 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: RRU Special Report Libya/Egypt Intl press (non-Arab) 11:00 am

Thank you.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:55 AM
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE • BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

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Mexico's *Informador*: "US Ambassador murdered in Libya attack"

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 12:05 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Congressman Cantor Statement On The Attacks In Libya And Egypt

FYI. We released this statement earlier today. Thanks for forwarding the statements by the President and Secretary. A terribl e, terrible tragedy.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Date: Wed, 12 Sep 2012 09:31:38 -0400
To: Majority Leader All Staff
Subject: Congressman Cantor Statement On The Attacks In Libya And Egypt

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012
PERMALINK

CONTACT: Megan Whittemore
(202) 225-7440

Congressman Cantor Statement On The Attacks In Libya And Egypt

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, Congressman Eric Cantor (VA-07) released the following statement regarding the attacks in Libya and Egypt:

"I condemn the attacks on our consulate in Benghazi and Embassy in Cairo by violent extremists. My prayers are with the families of Ambassador Chris Stevens and the other brave Americans who lost their lives in this unjustifiable and hateful assault. Ambassador Stevens and his colleagues were known for having stood firmly on the side of the Libyan people against tyranny, and were untiring in their efforts to help the Libyan people establish a peaceful and tolerant democracy. These brave and honorable public servants deserve the respect of the American and Libyan people, for whom they tragically gave their lives.

"These terrible incidents highlight the ongoing security challenges in Libya and Egypt, and I call upon the Libyan and Egyptian governments to protect diplomatic facilities, secure their borders, and redouble efforts to combat extremist terrorism within their countries. Eleven years af ter September 11, it is clear that Islamic extremist terrorism still poses a tremendous threat to the Middle East, to the United States, and to the international community. These attacks will not deter America from continuing to promote peace, democracy, individual and religious freedom

and an unwavering respect for human life throughout the region and the world."

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From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 12:18 PM
Subject: Chairman King Statement on Attack on Americans In Libya

Committee on
HOMELAND SECURITY
Chairman Peter T. King

Press Release

For Immediate Release
September 12, 2012

Media Contact: Shane Wolfe
(202) 226-8417

Chairman King Statement on Attack on Americans in Libya

Washington, D.C. – Today, U.S. Rep. Peter T. King (R-NY), Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security, issued the following statement on the attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya:

"I am outraged by this horrific, savage attack on our diplomats in Benghazi. It is important that swift justice be dealt to those who perpetrated these attacks.

"My thoughts and prayers go out to the families of Ambassador Chris Stevens, foreign service officer Sean Smith, and the two others killed in the attack. They were dedicated public servants working effectively to spread freedom and nurture democracy."

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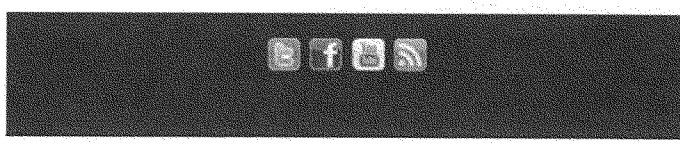
Connect with the Committee

www.homeland.house.gov



From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 12:21 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: DURBIN STATEMENT ON US EMBASSY ATTACKS AND THE DEATH OF AMBASSADOR STEVENS, FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS

For Immediate Release
Contact: Max Gleischman
202.228.5244
September 12, 2012

DURBIN STATEMENT ON US EMBASSY ATTACKS AND THE DEATH OF AMBASSADOR STEVENS, FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS

[WASHINGTON, D.C.] Assistant Majority Leader Dick Durbin (D -IL), a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, released the fo llowing statement today after the attacks on the US Embassies in Egypt and Libya and the death of Ambassador Chris Stevens and US Foreign Service Officers.

"Today we mourn the loss of Ambassador Chris Stevens, Foreign Service Officer Sean Smith and two o ther American diplomats who were killed in an attack on our Consulate in Benghazi, Libya. I condemn in the strongest way possible the violence that took their lives and the protests at our Embassy in Egypt."

"Ambassador Stevens, Sean Smith and tens of tho usands of Americans serve our nation, represent our values and promote democracy and human rights in countries across the world. They often serve in dangerous places, without their families or loved ones, and lack recognition. Today, we stand in mourning those we've lost and in solidarity with the brave Foreign Service Officers representing our country abroad."

-30-

SCB 000093

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 12:23 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: RRU Special Report Libya/Egypt Intl press (non-Arab) 11:00 am
Attachments: Rapid Response 09-12 Special Report Egypt-Libya International Coverage 1100EST.doc

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From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:27 AM
To: [redacted]; PA FO Group; PA-IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA-Desk Officers-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; PA PRS Duty Press Asst Group; SES-O
Cc: [redacted]; PA RRU; [redacted]; NEA-PD-DL; [redacted]; USAID Press Officers (USAID)
Subject: RRU Special Report Libya/Egypt Intl press (non-Arab) 11:00 am

RAPID RESPONSE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE • BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RRU SPECIAL REPORT
EGYPTIAN PROTESTORS STORM THE US EMBASSY
ATTACK ON US CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI KILLS AMBASSADOR, OTHER STAFF
WEDNESDAY 09/12/2012 11:00AM

Global coverage of demonstrations again st, and attacks on the US Embassy in Cairo and the US Consulate in Benghazi, is front page news everywhere, with developments on the Libya situation dominating coverage of the less serious, non -fatal demonstrations in Egypt. Outlets worldwide cite President Obama's statement condemning the attacks and lamenting the deaths of US Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other US personnel, as well as condemning comments issued by high - level Libyan officials, including interim President Magariaf and Deputy Prime Mi nister Abu-Shagur. Conflicting news reports remain "unclear" on exactly how, when, and where the Ambassador died, but there is a general consensus that he died of suffocation due to smoke inhalation. Limited commentary worries the US is facing a severe " foreign policy crisis" in the Middle East and depict the President facing "few options" on how to proceed in response.

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three US personnel to have died. Additional breaking news on *BBC* highlights that the Afghan government has blocked access to Youtube to prevent citizens from watching clips of the US -produced film.

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Many outlets note comments this morning by Libyan officials. Libya's interim President Mohammed Magariaf is quoted "apologizing to the United States, the people and to the whole world for what happened" in a news conference broadcast live on *Al-Jazeera*, and confirming "no one will escape from punishment and questioning." Earlier, Deputy Prime Minister Mustafa Abu-Shagur "condemned the cowardly act of attacking the US consulate and the killing of Mr. Stevens" in a comment posted to Twitter. He also said security forces have launched a manhunt to find the killers.

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SCB 000096

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SCB 000099

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 12:36 PM
To: 'Heian-Engdal Olav'
Subject: RE: Condolences

Thank you.

From: Heian-Engdal Olav [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:55 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Condolences

Dear Ben

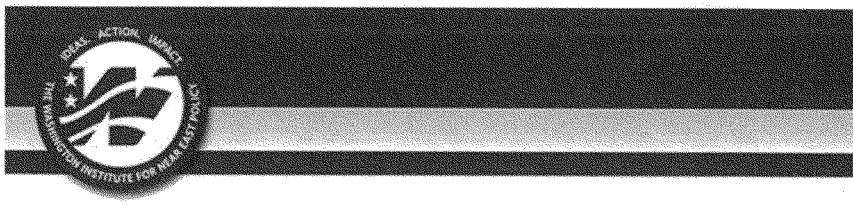
It's with deep sorrow and shock that I learned about the deaths of your colleagues in Benghazi yesterday.

Please accept my sincere condolences on the tragic deaths of Ambassador Stevens and his staff.

Take care!
Olav

Olav Heian-Engdal
1st Secretary, Political Affairs
Norwegian Embassy, Washington DC
Cell: +[redacted]
Office: [redacted]

From: TWI Press Release <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 12:52 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Subject: Washington Institute Mourns American Diplomats Killed in Libya



Washington Institute Mourns American Diplomats Killed in Libya

The Washington institute extends its deepest condolences to the family and colleagues of Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens, Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith, and two additional U.S. personnel who were killed during an attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi.

Each of these individuals served America with distinction in a difficult and chaotic environment. We are saddened by their loss and honor their memory.

Ambassador Stevens was a personal friend and colleague of several Institute staff members. He is remembered as a warm and caring friend, as well as a dedicated and innovative foreign service officer. His work will always be a source of inspiration.

The Washington Institute for Near East Policy ■ 1828 L Street NW, Suite 1050 ■ Washington DC 20036
Tel: 202-452-0650 ■ Fax: 202-452-5364 ■ www.washingtoninstitute.org ■ © 2012 All rights reserved

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From: [redacted] (USUN) <[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:16 PM
To: NEA-MAG-DL; Pelofsky, Eric J; Ryu, Rexon Y; Fishman, Benjamin I; [redacted] NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL
Cc: USUN-Libya-DL
Subject: Security Council press statement on attacks issued
Attachments: SC PRESS STMT ON LIBYA EGYPT DIP ATTACKS FINAL VERSION CLEAN.docx

FYI

Below please find the final statement issued by the Security Council on the September 11 attacks in Benghazi and Cairo.

[redacted]

SECURITY COUNCIL PRESS STATEMENT ON ATTACKS AGAINST U.S. DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL

The members of the Security Council condemned in the strongest terms the attack on the United States of America's diplomatic mission and personnel in Benghazi, Libya on 11 September, which resulted in the deaths of four American diplomatic personnel, inclu ding the Ambassador, and injuries to diplomatic personnel and civilians. They expressed their deep sympathy and sincere condolences to the victims of this heinous act and to their families.

The members of the Security Council also condemned in the stronge st terms the attack on the United States Embassy in Cairo, Egypt on 11 September.

The members of the Security Council underlined the need to bring perpetrators of these acts to justice.

The members of the Security Council reaffirmed that such acts are un justifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

The members of the Security Council recalled the fundamental principle of the inviolability of diplomatic and consular premises, and the obligations on host Governments, in cluding under the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, to take all appropriate steps to protect diplomatic and consular premises against any intrusion or damage, and to prevent any disturbance of the peace of these missions or impairment of their dignity, and to prevent any attack on diplomatic agents and consular officers.

In this context, and expressing their deep concern at these attacks, the members of the Security Council called on all authorities to protect diplomatic and consular property and personnel, and to respect their international obligations in this regard.

The members of the Security Council underscored the durable commitment of the international community to support Libya's successful transition to a peaceful and prosperous democracy.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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The members of the Security Council underlined the need to bring perpetrators of t hese acts to justice.

The members of the Security Council reaffirmed that such acts are unjustifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

The members of the Security Council recalled the fundamental principle of the inviolability of diplomatic and consular premises, and the obligations on host Governments, including under the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, to take all appropriate steps to protect diplomatic and consular premises against any intrusion or damage, and to prevent any disturbance of the peace of these missions or impairment of their dignity , and to prevent any attack on diplomatic agents and consular officers.

In this context, and expressin g their deep concern at these attacks, the members of the Security Council called on all authorities to protect diplomatic and consular property and personnel, and to respect their international obligations in this regard.

The members of the Security Council underscored the durable commitment of the international community to support Libya's successful transition to a peaceful and prosperous democracy.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:25 PM
To: CA47ALL - Sanchez
Subject: NEWS: SANCHEZ ON ATTACK ON AMERICANS IN BENGHAZI

Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez

Representing California's 47th Congressional District

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012

MEDIA CONTACT
Adrienne Watson 202-309-0825

SANCHEZ ON ATTACK ON AMERICANS IN BENGHAZI

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47), senior member of the House Armed Services Committee, today released the following statement regarding the death of U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans in an attack on the U.S. Consulate in Li bya.

"I was deeply saddened to learn of the tragic deaths of Ambassador Christopher Stevens, Foreign Service Officer Sean Smith, and two other Americans in Libya this morning. These violent attacks on our American diplomats are heartbreaking and unaccept able, and I extend my deepest condolences to the families of these diplomats, who have loyally served our nation and have represented America abroad with excellence.

"This act of terror is particularly heartbreaking given the United States' commitment a nd hard work to help liberate the people of Libya. These attacks reverse the progress Libya has made toward a more open society.

"All around the world, our Foreign Service officers risk their lives, in very dangerous places to defend our country's ideals, and we are incredibly grateful for the sacrifices they make to protect our freedoms each and every day."

Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez is proud to represent California's 47th Congressional District, which includes the cities of Anaheim, Garden Grove, Sa nta Ana, and parts of Fullerton in Orange County. She serves as Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces and a senior member of the Committee on Homeland Security. Rep. Sanchez is also a member of the fiscally conservati ve Blue Dog Coalition and sits on the bipartisan, bicameral Joint Economic Committee.

# # #

To be removed from this email list please reply with the word "Remove" in the subject line.

United States House of Representatives
1114 Longworth House Office Bu ilding • Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2965 • Fax: 202-225-5859

SCB 000100

From: Slim.BenDebba[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:30 PM
To: [redacted] Jason.Purcell[redacted] Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted] Peter.Kucik[redacted] IO-Sanctions-DL[redacted] SanctGrp[redacted]
Cc: Carlton.Greene[redacted] Leila.Baheri[redacted] Dane.Shelly[redacted] Peter.Kucik[redacted] Jason.Purcell[redacted] Katherine.Bauer[redacted] Brian.O'Toole[redacted]
Subject: RE: Libya sanctions: Info from Niger about Saadi - reactions needed

Hello [redacted] and other and NSS State colleagues,

I should start by saying that the information provided by the [redacted]s very valuable, and some of it corroborates that which we already have. I can tell you that at least one of the listed has been on our radar screen, but not all, which is why this new information is quite valuable indeed. To that extent, I don't see why we, at Treasury, would be opposed, in principle, to designating any party that meets our EO's designation criteria and for which we can develop legally -sufficient packages, especially when it comes to the provision of material support to Libyan SDNs, and particularly those who are trying to derail the transition process in Libya. The below summary mentions more than two people, and all mentioned should be considered potential targets as far a s we are concerned.

If anything, the tragic events in Benghazi should be a reminder that the GoL needs all the help it can get, and that despite the personal and professional blows we have experienced there, we continue to be steadfast in our commitment to help Libya get back on its feet (and in fact, that was part of Secretary Clinton's message today regarding the tragic killing of our personnel there). We owe it to our fallen colleagues, and to our Libyan partners, to continue building on the good and noble work in which they were fully engaged.

However, I do want to caution you against promising anything at the UN that we cannot deliver domestically. In other words, while there may be instances (hopefully many) when we can designate domestically and su pport an equivalent designation at the UN, that scenario doesn't always materialize because of a lack of information or because of domestic policy considerations. I think we can say that we continue to support designations, both domestically, and at the UN , of bad actors in Libya or those supporting such bad actors, regardless of their location, and that the information provided to us by the [redacted] helps us move in that direction. The fact that the UNSCRs and our domestic designation authority are still in place, says as much.

Please thank the [redacted] on our behalf for sharing this information, and we look forward to seeing their full report in the near future. The more detailed information we can receive, the better, as it will help us strengthen our designation packages of pertinent future targets.

Best Regards.

Slim

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2012 4:36 PM
To: [redacted]; Purcell, Jason; Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]; Kucik, Peter; [redacted]; Ben Debba, Slim
Cc: IO-Sanctions-DL; USUN-SANCTIONS-Group; [redacted]; [redacted] [redacted]; [redacted]

SCB 000101

Subject: Libya sanctions: Info from Niger about Saadi - reactions needed
Importance: High

(NOT FOR FURTHER DISTRO OUTSIDE THE USG)

Many thanks, [redacted] looping in the interagency.

Colleagues, Please find below the recent information shared by the UN on individuals who are facilitating and supporting Saadi Qadhafi. Does this track with our information? Are we supportive of designating the individuals mentioned below? Please let us know your thoughts the soonest.

Kindly loop in anyone I may have inadvertently missed.

Thanks,
[redacted]

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2012 3:01 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: IO-Sanctions-DL; USUN-SANCTIONS-Group; [redacted]
Subject: Libya: Info from Niger about Saadi

[redacted]

The [redacted] ([redacted]) has slipped us (confidentially) information from their recent trip to Niger. This information includes the names of individuals believed to be funneling cash to Saadi Qadhafi in violation of the asset freeze. If true, the [redacted] believes this information might theoretically help add to a case for new sanctions designations.

Theo is very eager to get our feedback to this information. In particular, he is interested in knowing whether these folks are on our radar screen and whether there is any potential for their designation. Might you be able to shop this around? This information appears quite juicy and I think it would be great to provide some kind of response.

Some [redacted] members were very reluctant to share this information with us, so please keep it close hold and protect the [redacted] as a source. Thanks!

Cheers,
[redacted]

INFORMATION FROM [redacted] AUTHORITIES:

Mohamed Adoua is a Nigerien national, born next to Agadez, he has been linked to the Ghaddaffi family for some time. He is the 'homme à tout faire' of Saadi and even stays with him in his house in Niamey.

MA has 4 bank accounts (current and savings) and the movements of money are not large amounts. The balance of one of the accounts is around 1.7 million CFAwhich, according to the CENTIF (Nigerian government agency), is far too much money for a driver/guide.

The accounts are credited by transfers (but t hey don't know yet where they were transferred from, there will be more details in the report). A person called Jacuba Weekers is among the people who have transferred money to his account on several occasions, as well as 2 associations.

Each time the accounts are credited, the money is withdrawn very quickly. However they are not sure if the money is used by Saadi or not. According to the CENTIF, Saadi doesn't use the formal financial system much.

In this case it seems that the CENTIF received some help from the French and the US.

The CENTIF is not looking into estate assets for the time being, a committee should be taking care of this but it's not operational yet.

Information from a protected source:

Saadi lives in a house provided by the Nigerien authorities + food + internet (until he made this recent provocative declaration about going back to Libya, they apparently stopped the internet connection and confisca ted his phones)

Saadi is in contact with the authorities in South Africa and Uganda and discusses his potential transfer to these countries. (It seems that the Nigerien authorities are tired of having him in Niamey, he is a burden – they believe that some South African authorities are happy to host him).

Saadi has one wife (he used to be married to a Moroccan woman, he got divorced and got married to a Libyan girl, got divorced and is now married to a Nigerienwoman – NAME-.

In July 2012, Saadi compla ined to the security forces that he had entrusted some money to two people who didn't want to give it back to him. He had apparently received large sums of money from abroad on several occasions but the authorities don't know through which means (maybe cas h). Saadi had apparently already entrusted some other amounts to these people in the past – they were looking after the money and providing it to Saadi when required.

The first individual restituted $400 000 to Saadi so no judicial procedure was conducte d against him – they don't know his name.

The second person, **Saadou Boubacar**, born in Sebha, 39 year old, Libyan national, lives in Niamey - had received 1,6 million USD in February and 400 000$ in April but refused to give anything back to Saadi. This person is currently being prosecuted by the Nigerien justice (though may be in jail, they don't know as they have not been following the case which is now with the Min of Justice). He is apparently the intermediary between Saadi and the person who manages his affairs in Libya: **Hasane Daou**.

[redacted]
Chief, Sanctions Unit
United States Mission to the United Nations (USUN)
Tel: [redacted] Cell: [redacted]

SCB 000103

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:53 PM
To: [redacted] Cunningham, James B; Llorens, Hugo; [redacted] Kabul Front Office; Kabul Exec CDDEA Deputies; Kabul IPA Coordinator; Kabul PolMil Americans; Kabul POL Americans; Kabul Press; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] SCA-Press; Hayden, Caitlin; West, Thomas; [redacted] RC-North PRTs
Subject: RE: IPA Field Reporting -- Reaction to Events in Benghazi -- Wed 12 Sept @ 1930

KLE on the Mohammed Movie in RC North

NOTE: I recommend watching the movie, the full length version on You Tube, to better know what we are dealing with. Unlike some of the other static events we have had to manage this will be out there for a long time and I can only see it getting progressively worse as it is watched and commented on, etc. Can't imagine how we get through Friday prayers without some show down somewhere. It would be difficult to pack more material into a 15 minutes video that incites more anger than this guy has managed to do Mohammed the pedophile, Mohammed the adulterer, Mohammed the false prophet, Mohammed the killer, Mohammed the to rturer, Mohammed the serial husband, the Koran a book made up by one of the prophet's henchmen. Some of it comes across as almost soft porn, always at the prophet's expense. For once I am glad Afghanistan doesn't have greater internet penetration (althou gh I'm sure it will be in the markets soon enough). To us it is a silly little video, but reflecting on Amin Maloof's The Crusades Through Arab Eyes, reminds that perceptions in the West and East are very, very different. This thing could just be getting started.

1. The news started to hit while we were in Faryab for the transition ceremony. We met with the head of the Provincial Council and the Head of the Ulema Council and stressed the American values issue and our respe ct for Islam, asking for their support to keep things under control. They said they will get the message out and appreciated that we reached out. They said they think people appreciate that these sorts of things do not represent mainstream America.

2. We discussed the threat with the Deputy Minister of the Interior and other officials from Kabul. They said they appreciated the heads up and would help mitigate the risks.

3. In Mazar we called the Head of the Provincial Council, the Director of the Blue Mosque , and Governor Atta's Chief of Staff. Also discussed with the ANA Commander, ANP Commander, and ANCOP Commander. All thanked us for the heads up and said they would help explain the situation to constituents, line directors, and others. The Director of the Blue Mosque said he would pass the message to the Imams and recommended we do as much outreach as possible. (NOTE: The head of the Provincial Council was the one who incited the crowd in the April 2011 UN compound attack. We had met with him two days earlier and had coincidentally discussed the importance of helping to channel frustration with these sorts of things in a safe way).

4. I raised it at the evening BUB and the RC North Commander directed that staff get out to commanders and direct them to take the pulse of their AO tomorrow, without proactively doing KLE which ISAF has not directed them to do. He wants them to watch the situation and be ready to react as necessary by restricting movement and reinforcing compounds.

SCB 000104

5. We will see Governor Atta tomorrow with Ambassador Llorens and will be prepared to engage press as feasible.

[redacted]
U.S. Senior Civilian Representative
Mazar e-Sharif, Afghanistan
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, Septem ber 12, 2012 7:50 PM
To: Cunningham, James B; Llorens, Hugo; [redacted] Kabul Front Office; Kabul Exec CDDEA Deputies; Kabul IPA Coordinator; Kabul PolMil Americans; Kabul POL Americans; Kabul Press; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]; SCA-Press; 'Caitlin M Hayden [redacted]; 'Thomas W West [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: IPA Field Reporting -- Reaction to Events in Benghazi -- Wed 12 Sept @ 1930

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED / FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

From the Office of Interagency Provincial Affairs (IPA)

Please find below a compilation of field reports to date covering civilian engagement with Afgha n counterparts and observed local reactions regarding the events in Benghazi and Cairo of September 11, 2012.

Key Leader Engagements (KLE) and other discussions are conducted by various field units at the level of the Platform, Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) and District Support Team (DST).

IPA continues to collect reports from the field and will update this information periodically.

WEDNESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2012

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- Consulate Herat convened an EAC meeting and will be watching the local reaction very carefully.
- Consul/SCR [redacted] will meet with Gov Saba later this evening to discuss.
- New provincial police chief has pledged support if needed in the next couple days to protect the Consulate.
- The Platform is concerned that some of the extremist ulama and outsiders will exploit this situation to foment the kind of violent demonstration that occurred 24 February 2012.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- The general consensus at the Platform is that when the story about the new anti -Islamic video finally hits Afghanistan, the reaction in RC-East will be severe.
- RP-E staff will rely on contacts developed in previous similar situations to help preserve calm. In the past, a radio station in Parwan worked with us to broadcast messages from local mullahs, officials and ANSF who appealed to the people for calm, which greatly helped d efuse tensions. Once a message/talking points are

SCB 000105

released by the Embassy, the Platform will work with local media outlets, mullahs and community leaders in places like Parwan, Bagram and Jalalabad.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]).

- The Platform is following the situation closely. There were no demonstrations in Kandahar today, but there is certainly concern.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]).

No report as of this writing.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]).

No report as of this writing.

Office of Interagency Provincial Affairs (IPA)
US Embassy Kabul, Afghanistan

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

SCB 000106

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:54 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: RRU Social Media Report: Protest in Cairo, Violent Protest and Deaths in Benghazi

Trying again. It bounced back just a moment ago.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:53 PM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]; PA FO Group; PA-IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA -Desk Officers-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; PA PRS Duty Press Asst Group; [redacted]; SES-O; 'Meehan, Bernadette '
Cc: [redacted]; PA RRU; [redacted]; NEA-PD-DL; [redacted]; USAID Press Officers (USAID)
Subject: RRU Social Media Report: Protest in Cairo, Violent Protest and Deaths in Benghazi

For your information and internal use.

Best regards,

[redacted]
Director, Rapid Response Unit
Bureau of Public Affairs

RRU Social Media Monitoring Report
Egyptian Protestors Attack US Embassy
Libyan Protesters Storm and Burn the US Consulate in Libya
Wednesday, September12, 2012

Reports continue flowing on social media platforms on the outraged protestors who stormed the US Embassy in Egypt and the US consulate in Benghazi, protesting the US -produced film that offends Islam, with many media outlets in Egypt and the region reporting the killing of the US Ambassador to Libya and other staff. Meanwhile *Al-Jazeera* and *Al-Arabyia* news websites re-tweet some of Secretary Clinton's statement condemning the attack.

Egypt Daily[i] in Egypt links to the *CNN* story "Gingrich: Egypt and Libya attacks connected" and re-tweets that "Anti-Islam filmmaker in hiding after deadly protests in Egypt, Libya; blames lax security." *Ahramonline*[ii] reports "US ambassador to Libya and three other embassy staff killed in

rocket attack." The agency also tweets "Mob sets fire to US consulate in Benghazi, American staffer dies." *AlMasryAlYoum*[iii] links to its article headlines "The US Embassy condemns the "religious instigation" by producing a film offending the prophet." The paper also tweets that "The US Embassy in Cairo's natural response: closing the visa queue from tomorrow."

AlArabiya_Eng[iv] reports "U.N. 'strongly' condemns attack on U.S. diplomats in Libya." *Al-Arabiya_Eng* also tweets Secretary Clinton's statement as a breaking news "Libya attack should "shock consciences' of people of all faiths: Clinton." In a tweet *AJELive*[v] quotes the Secretary saying "This is an attack that should s hock the conscience of peoples of all faith around the world."

In Libya, *TheTruthLibya*[vi] in Libya reports that "Obama confirms death of US Ambassador Chris Stevens in Libya and 'strongly condemns' the attacks Bengazi." Meanwhile a Libyan journalist *ImedLamloum*[vii] re-tweets *the Australian News* story headlines " Film that sparked Cairo, Bengazi protests the work of an American-Israeli ." *ArmchairArab*[viii] asks " is it true that the US consulate in Bengazi had been hit with an RPG?"

In Egypt, *Egitto3000*[ix] reports " American killed in Bengazi Libya attack on USEmbassy." *Al-Jazeera* Cairo correspondent *evanchill*[x] points out that " people who attacked consulate apparently pursued US staff to a safe house" *Wael*[xi] asserts that "Reports relate attacks in Libya 2 the infamous film. Spare a thought that they might be related to killing of Qaeda 2nd man, who is Libyan." Meanwhile *RepentI1*[xii] warns "Threat to kill Americans in Gaza, after Libya/Egypt due to film insulting prophet Mohamed,forces UN staff to bunker in and placed on curfew!" A famous writer *EzzedineCF*[xiii] writes "Chris Stevens, one of the best I met, was killed in yesterday's attack on US Embassy in Libya. Unforgivable cruelty and blindness of he art." *AhmedMorsy_*[xiv] asks "Did the U.S. government produce the movie? NO. Then why attack their embassy & kill their ambassador and diplomats?" An analyst *jmayton*[xv] also asks " why allow a protest at US Embassy in Egypt and not fire tear gas and attack like at the Syria embassy?" Meanwhile *N_Benghazi*[xvi] says "The Prophet…wouldn't have accepted that innocent blood be spilled because people are offended over some nobody's movie."

On its Facebook page of *The International campaign to defend prophet M uhammed*[xvii] , the organizers of the campaign post "that there was a request from 120 Coptic organizations around the worlds requesting US authorities to stop the film from displaying since it offends Islam and the prophet . In another post it says that Egyptian Minister of Religion affairs said that "we respect freedom of expression but we also demand respect the feelings of million Muslims people around the world." In another post it says " the famous journalist Dr.Wisam Abdul Warth has condemned what t he pastor Terri Johns and several Coptic for producing a film that offends Islam and the prophet."

On his Facebook page, the Egyptian activists *Wael Ghuniem*[xviii] likes writes "Wael Ghuniem who posted on his facebook page saying " The attack on the U.S . Embassy on Sept. 11 with the media connecting the memory of ordinary Americans to al -Qaeda ,will not understand when public opinion have that outcry against the film (...) about the Prophet peace be upon him, but understand that is a celebrating campaign of all crimes that took place on Sept. 11, the average American citizen has been associated in his mind this painful memory of history with more than 3,000 people died, he will not understand the connection of the US embassy with the film." He adds "If the goal of what is happening now is to stop the abuse to the Prophet (s), I do not think it will be achieved, but probably the opposite will happen exactly and will exploit these events to present a negative image in the mind of the Western citizens abo ut the Muslims."

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[xviii] *Wael Ghuniem*: 12,053 likes

SCB 000109

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:54 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: RRU Social Media Report: Protest in Cairo, Violent Protest and Deaths in Benghazi

Received thanks!

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:54 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: RRU Social Media Report: Protest in Cairo, Violent Protest and Deaths in Benghazi

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From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:53 PM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]; PA FO Group; PA-IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA -Desk Officers-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; PA PRS Duty Press Asst Group; [redacted]; SES-O; 'Meehan, Bernadette '
Cc: [redacted]; PA RRU; [redacted]; NEA-PD-DL; [redacted]
USAID Press Officers (USAID)
Subject: RRU Social Media Report: Protest in Cairo, Violent Protest and Deaths in Benghazi

For your information and internal use.

Best regards,

[redacted]
Director, Rapid Response Unit
Bureau of Public Affairs

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Wednesday, September12, 2012

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SCB 000112

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:58 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: RRU Special report Update Libya/Egypt Pan-Arab Press 1:30 pm
Attachments: Rapid Response 09-12 Special Report on Egptian and Libyian Protestors Storming US Embassy 1300.doc

Looks like you didn't get this one, either, so here you go!

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:38 PM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; PA FO Group; PA-IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA-Desk Officers-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; PA PRS Duty Press Asst Group; [redacted]; SES-O
Cc: [redacted]; PA RRU; [redacted]; NEA-PD-DL; [redacted]; USAID Press Officers (USAID)
Subject: RRU Special report Update Libya/Egypt Pan -Arab Press 1:30 pm

RRU Special Report
Egyptian Protestors Storm the US Embassy
Libyan protestors Attack the US Consulate
Wednesday 09/12/2012 01:30pm

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SCB 000116

RRU SPECIAL REPORT
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LIBYAN PROTESTORS ATTACK THE US CONSULATE
WEDNESDAY 09/12/2012 01:30PM

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SCB 000119

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:05 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: RE: RRU Special report Update Libya/Egypt Pan-Arab Press 1:30 pm

RRU Please add Bernadette to this distro. NSS is tracking closely.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:38 PM
To: [redacted] PA FO Group; PA-IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA-Desk Officers-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; PA PRS Duty Press Asst Group; [redacted] SES-O
Cc: [redacted]; PA RRU; [redacted]; NEA-PD-DL; [redacted]; USAID Press Officers (USAID)
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From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:11 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted]
Subject: Benghazi

[redacted], contact info in previous email, will be in Benghazi tomorrow leading an investigation team.

Dr. [redacted] may be speaking with Christianne Ammanpour in a couple of hours, still organizing the interview.

In Unity and Friendship,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:18 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: U.S. Religious Leaders
Attachments: Statements.docx

Here are the statements we've compiled so far. More to come, we think...

From: [redacted] [[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:27 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: U.S. Religious Leaders

Maybe we can get our OIC Ambassador, Rashad Hussain, to do a video too?

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:20 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: U.S. Religious Leaders

Could also work on getting video in language (Arabic a definite, can try for Urdu and Dari as well.)

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:15 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: U.S. Religious Leaders

[redacted] Would there be some merit in getting some statements from religious leaders in the U.S., particularly Muslim, to release statements saying this does not represent US values and pointing to the President's call for end to violence. It really helped us last time Jones burned a Koran, particularly with key leader engagement as folks on the ground could point to them when meeting elders and religious leaders and trying to convince them to call for restraint.

Something to consider.

Thanks.
[redacted]

[redacted]
Senior Director Communications and Public Diplomacy, Afghanistan -Pakistan
Department of State
2100 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
Telephone: [redacted]

Mobile: [redacted]
Email: [redacted]

1. Ellison Statement on Anti-Islamic Video & Violent Response in Egypt & Libya

I am deeply disturbed by the attacks on our diplomatic missions in Libya and Egypt. Four Americans have now been killed, including U.S. Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens. My heart goes out to their families. They were brave public servants working tirelessly to improve relations with Egypt, Libya, and the rest of the world. This is a tragic loss.

The amateurish and stupid video that sparked these riots was deeply offensive not only to Muslims but also to anyone who respects the faith of others. It was designed to provoke, and sadly, the provocateurs successfully induced some people to take the bait. Instead of ignoring or peacefully condemning the film, they resorted to violence and mayhem.

Yes, the film's creators hatefully attacked what so many people hold most dear: their relationship with the Divine. But responding with violence is never justified. And those who think they are doing so in the name of Islam are wrong and ill informed. The abuse of free speech rights, no matter how offensive, does not give license for senseless acts of violence.

People need to understand that the United States government had no role in creating this film. In fact, the government has condemned it and the American people have rejected it; it violates the American value of religious tolerance. The vast majority of Christians, Muslims, Jews and people of other faiths live in peace and harmony in the United States, and reject the hateful expressions in the film. No one should confuse the tiny group who made this disrespectful and deliberately provocative film with the American people or the U.S. government. The United States Constitution protects religious freedom, but it also prohibits the government from silencing misguided individuals who abuse their free speech rights.

Hateful provocateurs will always try to stir the pot, but it's up to us to remain calm and not let it boil over. Now innocent public servants who dedicated their lives to building bridges between people are dead. What we need is more understanding and tolerance, not conflict and bloodshed.

2. The OIC Condemns Violent Acts at American Missions in Cairo and Benghazi

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu strongly condemned the tragic killing of the US Ambassador to Libya along with three other Consulate officials in Benghazi. In a statement issued in Jeddah today, the OIC Secretary General said that he was shocked by the reprehensible act which could not be condoned on any grounds. He also expressed grave concern attack at the US Embassy in Cairo. He said the violence that had emanated from emotions aroused by a production of a film had hurt the religious sentiments of Muslims. The two incidents demonstrated serious repercussions of abuse of freedom of expression that OIC had consistently been warning against. The OIC Secretary General added that while the film was a deplorable act of incitement, resorting to violence resulting in loss of innocent lives could not be condoned. The OIC Secretary General called for restraint and urged the concerned law enforcing officials to take all necessary measures to bring the situation under control. He added that the international community could not be held hostage to the acts of extremists on either side. The Secretary General believed that the solution could only be found by addressing the issues pertaining to the freedom of religion and freedom of expression through structured international engagement and referred to the OIC initiative

embodied in UN Human Rights Council Resolution 16/18 and the Istanbul Process for its consensual implementation which provide with the avenues for such engagement.

Jeddah, 12 September 2012
From: Maya Berry [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Monteiro, D. Paul
Subject: Re: Statements on the Attack in Benghazi

3. AAI Statement
This is an outrageous and horrible tragedy. We wholeheartedly support the strong and clear position expressed this morning by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. The film that the demonstrators claim to be protesting might be deplorable, but it is no excuse for the wanton murder of innocent diplomats. This was an act of murder, plain and simple.

It is good that the Libyan government has condemned this act, but now they must take immediate steps to hunt down those who committed this crime and bring them to justice. If they are to be a government, they must act like one.

If the Libyans do not act quickly, there will no doubt be severe political consequences for their country.

maya berry
[redacted]
sent from my iPhone

4. Updated AAI Statement
The attack on U.S. diplomatic missions in Egypt and Libya is an outrageous and horrible tragedy. The film that the demonstrators claim to be protesting might be deplorable, but it is no excuse for the wanton murder of innocent diplomats. This was an act of murder, plain and simple. We wholeheartedly support the strong and clear position expressed this morning by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and as we reflect on this tragedy, we need to remember that it was carried out by a small mob that in no way characterizes the opinions and attitudes of people in the region.
It is good that the Libyan government has condemned this act, but now they must take immediate steps to hunt down those who committed this crime and bring them to justice. If they are to be a government, they must act like one.
If the Libyans do not act quickly, there will be no doubt be severe political consequences for their country.
A final note about Ambassador Chris Stevens: Ambassador Stevens was a model diplomat who served his country with grace, dignity, and the utmost respect for both the United States and those to whom he represented it. His career in the foreign service spanned the region, including posts in Jerusalem, Damascus, and Riyadh. Before being appointed Ambassador to Libya, he served as Deputy Cheif of Mission when the United States reopened its Libyan embassy in 2007 and later as Special Representative to the National Transitional Council. The United States has lost a kind, brilliant, and empathetic public servant.

4. CAIR: U.S. Muslims to Condemn Killings of American Diplomats

(WASHINGTON, D.C., 9/12/12) - The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), along with other Muslim organizations, will hold a noon news conference today on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., to condemn both the killings of the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other diplomats in that nation and the attack on the American embassy in Egypt. Among the speakers at the press conference will be a Libyan-American leader who knew the slain ambassador closely.
SEE: U.S. Ambassador to Libya Is Killed
WHAT: CAIR News Conference to Condemn Killings of American Diplomats
WHEN: Wednesday, September 12, Noon
WHERE: CAIR's Capitol Hill Headquarters, 453 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C.
CONTACT: CAIR National Communications Director Ibrahim Hooper, 202-744-7726, E-Mail: ihooper@cair.com
CAIR yesterday called on Muslims in the Middle East to ignore the distribution of the "trashy" anti-Islam film, clips of which are circulating online, that resulted in the attacks.
SEE: CAIR Asks Mideast Muslims to Ignore 'Trashy' Anti-Islam Film
CAIR is America's largest Muslim civil liberties and advocacy organization. Its mission is to enhance the understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding.
- END -
CONTACT: CAIR National Communications Director Ibrahim Hooper, 202-744-7726, E-Mail: ihooper@cair.com

5. Quilliam Foundation Statement

The military assault against the US Consulate in Benghazi should not be seen as part of a protest against a low budget film which was insulting Islam there were just a few peaceful protesters present at the event. Indeed, there have been no other demonstrations regarding this film in Libya.

We at Quilliam believe the attack on the US consulate in Benghazi was a well planned terrorist attack that would have occurred regardless of the demonstration, to serve another purpose. According to information obtained by Quilliam - from foreign sources and from within Benghazi - we have reason to believe that the attack on the US consulate in Benghazi came to avenge the death of Abu Yaya al-Libi, al-Qaeda's second in command killed a few months ago.

The reasons for this are as follows:

24 hours before this attack, none other than the leader of al-Qaeda, Ayman al-Zawahiri, released a video on Jihadist forums to mark the anniversary of 9/11. In this video, Zawahiri acknowledged the death of his second in command Abu Yahya and urged Libyans to avenge his killing.

According to our sources, the attack was the work of roughly 20 militants, prepared for a military assault it is rare that an RPG7 is present at a peaceful protest.

According to our sources, the attack against the Consulate had two waves. The first attack led

to US officials being evacuated from the consulate by Libyan security forces, only for the second wave to be launched against US officials after they were kept in a secure location.

The weak security environment in Libya including in Benghazi and the failure of the government to project its power outside of the capital have been used as a cover for the attack.

The failure to rebuild the defence and security sector, in an accountable, professional and responsible manner will only further the likelihood of such attacks in the future. Attacks in Benghazi are not new the Red Cross has been attacked multiple times in previous months, as have the US consulate and also the UK Ambassador, and such security lapses encourage attacks. The International Community must take the challenge of not allowing extremist elements to hijack the Arab Uprisings very seriously, by renewing their focus on civic and governance responses to check the efforts of Islamist extremists attempting to exploit the inevitable security vacuum.

Noman Benotman, President of Quilliam says:
"These are acts committed by uncontrollable jihadist groups. We hope Libya will seize this opportunity to revive its policy of Disarmament, Demobilisation and Re-integration (DDR) in order to facilitate an end to the spread of such attacks, with the help of the International Community. We hope that the International Community, including NATO member states and especially the US, will continue their excellent work in Libya which began with the overthrow of the dictator Gaddafi after 42 years in power."

6. ING Statement on Violence in Libya & Egypt

Islamic Networks Group (ING) & its Affiliates across the nation condemn in the strongest possible terms the extremist attacks on U.S. diplomatic compounds in Libya and Egypt on Tuesday, September 11th, one of which killed U.S. ambassador to Libya Christopher Stephens along with three of his staff members. The parties responsible for these events in both nations claimed to be reacting to an online film considered offensive to Islam.

As with previous instances of the Danish cartoons or Qur'an burning, it is important to emphasize that it is a greater defamation of the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad and the Qur'an to react with violence and murder of innocent people one of the greatest sins in Islam than any claimed insult from an Islamophobic film. Those who responded in such a manner should instead study the Prophet Muhammad's example in the face of harm. On a daily basis, Muhammad was exposed to demeaning abuse for 13 years during the early years of his mission. His response was not to return insult for insult or hurt for hurt, but to pray for his persecutors and overlook their insults. In a famous Islamic tradition, he stated: "It is not allowed to cause harm to others or to return harm for harm."

It is also an Islamic principle that one does not blame or punish another for the crimes of another. The employees at the embassies were in no way responsible for the actions of either Terry Jones or the producers of the film. Such extreme responses, in fact, can only help Islamophobic interests. Such actions and reactions are but a useless cycle of hate that benefit no one and as occurred yesterday, can be potentially dangerous and even deadly.

ING and its affiliates are committed to upholding the right to freedom of expression and unconditionally condemn any use of violence as a means to protest offensive or hateful speech. In the United States, this fundamental, inalienable right is protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The answer to speech we find deeply offensive is more speech -- speech that tells the true story of Islam -- not censorship or violence. Acts of violence carried out in the name of Islam are a greater offense against Islam than the content of any film or speech.

ING President Maha Elgenaidi urges both fellow Muslims and fellow Americans to "Work together for a more peaceful world and take this opportunity to redouble efforts towards peace and harmony through increased outreach, dialogue, and understanding."

For additional insights on the topic of provocative speech and reactions to it, see: Muslim Scholars' Statement on Danish Cartoons Controversy

-End

Maha Elgenaidi - President
Islamic Networks Group (ING)
Santana Towers
3031 Tisch Way
9th Floor, Suite 950
San Jose, CA 95128
[redacted] Phone
Fax
Mobile
http://www.ing.org

7. American Islamic Congress offers condolences to families of Americans slain in Libya attack

AIC condemns deadly attack in Benghazi and violence in Cairo

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12, 2012 The American Islamic Congress (AIC) expresses its deepest condolences to the families of four fellow Americans killed in Benghazi, Libya yesterday, including U.S. Ambassador to Libya John Christopher Stevens, Foreign Service Officer Sean Smith, and two other civilians yet to be named by the U.S. Department of State.

AIC joins the nation in mourning the tragic loss of life and in expressing our sympathies to the families, friends and colleagues of these brave Americans who were in Libya to serve our country.

AIC, in the strongest of terms, unequivocally condemns these attacks against our diplomatic missions in Benghazi and Cairo. The taking of these innocent lives is not justifiable for any reason.

While details continue to emerge about yesterday's deplorable incidents, AIC is more determined than ever to continue working on the ground in this region to encourage the

growth of civil society and promote respect for human and civil rights, including free speech and religious freedom. AIC also encourages responsible leaders to recognize that they carry the burden of confronting extremism and protecting the lives of civilians. AIC (www.aicongress.org) is a 501(c)3 organization with offices in Cairo, Tunis, Basrah, Baghdad, Boston and headquarters in Washington, D.C. AIC, which was founded just after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, is dedicated to religious understanding, civil rights and the strengthening of civil society throughout the world.
###
EXPERTS AVAILABLE: To book an interview with Zainab Al-Suwaij or Nasser Weddady, please contact Aimée Chiu at 202-595-3160, 773-220-8895 or aimee@aicongress.org
CONTACT: Aimée Chiu, Director of Media Relations of AIC, 202-595-3160, 773-220-8895 or aimee@aicongress.org
Source: American Islamic Congress

SCB 000123

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:30 PM
To: slim.bendebba[redacted] [redacted] jason.purcell[redacted] benjamin i. fishman[redacted] [redacted] peter.kucik[redacted] [redacted] IO-Sanctions-DL; USUN-SANCTIONS-Group; [redacted]
Cc: carlton.greene[redacted] leila.baheri[redacted] dane.shelly[redacted] peter.kucik[redacted] jason.purcell[redacted] katherine.bauer[redacted] brian.o'toole[redacted]
Subject: RE: Libya sanctions: Info from Niger about Saadi - reactions needed

Thanks, Slim, for your thoughtful response. I'll convey your appreciation for the info back to the [redacted] Of course, I'll be cautious not to overpromise.

I do hope, however, we can also explore the possibility of at least a few UN designations of UN sanctions violators (i.e., those who provide material support to UN listed SDNs). I think just a handful of such designations at the UN might send a strong sig nal that there is a price to be paid for violating UN sanctions. I would think that the Libyans themselves would welcome such designations and perhaps even be willing to cosponsor a designation proposal.

Cheers,
[redacted]

[redacted]
Chief, Sanctions Unit
United States Mission to the United Nations (USUN)
Tel: [redacted] Cell: [redacted]

From: Slim.BenDebba[redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:30 PM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]; Jason.Purcell[redacted] Benjamin I. Fishman [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]; Peter.Kucik[redacted] [redacted]; IO-Sanctions-DL; USUN-SANCTIONS-Group; [redacted]
Cc: Carlton.Greene[redacted] Leila.Baheri[redacted] Dane.Shelly[redacted] Peter.Kucik [redacted] Jason.Purcell[redacted]; Katherine.Bauer[redacted]; Brian.O'Toole[redacted]
Subject: RE: Libya sanctions: Info from Niger about Saadi - reactions needed

Hello [redacted] [redacted] and other and NSS State colleagues,

I should start by saying that the information provided by the [redacted] is very valuable, and some of it corroborates that which we already have. I can tell you that at least one of the listed has been on our radar screen, but not all, which is why this new information is quite valuable indeed. To that extent, I don't see why we, at Treasury, would be opposed, in principle, to designating any party that meets our EO's designation criteria and for which we can develop legally -sufficient packages, especially when it comes to the provision of material support to Libyan SDN s, and particularly those who are trying to derail the transition process in Libya. The below summary mentions more than two people, and all mentioned should be considered potential targets as far as we are concerned.

If anything, the tragic events in Benghazi should be a reminder that the GoL needs all the help it can get, and that despite the personal and professional blows we have experienced there, we continue to be steadfast in our commitment to help

SCB 000124

Libya get back on its feet (and in fact, that was part of Secretary Clinton's message today regarding the tragic killing of our personnel there). We owe it to our fallen colleagues, and to our Libyan partners, to continue building on the good and noble work in which they were fully engaged.

However, I do want to caution you against promising anything at the UN that we cannot deliver domestically. In other words, while there may be instances (hopefully many) when we can designate domestically and support an equivalent designation at the UN, that scenario doesn't always materialize because of a lack of information or because of domestic policy considerations. I think we can say that we continue to support designations, both domestically, and at the UN, of bad actors in Libya or those supporting such bad actors, regardless of their location, and that the information provided to us by the [redacted] helps us move in that direction. The fact that the UNSCRs and our domestic designation authority are still in place, says as much.

Please thank the [redacted] on our behalf for sharing this information, and we look forward to seeing their full report in the near future. The more detailed information we can receive, the better, as it will help us strengthen our designation packages of pertinent future targets.

Best Regards.

Slim

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2012 4:36 PM
To: [redacted]; Purcell, Jason; Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted]; Kucik, Peter; [redacted]; Ben Debba, Slim
Cc: IO-Sanctions-DL; USUN-SANCTIONS-Group; [redacted]
Subject: Libya sanctions: Info from Niger about Saadi - reactions needed
Importance: High

(NOT FOR FURTHER DISTRO OUTSIDE THE USG)

Many thanks, [redacted] looping in the interagency.

Colleagues, Please find below the recent information shared by the UN on individuals who are facilitating and supporting Saadi Qadhafi. Does this track with our information? Are we supportive of designating the individuals mentioned below? Please let us know your thoughts the soonest.

Kindly loop in anyone I may have inadvertently missed.

Thanks,
[redacted]

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2012 3:01 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: IO-Sanctions-DL; USUN-SANCTIONS-Group; [redacted]
Subject: Libya: Info from Niger about Saadi

SCB 000125

[redacted]

The [redacted] ([redacted] has slipped us (confidentially) information from their recent trip to Niger. This information includes the names of individuals believed to be funneling cash to Saadi Qadhafi in violation of the asset freeze. If true, the [redacted] believes this information might theoretically help add to a case for new sanctions designations.

Theo is very eager to get our feedback to this information. In particular, he is interested in knowing whether these folks are on our radar screen and whether there is any potential for their designation. Might you be able to shop this around? This information appears quite juicy and I think it would be great to provide some kind of response.

Some [redacted] members were very reluctant to share this information with us, so please keep it close hold and protect the [redacted] as a source. Thanks!

Cheers,
[redacted]

INFORMATION FROM [redacted] AUTHORITIES:

Mohamed Adoua is a Nigerien national, born next to Agadez, he has been linked to the Ghaddaffi family for some time. He is the 'homme à tout faire' of Saadi and even stays with him in his house in Niamey.

MA has 4 bank accounts (current and savings) and the movements of money are not large amounts. The balance of one of the accounts is around 1.7 million CFAwhich, according to the CENTIF (Nigerian government agency), is far too much money for a driver/guide.

The accounts are credited by transfers (but they don't kno w yet where they were transferred from, there will be more details in the report). A person called Jacuba Weekers is among the people who have transferred money to his account on several occasions, as well as 2 associations.

Each time the accounts are credited, the money is withdrawn very quickly. However they are not sure if the money is used by Saadi or not. According to the CENTIF, Saadi doesn't use the formal financial system much.

In this case it seems that the CENTIF received some help from the F rench and the US.

The CENTIF is not looking into estate assets for the time being, a committee should be taking care of this but it's not operational yet.

Information from a protected source:

Saadi lives in a house provided by the Nigerien authori ties + food + internet (until he made this recent provocative declaration about going back to Libya, they apparently stopped the internet connection and confiscated his phones)

Saadi is in contact with the authorities in South Africa and Uganda and discu sses his potential transfer to these countries. (It seems that the Nigerien authorities are tired of having him in Niamey, he is a burden – they believe that some South African authorities are happy to host him).

Saadi has one wife (he used to be marrie d to a Moroccan woman, he got divorced and got married to a Libyan girl, got divorced and is now married to a Nigerienwoman – NAME-.

In July 2012, Saadi complained to the security forces that he had entrusted some money to two people who didn't want to give it back to him. He had apparently received large sums of money from abroad on several occasions but the authorities don't know through which means (maybe cash). Saadi had apparently already entrusted some

other amounts to these people in the past – they were looking after the money and providing it to Saadi when required.

The first individual restituted $400 000 to Saadi so no judicial procedure was conducted against him – they don't know his name.

The second person, **Saadou Boubacar**, born in Sebha, 39 year old, Libyan national, lives in Niamey - had received 1,6 million USD in February and 400 000$ in April but refused to give anything back to Saadi. This person is currently being prosecuted by the Nigerien justice (though may be in jail, they don't know as they have not been following the case which is now with the Min of Justice). He is apparently the intermediary between Saadi and the person who manages his affairs in Libya: **Hasane Daou**.

[redacted]
Chief, Sanctions Unit
United States Mission to the United Nations (USUN)
Tel: [redacted] Cell: [redacted]

SCB 000127

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:36 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: RRU Special Report: Protest in Cairo, Violent Protest and Deaths in Benghazi, 2 PM

Again, bounce-back! Sorry!

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:36 PM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]; PA FO Group; PA-IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA-Desk Officers-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; PA PRS Duty Press Asst Group; [redacted]SES-O; 'Meehan, Bernadette '
Cc: [redacted]; PA RRU; [redacted]; NEA-PD-DL; [redacted]; USAID Press Officers (USAID)
Subject: RRU Special Report: Protest in Cairo, Violent Protest and Deaths in Benghazi, 2 PM

For your information and internal use.

Best regards,

[redacted]
Director, Rapid Response Unit
Bureau of Public Affairs

RAPID RESPONSE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE • BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RRU SPECIAL REPORT
EGYPTIAN PROTESTORS STORM US EMBASSY
ATTACK ON US CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI KILLS AMBASSADOR, OTHER STAFF
WEDNESDAY 09/12/2012 2:00PM

While pan-Arab media continue to highlight US official condemnation of the killings and Lib ya stressing determination to bring the killers to justice and that the relationship will endure despite the "senseless act of violence." Reporting has gone down in volume considerably on broadcast media though outlets stress how offensive to the Prophet the film is and note that the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood called for wide -spread peaceful protests on Friday.

Pan-Arab

After broadcasting live remarks by President Obama and Secretary Clinton, coverage of the events in Libya and Egypt petered down on the major TV stations as both *Al-Jazeera* and *Al-Arabiya* revert to their regular coverage. In the 12:00 noon broadcasts (eve ning time in the Middle East), *Al-Arabiya* only had couple minutes of headline news opening with Secretary Clinton's remark that "we must be clear -eyed, even in our grief. This was an attack by a small and savage group not the people or Government of Liby a." Meanwhile, *Al-Jazeera* opens the same broadcast with the President's remarks at the Rose Garden emphasizing him saying: "And make no mistake, we will work with the Libyan government to bring to justice the killers who attacked our people." In the same broadcast, *Al-Jazeera* notes continuing protests around the US Embassy in Egypt, the "indignation especially that Egyptian Copts are involved in making and marketing the film offensive to the Prophet." *Al-Jazeera* also reports condemnation by several Copti c organizations inside and outside Egypt of the movie and its makers and notes the Muslim Brotherhood call on all Egyptian to demonstrate peacefully against the film on Friday.

In its 1:00 pm news broadcast, *Al-Arabiya* has more comprehensive coverage of events, mainly repetition of previous broadcasts but also showing the photo of Ambassador Stevens carried out of the consulate that was posted earlier on their website and noted reaction and condemnation by several European foreign ministers and the Vatican. *Al-Arabiya* also airs an Arabic-subtitled State Department video of Ambassador Stevens talking about how he got interested in the Middle East after joining the Peace Corps, as he was preparing to leave as an Ambassador to Libya and promoting Fulbright scholarships.

News articles on the events surrounding protests in Cairo and Benghazi continue to get hundreds of readers' comments that are varied but tend to be unsympathetic of the US and claims of religious freedoms, there are numerous high-fives for the "Libyan heroes for standing to the tyranny of the West." Following are two examples from *Al-Arabiya:*

- "He who rejoices in the death of an innocent American citizen because another US citizen produced a film insulting the Prophet ... has no argument when American kills innocent Muslims because other Muslims killed Americans .... The least one can say that it is cowardice."

- "The American Ambassador and his American companions deserved what they got. Libya's heroic Mujadeen did a good job and I wi sh if all the Arab countries will expel their ambassadors to protest the film that is offensive to the Prophet. Unfortunately we did not hear any condemnation from any Arab country. If the film was against their government's policies or against its ruler s, we would have heard the condemnations. "

Egypt

Breaking news tickers on newspapers websites note that Egyptians continue sit -ins around the US Embassy in Cairo to protest the online movie produced by expatriate Copts in the U.S. in conjunction with " Reverend" Terry Jones, and seen to be strongly offensive to Prophet Muhammad. Newspapers continue to focus on angry public reactions.

Flagship state-run newspaper *Al-Ahram* reports that police and army forces continued to protect the embassy facilities and calm down demonstrators.

Newspapers also report that the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) issued a statement on Tuesday in reaction to the demonstrations. The MFA stressed the importance of protecting all embassies and diplomatic envoys in Egypt, as well as foreigners working in the country, adding that Egypt expects its envoys to receive similar treatment abroad. The Vienna Convention, which Egypt was one of the first states to sign in 1961, obliges Egypt to protect embassies and provide t hem with security, the statement added. The statement also stressed that Egypt has been exerting effort to prove to the world that its transition period is coming to an end and that it has once again become a safe country, adding that such incidents negat ively affect the image of the country, harming different sectors as well as citizens.

Independent *Al-Dostur* reports that the United States Embassy in Cairo "condemned the continued attempts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslim s" and condemned "efforts to offend believers of all religions." In a statement the U.S. Embassy said, "Americans are honoring our patriots and those who serve our nation as the fitting response to the enemies of democracy. Respect for religious beliefs is a cornerstone of American democracy." The Embassy "firmly rejected the actions by those who abuse the universal right of free speech to hurt the religious beliefs of others."

Meanwhile, *Al-Wafd* (the official newspaper of the nationalist/opposition pol itical party of the same name) front page highlights an AP story about President Morsi pledging to the visiting American business delegation to keep Egypt a "secular" state.

Libya

The Libya Herald headlines: "Libya today denounced the killing of US Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other US embassy staff." "Speaking at a joint press conference in Tripoli, both Prime Minister Abdurrahman El Kib and Mohamed Magarief, president of the General National Congress, expressed sorrow for what they called "a criminal act. We apologize to the American people and to the whole world" for what had happened, Magarief said. He extended Libya's condolences "to the US government and people" for the death of the ambassador. Despite the enormity of the event, it would no t delay this evening's planned election of a new prime minister by Congress. It would go ahead, said Magarief."

The Tripoli Post reports on the same news item and in another article publishes details on the "Israeli Citizen behind the film that insults Islam," saying that Sam Bacile is "based in California went into hiding after a YouTube trailer of his movie attacking Islam's Prophet Muhammad sparked violent demonstrations in many Muslim cities around the world including Egypt and Libya where the US am bassador to and three American members of his staff were killed."

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:38 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Statement by Congressman Silvestre Reyes on the killing of the U.S. Ambassador to Libya, three U.S. Diplomats

September 12, 2012
, Director of Media Relations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(c) (202) 225-2912

Statement by Congressman Silvestre Reyes on the killing of the U.S. Ambassador to Libya, three U.S. Diplomats

WASHINGTON – Congressman Silvestre Reyes (D-TX) today released the following statement regarding the killing of U.S. Ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, and three U.S. Diplomats:

"Today is a sad day for our nation as we reflect on the life, journey and commitmen t of U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens. Ambassador Stevens and three other Americans were killed in Libya in an attack on the United States Consulate in Benghazi.

"These brave Americans, like so many other public servants, willingly undertook a difficu lt and dangerous mission when called upon by their country. Their service and sacrifice reflect their unbounded dedication to our nation, and we join together with their families, friends, and colleagues to mourn this loss. Ambassador Stevens did not just talk about making the world a better place; he took action, dedicating himself to bringing stability and peace to Libya and the region.

"Those who planned and executed the attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi must be brought to justice, and I stand with President Obama as we continue to fight terrorism and defend American lives throughout the world."

##

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From: ATFP <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:58 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: ATFP Mourns Victims of Consulate Attack in Benghazi

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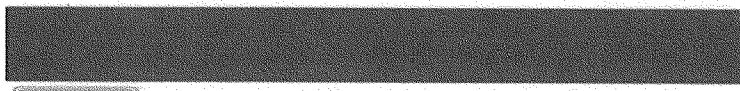

The American Task Force on Palestine

Forward to a Friend

ATFP Mourns Victims of Consulate Attack in Benghazi

The American Task Force on Palestine strongly condemns the heinous attack that claimed the lives of Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans in Benghazi yesterday, and extends its deepest condolences to the families of Ambassador Stevens and his colleagues.

Ambassador Stevens was an exceptional diplomat who mixed impeccable professionalism with genuine passion and caring. With his tragic death, the United States has lost a patriot who tirelessly pursued America's interests, while the Arab world has lost a friend who was personally invested in a better future for the Arab world and in stronger Arab-American relations.

Click to Opt Out: mailto:no-reply.o.369.552052.84fb6ef4e90c18cd@atfp.net - Forward to a Friend

American Task Force on Palestine
1634 Eye St
Suite 725
Washington, DC -20006
United States
- 202-887-0177 - info@atfp.net - The American Task Force on Palestine

SCB 000130

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 3:27 PM
To: [redacted]; [redacted] PA FO Group; PA-IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA-Desk Officers-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; PA PRS Duty Press Asst Group; [redacted] SES-O; Meehan, Bernadette
Cc: [redacted] PA RRU; [redacted] NEA-PD-DL; [redacted] USAID Press Officers (USAID)
Subject: Update on where the story is going -- Protest in Cairo, Violent Protest and Deaths in Benghazi

Colleagues,

RRU Analyst [redacted] 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 rushi ng 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 co mes up.

Best regards,

[redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 3:36 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I
Subject: RE: New Libyan Congressman - from [redacted]

Ben,

Been thinking about you today. The only time I met Chris Stevens, as I remember it, was on a street corner with you. I also remember the trip you took with him to Benghazi in those early days.

Really awful day,

[redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2012 8:59 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: New Libyan Congressman - from [redacted]

Hi [redacted]

Glad you haven't lost your Arab Spring enthusiasm.

With the risk of overstatement, the Libyan election gives us grounds for rethinking the premise that a) military interventions lead to chaos and b) democratic transitions in the region empower Islamists. We were getting increasingly worried in the run-up to election day about the prospects for serious disruptive violence based on a couple of incidents in the East that targeted election materials and personnel. But with the exception of a few isolated disruptions, the election went off remarkably well. They had about 65 percent turnout, virtually no complaints about fraud or misconduct, and the parties (including the Islamists) that didn't meet expectations have accepted the results. Hard to imagine a better outcome in a country with no history of elections and zero elect ion infrastructure. The UN did a terrific job in support and we benefited from IFES, NDI, etc.

Now, they are far from out being out of the woods, and Jibril's win doesn't necessarily equate to a sizable lead in the Congress (only 80 of the 200 seats were for parties and we still have little info on the 120 independents, though the story below I hope is emblematic). But he seems to have a mandate and the election was really a great achievement. Every time I think the Libyans are headed toward chaos, they manage to pull back from the brink. It's a great national quality.

What continues to be an endless source of frustration is our pathetic apparatus for providing timely and effective assistance to these countries. Libya also teaches us that despite all the investments made in Iraq and Afghanistan in transition support expertise, as a government, we are not adept at supporting countries with small -scale, targeted technical assistance to help get basic ministries up and running and planning for the future. Maybe when you get tired of Moscow, you can take on that project, but I wouldn't envy you.

I've branched out from Libya and am now covering Jordan and somewhat the rest of North Africa. Seem to be in it for the long-haul despite the need at some point to get back to the PhD.

Enjoy Tunisia. Next year in Libya!

-Ben

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2012 11:37 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: New Libyan Congressman - from [redacted]

Ben,

This is fantastic!

How are you?

What's your soundbite on the elections?

We have decided to gone on holiday in Tunisia to do our part to help he Arab Spring !

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2012 5:29 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: New Libyan Congressman - from [redacted]

Thought you might appreciate this story o [redacted] meets Libyan democracy. I'm trying to connect him with [redacted] before he goes back out to Libya.

Hope all is well!
-Ben

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2012 8:28 PM
To: Power, Samantha J.; [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted]
Subject: New Libyan Congressman - from [redacted]

For the NSS Libya caucus, a great story about the election and opportunities in the new Libya:

[redacted] and a good contact over the past year, called me today to say that he had won an individual seat in the GNC from his family's hometown of al -Khoms (between Tripoli and Misrata).

[redacted] decided to register at the last minute when he was out in Libya on business and pro moting an American-style political system for Libya's constitution. Not expecting to win, he thought the campaign would be a good vehicle for discussing his ideas about the constitution. According to [redacted] the top 5 vote getters (out of 49) in his sub -district were all supporters of the revolution, not the tribal candidates and Qadhafi loyalists who were expected to do well in the area. [redacted] believes he was elected because of the ideas he was presenting to his constituency and the appeal of people who offered solutions. He claimed not to have been surprised by the MB's lack of success and attributed it to suspicions about affiliation with Qatar, concerns about how they would address women's issues, and the general lack of

appeal of political Islam in Libya. Looking forward, [redacted] said he and his supporters are looking to form an independent bloc among the individual candidates since there's an interest in not having everyone go with Jibril.

If he survives the appeal period (he currently is ahead by just 70 votes), [redacted] will be a great partner and strong advocate for the U.S. in Libya. Interestingly, he said that the reputation of Libyan-Americans has been damaged in Libya as a result of disappointment with ElKeib, but he thinks there have been at least four Libyan-Americans elected to the Congress.

-Ben

SCB 000131

From: Creedon, Madelyn R HON OSD POLICY <Madelyn.Creedon[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [redacted] Holgate, Laura; Floyd, Carolyn; Hersman, Rebecca SES OSD POLICY; 'Anne.Harrington[redacted]; Weber, Andrew Mr OSD ATL; 'ronald.fizer[redacted]; 'William.Faircloth[redacted]; Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

This is so sad. [redacted] if there is anything we can do let me know.

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:54 AM
To: 'Laura_S._Holgate[redacted]; 'Carolyn_M_Floyd[redacted]; Creedon, Madelyn R HON OSD POLICY; Hersman, Rebecca SES OSD POLICY; 'Anne.Harrington[redacted]; Weber, Andrew Mr OSD ATL; 'ronald.fizer[redacted]; 'William.Faircloth[redacted]; ' Benjamin_I._Fishman[redacted]
Subject: Fw: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

Media reporting Ambassador Stevens killed. Confirming that sources are credible.

From: OpsAlert
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 06:08 AM
Subject: SPOT REPORT 09/12/I (SBU)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

heading.gif

SPOT REPORT

Attack On U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

0600 EDT

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

- (SBU) Four COM personnel were killed and three were wounded in an attack by dozens of fighters on the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi beginning approximately 1550 Eastern Time. (Ops/DS Command telcon and e -mail)

SCB 000132

· (SBU) All COM personnel have e vacuated Benghazi and are in Tripoli. The wounded are receiving medical treatment at a local hospital pending evacuation. (Ops/DS Command telcon and e -mail, Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

· (SBU) The U.S. Mission is drawing down to emergency personnel. U.S. military aircraft are scheduled to arrive in Tripoli at 1030 Eastern Time to evacuate COM personnel. A military medevac flight will arrive at 1110 Eastern Time. (Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

· (SBU) A Marine FAST team is en route to Tripoli from S pain. (Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

· (SBU) Embassy Tripoli has drafted an Emergency Message to Americans announcing the drawdown and encouraging Americans to leave Libya via commercial flights. (Ops/Embassy Tripoli telcon)

· (U) A number of media s ources report the death of U.S. Ambassador Stevens. (Reuters, Al Jazeera)

Please see our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted] Approved: [redacted]

Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SCB 000133

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:43 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FW: Latest Libya updates

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:17 PM
To: S SpecialAssistants; D(N); D(B); P; M Staff; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; NEA-LIBYADESK; EUR-Staff-Assistants-DL; [redacted]
Cc: SES DutyDeputies; SES-O SWO
Subject: Latest Libya updates

Colleagues,

Below are the latest developments following the last Spot Report the Watch issued at 1346.

- Non emergency personnel and the remains of the deceased are due to be wheels down at Ramstein AFB, Germany at 1620 EDT. Ambassador Murphy is meeting the plane. Deputy Secretary Burns will depart Erbil on September 13 at 18:00 local (1100 EDT) ert Ramstein with an ETA of 21:00 local (1500 EDT) to meet the remains.

- The General National Congress of Libya (GNC) and the Transitional Government expressed their strong condemnation and disapproval of the criminal attack, the death of Ambassador Stevens and three staff members, injury to numerous people, and damage to the building.

- The UNSC issued a press statement condemning the attack s in Benghazi and Cairo, expressing its deep sympathy to the victims, and calling on authorities to protect diplomatic property and personnel.

- China issued a statement saying it was shocked by the attack and the resulting death of several people including the ambassador, and condemned the use of violence.

- The governments of Latvia, Pakistan, and India condemned the attacks and extended condolences to the United States and the families of the deceased.

[redacted]
Senior Watch Officer
State Department Operations Center
[redacted]

From: [redacted] (USUN) <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:55 PM
To: [redacted] (USUN); NEA-MAG-DL; Pelofsky, Eric J; Ryu, Rexon Y; Fishman, Benjamin I; [redacted] NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL
Subject: Secretary-Generalpress statement on attacks issued

Colleagues,

FYI.

[redacted]

Statement Attributable to the Spokesperson for the Secretary -General
Attack against United States Consulate in Benghazi, Libya

The Secretary-General is deeply saddened by yesterday's attack against the United States Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, resulting in the deaths of four US diplomats, including Ambassador John Christopher Stevens, as well as Libyan employees of the Consulate. The Secretary-General condemns this attack in the strongest terms. The Secretary-General extends his condolences to the United States Government and to the bereaved Libyan and American families.

The United Nations rejects defamation of religion in al l forms. At the same time, nothing justifies the brutal violence which occurred in Benghazi yesterday. The Secretary -General reminds the Libyan authorities of their obligations to protect diplomatic facilities and personnel. He welcomes statements by Lib yan authorities that they will bring the perpetrators to justice.

The Secretary-General reiterates the commitment of the United Nations to continue working with the Government and the people of Libya as they strive to bring stability to their country.

New York, 12 September 2012

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:59 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: NELSON: TRAGEDY IN LIBYA CAUSE FOR NATIONAL UNITY

From: [redacted] (Ben Nelson) [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:36 PM
Subject: NELSON: TRAGEDY IN LIBYA CAUSE FOR NATIONAL UNITY

NELSON: TRAGEDY IN LIBYA CAUSE FOR NATIONAL UNITY

Death of American Diplomat Should Not be Exploited for Political Gain

September 12, 2012— Today, Nebraska's Senator Ben Nelson said that Nebraskans would be disappointed in how some have turned the deaths of American Ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens and three embassy s taff into an opportunity to score political points.

"While my thoughts and prayers are with the families of the Americans attacked at the United States Consulate in Benghazi, it pains me to see some inappropriately utilizing this situation to score politi cal points," said Senator Nelson in a conference call with Nebraska media. "The rocket attack in Libya that led to the deaths of American citizens, including Ambassador Chris Stevens, is a foreign policy matter that American leaders should come together on . I'm repulsed to see it used for political gains."

American Ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens was killed yesterday when gunmen attacked and set fire to the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya. Three other embassy staff members were also killed during the assault, thought to have been in response to a film depicting the Prophet Mohammad in an undignified manner. While many elected representatives have expressed condolences to the families of the diplomats who died yesterday, numerous politicians have spoken out directly against the president.

"Our president has condemned this act, and is increasing the security for all America's diplomats abroad, and I agree with his words and actions, as do most Americans," said Nelson. "Unfortunately, this is an election year, and partisan politicians are using it as yet another excuse to differentiate themselves from the presi dent. The tragedy in Libya shows just how unsettled that region of the world is, and this should call for more unity from leaders in America, rather than pot shots for political gain."

-30-

From: Partners for a New Beginning Secretariat <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 5:01 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: A Message from PNB on Recent Events in Libya

Having trouble viewing this email? Click here

PNB

A Message from PNB on Recent Events in Libya

12 September 2012

Partners for a New Beginning denounces the senseless acts of violence in Benghazi, Libya yesterday and extends its deepest condolences to the families of Ambassador Chris Stevens, Sean Smith and the other officials who lost their lives.

Over the years, we had the privilege to work with Ambassador Stevens. Today marks a great loss for our two nations and we honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country, their lives.

As the secretariat of Partners for a New Beginning, with operations in Libya, the Aspen Institute has witnessed first-hand the commitment that State Department officials make on a daily basis to bring about a peaceful world based upon mutual respect and cooperation. Ambassador Stevens exemplified this sense of hopefulness throughout his career.

"I worked with Chris during my tenure in the Clinton Administration. He embodied the essence of all that is extraordinary about the US career foreign service, diligence, perseverance, deep commitment to advancing the goals and aspirations of the U.S and the countries where he served. He represented America, and America's values and interests in the best possible way. Chris will be deeply missed by so many but never forgotten," said Toni G. Verstandig, Chair of Middle East Programs at the Aspen Institute.

The countries of the MENA region have made tremendous political and economic progress over the past two years. It is our hope that our partners around the world, who share a vision of a more peaceful and tolerant world, will not allow these senseless attacks to silence the voices of partnership and cooperation. It is through the daily actions of committed business, government, and civil society leaders in the region that a more prosperous Middle East will be built on our shared values of peace and tolerance.

"It is always a shame when we allow a handful of extremists to frame our world. While a small group can create tremendous tragedy, it is dependent upon people of conscience to give their voice to stop the triumph of evil," said Walter Isaacson, President and CEO of the Aspen Institute.

The Partnership seeks to honor the memory of Ambassador Stevens by continuing to work towards his vision of a relationship based upon peace, tolerance and mutual interests between the US and the region.

Having trouble viewing this? Click **here**.

Partners for a New Beginning (PNB) is a network working in 10 countries where local projects and priorities are identified by local chapters. PNB strategically matches them with US and international partners. PNB is chaired by Madeline K. Albright, former US Secretary of State. Muhtar Kent, Chairman and CEO of The Coca-Cola Company, and Walter Isaacson, President and CEO of the Aspen Institute, serve as Vice Chairs.

Forward this email

This email was sent to beniamin i. fishman[redacted] by pnb[redacted]
Update Profile/Email Address Instant removal with SafeUnsubscribe™ Privacy Policy.
Partners for a New Beginning One Dupont Circle N.W. Suite 700 Washington DC 20036

From: Andy, Adora (OPA) <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:44 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Meehan, Bernadette; [redacted] Vietor, Tommy; 'nulandvj[redacted]; 'ventrellph[redacted]; 'SullivanJJ[redacted]; 'reinesp[redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: Re: INTERNAL CONFERENCE CALL AT 9:15 to discuss: USG Public Response to Events in Libya and Egypt

+[redacted]
Please note that the tentative press avail in Doha, Qatar that the AG was to participate in tomorrow at 7am ET has been pulled down. So no q/a from media in Qatar.
Thanks,
[redacted]

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:31 AM
To: Meehan, Bernadette <[redacted]>; [redacted] <[redacted]>; Vietor, Tommy <[redacted]>; 'nulandvj[redacted] <[redacted]>; 'ventrellph[redacted] <[redacted]>; 'SullivanJJ[redacted] <[redacted]>; 'reinesp[redacted] <[redacted]>; [redacted]
Subject: RE: INTERNAL CONFERENCE CALL AT 9:15 to discuss: USG Public Response to Events in Libya and Egypt

If possible, let's do this at 9 to get a little ahead of potential statements by S and POTUS later this morning.

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:14 AM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] Vietor, Tommy; 'nulandvj[redacted]; 'ventrellph[redacted]; 'SullivanJJ[redacted]; 'reinesp[redacted]; [redacted]

[redacted]
Subject: INTERNAL CONFERENCE CALL AT 9:15 to discuss: USG Public Response to Events in Libya and Egypt

All,

Both the President and Secretary Clinton released statements this morning. Both are pasted below. Please refer to those for any comments for the time being. **To ensure we are all in sync on messaging for the rest of the day, Ben Rhodes will host a conference call for USG communicators on this chain at 9:15AM ET today. Call in information is below:**

BRIDGE NUMBER: [redacted]
CONFEREE PASSCODE: [redacted]
MODERATOR PASSCODE: [redacted]

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012

Statement by the President on the Attack in Benghazi

I strongly condemn the outrageous attack on our diplomatic facility in Benghazi, which took the lives of four Americans, including Ambassador Chris Stevens. Right now, the American people have the families of those we lost in our thoughts and prayers. They exemplified A merica's commitment to freedom, justice, and partnership with nations and people around the globe, and stand in stark contrast to those who callously took their lives.

I have directed my Administration to provide all necessary resources to support the sec urity of our personnel in Libya, and to increase security at our diplomatic posts around the globe. While the United States rejects efforts to denigrate the religious beliefs of others, we must all unequivocally oppose the kind of senseless violence that took the lives of these public servants.

On a personal note, Chris was a courageous and exemplary representative of the United States. Throughout the Libyan revolution, he selflessly served our country and the Libyan people at our mission in Benghazi. As A mbassador in Tripoli, he has supported Libya's transition to democracy. His legacy will endure wherever human beings reach for liberty and justice. I am profoundly grateful for his service to my Administration, and deeply saddened by this loss.

The brave Americans we lost represent the extraordinary service and sacrifices that our civilians make every day around the globe. As we stand united with their families, let us now redouble our own efforts to carry their work forward.

###

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release
2012/1422

September 12, 2012

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY CLINTON

Statement on the Death of American Personnel in Benghazi, Libya

It is with profound sadness that I share the news of the death of four American personnel in Benghazi, Libya yesterday. Among them were United States Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens and Fo reign Service Information Management Officer, Sean Smith. We are still making next of kin notifications for the other two individuals. Our hearts go out to all their families and colleagues.

A 21 year veteran of the Foreign Service, Ambassador Stevens died last night from injuries he sustained in the attack on our office in Benghazi.

I had the privilege of swearing in Chris for his post in Libya only a few months ago. He spoke eloquently about his passion for service, for diplomacy and for the Liby an people. This assignment was only the latest in his more than two decades of dedication to advancing closer ties with the people of the Middle East and North Africa which began as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Morocco. As the conflict in Libya unfolded, C hris was one of the first Americans on the ground in Benghazi. He risked his own life to lend the Libyan people a helping hand to build the foundation for a new, free nation. He spent every day since helping to finish the work that he started. Chris was committed to advancing America's values and interests, even when that meant putting himself in danger.

Sean Smith was a husband and a father of two, who joined the Department ten years ago. Like Chris, Sean was one of our best. Prior to arriving in Ben ghazi, he served in Baghdad, Pretoria, Montreal, and most recently The Hague.

All the Americans we lost in yesterday's attacks made the ultimate sacrifice. We condemn this vicious and violent attack that took their lives, which they had committed to helpi ng the Libyan people reach for a better future.

America's diplomats and development experts stand on the front lines every day for our country. We are honored by the service of each and every one of them.

###

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:58 AM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] Vietor, Tommy; 'nulandvj [redacted] 'ventrellph [redacted] 'SullivanJJ [redacted]; 'reinesp [redacted]; [redacted]

[redacted]
Subject: RE: USG Public Response to Events in Libya and Egypt

All,

We are in the processes of finalizing statements, and will advise when they have been released. Please stand by.

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:48 PM
To: [redacted] Meehan, Bernadette; Vietor, Tommy; 'n ulandvj[redacted]; 'ventrellph[redacted]; 'SullivanJJ[redacted]; 'reinesp[redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: RE: USG Public Response to Events in Libya and Egypt

We should let State Department statement be our comment for the night.

Let's compile for first thing in the AM the steps that the USG is takin g – WH, State, DoD, etc – so that in the morning we can use that for updates and to inform press.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9: 47 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy; 'nulandvj[redacted]; 'ventrellph[redacted] 'SullivanJJ[redacted]; 'reinesp[redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: Re: USG Public Response to Events in Libya and Egypt

Thanks Bernadette. OSD has received queries asking if military assets are being sent to either location. Have responded "not to our knowledge."

From: Meehan, Bernadette [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 09:32 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J. <[redacted]>; Vietor, Tommy <[redacted]>; Nuland, Victoria J ([redacted]) <[redacted]>; ventrellph[redacted] <[redacted]>; Sullivan, Jacob J ([redacted]) <[redacted]>; 'reinesp[redacted] <[redacted]>; [redacted]
<[redacted]>
Subject: USG Public Response to Events in Libya and Egypt

All,

Starting a chain with the interagency communicators regarding the USG's public response to the events today in Benghazi and Cairo, so we're all on one chain. State Department will release a statement tonight regarding the events, and we ask all other agencies to refer to that statement as you receive press inquiries. We will work on detailed guidance for all briefings and gaggles tomorrow, which we will circulate to ensure everyone is on the same page.

On an important note, the press statement released by Embassy Cairo this morning was not coordinated with Washington. We need to do everything we can to emphasize that the USG's views are represented by the (forthcoming) State Department statement, and not the Embassy Cairo statement. Please do not refer anyone to the Embassy Cairo statement, which is causing significant negative backlash.

Please use this chain as needed to ensure everyone is on the same page with updates and guidance going forward, and don't hesitate to reach out.

Thanks,
Bernadette
[redacted]

SCB 000134

From: SLCharles1[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:53 PM
To: [redacted] Fishman, Benjamin I; [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Condolences

i thought chris' familly would want to have this email.

ramadan had talked with him and they were supposed to mee this week.

other friends have asked what they can do to pay their respects to chris' family or at the department.

pls let me know.
==========

From: [redacted]
To: SLCharles1[redacted], hicksgn[redacted]
CC: gnhicks[redacted]
Sent: 9/12/2012 7:31:52 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
Subj: Condolences

Gentlemen, friends, peace lovers in the world My Friend Sandra

Our hearts shocked by the lost of Mr. Chris STEVENS and the other personals, We in Libya today lost one of the key figures in our liberating revolution. Mr. Chris was an American citizen with a Libyan soul. We do not know how express our condolences to his family only by saying to them that Mr.
Chris was a candle lighting our relationship between our two countries and
between East and West, His honesty and humble made him so close to the Libyan people, He ate with us our food, participate in our struggle and our success.

A Libyan friend told me today he was very sad as the same day when he lost his brother under Kaddafi Regime in AbuSalim massacre , my sorrow on this man.

We are Normal Muslims, Christians and all the moder ate world targeted by all kinds of extremism, violence and radicalism. Mr. Chris success in Libya has made our coward enemies frustrated. Those enemy could be hardliners Salfi Muslims, supporters of the former regime or maybe Others from Syria and I ran, all united to act against Mr. Chris and extinguish the candle.

Those terrorist wanted to kill any hope of the Libyan people to aspire a freedom and build a strong relationships with all other countries in the world, they wanted Libya black and sa d country.

The death of Mr. Chris requires from us all Libyans and the moderate non -radical world to eliminate extremist where ever they are.

I would like to assure you that today I met many Libyans, but I did not met anyone of them did not condemns the anti human action against our guests and your embassy in Benghazi.

SCB 000135

Finally, I would express our deep sympathy to all Americans. May God hav e mercy Mr. Chris STEVENS and the others.

Yours

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:06 PM
To: Vietor, Tommy; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Scott Shane

Yes, just working up a reply now.. Something like:

Off the record, our colleagues at Foggy Bottom have the lead on everything related to the tragic events in Benghazi (they held a backgrounder to provide as much info as possible --was NYT able to participate?). To the best of my understanding, the families of the other two officers are still being notified, which is why no information has been released. I understand, from conversations around today's backgrounder, that State will release all the names once that notification is complete. That's all I can provide.

Thoughts appreciated.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:03 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Scott Shane

Asking me Qs about "CIA personnel in Libya". I obviously wont comment or assist in any way. I assume you're getting the same inquiries but just in case.

From: Vietor, Tommy
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:13 PM
To: [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; 'Jake Sullivan'
Subject: RE: Scott Shane

Makes a lot of sense to me. Adding Ben and Jake Sullivan

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:05 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Vietor, Tommy; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Scott Shane

Yes, just working up a reply now.. Something like:

Off the record, our colleagues at Foggy Bottom have the lead on everything related to the tragic events in Benghazi (they held a backgrounder to provide as much info as possible --was NYT able to participate?). To the best of my understanding, the families of the other two officers are still being notified, which is why no information has been released. I understand, from conversations around today' s backgrounder, that State will release all the names once that notification is complete. That's all I can provide.

Thoughts appreciated.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto: [redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:03 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Scott Shane

Asking me Qs about "CIA personnel in Libya". I obviously wont comment or assist in any way. I assume you're getting the same inquiries but just in case.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:13 PM
To: Vietor, Tommy; [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; SullivanJJ [redacted]
Subject: Re: Scott Shane

K, I'll let state know also.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:12 PM
To: [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J. <[redacted]>; 'Jake Sullivan' <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: Scott Shane

Makes a lot of sense to me. Adding Ben and Jake Sullivan

-----Original Message-----
From: jenniyb [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:05 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Vietor, Tommy; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Scott Shane

Yes, just working up a reply now.. Something like:

Off the record, our colleagues at Foggy Bottom have the lead on everything related to the tragic events in B enghazi (they held a backgrounder to provide as much info as possible --was NYT able to participate?). To the best of my understanding, the families of the other two officers are still being notified, which is why no information has been released. I understand, from conversations around today's backgrounder, that State will release all the names once that notification is complete. That's all I can provide.

Thoughts appreciated.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:03 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Scott Shane

Asking me Qs about "CIA personnel in Libya". I obviously wont comment or assist in any way. I assume you're getting the same inquiries but just in case.

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:15 PM
To: [redacted] Vietor, Tommy; [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Subject: Re: Scott Shane

This makes sense to me too. Toria affirmatively said all four were state personnel, right?

From: jenniyb[redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:13 PM
To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [redacted] <[redacted]>; Benjamin J. Rhodes[redacted] <[redacted]>; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Re: Scott Shane

K, I'll let state know also.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:12 PM
To: [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J. <[redacted]>; 'Jake Sullivan' <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: Scott Shane

Makes a lot of sense to me. Adding Ben and Jake Sullivan

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:05 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Vietor, Tommy; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Scott Shane

Yes, just working up a reply now.. Something like:

Off the record, our colleagues at Foggy Bottom have the lead on everything related to the tragic events in Benghazi (they held a backgrounder to provide as much info as possible --was NYT able to participate?). To the best of my understanding, the families of the other two officers are still being notified, which is why no information has been released. I understand, from conversations around today's backgrounder, that State will release all the names once that notification is complete. That's all I can provide.

Thoughts appreciated.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:03 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Scott Shane

Asking me Qs about "CIA personnel in Libya". I obviously wont comment or assi st in any way. I assume you're getting the same inquiries but just in case.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:16 PM
To: SullivanJ[redacted] Vietor, Tommy; [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Subject: Re: Scott Shane

Yes, she did.

From: Sullivan, Jacob J [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:15 PM
To: [redacted]NSC Deputy Press Secretary <Thomas_F._Vietor[redacted]>; [redacted] Benjamin J. Rhodes[redacted] <[redacted]>
Subject: Re: Scott Shane

This makes sense to me too. Toria affirmatively said all four were state personnel, right?

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:13 PM
To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [redacted] <[redacted]>; Benjamin J. Rhodes[redacted] <[redacted]>; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Re: Scott Shane

K, I'll let state know also.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:12 PM
To: [redacted]Rhodes, Benjamin J. <[redacted]>; 'Jake Sullivan' <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: Scott Shane

Makes a lot of sense to me. Adding Ben and Jak e Sullivan

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:05 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Vietor, Tommy; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Scott Shane

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From: Reines, Philippe I <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:26 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy
Cc: Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: TXPT: POTUS @ State

Guys, here's the transcript of the President's remarks here at State. The Secretary is sending an email to the entire Department, and she'd like to share what he said by including it. To be clear, it's not going anywhere you don't want it to go. So when you have a minute let us know what you think.

PRESIDENT OBAMA AND SECRETARY CLINTON
AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT
September 12, 2012
Washington, D.C.

SECRETARY CLINTON: (In progress) IRM, the work that they have done in the last day on behalf of our office in Benghazi and our mission in Tripoli. The President is well aware of the sacrifice and service that our diplomats and development experts provide for our nation every single day. When something like this happens, it just throws into high relief the sacrifice and risk that so many of you and colleagues of ours around the world take every single day. And it was very gracious and very welcome for the President to ask to come over and personally say a few words on be half not only of himself and our government but our country.

Mr. President, it means a great deal to us to have you here. We are deeply honored. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT OBAMA: Obviously, the first thing that I want to say, and what we all feel, is dee p sorrow over the loss of Chris and Sean. Some of you knew them well. Some of you worked with them closely and were inspired by them. And there's not much that I'm going to be able to say that quells the grief that all of you feel right now, thoughts an d prayers are with their families.

But what I can say is that had it not been for Chris's courage and his vision, his recognition of the stakes that existed last year when Benghazi was on the brink of being overrun, it's not clear that those of us who were a little higher up off the ground would have made the difficult political decisions that we made in order to save Benghazi and ultimately provide Libyan's with the opportunity to determine their own destiny. And in some ways, that's a microcosm of Chr is' courage, his vision, his willingness to engage on the ground in very difficult circumstances. That's a microcosm of what all of you guys do each and every day.

Some of you know that I spent a lot of years overseas when I was a kid. And there's no doubt that that's shaped my perspective on the world and our place in it, and not always in the ways that some of my opponents describe, but it shaped it nevertheless. And what I know has always been one of America's greatest gifts to the world, one of our greatest traits as a people, is the fact that we're not made up of a single tribe, a single religion or a single race, but we're this collection of scribers and dreamers, people from all around the world who came here because we all agreed on a creed, on a set of principles – the idea that all men and women are created equal, that we're all endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights – that these aren't just American rights, they're not just Western rights; they are aspirations that people in the smallest village in Libya or in the most prosperous cities in Europe all believe in and care about, and that part of our task is to make sure that the way we project power as the greatest nation on Earth is consistent with those values.

We do so with humility, and we do so understanding that we can't control the shape of events everywhere and that it's not our job to dictate other people's forms of government. But it is this belief that those values that make us who we are have to be part and parcel of how we operate in the world.

And Chris and Sean, I think, represent the very best of that tradition – people who were realistic but also idealistic; people who understood how hard it is to bring about change, but who weren't daunted by the task and were willing to put their shoulder behind the wheel to move history in a better direction.

So I could not be prouder of them. But I also understand that all of you, with your own capacities and in your own ways, are carrying out that same tradition each and every day. And as a consequence of what you do, America is safer, America is more respected, America is more secure.

Are there risks in that approach? There are risks when somebody like Chris ventures out from the compound and takes the risk to his own security so that he can engage with people in circumstances that are still pretty volatile. There are risks when our diplomats are going to volunteer for posts that they know pose a risk to their person.

The fact that Chris and Sean were willing to take those risks, the fact that many of you are willing to take those risks is not only commendable, it's absolutely vital to us continuing to be a (inaudible) and it's vital for us to be safer. Because the one thing that I'm absolutely confident about is that when we lead with our values, we lead with our ideas, and we don't shy away from the world, and we're not consumed by cynicism, but the belief that we can make things a little bit better. But when we embrace that, then we're securing a better future for our kids and our grandkids and all those Americans to come.

So I hope that alongside your sorrow today, all of you also take a moment to reflect on how important your work is and to remind yourselves that it's not that often in life where you're allowed to really make a difference, where you're put in a position where what you do matters, that changes lives. It may be the difference as to whether a child gets something to eat. It may make the difference in terms of whether a political prisoner is freed. It may make a difference in terms of whether or not a country shifts towards democracy. It may make a difference in whether or not Americans are welcome as they travel to places around the world.

What you guys do every day matters deeply. And so on days like this, it's a good moment for us to step back and say all the frustrations, the setbacks, the dealings with your own internal bureaucracies, the plans that go awry, that all that stuff somehow is worth it, and that the reason you got into this business in the first place is because although there are a lot of reasons to be cynical about the world, there are more reasons to be hopeful about it.

I know everybody who knew Chris understood that that was who he was. He loved what he did, and he was excited about it, and he knew that it was going to make a difference. And you could see it. And I know Sean felt the same way. And I know most of you who got into this business did so because you feel that same way.

So this is a setback today, and part of our family has been lost. But don't lose that sense of hopefulness. Don't lose that sense that somehow the world is not (inaudible) our better selves. If we work hard enough and smart enough, then over time we move the world in a better direction. And it's not going to happen unless you guys retain that sense – and it can't come from anywhere else because there's no other country on Earth that thinks quite in that same way.

We are still the one indispensable power, and the reason is because of the spirit of people like Chris and Sean and because of you. Don't lose that. And I hope that if you can take away one single thing from this tragedy, that it's we're going to redouble our efforts and strengthen our resolve. I know that's how your boss, the Secretary of State thinks of it because nobody's been in the thick of things longer or seen greater reason to be cynical. And nobody, behind the tough exterior, still possesses that sense of hopefulness and idealism as much as our Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

So take something from her example. Take heart that no matter how difficult this particular day is, what you guys are doing every single day is making the world better. I thank you for it and the American people thank you for it as well. (Applause.)

# # #

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

SCB 000136

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:59 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin L
Subject: FW: eDepartment Notice for 9/12/2012

Importance: High

Very thoughtful.

Proclamation by The President: Honoring the Victims of the Attack in Benghazi, Libya

In accordance with the following presidential proclamation, flags will be flown at half -staff until sunset, Sunday, September 16, 2012:

"As a mark of respect for the memory of John Christopher Stevens, United States Ambassador to Libya, and American personnel killed in the senseless attack on our diplomatic facility in Benghazi, by the authority vested in me as President of the United Stat es by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, I hereby order that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half -staff at the White House and upon all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions until sunset, September 16, 2012. I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half -staff for the same length of time at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations."

From: eDepartment Notices
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:00 PM
To: Domestic State Employees
Subject: eDepartment Notice for 9/12/2012
Importance: High

Department Notices And Announcements

Publish a Notice | Archives | Feedback Wednesday, September 12, 2012

Today's Department Notice:

- Proclamation by The President: Honoring the Victims of the Attack in Benghazi, Libya

Published by the Bureau of Administration's
Global Publishing Solutions
[redacted]
Message #3059

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:09 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; 'SullivanJJ [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Deepest condolences

Great idea. Was supposed to be something in benghazi today but didn't hear if it happened. Asma is the right channel for this kind of messaging coordination.

Jake, could S call abu shagur who was elected pm tonight, reinforcing the points potus will make to magariaf? We know abu shagur well (he's also an american) and he liked chris a lot. Think burns met him here in june. He was backed by the anti-jibril crowd, meaning mb + strong independents.

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:02 PM
To: 'Sullivan, Jacob J' <[redacted]>; [redacted] (PA) <[redacted]>
Cc: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Deepest condolences

A smarter way of saying what I was suggesting.

From: Sullivan, Jacob J [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:02 PM
To: [redacted] (PA); Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Cc: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Deepest condolences

This may be silly, or it may already be happening, but I think it wo uld be great if the Libyans organized a big event to honor him.

From: [redacted] (PA)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:54 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; 'Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted] <[redacted]>
Cc: 'Benjamin_I._Fishman [redacted] <[redacted]>
Subject: Fw: Deepest condolences

This is from the daughter of the Libyan GNC president. Ben Fishman introduced us, a lovely and impressive woman. Anything we want me to reinforce in my response?

From: Asma Magariaf [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:40 PM
To: [redacted] (PA)
Subject: Deepest condolences

Good evening [redacted],

This is Asma Magariaf. I wanted to email you to express my deepest condolences regarding the death of your friend, and Libya's friend the late Christ Stevens. I do not exaggerate by s aying that many Libyans are extremely saddened by the tragic and unfortunate events of last night. I know you and Chris were close friends and I was looking forward to meeting him. I am sure this is a very difficult time for you, but I wanted to assure you that we are doing everything in our power to bring to justice those responsible for his death.

Asma

SCB 000137

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:01 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: eDepartment Notice for 9/12/2012

Yes. I had no idea!

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:59 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
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Very thoughtful.

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Importance: High

Department Notices And Announcements

Publish a Notice | Archives | Feedback Wednesday, September 12, 2012

Today's Department Notice:

SCB 000138

Department Notices And Announcements

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Published by the Bureau of Administration's
Global Publishing Solutions
[redacted]
Message #3059

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:12 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] (PA)
Subject: Re: Deepest condolences

Let me work on the Abu Shagour call tomorrow. Is he all right?

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:08 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J. <[redacted]>; Sullivan, Jacob J; [redacted] (PA)
Subject: Re: Deepest condolences

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From: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:14 PM
To: 'Reines, Philippe I'; Vietor, Tommy
Cc: Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: RE: TXPT: POTUS @ State

This is extraordinary. Even more because he had zero – zilch – prepared remarks or points. This is a great window into the guy Tommy and I have worked for over so many years (more for Tommy).

We'll get back to you shortly on sharing.

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September 12, 2012
Washington, D.C.

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Mr. President, it means a great deal to us to have you here. We are deeply honored. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT OBAMA: Obviously, the first thing that I want to say, and what we all feel, is deep sorrow over the loss of Chris and Sean. Some of you knew them well. Some of you worked with them closely and were inspired by them. And there's not much that I'm going to be able to say that quells the grief that all of you feel right now, thoughts and prayers are with their families.

But what I can say is that had it not been for Chris's courage and his vision, his recognition of the stakes that existed last year when Benghazi was on the brink of being overrun, it's not clear that those of us who were a little higher up off the ground would have made the difficult political decisions that we made in order to save Benghazi and ultimately provide Libyan's with the opportunity to determine their own destiny. And in some ways, that's a microcosm of Chris' courage, his vision, his willingness to engage on the ground in very difficult circumstances. That's a microcosm of what all of you guys do each and every day.

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opponents describe, but it shaped it nevertheless. And what I know has always been one of America's greatest gifts to the world, one of our greatest traits as a people, is the fact that we're not made up of a single tribe, a single religion or a single r ace, but we're this collection of scribers and dreamers, people from all around the world who came here because we all agreed on a creed, on a set of principles – the idea that all men and women are created equal, that we're all endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights – that these aren't just American rights, they're not just Western rights; they are aspirations that people in the smallest village in Libya or in the most prosperous cities in Europe all believe in and care about, and that part of our task is to make sure that the way we project power as the greatest nation on Earth is consistent with those values.

We do so with humility, and we do so understanding that we can't control the shape of events everywhere and that it's not our job to dictate other people's forms of government. But it is this belief that those values that make us who we are have to be part and parcel of how we operate in the world.

And Chris and Sean, I think, represent the very best of that tradition – people who were realistic but also idealistic; people who understood how hard it is to bring about change, but who weren't daunted by the task and were willing to put their shoulder behind the wheel to move history in a better direction.

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Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:15 PM
To: 'Reines, Philippe I'; Vietor, Tommy
Cc: 'Sullivan, Jacob J'
Subject: RE: TXPT: POTUS @ State

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So I could not be prouder of them. But I also understand that all of you, with your own capacities and in your own ways, are carrying out that same tradition each and every day. And as a consequence of what you do, America is safer, America is more respected, America is more secure.

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So I hope that alongside your sorrow today, all of you also take a moment to reflect on how important your work is and to remind yourselves that it's not that often in life where you're allowed to really make a difference, where you're put in a position where what you do matters, that changes lives. It may be the difference as to whether a child gets something to eat. It may make the difference in terms of whether a political prisoner is freed. It may make a difference in terms of whether or not a country shifts towards democracy. It may make a difference in whether or not Americans are welcome as they travel to places around the world.

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# # #

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:21 PM
To: 'reinesp[redacted]; Vietor, Tommy
Cc: 'SullivanJJ[redacted]
Subject: Re: TXPT: POTUS @ State

Sld be "strivers" vice "scribers"

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:14 PM
To: 'Reines, Philippe I' <[redacted]>; Vietor, Tommy
Cc: 'Sullivan, Jacob J' <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: TXPT: POTUS @ State

Good to share with your workforce. Thanks for checking.

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Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:14 PM
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Cc: Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: RE: TXPT: POTUS @ State

This is extraordinary. Even mor e because he had zero – zilch – prepared remarks or points. This is a great window into the guy Tommy and I have worked for over so many years (more for Tommy).

We'll get back to you shortly on sharing.

From: Reines, Philippe I [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:26 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy
Cc: Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: TXPT: POTUS @ State

Guys, here's the transcript of the President's remarks here at Stat e. The Secretary is sending an email to the entire Department, and she'd like to share what he said by including it. To be clear, it's not going anywhere you don't want it to go. So when you have a minute let us know what you think.

PRESIDENT OBAMA AND SECRETARY CLINTON
AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT
September 12, 2012
Washington, D.C.

SECRETARY CLINTON: (In progress) IRM, the work that they have done in the last day on behalf of our office in Benghazi and our mission in Tripoli. The President is well aware of the sacrifice and service that our diplomats and development experts provide for our nation every single day. When something like this happens, it just throws into high relief the sacrifice and risk that so many of you and c olleagues of ours around the world take every single day. And it was very gracious and very welcome for the President to

ask to come over and personally say a few words on behalf not only of himself and our government but our country.

Mr. President, it means a great deal to us to have you here. We are deeply honored. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT OBAMA: Obviously, the first thing that I want to say, and what we all feel, is deep sorrow over the loss of Chris and Sean. Some of you knew them well. Some of you worked with them closely and were inspired by them. And there's not much that I'm going to be able to say that quells the grief that all of you feel right now, thoughts and prayers are with their families.

But what I can say is that had it not been for Chris's courage and his vision, his recognition of the stakes that existed last year when Benghazi was on the brink of being overrun, it's not clear that those of us who were a little higher up off the ground would have made the difficult political dec isions that we made in order to save Benghazi and ultimately provide Libyan's with the opportunity to determine their own destiny. And in some ways, that's a microcosm of Chris' courage, his vision, his willingness to engage on the ground in very difficult circumstances. That's a microcosm of what all of you guys do each and every day.

Some of you know that I spent a lot of years overseas when I was a kid. And there's no doubt that that's shaped my perspective on the world and our place in it, and not a lways in the ways that some of my opponents describe, but it shaped it nevertheless. And what I know has always been one of America's greatest gifts to the world, one of our greatest traits as a people, is the fact that we're not made up of a single tribe, a single religion or a single race, but we're this collection of scribers and dreamers, people from all around the world who came here because we all agreed on a creed, on a set of principles – the idea that all men and women are created equal, that we'r e all endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights – that these aren't just American rights, they're not just Western rights; they are aspirations that people in the smallest village in Libya or in the most prosperous cities in Europe all believe in and care about, and that part of our task is to make sure that the way we project power as the greatest nation on Earth is consistent with those values.

We do so with humility, and we do so understanding that we can't control the shape of events everywhere and that it's not our job to dictate other people's forms of government. But it is this belief that those values that make us who we are have to be part and parcel of how we operate in the world.

And Chris and Sean, I think, represent the very best of that tradition – people who were realistic but also idealistic; people who understood how hard it is to bring about change, but who weren't daunted by the task and were willing to put their shoulder behind the wheel to move history in a better direction.

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# # #

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:30 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Reines, Philippe I; Vietor, Tommy
Subject: Re: TXPT: POTUS @ State

We like scribers better.

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:20 PM
To: Reines, Philippe I; NSC Deputy Press Secretary
Cc: Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Re: TXPT: POTUS @ State

Sld be "strivers" vice "scribers"

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:14 PM
To: 'Reines, Philippe I' <[redacted]>; Vietor, Tommy
Cc: 'Sullivan, Jacob J' <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: TXPT: POTUS @ State

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To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy
Cc: Sullivan, Jacob J
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AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT
September 12, 2012

Washington, D.C.

SECRETARY CLINTON: (In progress) IRM, the work that they have done in the last day on behalf of our office in Benghazi and our mission in Tripoli. The President is well aware of the sacrifice and service that our diplomats and development experts provide for our nation every single day. When something like this happens, it just throws into high relief the sacrifice and risk that so many of you and colleague s of ours around the world take every single day. And it was very gracious and very welcome for the President to ask to come over and personally say a few words on behalf not only of himself and our government but our country.

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# # #

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted](DPCC) <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:33 PM
To: [redacted](DPCC)
Subject: Floor Activity | 4:00pm-to-9:30pm

MURRAY—**Responds to Coburn Statement on Opposition to S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act:** I come to the floor today to respond to the statements that were made earlier that are completely inaccurate about the bill that we are currently considering. I **want to respond to the baseless and frankly offensive charges that the Sen. from OK made saying supporters of this bill don't "really care about veterans and that this bill isn't about veterans." The accusations leveled on the floor earlier were one of the biggest departures from the spirit of cooperation around veterans' issues that I have seen in my time in the Senate.** The truth is that what the Sen. from OK calls a charade is an effort to give those veterans as many avenues as possible to find work. We h ave over 720,000 unemployed veterans across the nation, including 225,000 veterans who served since 9/11. This bill makes the resources available to all of them. That is exactly why we brought this bill forward. Over the last 48 hours, we have heard that R s, including Burr has an alternative version of the bill that Rs wanted to push forward. It appeared to all of us that this late alternative might der ail what I believe can be and ought to be a bipartisan effort. **We are committed to making this a bipartisa n effort. This is a bill that is paid for with offsets that both Rs and Ds have supported. I know some Rs have pointed to the calendar as the reason for their opposition to this bill —I wish it weren't September. Here's the issue —nearly 1M unemployed veterans are looking for work today.**

KLOBUCHAR-- **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three American Personnel:** I join all of American, not only in condemning these attacks, but in also sending my prayers and thoughts to the families of those killed by these senseless and horrific acts of violence.

KLOBUCHAR-- **Support of S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act:** When they [troops] signed up to serve, there wasn't a waiting line, there's an understanding when they come home to the USA, when they need a job or health care or an education, there should never be a waiting line in this country. The Veterans Jobs Corps Act is all about ensuring our veterans, ensuring them the training and opportunities they need to find good -paying jobs and strengthening our nation in the froes. MN has always been a state that understands the debt we owe to the men and women who have served and sacrificed for us. I call on all of my colleagues to vote for this bill and to take a step towards fulfilling that debt.

SESSIONS—**States Intent to Raise Budget Point of Order Against S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act:** I am not speaking about the intent of this bill, whether it can be done effectively, but as RM of the Budget Committee, I have to point that this bill violates the budget…and it's typical of the reason this gov't is on a unsustainable financial path. **My staff has worked on it and h as confirmed that there is 302 -F Budget Point of Order against this Veterans Jobs Corps Act and the manager's amdt, and I'm confident that if and when it's raised —that the parliamentarian will agree.** So what this new bill, with good purpose does, is spend a billion dollars more than we agreed to spend. I intend to offer that amdt. We need to be honest with the American people, the President of the US should be objecting to this kind of stuff. He should say no, you can't play that game. **The Majority Leader, Senator Reid, should be saying no, that's a manipulation, the Budget Chairman, Senator Conrad, ought to say no, it violates the Budget Act. Senator Burr's alternative piece of legislation that would do much the same thing is an honest piece of legislation . It does not violate the Budget Act and it is not subject to a budget point of order.** This gov't is mismanaged, it's out of control and we've got a Chief Executive who spends every day getting on an airplane going somewhere to make a speech. What we need is somebody in the shop managing the taxpayers' money . **This bill violates the budget, it violates sounds principles of financial policy, it contains a major gimmick, really a bogus allocation of over $300M that claims to exist that does not exist at all.**

ROLL CALL VOTE—MTP to S. 3547, Veterans jobs Corps Act of 2012; MTP is Agreed to

YEAs: 84

NAYs: 8
(Rs: Blunt, Coburn, Inhofe, Paul, Lee, Sessions, DeMint, Johnson (WI))

REID—Wrap Up:

REID—**R Obstructionism; Tentative Schedule on Votes:** Now that the Senate has finally adopted the MTP, we've brought to a close the 380th filibuster during my time as Majority Leader. Just not to start to bring debate to a close on the Veterans Jobs bill itself I've had to file the 381st cloture petition during my 5.5 years as Leader. That's 381 cloture motions filed in just six years. We just finished 30 hours of nothing standing around looking at each other. The level of R obstructionism has increased dramatically. **A veterans jobs bill, does that deserve a fight? One R Senator is insisting on a vote on something relating to Pakistan. Another Senator has filed a right -to-work amdt. And yet another R Senator has filed the DoD Auth bill as an amdt to this bill.If we can reach agreement on this, however, I don't have much hope, but I guess I am always hopeful.** In the meantime, I'll do what I need to do to ensure that the Senate can vote on this important measure. We have to wait two days for this to ripen. **We're going to come in shortly after midnight tomorrow night, we're going to vote on this. And then the 30 hours can start running then and then we'll vote Saturday again.**

PAUL—**Asks UC to Call up Amdts Halting All Aid to Pakistan, Libya, and Egypt:** Where to start? What a charade and what a farce? The Maj. are filibuster ing their own bills. Pakistan tortures the man who helped American get OBL and we do nothing. I've asked for 15 minutes to vote on this issue. No one's obstructing this for any sort of personal vendetta. We are saddened by the assassination of Amb. Stevens and his fellow workers and we are appalled by the lack of protection for our embassies by our supposed allied. I have two amdts I wish to call down -first, not one penny should be sent to Libya until the assassins are delivered to justice. Not one penny go to Egypt until they guarantee the safety and protection of our embassies. Second, not one more penny go to Pakistan until the doctor who helped us get OBL is freed. I do think because it's important our allied act like allies .

RIED—**I object.** The Sen. said there is no imput from the minority, but the substitute amdt we're going to vote on in the next day or two before us has numerous provisions authored by Senate Rs. I respect the Sen. from Ky's interest in the relations with Pakistan, Egypt, and Libya. **I understand how the Senate operates —I just think that my friend from KY maybe should have run for Sec. of State rather than the Senate.**

From: [redacted] (DPCC)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [redacted] (DPCC)
Subject: Floor Activity | 1:00pm-to-4:00pm

Consideration on the MTP to S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act:

LAUTENBERG–**Ryan Budget:** The Republican nominee for Vice President, Paul Ryan, is known for his budget proposals. We have to look at them squarely and decide what's reliable, true, or fiction. **Those proposals cut taxes for the rich, raise taxes on the middle class while abandoning the sick, the poor, and our children. Ryan budget can only be good for one small group of Americans, the wealthiest.** Under the Ryan Budget, 200,000 preschool children would be kicked out of Head Start programs by 2014. College students today have debt of $50k-$100k-so why would anyone want to put obstacles in front of young people seeking an education? Only if it would be personally beneficial to them. **Ryan's proposal does not offer a helping hand to this generation of students, instead the Republican proposal closes the door in their faces** . Ryan Budget will cut funds for those dependent on healthcare programs, negatively affecting sick children and seniors. **If vouchers cannot cover care for seniors then Republicans will say too bad, giving them a voucher not a guarantee. Mitt Romney calls this budget "marvelous" and the budget was**

passed the House by Republicans. We should be deeply disturbed. This budget increases the burden on the middle class. **Paul Ryan and his running mate offer the same prescriptio n: tax cuts for the rich and austerity.**

LAUTENBERG-- **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three American Personnel:** I have to pay my respects to Ambassador Chris Steven's family and to note the four American heroes murdered yesterday at the American Embassy in Benghazi, Libya. My deepest condolences are with their families at this time.

McCAIN— **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three American Personnel; America Should Not Turn Backs on Libya, Arab Spring:** Our most urgent or der of business now is to ensure our citizens in Libya and Egypt and elsewhere across the world are safe. Americans look to the gov't in Libya and Egypt and elsewhere to meet their responsibilities in this regard. We also look to the Libyan gov't to ensure that those responsible for yesterday's attack in Benghazi are swiftly brought to justice. Yesterday's attacks are an important reminder so many of American civilians and diplomats and development professionals are risking everything to advance our nation' s interests and values abroad. We must do everything in our power to ensure their security. I'm not surprised that senior Libyan leaders were among the first to condemn the horrific attack that killed Chris Stevens and his colleagues, and that's why I am was not surprised to learn from our Sec. of State that many Libyans fought to defend our people and our consulate. It was Libyans who sought to get Chris and his colleagues to hospital. I know many Americans are asking whether the US was naïve or mistaken to support the vast movement for change that cell phone as the Arab Spring. **I know many Americans may feel a temptation especially with so many domestic and economic challenges facing us here at home, to distance ourselves from people and events in Libya a nd Egypt and elsewhere in the ME. We cannot afford to go down that path. We were right to take the side of the Libyan people and others in the religious who share their peaceful aspirations and we would be gravely mistaken to walk away from them now.**

LIEBERMAN— **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three American Personnel; America Should Not Turn Backs on Libya, Arab Spring:** I associate myself with McCain's statement. **It was no accident that these violent extremists launched this attack on th e American consulate in Benghazi on 9/11.** We will not let these violence extremists who killed Stevens yesterday in Benghazi succeed in dividing American and the West from Muslims and the Arab World. What is clear is that these attackers have to be apprehe nded and must be punished. **We look now to the Libyan gov't to act swiftly and decisively and to our own gov't to provide the Libyans whatever support they need to find the attacks and killers. I know there will be some who will be tempted to argue that it shows that America's support for the Libyan revolution was naïve or mistaken, that the Arab Spring will ultimately be defined not by a desire for democracy and freedom among the people of the ME and Arab world, but buy the dark fanaticism of al Qaeda and its associates and US should give up trying to support people in this part of the world and instead retrench back here at tome. That would be terribly wrong.**

GRAHAM-- **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three American Personnel; America Should Not Turn Backs on Libya, Arab Spring:** I don't think most Americans can ever appreciate the leadership that Chris Stevens provided in Libya and throughout the world at a time when we needed it the most. American lost one of her greatest diplomats. **I can say don't compound this tragedy.** The worst possible outcome is to take the death of this wonderful, noble man and use it as an excuse to withdraw from the region and ret urn it to the extremists who killed him.

McCain—Lieberman Colloquy on Necessity for Continuous Support of Libyan Freedom & Arab Spring:

McCAIN—I'd also like to emphasize, there was four brave Americans, Shawn Smith was one of them. Would it be the worst legacy of Chris Stevens service would be a movement of the US to withdraw and renounce our service to the world in helping these countries achieve the same democracy our Forefathers strived for?

LIEBERMAN—It would dishonor the service of Stevens and three others—if their murders by these extremists led us to retrench and pull out of Libya. It would also be the fondest hope of the attackers, the extremists. **I can almost hear Chris Steven's saying-'come on, get up-stay in the fight-don't surrender to t he crazies, fanatics. Stand with the overwhelming majority, with the people of Libya who just want a better future for themselves and their families.**

McCAIN —It was moderate group who were elected to govern Libya, but the people of Libya. Stevens was rec ognized by all of them.

ROCKEFELLER— **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three American Personnel:** I join to condem the senseless, horrible attack at the US consulate in Libya and pay tribute to the four Americans who were killed. This cowardly attack is a setback, but it will not stop us from our mission of promoting freedom and democracy for the people of Libya, and it should not.

ROCKEFELLER— **Support of S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act:** When you have so many brave service members, men and women, who do this, we need to pay attention to them when they come home. Critical rhetoric and partisan ship have no business in delaying efforts to help our veterans. They did not delay or decline when we called them for deployment, so we should delay now. I **don't know what's going to happen to the budget, but it's not going to be rosy and happy, we need to have all those jobs which help protect us and keep us safe in play for our veterans and for others too.** The legislation would provide veterans in rural areas like WV and Oregon with greater access to career specialists to help them write resumes and prepare for interviews, basic things and therefore, to find jobs. I especially thank Leader Reid and Chairwoman Murray for working with me to protect WV as part of this bill. I hope we can quickly move this bill through the Congress.

From: [redacted] (DPCC)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:02 PM
To: [redacted] (DPCC)
Subject: Floor Activity | 9:45am-to-1:00pm

Consideration on the MTP to S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act:

CORKER— **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three American Personnel:** This is a great nation, and people like those individuals demonstrate American exceptionalism all around the world, and **that's why it saddens me to come down here today and on the eve of hearing about whether the Federal Reserve is going to decide tomorrow whether they are going to print more money or not. I look at what's happening on both look at what's happening on both sides of the Atlantic with central bankers printing money to buy debt of great nations, nations that have evolved, they are sophisticated, they are democracies.** They have paved the way for other cultures to evolve and develop economically themselves, and yet we wake up in a world where because politicians in Europe and politicians here in the United States of America have not risen up and dealt with the fiscal issues within their own countries, the central bankers are left in a situation where they are printing money and buying debt in order to move a crisis further away from the day we now live in **. I know that the Maj. Leader talked about negotiations that are taking place regarding sequester, and I know that everybody in this body has been involved in some meeting of some kind to deal with the fiscal issues that our nation deals with, and I realize that over the next 60 days, there is likely nothing that we as a body are going to do.** I'm saddened today about the news of some wonderful public servants having lost their lives. **What I hope is going to happen in this body, Rs and Ds alike, is that we will honor the sacrifices that we honored yesterday and we today solemnly think about, that we're going to honor the sacrifices that people make around the world on our behalf to keep us free and safe and that we as a body, Rs and Ds are going to rise up and do the things that we need to do to put in place a real finance reform package, that we will noy rely upon the sugar of the Federal Reserve but that we will do the things we need to do create a sustained economy.**

MARK UDALL— **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three American Personnel:** I think all of us in the Senate should adhere to the concept of politics should cease at the water's edge. I hope in this terrible verged that philosophy will hold fast, and I along with all Coloradans absolutely condemn the murders of Amb. Stevens and others US State Dep't personnel today in Libya. We salute the service and sacrifice of all those who were taken from us today and their families are in our thoughts and prayers .

MARK UDALL—**Extend Wind PTC:** While I was back home in my home state of CO for the August work period, I saw firsthand the effects, the very positive effects that wind energy has had on my state. But I also saw the sobering effects of our inaction, Congressional inaction, which only st rengthened my resolve to extend the PTC. I saw the negative effects of our failure to renew the wind PTC –Vestis Wind Systems announced layoffs last month affecting 2,300 workers worldwide who are manufacturing the turbines themselves. Every state in this nation has a stake in this crucial wind industry space. NC, like a lot of states, has seen a tremendous growth in its wind manufacturing facilities in NC that provide jobs to their local communities. The PPG Industries is a major supplier of fiberglass to the wind industry, and there are hundreds of jobs linked to its activities. The bad news is that the wind industry in NC, because of their anticipating expiration, they are beginning to downsize and shelf expansion plans. **A little bit of good news is that the SFC passed a bipartisan tax extenders package and it did include an extension of the PTC. I want to see the Senate take up the SFC's legislation immediately and pass it immediately.**

MIKULSKI-- **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three Am erican Personnel:** When I woke up this morning, I woke up to terrible news that our Amb. In Libya has been killed by a mob. We lost Amb. Stevens and three others at the American Embassy in Libya. I'm at a little bit of a loss for words because these tragedi es that to our men and women who serve at our Embassy happen all too frequently, and then we say a grateful nation never forgets, and then we go on to bash our federal employees and State people saying 'they have these cushy jobs in exotic places and must be out eating brie somewhere.' **We must continue our strong partnership with Libya, but I call upon the new leadership to call for calm, tolerance, call for your angry. When we talk about standing up for our military now in these tough budget times, absolut ely we should. But remember there are other overseas who also carry our flag in very dangerous areas. So, let's start respecting the people who work for our gov't.**

MIKULSKI—**50th Anniversary of President Kennedy's 'Moon Speech':** For 50 years, American cont inues to lead the way in space and to keep space a peaceful area, not to militarize space, not to colonize it for a single country, but to explore. We need to continue to broaden our reach, to go beyond low earth orbit and to also continue research. New technologies don't just happen, they come from American ingenuity, but they are built on investments. I'm proud of what President Kennedy announces, but here in the body, two people teamed up to make one person in this body and the other a VP—it was an odd couple—their names were VP Johnson and Margaret Chase Smith. It's a wonderful story that we need to take with us, that when we work together with our President, when both parties work across the aisle, that's the new frontier, the new frontier that keeps Am erican an exceptional nation.

FRANKEN—**Support of S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act:** I rise to express my strong support for the Veterans Job Corps Act. Veterans have done so much for our country, serving courageously in the military and, they have been tested so profoundly and so many times in past decade. **When I talk to veterans in MN these days, the thing I hear most about is jobs, about employment. My message to employers in MN is simple. These are the people you want to hire. They've got the skills, they've got the discipline.** We all have a role to play in making sure veterans have jobs. Under this bill, veterans will have the opportunity to restore and protect parks and forests and other public lands, whether they b e national, state or tribal. Vetera ns will be hired to maintain the infrastructure and facilities on these public lands, the bill will also provide funding for veterans to become firefighters and law enforcement officers. It is my strong hope that we will be able to bring debate on this bil l to a close, pass it, and have it enacted into law. Our nation's veterans deserve nothing less.

COBURN—**Oppose S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act:** I must say, here we go again-what we're doing today is under auspices of helping returning veterans get job s. And there's nothing wrong with wanting to do that, and there's not wrong with trying to pay for it. **My contention is that what we're really doing is passing a bill for political reasons that's not going anywhere in the House so we can say we did things. This bill has had no hearings, no Committee work, and essentially has had no debate until today despite the fact that it's going to affect six different federal agencies, at a minimum.** What's really happening here is that we're playing the political elect ion card to say, how could anybody oppose a veterans' job corps? **The real question ought to be asked is, how callous to put forth a political bill that may or may not work-we have no idea-for purely purposes for an election without looking at the whole**

veterans' job program? There's not going to be any Congressional oversight on this. **We're highly effective at training people to the jobs that are available, but not very good with federal dollars when it comes to training people with a life skill to keep them employed.** I understand that Burr's recommendations are going to be incorporated. His puts them in line for a career, not a temporary job. Which shows you the lack of thinking, **because here's the RM on VA and he couldn't get a hearing, didn't have a marku p. The bill already violated the BCA allocation for federal affairs funding.** As with the Veterans Caregiver bill in 2009, this is a blatant discrimination against other veterans. One class of veterans is better than other class of veterans? We're blatantly discriminating against veterans who served before 9/11. Instead of measuring what works, measuring what we're doing, we're going to create another program. When it comes to five years, what'll happen? **Whether it works or not, nobody will vote against not extending a veterans program, will they? How could you be against veterans?** We won't do the hard work of having committee hearings, we won't do the oversight, we won't even change this bill to make sure it has absolute metrics on what it's doing. **Why are we going to fill the tree and not allow the process that our Founders designated to work so that all ideas could be considered? No, this is a political exercise. I'm going to call it what it is -this isn't about veterans, this is about politicians.**

BLUMENTHAL— **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three American Personnel:** Like many of my colleagues, I am outraged and saddened by the brutal murder of four courageous Americans in a cowardly, unconscionable attack on the US consulate in Libya. Their family's thoughts are in my prayers. **The cowardly attacks on these patriots should not deter the people of Libya from moving forward. Neither should it deter us from working together with others abroad who have a common interest in tolerance, freedom of speech, and democracy.** I'd like to commend President Obama and Sec. Clinton for their immediate response of this situation.

BLUMENTHAL—**DREAM Act:** Our immigration system right now is broken, and is in dire need of comprehensive reform. Any comprehensive immigration reform legislation must include the DREAM Act. And I believe that the DREAM Act is worthy of adoption without that comprehensive overreaching reform. I urge my colleagues to offer one of the greatest gifts, one of the greatest privileges that any one can have, which is US citizenship so that we can say to the DREAM'ers someday soon, 'my fellow Americans.'

From: [redacted] (DPCC)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:51 AM
To: [redacted] (DPCC)
Subject: Floor Activity | Opening Leader Remarks

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

LEADER REMARKS:

REID—**Schedule:** The Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act, post-cloture.

The first 70 minutes will be equally divided and controlled between the two Le aders or their designees with the Republicans controlling the first half and the Majority controlling the final half. **It's unfortunate we're having to go through another filibuster. I mentioned yesterday, for the six years we've had a D majority, there's now been 381 filibusters. During the time of Johnson, same period of time —one. That's how the obstructionism has taken place in this body on the part of Rs.**

All time during adjournment, recess, and morning business will count post -cloture on the motion to proceed to S.3457, by unanimous consent. The Senate will begin consideration of S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act on Wednesday. Senators will be notified when votes are scheduled.

Consideration on the MTP to S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act:

REID— **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three American Personnel:** I was very saddened to learn of the death of Amb. Chris Stevens and three other American personnel in an attack on the US consulate in Libya. I join President Obama in condemning these senseless acts of violence. My thoughts are with the families of those who were killed in this horrible attack it is too often forgotten that American diplomats risk thei r lives on a daily basis. Our diplomatic corps is filled with admirable and dedicated public servants, and the four Americans who lost their lives yesterday exemplified the courage and sacrifice that happens every day in diplomatic posts around the globe. **I support the President's directive to provide whatever resources are necessary to keep our personnel in Libya safe .**

REID—**Congratulates LoC Librarian on 25 Years of Service:** The LoC was established in 1800. It's the largest library in the world. For 25 years, the LoC librarian of Congress has been Dr. James Billington, a faithful and effective leader. I'm glad we were unable to slash the library's budget. It's with pleasure I congratulate Dr. Billington on 25 years of dedicated service on the Librarian of C ongress.

REID—**Responds to Speaker Boehner's Comments on Sequestration:** I was very disappointed to hear the Speaker yesterday say that he's giving up on reaching a bipartisan agreement to avoid huge cuts on both domestic and defense programs. I don't feel that way. I **can assure everyone within the sound of my voice that I haven't given up finding a reasonable balanced approach to reduce our debt and avoid these difficult cuts. I hope the Speaker will reconsider. I believe it is much too early to give up.** I urge my R colleagues not give up on themselves because I'm not going to give up on them. **I say to my friend John Boehner and to everyone else: we're willing to negotiate, cooperate, willing to make difficult cuts to program we hold dear, and I think Rs shou ld do the same.**

McCONNELL— **Condemns Attacks in Libya Killing Ambassador and Three American Personnel:** Our thoughts and sympathies are with these brave Americans. I join my colleagues in strongly condemning the murder of these innocent Americans, and **I strongly support employing every available tool at our disposal to ensure the safety of Americans overseas and to hunt down those responsible for these attacks.** Among the things we can agree on in Washington is that the attacks on the US and its representati ves will be met with resolve and that America's presence and defense of our national interests across the globe will not be deterred by the acts of violence extremists.

From: Democratic Staff Directors <[redacted]> on behalf of Mellody, Meredith (DPC)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:43 PM
To: D-SD[redacted]
Subject: Update: Schedule for Thursday, September 13, 2012

Updated with the tally of the vote today.

SCHEDULE FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2012
The Senate will convene at 10:00am on Thursday, September 13, 2012. Following the prayer and pledge, the Majority Leader will be recognized.

The first hour will be equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders or their designees with the Majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half.

During Wednesday's session, cloture was filed on the Murray sub stitute amendment #2789 to S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act and on S.3457. As a result, the filing deadline for first degree amendments to the substitute amendment and to S.3457 is 1:00pm on Thursday. Under the rule, the cloture vote(s) will be on Friday, September 14th. However, we hope to reach an agreement to have the vote(s) on Thursday.

WRAP UP FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2012
ROLL CALL VOTE
1) Motion to proceed to S.3457, the Veterans Jobs Corps Act; Agreed to: **84-8**

LEGISLATIVE ITEMS
Passed H.R.6336, an Act to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglas from the District of Columbia and to provide for the permanent display of the statue in Emancipation Hall of the U.S. Capitol.
Adopted S.Res.551, commending the four American public servants who died in Benghazi, including Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens, for their tireless efforts on behalf of the American people and condemning the violent attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi.
Adopted S.Res.552, a resolution recognizing the month of October 2012 as "National Principals Month"
Adopted S.Res.553, designating September 22, 2012, as "National Falls Prevention Awareness Day" to raise awareness and encourage the prevention of falls among older adults.

No EXECUTIVE ITEMS

Meredith Mellody
Floor Assistant to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid
http://democrats.senate.gov/floor/

From: D-ADMINISTRATION <[redacted]> on behalf of Mellody, Meredith (DPC)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:43 PM
To: D-ADMINISTRATION[redacted]
Subject: Update: Schedule for Thursday, September 13, 2012

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Meredith Mellody
Floor Assistant to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid
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To unsubscribe from the D-ADMINISTRATION list, click the following link:
&*TICKET_URL(D-ADMINISTRATION,SIGNOFF);

From: D-WHITEHOUSE <[redacted]>
on behalf of Mellody, Meredith (DPC)
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:43 PM
To: D-WHITEHOUSE[redacted]
Subject: Update: Schedule for Thursday, September 13, 2012

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Meredith Mellody
Floor Assistant to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid
http://democrats.senate.gov/floor/

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&*TICKET_URL(D-WHITEHOUSE,SIGNOFF);

SCB 000139

From: Llorens, Hugo <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:49 PM
To: [redacted] Cunningham, James B; [redacted] Kabul Front Office; Kabul Exec CDDEA Deputies; Kabul IPA Coordinator; Kabul PolMil Americans; Kabul POL Americans; Kabul Press; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] SCA-Press; Hayden, Caitlin; West, Thomas; [redacted] RC-North PRTs
Subject: RE: IPA Field Reporting -- Reaction to Events in Benghazi -- Wed 12 Sept @ 1930

Great work, [redacted] in trying to stay ahead of the potential big wave coming. I will see you in couple of hours. Best, Hugo

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:23 PM
To: [redacted]; Cunningham, James B; Llorens, Hugo; [redacted] Kabul Front Office; Kabul Exec CDDEA Deputies; Kabul IPA Coordinator; Kabul PolMil Americans; Kabul POL Americans; Kabul Press; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]; SCA-Press; 'Caitlin M Hayden [redacted]; 'Thomas W West [redacted]; RC-North PRTs
Subject: RE: IPA Field Reporting -- Reaction to Events in Benghazi -- Wed 12 Sept @ 1930

KLE on the Mohammed Movie in RC North

NOTE: I recommend watching the movie, the full length version on You Tube, to better know what we are dealing with. Unlike some of the other static events we have had to manage this will be out there for a long time and I can only see it getting progressively worse as it is watched and commented on, etc. Can't imagine how we get through Friday prayers without some show down somewhere. It would be difficult to pack more material into a 15 minutes video that incites more anger than this guy has managed to do Mohammed the pedophile, Mohammed the adulterer, Mohammed the false prophet, Mohammed the killer, Mohammed the torturer, Mohammed the serial husband, the Koran a book made up by one of the prophet's henchmen. Some of it comes across as almost soft porn, always at the prophet's expense. For once I am glad Afghanistan doesn't have greater internet penetration (although I'm sure it will be in the markets soon enough). To us it is a silly little video, but reflecting on Amin Maloof's The Crusades Through Arab Eyes, reminds that perceptions in the West and East are very, very different. This thing could just be getting started.

1. The news started to hit while we were in Faryab for the transition ceremony. We met with the head of the Provincial Council and the Head of the Ulema Council and stressed the American values issue and our respect for Islam, asking for their support to keep things under control. They said they will get the message out and appreciated that we reached out. They said they think people appreciate that these sorts of things do not represent mainstream America.

SCB 000140

2. We discussed the threat with the Deputy Minister of the Interior and other officials from Kabul. They said they appreciated the heads up and would help mitigate the risks.

3. In Mazar we called the Head of the Provincial Council, the Director of the Blue Mosque, and Governor Atta's Chief of Staff. Also discussed with the ANA Commander, ANP Commander, and ANCOP Commander. All thanked us for the heads up and said they would help explain the situation to constituents, line directors, and others. The Director of the Blue Mosque said he would pass the message to the Imams and recommended we do as much outreach as possible. (NOTE: The head of the Provincial Council was the one who incited the crowd in the April 2011 UN compound attack. We had met with him two days earlier and had coincidentally discussed the importance of helping to channel frustration with these sorts of things in a safe way).

4. I raised it at the evening BUB and the RC North Commander directed that staff get out to commanders and direct them to take the pulse of their AO tomorrow, without proactively doing KLE which ISAF has not directed them to do. He wants them to watch the situation and be ready to react as necessary by restricting movement and reinforcing compounds.

5. We will see Governor Atta tomorrow with Ambassador Llorens and will be prepared to engage press as feasible.

[redacted]
U.S. Senior Civilian Representative
Mazar e-Sharif, Afghanistan
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:50 PM
To: Cunningham, James B; Llorens, Hugo; [redacted]; Kabul Front Office; Kabul Exec CDDEA Deputies; Kabul IPA Coordinator; Kabul PolMil Americans; Kabul POL Americans; Kabul Press; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]; SCA-Press; 'Caitlin M Hayden[redacted]; 'Thomas W West[redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: IPA Field Reporting -- Reaction to Events in Benghazi -- Wed 12 Sept @ 1930

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED / FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

From the Office of Interagency Provincial Affairs (IPA)

Please find below a compilation of field reports to date covering civilian engagement with Afghan counterparts and observed local reactions regarding the events in Benghazi and Cairo of September 11, 2012.

Key Leader Engagements (KLE) and other discussions are conducted by various field units at the level of the Platform, Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) and District Support Team (DST).

IPA continues to collect reports from the field and will update this information periodically.

WEDNESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2012

SCB 000141

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- Consulate Herat convened an EAC meeting and will be watching the local reaction very carefully.
- Consul/SCR [redacted] will meet with Gov Saba later this evening to discuss.
- New provincial police chief has pledged support if needed in the next couple days to protect the Consulate.
- The Platform is concerned that some of the extremist ulama and outsiders will exploit this situation to foment the kind of violent demonstration that occurred 24 February 2012.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- The general consensus at the Platform is that when the story about the new anti -Islamic video finally hits Afghanistan, the reaction in RC-East will be severe.
- RP-E staff will rely on contacts developed in previous similar situations to help preserve calm. In the past, a radio station in Parwan worked with us to broadcast messages from local mullahs, officials and ANSF who appealed to the people for calm, which greatly helped defuse tensions. Once a message/talking points are released by the Embassy, the Platform will work with local media outlets, mullahs and community leaders in places like Parwan, Bagram and Jalalabad.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- The Platform is following the situation closely. There were no demonstrations in Kandahar today, but there is certainly concern.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

No report as of this writing.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

No report as of this writing.

Office of Interagency Provincial Affairs (IPA)
US Embassy Kabul, Afghanistan

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Vasquez, Edgar J <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:55 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: Fw: {The Cable - VIP Distribution List} Inside the public relations disaster at the Cairo embassy

You've seen?

From: Josh Rogin [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:03 PM
To: the-cable---vip-distribution-list[redacted] <[redacted]>
Subject: {The Cable - VIP Distribution List} Inside the public relations disaster at the Cairo embassy

Inside the public relations disaster at the Cairo embassy

Posted By Josh Rogin Wednesday, September 12, 2012 - 8:48 PM Share

One staffer at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo was responsible for the statemen t and tweets Tuesday that have become grist for the presidential campaign, and that staffer ignored explicit State Department instructions not to issue the statement, one U.S. officials close to the issue told *The Cable.*

Two additional administration offi cials confirmed the details of this account when contacted late Wednesday by *The Cable*.

The statement, issued as a press release on the U.S. Embassy website, has been attacked by Republi can challenger **Mitt Romney**, lawmakers, and conservatives around the country as an inappropriate "apology" and a failure to stand up for American principles such as freedom of speech.

The White House distanced itself from the statement Tuesday, and Romney criticized it directly in his initial reaction to the attacks in Egypt and Libya shortly thereafter, accusing President **Barack Obama** of evicing sympathy for the attackers.

On Wednesday, Romney doubled down on that criticism, saying, " I think it's a terrible course for America to apologize for our values."

President Obama commented on the controversy in an interview to be aired Wednesday evening on *60 Minutes*.

"In an effort to cool the situation down, it didn't come from me, it didn't come from Secretary Clinton. It came from people on the ground who are potentially in danger," Obama said. "And my tendency is t o cut folks a little

bit of slack when they're in that circumstance, rather than try to question their judgment from the comfort of a campaign office."

But Obama's remarks belie the enormous frustration of top officials at the State Department and White H ouse with the actions of the man behind the statement, Cairo senior public affairs officer **Larry Schwartz**, who wrote the release and oversees the embassy's Twitter feed, according to a detailed account of the Tuesday's events.

The official noted that the statement was posted at exactly 12:18 p.m. Cairo time -- 6:18 a.m. Washington time -- well before the protests began. Romney has said, wrongly, that the statement was the administration's first response to the protests, but the official said that the demon strations did not begin until 4 p.m. Cairo time and protesters breached the wall about 2 hours later.

After the breach, as public criticism of the statement grew, the Cairo Embassy Twitter account continued to send out tweets defending the statement, some of which were later deleted. One deleted tweet, originally posted at 12:30 a.m. Cairo Time, said, "This morning's condemnation (issued before protests began) still stands. As does condemnation of unjustified breach of the Embassy."

Before issuing the press release, Schwartz cleared it with just one person senior to himself, Deputy Chief of Mission **Marc Sievers**, who was the acting charge d'affairs at the embassy on Tuesday because Ambassador **Anne Patterson** was in Washington at the time, the official said.

Schwartz sent the statement to the State Department in Washington before publishing and the State Depar tment directed him not to post it without changes, but Schwartz posted it anyway.

"The statement was not cleared with anyone in Washington. It was sent as 'This is what we are putting out,'" the official said. "We replied and said this was not a good stat ement and that it needed major revisions. The next email we received from Embassy Cairo was 'We just put this out.'"

A heated discussion ensued among State Department and White House officials over e -mail as the controversy over the statement grew Tuesday evening, even grabbing the attention of Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton**. Meanwhile, those same officials were dealing with a more serious attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi that resulted in the death of four American officials, including Ambassad or **Chris Stevens**.

"People at the highest levels both at the State Department and at the White House were not happy with the way the statement went down. There was a lot of anger both about the process and the content," the official said. "Frankly, people here did not understand it. The statement was just tone deaf. It didn't provide adequate balance. We thought the references were inappropriate, and we strongly advised against the kind of language that talked about 'continuing efforts by misguided individu als to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims.'"

Despite being aware of Washington's objections, the embassy continued to defend the statement for several hours, fueling the controversy over it, a decision the official again attributed to Schwartz.

"Not only did they push out the statement but they continued to engage on Twitter and retweet it," the official said. "[Schwartz] would have been the one directing folks to engage on Twitter on this."

At approximately 10:30 p.m. Washington time, Clinton issued a statement on both the Libya and Egypt attacks that included a reference to religious tolerance as well as an emphasis on the administration's condemnation of the embassy attack.

"The United States deplores any intentional effort to denigrate the religi ous beliefs of others," she said. "Our commitment to religious tolerance goes back to the very beginning of our nation. But let me be clear: There is never any justification for violent acts of this kind."

Despite his disregard of Washington's instruction s and his actions throughout the day Tuesday, Schwartz has not yet been disciplined in any way and is still the lead public affairs officer at the embassy.

"He remains at post at the same capacity as he was," the official said.

The State Department decli ned to comment and a request sent to the U.S. Embassy in Cairo for comment was not immediately returned.

--
Josh Rogin
Staff Writer - The Cable
Foreign Policy Magazine
http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com
[redacted] - Mobile
[redacted]
This message and any related attachments are hereby designated as confidential communications.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:55 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: Fw: {The Cable - VIP Distribution List} Inside the public relations disaster at the Cairo embassy

You've seen?

From: Josh Rogin [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:03 PM
To: the-cable---vip-distribution-list[redacted] <[redacted]>
Subject: {The Cable - VIP Distribution List} Inside the public relations disaster at the Cairo embassy

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Staff Writer - The Cable
Foreign Policy Magazine
http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com
[redacted] - Mobile
[redacted]
This message and any related attachments are hereby designated as confidential communications.

SCB 000142

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:01 PM
To: 'Mark.Kelly[redacted]
Subject: Re: Libya: Condolences

Thanks, Mark.

From: Mark.Kelly[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:14 AM
To: [redacted] <[redacted]>; [redacted] <[redacted]>; Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted] <[redacted]>; NEA-LIBYADESK[redacted] <NEA-LIBYADESK[redacted]>
Subject: Libya: Condolences

Guys

Just wanted to send a quick email to say we are appalled by what has happened in Benghazi. Please ac cept condolences from me and my colleagues for your loss. I understand the Foreign Secretary will speak to Secretary Clinton later today to express his own condolences and underscore that HMG stands ready to offer any assistance that is needed. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if there is anything we can do here - if I'm not in the office I can be reached on my cell ([redacted]).

Mark

Mark Kelly

Mark Kelly | Foreign Security Policy Group - Middle East | British Embassy | 3100 Massachusetts Avenue, NW | Washington, D.C. | 20008 | United States of America
[redacted] ✉ [redacted] | ✉ BBerry: [redacted] |

****
Visit http://www.fco.gov.uk for British foreign policy news and travel advice and http://blogs.fco.gov.uk to read our blogs.

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All messages sent and received by members of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and its missions overseas may be automatically logged, monitored and/or recorded in accordance with the Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000.
********** **********

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:13 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: New Libyan Congressman - from [redacted]

Thanks, [redacted] Much appreciated. He was a great guy and I got back out there to see him in late July. He really loved the job.

-Ben

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Really awful day,

[redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2012 8:59 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: New Libyan Congressman - from [redacted]

Hi [redacted]

Glad you haven't lost your Arab Spring enthusiasm.

With the risk of overstatement, the Libyan election gives us grounds for rethinking the premise that a) military interventions lead to chaos and b) democratic transitions in the region empower Islamists. We were getting increasingly worried in the run-up to election day about the prospects for serious disruptive violence based on a couple of incidents in the East that targeted election materials and personnel. But with the exception of a few isolated disruptions, the election went off remarkably well. They had about 65 percent turnout, virtually no complaints about fraud or misconduct, and the parties (including the Islamists) that didn't meet expectations have accepted the results. Hard to imagine a better outcome in a country with no history of elections and zero election infrastructure. The UN did a terrific job in support and we benefited from IFES, NDI, etc.

Now, they are far from out being out of the woods, and Jibril's win doesn't necessarily equate to a sizable lead in the Congress (only 80 of the 200 seats were for parties and we still have little info on the 120 independents, though the story below I hope is emblematic). But he seems to have a mandate and the election was really a great

achievement. Every time I think the Libyans are headed toward chaos, they manage to pull back from the brink. It's a great national quality.

What continues to be an endless source of frustration is our pathetic apparatus for providing timely and effective assistance to these countries. Libya also teaches us that despite all the investments made in Iraq and Afghanistan in transition support expertise, as a government, we are not adept at supporting countries with small -scale, targeted technical assistance to help get basic ministries up and running and planning for the future. Maybe when you get tired of Moscow, you can take on that project, but I wouldn't envy you.

I've branched out from Libya and am now covering Jordan and somewhat the rest of North Africa. Seem to be in it for the long-haul despite the need at some point to get back to the PhD.

Enjoy Tunisia. Next year in Libya!

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Subject: New Libyan Congressman - from [redacted]

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If he survives the appeal period (he currently is ahead by just 70 votes), [redacted] will be a great partner and strong advocate for the U.S. in Libya. Interestingly, he said that the reputation of Libyan -Americans has been damaged in Libya as a result of disappointment with ElKeib, but he thinks there have been at least four Libyan -Americans elected to the Congress.

-Ben

From: [redacted] (Kerry) <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:15 PM
To: [redacted] (Kerry)
Subject: Lugar, Kerry Resolution Honoring Ambassador Stevens, Other Victims and Condemning Libya Violence Passes Senate Tonight

United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

WASHINGTON, DC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 12, 2012
CONTACT: Jodi Seth, (202) 487-1431

Lugar, Kerry Resolution Honoring Ambassador Stevens, Other Victims and Condemning Libya Violence Passes Senate Tonight

WASHINGTON, DC The Senate tonight passed a resolution by Senators John Kerry (D -Mass.) and Richard Lugar (R-Ind.), Chairman and Ranking Member of the Foreign Relations Committee, commending the four American public servants who died in Benghazi, Libya, including U.S. Ambassador to Libya, J. Christopher Stevens, for their tireless efforts on behalf of the American people. The resolution, S.Res.551, also condemned the violent attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi.

"The deaths of Ambassador Stevens and his team are heartbreaking. It's easy for a lot of people to forget that our diplomats are on the frontlines of the world's mos t dangerous places and they're there trying to make the world a safer and better place at great risk to themselves and their families," said Sen. Kerry today. "The violence in Cairo and Benghazi is unacceptable and unjustifiable. The stupidity of one filmm aker, no matter how offensive, is not now, and never, a rationale for violence. A despicable act like this hurts us all Americans and peaceful people who aspire to build their own democracy. President Obama has appropriately committed the United States to bringing the perpetrators of this attack to justice, and I am confident that this is precisely what the United States Government will do."

The full text of the Resolution is below:

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION
S. RES.551

Commending the 4 American publi c servants who died in Benghazi, Libya, including Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens, for their tireless efforts on behalf of the American people and condemning the violent attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 12, 2012

Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. KERRY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

RESOLUTION

Commending the 4 American public servants who died in Benghazi, Libya, including Ambas sador J. Christopher Stevens, for their tireless efforts on behalf of the American people and condemning the violent attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi.

Whereas on September 11, 2012, 4 American public servants, including United States Ambassador to Libya, John Christopher Stevens, and Sean Smith, were killed in a reprehensible and vicious attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi, Libya;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens
(1) was a courageous and exemplary representative of the United States;
(2) had spent 21 years in the Foreign Service;
(3) was deeply passionate about representing the United States through his diplomatic service; and
(4) was an ardent friend of the Libyan people;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens served as Special Envoy to the Libyan Transitional National Council in Benghazi during the 2011 Libyan revolution;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens was a dear friend of the Senate, having served on the st aff of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate in 2006 and 2007 as a distinguished Pearson Fellow;

Whereas Foreign Service Information Management Officer
Sean Smith
(1) was a husband and a father of 2 children;
(2) joined the Department of State 10 years ago; and
(3) had served in the Foreign Service, before arriving in Benghazi, in Baghdad, Pretoria, Montreal, and The Hague;

Whereas the 2 other individuals from Ambassador Stevens' team who perished in the attack made great sacrifices and showed bravery in taking on a difficult post in Libya;

Whereas the violence in Benghazi coincided with an attack on the United States Embassy in Cairo, Egypt, which was also swarmed by an angry mob of protesters on September 11, 2012;

Whereas on a daily basis, United States diplomats, military personnel, and other public servants risk their lives to serve the American people; and

Whereas throughout this Nation's history, thousands of Americans have sacrificed their lives for the ideals of freedom, democracy, and partnership with nations and people around the globe.

Now, therefore, be it *Resolved,* That the Senate

(1) recognizes the dedicated service and deep commitment of the 4 American public servants, inlcluding Ambassador John Christopher Stevens and Sean Smith, in assisting the Libyan people as they navigate the complex currents of democratic transition marked in this case by profound instability;
(2) praises Ambassador Stevens, who represented the highest tradition of American public service, for his extraordinary record of dedication to the United States' interests in some of the most difficult and dangerous posts around the globe;
(3) sends its deepest condolences to the families 14 of those American public servants killed in Benghazi;
(4) commends the bravery of Foreign Service17 Officers, United States Armed Forces, and public servants serving in harm's way around the globe and recognizes the deep sacrifices made by their families; and
(5) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the despicab le attacks on American diplomats and public servants in Benghazi and calls for the perpetrators of such attacks to be brought to justice.

###

This mailbox is not attended. Please send any inquiries to jodi_seth@kerry.senate.gov

[redacted]
Deputy Press Secretary
Senator John Kerry
[redacted]
http://kerry.senate.gov

Follow Senator Kerry on Twitter @JohnKerry
Click here to sign up for Senator Kerry's newsletter

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 11:06 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: New Libyan Congressman - from [redacted]

Ugh. So awful.

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C05872466 IED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872466 Date: 10/30/2015

~~SECRET//NOFORN//NODIS~~

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2012 Sep 12 P 7:24

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

RELEASE IN PART B6

DECAPTIONED

WATCH LOG
Wednesday, September 12, 2012
Shift II

Senior Watch Officer	:	Ms. LeMar
Watch Officer	:	Ms. Williams
Emergency Action Officers	:	Ms. Oh/Mr. Jay
Editor	:	Ms. Kazemi
Operations Specialist	:	Ms. Moore
Secure Communications	:	Mr. Simpson/Mr. Morrison
INR Officer	:	Ms. O'Neill
Military Advisor	:	[redacted]

B6

Time	Item
0730	Assumed the Watch.
0731	The Watch patched White House Chief of Staff J. Lew to the Secretary.
0733	The Watch patched Spokesperson V. Nuland, PA, to the Office of Under Secretary Kennedy, M.
0733	Upon receipt of information concerning 200 people signaling their intent to march on Embassy Khartoum, the Watch alerted: S, D(B), D (N), P, C, E, M, DG, T, R, PA, J, CSO, CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, CA/OCS, PMAT, INR, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR via electronic mail.

~~SECRET//NOFORN//NODIS~~

CLASSIFIED BY: STEPHEN D. MULL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, S/ES, DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REASONS: 1.4 B, C, D
DECLASSIFY: 30 YEARS FROM DATE OF LOG ENTRY

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872466 Date: 10/30/2015

C05872466 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872466 Date: 10/30/2015

~~SECRET//NOFORN//NODIS~~

WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 12, 2012
SHIFT: II

Time	Item
0745	The Watch patched Ms. L. Dorsey, PRM, in Adana, to Assistant Secretary A. Richard, PRM, in Istanbul.
0752	The Watch attempted to patch Assistant Secretary M. Posner, DRL, to Ms. U. Zeya, D(B), who was unavailable.
0755	ExecSec Mull telephoned the Watch with a request.
0755	The Watch patched LTG (Ret.) Lute, NSS, to Mr. D. Pearce, S/SRAP.
0802	The Watch patched Ms. Dorsey to A/S Richard.
0812	The Watch patched Chargé E. Nolan, Embassy The Hague, to Ms. E. Dibble, NEA.
0814	Assistant Secretary P. Goldberg, INR, visited the Watch.
0815	Counselor C. Mills telephoned the Watch with a request.
0821	The Watch patched Mr. P. Reines, PA, to Counselor Mills.
0824	The Watch patched Deputy Secretary Burns, in Baghdad, to Chargé G. Hicks, Embassy Tripoli.
0829	The Watch patched Ambassador A. Patterson, Embassy Cairo, in Washington, to Chargé M. Sievers, Embassy Cairo.
0834	Chargé Hicks telephoned the Watch with a request.
0840	Further to Item 0834, the Watch telephoned Chargé Hicks with a question.
0850	The Watch attempted to patch Mr. S. Lasensky, USUN/W, to Ambassador D. Shapiro, Embassy Tel Aviv, who was unavailable.
0856	The Watch patched Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan P. Lyman to Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr.

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CLASSIFIED BY: STEPHEN D. MULL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, S/ES, DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REASONS: 1.4 B, C, D
DECLASSIFY: 30 YEARS FROM DATE OF LOG ENTRY

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872466 Date: 10/30/2015

C05872466 FILED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872466 Date: 10/30/2015

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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 12, 2012
SHIFT: II

Time	Item
0919	Counselor Mills visited the Watch.
0920	The Watch patched Special Representative to Muslim Communities F. Pandith to Ms. H. Abedin, S.
0920	The Watch patched the Secretary to Embassy Tripoli, on a secure line.
0922	Counselor Mills visited the Watch.
0923	Further to Item 0920, the Watch patched Ms. Abedin to Special Representative Pandith.
0927	The Watch patched Ms. P. Butenis, SCA, to Ambassador M. Sison, Embassy Colombo.
0928	At the request of Mr. Reines, the Watch convened a conference call, including: Chargé Nolan; Mr. D. Benaim, S/P; Mr. J. Segraves, Embassy The Hague; and Mr. Reines.
0931	Counselor Mills telephoned the Watch with a request.
0944	The Watch patched Chargé Hicks to Acting Assistant Secretary B. Jones, NEA.
0944	Deputy Secretary Nides telephoned the Watch with a request.
0946	The Watch patched Mr. Reines to Under Secretary Kennedy, M.
0950	Deputy Secretary Nides telephoned the Watch with a request.
0950	The Watch patched Chargé Hicks to Acting A/S Jones.
0952	Further to Item 0950, the Watch patched Senator J. Kerry (D-MA) to Deputy Secretary Nides.
0955	The Watch patched Legal Adviser H. Koh to Mr. T. Allegra, S/ES.

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~~SECRET//NOFORN//NODIS~~

WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 12, 2012
SHIFT: II

Time	Item
0959	Upon receipt of information concerning the Secretary speaking live on major news networks, the Watch alerted: S, D(B), D(N), P, C, E, M, DG, T, R, PA, J, CSO, CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, CA/OCS, PMAT, INR, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR via electronic mail.
1012	The Watch patched Chief of Protocol C. Marshall, S/CPR, to the Office of Counselor Mills.
1013	The Watch patched Chargé Hicks to Acting A/S Jones.
1018	Deputy Secretary Nides telephoned the Watch with a request.
1021	Further to Item 1018, the Watch patched Senator L. Graham (R-SC) to Deputy Secretary Nides.
1021	The Watch patched Chargé Hicks to Acting A/S Jones.
1032	The Watch patched Ms. Abedin to Special Envoy to the Organization of the Islamic Conference R. Hussain, IO.
1033	The Watch attempted to patch Mr. Lew to Counselor Mills, who was unavailable.
1044	Upon receipt of information concerning the President speaking live on major news networks, the Watch alerted: S, D(B), D(N), P, C, E, M, DG, T, R, PA, J, CSO, CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, CA/OCS, PMAT, INR, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR via electronic mail.
1044	The Watch patched Ms. Abedin to Mr. Q. Wiktorowicz, NSS.
1053	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Chargé Sievers.
1055	The Watch attempted to patch Deputy Secretary Burns to Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs Under Secretary Sinirlioglu, who was

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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 13, 2012
SHIFT: II

Time	Item
	unavailable.
1101	The Watch patched Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan M. Grossman, en route to London, to Mr. Z. Khalilzad, Center for Strategic and International Studies.
1109	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Mr. L. Schwartz, NEA, in Cairo.
1119	The Watch patched Special Representative Grossman to Mr. J. Eggers, NSS, on a secure line.
1124	The Watch attempted to patch Deputy National Security Advisor McDonough to Deputy Secretary Burns, who was unavailable.
1127	Consul General B. Shukan, Consulate General Casablanca, telephoned the Watch with a briefing.
1129	Chargé Hicks telephoned the Watch with a briefing.
1145	Further to Item 0944, the Watch patched Special Envoy for Guantanamo Closure and Camp Ashraf D. Fried to Deputy Secretary Nides.
1147	The Watch patched Special Representative Grossman to Mr. Pearce on a secure line.
1148	The Watch patched Ms. Abedin to ExecSec Mull.
1151	The Watch patched Special Envoy Fried to Deputy Secretary Nides.
1153	The Watch patched Ambassador T. Pickering to Ms. M. Dubose, D(B).
1219	Further to Item 1055, the Watch patched Deputy Secretary Burns to Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs Under Secretary Sinirlioglu.
1241	Deputy Secretary Burns telephoned the Watch with a request.

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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 12, 2012
SHIFT: II

Time	Item
1250	The Watch patched Chargé Hicks to Acting A/S Jones.
1251	Further to Item 1241, the Watch patched Deputy Director M. Morell, CIA, to Deputy Secretary Burns.
1311	The Watch patched the Secretary to Afghan President Karzai.
1332	The Watch patched Ambassador Pickering to Ms. A. Sarel, Embassy of Israel to the United States.
1335	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Mr. Schwartz.
1341	The Watch patched Deputy Secretary Burns to Mr. K. Myers, Office of Senator Lugar (R-IN).
1351	The Watch patched Ms. Abedin to Special Representative to Muslim Communities Pandith.
1408	ExecSec Mull visited the Watch.
1426	The Watch patched Ms. Abedin to Special Representative Pandith.
1429	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Mr. C. Nicolaidis, Embassy Cairo.
1435	The Watch attempted to patch Ambassador R. Ford, NEA, to Mr. E. Chevallier, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who was unavailable.
1447	Under Secretary Sherman, P, visited the Watch.
1453	The Watch patched Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Fayyad to Ambassador J. Walles, Embassy Tunis.
1500	The Watch patched Consul General K. Milas, Consulate General Frankfurt, to Ms. M. MacCallum, M.

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WATCH LOG CONTINUATION SHEET

DATE: September 12, 2012
SHIFT: II

Time	Item
1500	Further to Item 1453, the Watch patched PM Fayyad to Ambassador Walles.
1500	The Watch telephoned Acting Assistant Secretary G. Pyatt, SCA, with a briefing.
1504	The Watch patched the Secretary to Egyptian Prime Minister Kandil.
1509	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Chargé Sievers.
1513	The Watch patched UN Under Secretary General for Political Affairs Feltman to Ambassador S. Rice, USUN.
1517	The Watch patched Ambassador Patterson to Ms. R. Aicher, Embassy Cairo.
1529	Relinquished the Watch.

Approved by: /s/ Ms. LeMar
Senior Watch Officer

Dist: S S/ES S/ES-O S/ES-IRM S/ES-EX INR

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-11642 Doc No. C05872466 Date: 10/30/2015

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 6:21 AM
To: 'NEA-LIBYADESK[redacted]
Subject: Fw: Readout of the President's Call with Libyan President Magariaf

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From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 03:03 AM
To: #MENA; #LEGISLATIVE
Subject: Fw: Readout of the President's Call with Libyan President Magariaf

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From: White House Press Office [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 01:50 AM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: Readout of the President's Call with Libyan President Magariaf

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012

Readout of the President's Call with Libyan President Magariaf

President Obama called President Mohamed Magariaf of Libya this evening, their first conversation since President Magariaf's election last month. President Obama thanked President Magariaf for extending his condolences for the tragic deaths of Ambassador Chris Stevens, Sean Smith, and two other State Department officers in Benghazi yesterday. He also expressed appreciation for the cooperation we have received from the Libyan government and people in responding to this outrageous attack, and said that the Libyan government must continue to work with us to assure the security of our personnel going forward. The President made it clear that we must work together to do whatever is necessary to identify the perpetrators of this attack and bring them to justice. The two Presidents agreed to work closely over the course of this investigation. The President reaffirmed our support for Libya's democratic transition, a cause Ambassador Stevens believed in deeply and did so much to advance. He welcomed the election of a new prime minister yesterday to help lead the Libyan government's efforts to improve security, counter extremism, and advance its democracy.

###

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The White House · 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW · Washington DC 20500 · 202 -456-1111

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Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 6:21 AM
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###

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SCB 000143

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 7:08 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Sorry to hear about tonight's attack

Hi Ben,
We are canceling all scheduled media interviews today to go to site of attack. I plan to accompany dad as well. I am also looking at venues to hold a special memorial service for Chris. I will keep you updated.

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 13, 2012, at 3:25 AM, "Fishman, Benjamin I." <[redacted]> wrote:

Thank you [redacted]
It is a huge loss for us and libya.
President Obama is hoping to speak to President Magariaf later this evening (early morning your time). I believe our embassy is trying to facilitate. I hope the timing works out.
Let's touch base tomorrow.

-Ben

From: [redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 03:28 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Sorry to hear about tonight's attack

Ben,
I am so sorry to hear about Chris. I had heard so much from everyone about him and was looking forward to meeting this great friend of Libya. I am heading to the president's office shortly and will make sure I recommend speedy facilitation of your request. Keep me posted if there is anything I can do.

[redacted]

On Tue, Sep 11, 2012 at 9:12 PM, Fishman, Benjamin I. <[redacted]> wrote:

[redacted] thank you for the message and statement. It is important to do whatever is possible, to the extent the government can, to ensure the security o f our remaining personnel on the ground both in Benghazi and Tripoli. We will be making a request to deploy additional security resources to Libya to help protect our people, which I hope the President will grant speedily.

If there are more details you have available, please do pass along what you can.

SCB 000144

-Ben

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 8:03 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Sorry to hear about tonight's attack

Hi Ben,

I just came back from presidential office where I was when Dr. Magariaf received the sad news of tonight's attack on US consulate in Benghazi. He was extremely upset and dismayed by news of the attack and possible new s of losses of life. He is meeting now with prime minister in an emergency meeting to issue proper response. Here is a copy of the English version of the press release.. let me know if there is anything we can do from here.

[redacted]

From: Rapid-Response <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 7:52 AM
To: RAPIDRESPONSE[redacted]
Subject: Rapid Response 09-13
Attachments: Rapid Response 09-13.doc

Rapid Response

September 13, 2012

HOT TOPICS: LIBYA

'Nothing Justifies Murder': While broadcast media highlight ongoing demonstrations around US Embassies in Cairo and Sanaa to protest a film "offensive to Islam," Middle East and African observers deplore the "dastardly and outrageous" killing of US diplomats in Libya and express con cern the spreading violence may jeopardize the Arab Spring. South Africa's *Daily Maverick* laments "the US ambassador to Libya pays the ultimate price of religious madness." Jordan's *Al-Dustour* depicts the Benghazi attack as "a huge gift to all Islamophob es which will create a more negative image of Islam than a thousand films could have." Pan-Arab *Al-Hayat* calls the killing of Ambassador Stevens "sad and shameful," arguing that "however insulting the film, it does not justify violence," and concludes "the film makers and the attackers share the same totalitarian mentality." *The Jordan Times* regrets that the "undertaking [of US diplomats] seems to have been lost on extremist elements who, wittingly or unwittingly, vindicated the goals of the producer of t he movie." Qatar's *Peninsula* stresses the need for Muslim countries to take all "security measures to protect the lives of foreigners in their land. The so-called guardians of Islamic faith must realize that the attack on Americans will only defeat their objective." Meanwhile, the UAE's *Khaleej Times* worries "the Middle East, in the aftermath of Arab Spring, is too ticklish to stand such upheavals," urging "respective governments and community leaders to rise to the occasion to suppress undercurrents of hatred and bias." Pan-Arab *Al-Hayat* is concerned a "five- million dollar film will destroy the Arab Spring." Lebanon's *Daily Star* conjectures that, based on past incidents, the "violence should not have been a surprise, thus more efforts must urgently be made to contain the spread of such hateful media." Saudi Arabia's *Al-Riyadh* contends "freedom does not mean disdain of religions and prophets," and implores the US to "protect religions equally."

'The Arab Spring Turns Sour for America': As commentators in the rest of the world condemn the "reprehensible" violence at the US consulate in Libya, some analysts fear militant Islam thrives in the unsecured state, several worry the incident will derail the Arab Spring, and others in China criticize Washington for its "failed Middle East policy." Germany's *Die Welt* rejects the controversial anti-Islam film's "clear provocation," though "this cannot excuse what the mob in Cairo and Benghazi has done." China's *Global Times* argues "killing an ambassador is aga inst the humanitarian bottom line." Afghanistan's *Daily Outlook* condemns the tragedy "in the strongest words," advocating "ignoring such bigots who want to...provoke reaction." The UK's *Telegraph*, meanwhile, suspects that, "in a country where the state is too weak to govern and guns are readily available, it was only a matter of time before anti-Western radicalism cost lives in Benghazi." Germany's *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* fears "the new rulers are not yet in the position to guarantee law and order." Italy's

Corriere della Sera laments "not even the death of Bin Laden has stopped the threat [of militant Islam]." Spain's *ABC* contends "the whole US [presence] in the rise and fall of the Arab Spring is now in question." Japan's *Yomiuri* adds "democracy and freedom have not yet prevailed in Arab nations as the US had hoped for." Canada's *Toronto Star* predicts the recent violence "will grow until it sweeps away the Arab Spring's gains." The UK's *Sky News* predicts "further violence across the Islamic world" and Turkey's *Hurriyet* warns of a "chain reaction." China's *Global Times* depicts the tragedy as a sign of "a major failure of the US' Mideast policy," and chides Washington for "lacking basic understanding and respect for other cultures." Spain's *El Mundo* prescribes a "strong and renewed commitment against terror." The UK's *Guardian* declares "Libya's new democracy must not be derailed," urging "robust and effective action" in Libya.

Message:

- ✓ ***President Obama called President Magariaf of Libya ... [a nd] expressed appreciation for the cooperation we have received from the Libyan government and people in responding to this outrageous attack. (Readout of President Obama's call with Libyan President Magariaf)***
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To Subscribe to the Rapid Response Report, please send an email request to [redacted]

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE . RAPID RESPONSE UNIT . [redacted]

RAPID RESPONSE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE • BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

HOT TOPICS
THURSDAY 09/13/2012

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From: [redacted] on behalf of Islamabad, Information Section
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 8:30 AM
To: Islamabad, Information Section
Subject: Pakistan Media Analysis - September 13, 2012

Pakistan Media Analysis
Sensitive but Unclassified, Not for Public Internet
September 13, 2012

- **Death Toll in Karachi Fire Rises to Nearly 300**
- **Media React to Cairo and Libya Attacks**
- **Foreign Minister Khar Tries to Assuage Parliamentary Concerns over UN Working Group**
- **U.S. Assistance to Build the Waran Irrigation Canal Widely and Accurately Reported**

(SBU) The massive fire that blazed through a Karachi garment factory dominates print and TV headlines for the second straight day. The death toll has reached 289 people, according to some reports. All major Urdu editorials and TV talk shows blame local government officials for neglecting to follow or enforce proper industrial safety meas ures.

(SBU) The murders of Ambassador Chris Stevens and three American employees of the consulate in Benghazi are reported in all media. When news of the attack broke September 12, major TV news networks ran tickers highlighting the deaths of the U.S. diplomats. Some stations referred to the murders as "tragic." Networks also reported that MQM Party Chief Altaf Hussain sent an urgent telegram to President Obama, Secretary Clinton, and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon demanding that the film that re portedly sparked the Cairo and Benghazi riots be "banned immediately as it has hurt the feelings of over one billion Muslims around the world." Morning newspapers run a Foreign Ministry statement condemning the airing of the "defamatory video" in the Unit ed States since it "maligns the revered and pious personality of the Prophet Muhammad." English language daily *Express* reports that the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority confirmed a Ministry of Information mandate to block the video in Pakistan. **NOTE:** The video is still accessible as of mid-day September 13. **END NOTE.** All media highlight statements from President Obama and Secretary Clinton denouncing the attacks and ordering increased security at U.S. embassies around the world. President Obama's remarks on the anniversary of the September 11 attacks, where he said, "America is at war with al Qaeda and its affiliates – and we will never be at war with Islam or any other religion," also figure prominently in the media.

(SBU) Foreign Minister Hina Rabbini Khar's speech in the National Assembly on the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances garnered substantial media attention. In a reported attempt to assuage concerned parliamentarians, Khar said the UN group was "not mandated to conduct any investigation or fact -finding mission" and it had "arrived on an invitation of the government."

(SBU) Leading Urdu dailies use verbatim text from an embassy press release to report that the United States allocated $12 million to construct the Waran Canal system in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Media highlight that the canal will supply year-round irrigation for 28,000 acres.

Urdu Editorials:

"America's unjustified concern over General Kayani's Russia visit" (2nd largest Urdu daily *Nawa-i-Waqt*)

(SBU) The United States has expressed concern over General Kayani's visit to Russia, which is scheduled in a couple of days. However, those concerns are baseless.... American assistance amounts to a fraction of Pakistan's $70 billion loss

in the war against terrorism.... Sovereignty cannot be exchanged for a few cents.... Pakistan has every right to have good relations with other countries, too. The United States should not be concerned about the foreign visits of Pakistani officials. Does the United States consult Pakistan on every foreign policy decision?

"Courageous decision of political and military leadership" (Populist center -right Urdu daily *Khabrain*)

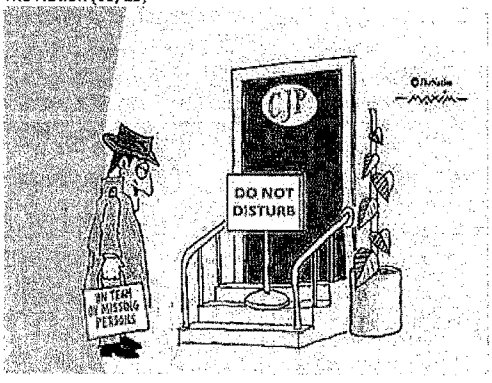
(SBU) President Zardari and Army Chief General Kayani reiterated their resolve to not accept any external influence on operations in North Waziristan.... The entire nation supports President Zardari and General Kayani's initiative to maintain sovereign authority vis-à-vis possible military operations in North Waziristan; they should remain firm in their resolve.

"Military operation in North Waziristan: It's time to be clear" (Peshawar-based Urdu daily *Mashriq*)

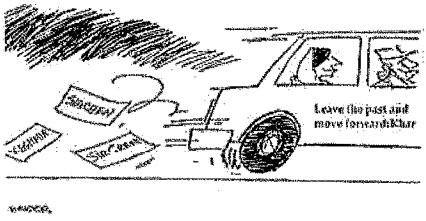
(SBU) Now that the U.S. government has designated the Haqqani Network as a terrorist organization, there is a chance that Washington will increase pressure on Islamabad to launch a military operation in North Waziristan. But with the alleged killing of Badruddin Haqqani in a drone strike, coupled with media reports about an impending offensive in the area, it is likely that a large number of militants have left. If that is the case, then there is no justification for what would be a futile operation.... The government itself is in a state of utter confusion on whether to order a North Waziristan operation or not. This ambiguity creates panic. The government needs to clarify its plans as soon as possible.

Editorial Cartoons:

The Nation (09/13)



The Express Tribune (09/13)



TV Talk-Shows:

Program: "Capital Talk," *Geo News* (09/12)

Host: Hamid Mir

Participants: Haider Abbas Rizvi (MQM); Ghulam Mohammad Naz (President Pakistan Fire Fighters Association); Bilal Yaseen (PML-N)

Topic: Karachi inferno: who is responsible?

Excerpts:

(SBU) **Host:** The devastating fire at a garment factory in Karachi has claimed nearly 300 lives so far. Some reports suggest that extortionists had demanded Rs10 million from the factory owner and he refused to fulfill thei r demands. Karachi residents have demanded that the provincial government constitute an independent investigative commission. Why don't people trust the police in Karachi?

(SBU) **Haider Abbas Rizvi:** There is no lack of honest, brave and dutiful police men in Karachi. The governor and the provincial Minister for Trade and Industries have ordered an inquiry into this tragic incident.

(SBU) **Ghulam Mohammad Naz:** It is the responsibility of the National Disaster Management Authority to frame effective laws to prevent disasters like this.

(SBU) **Bilal Yaseen:** The fires in Lahore and Karachi are Pakistan's 9/11. Unfortunately, the owners of these two factories had not provided proper fire-fighting equipment or training to their workers. Their primary concern was to earn more and more money. But the government's failure to prevent such a tragedy is also condemnable.

(SBU) ***Post's Comments:*** *Bilal Yaseen pin-pointed the causes of the fires and was thus the most credible voice. Haider Abbas Rizvi's praise of the Karachi police reaffirms a perception among viewers that MQM controls appointments of most of the policemen in its stronghold.*

Program: "Dunya At Eight," *Dunya News* (09/12)

Host: Mohammad Malick

Participants: Khawaja Saad Rafique (PML-N); Rashid Godail (MQM); Nazar Mohammad Gondal (PPP)

Topic: Tragedies in Karachi and Lahore

(SBU) **Rashid Godail:** The Karachi Building Control Authority (KBCA) has become a symbol of corruption in Sindh. There are so many complaints about the massive corruption of KBCA officials. The government should bring the factory owner and relevant officials to justice.

(SBU) **Nazar Mohammad Gondal:** The federal government has directed all four provincial governments to impl ement safety standards immediately in all public and private buildings, including schools, colleges, hospitals and factories. The loss of lives in Karachi and Lahore is a national tragedy which has plunged the entire country into grief. The government will soon order the closure of all buildings that violate safety regulations. The government has also constituted a judicial commission, headed by a former judge of Sindh High Court, to investigate the tragedy in Karachi.

(SBU) **Khawaja Saad Rafique:** It is the responsibility of the provincial and local governments to prevent such tragedies. Right now, thousands of small industrial units work in residential areas. With increasing unemployment and

poverty, it is impossible to shut down these units overnigh t. Yet the government should close down all industrial units that use chemicals in the residential areas.

(SBU) ***Post's Comments:*** *PPP's Nazar Mohammad Gondal's responses on government action came off as too little, too late. The government forms an inquiry commission after every disaster – such responses are routine and pale in comparison to the hundreds of lives lost. Firebrand PML-N politician Khawaja Saad Rafique's messages on unemployment and poverty were far more resonant.*

Information Office
Public Affairs Section
U.S. Embassy Islamabad
Pakistan
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SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] (PACE) <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 8:33 AM
To: PAO Group; PA HUB DIRECTORS
Subject: WH Daily Press Briefing (Gaggle) & Remarks by President in NV (9/12)

WH Daily Press Briefing (Gaggle) & Remarks by the President at a Campaign Event in Las Vegas, NV
September 12, 2012

Libya / Egypt

1. Loss of four Americans
2. Killers will be brought to justice
3. President's Statement / Visit to State Department
4. Reaction to Statement from Embassy Cairo
5. Statement from Embassy Cairo intended t o calm down the situation
6. Too early to determine if attack in Benghazi was premeditated
7. Is the U.S. concerned about al Qaeda in Libya?
8. Tweets from the Embassy
9. Preview of President's remarks on Libya
10. Would the U.S. consider unilateral action in to bring perpetrators to justice?
11. Is this a policy issue in Libya or isolated event?
14. Mixed messages from State Department, Embassy Cairo?

Iran

12. President Obama's conversation with PM Netanyahu on Iran
13. Not logistically possible for Obama t o meet with Netanyahu in Washington

(Remarks by the President)

1. Loss of four Americans

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. So I wanted to begin tonight by just saying a few words about a tough day that we had today. We lost four Americans last night, who were killed when they were attacked at a diplomatic post in Libya. And they were serving overseas on our behalf, despite the dangers, despite the risks, to help one of the world's youngest democracies get on its feet. They were working to advance the interes ts and the values that we hold dear as Americans. And as Americans, we stand united — all of us — in gratitude for their service, and we are mindful of their sacrifice, and we want to send out heartfelt prayers to their loved ones who grieve today. (Applause.)

It's a reminder that the freedoms we enjoy — sometimes even the freedoms we take for granted — they're only sustained because there are people like those who were killed, who are willing to stand up for those freedoms; who are willing to fight for those freedoms; in some cases, to lay down their lives for those freedoms. So tonight, let's think of them and thank them.

2. Killers will be brought to justice

As for the ones we lost last night: I want to assure you, we will bring their killers to justice. (Applause.) And we want to send a message all around the world -- anybody who would do us harm: No act of terror will dim the light of the values that we proudly shine on the rest of the world, and no act of violence will shake the resolve of the United States of America. (Applause.)

We will not be deterred. We will keep going. We will keep going because the world needs us. We are the one indispensable power in the world. And if we are going to see peace and security for our children and our grandchildren,

then that means that this generation of Americans has to lead. We're going to have to keep doing the work -- no matter how hard it seems sometimes.

(Press Gaggle)

3. President's Statement / Visit to State Department

MR. CARNEY: Welcome aboard Air Force One. Thank you for being with us. I know you all saw and heard the President's statement in the Rose Garden earlier today about the tragic events in Libya. You also saw that the President traveled to the State Department to show solidarity to the hardworking men and women there, and to grieve with them for the loss of Ambassador Stevens and Sean Smith, and the two others.

I can tell you that on this flight the President has spoken with Sean Smith's wife. He has also spoken with both the mother and father of Ambassador Stevens. On all these calls, he has offered his condolences and made clear that his thoughts and prayers and the thoughts and prayers of the American people are with the family members of those we lost. He thanked the family members for the service to their country that Ambassador Stevens and Mr. Smith provided, and made clear his commitment that justice be done when it comes to finding out who was responsible for the attacks that led to their deaths.

4. Statement from Embassy Cairo

Q Does the administration consider the statement that came out of the Cairo embassy that's caused so much discussion -- does it consider that to be administration policy? And if not, did the administration do anything to distance itself from that statement?

MR. CARNEY: Rather than answer that question directly by myself, I can quote to you from the President in an interview he gave not that long ago, back at the White House, to Steve Kroft, "60 Minutes." The interview covered a lot of subjects and it covered a number of questions about the incident in Libya. But with regards to that specific question, I think this may be responsive. It's a little long, so bear with me.

The question was, "Your opponent, Governor Romney, used the attack in Libya and also the situation, the incident in Cairo yesterday, to attack your policies, to go after your foreign policy in a fairly broad-based attack. What are your thoughts on that?" That's the question.

And it's responsive to that because, as you know, Governor Romney attacked the statement from the embassy.

And the President said, "I think most Americans, Democrats or Republicans, understand that there are times where we set politics aside, and one of those is when we've got a direct threat to American personnel who are overseas. And so I think that if you look at how most Republicans have reacted, most elected officials, they've reacted responsibly, waiting to find out the facts before they talked, making sure that our number-one priority is the safety and security of American personnel.

It appears that Governor Romney didn't have his facts right. The situation in Cairo was one in which an embassy that is being threatened by major protests releases a press release saying that the film that had disturbed so many Muslims around the world wasn't representative of what Americans believe about Islam, in an effort to cool the situation down. It didn't come from me, it didn't come from Secretary Clinton; it came from folks on the ground who are potentially in danger.

And my tendency is to cut folks a little bit of slack when they're in that circumstance, rather than try to question their judgment from the comfort of a campaign office.

And I do have to say that, more broadly, we believe in the First Amendment. It is one of the hallmarks of our Constitution that I'm sworn to uphold. And so we are always going to uphold the rights for individuals to speak their mind. On the other hand, this film is not representative of who we are and our values, and I think it's important for us to communicate that. That's never an excuse for violence against Americans, which is why my number-one priority -- and

my initial statement -- focused on making sure that not only are Americans safe, but that we go after anybody who would attack Americans."

The President continues, "There's a broader lesson to be learned here, and Governor Romney seems to have a tendency to shoot first and aim later. And as President, one of the things I've learned is you can't do that, that it's important for you to make sure that the statements you make are backed up by the facts, and that you've thought through the ramifications befor e you make them."

5. Statement from Embassy Cairo intended to calm down the situation

Q If I could do just one follow -- the President said he believes in cutting people slack in those circumstances. There have been some reports saying that the administration made deliberate efforts to distance itself from that statement early on. Do you think that's accurate?

MR. CARNEY: Pointing to what the President just said, this was a statement put out, a pres s release put out by the embassy in response to a situation that was developing on the ground, and that was meant to calm down -- hopefully calm down a situation that could potentially have put American personnel in danger. And as the President said, he's not going to question their judgment in doing that.

6. Too early to determine if attack in Benghazi was premeditated

Q Jay, does the U.S. -- does the White House believe that the attack in Benghazi was planned and premeditated?

MR. CARNEY: It's too early for us to make that judgment. I think -- I know that this is being investigated, and we're working with the Libyan government to investigate the incident. So I would not want to speculate on that at this time.

7. Is the U.S. concerned about al Qae da in Libya?

Q Are you guys worried about al Qaeda in Libya? They seem to be growing. We just saw a report --

MR. CARNEY: Again, I want to be careful about making statements that are based on speculation about this incident and its causes. It's under investigation, obviously, and as we find out information that can be made available I'm sure we will.

8. Tweets from the Embassy

Q On the tweets that came after the statement, are those also the policy of that embassy? And is it typical for an embassy to tweet? And do you know if any have been deleted?

MR. CARNEY: I would refer you to the State Department on this. Again, I think I can't improve on what the President said in response to questions about this earlier today.

9. Preview of President's remarks on Libya

MS. PSAKI: Just one thing I just wanted to say about the remarks the President will give. Obviously, as Jay mentioned, he has been monitoring this all day; he'll receive briefings all day. If anything about his travel would have prevented his focus on this, that would be a different story.

But in his remarks today he will speak about the memory of the four people whose lives were lost, as he did this morning. And his remarks will certainly -- the tone of the events of today -- or of last night will certainly be reflected in his remarks as well. As our view, it's not a day of politics as usual, and that will be reflected in what he says this evening in Las Vegas.

MR. CARNEY: If I could just -- that might be a little helpful, a gain, quoting the President with regards to one of your questions, Amy, in the interview. And I want to make clear that this interview was broad -based on many subjects

and included a broader discussion about the events in Libya and Egypt, not just the bac k-and-forth on politics. But since you asked, I wanted to read that response.

He also said this, and I quote -- the President did -- "This is also obviously a reminder that for all the progress that we've made in fighting terrorism, that we're living in a volatile world, and our troops, but also our diplomats, and our intelligence officers, they're putting their lives on the line every single day in some very dangerous circumstances.

And I think Chris was an example of the best that our diplomatic corps has to offer -- somebody who was on the ground and because of his actions and his courage helped create an environment in which thousands of lives have been saved, and was full of energ y and hopefulness about the relationship that the United States and Libya can develop over the long term.

So we honor his sacrifice. We honor Sean Smith's sacrifice. But I think we also have to understand that we have to remain vigilant, and that even as we continue to apply pressure on al Qaeda and other elements that are affiliated, that in big chunks of the world -- in Northern Africa and the Middle East -- you've got a lot of dangerous characters, and we've got to make sure that we're continuing to apply pressure on them. And that's something that I'm determined to do."

10. Would the U.S. consider unilateral action in to bring perpetrators to justice?

Q Jay, the President has talked about that justice will be done in this case. Would the United States consider unilateral action if it found the perpetrators, or would it necessarily work in coordination with the Libyan government?

MR. CARNEY: I'm not going to speculate about what action might be taken under hypothetical circumstances. I would say that it's important to note that we have a close, cooperative relationship with the government in Libya, the interim government.

I would note that they were very quick to condemn the attack. And Libyans both assisted Americans in tryin g to repel the attack and assisted American personnel in trying to keep them safe during the attacks. And that is worth noting.

So we are working with Libyan officials and the Libyan government in our efforts to find out who was responsible and bring them to justice.

11. Is this a policy issue in Libya or isolated event?

Q Jay, is the U.S. doing something wrong policy -wise in Libya that brings this on? Or is the policy fine, it's just this particular event?

MR. CARNEY: I think it's important not to speculate, not to jump the gun, not to guess, while we are still collecting facts, at what precipitated this and who was responsible. And i think that your question goes to that.

I think that our policy in Libya has been f ocused on freeing that country from a terrible tyrant, one who was on the verge of authorizing a massacre in the city of Benghazi, the city where Chris Stevens, Ambassador Stevens lost his life, and that this country and this administration are committed t o helping the Libyan people achieve the democracy that they seek in the aftermath of years of tyrannical rule under Muammar Qaddafi.

12. President Obama's conversation with PM Netanyahu on Iran

Q Jay, we know that the President spoke last night wi th Prime Minister Netanyahu for an hour. And today, there are headlines that Netanyahu said that his top duty is preventing a nuclear -armed Iran and that he must do his duty even when "friends disagree." Does the President think that that kind of -- those kinds of comments are constructive after the conversation he had last night?

MR. CARNEY: Well, the President did have an hour -long conversation with Prime Minister Netanyahu. It was a good conversation in which both leaders were united in their commit ment to preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear

weapon. That is the President's policy, and he has made clear that he will use all tools of American power to ensure that Iran does not acquire a nuclear weapon.

He has also made clear that there is time and space to pursue a diplomatic resolution to this problem through sanctions and other means, as well as diplomacy, to pressure the Iranian regime into forsaking its nuclear weapons ambitions. We have the capacity to monitor the Iranian nuclear program. And we know that they are not currently on the verge of developing a nuclear weapon. And we would know if they were to make a so -called breakout move towards developing such a weapon.

The President has also made clear that the window of opportunity to resolve this diplomatically will not remain open indefinitely. And our efforts to sanction Iran punitively, to isolate Iran, to make the regime pay a high price for its obstinacy continue. And the President and the Prime Minister are in total agreeme nt on the policy objective here.

Specifically to your question, Israel absolutely, as a sovereign nation, has a right to defend itself. The President of the United States is committed to Israel's security. We have an unprecedentedly deep and broad relationship with Israel under this administration when it comes to military and intelligence matters. We have provided unprecedented levels of assistance to Israel in the effort to achieve security for Israel, an d we will continue to do that.

13. Not logistically possible for Obama to meet with Netanyahu in Washington

Q If Prime Minister Netanyahu wants to meet with the President, why wouldn't the President meet with him in Washington?

MR. CARNEY: I think you saw the statement that we put out last night. The President will be in New York at the United Nations General Assembly early in that week; the Prime Minister does not arrive until later in that week. There was not logistically an opportunity for the tw o leaders to meet in New York. A meeting was never requested in Washington, therefore it could not have been denied.

I think it is important to note, within the context of this discussion in the press, that it is proof of the incredibly close and vital relationship between our two nations and between our two governments that when this issue arose, the President of the United States picked up the phone and called Prime Minister Netanyahu and spoke to him for an hour. And that, I think, demonstrates the kind of relationship we have, and it reinforces something that I think sometimes is forgotten, which is there is no leader with whom President Obama has met and spoken with more frequently as President than Prime Minister Netanyahu. And that, again, is reflective of the kind of relationship we have with Israel.

14. Mixed messages from State Department, Embassy Cairo?

Q And just one more thing on the Cairo embassy. One of Romney's critiques has been that you're sending mixed messages. If the State Department says one thing and the embassy puts out separate statements, tweets separate things, how is that not a mixed message?

MR. CARNEY: This is not a time to try to score political points. As the President said, as a general practice, politics should be put aside when the lives of American personnel are at risk, as they were last night.

The President's focus, the Secretary of State's focus is on ensuring the security of American personnel. And for his views on this, I think I'd refer you to the com ments I read that the President gave earlier today.

[redacted]
Bureau of Public Affairs | Office of Press Relations
U.S. Department of State
[redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 8:45 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Leg. Call on Libya

Few overnight statements for you:

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012

Readout of the President's Call with Egyptian President Morsi

The President called Egyptian President Morsi today to review the strategic partnership between the United States and Egypt, and our ongoing efforts to strengthen bilateral economic and security cooperation. Given recent events, and consistent with our int erest in a relationship based on mutual interests and mutual respect, President Obama underscored the importance of Egypt following through on its commitment to cooperate with the United States in securing U.S. diplomatic facilities and personnel. The President said that he rejects efforts to denigrate Islam, but underscored that there is never any justification for violence against innocents and acts that endanger American personnel and facilities. President Morsi expressed his condolences for the tragic l oss of American life in Libya and emphasized that Egypt would honor its obligation to ensure the safety of American personnel.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012

Readout of the President's Call with Libyan President Magariaf

President Obama called President Mohamed Magariaf of Libya this evening, their first conversation since President Magariaf's election last month. President Obama thanked President Magariaf for extending his condolences for the tragic deaths of Ambassador Chris Stevens, Sean Smith, and two other State Department officers in Benghazi yesterday. He also expressed appreciation for the cooperation we have received from the Libyan government and people in responding to this outrageous attack, and said that the Libyan government must continue to work with us to assure the

security of our personnel going forward. The President made it clear that we must work together to do whatever is necessary to identify the perpetrators of this attac k and bring them to justice. The two Presidents agreed to work closely over the course of this investigation. The President reaffirmed our support for Libya's democratic transition, a cause Ambassador Stevens believed in deeply and did so much to advance. He welcomed the election of a new prime minister yesterday to help lead the Libyan government's efforts to improve security, counter extremism, and advance its democracy.

###

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 8:42 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Leg. Call on Libya

+ Stephen Kelly

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 8:38 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Leg. Call on Libya
Importance: High

Good morning all –

Sorry for the delay. We'll aim to start at 8:45AM.

Here is call-in info:

Tel: [redacted] Code: [redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:03 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Libya articles (NYT, WSJ, WP, The Cable)

Summary: Despite the deaths of US Ambassador to Libya Stevens and three other American staffers, Washington should maintain its relationship with Libya for the benefit of future regional stability, opines a New York Times editorial. Presidential hopeful Mitt Romney's criticism of the Obama Administration in the wake of the Benghazi attack was overly opportunistic and disingenuous, states a Washington Post editorial. Many in the mainstream media were unwilling to seriously consider Ro mney's criticism, having already dismissed the candidate's foreign policy credentials, argues a Wall Street Journal editorial. Romney's ill-considered statements discredit the memory of Ambassador Stevens, who was among the finest of Foreign Service Offic ers, writes a New York Times op-ed. A Wall Street Journal obituary remembers Ambassador Stevens as a highly successful diplomat with deep knowledge of the Middle East. Though the attacks in Libya and Egypt certainly foreshadow a complicated future for th e region, Washington should not abandon its backing for the affected nations, according to a Washington Post op-ed. The attack on the consulate in Benghazi lasted several hours as militants attempted to take control of its main building, reveals The Cable . The attacks in Benghazi and Cairo raise questions as to Washington's support for fledgling governments in the region, notes The Wall Street Journal.

New York Times Editorial
Murder in Benghazi
September 12, 2012

Libya and its pro-democracy revolution had no better friend than J. Christopher Stevens, the United States ambassador who was killed along with three other Americans in Tuesday's attack on the consulate in Benghazi. It was an outrageous act that deserved the strongest condemnation.

President Obama's statement of outrage and his vow to bring the killers to justice received bipartisan support, including from politicians otherwise committed to partisan warfare, like the House speaker, John Boehner, and the Senate minority leader, Mitch McConnell, who rarely misses a chance to attack Mr. Obama.

But not from Mitt Romney, who wants Americans to believe he can be president but showed an extraordinary lack of presidential character by using the murders of the Americans in Libya as an excuse not just to attack Mr. Obama, but to do so in a way that suggested either a dangerous ignorance of the facts or an equally dangerous willingness to twist them to his narrow partisan aims.

Mr. Romney could easily have held his fire during this crisis, if he could not summon the decency to support the United States government. Instead, he misrepresented the administration as "sympathizing" with the attackers. There was no truth in what he said. In fact, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton made the first official comment on the killings, a strong condemnation, before Mr. Romney released his statement. Even after having a night to reconsider his response, Mr. Romney merely doubled down on his false charges, as he is prone to do.

Mr. Stevens, 52, was Washington's en voy to the rebels in Libya when they were overthrowing Col. Muammar el -Qaddafi. He became ambassador and, undaunted by the dangers, worked to build partnerships among the country's disparate groups and guide the fragile new democracy during a difficult tra nsition. A fluent Arabic speaker, he had a deep understanding of Libya's culture and people.

On Wednesday, the Obama administration said it appeared that an organized group armed with mortars and rocket -propelled grenades had exploited a protest over an a nti-Muslim video to unleash the attack. Some news reports suggested Al Qaeda may have been responsible. American officials noted the contrast with Egypt, where unarmed protesters, decrying the same video, spontaneously stormed the Embassy perimeter and tor e down a flag but did little other damage.

Libya's shaky new government will need American support to bring the killers to justice. The origins of the video, which mocks the Prophet Muhammad, are not clear. There is considerable speculation about who even produced the film, which largely went unnoticed until it was promoted on the Internet by Morris Sadek, an Egyptian -born Coptic Christian ally of

Terry Jones, a Florida pastor and hatemonger whose threats to burn a copy of the Koran inspired deadly riots i n Afghanistan in 2010 and 2011.

However offensive the video is, it could never justify the violence in Benghazi and Cairo. But Mr. Jones, Mr. Sadek and whoever made the film did true damage to the interests of the United States and its core principle of r especting all faiths.

Religious fundamentalists, moderates and liberal secularists are all jockeying for power in Middle East nations after the Arab Spring. The violence done on Tuesday was apparently the work of a relatively small group of radicals not a ssociated with any legitimate protest.

The worst thing now would be for the United States to turn away from its commitments to work with Libya and Egypt as they try to build stable new societies. A number of Libyan security guards died trying to save the Americans, and Libyan leaders have condemned the killings and promised to work to apprehend those responsible. Egyptian leaders, inexplicably, have not followed that lead.

Washington Post Editorial
Mr. Romney's rhetoric on embassy attacks is a discredit to his campaign
September 12, 2012

J.CHRISTOPHER STEVENS, the U.S. ambassador to Libya, was a skilled and courageous diplomat who repeatedly placed himself at risk to support the cause of a democratic Libya. His death, along with those of three other Amer icans, during an attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi on Tuesday is a tragedy that should prompt bipartisan support for renewed U.S. aid to Libyans who are struggling to stabilize the country. That it instead provoked a series of crude political attacks on President Obama by GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney is a discredit to his campaign.

Mr. Romney's first rhetorical assault came Tuesday night in response to a statement by the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, which was also besieged by demonstrators Tuesday. His statement claimed that the administration's first response was "to sympathize with those who waged the attacks." In fact the embassy statement was issued before the protests began; referring to an ugly anti-Islam film that was the focus of demonstrat ors, it condemned "those who abuse the universal right of free speech to hurt the religious belief of others."

Mr. Romney did not then know the extent of the Benghazi incident — his statement referred only to "the death of an American consulate worker." So it was stunning to see the GOP nominee renew his verbal offensive Wednesday morning, when the country was still absorbing the news of the first death in service of a U.S. ambassador since 1988. Though reports were still sketchy, it appeared that a milita nt jihadist group, Ansar al-Sharia, took advantage of the Benghazi protest to stage an armed assault that overwhelmed the Libyan security force at the consulate.

At a news conference, Mr. Romney claimed that the administration had delivered "an apology fo r America's values." In fact, it had done no such thing: Religious tolerance, as much as freedom of speech, is a core American value. The movie that provoked the protests, which mocks the prophet Muhammad and portrays Muslims as immoral and violent, is a despicable piece of bigotry; it was striking that Mr. Romney had nothing to say about such hatred directed at a major religious faith.

Mr. Obama struck the right tone on Wednesday, saying that "we reject all efforts to denigrate the religious beliefs of others" but that "there is absolutely no justification for this type of senseless violence." Lauding Mr. Stevens's service, the president promised "justice" for "this terrible act" while also committing the administration to continue cooperating with Libya's democratic government — which apologized for the attack.

Since the overthrow of dictator Moammar Gaddafi last year, Libya has been plagued by armed groups that have refused to submit to the new government. Now the United States must press the government to take action against Ansar al-Sharia and other jihadist organizations that have established themselves in the eastern Libyan desert. Security assistance, which has been limited so far, ought to be stepped up, by the Obama administration and by other governments that joined last year's NATO intervention.

As for Mr. Romney, he would do well to consider the example of Republican former secretary of state Condoleezza Rice, who issued a statement Wednesday lamenting "the tragic loss of life at our consulate," praising Mr. Stevens as "a wonderful officer and a terrific diplomat" and offering "thoughts and prayers" to "all the loved ones of the fallen." That wa s the appropriate response.

Wall Street Journal Review & Outlook
Romney Offends the Pundits
September 13, 2012

Tuesday's assaults on the U.S. Embassies in Benghazi and Cairo have injected foreign policy into the Presidential campaign, but suddenly the parsons of the press corps are offended by the debate. They're upset that Mitt Romney had the gall to criticize the State Department for a statement that the White House itself disavowed.

We're referring to the statement issued Tuesday under the headline "U.S. Embassy Condemns Religious Incitement." The statement came in response to Muslim protests against a 13-minute anti-Islamic video making the rounds on YouTube.

In response to anger in Egypt at the video, the Embassy in Cairo issued its statement saying that "The Embassy of the United States in Cairo condemns the continuing efforts by misguided individu als to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims — as we condemn efforts to offend believers of all religions." It added that, "Respect for religious beliefs is a cornerstone o f American democracy. We firmly reject the actions by those who abuse the universal r ight of free speech to hurt the religious beliefs of others."

One problem is that the statement came not long before Egyptian protestors stormed the Embassy and some of them made it over a wall and into the compound. An Embassy Twitter post after the assa ult said its earlier statement "still stands."

Mr. Romney reacted late Tuesday with his own statement: "I'm outraged by the attacks on American diplomatic missions in Libya and Egypt and by the death of an American consulate worker in Benghazi. It's disgr aceful that the Obama Administration's first response was not to condemn attacks on our diplomatic missions, but to sympathize with those who waged the attacks." He followed Wednesday with a press conference reinforcing his criticisms of the Administration 's "mixed signals" on "our values."

The Obama Presidential campaign jumped on the remarks Wednesday as inappropriate, yet a "senior Administration official" had told the website Politico later on Tuesday night that "The statement by Embassy Cairo was not cleared by Washington and does not reflect the views of the United States government." So the White House can walk away from its own diplomats, but Mr. Romney can't criticize them?

Whatever the timing of the Cairo Embassy's statements, Mr. Romney is right that a U.S. Embassy ought to ignore YouTube videos produced by obscure cranks. As Tuesday's events showed, pandering to Islamists who would use the video to inflame anti-American sentiment isn't going to stop the protests. The video "Innocence of Muslims" is inflammatory and its producer is a fool, but in the U.S. we don't censor fools.

The broader point is that the attacks on the embassies do raise questions about how America has fared in the world in the last four years. (See above.) Throughout his cand idacy, Mr. Romney has supported the necessity of America's global leadership, sometimes against the wishes of Republican voters. His comments this week are consistent with that worldview, which is also consistent with that of every recent conservative Pres ident.

His political faux pax was to offend a pundit class that wants to cede the foreign policy debate to Mr. Obama without thinking seriously about the trouble for America that is building in the world.

New York Times
Our Man in Benghazi
Op-ed by ROGER COHEN
September 12, 2012

LONDON — Chris Stevens, the American ambassador to Libya killed in an attack on the consulate in Benghazi, represented the best of the U.S. Foreign Service. He was smart, dedicated and adroit. He loved his work and believed in its capacity for good. He knew history's hold on Middle Eastern minds yet dismissed the notion that ancient conflict was insurmountable. Other cultures fascinated him even as his own inspired him. No American did more to end the tyranny of Col. Muammar el-Qaddafi. Like most brave people he had a great sense of humor.

The fanatics who killed him represented the worst of Islam. They attacked the consulate in the midst of Muslim outrage over an amateurish American video portraying the Prophet Muhammad as a buf foon of indiscriminate and consuming sexual appetites. But no religious affront, however vile, can justify killing of a kind that jihadists have made only too familiar over the past two decades.

The makers, funders and promoters of the video, called "Inno cence of Muslims," represent the worst of an American bigotry whose central tenet is that Islam is evil, a religion bent on the takeover of the world and followed by people who are all violent extremists, Jew-haters and sexual predators.

The movie, a procession of insults to Muslims against a background of comically flimsy sets, is of a piece with the ideology, praised at times by Republicans including Newt Gingrich, that has sought to portray Shariah law as a mortal threat to America, perceived stealth ji hadists knocking at every door from Phoenix to Peoria, and worked hard to persuade the world that Barack Obama is a Muslim.

Whoever made the film — it was uploaded to YouTube in July by somebody calling himself Sam Bacile and identifying himself as an Israeli-American real estate developer — was driven by the visceral loathing of Islam that forms a significant current in post-9/11 right-wing thinking in the United States.

So perhaps it is no surprise that Mitt Romney, the Republican presidential candidate , would attempt to pander to that thinking in his response to the killing of Mr. Stevens and three of his staff. He claimed the Obama administration's first response was "to sympathize with those who waged the attacks," called it "disgraceful," and said "a pology for America's values is never the right course."

Huh?

Even coming from a man who on a brief trip abroad in late July lost no opportunity to put his foot in his mouth, blundering into squabbles with the British and the Palestinians, this was heavy -handed. In fact, to use Romney's word, it was disgraceful.

The Obama administration never expressed sympathy for the assailants. It never apologized for American values. What the Cairo embassy did, as violence brewed in the Egyptian capital and well befor e the Benghazi attack, was to condemn "actions by those who abuse the universal right of free speech to hurt the religious beliefs of others" — specifically Muslims.

Since when was extreme bigotry that portrays the followers of one of the world's great re ligions as child molesters an American value? Religious tolerance is as fundamental an American value as free speech. For Romney to offer implicit defense of a scurrilous movie in the name of free speech, while misrepresenting the Obama administration's ac tions and offering not a word about hatred toward the world's more than 1.5 billion Muslims, suggests he is deluded or desperate or both.

As a free-speech absolutist I defend the right of Bacile — or whoever — to make the video. It is equally important th at the United States says what it thinks of such bile. President Obama got it right saying the United States "rejects efforts to denigrate" others' religious beliefs, while expressing unequivocal opposition to the "senseless violence" that killed Stevens.

This September surprise has given the world cause to appreciate the cool head in the White House and worry about the hothead who aspires to replace him. Romney, in Jacques Chirac's immortal phrase, "lost a good opportunity to keep quiet."

His words refle cted a shoot-from-the-hip, America-first approach to the world that will not fly in a time of deep interdependency. Two scarring wars have demonstrated that.

Stevens understood the interdependency. He loved his country but did not seek to impose it. Last year, on July 4, shortly after I saw him in Benghazi, he sent a note to family and friends as the war to unseat Qaddafi raged:

"Greetings, all," Stevens wrote. "I hope you are enjoying a great 4th with plenty of beer, ice cream, hamburgers and Chinese fireworks. I remember well the 'sparklers' we used to have in Grass Valley as little tots, and running around the lawn with abandon, catching our hair and eyebrows on fire." He had celebrated Independence Day by hosting a party with "an entire lamb, grilled chicken, Arab salads and pastries," ending with remarks expressing "our hope that Libyans would celebrate their freedom soon, too."

Stevens died for American values. The least Romney might have done was avoid misrepresenting them. His terrible death was a rebuke to the quest for squalid political capital and a demand for reflection on the best of America.

Wall Street Journal
Ambassador, Fluent in Arabic, Built Career in Middle East
By KEITH JOHNSON
September 13, 2012

The U.S. Ambassador to Libya, Christo pher Stevens, was killed when suspected Libyan religious extremists stormed the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi late Tuesday night, according to Libyan Deputy Prime Minister Mustafa Abushagour. Margaret Coker has the latest on The News Hub. Photo: AP.

U.S. diplomat Christopher Stevens landed in April 2011 in the Libyan port of Benghazi aboard a Greek cargo ship to assume his role as American liaison to rebel forces who had just begun to fight the regime of Col. Moammar Gadhafi.

On Tuesday, Mr. Stevens, who had become the first U.S. ambassador to a free Libya, was killed in Benghazi along with three other U.S. foreign-service officers when suspected religious extremists attacked the consular compound.

Sean Smith, a foreign-service information management officer, was also killed in the attack. The names of the two others killed were withheld until their families could be told.

Mr. Stevens, who was 52 years old, was the first sitting U.S. ambassador killed by hostile forces since 1979 and the sixth U.S. ambassador to be killed on duty.

At the time of the attack, Mr. Stevens was in Benghazi to visit the consulate, housed in the same villa in which he was based when he served as special representative before the fall of Gadhafi.

When Mr. Stevens arrived in April 2011 to take on the job, pro-Gadhafi forces had pushed back rebels along the coastal highway, threatening a bloodbath in Benghazi. Fears of a civilian slaughter prompted the United Nations to authorize armed intervention to help protect the rebels.

Mr. Stevens, who spoke fluent Arabic and had served two prior tours in Libya, worked to turn the rebels into the core of a new, democratic government for Libya. It worked, to a degree: By late August, rebels had seized the capital city of Tripoli, and by late October, Gadhafi was dead.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said Wednesday that Mr. Stevens "risked his life to stop a tyrant, then gave his life tryi ng to help build a better Libya. The world needs more Chris Stevenses."

President Barack Obama also praised the slain diplomat.

"It's especially tragic that Chris Stevens died in Benghazi because it is a city that he helped to save," Mr. Obama said. "We will not waver in our commitment to see that justice is done for this terrible act. And make no mistake, j ustice will be done."

John Christopher Stevens was born in the San Francisco Bay area. He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1982, earned a law degree from the University of California Hastings College of Law in San Francisco, and worked briefly as a trade lawyer in Washington, D.C.

He joined the foreign-service in 1991, serving in Washington, then in postings across the Middle East —Libya, Syria, Israel, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. His passion for the region dated to his service in th e 1980s as a Peace Corps volunteer teaching English in a small Moroccan town high in the Atlas Mountains.

In Syria, where he served as a political officer around the time of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, he left the embassy complex to find out what was happening on the ground with everyday people.

As deputy chief of mission in Libya years before the revolution, he took the same approach and told colleagues the Gadhafi regime was weaker than most people believed.

When he was sworn in as ambassador to Libya earlier in May, Mrs. Clinton spoke of his "California cool."

Colleagues said he was levelheaded, and comfortable enough to greet reporters at the Benghazi compound wearing flip - flops. He turned quick background briefings into lengthy and candid back -and-forth discussions.

By the time the Libyan revolution exploded in 2011, Mr. Stevens could have stayed in Washington. But the U.S. needed

an expert on the ground who could figure out what was happening during one of the touchiest moments of the Arab Spring.

"He knew how dangerous this was. He had been there before," said Gene Cretz, who at the time was U.S. ambassador to Libya. "He was just so committed to Libya, as soon as he was asked, he was willing to go."

In a video he made to introduce himself to Libyans shortly before he took up his post as ambassador this spring, Mr. Stevens spoke of America's own traumatic civil war, and his optimism about Libya.

"I look forward to exploring these possibilities with you as we work together to build a free, democratic, prosperous Libya," he said. "See you soon."

—Charles Levinson contributed to this article.

Washington Post
In Egypt and Libya, radicals are jockeying for power
Op-ed by David Ignatius
September 12, 2012

What's happening in Cairo and Benghazi appears to be a case of political opportunism — no, not by Mitt Romney, though there was some of that Wednesday — but by Salafist Islamic extremists who are unhappy with the success that more moderate Islamist and secularist parties in Egypt and Libya have had in building political support.

We're still in what I like to call the "fog of revolution" in both countries, where it's hard to know for sure what's happening and who benefits, so my reporting comes with a basic caveat. But based on conversations with sources who were on the streets Tuesday in the midst of the Cairo demonstration and who have been following events in Libya closely, it's possible to pierce the fog a bit and offer some basic analysis:

First, the situation in Cairo: The Arabic banners of the protesters moving toward the U.S. Embassy identified them as members of the Nour Partyand the al-Asala Party, the two leading Salafist groups that have competed in the Egyptian elections. The Salafists, whose name connotes respect for the Islamic "ancestors" of the prophet Mohammed's time, are more conservative and less pragmatic than the Muslim Brotherhood, now ruling Egypt.

An analyst who was in the midst of that crowd Tuesday told me that he thinks the Salafist demonstrators were using the pretext of a supposedly anti-Islamic American film to send two messages: The first was obviously anti-Americanism, which is potent in today's Egypt; the second and more interesting message was a challenge by the Salafists to their rivals in the Muslim Brotherhood government of President Mohamed Morsi.

As is so often the case in revolutions, the Cairo uproar appears to be partly a case of radicals wanting to undermine a more moderate governing party. The Salafist demonstrators' threat was augmented by violent hooligans, who are often described as soccer fans but increasingly are inflammatory anarchists.

A similar process of post-revolutionary jockeying is going on in Libya, and it tragically led to the death Tuesday of Ambassador Christopher J. Stevens and three other Americans. The Salafists' assault on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi at first appeared to be a "copycat" attack like the one in Cairo, but U.S. officials said it may have been planned by extremists linked to al-Qaeda. They were augmented by a well-armed Islamic militia. Their anger, again, is mixed between a baseline anti-Americanism (sadly, always a draw in the region) and a challenge to Prime Minister Abdurraheem el-Keib and the secularist parties that are the backbone of the new Libyan government.

Does America have an interest in the internal fights taking place in these countries still quaking from the Arab uprisings? Of course it does, especially when U.S. embassies are targets of protesters and U.S. diplomats get killed in the crossfire. But this isn't really about America: It's about factions battling for power in a fluid political situation.

Unfortunately, the seizure of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran in 1979 is an apt parallel. That was the work of a group of extremist Iranian "students" who were unhappy that the post-revolutionary government of Ayatollah Khomeini wasn't proving radical enough. They captured the revolution when they seized the embassy. The lesson of that disaster is that local security authorities must quickly restore order — and if they can't or won't, then Americans must move out of harm's way.

Also worrisome is the link between Salafists (whose posters worryingly appear in Cairo neighborhoods near Heliopolis

that are populated by members of the military) and the more violent "takfiri" wing, which believes it's permissible to kill apostate Muslims and has links with al-Qaeda. The takfiris hate the ruling Muslim Brotherhood, if that's any consolation.

The delicate political balance in Egypt and Libya makes the blunderbuss campaign rheto ric of Romney, the Republican presidential candidate, especially unfortunate. His comments make this crisis more "about America" than it needs to be.

Let's return to the main trigger for these events: It's the success of the tolerably non -extremist (I won't say "moderate") governments in Egypt and Libya in consolidating power, and the anger of the more radical Salafists at this success. Morsi, for example, has just won pledges of billions in financial support from Saudi Arabia and Qatar. The Gulf Arabs are making a bet that over the next year, Morsi can stabilize Egypt and get the economy moving again. Despite Tuesday's tragic events, the United States should make the same bet.

The Cable
Senior officials reveal details of harrowing battle at Benghazi cons ulate
Posted By Josh Rogin
September 12, 2012

Tuesday's attack by militants on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi was complex, raged for more than four hours, and included multiple attempts to retake the main consulate building, according two senior administ ration officials who briefed reporters Wednesday afternoon.

Amid the chaos, the whereabouts of Ambassador Chris Stevens, who died in the attacks, remained unknown until the next morning, the officials said.

"We want to make clear that we are still operat ing within the confusion of first reports. Many of the details of what happened in Benghazi are still unclear," one of the officials said to start the briefing. "The facts could very well change a s we get a better understanding."

The officials then procee ded to detail what they said was the U.S. government's current understanding of how the events in Benghazi unfolded. The officials declined to confirm reports that the administration believes the attack was planned in advance, but they described an extensive and complicated effort by well-armed and seemingly well-informed attackers that caught them by surprise.

At about 10 PM local time (4 PM EDT), the compound in Benghazi began taking fire from "unidentified Libyan extremists," the official said. Fifteen minutes later, the assailants had gotten inside the compound and began firing on the main building and setting it on fire.

Although there are usually 25 to 30 people working on the compound, at the time of the initial attack, only three people were inside the main building: Stevens, Foreign Service Officer Sean Smith, and an unidentified State Department regional security officer. They became separated in the thick smoke inside the main consulate building and only the regional security officer was able to get out, the official said.

The regional security officer returned to the building with more security personnel to try to rescue Stevens and Smith.

"At that time they found Sean. He was already dead, and they pulled him from the building" the official sa id. "They were unable to locate Chris before they were driven from the building by the fire, the smoke, and the continuing small arms fire."

At about 10:45 local time, security personnel assigned to an annex that was part of the compound made another atte mpt to retake the main consulate building but they took heavy fire and returned the mission annex, the official said.

At about 11:20 local time, they made another attempt to retake the building, this time with the support of Libyan security forces. They did secure it and proceeded to evacuate the remaining embassy personnel to the annex.

Around midnight local time, the annex itself came under attack. The ensuing gun battle lasted for two hours and resulted in the deaths of two more "U.S. personnel" that t he officials said were State Department personnel.

With the help of more Libyan security forces, the situation was finally under control by about 2:30 a.m. local time, but the ambassador was nowhere to be found.

"We believe that Ambassador Stevens got out of the building and was taken to a Benghazi hospital. We do not have any information about what his condition was at that time," the official said, adding that he U.S. government doesn't know who brought Stevens to the hospital, only that it wasn't Ameri cans.

Around daybreak Stevens's body was handed over to "U.S. personnel" at the Benghazi airport. All U.S. personnel, including the dead and three wounded, were subsequently evacuated to Tripoli and then sent on to Germany. The wounded will be treated in Germany and the rest will return home.

The Tripoli embassy has been reduced to emergency staffing levels and all diplomatic missions around the world have been directed to review their security procedures, the official said.

A second administration official said that the Pentagon has deployed a Marine Corps fleet anti -terrorism security team (FAST) based out of Europe.

"The mission of this team is to secure the diplomatic security to our embassy in Tripoli and protect U.S. personnel as needed," the official said. The official declined to speculate if U.S. forces would be involved in the hunt for the attackers but said, "The Department of Defense is ready to respond with additional military measures as directed by the president."

The briefing left several questions about the Tuesday attack unanswered. The officials wouldn't speculate about the identity of the attackers or whether the Benghazi attack was connected to an earlier protest at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo during which protesters breached the compound walls.

"It was clearly a complex attack," the official said. "It's too early to speak to who they were and if they might have been otherwise affiliated outside of Libya."

The officials declined to talk about the security situation at the consulate but did said there was a review of security at all diplomatic security arrangements in the context of preparing for the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

"At that time, there was no indication and no threat streams to indicate we were inadequately postured [a t the Benghazi consulate]," the official said.

The officials said they simply don't know exactly when or how Stevens died and they declined to confirm reports he died from smoke inhalation, pending an autopsy.

The officials could not say whether the atta ckers were part of the protests outside the embassy walls.

"We frankly don't have a full picture of what may have been going on outside of the compound walls before the firing began," the official said.

One of the officials did have information on the Ca iro embassy statement on Tuesday that has become an issue in the presidential campaign.

"That statement was not coordinated with Washington and therefore was taken down," the official said. "My understanding is that was released at noon Cairo time, which was before the protest began."

Wall Street Journal
U.S. Policy in Mideast Challenged by Assaults
By JAY SOLOMON
September 13, 2012

WASHINGTON—President Barack Obama has supported the democratically elected governments that have emerged in the Mideast over the past 18 months, despite concerns about the influence of Islamists that historically opposed the U.S.

Tuesday's attacks put that policy at a crossroads. On Wednesday, some American lawmakers and policy makers called for the U.S. to suspend financial aid, and possibly security cooperation, to Egypt and Libya, countries that were transformed by the revolutions of the Arab Spring.

As a result, Mr. Obama faces tough decisions about whether to pull back from cooperation with new governments in the region—as well as whether to get more directly involved in the antiregime movement in Syria in an attempt to ensure that Islamist groups don't assume as much power if the regime changes there.

Some U.S. lawmakers were particularly angered by the failure of Egyp tian President Mohammed Morsi, who hails from the Muslim Brotherhood, to condemn the attack on the U.S. mission.

The Egyptian leader limited his comments to affirming Egypt's commitment to protecting foreign diplomatic missions —and criticizing the production of the video on Islam that spurred Tuesday's protests.

The secretary-general of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood, Mahmoud Hussein, called on Egyptians to hold peaceful vigils to denounce the controversial video after Friday prayers.

The call appeared to be part of an effort by Mr. Morsi to strengthen his domestic support. "I think Morsi is trying to send a domestic message," said Omar Ashour, an expert on Islamist movements and a professor at Exeter University in the U.K. "The Brothers are trying to capitalize and enhance their own popularity within Islamism."

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said the United States 'condemns in the strongest terms' the attack on the American Embassy in Libya, resulting in the death of Chris Stevens and several other Ameri cans.

Meanwhile, Islamist activists held demonstrations outside U.S. embassies in Tunisia and Sudan, and burned U.S. flags in the Gaza Strip.

"The United States needs to send a clear signal to other countries that this barbaric behavior will not be toler ated," Rep. Michael McCaul (R., Tex.) said of Tuesday's attacks, calling for the freezing of aid for Egypt and Libya. "To attack our homeland and kill our citizens is outrageous, deplorable and it must have severe consequences."

The Obama administration is in the final stages of organizing a $1 billion package to ease the rising debt burden of Mr. Morsi's government. The U.S. also gives Egypt $1.3 billion a year in military aid.

While the Obama administration was critical of Egypt's response to the unrest , senior officials said Washington should continue providing assistance to the emerging governments in the Middle East, particularly Libya, because it was in Washington's long-term interest.

"We are as committed today as we have ever been to a free and st able Libya," said a senior U.S. official. "We are going to continue to help them get the future that they deserve."

President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan, another big recipient of U.S. aid, issued a statement that condemned the video but didn't condemn the killings in Libya or call for restraint. Mr. Obama then called Mr. Karzai, the White House said.

Advisers to Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney didn't comment on whether he would reduce aid to Islamist governments if he was elected. But they di d say that Washington should more aggressively stand up for American allies in the Middle East, and ethnic minorities, which could place the U.S. in conflict with some of the region's new powers.

An immediate issue facing the Obama administration is wheth er to use force in Libya to seek the leaders of the mob that killed U.S. Ambassador to Tripoli Christopher Stevens and three other U.S. officials.

U.S. officials said the White House is currently determining the "rules of engagement" for tracking Mr. Stev ens's assailants, while a manhunt is already under way led by Libyan security forces for the attackers. The debate in the administration, these officials said, concerns how involved the U.S. will get: from simply providing intelligence to Libyan forces, to attacking militants.

A direct U.S. attack on Libyan soil could further inflame tensions in the region, American officials acknowledge. And in the longer term, they said, if the resulting anti -American unrest spreads, it could prompt lawmakers to reconsid er foreign assistance to the Egyptian and Libyan governments and potentially others.

The events in Libya and Egypt could have a particularly profound impact on U.S. policy toward Syria. The administration is seeking the removal of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, following 18 months of violence in the Arab country that has left at least 20,000 people dead, according to Syrian activists. The U.S. views Mr. Assad's fall as crucial to weakening Iran, Mr. Assad's closest ally, which uses Syrian territory to s hip arms to Lebanese and Palestinian militants fighting Israel.

But the administration so far has resisted sending weapons to the Syrian rebels seeking to topple Mr. Assad, particularly because of concerns that some of them have ties to al Qaeda and other extremist groups. U.S. officials have acknowledged that there is growing pressure for Washington to play a more direct role in supporting Syria's opposition, in

part, to guard against extremist forces hijacking the movement.

Mr. Romney's campaign seized on the attacks in Cairo and Benghazi to criticize Mr. Obama's Syria policy. "We don't control who gets the arms inside Syria, which gives us less leverage to dictate the future after Assad," said Richard Williamson, Mr. Romney's top foreign-affairs adviser.

SCB 000145

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:11 AM
To: 'Sullivan, Jacob J'
Subject: RE: Deepest condolences

[redacted] taught for years at Rochester Institute of Technology so Secretary Clinton was his Senator and I'm guessing did much for his university and community during that period. (I was an intern in her NY senate office way back when, so know her efforts upstate).
He also has a degree from Caltech from Chris' home state. He has deep ties to this country.

Maybe something worth noting.

From: Sullivan, Jacob J [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:12 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Deepest condolences

Let me work on the [redacted] call tomorrow. Is he all right?

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:08 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J. <[redacted]>; Sullivan, Jacob J; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Deepest condolences

Great idea. Was supposed to be something in benghazi today but didn't hear if it happened. [redacted]s the right channel for this kind of messaging coordination.

Jake, could S call [redacted] who was elected pm tonight, reinforcing the points p otus will make to [redacted]? We know [redacted] and he liked chris a lot. Think burns [redacted]

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 09:02 PM
To: 'Sullivan, Jacob J' <[redacted]>; [redacted] <[redacted]>
Cc: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Deepest condolences

A smarter way of saying what I was suggesting.

From: Sullivan, Jacob J [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:02 PM
To: [redacted]; Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Cc: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Deepest condolences

This may be silly, or it may already be happening, but I think it would be great if the Libyans organized a big event to honor him.

SCB 000146

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:54 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; 'Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted] < [redacted] >
Cc: 'Benjamin I. Fishman [redacted] < [redacted] >
Subject: Fw: Deepest condolences

This is from the [redacted] of the Libyan GNC president. Ben Fishman introduced us, a lovely and impressive woman. Anything we want me to reinforce in my response?

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 08:40 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Deepest condolences

Good evening [redacted]
This is [redacted] I wanted to email you to express my deepest condolences regarding the death of your friend, and Libya's friend the late Christ Stevens. I do not exaggerate by saying that many Libyans are extremely saddened by the tragic and unfortunate events of last night. I kn ow you and Chris were close friends and I was looking forward to meeting him. I am sure this is a very difficult time for you, but I wanted to assure you that we are doing everything in our power to bring to justice those responsible for his death.

[redacted]

From: USDOJ-Office of Public Affairs (SMO) <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:24 AM
To: USDOJ-Office of Public Affairs (SMO)
Subject: REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2012
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(202) 514-2007
TTY (866) 544-5309

REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

DOHA, QATAR

Thank you, Dr. Al Marri, for those kind words – and for welcoming me back to your beautiful city. It is, as always, a pleasure to be in Doha – and to stand among so many esteemed colleagues. I would like to pay special tribute to my distinguished friend, Dr. Al Marri, who has been a leader on rule of law issues not only within the region, but worldwide.

And I'd like to join President Obama in thanking the government of the State of Qatar – particularly His Highness the Emir and His Excellency Dr. Al Marr i – for hosting this important gathering.

Even as we come together in a spirit of partnership, I know we are also bound by shock and sorrow at the tragic events that took place earlier this week at the United States Consulate in Benghazi, where the lives of four courageous Americans were lost in a senseless and brutal attack.

Among these extraordinary Americans was our Ambassador to Libya, Chris Stevens – who dedicated his career to strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the United States and the Libyan people. Through conflict and revolution – in times of uncertainty and transition – he stood shoulder-to-shoulder with all who spoke out – and fought – for the democratic ideals that have always defined our shared aspirations. Today, we condemn – in the strongest possible terms – the deplorable and savage acts of violence that claimed his life and those of the three other brave Americans who served with him. I can assure you – as the President has assured the world – that we are committed to working with the Libyan government to seek justice for the victims of this outrageous and unjustified attack, and to supporting the people of Libya – and millions of others throughout this region and around the world – as we promote religious tolerance and uphold the unshakeable values – of freedom, opportunity, and justice – for which these four brave individuals gave their lives. To that end, the FBI has opened an investigation into their deaths and the attack on the U.S. Consulate.

Today, I'd like to commend each of the delegations represented here for your contributions in advancing what's become a robust and ongoing dialogue about the role that each of our nations can play – and the responsibilities that we all must fulfill – in combating corruption, recovering stolen assets, and establishing a framework for cooperation and collaboration not only throughout this region – but across the globe. The hard work done here over the past few days – building relationships, establishing guidelines for the type of information that needs to be exchanged, and discussing what evidence exists – will pay dividends for all our citizens.

As President Obama reminded the United Nations General Assembly just last year: "No country can afford the corruption that plagues the world like a cancer." And as he reiterated in his videotaped remarks to this Forum, no people should be forced to bear the costs incurred by the corruption of their former leaders. Through our participation in this inaugural Forum, we affirm t hat *every* country must take part in the struggle to combat corruption and, wherever possible, to return stolen assets to ordinary citizens who are all deserving and in need. And I am proud to join you in pledging my own best efforts – and the full support of the United States government – as we take our collective anticorruption work to the next level and build on the excellent foundation provided by this historic gathering.

My colleagues and I are determined to do everything in our power to extend the re cord of achievement that's been established in recent years – and to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with any nation that strives to ensure integrity, to foster innovation, and to create opportunities for prosperity and progress; that cherishes the benefits of a free, fair, and open society; and that seeks to eradicate the public corruption and official misconduct that can weaken political institutions, threaten the democratic process, undermine the strength and promise of civil society and negatively impact, in a very real way, the lives of ordinary people.

Of course, fighting against these forces never has been – and never will be – easy. But, in many ways, it's never been more important. Corruption has long been recognized as a transnational problem that de mands a coordinated, global response. Time and again, we've seen its destructive, corrosive effects – hindering development, impeding advancement, and siphoning precious resources away from those in need at a time when they could hardly be more scarce – and when the world economy could hardly be more vulnerable. We've come to understand its impact in eroding trust, favoring the interests of a dishonest few over the needs of the hardworking many, and even breeding contempt for the rule of law.

This is something I've witnessed firsthand – when, more than 35 years ago, I began my career as a young attorney in the Justice Department's Public Integrity Section, prosecuting government officials in the United States who violated the trust of those the y were sworn to serve. Like many of you, I quickly recognized that, in the United States as in other nations – large and small, rich and poor, young and old, in every corner of the globe – when corruption takes hold, both stability and legitimacy may be c ompromised. The health of international markets can be adversely affected. Foreign investment is frequently driven away. And competition – more often than not – is stifled.

Over the course of my career, I've learned that corruption often becomes a "gat eway crime," paving the way for organized crime, money laundering, and, in some cases, even terrorism to take hold. And all of our nations have seen that effectively beating back corruption requires nothing less than a fundamental shift in the way public business is conducted, the way law enforcement operates, and the way civic leaders and members of the private sector think of themselves and the role they play.

Fortunately, recent years have provided ample proof that progress is possible. In the winds of change that have swept across the Middle East and fueled the Arab Spring; in the groundbreaking forum for transnational cooperation that this diverse group has begun to build; and in the growing call for gatherings like this event – we've seen that significant, even transformational, change is not out of our reach. And that the fundamental shifts we seek to bring about can – and do – happen. Progress, positive change is possible.

In 2009 – during my first year as Attorney General – I was proud to help mark the beginning of one such shift right here in Doha, when I joined Dr. Al Marri and many of you in opening the sixth – and final – Global Forum on Combating Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity. That day, heads of state, attorneys general, and justice and interior ministers from around the world came together to articulate a new vision for a brighter, more prosperous future. We concluded the Global Forum series with a fresh resolve to continue its important work. And we left this city more determined than ever to push for the full implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption; to recover and repatriate the proceeds of corruption; and to end immunity for officials who engage in corrupt activities.

Less than a year later – in Uganda, during the summer of 2010 – I stood with leaders from across Africa to announce a new Justice Department program known as the Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative, an effort aimed at making good on the United States government's commitment to help lead the fight against large-scale corruption, and to recover stolen funds so they can be used for their intended, legitimate purpose. Since then, we've assembled a team of highly-skilled prosecutors – a number of whom are present at this Forum – to enhance our anticorruption activities and bring offenders to justice. And I'm pleased to report that – despite the complexity inherent in all major international corruption cases – the Initiative's work is paying dividends.

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And, as we demonstrated at the end of February – when the United States implemented the mandate of the United Nations to freeze approximately $30 billion in Libyan assets, preventing Moammar Gaddafi from using them to flee or fuel a brutal crackdown on the Libyan people – wherever possible, we're determined to cooperate and bring innovative tools and strategies to bear in order to stop corrupt regimes from exploiting public resources for personal gain.

There's no question that each of these actions represents a meaningful, measurable step in the right direction. We are committed to work together with all of you to achieve the same results if we can locate stolen funds from your countries within the United States. But – if we hope to expand on these and similar efforts; if we intend to capitalize on the momentum we've built; and if we aspire to usher in a new era of integrity and accountability among public officials around the world – the reality is that these initial steps, on their own, will never be enough. Our continued progress will increasingly depend on our ability – and our willingness – to tear down traditional impediments to sharing information and to come together in common cause. Over the years, we've learned that asset recovery cannot be successful unless we work across borders and jurisdictions – and approach this work with a new level of commitment and understanding. For example, nations requesting help locating stolen assets that may have been laundered abroad cannot necessarily expect their partners to know where the assets stolen from a prior regime are located and to simply send them back. Similarly, states that have been called upon to provide such assistance cannot expect that victim states will be able to pinpoint all of the assets and criminal activity involved at the outset of an investigation. Progress – and justice – can only be achieved through a partnership that allows us to share the information that is essential to allow the tracing and forfeiture of these stolen funds.

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This shared commitment is also what has propelled the U.S. Justice Department to take unprecedented steps to engage with partners like you – along with business leaders and members of the nonprofit and advocacy communities – in order to help identify and disseminate best practices to prevent corruption, to share knowledge and innovative enforcement techniques, and to help develop and sustain the institutions that will always be at the center of this work. It's what has led us to build and strengthen relationships with leading nongovernmental organizations and other independent actors around the world. And it's helped to inform, to augment, and to re-energize our broad-based, global efforts to confront a range of critical challenges – from fighting transnational crime and terrorism, to promoting global security and good governance, to ensuring equality and fair opportunity for all.

In each of these areas – and particularly when it comes to anticorruption – I want to make clear that the United States intends to serve not as a patron, but as a partner; not as a monitor, but as a collaborator. Like you, we approach the challenges before us with resolve, humility, and an eagerness to reinforce old friendships and forge new ones. And we understand intimately that this work – though global in its reach – must begin at home.

That's why we're determined not just to support and strengthen the efforts that each of you have undertaken – but to apply the lessons we learn, and the tools and techniques we develop together, in our own prevention and enforcement efforts. As Attorney General, I've consistently worked to ensure that anticorruption remains a top priority for my colleagues at every level of the Justice Department. From our robust enforcement of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act – an important law under which we have secured more than 30 individual convictions and over 40 corporate resolutions, totaling more than $2.1 billion in penalties, over the last three years alone; to the anticorruption work of our prosecutors stationed both in the United States and overseas – I'm proud to report that we've made great strides in our fight against corruption, within – as well as beyond – our borders.

In particular, over the last two decades – in partnership with the U.S. Department of State, and at the request of host nations – the Justice Department's Criminal Division has placed U.S. prosecutors to serve as legal advisors in dozens of countries around the world, including Yemen, UAE, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey, and Egypt. I am pleased today to announce that the U.S. Department of Justice, in support of the G8 and Deauville Partnership Arab Asset Recovery Plan, and with the support of the U.S. Department of State, will appoint two additional Justice Department attorneys to work exclusively with Deauville transition countries and their regional partners on asset recovery and mutual legal assistance issues. One of these attorneys – who will specialize exclusively in asset recovery work – will be based here in the Middle East / North Africa region, and the other in Washington. And their duties will be two-fold: first, they will be available to coordinate case cooperation between the Deauville Partnership and the Justice Department's Kleptocracy Unit on identifying and tracing assets. Second, they will conduct intensive interactive courses on Asset Recovery in coordination with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, and other law enforcement agencies to increase effectiveness of transnational financial and corruption investigations.

This dedication of new U.S. government resources, like the creation of my Department's Kleptocracy unit, demonstrates the American commitment to the cause that has brought us all together at this Forum. I know that much remains to be done, and that it will continue to take very hard work to locate and recover the funds that have been stolen from the countries of this region. But make no mistake: everyone here can be proud – and encouraged – by the work that's been done here this week; by the remarkable, once-unimaginable progress that this Forum represents; and by the record of achievement that our nations stand poised to build upon. But we cannot yet be satisfied – and this is no time to become complacent.

As I said here in Doha in 2009, asset recovery is a global imperative. It is our duty to act together to develop the investigations, evidence, and expertise that will enable us to recover monies stolen through the violation of public trust. This is our shared responsibility to the citizens harmed by abuse of office.

In advancing this work, I am grateful for your partnership. I am counting on your leadership. And I look forward to all that we must – and surely will – accomplish together - for our nations and for the people we all serve.

Thank you.

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From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:44 AM
To: #AFPAK; [redacted]
Subject: Fw: Obama And Clinton Call President Karzai to Discuss Issues of Mutual Interest/English
Attachments: Obama And Clinton Call President Karzai to Discuss Issues of Mutual Interest.doc

FYI

From: President Press Office [mailto:president.pressofficee@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 09:40 AM
To: President Press Office <president.pressofficee@gmail.com>
Subject: Obama And Clinton Call President Karzai to Discuss Issues of Mutual Interest/English

Press Release

September 13, 2012

Obama and Clinton Call President Karzai to Discuss Issues of Mutual Interest

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In the phone conversation, both the sides denounced the film and termed it as insulting to Islamic beliefs and values.

The two Presidents also discussed the tragi c incidents that took place in Benghazi city of Libya, where U.S. diplomats were killed. President Karzai offered condolences to his US counterpart for the tragic loss of American life.

Moreover, President Karzai talked with Obama on US commitment to transferring the rest of Afghan detainees to Afghan authority as well as underscored that as per the MoU signed between the two governments, issue of the handover of the detainees is very important for Afghanistan's sovereignty which has to be taken into account.

With respect to Afghan sovereignty, President Obama reaffirmed his commitment to transferring detainees to Afghan authority.

The two Presidents agreed to speak again soon on the issue via teleconference.

On the same evening, Hillary Clinton US Secretary of State also called President Karzai and discussed the above issues.

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president.pressofficee@gmail.com

www.president.gov.af

جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان
ریاست مطبوعات
دفتر سخنگوی رئیس جمهور

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت
د مطبوعاتو ریاست
د جمهور رئیس دویاند دفتر

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From: [redacted] (OPA) <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:48 AM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

From: USDOJ-Office of Public Affairs (SMO)
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:24 AM
To: USDOJ-Office of Public Affairs (SMO)
Subject: REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2012
WWW.JUSTICE.GOV

AG
(202) 514-2007
TTY (866) 544-5309

REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

DOHA, QATAR

Thank you, Dr. Al Marri, for those kind words – and for welcoming me back to your beautiful city. It is, as always, a pleasure to be in Doha – and to stand among so many esteemed colleagues. I would like to pay special tribute to my distinguished friend, Dr. Al Marri, who has been a leader on rule of law issues not only within the region, but worldwide.

And I'd like to join President Obama in thanking the government of the Stat e of Qatar – particularly His Highness the Emir and His Excellency Dr. Al Marri – for hosting this important gathering.

Even as we come together in a spirit of partnership, I know we are also bound by shock and sorrow at the tragic events that took place earlier this week at the United States Consulate in Benghazi, where the lives of four courageous Americans were lost in a senseless and brutal attack.

Among these extraordinary Americans was our Ambassador to Libya, Chris Stevens – who dedicated his career to strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the United States and the Libyan people. Through conflict and revolution – in times of uncertainty and transition – he stood shoulder-to-shoulder

with all who spoke out – and fought – for the democratic ideals that have always defined our shared aspirations. Today, we condemn – in the strongest possible terms – the deplorable and savage acts of violence that claimed his life and those of the three other brave Americans who served with him. I can assure you – as the President has assured the world – that we are committed to working with the Libyan government to seek justice for the victims of this outrageous and unjustified attack, and to supporting the people of Libya – and millions of others throughout this region and around the world – as we promote religious tolerance and uphold the unshakeable values – of freedom, opportunity, and justice – for which these four brave individuals gave their lives. To that end, the FBI has opened an inve stigation into their deaths and the attack on the U.S. Consulate.

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As President Obama reminded the United Nations General Assembly just last year: "No country can afford the corruption that plagues the world like a cancer." And as he reiterated in his videotaped remarks to this Forum, no people should be forced to bear the costs incurred by the corruption of their f ormer leaders. Through our participation in this inaugural Forum, we affirm that *every* country must take part in the struggle to combat corruption and, wherever possible, to return stolen assets to ordinary citizens who are all deserving and in need. And I am proud to join you in pledging my own best efforts – and the full support of the United States government – as we take our collective anticorruption work to the next level and build on the excellent foundation provided by this historic gathering.

My colleagues and I are determined to do everything in our power to extend the record of achievement that's been established in recent years – and to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with any nation that strives to ensure integrity, to foster innovation, and to create opportunities for prosperity and progress; that cherishes the benefits of a free, fair, and open society; and that seeks to eradicate the public corruption and official misconduct that can weaken political institutions, threaten the democratic proce ss, undermine the strength and promise of civil society and negatively impact, in a very real way, the lives of ordinary people.

Of course, fighting against these forces never has been – and never will be – easy. But, in many ways, it's never been more important. Corruption has long been recognized as a transnational problem that demands a coordinated, global response. Time and again, we've seen its destructive, corrosive effects – hindering development, impeding advancement, and siphoning precious reso urces away from those in need at a time when they could hardly be more scarce – and when the world economy could hardly be more vulnerable. We've come to understand its impact in eroding trust, favoring the interests of a dishonest few over the needs of t he hardworking many, and even breeding contempt for the rule of law.

This is something I've witnessed firsthand – when, more than 35 years ago, I began my career as a young attorney in the Justice Department's Public Integrity Section, prosecuting governm ent officials in the United States who violated the trust of those they were sworn to serve. Like many of you, I quickly recognized that, in the United States as in other nations – large and small, rich and poor, young and old, in every corner of the globe – when corruption takes hold, both stability and legitimacy may be compromised. The health of international markets can be adversely affected. Foreign investment is frequently driven away. And competition – more often than not – is stifled.

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Attachments: Obama And Clinton Call President Karzai to Discuss Issues of Mutual Interest.doc

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Press Release

September 13, 2012

Obama and Clinton Call President Karzai to Discuss Issues of Mutual Interest

President Obama called President Hamid Karzai on Wednesday evening, condemning the film that insults Prophet Mohammad (PBUH).

In the phone conversation, both the sides denounced the film and termed it as insulting to Islamic beliefs and values.

The two Presidents also discussed the tragic incidents that took place in Benghazi city of Libya, where U.S. diplomats were killed. President Karzai offered condolences to his US counterpart for the tragic loss of American life.

Moreover, President Karzai talked with Obama on US commitment to transferring the rest of Afghan detainees to Afghan authority as well as underscored that as per the MoU signed between the two governments, issue of the handover of the detainees is very important for Afghanistan's sovereignty which has to be taken into account.

With respect to Afghan sovereignty, President Obama reaffirmed his commitment to transferring detainees to Afghan authority.

The two Presidents agreed to speak again soon on the issue via teleconference.

On the same evening, Hillary Clinton US Secretary of State also called President Karzai and discussed the above issues.

For further information, please contact:

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From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:58 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: The Cable (inside: 5 new items)

Did you see – [redacted].

From: [redacted] [mailto: [redacted]] **On Behalf Of** The Cable
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 7:14 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: The Cable (inside: 5 new items)

The Cable (inside: 5 new items)

- **Inside the public relations disaster at the Cairo embassy**
- **Senior officials reveal details of harrowing battle at Benghazi consulate**
- **Libyan ambassador blames ex-Qaddafi forces for consulate attacks**
- **Romney doubles down on embassy criticism**
- **Romney campaign links embassy attacks to Obama's failed Middle East policies**

Inside the public relations disaster at the Cairo embassy

Posted: 12 Sep 2012 01:48 PM PDT

One staffer at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo was responsible for the statement and tweets Tuesday that have become grist for the presidential campaign, and that staffer ignored explicit State Department instructions not to issue the statement, one U.S. official close to the issue told *The Cable*.

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Two additional administration officials confirmed the details of this account when contacted late Wednesday by *The Cable*.

The statement, issued as a press release on the U.S. Embassy website, has been attacked by Republican challenger

Mitt Romney, lawmakers, and conservatives around the country as an inappro priate "apology" and a failure to stand up for American principles such as freedom of speech.

The White House distanced itself from the statement Tuesday, and Romney criticized it directly in his initial reaction to the attacks in Egypt and Libya shortly thereafter, accusing President **Barack Obama** of evicing sympathy for the attackers.

On Wednesday, Romney doubled down on that criticism, saying, "I think it's a terrible course for America to apologize for our values."

President Obama commented on the con troversy **in an interview** to be aired Wednesday evening on *60 Minutes*.

"In an effort to cool the situation down, it didn't come from me, it d idn't come from Secretary Clinton. It came from people on the ground who are potentially in danger," Obama said. "And my tendency is to cut folks a little bit of slack when they're in that circumstance, rather than try to question their judgment from the comfort of a campaign office."

But Obama's remarks belie the enormous frustration of top officials at the State Department and White House with the actions of the man behind the statement, Cairo senior public affairs officer **Larry Schwartz**, who wrote the release and oversees the embassy's Twitter feed, according to a detailed account of the Tuesday's events.

The official noted that the statement was posted at exactly 12:18 p.m. Cairo time -- 6:18 a.m. Washington time -- well before the protests began, Romney has said, wrongly, that the statement was the administration's first response to the protests, but the official said that the demonstrations did not begin until 4 p.m. Cairo time and protesters breached the wall about 2 hours later.

After the breach, as public criticism of the statement grew, the Cairo Embassy Twitter account **continued to send out** tweets defending it, some of which were later deleted. One deleted tweet, originally posted at 12:30 a.m. Cairo time, said, "This morning's condemnation (issued before protests began) still stands. As does condemnation of unjustified breach of the Embassy."

Before issuing the press release, Schwartz cleared it with just one person senior to himself, Deputy Chief of Mission **Marc Sievers**, who was the charge d'affaires at the embassy on Tuesday because Ambassador **Anne Patterson** was in Washington at the time, the official said.

Schwartz sent the statement to the State Department in Washington before publishing and the State Depart ment directed him not to post it without changes, but Schwartz posted it anyway.

"The statement was not cleared with anyone in Washington. It was sent as 'This is what we are putting out,'" the official said. "We replied and said this was not a good state ment and that it needed major revisions. The next email we received from Embassy Cairo was 'We just put this out.'"

A heated discussion ensued among State Department and White House officials over e -mail as the controversy over the statement grew Tuesday evening, even grabbing the attention of Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton**. Meanwhile, those same officials were dealing with a more serious attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi that resulted in the

death of four American officials, including Ambassado r **Chris Stevens**.

"People at the highest levels both at the State Department and at the White House were not happy with the way the statement went down. There was a lot of anger both about the process and the content," the official said. "Frankly, people here did not understand it. The statement was just tone deaf. It didn't provide adequate balance. We thought the references to the 9/11 attacks were inappropriate, and we strongly advised against the kind of language that talked about 'continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims.'"

Despite being aware of Washington's objections, the embassy continued to defend the statement for several hours, fueling the controversy over it, a decision the official again attributed to Schwartz.

"Not only did they push out the statement but they continued to engage on Twitter and retweet it," the official said. "[Schwartz] would have been the one directing folks to engage on Twitter on this."

At approximately 10:30 p.m. Washington t ime, Clinton issued a statement on both the Libya and Egypt attacks that included a reference to religious tolerance as well as an emphasis on the administration's condemnation of the embassy attack.

"The United States deplores any intentional effort to d enigrate the religious beliefs of others," she said. "Our commitment to religious tolerance goes back to the very beginning of our nation. But let me be clear: There is never any justification for violent acts of this kind."

Despite his disregard of Washi ngton's instructions and his actions throughout the day Tuesday, Schwartz has not yet been disciplined in any way and is still the lead public affairs officer at the embassy.

"He remains at post at the same capacity as he was," the official said.

The State Department declined to comment and a request sent to the U.S. Embassy in Cairo for comment was not immediately returned.

Senior officials reveal details of harrowing battle at Benghazi consulate

Posted: 12 Sep 2012 11:12 AM PDT

Tuesday's attack by militants on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi was complex, raged for more than four hours, and included multiple attempts to retake the main consulate building, according two senior administration officials who briefed reporters Wednesday afternoon.

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Amid the chaos, the whereabouts of Ambassador **Chris Stevens**, who died in the attacks, remained unknown until the next morning, the officials said.

"We want to make clear that we are still operating within the confusion of first reports. Many of the details of what happened in Benghazi are still unclear," one of the officials said to start the briefing. "The facts could ve ry well change as we get a better understanding."

The officials then proceeded to detail what they said was the U.S. government's current understanding of how the events in Benghazi unfolded. The officials **declined to confirm reports** that the administration believes the attack was planned in advance, but they described an extensive and complicated effort by well -armed and seemingly well-informed attackers that caught them by surprise.

At about 10 PM local time (4 PM EDT), the compound in Benghazi began taking fire from "unidentified Libyan extremists," the official said. Fifteen minutes later, the assailants had gotten inside the compound and began firing on the main building and setting it on fire.

Although there are usually 25 to 30 people working on the compound, at the time of the initial attack, only three people were inside the main building: Stevens, Foreign Service Officer **Sean Smith**, and an unidentified State Department regional security officer. They became separated in the t hick smoke inside the main consulate building and only the regional security officer was able to get out, the official said.

The regional security officer returned to the building with more security personnel to try to rescue Stevens and Smith.

"At that time they found Sean. He was already dead, and they pulled him from the building" the official said. "They were unable to locate Chris before they were driven from the building by the fire, the smoke, and the continuing small arms fire."

At about 10:45 local time, security personnel assigned to an annex that was part of the compound made another attempt to retake the main consulate building but they took heavy fire and returned the mission annex, the official said.

At about 11:20 local time, they made ano ther attempt to retake the building, this time with the support of Libyan security forces. They did secure it and proceeded to evacuate the remaining embassy personnel to the annex.

Around midnight local time, the annex itself came under attack. The ensui ng gun battle lasted for two hours and resulted in the deaths of two more "U.S. personnel" that the officials said were State Department personnel.

With the help of more Libyan security forces, the situation was finally under control by about 2:30 a.m. lo cal time, but the ambassador was nowhere to be found.

"We believe that Ambassador Stevens got out of the building and was taken to a Benghazi hospital. We do not have any information about what his condition was at that time," the official said, adding th at he U.S. government doesn't

know who brought Stevens to the hospital, only that it wasn't Americans.

Around daybreak Stevens's body was handed over to "U.S. personnel" at the Benghazi airport. All U.S. personnel, including the dead and three wounded, were subsequently evacuated to Tripoli and then sent on to Germany. The wounded will be treated in Germany and the rest will return home.

The Tripoli embassy has been reduced to emergency staffing levels and all diplomatic missions around the world have been directed to review their security procedures, the official said.

A second administration official said that the Pentagon has deployed a Marine Corps fleet anti -terrorism security team (FAST) based out of Europe.

"The mission of this team is to secure the diplomatic security to our embassy in Tripoli and protect U.S. personnel as needed," the official said. The official declined to speculate if U.S. forces would be involved in the hunt for the attackers but said, "The Department of Defense is ready to respond with additional military measures as directed by the president."

The briefing left several questions about the Tuesday attack unanswered. The officials wouldn't speculate about the identity of the attackers or whether the Benghazi attack was connected to an earlier protest at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo during which protesters breached the compound walls.

"It was clearly a complex attack," the official said. " It's too early to speak to who they were and if they might have been otherwise affiliated outside of Libya."

The officials declined to talk about the security situation at the consulate but did said there was a review of security at all diplomatic security arrangements in the context of preparing for the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

"At that time, there was no indication and no threat streams to indicate we were inadequately postured [at the Benghazi consulate]," the official said.

The officials said they simply don't know exactly when or how Stevens died and they declined to confirm reports he died from smoke inhalation, pending an autopsy.

The officials could not say whether the attackers were part of the protests outside the embassy walls.

"We frankly don't have a full picture of what may have been going on outside of the compound walls before the firing began," the official said.

One of the officials did have information on the Cairo embassy statement on Tuesday that has become an issue in the presidential campaign.

"That statement was not coordinated with Washington and therefore was taken down," the official said. "My understanding is that was released at noon Cairo time, which was before the protest began."

Libyan ambassador blames ex-Qaddafi forces for consulate attacks

Posted: 12 Sep 2012 06:10 AM PDT

Libya's Ambassador to Washington **Ali Aujali** said Wednesday that associates of disposed tyrant Muammar al-Qaddafi were behind the Tuesday attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi that resulted in the deaths of four American officials, including Ambassador **Chris Stevens**.

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"We know that Qaddafi's associates are in Libya. Of course, they took this chance to infiltrate among the people," Aujali said in today in an interview. His claim contradicts most reports, which place the blame on radical Islamist groups that claimed to be reacting to an obscure American film they viewed as insulting to Islam.

Aujali said that the Libyan government has intelligence that unspecified Qaddafi forces were involved.

"I think it is not clear who [the attackers] are exactly but I am sure they were infiltrated by these people. They still have money. They still have support in countries like Tunisia and Mauritania and other countries who work together with them and finance these kinds of terrorists attacks."

His claim was viewed with skepticism in Washington, where analysts said Aujali's statements fit a pattern of the Libyan government refusing to confront the hundreds of militias that remain powerful, heavily armed, and beyond the reach of the law.

"The Libyan government has been blaming amorphous pro-Qaddafi elements for everything that goes wrong in their country," said Tom Malinowski, Washington director of Human Rights Watch. "It's a way of denying the hard truth that the biggest threat they face to their hopes for democracy and the rule of law comes from among their own fellow former revolutionaries."

The Libyan government has failed to respond to a series of provocations by these groups, Malinowski said.

"The responsibility for this crime falls squarely on the people who perpetrated it and on the Libyan authorities, who have failed thus far to rein in armed elements that defy the law in Libya with impunity, whether by destroying Sufi shrines, attacking aid groups, or now murdering a U.S. ambassador," he said. "The majority of Libyans are not responsible for this, but they are responsible for stopping it by confronting these armed groups once and for all."

Aujali also said that the Libya government didn't have any direct advance knowledge of the attack and pledged that the Libyan government would work closely with the U.S. government to investigate the incident.

Aujali emphasized that the Libyan people are grateful for American support and he expressed confidence that the

U.S.-Libya relationship would be maintained.

The Libyan government's failure to protect the consulate is due to a lack of resources and progress in rebuilding the security infrastructu re in Benghazi, he said.

"Qaddafi left no intstitions. We have no army, no police forces. We have to build everything from zero, unfortunately. We still need some time," he said.

Romney doubles down on embassy criticism

Posted: 12 Sep 2012 04:30 AM PDT

Republican challenger **Mitt Romney** defended his criticism of President **Barack Obama**'s handling of the of the attacks on two U.S. diplomatic and doubled down on his campaign's message that the attacks are evidence that the White House's policies have failed across the region.

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"I think it's a terrible course for America to apologize for our values," Romney said, referring to the original U.S. Embassy Cairo statement on the protests there, which was issued b efore protesters broached the embassy compound walls Tuesday. "They clearly sent mixed messages to the world. And the statement that came from the administration -- and the embassy is the administration ... was a statement which is akin to apology and I th ink was a severe miscalculation."

Romney called for renewed American leadership in the world, reinforcing **his campaign's assertion** Tuesday that the embassy attacks are related to the administration's overall approach to the Arab uprisings.

"The attacks in Libya and Egypt underscore that the world remains a dangerous place and that American leadership is still sorely needed. In the face of this vi olence, America cannot shrink from the responsibility to lead," he said. "American leadership is necessary to ensure that events in the region don't spin out of control. We cannot hesitate to use our influence in the region to support those who share our v alues and our interests."

"Over the last several years we stood witness to an Arab Spring that presents an opportunity for a more peaceful and prosperous region but also poses the potential for peril if the voices -- forces of extremism and violence are a llowed to control the course of events. We must strive to ensure that the Arab Spring does not become an Arab Winter," Romney said.

The Romney campaign's reaction to the events in Egypt and Libya stood in contrast to several statements by GOP congressional leaders Wednesday morning, most of whom avoided any direct criticism of the Obama administration

or its policies.

"Yesterday we commemorated the anniversary of the attacks of September 11, and today we are reminded that brave Americans serve us every day at the risk of their own lives. We honor the Americans we lost in Libya, and we will stand united in our response," Senate Minority Leader **Mitch McConnell** (R-KY) said in a statement. "Among the things we can all agree on in Washington is that attacks on the U.S. and its representatives will be met with resolve, and that America's presence and defense of our national interests across the globe will not be deterred by the acts of violent extremists."

Sens. **John McCain** (R-AZ), **Joe Lieberman** (I-CT), and **Lindsey Graham** (R-SC), issued a joint statement that echoed Romney's concerns about the path of the Arab Spring and urged international support for Libyan democracy, but emphasized that the details of Tuesday's attacks are still unknown.

"There is still much we do not know about what happened in Benghazi yesterday. What is clear, however, is that the attackers must be apprehended and punished. We appreciate that senior Libyan leaders have condemned these cowardly attacks, and we now look to the Libyan governme nt to ensure that the perpetrators are swiftly brought to justice, and that U.S. diplomats are protected. We have confidence that our own government will provide all necessary assistance to this end," they said.

One senior Republican senator, Sen. **James Inhofe** (R-OK), joined with Romney today in tying the tragic events in Libya and Egypt to Obama's policies in the Middle East.

"Sadly, America has suffered as a result of President Obama's failure to lead and his failed foreign policy of appeasement and apology. The world must know beyond doubt that America will not allow these types of attacks on our people. Obama's failed leadership is in direct contrast with Ambassador Stevens' brave leadership and effort to protect Americans at the consulate," Inhofe sai d in statement.

Inhofe called for congressional hearings to investigate the intelligence and security failures that proceeded the attacks.

House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairwoman **Ileana Ros-Lehtinen** (R-FL) indirectly criticized the administration's response Tuesday in remarks ahead of a committee hearing Wednesday morning.

"Let us be clear: There is no justification for the murder of our diplomats and attacks of our embassies. We have nothing for which we should apologize," she said. We must ensure that the perpetrators of this recent round of 9/11 attacks are held accountable."

In separate statements Wednesday morning, President Obama and Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton** condemned the attacks, expressed aguish about the deaths of four Americans, i ncluding U.S. Ambassador **Chris Stevens**, and promised to press for a full and swift investigation.

"We're working with the government of Libya to secure our diplomats. I've also directed my administration to increase our security at diplomatic posts around the world. And make no mistake: We will work with the Libyan government to bring to justice the kil lers who attacked our people," Obama said.

"Since our founding the United States has been a nation that respects all faiths. We reject all efforts to denigrate the religious beliefs of others. But there is absolutely no justification for this type of sens eless violence. None. The world must stand together to unequivocally reject these brutal acts. Already, many Libyans have joined us in doing so, and this attack will not break the bonds between the United States and Libya."

Clinton spoke in detail about Stevens's record of working on behalf of Libyans and praised the Libyan government's response to the crisis so far.

"When the attack came yesterday, Libyans stood and fought to defend our post. Some were wounded. Libyans carried Chris's body to the hospita l, and they helped rescue and lead other Americans to safety. And last night, when I spoke with the president of Libya, he strongly condemned the violence and pledged every effort to protect our people and pursue those responsible," she said.

"Today many Americans are asking -- indeed, I asked myself -- how could this happen? How could this happen in a country we helped liberate in a city we helped save from destruction? This question reflects just how complicated and, at times, how confounding the world c an be. But we must be clear-eyed, even in our grief. This was an attack by a small and savage group, not the people or government of Libya," she said.

"The friendship between our countries, born out of shared struggle, will not be another casualty of this attack. A free and stable Libya is still in America's interest and security, and we will not turn our back on that, nor will we rest until those responsible for these attacks are found and brought to justice."

Romney campaign links embassy attacks to Obama's failed Middle East policies

Posted: 12 Sep 2012 12:47 AM PDT

President **Barack Obama's** flawed approach to the Middle East and his failure to assert American leadership throughout the Arab Spring resulted in reduced American influence in the region and set the stage for Tuesday's assaults on U.S. diplomatic posts led by Islamic extrem ists, Romney senior foreign policy advisor **Rich Williamson** told *The Cable* Tuesday night.

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The attacks Tuesday on two U.S. diplomatic posts were directly related to "the loss of American leadership and prestige throughout the Middle East because of the Obama administration's failed policies in that region," Williamson said in an extensive interview late Tuesday evening.

The interview took place before it was known that four Americans died in the armed assault o n the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, including Ambassador **Chris Stevens**. President **Barack Obama** issued a statement this morning

confirming reports of Stevens' death and condemning the attacks.

"Right now, the American people have the families of those we los t in our thoughts and prayers. They exemplified America's commitment to freedom, justice, and partnership with nations and people around the globe, and stand in stark contrast to those who callously took their lives," Obama said in the statement. "I have d irected my Administration to provide all necessary resources to support the security of our personnel in Libya, and to increase security at our diplomatic posts around the globe."

Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton** said in a **seperate statement** Wednesday morning that foreign service officer **Sean Smith** was also killed. The names of the other two U.S. citizens killed have not yet beeen released, pending notification of their families.

Tuesday night, while the attacks were still ongoing, Williamson said that the governments in Egypt and Libya as well as the Obama administration bear responsibility for the deteriorating security environment that led to the attacks .

"The events in Egypt and Libya show the failure of the Egyptian and Libyan governments to uphold their obligations to keep our diplomatic missions safe and secure and the regard in which the United States is held under President Obama in these two countries," he said. "It's all part of a broader scheme of the president's failure to be an effective leader for U.S. interests in the Middle East."

The Obama administration has failed to develop, much less communicate, a coherent or consistent approach to protecting American interests throughout the Arab Spring, Williamson argued. The events in Egypt and Libya are part of a broader story of what he characterized as the administration's lack of leadership in responding to the Syria crisis, a mishandling of the U.S.-Israel relationship, and a failed engagement policy with Iran, he charged.

Tuesday's attacks are not isolated incidents, but rather are part of an increasing and disturbing trend of anti - American incidents that illustrate the administration's failed policies, according to Williamson.

"The region's in turmoil and this president has not provided effective leadership," Williamson said. "It's a pattern and the pattern sees the U.S. with reduced influence, reduced respect, reduced capacity to project its interests and our security is at risk because of the greatest danger, which is a nuclear breakout by Iran."

Williamson said that the Obama administration had reduced funding for civil society and democracy programs in the Middle East during its first year s in office and de-emphasized the Bush administration's "Freedom Agenda." Romney expressed the same sentiment **in an interview in Israel in July**, where he expressed concern about the path of the Arab Spring.

"The Arab Spring is not appropriately named. It has become a development of more concern and it occurred in part because of the reluctance on the part of various dictators to provide more freedom to their citizens. President [George W.] Bush urged [deposed Egyptian President] Hosni Mubarak to move toward a more democratic posture, but President Obama abandoned the Freedom Agenda and we are seeing today a whirlwind of tumult in the Middle East in part because these nations did not embrace the reforms that could have changed the course of their history, in a more peaceful manner."

In Egypt, the Obama administration stood by Mubarak for too long, thereby alienating the revolutionaries and

reducing U.S. capacity to influence the n ew government, Williamson argued. In Libya, the administration "led from behind" and was dragged into intervening by Britain and France, he said, and then failed to follow up sufficiently to support their transition to a stable democracy.

Regarding Syria, Williamson referred to Romney's call in 2011 for the administration to engage more with the opposition, and said that the administration's limited supported for the opposition now was "a day late and a dollar short" -- insufficient to respond to the bruta lity of the Syrian regime and the deaths of more than 20,000 Syrian civilians.

Romney supports working with allies to arm the Syrian opposition, and Williamson said the fact that Tuesday's attack in Benghazi was perpetrated by militias that were part of l ast year's Libyan revolution shouldn't hurt the current push to arm the Syrian opposition now. If the administration had engaged the opposition earlier, he arged, that concern would have been alleviated by now.

"Anyone who has any sophistication knows tha t we weren't going to get a U.N. Security Council resolution from Russia. You would have to be deaf, dumb, and blind not to know that would be the result. So the administration wasted valuable time and the cost is 20,000 Syrian lives. That's not what I wou ld call effective foreign policy," he said.

Romney has said little about the Arab Spring. His few public statements on the uprisings have focused on his fear that the once-hopeful movement is taking a turn for the worse and that the democratic reformers w ho started the revolutions are losing out to the Islamic groups that are assuming power.

"We're facing an Arab Spring which is out of control in some respects because the president was not as strong as he needed to be in encouraging our friends to move to ward representative forms of government," Romney said **last October**.

The Romney campaign has previously promised to return to a focus on p romoting democracy and put an increased priority on human rights. Williamson said the Obama administration's downplaying of those issues had exacerbated the region's problems.

"Maybe if [Obama] had continued to support democracy and civil society in these countries the way that Bush did, the way they should, maybe the more moderate forces would have better prepared to compete for political power," he said.

He also criticized Obama for not meeting with Benjamin Netanyahu while the Israeli prime minister is visiting the United States for the opening of the U.N. General Assembly. Amid accusations by anonymous Israeli officials that the president had turned down Jerusalem's request for a meeting, the White House said Tuesday that it was a scheduling issue, not a slight, but Williamson is skeptical.

"This president has played more than 100 rounds of golf, more than any president in U.S. history, but he can't find time to meet with the head of state of one of our closest allies facing a national threat. It's min dboggling," he said.

Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton** issued a statement Tuesday night confirming that one State Department officer had been killed in the armed attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi. The battle in Benghazi between armed

militants and the Libyan government army in the streets near the consulate raged into the night, and Clinton phoned Libyan National Assembly leader **Mohammed Magarief** to urge him to commit more resources to protecting Americans.

In a separate incident Tuesday, protests at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo resulted in several protesters breaching the compound's walls and replacing an American flag with the black banner of al Qaeda. There were no injuries in that incident, which the protesters claimed was inspired by an obscure U .S.-made film's depiction of the Prophet Mohammed.

The Romney campaign issued a statement late Tuesday criticizing a press release on the **Cairo Embassy website** that focused on the issue of religious incitement and religious freedom. That press release had been heavily criticized by conservative websites and by the Republican -controlled House Foreign Affairs Committee throughout the day as an "apology" for the assault, although it was issued before th e embassy breach.

"I'm outraged by the attacks on American diplomatic missions in Libya and Egypt and by the death of an American consulate worker in Benghazi," Romney said in the statement. "It's disgraceful that the Obama Administration's first response was not to condemn attacks on our diplomatic missions, but to sympathize with those who waged the attacks."

The Romney campaign had initially sent out the statement under embargo, presumably to adhere to its pledge to avoid negative campaigning on the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, but then allowed reporters to publish it earlier.

The White House **distanced itself** from the embassy statement late Tuesday, saying it hadn't been cleared with Washington. Clinton's statement also r eferred to that controversy.

"Some have sought to justify this vicious behavior as a response to inflammatory material posted on the Internet. The United States deplores any intentional effort to denigrate the religious beliefs of others. Our commitment to religious tolerance goes back to the very beginning of our nation. But let me be clear: There is never any justification for violent acts of this kind."

A previous version of this story stated that Romney supports U.S. directly arming the Syrian opposit ion. A senior Romney campaign official clarified that Romney has not yet called for the U.S. to directly arm them.

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From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:59 AM
To: [redacted] Nuland, Victoria J; Ventrell, Patrick H; [redacted] (PA); [redacted]
Subject: RE: Amb Cunningham statement

+ NSS

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:55 AM
To: [redacted] Nuland, Victoria J; Ventrell, Patrick H; [redacted] (PA)
Subject: Amb Cunningham statement

PA-FO Colleagues –

Kabul/SRAP would like a statement out from Amb Cunningham directly (vice Embassy/ISAF one from yesterday). They are concerned about holding the statement any longer because of the time difference and missing the Thurs eve newscasts.

The below is based on cleared language from yesterday, pls advise on clearance for release in advance of S statements today.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 07:59 AM
To: [redacted] Kabul Press
Subject: DRAFT Cunningham Statement

[redacted] and [redacted], Amb. Cunningham wants this statement out as soon as possible. He has cleared.

Statement by Ambassador to Afghanistan James B. Cunningham

I join President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton in condemning in the strongest terms the attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya. It is with heartfelt sincerity that my thoughts and prayers, and those of our larger diplomatic and military community, go out to the family of Ambassador Stevens and our other American colleagues who died in this attack. As Secretary Clinton remarked yesterday, these fine and heroic public servants made "the ultimate sacrifice." I appreciate the many expressions of sympathy and condolence conveyed to me by President Karzai and other Afghan leaders.

I also echo President Karzai's condemnation of the video and film that has offended many Muslims and others around the world. As President Obama said yesterday, since our founding, the United States has been a nation that respects all faiths. We reject any efforts to insult and disrespect the religious beliefs of others. The video does not represent the values of the United States, which supports religious tolerance as one of our most important principles. Through our efforts here, we seek to promote mutual respect with our Afghan partners.

This film and video are insulting to people of good will of all faiths. But they do not merit a violent response, and are not worth the injury or death of innocent people. I hope that all societies of all faiths wil l reject provocative attempts to gain attention, and we urge restraint from all who are understandably offended by the video and the sentiments behind it. In our partnership with the sovereign nation of Afghanistan, we share the goal of safety for Afghan families, as well as Afghan-Coalition forces and the larger diplomatic and international community serving in Afghanistan.

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:02 AM
To: [redacted](OPA)'
Subject: RE: REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

Thank you!

From: [redacted] (OPA) [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:48 AM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

From: USDOJ-Office of Public Affairs (SMO)
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:24 AM
To: USDOJ-Office of Public Affairs (SMO)
Subject: REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2012
WWW.JUSTICE.GOV

AG
(202) 514-2007
TTY (866) 544-5309

REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

DOHA, QATAR

Thank you, Dr. Al Marri, for those kind words – and for welcoming me back to your beautiful city. It is, as always, a pleasure to be in Doha – and to stand among so many esteemed colleagues. I would like to pay special tribute to my distinguished friend, Dr. Al Marri, who has been a leader on rule of law issues not only within the region, but worldwide.

And I'd like to join President Obama in thanking the government of the State of Qatar – particularly His Highness the Emir and His Excellency Dr. Al Marri – for hosting this important gathering.

Even as we come together in a spirit of partnership, I know we are also bound by shock and sorrow a t the tragic events that took place earlier this week at the United States Consulate in Benghazi, where the lives of four courageous Americans were lost in a senseless and brutal attack.

Among these extraordinary Americans was our Ambassador to Libya, Chr is Stevens – who dedicated his career to strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the United States and the Libyan people. Through conflict and revolution – in times of uncertainty and transition – he stood shoulder-to-shoulder with all who spoke out – and fought – for the democratic ideals that have always defined our shared aspirations. Today, we condemn – in the strongest possible terms – the deplorable and savage acts of violence that claimed his life and those of the three other brave Americans who served with him. I can assure you – as the President has assured the world – that we are committed to working with the Libyan government to seek justice for the victims of this outrageous and unjustified attack, and to supporting the p eople of Libya – and millions of others throughout this region and around the world – as we promote religious tolerance and uphold the unshakeable values – of freedom, opportunity, and justice – for which these four brave individuals gave their lives. To that end, the FBI has opened an investigation into their deaths and the attack on the U.S. Consulate.

Today, I'd like to commend each of the delegations represented here for your contributions in advancing what's become a robust and ongoing dialogue about the role that each of our nations can play – and the responsibilities that we all must fulfill – in combating corruption, recovering stolen assets, and establishing a framework for cooperation and collaboration not only throughout this region – but across the globe. The hard work done here over the past few days – building relationships, establishing guidelines for the type of information that needs to be exchanged, and discussing what evidence exists – will pay dividends for all our citizens.

As President Obama reminded the United Nations General Assembly just last year: "No country can afford the corruption that plagues the world like a cancer." And as he reiterated in his videotaped remarks to this Forum, no people should be forced to bear the costs incurred by the corruption of their former leaders. Through our participation in this inaugural Forum, we affirm that *every* country must take part in the struggle to combat corruption and, wherever possible, to r eturn stolen assets to ordinary citizens who are all deserving and in need. And I am proud to join you in pledging my own best efforts – and the full support of the United States government – as we take our collective anticorruption work to the next level and build on the excellent foundation provided by this historic gathering.

My colleagues and I are determined to do everything in our power to extend the record of achievement that's been established in recent years – and to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with any nation that strives to ensure integrity, to foster innovation, and to create opportunities for prosperity and progress; that cherishes the benefits of a free, fair, and open society; and that seeks to eradicate the public corruption and official mis conduct that can weaken political institutions, threaten the democratic process, undermine the strength and promise of civil society and negatively impact, in a very real way, the lives of ordinary people.

Of course, fighting against these forces never ha s been – and never will be – easy. But, in many ways, it's never been more important. Corruption has long been recognized as a transnational problem that demands a coordinated, global response. Time and again, we've seen its destructive, corrosive effec ts – hindering development, impeding advancement, and siphoning precious resources away from those in need at a time when they could hardly be more scarce – and when the world economy could hardly be more vulnerable. We've

come to understand its impact in eroding trust, favoring the interests of a dishonest few over the needs of the hardworking many, and even breeding contempt for the rule of law.

This is something I've witnessed firsthand – when, more than 35 years ago, I began my career as a young attorney in the Justice Department's Public Integrity Section, prosecuting government officials in the United States who violated the trust of those they were sworn to serve. Like many of you, I quickly recognized that, in the United States as in other nations – large and small, rich and poor, young and old, in every corner of the globe – when corruption takes hold, both stability and legitimacy may be compromised. The health of international markets can be adversely affected. Foreign investment is frequently driven away. And competition – more often than not – is stifled.

Over the course of my career, I've learned that corruption often becomes a "gateway crime," paving the way for organized crime, money laundering, and, in some cases, even terrorism to take hold. And all of our nations have seen that effectively beating back corruption requires nothing less than a fundamental shift in the way public business is conducted, the way law enforcement operates, and the way civic leaders and members of the private sector think of themselves and the role they play.

Fortunately, recent years have provided ample proof that progress is possible. In the winds of change that have swept across the Middle East and fueled the Arab Spring; in the groundbreaking forum for transnational cooperation that this diverse group has begun to build; and in the growing call for gatherings like this event – we've seen that significant, even transformational, change is not out of our reach. And that the fundamental shifts we seek to bring about can – and do – happen. Progress, positive change is possible.

In 2009 – during my first year as Attorney General – I was proud to help mark the beginning of one such shift right here in Doha, when I joined Dr. Al Marri and many of you in openin g the sixth – and final – Global Forum on Combating Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity. That day, heads of state, attorneys general, and justice and interior ministers from around the world came together to articulate a new vision for a brighter, more prosperous future. We concluded the Global Forum series with a fresh resolve to continue its important work. And we left this city more determined than ever to push for the full implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption; to recov er and repatriate the proceeds of corruption; and to end immunity for officials who engage in corrupt activities.

Less than a year later – in Uganda, during the summer of 2010 – I stood with leaders from across Africa to announce a new Justice Department program known as the Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative, an effort aimed at making good on the United States government's commitment to help lead the fight against large -scale corruption, and to recover stolen funds so they can be used for their intende d, legitimate purpose. Since then, we've assembled a team of highly-skilled prosecutors – a number of whom are present at this Forum – to enhance our anticorruption activities and bring offenders to justice. And I'm pleased to report that – despite the complexity inherent in all major international corruption cases – the Initiative's work is paying dividends.

Late last year, for instance, the Justice Department filed civil forfeiture complaints against more than $70 million in alleged proceeds from corru pt activities conducted by a government minister in Equatorial Guinea, who – we have alleged – had laundered these assets through the United States. Earlier this summer, we obtained a forfeiture judgment allowing the United States to dispose of more than $400,000 in assets traced to a former Nigerian public official who was impeached in 2005 – the first judgment obtained under the Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative. Just under two months ago, we secured a restraining order against more than $3 million in corruption proceeds connected to another former Nigerian official – who, earlier this year in the United Kingdom, was convicted of conspiracy to defraud and money laundering, and has been sentenced to 13 years in prison.

And, as we demonstrated at the end of February – when the United States implemented the mandate of the United Nations to freeze approximately $30 billion in Libyan assets, preventing Moammar Gaddafi from using them to flee or fuel a brutal crackdown on the Libyan people – wherever possible, we're determined to cooperate and bring innovative tools and strategies to bear in order to stop corrupt regimes from exploiting public resources for personal gain.

There's no question that each of these actions represents a meaningful, measurable step in the right direction. We are committed to work together with all of you to achieve the same results if we can locate stolen funds from your countries within the United States. But – if we hope to expand on these and similar efforts; if we intend to capitalize on the momentum we've built; and if we aspire to usher in a new era of integrity and accountability among public officials around the world – the reality is that these initial steps, on their own, will never be enough. Our continued progress will increasingly depend on our ability – and our willingness – to tear down traditional impediments to sharing information and to come together in common cause. Over the years, we've learned that asset recovery cannot be successful unless we work across borders and jurisdictions – and approach this work with a new level of commitment and understanding. For example, nations requesting help locating stolen assets that may have been laundered abroad cannot necessarily expect their partners to know where the assets stolen from a prior regime are located and to simply send them back. Similarly, states that have been called upon to provide such assistance cannot expect that victim states will be able to pinpoint all of the assets and criminal activity involved at the outset of an investigation. Progress – and justice – can only be achieved through a partnership that allows us to share the information that is essential to allow the tracing and forfeiture of these stolen funds.

With this week's Forum, you've already stepped to the forefront of this work. You've signaled your support for a worldwide kleptocracy initiative – and your commitment to the important work of recovering proceeds of corruption so that these assets can benefit people – from Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Yemen and other nations that have struggled to combat corruption – who've been harmed by abuses of power. With the launch of the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, you will help ensure that direct engagement and robust enforcement can be prioritized by frontline practitioners and experts alike as they work to prevent and eliminate corruption throughout these and other countries in the region. And – thanks to the agreements you've begun to translate into action, the partnerships you've proposed and started to formalize, and the individual cases that – already – many of you are striving to advance – the leaders in this room have demonstrated an impressive commitment to driving this difficult and complex work into the future.

This shared commitment is also what has propelled the U.S. Justice Department to take unprecedented steps to engage with partners like you – along with business leaders and members of the nonprofit and advocacy communities – in order to help identify and disseminate best practices to prevent corruption, to share knowledge and innovative enforcement techniques, and to help develop and sustain the institutions that will always be at the center of this work. It's what has led us to build and strengthen relationships with leading nongovernmental organizations and other independent actors around the world. And it's helped to inform, to augment, and to re-energize our broad-based, global efforts to confront a range of critical challenges – from fighting transnational crime and terrorism, to promoting global security and good governance, to ensuring equality and fair opportunity for all.

In each of these areas – and particularly when it comes to anticorruption – I want to make clear that the United States intends to serve not as a patron, but as a partner; not as a monitor, but as a collaborator. Like you, we approach the challenges before us with resolve, humility, and an eagerness to reinforce old friendships and forge new ones. And we understand intimately that this work – though global in its reach – must begin at home.

That's why we're determined not just to support and strengthen the efforts that each of you have undertaken – but to apply the lessons we learn, and the tools and techniques we develop together, in our own prevention and enforcement efforts. As Attorney General, I've consistently worked to ensure that

anticorruption remains a top priority for my colleagues at every level of the Justice Department. From our robust enforcement of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act – an important law under which we have secured more than 30 individual convictions and over 40 corporate resolutions, totaling more than $2.1 billion in penalties, over the last three years alone; to the anticorruption work of our prosecutors stationed both in the United States and overseas – I'm proud to report that we've made great strides in our fight against corruption, within – as well as beyond – our borders.

In particular, over the last two decades – in partnership with the U.S. Department of State, and at the request of host nations – the Justice Department's Criminal Division has placed U.S. prosecutors to serve as legal advisors in dozens of countries around the world, including Yemen, UAE, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey, and Egypt. I am pleased today to announce that the U.S. Department of Justice, in support of the G8 and Deauville Partnership Arab Asset Recovery Plan, and with the support of the U.S. Department of State, will appoint two additional Justice Department attorneys to work exclusively with Deauville transition countries and their regional partners on asset recovery and mutual legal assistance issues. One of these attorneys – who will specialize exclusively in asset recovery work – will be based here in the Middle East / North Africa region, and the other in Washington. And their duties will be two-fold: first, they will be available to coordinate case cooperation between the Deauville Partnership and the Justice Department's Kleptocracy Unit on identifying and tracing assets. Second, they will conduct intensive interactive courses on Asset Recovery in coordination with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, and other law enforcement agencies to increase effectiveness of transnational financial and corruption investigations.

This dedication of new U.S. government resources, like the creation of my Department's Kleptocracy unit, demonstrates the American commitment to the cause that has brought us all together at this Forum. I know that much remains to be done, and that it will continue to take very hard work to locate and recover the funds that have been stolen from the countries of this region. But make no mistake: everyone here can be proud – and encouraged – by the work that's been done here this week; by the remarkable, once-unimaginable progress that this Forum represents; and by the record of achievement that our nations stand poised to build upon. But we cannot yet be satisfied – and this is no time to become complacent.

As I said here in Doha in 2009, asset recovery is a global imperative. It is our duty to act together to develop the investigations, evidence, and expertise that will enable us to recover monies stolen through the violation of public trust. This is our shared responsibility to the citizens harmed by abuse of office.

In advancing this work, I am grateful for your partnership. I am counting on your leadership. And I look forward to all that we must – and surely will – accomplish together - for our nations and for the people we all serve.

Thank you.

###

DO NOT REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE USE THE CONTACTS IN THE MESSAGE OR CALL THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT 202-514-2007.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:05 AM
To: [redacted] Nuland, Victoria J; Ventrell, Patrick H; [redacted] (PA); [redacted]
Subject: RE: Amb Cunningham statement

+ NSS

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:04 AM
To: [redacted] Victoria J; Ventrell, Patrick H; [redacted] (PA)
Subject: RE: Amb Cunningham statement

Just to be clear, they will miss the evening news casts if we hold any longer and in a call between Kashaf, the head of the Ulama Council and Ambassador Cunningham, Kashaf urged Cunningham to make a statement along these lines. Kashaf will control what the mullahs say at prayer and says the Ulama can echo Cunningham's statement about respect for religion etc.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:55 AM
To: [redacted] Nuland, Victoria J; Ventrell, Patrick H; [redacted] (PA)
Subject: Amb Cunningham statement

PA-FO Colleagues –

Kabul/SRAP would like a statement out from Amb Cunningham directly (vice Embassy/ISAF one from yesterday). They are concerned about holding the statement any longer because of the time di fference and missing the Thurs eve newscasts.

The below is based on cleared language from yesterday, pls advise on clearance for release in advance of S statements today.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 07:59 AM
To: [redacted] Kabul Press
Subject: DRAFT Cunningham Statement

[redacted] and [redacted], Amb. Cunningham wants this statement out as soon as possible. He has cleared.

Statement by Ambassador to Afghanistan James B. Cunningham

I join President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton in condemning in the strongest terms the attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya. It is with heartfelt sincerity that my thoughts and prayers, and those of our larger diplomatic and military community, go out to the f amily of Ambassador Stevens and our other American colleagues who

died in this attack. As Secretary Clinton remarked yesterday, these fine and heroic public servants made "the ultimate sacrifice." I appreciate the many expressions of sympathy and condolen ce conveyed to me by President Karzai and other Afghan leaders.

I also echo President Karzai's condemnation of the video and film that has offended many Muslims and others around the world. As President Obama said yesterday, since our founding, the Unit ed States has been a nation that respects all faiths. We reject any efforts to insult and disrespect the religious beliefs of others. The video does not represent the values of the United States, which supports religious tolerance as one of our most impo rtant principles. Through our efforts here, we seek to promote mutual respect with our Afghan partners.

This film and video are insulting to people of good will of all faiths. But they do not merit a violent response, and are not worth the injury or d eath of innocent people. I hope that all societies of all faiths will reject provocative attempts to gain attention, and we urge restraint from all who are understandably offended by the video and the sentiments behind it. In our partnership with the sov ereign nation of Afghanistan, we share the goal of safety for Afghan families, as well as Afghan-Coalition forces and the larger diplomatic and international community serving in Afghanistan.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:09 AM
To: [redacted] Nuland, Victoria J; Ventrell, Patrick H; [redacted] (PA); Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: RE: Amb Cunningham statement

This is fine with NSS, if State is okay. I know there are efforts underway to consolidate points on the content of the video, but if we can't wait, these seem in line with what POTUS and S have said.

From: [redacted] [mailto: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:05 AM
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From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:18 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: 9/12, WH: Press Gaggle (Israel-Iran/Libya/Egypt)

The White House

Office of the Press Secretary
Press Gaggle by Press Secretary Jay Carney en route Las Vegas, NV
Aboard Air Force One
En Route Las Vegas, Nevada
September 12, 2012

MR. CARNEY: Welcome aboard Air Force One. Thank you for being with us. I know you all saw and heard the President's statement in the Rose Garden earlier today about the tragic events in Libya. You also saw that the President traveled to the State Department to show solidarity to the hardworking men and women there, and to grieve with them for the loss of Ambassador Stevens and Sean Smith, and the two others.

I can tell you that on this flight the President has spoken with Sean Smith's wife. He has also spoken with both the mother and father of Ambassador Stevens. On all these calls, he has offered his condolences and made clear that his thoughts and prayers and the thoughts and prayers of the American people are with the family members of those we lost. He thanked the family m embers for the service to their country that Ambassador Stevens and Mr. Smith provided, and made clear his commitment that justice be done when it comes to finding out who was responsible for the attacks that led to their deaths.

I don't believe Jen has a nything at the top, so with that we'll take your questions.

Q Does the administration consider the statement that came out of the Cairo embassy that's caused so much discussion -- does it consider that to be administration policy? And if not, did the admi nistration do anything to distance itself from that statement?

MR. CARNEY: Rather than answer that question directly by myself, I can quote to you from the President in an interview he gave not that long ago, back at the White House, to Steve Kroft, "60 M inutes." The interview covered a lot of subjects and it covered a number of questions about the incident in Libya. But with regards to that specific question, I think this may be responsive. It's a little long, so bear with me.

The question was, "Your opponent, Governor Romney, used the attack in Libya and also the situation, the incident in Cairo yesterday, to attack your policies, to go after your foreign policy in a fairly broad -based attack. What are your thoughts on that?" That's the question.

And it's responsive to that because, as you know, Governor Romney attacked the statement from the embassy.

And the President said, "I think most Americans, Democrats or Republicans, understand that there are times where we set politics aside, and one of those i s when we've got a direct threat to American personnel who are overseas. And so I think that if you look at how most Republicans have reacted, most elected officials, they've reacted responsibly, waiting to find out the facts before they talked, making sur e that our number-one priority is the safety and security of American personnel.

It appears that Governor Romney didn't have his facts right. The situation in Cairo was one in which an embassy that is being threatened by major protests releases a press re lease saying that the film that had disturbed so many Muslims around the world wasn't representative of what Americans believe about Islam, in an effort to cool the situation down. It didn't come from me, it didn't come from Secretary Clinton; it came from folks on the ground who are potentially in danger.

And my tendency is to cut folks a little bit of slack when they're in that circumstance, rather than try to question their judgment from the comfort of a campaign office.

And I do have to say that, more broadly, we believe in the First Amendment. It is one of the hallmarks of our Constitution that I'm sworn to uphold. And so we are always going to uphold the rights for individuals to speak their mind. On the other hand, this film is not representative of who we are and our values, and I think it's important for us to communicate that. That's never an excuse for violence against Americans, which is why my number-one priority -- and my initial statement -- focused on making sure that not only are Americans safe, but that we go after anybody who would attack Americans."

The President continues, "There's a broader lesson to be learned here, and Governor Romney seems to have a tendency to shoot first and aim later. And as President, one of the things I've learned is you can't do that, that it's important for you to make sure that the statements you make are backed up by the facts, and that you've thought through the ramifications before you make them."

Q If I could do just one follow -- the President said he believes in cutting people slack in those circumstances. There have been some reports saying that the administration made deliberate efforts to distance itself from that statement early on. Do you think that's accurate?

MR. CARNEY: Pointing to what the President just said, this was a statement put out, a press release put out by the embassy in response to a situation that was developing on the ground, and that was meant to calm down -- hopefully calm down a situation that could potent lally have put American personnel in danger. And as the President said, he's not going to question their judgment in doing that.

Q Jay, does the U.S. -- does the White House believe that the attack in Benghazi was planned and premeditated?

MR. CARNEY: It's too early for us to make that judgment. I think -- I know that this is being investigated, and we're working with the Libyan government to investigate the incident. So I would not want to speculate on that at this time.

Q Are you guys worried about al Qaeda in Libya? They seem to be growing. We just saw a report --

MR. CARNEY: Again, I want to be careful about making statements that are based on speculation about this incident and its causes. It's under investigation, obviously, and as we find out info rmation that can be made available I'm sure we will.

Q Do you think it was inappropriate for Governor Romney to speak before the President on this issue?

MR. CARNEY: I can't improve on the President's words that I just read to you from this interview, so I won't try to.

Q On the tweets that came after the statement, are those also the policy of that embassy? And is it typical for an embassy to tweet? And do you know if any have been deleted?

MR. CARNEY: I would refer you to the State Department on this. Again, I think I can't improve on what the President said in response to questions about this earlier today.

Q Why did the President feel it was so important to continue with his campaign schedule today?

MR. CARNEY: Well, and first, let me just say that he is monitoring the situation in the region. He has had several meetings already this morning in addition to, as you saw, the statements he gave and the visit he made to the State Department. He is making phone calls, including those that I read out to y ou, and will be regularly updated throughout the day and evening and tomorrow on developments.

Q Is there anyone else traveling with the President now in addition --

MR. CARNEY: There is always and is today a senior national security staff member traveli ng with the President.

Q So not just because of the events today?

MS. PSAKI: Just one thing I just wanted to say about the remarks the President will give. Obviously, as Jay mentioned, he has been monitoring this all day; he'll receive briefings all day. If anything about his travel would have prevented his focus on this, that would be a different story.

But in his remarks today he will speak about the memory of the four people whose lives were lost, as he did this morning. And his remarks will certainly -- the tone of the events of today -- or of last night will certainly be reflected in his remarks as well. As our view, it's not a day of politics as usual, and that will be reflected in what he says this evening in Las Vegas.

MR. CARNEY: If I could just -- that might be a little helpful, again, quoting the President with regards to one of your questions, Amy, in the interview. And I want to make clear that this interview was broad -based on many subjects and included a broader discussion about the events in Libya and Egypt, not just the back -and-forth on politics. But since you asked, I wanted to read that response.

He also said this, and I quote -- the President did -- "This is also obviously a reminder that for all the progress that we've made in fighting terrorism, that we're living in a volatile world, and our troops, but also our diplomats, and our intelligence officers, they're putting their lives on the line every single day in some very dangerous circumstances.

And I think Chris was an example of the best that our diplomatic corps has to offer -- somebody who was on the ground and because of his actions and his courage helped create an environment in which thousands of lives have been saved, and was full of energy and hopefulness about the relationship that the United States and Libya can develop over the long term.

So we honor his sacrifice. We honor Sean Smith's sacrifice. But I think we also have to understand that we have to remain vigilant, and that even as we continu e to apply pressure on al Qaeda and other elements that are affiliated, that in big chunks of the world -- in Northern Africa and the Middle East -- you've got a lot of dangerous characters, and we've got to make sure that we're continuing to apply pressur e on them. And that's something that I'm determined to do."

Q Is the President at all upset -- beyond possibly Romney misspeaking or getting his facts wrong -- is he annoyed at all that a candidate came out before the President of the United States to add ress an international incident?

MR. CARNEY: I think that he was asked about this and addressed it. I read his response at length. I don't have anything to add to it.

His focus, our focus, is on making sure our personnel are secure, making sure that we ar e working to find out who is responsible, bring them to justice. Those are the things that this President is focused on right now.

Q Can you elaborate just a little bit more of what we can expect from the President at the event later today? Should we still be thinking of this as a campaign rally?

MS. PSAKI: This is still a campaign event. As I mentioned, the tone will reflect the events of the last 24 hours. He will speak at the top about the memory of the lives that have been lost. He remains focused on not only that, but on bringing the killers to justice, on making sure our diplomats are safe.

And he will talk about his vision for the future of the country, including many of the steps that he talked about last Thursday. But, again, you will see and notice in the tone of what he speaks about this evening that it is not a typical contrasting speech.

Q So this comes sort of in addition to the remarks he was planning to make, or is he going to not speak about other things that he otherwise would address?

MS. PSAKI: He will speak about his vision for moving the country forward -- his belief that anybody who works hard and plays by the rules should get a fair shot, his belief we should make sure kids can go to college, make sure middle-class families have tax cuts -- many of the pieces that you've heard him talk about previously.

I'll let you -- I'll let the President deliver the remarks later this evening, but it will reflect the events of the last 24 hours. And at the top, he will of course mention, as he did this morning, the events of last evening.

Q Jay, the President has talked about that justice will be done in this case. Would the United States consider unilateral action if it found the perpetrators, or would it necessarily work in coordination with the Libyan government?

MR. CARNEY: I'm not going to speculate about what action might be taken under hypothetical circumstances. I would say that it's important to note that we have a close, cooperative relationship with the government in Libya, the interim government.

I would note that they were very quick to condemn the attack. And Libyans both assisted Americans in trying to repel the attack and assisted American personnel in trying to keep them safe during the attacks. And that is worth noting.

So we are working with Libyan officials and the Libyan government in our efforts to find out who was responsible and bring them to justice.

Q Jay, is the U.S. doing something wrong policy-wise in Libya that brings this on? Or is the policy fine, it's just this particular event?

MR. CARNEY: I think it's important not to speculate, not to jump the gun, not to guess, while we are still collecting facts, at what precipitated this and who was responsible. And I think that your question goes to that.

I think that our policy in Libya has been focused on freeing that country from a terrible tyrant, one who was on the verge of authorizing a massacre in the city of Benghazi, the city where Chris Stevens, Ambassador Stevens lost his life, and that this country and this administration are committed to helping the Libyan people achieve the democracy that they seek in the aftermath of years of tyrannical rule under Muammar Qaddafi.

Q Jay, we know that the President spoke last night with Prime Minister Netanyahu for an hour. And today, there are headlines that Netanyahu said that his top duty is preventing a nuclear -armed Iran and that he must do his duty even when "friends disagree." Does the President think that that kind of -- those kinds of comments are constructive after the conversation he had last night?

MR. CARNEY: Well, the President did have an hour-long conversation with Prime Minister Netanyahu. It was a good conversation in which both leaders were united in their commitment to preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon. That is the President's policy, and he has made clear that he will use all tools of American power to ensure that Iran does not acquire a nuclear weapon.

He has also made clear that there is time and space to pursue a diplomatic resolution to this problem through sanctions and other means, as well as diplomacy, to pressure the Iranian regime into forsaking its nuclear weapons ambitions. We have the capacity to monitor the Iranian nuclear program. And we know that they are not currently on the verge of developing a nuclear weapon. And we would know if they were to make a so -called breakout move towards developing such a weapon.

The President has also made clear that the window of opportunity to resolve this diplomatically will not remain open indefinitely. And our efforts to sanction Iran punitively, to isolate Iran, to make the regime pay a high price for its obstinacy continue. And the President and the Prime Minister are in total agreement on the policy objective here.

Specifically to your question, Israel absolutely, as a sovereign nation, has a right to defend itself. The President of the United States is committed to Israel's security. We have an unprecedentedly deep and broad relationship with Israel under this administration when it comes to military and intelligence matters. We have provided unprecedented levels of assistance to Israel in the effort to achieve security for Israel, and we will continue to do that.

Q If Prime Minister Netanyahu wants to meet with the President, why wouldn't the President meet with him in Washington?

MR. CARNEY: I think you saw the statement that we put out last night. The President will be in New York at the United Nations General Assembly early in that week; the Prime Minister does not arrive until later in that week. There was not logistically an opportunity for the two leaders to meet in New York. A meeting was never requested in Washington, therefore it could not have been denied.

I think it is important to note, within the context of this discussion in the press, that it is proof of the incredibly close and vital relationship between our two nations and between our two governments that when this issue arose, the President of the United States picked up the phone and called Prime Minister Netanyahu and spoke to him for an hour. And that, I think, demonstrates the kind of relationship we have, and it reinforces something that I think sometimes is forgotten, which is there is no leader with whom President Obama has met and spoken with more frequently as President than Prime Minister Netanyahu. And that, again, is reflective of the kind of relationship we have with Israel.

Q And just one more thing on the Cairo embassy. One of Romney's critiques has been that you're send ing mixed messages. If the State Department says one thing and the embassy puts out separate statements, tweets separate things, how is that not a mixed message?

MR. CARNEY: This is not a time to try to score political points. As the President said, as a general practice, politics should be put aside when the lives of American personnel are at risk, as they were last night.

The President's focus, the Secretary of State's focus is on ensuring the security of American personnel. And for his views on this, I think I'd refer you to the comments I read that the President gave earlier today.

Q Do you know how much of the -- for example, what you read to us, has that been released by CBS or -- like the statement that you read, the quote from the President, has a ll of that been released today? If not --

MR. CARNEY: We -- and I apologize if you weren't able to get it back here, that he segment that CBS played was shorter than what I read to you.

MS. PSAKI: One other piece, just --

Q Has CBS released a transcript of what you --

MS. PSAKI: When we arrive, the President will deliver remarks to Obama for America's National Volunteer Leaders video conference. This is a monthly conference that provides OFA team leaders with national campaign updates and serves as an opportunity for the leaders and volunteers to interact and share insights. He will also take a few questions, and you'll have the opportunity to hear that, view that as well.

MR. CARNEY: Any other questions? Thanks, guys.

From: Nuland, Victoria J <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:19 AM
To: [redacted] Ventrell, Patrick H; [redacted] Meehan, Bernadette; Sullivan, Jacob J; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Amb Cunningham statement

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Statement by Ambassador to Afghanistan James B. Cunningham

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Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:22 AM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: Reuters: Obama: Egypt Neither Enemy Nor Ally

Is the quote here accurate? Do you guys have a transcript?

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From: PA Clips
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:17 AM
To: PA-Monitoring-Group-DL; NEA-Press-DL; DRL Public Affairs; USAID Press Officers (USAID); F PA Team; CAPRESSREQUESTS; DS PA Media
Subject: Reuters: Obama: Egypt Neither Enemy Nor Ally

Obama: Egypt Neither Enemy Nor Ally

By REUTERS
Published: September 13, 2012 at 10:07 AM ET

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The United States does not consider Egypt's Islamist-led government an ally or an enemy, President Barack Obama said in a television interview.

"I don't think that we would consider them an ally, but we don't con sider them an enemy," Obama told Telemundo, a Spanish-language network, on Wednesday after mobs of demonstrators angry over a film they consider blasphemous to Islam assaulted the U.S. embassy in Cairo.

He said the newly formed Egyptian government, which w as democratically elected, is trying "to find its way."

If government officials take actions showing "they're not taking responsibility," then it would "be a real big problem," the president said in the interview, which aired in full on Thursday.

The attack on the embassy in Cairo coincided with attacks on a U.S. consulate in the Libyan city of Benghazi that led to the killing of four U.S. diplomats, including the U.S. ambassador.

Obama's comments reflected deepened U.S. wariness over Egypt's new Islamist president Mohamed Mursi - who took office in June after the country's first free elections - in the aftermath of the Cairo embassy assault.

The United States was a close ally of Egypt under ousted autocratic President Hosni Mubarak and gives $1.3 billion in military aid a year to Egypt plus other assistance.

Obama ultimately called for Mubarak to step down as he faced mass protests in early 2011. But the U.S. president was criticized for taking too long to assert American influence.

On Thursday the White House said Obama had spoken with the presidents of Egypt and Libya to discuss the violence against U.S. diplomatic compounds.

Obama, in his call to Mursi, said Egypt "must cooperate with the United States in securing U.S. diplomatic facilities and personnel," the White House said.

(Reporting By Margaret Chadbourn, Editing by Xavier Briand)

DGH

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:22 AM
To: 'Nuland, Victoria J'
Subject: RE: Reuters: Obama: Egypt Neither Enemy Nor Ally

Accurate yes. Working on final guidance now.

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(Reporting By Margaret Chadbourn, Editing by Xavier Briand)

DGH

From: [redacted] (Durbin) <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:26 AM
To: [redacted] (Durbin)
Subject: Senate Daily Whip Notice

Thursday, September 13, 2012

- The Senate will convene at 10:00am, at which point the Majority Leader will be recognized. The first hour will be equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees, with the Democrats controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the second half.

- *The filing deadline for first-degree amendments to the Murray amendment in the nature of a substitute (#2789) and the Veterans Jobs Corps Act (S. 3457) is 1:00pm on Thursday, September 13, 2012.*

The following amendments/motion are currently pending to the Veterans Jobs Corps Act (S. 3457):

- Murray amendment in the nature of a substitute. (#2789)

- Reid amendment to Murray amendment #2 789, to change the enactment date. (#2808)

- Reid second-degree amendment to Reid amendment #2808, of a perfecting nature. (#2809)

- Reid amendment to the language proposed to be stricken by Murray amendment #2789, to change the enactment date. (#2810)

- Reid second-degree amendment to Reid amendment #2810, of a perfecting nature. (#2811)

- Reid motion to commit S. 3457 to the Veterans Affairs Committee, with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment, to change the enactment date. (#2812)

- Reid amendment to Reid motion #2812, of a perfecting nature. (#2813)

- Reid second-degree amendment to Reid amendment #2813, of a perfecting nature. (#2814)

During Wednesday's Session

Veterans Jobs Corps Act (S. 3457)

- Senator Reid filed cloture on the Murray a mendment in the nature of a substitute (#2789).

- Senator Reid filed cloture on S. 3457.

  - The motion to proceed to S. 3457 was agreed to by a roll call vote of 84 -8.

The Senate passed/adopted the following by unanimous consent:

- A bill to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglas from the District of Columbia and to provide for the permanent display of the statue in Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol. (H.R. 6336)

- A resolution commending the four American public servants who died in Benghazi, including Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens, for their tireless efforts on behalf of the American people and condemning the violent attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi. (S.Res. 55 1)

- A resolution recognizing the month of October, 2012 as "National Principals Month". (S.Res. 552)

- A resolution designating September 22, 2012, as "National Falls Prevention Awareness Day" to raise awareness and encourage the prevention of falls among o lder adults. (S.Res. 553)

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:28 AM
To: [redacted] Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted]
Ventrell, Patrick H; [redacted] (PA); Meehan, Bernadette; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: RE: Amb Cunningham statement

Just passed to Jake, he's asking to use the language that S just used for the Morocco SD – I'll dig that up now.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:20 AM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted] Ventrell, Patrick H; [redacted] (PA); Meehan, Bernadette; Sullivan, Jacob J; [redacted]
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From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:38 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Rabat Media Summary - September 13, 2012

LEAD STORIES

Attack on Consulate in Libya/ Anti -Islam Movie

- **Alert in Morocco; American Ambassador killed in Libya because of an offensive film against the prophet** - "The American Ambassador and three of his employees were killed on Tuesday, September 11, with a rocket attack by Islamic militants on the American Consulate in Benghazi, Libya to protest against an offensive American movie against the prophet on the anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks. The fallout of this movie reached Morocco, where Moroccan activists called on their Facebook pages to protest yesterday, Wednesday, September 12 in front of the American Consulate in Casablanca against the film and raised the alert status at the Consulate, which was forced to enhance the security control in its surroundings. The security enhancements included also the surroundings of the U.S. Embassy in Rabat and all its diplomatic missions and foreign educational institutions, particularly the American ones." - Independent Arabic-language daily ***Al Massae*** and Independent Arabic-language daily ***Akhbar Al Youm Al Maghrebiya***

- **An American movie, directed by an Israeli -American, raises intrigue and describes the Prophet of Mercy with the ugliest epithets** - "Statements by different personalities regarding the screening of the movie:

    - Saad Eddine El Othmani, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation: 'We reject the defamation of religions and refuse random uprisings.'
    - Benhamza, President of the Local Islamic Council in Oujda: 'The position of power is not to respond violently.'
    - Moulay Omar Benhnmad, Vice-President of Unification and Reform Movement: 'We condemn this abuse and we call to confront it with peaceful methods.'
    - Hassan Benchlikha, film critic and movie director: 'The Hollywood movie career is known for directing movies that provoke the feelings of Muslims.'"

- **The High Council of Ulema strongly condemned the movie aim ed at the person of the Prophet Mohammed (BUH), and distorting the tenor of his message, based on peace, tranquility, love and concord among humans, including all ethnicities and religions** - Official government news agency ***Maghreb Arabe Presse***, and front-page article in pro-palace French-language daily **Le Matin** and pro-palace Arabic-language daily ***Assahara***

- **Moroccan Government Press Release: Morocco strongly condemns the attack against the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, which claimed several lives, and of fers condolences to the U.S. government and people** - Official government news agency ***Maghreb Arabe Presse*** and state-run ***Al Aoula*** television

U.S.-Morocco Strategic Dialogue in Washington

- **Strategic social dialogue Morocco-U.S., starts today, September 13 in Washington, an opportunity to support the dynamic of reforms undertaken in Morocco** - Istiqlal (nationalist) French-language daily ***L'Opinion*** and ***widespread*** coverage

- **The Washington Post, his majesty King Mohammed VI has paved the way to the Morocco-United States strategic dialogue** - Pro-palace French-language daily ***Le Matin***

- **Analysis: Morocco-US Strategic Dialogue, what is the context and what are the stakes?** - "The sea and the Sahara, strategic importance. Beyond history and 'the secular friendly relations between Morocco and the U.S., it is the geographic and strategic position of Morocco, that is and that should be highlighted in any reflection or analysis. . . For the U.S., Morocco is also in an advanced position for the defense of Europe, the Middle East, and Africa . . . a position which, in the regional context of tension in the Sahel should not leave Americans indifferent. Especially, as the strategic dialogue is occurring in a context of complexity and acceleration of history. We no longer speak of 'the U.S. superpower'. . . but of the multiplication of actors and the emergence of new global players such as the BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China), IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa) , and the Arab Spring, which brought a change in the Arab world." - Pro-palace French-language daily ***Le Matin***

Government news

- **Benkirane stops 700 transport licenses that the King has distributed; the Royal Cabinet asked the beneficiaries to send their applications via fax, two groups received their licenses and the head of government aborted the dreams of the third** - "According to reliable sources, Head of Government Abdelilah Benkirane stopped the distribution process of approximately 700 transport licenses to citizens who were already notified by t he Royal Cabinet. According to the same sources, a group of inhabitants from Sid i Moumen and other neighborhoods in Casablanca met the king during his several visits to the economic capital and gave him copies of their IDs and requests to benefit from tra nsport licenses. The king responded to their demands, but the head of government aborted the dreams of a group of them after they were officially told that they were beneficiaries . . . Benkirane confirmed to this group of people, who visited him in his hou se last Saturday, September 8, that the file of the licenses is over and that he stopped 700 licenses prepared by the Ministry of Interior." - Independent Arabic-language daily ***Assabah***

- **El Khalfi is "tired" of the non-neutrality of *Al Jazeera*** - "The Qatari ***Al Jazeera*** channel said that it was prevented by the Moroccan authorities from filming a live documentary program in Morocco. The Minister in Charge of Relations with Parliament and Civil Society El Habib Choubani was scheduled to participate in the first program concerning civil society and the second about Morocco/Spanish relations with the participation of Abdselam Boutaib . . . According to our sources, 'El Khalifi got blamed for his careless dealing with ***Al Jazeera,*** which came to Morocco and filmed with only one political party which is the PJD, without giving the chance to the other parties to express themselves. The minister emphasized a reminder that the channel is still prohibited from working in Morocco, and more specifically, its work is still pending until reaching a decision about this prohibition'" - Independent Arabic-language daily ***Al Ahdath Al Maghrebiya***

Other headlines

- **Algerian military reinforcements on the eastern borders. Is it related to the health status of Bouteflika or arrangements to face internal conflicts?** - "Several sources confirmed to ***Al Alam*** that the eastern borders with Algiers have seen some military reinforcements over the past few days. It was noted that a proliferation of Algerian army units are on an unusual mission." - Istiqlal (nationalist) Arabic-language daily ***Al Alam***

- **The absence of Nadia Yassine from the new leadership of JCO** - "The absence of the name of Nadia Yassine was noticed when the names of the members of the newly elected political department of the (Islamist) Justice and Charity Organization (JCO) were revealed. According to news reports, she presented her resignation to her father, the General Guide Abdessalam Yassine, as the head of the women's department in the JCO." - Sensationalist Arabic-language weekly ***Al Ousbou***

- **Electronic press, journalist favor for a code of deontology** - "A recent study by the Moroccan League of the Electronic Press showed that 96% of journalists from the electronic press are favorable to the publication of a code for deontology, while only 40% feared that this law would bring restrictions limiting their work. This study was realized with the support of the Islamic Organization for Education, Science and Culture (ISESCO). The study was presented on the occasion of the first national meeting of the league and showed that 95.86% of journalists approved the publication of a code governing the sector." - Independent French-language daily ***Le Soir***

U.S. IN THE NEWS

- **Morocco accepts Ross again under the U.S. pressure; the American Ambassador "doesn't know the faith of things in Morocco"** - "Morocco decided urgently to send its Minister of Foreign Affairs El Othmani to meet with Hillary Clinton about an important matter. Important indeed, because the trip comes only few days after the fiery statements by the unfriendly American Ambassador in Rabat, Kaplan, who hints as if he was about to say that the Moroccan plane is without a captain. . . but, he said it in a more eloquent way 'it is hard to predict the faith of things in Morocco.'. . He is absolutely right, since the political scene in Morocco has come to this level of emptiness which is refilled only by defamations. Ambassador Kaplan said explicitly that the U.S. is supporting the U.N. envoy Christopher Ross. . . Ross is bigger than an envoy, the thing that the Ambassador said secretly to one of his interlocutors. He represents the party of Obama, the example of the planning pole of American policy in the region. It is understood that Kaplan said this to important Moroccan officials . . . Morocco pulled back its decision to withdraw confidence from Ross and if Morocco took the advice of Ambassador Kaplan a long time ago, it would have not been exposed to a defeat that could have been avoided in the American judgment, who in order to please Morocco and exclude Ross, will send another envoy worse than Ross." - Sensationalist Arabic-language weekly ***Al Ousbou***

- **A leader from Al Qaeda is suing America because of his "detention" in Morocco** - "New information that ***Al Massae*** received revealed that prominent Al Qaeda leader, Zin Eddine Mohammed Hussein alias 'Abou Zoubaida,' has been detained in Morocco by the CIA. According to this same source of information, the lawyers of this Al Qaeda leader are suing the American government because he was detained in secret prisons in Afghanistan, Jordan, and Morocco through secret CIA flights." - Independent Arabic-language daily ***Al Massae***

PRESS PLACEMENT

Ambassador Kaplan interview with Independent *Luxe* radio

U.S. Ambassador Samuel Kaplan exclusive interview with *Luxe* radio - In an exclusive interview on the occasion of the commemoration and remembrance of the September 11 attacks, U.S. Ambassador Samuel Kaplan and his spouse were the special guests of one hour radio talk show run by ***Luxe*** radio to talk about the September 11th attacks, their immediate aftermath, their impact on the world, and what changes have been made towards the Islamic world after two wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as the relationship that the United States of America has preserved with Morocco.

Excerpts from the interview:

- **On Islam, 9/11 and American perception:** 'The view of negative Islam and its perception among Americans has changed since the 9/11 . . . and this I think is important.'

- **On wars in Iraq and Afghanistan:** 'One must be cautious in avoiding a discussion of two wars like it was the same subject because they are different . . . I believe that it is a great pleasure to say that the war in Iraq is over! I caution you that we are talking about two different undertakings.

- **On the Arab Spring and Morocco:**
  - 'Arab Spring means that in each country involved, people expressed that they wanted to have a greater participation in the governing of their country . . . In that respect, yes, Morocco had its own Arab spring.
  - Morocco is in a process of change and it has been an enormous privilege for me and my wife to witness that. The changes within the new Constitution and the la test elections are interesting . . . because, we, in America, understand that the process of change is not an easy task.
  - The February 20th Movement led King Mohammed VI to make a statement that represented an important change . . . which led to a meaningful event, that is the change of the Constitution and new elections.
  - By any reasonable standard, the Constitution is a forward looking document, it emphasizes human rights and it deals with a sharing of power different from what existed before and those are meaningful things . . . our advice for this document was not sought . . . it is our responsibility to gather information to report back to our colleagues in Washington . . . we all rotate out for a period of three years and it is our responsibility to make our coll eagues understand what we see here.
  - Relations with PJD - It is my task to develop close relationships with the head of government and it would have made no difference who would have been the next head of government, I would have been at his doorstep the next day.'

- **On U.S.-Moroccan relationship:**
  - FTA: 'Our exports to Morocco have increased more than the exports of Morocco to the United States and I don't think it has anything to do with the Free Trade Agreement. . . There are lessons to be learned for Moroccan companies who want to invest in the American Market . . . Moroccan companies need to have a better understanding of the American system . . . the agreement was a great success for all.'
  - Our commitment to Morocco is based on a longstanding relatio nship. (Interviewer recalled the Treaty of Marrakech, which was the first treaty signed by the small

republic of the United States with Morocco and underlines support in case of aggression). Ambassador's response: 'it is the longest longstanding treaty of friendship and we will always support our friends.'

- **On RFK Center report criticizing human rights in the Western Sahara:** 'The Robert Kennedy foundation is an NGO, there are thousands of such organizations in America. They act on what they believe in and they do not come here under the direction of America and the American government.'

- **Women: the Arab woman and the social changes** - "The Forum of the Future will take place December 9-11 in Tunis. Among the three topics that will be discussed during the forum, two are dedicated to women's empowerment. A preparatory meeting took place on September 4, in El Jadida, with the participation of U.S. Ambassador at Large for Women's Issues, Melanne Verveer. According to Verveer, the choice of these three topics show the importance of woman in the social, economic, and political change." - Independent French-language daily ***Le Soir***

- **The U.S. Embassy supports a festival, the authorities of the capital refused to host** - "The capital public and its visitors will be able to enjoy the events of the 'Hip Hop Family' festival thanks to the financial support offered by the U.S. Embassy in Rabat to the organizers of this artistic event that takes care of the Rap and Hip Hop arts, at the time where the City Council of Rabat decided to stop the partnership with the organizers which lasted during the three previous sessions, although the association contacted the City Council three times, the Council stopped the aid under the pretext of the lack of financial means for it, while the City Council is still supporting other festivals in the capital and with bigger budgets, organized by politicians of the City Council..." - Sensationalist Arabic-language weekly ***Al Ousbou***

EDITORIALS/COMMENTARY

The battle of Benghazi- Editorial by Taoufik Bouachrin in Independent Arabic-language daily ***Akhbar Al Youm Al Maghrebiya***

"The event is no longer an American movie that offends the Prophet of Islam Mohammed that has an innocent title 'the Muslim Innocence.' The event has become the killing of the American Ambassador in Libya with four other diplomats under the rocket fire on the American Consulate in Benghazi following protests against the movie that offends the religion and the feelings of all the religious, Muslims and non-Muslims. . . What is the image that we give to international public opinion, especially the Americans and the Europeans, about Islam and Muslims? And what is the information material, political and media, that we present to the extreme right-wing propaganda 'machines' that have promoted for more than a decade a poisonous product called 'Islamophobia'? What would the normal American, European, Japanese, Chinese, Indian and Brazilian say when they hear that Muslims killed an American Ambassador in protest of the screening of a movie? They will say simply: are there any other methods of protest? Are there any messages that carry the feelings of anger other than a wooden coffin that will carry the corpse of the Ambassador to his country and family from the country of 'revolution' against Kaddafi? We do not live in a time of ignorance . . . we live in a world that sanctifies life, peace, coexistence, and civilized behavior, even if the leaders of this world and its politicians are hypocrites, deal in double standards, and convert religion to their interest and benefit. . . The murder of the American Ambassador in Libya will have negative impacts on Islam and Muslims which the director of a bad movie never dreamed of achieving, just as we did with a low-grade cartoonist years before. Our ignorance of the intelligent protest

against his anti-Islamic cartoons gave him big fame and a weight he doesn't deserve. . . Israel today, is the biggest country in the world that makes 'State Terrorism' by raping the land of another nation and destroying the Palestinian identity, Islamic and Christian, and the abuse of human beings. At the same time, the country is biggest spender on propaganda and on the image of Israel as the meek lamb inside a forest of Arab wolfs . . . the civilized people that came out of the gas chambers to the promised land asking for peace, mercy, an d forgiveness, didn't find it from Arabs, whose bellies are full with petrol and brains are full of terrorism, other than war and hatred, and their threat to throw the Jews into the sea."

Condemnation- Editorial by Abdlemounaim Dilami in Business-oriented French-language daily ***L'Economiste***

"Several American diplomats were killed in Libya and in Egypt. This is not a coincidence. Nobody doubts the deal between the United State s and the senior brothers of the Muslim Brotherhood; a deal that was passed mainly through the intermediary of Qatar and the Gulf Emirates. This approach follows the American option, called the 'Revolution in Military Affairs' (RMA) whose principal thinker is Alvin Toffler, for whom the war can be won through the media. In this strategy, a radical political change in the Arab world should allow the absorption of anger and the need for reforms that are agitating this part of the world. This deal, also allows the reorientation of expectations and keep s control of the region. The Arab world is discovering that through hocus-pocus it has led revolutions that are confiscated in advance. The results generate, not the progress but immobilization and violence. And that was the goal. The fear is already here. In Tunisia, some extremist groups, under the eyes of the government imposed their retrograde vision of morality. In Egypt, the regime of Morsi . . . did not find a better way than to prosecute its political competitors. In Libya, extremist groups destroy historic monuments without any reaction from the Ministry of Interior. Yet, the Arab Spring really wanted democracy and to get rid of tyrants that the United States had well supported up to now. Protestors wanted the region to en ter the XXI century. The U.S. strategic choices have decided something else: for them, the new lead shroud will replace the previous one. History is not programmed in such a way: Washington and its Gulf allies started a mechanism that could turn against them. And this would not be the first time ."

Amalgam- Editorial by Saad Tazi in Independent French-language daily ***Le Soir***

"The assassination of diplomats ... following the broadcast of an American, anti -Islam movie on the internet should be condemned wi th the greatest firmness. T he desire to silence those whose views we do not share is a chimera which can lead to dramatic situations such as Wednesday, September 12. The bloody violence that sh ocked Benghazi and Cairo is certainly not as spontaneous as they wanted us to believe. It may be the outlet for a crisis of confidence or identity that benefited from this news, the movie was funded, until proved otherwise, by a group of racist individuals to justify a reaction to an attack that has nothing to do with the official position of a country, the United States . . . As Muslims, we should condemn these acts. . . Finally, it is not by adopting a defensive attitude t hat we will succeed in restoring the vision of a rich and humane civilization. . . Reacting to the least ineptitude uttered in the world is a consumer of energy . . . this energy, used wisely, in the spirit of positivity and tolerance could be the best wea pon against those who look to discredit us."

The death of the U.S. Ambassador in Tripoli, he who sows the wind ....-Editorial by Fahd Yata in Independent French-language weekly ***La Nouvelle Tribune***

"What seems to us absolutely innocent or trivial, that th ese extremist and religious movements, most of the time Salafists, are essentially present in those countries and regions where the power of Uncle Sam is as real as preponderant. It is not a coincidence that the Salafist militias extended their influence in Libya after the fall of Gaddafi, as Western countries and America and its allies did not seek to prevent one of the most active factions of the rebellion against Gaddafi that was directed by a former Al Qaeda in Libya leader, who had come to Libya thanks to the support of some circles in the Gulf. . . America has promoted, all over the Arab world, Islamic obscurantism and activists in its desire to model a physical map according to its strategic interests. . . While thinking of these 'honorable' American citizens, film producers, pastors and other candidates for the White House, which on one side exhale their hatred of Arabs and Muslims . . . and on the other support, financially, the most activ e among them, at the same time preserve the circuit of their oil and gas supply while preserving the State of Israel, whose strategic supremacy will be over the day whe n Iran may apply the terrible concept of balance of terror. . . He who sows the wind, shall reap the whirlwind."

MAP ARTICLES

Note: The following news articles are released daily directly by the Maghreb Arab Press (MAP), and are included verbatim as release

USA-Morocco-Strategic Partnership
HM King Mohammed VI's leadership is admirable -US congressman

Washington, Sep 13, 2012 (MAP) - The leadership of HM King Mohammed VI arouses admiration in the sense that the Sovereign is driven on by constant keenness to consolidate Morocco on the path of development and prosperity, said, Wednesday in Washington, Mario Diaz-Balart, member of the lower house of the U.S. Congress.

I admire what King Mohammed VI has consistently initiatied in terms of reforms ever since his accession to the throne, Diaz-Balart told the press, adding that the Sovereign is one of the most admired leaders in the world.

Morocco has become "a model of reform" for the region thanks to the vision of His Majesty the King, whose leadership has made Morocco a better country, in a context of freedom, prosperity and opportunities, she said.

He insisted that we need, more than ever, leaders of the stature of HM the King, who has a vision and an understanding of what the world must be. The congressman deemed that Morocco is an oasis of peace and prosperity in a regional environment fraught with uncertainties. (MAP) HH

Morocco-Economy-GDP-
Moroccan economy projected to achieve 4.8% real GDP growth in 2013 -report

Addis Ababa, September 13, 2012 (MAP) - Morocco's economy is expected to achieve a 4.5% and 4.8% growth rate of real GDP in 2012 and 2013 respectively, against 4.6% a year earlier, according to a report by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) presented Thursday in Addis Ababa.

Strong domestic demand and agricultural performance achieved by the Kingdom are expected to maintain a stable growth rate in 2012 and 2013, says the report entitled "African Economic Outlook 2012".

The document notes that Morocco's sustained growth is predicted to continue this year and next year on the back of both an economic openness model and efficient liberalization, the growth of the agricultural sector and the dynamism of domestic demand which has offset the decline in exports.

According to the report, inflation remains moderate although projections for 2012 and 2013 suggest a slight increase. HH

Morocco-Press
General review of Moroccan dailies issued on Thursday Sept. 13

Rabat, Sep 13, 2012 (MAP) - The official launch of the school year, the Morocco -USA Strategic Dialogue and the preparations for the next round of social dialogue are the key subjects addressed on Thursday by the Moroccan dailies issued on Thursday.

The dailies pointy out that HM King Mohammed VI officially launched, on Wednesday, the 2012 -2013 school year and launched the "one million school bag" royal initiative that will benefit this year nearly 4 million students.

The 2012-2013 school year, the dailies go on, has a special feat ure given the guidelines set out in the royal speech addressed to the nation on the occasion of the 59th anniversary of the Revolution of the King and the People on upgrading state schools and developing private education in a spirit of interaction and complementarity between the two systems.

They also report the statistics released by the Education Ministry showing that this school year is marked by a notable rise, with more than 6,672,000 students in various public and private schools, against 6,593,194 last year.

In addition, the newspapers take interest in the launch, Thursday in Washington, of the Strategic Dialogue between Morocco and the United States, stressing that dialogue comes as a sign of support for Morocco's reform process and is part of e fforts to deepen relations between the two countries.

The newspapers continue to focus on the government -trade unions consultation meetings ahead of the next round of social dialogue.

In their sports pages, the papers discuss the meeting, Tuesday, of t he House of Representatives social sectors commission, devoted to assessing the state of the national sport, especially in light of the poor Moroccan Olympic participation in London and the failures of the national football team.

International news are d ominated by the attack against the US Consulate General in Benghazi in reaction to a movie that offends Islam and the prophet. The attack left four American diplomats dead, including ambassador to Libya. They newspapers also address the latest developments in the situation in Syria and the crisis in the Euro area. (MAP) HH

USA-Morocco-Partnership
Morocco-US strategic dialogue, realization of HM the king's vision, Delegate FM

Washington, , Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - The launch of the strategic dialogue between Morocco and the United States is primarily the realization of the vision of HM King Mohammed VI, who had called during his visit to the United States in June 2000 for setting up a climate able to lead to the establishment of a strategic partnership, Minister delegate for Foreign Affairs, Youssef Amrani, said Wednesday in Washington.

Morocco was the first Arab country with this advanced framework of dialogue and cooperation, the minister pointed out at the eve of the launch of the talks, noting that this i s a recognition of the role of Morocco on the international scene and of the political, economic and social reforms carried out in the Kingdom for more than a

decade.

This dialogue, the minister said, is the result of a long -lasting relationship, and the reflection of "our common will to develop our bilateral relations."

The new framework also aims to develop opportunities for optimal cooperation in four areas, namely politics, security, economy and cultural and educational affairs, the minister said.

Amrani stressed that this partnership will foster an unmatched degree of dialogue and cooperation between Morocco and United States, and develop this exceptional partnership based on shared values and converging interests towards establishing a strategic partnership that meets the ambitions and respective priorities of each of our countries. ar

Morocco-Education
Social support programs for 2012-13 school year add up to ê211mn, ministry

Rabat, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - The overall cost of social support programs for the 2012-2013 school year is about MAD1.82bn (ê211mn), the ministry of Education revealed on Wednesday.

Some MAD350mn is allocated to the "one million schoolbag" program, which will help over 3.89 million pupils, the ministry said in a press release, adding that MAD620mn will be devoted to the direct financial assistance to families as part of the program "Taysir".

School dinners will cost MAD785mn, and will be offered to over 1.46 million pupils, while transport will require a budget of MAD66mn, it said.

The ministry said the network of schools has grown to 10,208, including 7,465 primary schools, 1,767 secondary schools and 976 high schools, that is 192 educational institution more than last year. Boarding schools grew by 95 units to 617.

The number of students will total 2,672,592, including 47 pc of girls and 39 pc from rural areas. Some 660,000 new pupils were enrolled this year, including 48 pc in rural areas, according to the ministry's figures. ar

Morocco-USA-Libya-Violence
Morocco condemns 'vile,' 'unjustifiable' attack against US consulate

Rabat, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - Morocco strongly condemns the attack against the US consulate in Benghazi, Libya, which has claimed several lives, and offers condolences to the US government and people, a press release of the government said.

Following this attack, which has dramatic consequences, and which has claimed innocent lives, the government of Morocco "offers its deepest condolences to the American government and people," said the release, voicing "profound compassion" with the families of the victims following this "vile" and "unjustifiable" act.

The government of Morocco also "strongly condemns" the content of movies, statements and any other works aimed to harm Islam and its symbols and values, "thus spreading a climate of hatred and violence and fanning tensions between peoples, religions and cultures in an sensitive international environment," the communiqué said.

Morocco, it added, calls on the wise and moderate powers to draft positive and constructive initiatives to face such "provocative and aggressive actions and attitudes (...) whose consequences threaten peace and stability in

the world." ar

Morocco-USA-Sahara-NGO
Return to Morocco of Sahrawis held in Tindouf is a pressing nee d, US activists

Rabat, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - Laayoune, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - Morocco's initiative to grant autonomy to its southern provinces is a judicious idea, US human rights activists, Nancy Huff and Kathryn Porter Cameron have said, stressing that the return of the Sahrawis held in Tindouf, southwestern Algeria, to their mother country, Morocco, is a pressing need in order to end their suffering.

The activists, who are visiting the city on September 12 -14 to enquire about the situation of human right s in the southern provinces, said at a meeting with the local leaders that the autonomy plan will enable the Sahrawi families held in Tindouf, to meet their relatives again and live in dignity in their homeland, Morocco.

Maintaining the Tindouf camps, run by the Algeria-backed Polisario front, is a waste of time, said Nancy Huff, who chairs of the NGO, Teach the Children International.

Huff, who carried out a long visit to the Tindouf camps, said at a meeting with the city council members that she had noted there several cases of grave violations of human rights, including theft and misappropriation of international humanitarian aid sent to the populations of the camps.

Chair of the NGO Leadership Council for Human Rights, Kathryn Porter Cameron, noted the concern of the American society about the situation of human rights in Tindouf.

During the meeting, held in presence of the Wali of the region of Laayoune, Khalil Dkhil, the notables of the city renewed support for the autonomy plan as a "realistic solution" that has gained international support.

The human rights activists are due to visit the different projects launched in the region. They are also scheduled to visit the UN mission in the region, MINURSO, as well as the national council for human rights.

According to a press release of Leadership council for human rights, the NGO's chair would also visit the Tindouf camps part of her mission in the region.

Following their mission, the US delegation will submit a report to the American congress, the White House, the State Department and the members of the UN Security Council. ar

Morocco-Cameroon
Moroccan humanitarian aid to Cameroon following floods

Rabat, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - Following the floods that continue to hit the northern parts of Cam eroon, HM King Mohammed VI has ordered the shipment of housing equipment to the populations of the affected areas.

Two military aircrafts will transport the equipment, starting tonight, said a press release of the Interior ministry, adding that this aid is part of Morocco's solidarity with the friendly countries. ar

Morocco-Media
MAP products have consolidate professionalism, diversity, Director general

Rabat, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - Director general of the Maghreb Arab press agency (MAP), Khalili Hachimi Idrissi, stressed on Wednesday that the agency's products have consolidated their professionalism and diversity, in a remarkable respect of pluralism.

The agency was able to meet the challenge of diversity by giving voice to different stakeholders, foll owing differentiated perspectives and by carrying out balanced coverage, alongside the introduction of new services (MAP-TV, MAP-Audio and graphics), said Idrissi at the meeting of MAP Board of administrators, chaired by Minister of Communication, governme nt spokesman, Mustapha el Khalfi.

As a central media player that is aware of its mission, MAP committed to the principle of pluralism and the fulfillment of its public service mission, without limiting itself to the sole communication of the government.

2012 was an important step in launching the instruments of good governance within the institution, through the adoption of a code of ethics and conduct that opted for a participatory approach, the regularity of the meetings of commissions and the implementation of transparency in the appointment of journalists at national and international offices, and in the positions of responsibility, Hashimi Idrissi said.

He added that the agency is working on the launch of regional hubs - parallel with the advanced regionalization - while mulling the creation of international centers to strengthen Morocco's presence in the world through the agency.

The issue of human resources remains, however, a challenge for MAP, noted the Director -General, adding that the achievement of the ambitious projects the agency depends on improving the situation of journalists and employees in a fairly and motivating manner, and on supporting the new products and providing the necessary staff and financial resources to the agency. ar

Morocco-Government-Media
Communication minister reaffirms backing implementation of good governance principles in MAP

Rabat, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - Minister of Communication, spokesman for the government, Mustapha el Khalfi, has reaffirmed Wednesday his backing of the implementation of the principles of good governance in the Maghreb Arab press agency (MAP), stressing the pioneering role of the agency as a media vantgarde and a provider of media services.

El Khalfi, who chaired the meeting of the agency's Board of administration, called on MAP to provide a public service to its partners in respect of the criteria of equity and equality, hailing the adoption of the charter of ethics, and the approval of the project of creating an ombudsman in charge of resol ving the possible professional disputes between the agency and its partners.

The minister considered the adoption in MAP of an approach aiming to diversify its products, which now includes MAP-TV and MAP-Audio, and the broadening of its national and inte rnational network, require the elaboration of a contract-program between the state and the agency.

These actions, he said, will allow the agency to meet the growing needs of its national environment as a major media player, and to reflect the diversity a nd openness that make up the particularity of Morocco. ar

Morocco-Islam-Ulema
Council of Ulema strongly condemns movie on Prophet

Rabat, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - Morocco's Council of Ulema has strongly condemned the movie aiming to make an attempt on the person of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), and distort the tenor of his message, based on peace, tranquility, love and concord among humans, including all ethnicities or religions.

In a press release to MAP, the Council underlined that this evil act shows the malicious intent, and the intention

to saw discord, as well as the denial of human responsibility, which compels all individuals and people to respect religions, beliefs and ideas. ar

Morocco-China-Forum-Davos
Morocco takes part in Summer Davos meeting

Rabat, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - A Moroccan ministerial delegation is taking part in the ongoing three -day Summer Davos meeting as part of the World Economic Forum (WEF), held since September 11 in Tianjin, China, a press release of the office of the head of go vernment said on Wednesday.

The delegation is composed of minister of general affairs, Mohamed Najib Boulif, delegate minister in charge of the budget, Driss el Azami el Idrissi, and secretary general of the ministry of transports, Mohamed Jamal Benjelloun.

Noting that Morocco was only lightly affected by the so -called Arab spring, the delegation stressed it has now emerged as the "most attractive" and "most stable" market for investors, thus standing up as a reference in the Arab region, the release said.

In a difficult economic environment at the international level, the north African kingdom is doing well thanks to its political and macro-economic stability, and to an inflation kept under control, which allowed it to rank first in the WEF latest report on competitiveness.

At a meeting with the delegation members, Klaus Schwab, founder of the WEF hailed the development Morocco has achieved through the political and economic reforms, voicing hope to consolidate partnership with the country by the organization of the forum's next conference in Morocco.

The delegation also met with officials and investors from China, the Middle East and Latin America, the press release added.

This annual meeting, which gathered 1500 participants, brings together the world's "new economic champions," from emerging countries. ar

Morocco-Justice
Up to 10 months for six people over unauthorized gathering in Casablanca

Casablanca, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - The court of first instance of Ain Sebaa, Casablanca, gave, on Wednes day, judgments ranging from 10 months in jail to six suspended months to six people mainly on charges of unauthorized gathering.

Three defendants were sentenced to ten months in prison, two to eight months in jail and a sixth to six suspended months. They were also fined 3,000 to 5,000 dirhams each.

Besides participation in an unauthorized demonstration, the accused went on trial on charges of assault and battery against security forces, on July 22 in Bernoussi neighborhood in Casablanca. HH

Morocco-Economy-Energy-Conference
Morocco to host Energy Charter Conference on Sept. 20-21

Rabat, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - The energy charter will hold its next conference in Rabat on September 20 -21, Morocco's energy ministry said on Wednesday in a statement.

This is the first time the conference will have been organized in a country outside the energy charter signatories.

The conference, to be held under the theme: "the contribution of the Energy Charter to setting up a regional integrated, competitive energy market in the MENA region," will focus on the "major political issues" which face the energy sector at international level.

It will also highlight the important energy developments expected in the MENA region in the years to come.
HH

Morocco-Architecture
Head of Govt. meets with SG of Arab Union of Architects

Rabat, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - Head of government Abdelilah Benkirane met, on Wednesday in Rabat, with secretary general of the Arab Union of Architects Adil Ibrahim Al -Hudaithi.

In a statement to MAP, Al-Hudaithi said the meeting touched on a wide -range of issues related to Moroccan architects and their role in promoting this profession.

He stressed Benkirane's willingness to back the Arab Union of Architects and one of its branches namely the Moroccan architects association.

The Arab Union of Architects, headquartered in Cairo, was established in 1963.

Morocco-Economy-HCP
Rebound of economic growth in 2013 to rely on domestic demand, Planning Commission

Rabat, Sep 12, 2012 (MAP) - The Moroccan economic growth in 2013 will be supported exclusively by domestic demand whose contribution in the GDP will jump from 3.5 points in 2012 to 6.3 points in 2013, according to the High Planning Commission (HCP).

Domestic demand will rise by 5.4% in volume ag ainst 3.1% in 2012 due to the consolidation of households' consumption and gross investment.

Foreign demand (net exports of goods and services) will post a drop of -2 points of growth instead of -1.1 points in 2012.

National final consumption, made up of consumption of resident households and of public administrations, will increase by 4.1% instead of 4.7% in 2012 resulting in a fall in its contribution of 3.6 to 3.3 points.

Consumption of resident households will benefit from amelioration of income i n 2013 to reach 4.5% in 2013 instead of 2.3%, while the consumption of public administrations will increase only by 3% instead of 12.5% in 2012 due to a possible rationalization of expenses of self -employed persons in order to preserve budget balance.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:02 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: poor ol' Larry Schwartz...

Wow. I can't believe he still has a job.

From: Neuling, Bruce
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:35 AM
To: AF-S-Desk Officers-DL
Subject: poor ol' Larry Schwartz...

Inside the public relations disaster at the Cairo embassy

Posted: 12 Sep 2012 01:48 PM PDT

One staffer at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo was responsible for the statement and tweets Tuesday that have become grist for the presidential campaign, and that staffer ignored explicit State Department instructions not to issue t he statement, one U.S. official close to the issue told *The Cable.*

Two additional administration officials confirmed the details of this account when contacted late Wednesday by *The Cable.*

The statement, issued as a press release on the U.S. Embassy website, has been attacked by Republican challenger **Mitt Romney**, lawmakers, and conservatives around the country as an inappropriate "apology" and a failure to stand up for American principles such as freedom of speech.

The White House distanced itself from the statement Tuesday, and Romney criticized it directly in his initial reaction to the attacks in Egypt and Libya shortly thereafter, accusing President **Barack Obama** of evicing sympathy for the attackers.

On Wednesday, Romney doubled down on that criticism, saying, "I think it's a terrible course for America to apologize for our values."

President Obama commented on the controversy in an interview to be aired Wednesday evening on *60 Minutes.*

"In an effort to cool the situation down, it didn't come from me, it didn't come from Secretary Clinton. It came from people on the ground who are potentially in danger," Obama said. "And my tendency is to cut folks a little bit of slack when they're in that circumstance, rather than try to question their judgment from the comfort of a campaign office."

But Obama's remarks belie the enormous frustration of top officials at the State Department and White House with the actions of the man behind the statement, Cairo senior public affairs officer **Larry Schwartz**, who wrote the release and

oversees the embassy's Twitter feed, according to a detailed account of the Tuesday's events.

The official noted that the statement was posted at exactly 12:18 p.m. Cairo time -- 6:18 a.m. Washington time -- well before the protests began. Romney has said, wrongly, that the statement was the administration's first response to the protests, but the official said that the demonstrations did not begin until 4 p.m. Cairo time and protesters breached the wall about 2 hours later.

After the breach, as public criticism of the statement grew, the Cairo Embassy Twitter account continued to send out tweets defending it, some of which were later deleted. One deleted tweet, originally posted at 12:30 a.m. Cairo time, said, "This morning's condemnation (issued before protests began) still stands. As does condemnation of unjustified breach of the Embassy."

Before issuing the press release, Schwartz cleared it with just one person senior to himself, Deputy Chief of Mission **Marc Sievers**, who was the charge d'affaires at the embassy on Tuesday because Ambassador **Anne Patterson** was in Washington at the time, the official said.

Schwartz sent the statement to the State Department in Washington before publishing and the State Department directed him not to post it without changes, but Schwartz posted it anyway.

"The statement was not cleared with anyone in Washington. It was sent as 'This is what we are putting out,'" the official said. "We replied and said this was not a good statement and that it needed major revisions. The next email we received from Embassy Cairo was 'We just put this out.'"

A heated discussion ensued among State Department and White House officials over e-mail as the controversy over the statement grew Tuesday evening, even grabbing the attention of Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton**. Meanwhile, those same officials were dealing with a more serious attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi that resulted in the death of four American officials, including Ambassador **Chris Stevens**.

"People at the highest levels both at the State Department and at the White House were not happy with the way the statement went down. There was a lot of anger both about the process and the content," the official said. "Frankly, people here did not understand it. The statement was just tone deaf. It didn't provide adequate balance. We thought the references to the 9/11 attacks were inappropriate, and we strongly advised against the kind of language that talked about 'continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims.'"

Despite being aware of Washington's objections, the embassy continued to defend the statement for several hours, fueling the controversy over it, a decision the official again attributed to Schwartz.

"Not only did they push out the statement but they continued to engage on Twitter and retweet it," the official said. "[Schwartz] would have been the one directing folks to engage on Twitter on this."

At approximately 10:30 p.m. Washington time, Clinton issued a statement on both the Libya and Egypt attacks that included a reference to religious tolerance as well as an emphasis on the administration's condemnation of the embassy attack.

"The United States deplores any intentional effort to denigrate the religious beliefs of others," she said. "Our commitment

to religious tolerance goes back to the very beginning of our nation. But let me be clear: There is never any justification for violent acts of this kind."

Despite his disregard of Washington's instructions and his actions throughout the day Tuesday, Schwartz has not y et been disciplined in any way and is still the lead public affairs officer at the embassy.

"He remains at post at the same capacity as he was," the official said.

The State Department declined to comment and a request sent to the U.S. Embassy in Cairo f or comment was not immediately returned.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:03 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: poor ol' Larry Schwartz...

Exactly what I've been saying all day.

He told me 10 years ago he was going to fire me. Glad to say I'm still here.

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From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:14 AM
To: [redacted] Kabul Front Office; Kabul Exec CDDEA Deputies; Kabul IPA Coordinator; Kabul RSO Intel; Kabul POL Americans; Kabul PolMil Americans; Kabul Press; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (Herat); Kabul PD Field Officers
Subject: IPA Field Reporting -- Reaction to Events in Benghazi -- Thurs 13 Sept @ 1945

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED / FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
From the Office of Interagency Provincial Affairs (IPA)

Please find below **the most recent** compilation of field reports to date covering civilian engagement with Afghan counterparts and observed local reactions regarding the events in Benghazi and Cairo of September 11, 2012.

Key Leader Engagements (KLE) and other discussions are conducted by v arious field units at the level of the Platform, Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) and District Support Team (DST).

IPA continues to collect reports from the field and will update this information periodically.

THURSDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2012

IPA KABUL

- According to the NATO Senior Civilian Representative (SCR) office, the Director General (DG) of the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG) asked Provincial Governors to engage with mullahs in their provinces in an effort to maintain calm. The SCR also told us that the DG informed him that President Karzai instructed provincial governors to stay in their provinces and avoid travel to ISAF facilities for the next several days.
- **NOTE:** The reported order from Karzai was co rroborated by reports from Farah Province (RP -W, below) and Kunduz Province (RP-N, below). We also note that an invitation to five governors to attend a September 16 event in Kabul with the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan (SRAP) was dec lined by the IDLG in the early evening of September 12. Within this context, the NATO SCR office raised the specter that if this situation drags on for several days, it could jeopardize the September 22 PRT Synchronization Conference at ISAF, and event that representatives of the IDLG, Ministry of Finance, the Transition Coordination Commission, and other GIRoA bodies are currently scheduled to attend. **END NOTE.**

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative Keith Mines)

- **Balkh Province:** During a previously scheduled press conference to highlight regional economic development, **Ambassador Llorens** and **Governor Atta** both condemned the violence seen in Libya and Egypt and called for calm. Ambassador Llorens noted, *"Our diplomatic post was attacked and w e lost four diplomatic colleagues and friends. It is an attack that shook the conscience of all faiths around the world. Some people seek to justify this behavior in response to inflammatory material on the internet. Violence is no way to honor a faith. We honor our Muslim compatriots. In moments like this, calm is important. Violence is never a way to honor God."*

- Governor Atta opened the press conference by saying: *"I found out that diplomats were killed in Benghazi and I was saddened by the attacks. Hi-level USG officials have condemned the attacks. I have also heard about the video made by a pastor in California in which he insulted the Prophet Muhammed, and I also heard about the violence in response to the video. People who do this kind of thing want a reaction from the Muslim community.* ***I call for calm among my people, and I ask them not to be carried away by their emotions. By engaging in violent acts, we only harm our people and cause financial damage and we gain nothing from it.*** *Let's let the authorities of the U.S. and Afghan Governments deal with this, so that the people who commit such crimes (the video) are not allowed to do so in the future."*
    - Al Jazeera and nine Afghan media outlets covered the press conference. (Public Diplomacy Officer Janae Cooley has a full readout).
- **Kunduz Province:** It was quiet in the capital city today. The Provincial Governor held a security meeting that included the Director of Hajj and Religious Affairs to discuss possible fallout from the internet film. PRT officials were told that provincial leaders agreed to do all they could to make sure any expressions of anger about the video remained peaceful.
- The PRT handover ceremony went well, but **GIRoA participation was very light**. PGOV, PCOP and one district governor were the most senior officials present. Not clear if this was because officials are not wanting to travel to the PRT right now.
- **COMMENT:** It was a very good day of messaging. No word of any disturbances, or anything moving in that direction. The key thing to watch tonight is if anyone airs the video as happened in Egypt, but as we understand it that will not happen here. We are assuming that at some point the video will start to seep out, and that could be where there will be problems. On the other hand, if the first exposure to it is verbal, and the rage has dissipated by the time people actually see the footage, that might be the best formula for keeping a lid on things. **END COMMENT.**

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul Brad Hanson)

- **Herat Province:** Consul and RSO were scheduled to meet with the police chief. Consulate Herat had received fragmentary information that some extremists were planning protests for Friday in Herat.
- **Farah Province:** Governor Khpalwak called the PRT to notify staff that he is canceling plans to fly to Herat Friday, Sept 14, indicating that ***President Karzai has instructed all governors to remain in their provinces to appeal for calm in the event that protests break out in the coming days*** .
- The Governor later said he is meeting key Mullahs from around the province before Friday prayers to discuss ways to stem the ongoing spate of insurgent attacks and forestall future violence related to the movie clip that spawned the attack in Cairo. He indicated that GIROA has provided a message from the Embassy.
- None of the participants of the Provincial Council meeting held Thursday, September 13 seemed to be aware of international developments that might elevate the threat level and there was no discussi on of such developments at the meeting.
- **Ghor Province:** Governor Rahmati told the PRT's Lithuanian PolRep this morning that he is concerned about public sentiment in Ghor and he urged the PRT to take precautions. LTU Polrep conveyed points similar to ours, and the PRT US Team Lead followed up with an email to the Governor with the Embassy/ISAF statement, as well as links to statements in Dari by President Obama and Secretary Clinton. (NOTE: Rahmati has an assistant who translates emails for him. END NOTE) The Governor told LTU PolRep that he is urging calm, so we are confident that he will play a positive role.
- The PRT Chief of Staff (Commander is on his way to TOA event in Herat) held a meeting Thursday afternoon (13 Sept) to discuss messaging and force pr otection. At this point, the PRT is monitoring the situation carefully but not actively reaching out to other GIRoA or public figures (e.g., the local media or the religious community). PRT US Team Lead is coordinating with PRT public relations staff as th ey prepare talking points to use if there are indications that the situation may escalate. The PRT is not changing its force protection level at this point, but is

cancelling non-essential movements off the PRT Friday, and will decide on off -PRT activities in the following days as the situation develops.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative Jonathan Addleton)

- **Kandahar Province:** Civilian head of KPRT has learned that Governor Wesa and the Kandahar Media Information Center (KMIC) are planning to hold a meeting involving about 100 religious leaders from the Ulema Council and other key mullahs to condemn the film in a peaceful way. This is something they have done before following similar incidents; it is their way of being proactive. Afterwards, KMIC will likely send out a press release about it.
    - The only LOCAL media coverage seen so far today is from Radio Killid:
    - ***Presidential Statement Condemns US Film That Insults Islam:*** *A press release from the Afghan Presidential Palace yesterday said that Afghan President Hamid Karzai strongly condemned a US film that blasphemes the Muslim prophet. The president said the inhuman act of releasing the aforementioned film may cause an enmity between cultures. [SAP20120912646002 Kandahar Radio Killid in Pashto 1300 GMT 12 Sep 12 -- independent radio station supported by Development and Humanitarian Services for Afghanistan]*
- **Uruzgan Province:** PRT Uruzgan does not believe that large, organized protests will occur as a result of the video. However, individuals could exploit the protests in Libya and Egypt to promote anti -western and anti-GIROA sentiment. Claims of "cultural insensitivity" and "religious blasphemy" could add to the strain of relations between Afghanistan National Security Forces (ANSF) and C oalition Forces (CF), thus increasing the threat of "insider attacks."
- PRT Uruzgan spoke with Governor Akhundzada the afternoon of September 13 and hit the major themes in the talking points. The Governor was understanding and said he appreciated our comme nts. He told PRT members that he had had conversations with a number of mullahs in Tarin Kowt today. Based on those conversations, the governor said he is not overtly concerned about violent protests in Uruzgan. The Governor said he is leaving for Kabul tonight (Sept 13) and would not travel if the risk of things getting out of control was high.
- The Combined Team Uruzgan (CTU) commander talked to both the Provincial Chief of Police and the ANA 4 th Brigade commander, and both agree they see the risk in Ur uzgan as minimal. Also, the PRT will conduct religious outreach with the Provincial Director of Haji and Islamic Affairs to determine his assessment of any possible reaction.
- Only one station, Pajhowk, was carrying the story locally.
- **COMMENT:** The next 24 hours will be critical in terms of gauging sentiment, and what happens during, and after, Friday prayers will shape the reaction that comes thereafter. **END COMMENT.**

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative Paul O'Friel)

- As of 1745 Thursday, September 13, there were no reports of community reaction or demonstrations in Helmand or Nimroz Provinces.
- SCR Paul O'Friel and ARSO Andrew Curran distributed guidance from the EAC to all Chief of Mission employees, urging renewed attention to security protocols and vigilant monitoring of local atmospherics.
- RP-SW, Helmand PRT, and DST staff have official guidance and background on the video and attacks in Benghazi and Cairo, and will report on key leader engagements and any community reaction.
- Given the narrow scope of television and internet infrastructure in Helmand and Nimroz, international news penetration in SW is often delayed and limited. The Platform will continue to monitor and report on subsequent coverage and reaction.
- **Helmand Radio** picked up the Karzai statement about the video, and also Karzai's phone call with POTUS regarding the attacks in Benghazi and Cairo. Those items did not lead any of the radio news hours, instead they were sandwiched between reports of violence in Farah and Karza i's postponement of his trip to Norway:

- ***Karzai criticises anti-Islamic Film.*** *The Afghan President Hamid Karzai vehemently condemned an anti-Islamic film that has been backed by the American pastor Terry Jones. The Presidential Office issued a statement on Wednesday that said, "We strongly and resolutely denounce this desecrating and disrespectful act as an abhorrence and insult to all Muslims. This heinous act has created outrage and anxiety for all peace-loving human beings who support the idea of peac eful coexistence. Sacrilege is not part of freedom of expression but a criminal act that has now greatly hurt the righteous sentiments of the 1.5 billion Muslims across the globe."*
- ***US President phones Karzai to discuss deadly attack on US consulate in Lib ya.*** *The White House has issued a statement to say that the US President Barack Obama called his Afghan counterpart Hamid Karzai on Wednesday to discuss the deadly gun -assault on the US consulate in Libya's eastern city of Benghazi. Protesters who had been angered by a film that ridiculed Islam's Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (peace be upon him), fired weapons and burned down the US consulate in the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi on Tuesday night, killing US Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens and 3 other diplomats. The statement said: "Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Wednesday extended his deepest condolences for the tragic loss of American life to the US President, Barack Obama. Both presidents discussed the significance of working together to help ensure tha t the circumstances that led to the violence in Libya and Egypt do not pose a threat to US forces or Afghans."*

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative Karen Decker)

- **Kunar Province**: PRT Team Lead spoke to Governor Wahidi on Wednesday, Septem ber 12. The Governor happened to be meeting with a group of maulawis on Thursday September 13 and said he'd be perfectly willing to send them any message we think appropriate. (He has done a good job in the past defusing crises, calming the religious leaders down during the aftermath of the Qur'an burning and urination video.)
- **Nangarhar Province**: Acting PRT Team Lead spoke to Governor Sherzai's Chief of Staff on Wednesday, September 12 and asked him to alert the governor and his security commander. Sherzai's COS said the governor was aware and tracking the loss of our Ambassador and COM officers. Governor Sherzai is drafting a letter of condolences to be sent to the Embassy. PRT FSNs are also trying to reach out to the Ulema Council leaders (PRT has a good relationship with them and they are supportive.)

WEDNESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2012

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative Keith Mines)

- We will see Governor Atta tomorrow with Ambassador Llorens and will be prepared to engage press as feasible.
- The news started to hit while we were in Faryab for the transition ceremony. We met with the head of the Provincial Council and the Head of the Ulema Council and stressed the American values issue and our respect fo r Islam, asking for their support to keep things under control. They said they will get the message out and appreciated that we reached out. They said they think people appreciate that these sorts of things do not represent mainstream America.
- We discussed the threat with the Deputy Minister of the Interior and other officials from Kabul. They said they appreciated the heads up and would help mitigate the risks.
- In Mazar we called the Head of the Provincial Council, the Director of the Blue Mosque, and Governor Atta's Chief of Staff. Also discussed with the ANA Commander, ANP Commander, and ANCOP Commander. All thanked us for the heads up and said they would help explain the situation to constituents, line directors, and others. The Director of the Blue Mosque said he would pass the message to the Imams and recommended we do as much outreach as possible. (NOTE: The head of the Provincial Council was the one who incited the crowd in the April 2011 UN compound attack. We had met with him two days earl ier and had coincidentally discussed the importance of helping to channel frustration with these sorts of things in a safe way).

- I raised it at the evening Battle Update Brief (BUB) and the RC North Commander directed that staff get out to commanders and direct them to take the pulse of their AO tomorrow, without proactively doing KLE which ISAF has not directed them to do. He wants them to watch the situation and be ready to react as necessary by restricting movement and reinforcing compounds.

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul Brad Hanson)

- Consulate Herat convened an EAC meeting and will be watching the local reaction very carefully.
- Consul/SCR Brad Hanson will meet with Gov Saba later this evening to discuss.
- New provincial police chief has pledged support if needed in the next couple days to protect the Consulate.
- The Platform is concerned that some of the extremist ulama and outsiders will exploit this situation to foment the kind of violent demonstration that occurred 24 February 2012.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative Karen Decker)

- The general consensus at the Platform is that when the story about the new anti -Islamic video finally hits Afghanistan, the reaction in RC-East will be severe.
- RP-E staff will rely on contacts developed in previous similar situations to help preserve calm. In the past, a radio station in Parwan worked with us to broadcast messages from local mullahs, officials and ANSF who appealed to the people for calm, which greatly helped defuse tensions. Once a message/talking points are released by the Embassy, the Platform will work with local media outlets, mullahs and community leaders in places like Parwan, Bagram and Jalalabad.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative Jonathan Addleton)

- The Platform is following the situation closely. There were no demonstrations in Kandahar today, but there is certainly concern.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative Paul O'Friel)

No report as of this writing.

Office of Interagency Provincial Affairs (IPA)
US Embassy Kabul, Afghanistan

SBU
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From: [redacted] [mailto: [redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:17 AM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: I know we are all busy

Toria – I've just confirmed that the children's mother has been informed, and the parents. I'll check on the photos.

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto: [redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:07 AM
To: [redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H
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Subject: RE: I know we are all busy

[redacted], how is it looking for getting NOK's done before I go out at 12:30. WE are besieged now that Doherty relative is talking.

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Subject: I know we are all busy

Tried calling in. Wanted to let you all know that notifications are NOT/NOT complete. Still trying to reach two teenage sons who live with a former spouse. Will get you everything as soon as possible.

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Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:54 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: LAO (Libyan American Organization) Statement on Attacks in Benghazi
Attachments: Libyan American Organization- Statement 9-12-12.docx

LAO Statement Condemning Attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi
September 12, 2012

The Libyan American Organization (LAO) is deeply saddened and outraged by the horrific attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi on September 11, 2012 and the killing of the Honorable Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens and his fallen colleagues. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families, the U.S. government and the American people for their loss

Ambassador Stevens was admired and liked by many Libyans for his humbleness, courage and support of the Libyan people in their struggle for freedom.

On behalf of the Libyan Community in the United States, we formally condemn the violence that occurred and encourage the Libyans in Libya to invest on the solidification of domestic security and diplomatic peaceful protests.
The few criminals who committed this act of violence and betrayal do not represent in any way the values of the LAO, the Libyan-American community or the majority of the Libyan people.

The Libyan-American community stands in solidarity against violence with the U.S. government and the rest of the American people during this difficult time and prays that such a tragedy is never repeated again. And we will never forget the courageous stand that the American government and people took with the Libyan people during the February 17 th Revolution.

This tragic incident is a reminder to all of us that we need to stand together to help during this transitional phase and raise awareness of the shared values between the Libyan and American peoples. May this tragedy be a chance for us Libyans and A mericans to unite against those who promote chaos, ignorance, and discord.

About the Libyan American Organization (LAO)
The Libyan American Organization (LAO) is a non-profit, civil society organization based in the United States of America. The organization's board was elected by members of the Libyan community during a conference held in Washington, DC on 18 February 2012. Our organization's mission is to serve the needs and interests of the Libyan community in the USA and help Rebuild Libya.

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From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:07 PM
To: [redacted] Vietor, Tommy; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] Media [redacted]
Subject: The Two Other Benghazi Fallen

[redacted] Tommy – FYSA, the bios on the two other people killed in Benghazi. The Department will release the names shortly.

[redacted] it occurs to us that since Sec. Panetta is scheduled to speak at the historical document release event at GMU this afternoon, with lots of media in attendance, he might be asked about these two former SEALs. Thanks, Didi

Tyrone S. Woods – Personnel Security Contractor

Tyrone "Rone" S. Woods, a Personnel Security Contractor to the Department of State since September 2010, was driven to serve and protect. In this short time, he deployed to Central America, Middle East, Iraq, and most recen tly Libya, always serving with distinction. He had an impressive military background that culminated with his retirement after twenty years in the U.S. Navy SEALs. While on active duty, he served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. A Registered Nurse and a Nationally Certified Paramedic, Mr. Woods was also lead instructor at both the SEAL Qualifications Course and the Medical Department. Mr. Woods earned many awards, including the Bronze Star, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, and the Navy SEAL Trident. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and three sons, Tyrone Jr. (age 16), Hunter (age 15), and Kai, born just a few months ago (June).

Glen A. Doherty – Personnel Security Contractor

Glen "Bub" A. Doherty proudly and honorably served as a Personnel Security Contractor to the Department of State since February 2004. He deployed for us to locations throughout the Middle East --including Iraq and Afghanistan --in Central America, and most recently to Libya to protect Embassy personnel and visiting dignitaries. He, too, served this country as a U.S. Navy SEAL , completing multiple combat tours as a medic and was also a Nationally Certified Paramedic. He is survived by his father Bernard, his mother Barbara, and siblings Gregory and Kathleen. His military honors, too many to fully detail, include the Navy Commendation Medal with Valor, a Presidential Unit Citation, a Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Navy Ach ievement Medal with Gold Star, and the Navy SEAL Trident.

From: Schwerin, Daniel B <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:18 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy; Ventrell, Patrick H; Kennedy, Patrick F
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We also grieve for Glen Doherty, called Bub, and his fami ly: his father Bernard, his mother Barbara, his brother Gregory, and his sister Kathleen. Since 2004, Glen served as an indispensible member of our State Department team. He was also a former Navy SEAL and an experienced paramedic. And he put his life on the line many times, protecting Americans in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other hotspots. In the end, he died the way he lived – with selfless honor and unstinting valor.

The attack that took the lives of these heroes should shock the conscience of people of all faiths and traditions. We condemn it in the strongest terms, and we appreciate the statements of support that have poured in from across the region and the world. People of conscience and goodwill everywhere must stand together in these difficult days against violence, hate, and division.

I am enormously proud of the men and women of the State Department who risk their lives every day in the service of our country and our values. They help make the United States the greatest force for peace, pro gress and human dignity that the world has ever known. We honor the memory of our fallen colleagues by continuing their work and carrying on the best traditions of a bold and generous nation.

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Cc: [redacted]
Subject: I know we are all busy

Tried calling in. Wanted to let you all know that notifications are NOT/NOT complete. Still trying to reach two teenage sons who live with a former spouse. Will get you everything a s soon as possible.

From: PAS International Media Contacts <[redacted]> on behalf of Sharifi, Solmaz
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:21 PM
To: INTERNATIONAL-MEDIA-CONTACTS [redacted]
Subject: Statement by U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan James B. Cunningham

U.S. Embassy Kabul, Afghanistan
September 13, 2012

Statement by U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan James B. Cunningham

I join President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton in condemning in the strongest terms the attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya. It is with heartfelt sincerity that my thoughts and prayers, and those of our larger diplomatic and military community, go out to the family of Ambassador Stevens and our other American colleagues who died in this attack. As Secretary Clinton remarked yesterday, these fine and heroic public servants made "the ultimate sacrifice." I appreciate the many expressions o f sympathy and condolence conveyed to me by President Karzai and other Afghan leaders.

I also echo President Karzai's condemnation of the video and film that has offended many Muslims and others around the world. As President Obama said yesterday, since our founding, the United States has been a nation that respects all faiths. We reject any efforts to insult and disrespect the religious beliefs of others. The video does not represent the values of the United States, which supports religious tolerance as one of our most important principles. But free speech is also one of our most important principles and as Secretary Clinton stated, "our country has a long tradition of free expression, which is protected by the law. Our government does not – and cannot - stop individual citizens from expressing their views, however hateful they might be."

This film and video are insulting to people of good will of all faiths. But they do not merit a violent response, and are not worth the injury or death of innocen t people. I hope that all societies of all faiths will reject provocative attempts to gain attention, and we urge restraint from all who are understandably offended by the video and the sentiments behind it. In our partnership with the sovereign nation o f Afghanistan, we share the goal of safety for Afghan families, as well as Afghan-Coalition forces and the larger diplomatic and international community serving in Afghanistan.

###

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

To unsubscribe from the INTERNATIONAL-MEDIA-CONTACTS list, click the following link:

[redacted]

From: Vietor, Tommy
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:22 PM
To: Schwerin, Daniel B
Subject: RE: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

Typo: personnel security contractors

From: Schwerin, Daniel B [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:18 PM
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Cuppla small things to soften a bit and then pls pls lets get this out.

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From: [redacted] (PACE) <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:32 PM
To: [redacted] PA FO Group; PA IME Staff; NEA Press Officers DL; NEA Desk Officers DL; NEA Staff Assistants DL; [redacted] SES O; Meehan, Bernadette
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RRU Special Report: Middle East Protests, Arab Media, 9/13

For your information and internal use.

Best regards,

[redacted]

RAPID RESPONSE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE • BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RRU SPECIAL REPORT
PROTESTS IN CAIRO, SANAA
ATTACK ON US CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI
THURSDAY 09/13/2012 12:00PM

Breaking international news coverage of the Middle East protests in response to the US -produced anti-Islamic film focuses primarily on the "storming" of the US Embassy in Sanaa, with less prominent coverage of Cairo protests. Reports claim "hundreds" of protesters entered the Sanaa compound's grounds before being "expelled" by police, and note all US personnel are safe. Continuing and significant media coverage on the Benghazi consulate attack primarily centers around President Obama's vow that "justice will be done" to those responsible for Ambassador Stevens' death, as well as his deployment of two US warships to the Libyan coast and a Marine unit to investigate the tragedy. Occasional notice is given to his phone calls with the Egyptian and Libyan leaders, as well as Egyptian President Morsi's Thursday statement.

Global commentary on Libya is ubiquitous, with many observers condemning the violence; several commentators speculate about the causes of the Benghazi incident, while others fear the tragedy could derail the Arab Spring. The UK's *Guardian* claims the violence proves the "US remains deeply unpopular across the Muslim world," while Spain's *La Vanguardia* headlines "The Arab Spring Betrays Obama." Analysts lament the "disproportionate reaction" to the movie and fear "militant Islam is ascendant." Some outlets blame Tripoli for failing to provide adequate security and rule of law. A few praise Ambassador Stevens' courage and good work. Some weigh in on how future US-Libya ties will unfold and wonder if US policy toward the Middle East will change. Several predict the new focus on foreign policy will affect the US presidential campaign.

EUROPE

Austria
Kurier: "Islamist Mob has to be stopped"; "The protest against the latest provocation was, unf ortunately, foreseeable. Criticism is necessary, violence isn't... The Muslim authorities are required to put a halt to the mob. Not stepping up would make them collaborators. It would also make the interreligious dialogue, which doesn't get any further, even more difficult."

Der Standard: "It is a fact that the monopoly on the legitimate use of force in Libya has not been with the state and that the radical Islamists have been getting organized...Libyan has got a few characteristics that enable its tran sition to a democratic system – like oil resources – and others that make it more difficult – as the weakness of the national identity. In one aspect Libya is not different than the other Arab transition countries: the radicalism of its Islamists."

Die Presse: "The disproportionate reaction to the irrelevant YouTube nonsense demonstrates how insecure, even backward the radicalized parts of the Muslim societies are. Steady personalities act in a different way. This is only topped by the 'politically correct Islam experts' who excuse the killing frenzy as 'justified outrage' against Islam phobia. There is no excuse for it."

ORF TV: "Islam haters in the United States [with their film] handed [Muslims the excuse for the protests] on a silver platter, and the Salafists in Libya and Egypt accepted it eagerly. They are behaving exactly as the Islam haters expected them to. Sometimes the world is just as predictable as that."

France
France 24 reports: "Egyptian Copts fearful amid anti-Islam film backlash."

Germany
Süddeutsche Zeitung: "The US Ambassador and three other Americans were killed in Benghazi, the city where the Libyan rebellion began and where rebels with U.S. flags in their hands celebrated the death of Qaddafi. However, the dimension of the murderous act goes far beyond Libya. It evoked old ghosts, who were asleep since September 11, 2001 but could be reactivated any time: extremists and fanatics in the political and religious camp, arsonists and provocateurs, hate preachers and people who show no tolerance...This time, the provocation began with American extremists; Islamic fanatics responded not less radically...Hatred will lead to more hatred...For eleven years the moderate part of the world is thinking hard how to put a stop to fanatics. The answer is: we cannot stop them. We can only make us aware of the fact that the majority of the people do not want their destruction."

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung: "Nowhere else like in the Islamic world can one exploit religion so easily to stir up emotions and cause political protests. Also this time around, only a few people will have actually seen the sequence of the amateur film on Mohammad...They blindly follow ring leaders who do not think much of the West. Accusations like those of the Libyan government are not really helpful. However, they demonstrate that the new rulers are not yet in the position to guarantee law and order in a country that wants to become democratic."

Die Welt: "This is supposedly about an Islamophobic film.... The extremely primitive film 'Innocence of Muslims' shows Mohammad as an idiot, womanizer and child molester. This is a clear provocation. Given the experience of the Danish Mohammad cartoons, the consequences might have been desired... However, this cannot excuse what the mob in Cairo and Benghazi has done.... In Libya, we cannot rule out that the losers of the new time are behind the attack: Qaddafi's men, who have already lost everything or will lose everything – maybe even their lives. A bad mélange is coming together. U.S. President Obama must not ignore this, even in a year of an election campaign."

Ireland
Irish Times reports "Hundreds of Yemeni demonstrators stormed the US embassy in Sanaa in protest at a film they consider blasphemous to Islam, and security guards tried to hold them off by firing into the air." The report also notes Obama's pledge that "justice will be done," as well as Egyptian President Morsi's statement supporting peaceful protest but not attacks on embassies. An *Irish Examiner* report adds that the Sanaa protesters were on the embassy grounds but did not enter the building housing offices. *RTE* reports "security forces have restored order at the complex."

Italy
Print, broadcast and online media report international outra ge for the killing in Benghazi of four embassy diplomats, including the US Ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens. All media pick up President Obama's statements promising

to bring those responsible to justice. Observers put forth several theories as to the driving force behind the Libya attack, including the blasphemous film. Others speculate that it was retaliation for the recent killings of al -Qaeda leaders (*Corriere della Sera*, among others). All dailies carry positive portrayals of Ambassador Steve ns, noting his close ties to Italy. In particular, *La Stampa* recalls that "Stevens had prepared his mission [to Libya] in Rome, and had found support at the American Embassy on Via Veneto during the war in Libya."

The front-page of *Corriere della Sera* titles "Libya, Washington Deploys War Ships" and "Stevens, The American Friend Who Understood the Arabs." Articles report the apologies of the President of the General National Council, Mohamed al - Megaryef and his pledge to work with US authorities to find the culprits. Front-page banner headlines: "Deadly Assault Against US Diplomats" (*Corriere della Sera*); "Attack Against the US. Obama: We Will React" (*La Repubblica*); "Libya, The Shadow of al-Qaeda" (*La Stampa*); "Murderous Islam Returns" (*Il Giornale*).

"The Day After September 11" *Corriere della Sera*, "Militant Islam is ascending in the Middle East...On the 11th anniversary of September 11, the US must acknowledge that not even the death of Bin Laden has stopped the threat."

"'We Freed Them, They Betrayed Us'" *Corriere della Sera*, "Obama is faced with an immediate problem: the nightmare of a scenario like the one of the American hostages in Iran in 1979 which cost Jimmy Carter his re -election in 1980.... Last night Mitt Romney jumped on this new grave crisis in the Middle East in or der to try and catch up with the President in the race for the White House."

"Attack on Gaddafi Was Suicidal Madness" *Il Giornale*, "We had the suspicion that the so -called Arab Spring would not promise a radiant future...and now we have the confirmation tha t our suspicions were well-founded....While Libya was once a potential threat, today it is a real danger...Libya has gone from the frying pan to the fire. The new rulers, in other words, are more cruel and untrustworthy than the old ones....Cursed be the day tha t Europe (Germany excluded) and the US decided to ...militarily overthrow a regime without worrying about the consequences."

Norway

All newspapers write about the Embassy attack in Libya. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jonas Gahr Støre, condemns the attack. He says that nothing can defend acts of violence like these, and he will take this up with Libyan authorities.

Dagbladet writes that President Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton are wise to distance themselves from the film. Mitt Romney, on the other hand, sees the situation in black and white, which is why he can let this become a campaign issue.

Aftenposten's editor compares what happened yesterday with the Muhammed caricature riots that also became a part of a geopolitical game between the West and the Arab world, about "different perceptions of reality and cultural identity." He writes that riots like this, with flag b urning and other symbolic actions, are done for the TV cameras, but one should not underestimate what lies underneath, people with a permanent sense of humiliation and of being stepped on. He writes that it is sad on a political level that the extreme posi tions gets more leverage, while the bridge -building parts in Libya and Egypt, gets a tougher time.

VG writes that a foreign affairs crisis with the loss of American lives can be a firebomb in the U.S. presidential election. The paper also interviews Norwegian experts about the consequences yesterday's attack can have. Rania Maktabi at Østfold College says that big parts of the population in the Middle East are disappointed about what the Arab spring has led to, and that this is seething under the surface. Anders G. Romarheim at Norwegian Institute for Defense Studies says there is danger of diffusion because a large group of people feel that their religion has been offended. He says it is a difficult situation for the U.S., just as the caricature stride wa s for Norway. Researcher at Fafo, Kjetil Selvik says the protesters do not represent the general public, and the protests are small, but violent. Selvik also says that the attack may force Obama to a tougher stance, as some accuse him of being too Islam fr iendly and too compliant.

Politician and Middle East expert Naser Khader, writes in an op -ed in *VG* today that Muslims have to stop taking criticism of Allah, the Koran, and the prophet personally.

Poland

Rzeczpospolita ponders whether or not we can expect America's military response, and answers, "A response would be possible if it turned out that the death of the Ambassador was a result of a terrorist attack.... For the time being, it is not known who perpetrated the attack and whether or not they knew a U .S. Ambassador is a target."

Nasz Dziennik: "It is not known whether or not some Islamic organization is behind the attack...or whether it was a 'spontaneous action' by local militants."

Gazeta Wyborcza: "Whoever the assailants were, they did not have a difficult task. The Libyan authorities...are not able to restore security in the country where everyone has arms after the outbreak of the rising."

Portugal
Press write that eleven years after September 11th the death of an American Ambassador and three more Americans by Islamic extremists highlights hatred for the West in the region, especially the US.

Russia
RIA Novosti reports "Crowd storms Yemen US embassy." *Voice of Russia* headlines: "US sends marines, warships to Libyan coast," reporting that "The US has dispatched two war ships and 200-member Marine unit to protect its diplomatic mission in Benghazi."

Kommersant calls the attack in Benghazi "the most serious anti-American action in the Arab Spring countries where the fall of the 'secular dictators,' gave more strength to the Islamists and radicalized the population rather than leading to the triumph of democracy. It is a signal to Washington: after the fall of Muammar Gaddafi, who was known for his anti-Americanism, the attitude toward the United States in Libya, rather than improving, has grown worse."

Kommersant: "The calamity in Benghazi has shown that the whole country is on the verge of collapse."

Vedomosti says that what happened is a real terrorist act and needs to be condemned because all ambassadors and members of diplomatic missions have been granted personal immunity, this being a basic principle of international relations. Still, official relations between Washington and Tripoli will not change, according to the former ambassador of the Russian Federation to Libya, Aleksei Podtserob. The Americans faced a similar situation in Afghanistan where they first supported Al Qaeda and then had to fight against its resistance later. As seen by Podtserob, the security forces failing to stop violence in Benghazi goes to show that it is the militants are really in control of the country.

Moskovskiy Komsomolets quotes Yevgeniy Satanovskiy of the Middle East Institute: "Our Western colleagues wanted democracy in the Middle East. They have it now. Those involved in the attack on the diplomatic mission are no extremists. They are normal people, ordinary believers with a medieval mentality. They have lots of testosterone in their blood and, if insulted, will kill anyone. There is nothing surprising in that."

Rossiyskaya Gazeta: "The date 11 September has once again become a black one for the Americans...Yet, how unexpected this outburst of hatred for the USA in countries which were the pillars of the Arab Spring, so actively supported by Washington, was? It appears that the plot goes back to the ill-famed pastor Terry Jones or his followers... It is quite possible that inside the USA nobody will be held accountable for the diplomat's death...The tragic incident may also affect the course of the presidential race in the USA. The incumbent president's main rival, Republican Mitt Romney, has already slammed the authorities for 'too soft' reaction to the attack."

Spain
"The Arab Spring betrays Obama," *La Vanguardia*, "The Arab Spring, the one the Obama administration cautiously supported first and then fully supported, became a nightmare for America yesterday."

"U.S. faces an Islamist firestorm," *El Pais* describes "an event that intensifies the danger of increased radicalism derived from the Arab Spring and, necessarily, shakes, perhaps significantly, the campaign in this country."

El Pais opines "the [Libyan] moderate Islamist government that came out of the July elections has been extremely weak with increasing political violence, the consolidation of a plethora of regional militias and the rise of radical Islamism...Benghazi has revealed not only the failure of the security forces, unable to repel an organized attack, but also the government itself, which runs the country temporarily until a new constitution is adopted next year. Libya will not

emerge with the rule of law without eliminating armed groups that dictate their own law and prosecutes violent fundamentalism."

El Mundo "It reflects the chaos and instability that crosses Libya and ultimately, the transience of the Arab Spring that had raised many hopes." In *El Mundo*, Spanish diplomat Gustavo de Aristegui opines that "Too many said the 'war' on terror had been won, others believed in a new 'peace dividend' after the fall of some Arab dictatorships. This struggle, not war, has only just begun. The murder of Christopher Stevens, a lover of the Middle East and especially the Arab world, is a tragic confirmation. The conclusion can only be a new, strong and renewed commitment against terror, wherever it hides, always with the rule of law and no shortcuts."

ABC "With the massacre of Benghazi the whole U.S. [presence] in the rise and fall of the Arab Spring is now in question."

Lainformacion.com: "The attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, which kille d Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other employees of the embassy, was well planned and also linked to the anniversary of September 11, said experts." *Radio Nacional*: "It is believed that the attack was carried out by Al Qaeda's supporters and has to do with the 9/11 anniversary."

Tele5: "Obama has been firm but also open to dialogue. He has recognized that the U.S. does not fight against religions, but against persons, and that he is going to continue collaborating with the Government of Libya."

Turkey

Turkish Weekly headlines, "Violence Flares in Egypt, Yemen over Anti -Islam Film."

Milli Gazete, in its headline story, wrote that the filmmakers were 'looking for trouble', and that the producer of the movie had admitted to being a Zionist. *Posta* included photos of the injured Gaddafi and Stevens on either side, labeling them as "Spring" (referring to the Arab Spring) and Fall (which translates from Turkish into English as 'Final Spring'.) The newspaper included claims that the Ambassador died during a l ynching, not at the hospital. *Sozcu* wrote that the US's Arab Spring had backfired, and that the Islamists brought to the region by America to overthrow Gaddafi had killed the Ambassador. *Takvim* wrote that the fact that these attacks are taking place on the anniversary of 9/11 is being taken as a message from the region that the US is not wanted there. *Turkiye* wrote that the "shocking" attack and the death of the Ambassador laid the foundation for a new wave of Islamophobia in the world. *Yeni Safak* headlines: "A Second 9/11 Shock for the US" and wrote under the photograph of the injured Ambassador that it was the Libyans who helped Stevens and rushed him to the hospital.

Radikal: "The killing of [US ambassador Chris] Stevens as a reaction to an anti -Islamic film and in one of the countries that have been turned upside down by the Arab Spring…may increase the lack of trust in the future of the Arab Spring. Moreover, this attack may have also damaged the bridge that the USA has been trying to build between th e West and the 'good Muslims' for them."

Star: "The discussions on the film and the attack in Libya will certainly affect the elections in the US directly." *Hurriyet*: "The Libya attack could trigger a chain reaction."

UK

The Daily Telegraph headlines "US embassy protests spread as film anger grows," noting the continuing protests in Cairo and Sanaa. *The Independent* headlines, "Protesters chanting 'death to America' storm US embassy in Yemen over Prophet Mohammed film." *The Guardian* and *The Sun* write "US Embassy in Yemen stormed," noting "no casualties" have yet been reported. *The Telegraph* reports, "Second day of clashes outside US embassy in Egypt prompt police fight back." *The Guardian*'s report describes Obama as "tepid" about relations with Cairo, telling Spanish outlet *Telemundo* "I don't think that we would consider them an ally, but we don't consider them an enemy." The report also highlights President Morsi's earlier comments criticizing the film and the embassy attacks.

BBC reports the US will "investigate" the Libya incident, and notes President Obama's phone calls with the Egyptian and Libyan leaders. *The Times* headlines "Obama sends warships and Marines after Ambassador is killed and film protests spread," reporting "Obama sent a 50-strong counter-terrorist team of Marines to Benghazi but pledged that the violence would not harm ties with the post-revolutionary Government." *The Times* also notes, "The shadowy film-maker behind

Innocence of Muslims was in hiding but unrepen tant." In *The Guardian*'s "Obama vows to find killers of US ambassador in Libya," the paper reports, "Crucially...the president made it clear that the US would work alongside the Libyan government to track down the killers and would not be turning its back on the Arab spring in Libya or elsewhere in the Middle East." *Daily Telegraph* headlines: "Obama: Justice will be done over Libya envoy." *The Independent* writes: "The US administration was braced for possible further attacks at home and in other Muslim count ries as news of the film, called Innocence of Muslims, spreads."

The Times: "Disarming Libya: The murder of the US Ambassador shows Libya is not yet the country it could be" – editorial: "American, in partnership with Britain, France and others, gave the people of Libya their freedom...Yet the attacks are a brutal reminder of the failure of Libya's interim Government to curb or disarm the militias that have sprung up since the brief, decisive civil war of last year.... These attacks serve as a reminder that L ibya is not yet the country it hopes to be...It is hoped that, in the grip of mourning, America will not wash its hands of a country which it was so instrumental in steering away from tyranny. Libya's new rulers, for their part, must beware the country beco ming a failed state and an incubator of terrorism. It is not too late for Libya to become the country is hoped, post -Gaddafi, to be."

The Guardian: "[Stevens'] killing is likely to have far -reaching consequences in American attitudes towards the American spring and could change the US presidential elections."

The Guardian: "Two onslaughts in two of the cities that witnessed the drama of the Arab spring do not an Islamist winter make. But both underline the dangerous presence of a sort of radical fundame ntalists whom the old regimes kept at bay and are now free to pursue their agendas...Islam is wider than any national issue and this violence highlights the uncomfortable truth that the US remains deeply unpopular across the Muslim world, where Iraq, Afghani stan and, above all, the enduring Israeli-Palestinian conflict remain open sores."

The Guardian: "The Libyan revolution fanned and fuelled by the west is in danger of degenerating into chaos...Once again, the western powers have started a fire they cannot e xtinguish....Post-Gaddafi Libya lacks viable national political leadership, a constitution, functioning institutions and, most importantly, security.... Effective central control, meanwhile, is largely absent. And into this vacuum have stepped armed groups, all claiming sectional suzerainty over the multitude of fractured fiefdoms that was, until Nato barged in, a unified state."

The Guardian: "Libya's new democracy must not be derailed by the Benghazi murders...Libya must take robust and effective action, while retaining the democratic standards it has fought so hard to achieve. The US will have to show restraint, insisting on a proper reaction from Libya, but not overwhelming it with disproportionate force."

Daily Telegraph: "Most Libyans, who voted in rece nt elections to reject pro-democracy Islamic parties, divided their blame between their own weak government and the forces seeking to undermine it."

Daily Telegraph: "The incident shows the strength of anti -Western radicalism in Libya...In a country where t he state is too weak to govern and guns are readily available, it was only a matter of time before anti -Western radicalism cost lives in Benghazi."

Daily Telegraph: "The Arab Spring turns sour for America: The murder of the US ambassador to Libya is a sho cking reminder to Barack Obama that helping to overthrow dictators does not guarantee stability in the region;" "The fact that someone as supportive of the new Libyan regime can meet such an end shows that the West's continued involvement in this vital north African state is not universally appreciated...What is indisputable is that these two countries, which were at the forefront of last year's heady wave of anti -government protests, are finding themselves increasingly susceptible to the demands of hard-line Muslim fundamentalists...[W]ith the old dictators gone or, in the case of Syrian President Bashar al Assad surely soon to depart, and the influence of well -armed Islamist militants growing, the changing face of the Middle East presents as many difficulties for Western policy-makers as it does opportunities."

Daily Telegraph: "The killings will inevitably prompt searching questions about Mr. Obama's understandable determination—in the light of Iraq and Afghanistan – to play a less interventionist role in the Middle East."

The Independent praises "the softly spoken diplomat who lifted the rebels resolve...There is little doubt that his presence, with a small team of Western diplomats, helped buttress the morale of the opposition's National Transitional Council,

suffering from doubts and divisions, and dispirited by the failure to break through the regime's defences despite the aid of Nato bombing."

The Independent urges: "Obama must measure his response." "The killing of the US ambassador and three other American officials in Benghazi is, of course, a human tragedy to be roundly condemned. But the violence both there and in Cairo – ostensibly in response to a US -made film that is offensive to Muslims – is also a warning of the fragility of post-Gaddafi Libya and across the countries of the Arab Spring.... This week's events not only reveal the deep anger at and distrust of the US across the Islamic world; they also give a glimpse of the forces of instability and extremist long held in check by the dictators toppled by last year's wave of revolutions."

The Independent: "The killings undercut President Obama's claim that the killing of Osama bin Laden has been a death blow to Jihadi Islam. They will also make less credible the White House's suggestion that is pl ayed Libya just right, staying in the background but helping end the rule of Col Muammar Gaddafi...The Arab Spring was never a collective vote in favour of Western states, but a series of real revolutions that have other good and nasty surprises in store."

Sky News: "Better ignored than given the oxygen of publicity which has fanned flames in Libya, the film is likely to provoke further violence across the Islamic world..."The effects on Libya are particularly tragic. They play into the hands of small but well-organized violent Islamic groups who failed to attract much of a following in Libya's first ever democratic election this year...The Innocence of Muslims will now be seized upon by violent groups who will insist that it reflects the 'true' view of the Proph et by many Christians and other westerners."

EAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Australia

Sydney Morning Herald reports "Yemen protesters storm US embassy before being expelled." *The Australian* notes one protester was shot dead by police and five others wounded during the Sanaa protests, and highlights President Hadi's apology to President Obama. *The Australian* adds "Egyptian police, protesters clash," noting Obama's calls to the leaders of Egypt and Libya. *Sydney Morning Herald* reports "Libya probes deadly attack on US mission...amid speculation al - Qaeda rather than a frenzied mob carried out the assault." The article notes the phone call between presidents Obama and Magariaf, during which "Libya apologized to Washington over the attack" and Obama "thanked Magariaf for expressing his condolences."

West Australian: "US ambassador's death marks sad day: Carr."

China

Xinhua notes "30 injured in clashes in front of U.S. embassy in Egypt." *People's Daily* reports: "US sends warships to Libyan waters" in the aftermath of the consulate attack, with US officials claiming "the ships will give President Barack Obama 'flexibility' should his administration decide to take action against suspected militants in Libya."

Global Times: "...[C]ontinuing to malign Islam in American society reflects the fact that the U.S. lacks basic understanding and respect for other cultures and civilization. The U.S. should learn a lesson."

Global Times: "This attack...symbolizes a major failure of the U.S.'s Mid-East policy...The killing reminds the world of three failures of the U.S.: First is in the past 10 years the U.S. greater Middle East democratization strategy's failure. It reflects the unpredictable nature of the process of democratization in the Middle East. Second is the failure of Obama's Mid-East and North Africa policy since 2011. Third is the failure of the U.S.'s theory of the victory of its War on Terror."

Global Times: "Killing an ambassador is against the huma nitarian bottom line. It should be condemned worldwide... The attack will surely touch the US, and the entire West, deeply. The clash of civilizations between the West and the Arab world hasn't been reduced by the revolution. On the contrary, with strongma n politics gone, the public's discontent toward the West is growing without being checked."

The Beijing News: "[T]he demonstrations also reflect the competition between the control of power between the West and these countries. ...the US didn't consider the extreme Islamic forces in these countries when the US provided support for

the newly established regime. This is a lesson to the US to respect the religious sentiment of the local people when it engages with countries having strong religious sentiment."

Xinhua: "In terms of root causes, these incidents have revealed huge flaws in US Middle East policy... The emergence of a wave of anti-American protests and violence in Libya and Egypt show once again that the US' practice of relying on military intervention as a means to forcefully promote its foreign policy objectives will bring a huge negative effect...The tragedy of Benghazi calls for profound reflection."

Hong Kong
Sing Tao Daily headlines, "Attacks jeopardize Obama's reelection bid."

Wen Wei Po: "The protest this time shows the deep hatred of the Middle East against the West. It is a tough task for the U.S. to establish good relations with countries in the Middle East. Although the film 'Innocence of Muslims' has nothing to do with Washington's policy, some groups still used the film to provoke anti -U.S. sentiments. It is hard for the White House to guard against this. The incident shows that the U.S.'s intelligence and security work in Libya and Egypt has failed."

Indonesia
Jakarta Globe headlines "Yemen protesters storm US embassy before being expelled," noting Yemeni President Hadi's apology to Obama for the "mob" actions and call for an investigation. *Jakarta Post* reports "US officials say 2 warships moving toward Libya."

Japan
Yomiuri: "Democracy and freedom have not yet prevailed in Arab nations as the U.S. had hoped for. The Obama administration is at an impasse because it has been unable to find effective measures to prevent the turmoil from expanding."

Mainichi: "There is a possibility that the Muslim community's protest against the film will expand and escalate further...Muslims may direct their anger not only against the U.S. but also against Israel."

Sankei: "A number of the authoritarian regimes in the Middle East and North Afri ca have been toppled since last year through the 'Arab Spring' movement. This lies behind the deterioration in the nations' abilities to ensure public security."

Malaysia
The Star headlines: "U.S. embassies attacked in Yemen, Egypt after Libya envoy kille d," noting "hundreds" of protestors broke through the main gate of the Sanaa compound though a US embassy spokesperson declared all US personnel safe.

New Zealand
Stuff.co.nz and *New Zealand Herald* headline "Protesters storm US embassy in Yemen," breaking down the main gate, smashing windows of security offices, and burning cars. "A security source said at least 15 people were wounded, some by bullets. An embassy spokesman said its personnel were re ported to be safe."

Philippines
GMA News headlines, "Yemeni protesters storm US embassy in Sanaa: witnesses."

The Manila Times: "The tragedy in Libya yesterday was inevitable. If it did not happen in Libya it would have in any of the other countries in the Middle East.... The Islamists in the Arab countries hate the US for being Israel's ally and protector. And now they are blaming the US government for allowing a US -based Jew to make a film characterizing the Prophet Mohammed as a fraud and an evil man ...The tragedy in Libya, the outrage against the American flag and the US embassy in Cairo, the continuing tragedies in Syria, the tensions in Jordan and Saudi Arabia and more, are all the result of America's failure to exercise its accustomed leadership in the Middle East. For it is President Obama's policy to divest the United States of its burdens as the leader of the world."

Singapore
Straits Times headlines "Yemen protesters storm US embassy before being expelled" by police.

Channel NewsAsia: "America says its friendship with Libya will not become a casualty of this attack. The film, though, has undoubtedly weakened America's position in the Middle East, in this fight to overcome that as well as what appears to be a new emerging Islamist threat - the worrying prospect of the Arab spring is giving way to a winter of discontent."

Channel NewsAsia: "The United States is certainly working on the basis that this was not entirely a spontaneous uprising, which U.S. officials believe is one of the reasons why the attack in Benghazi proved to be some much serious and deadly than similar protests in Cairo."

Channel NewsAsia: "It is an incredible political gamble that Mitt Romney has taken...and one that has shocked and frankly horrified many senior Republicans who are now privately questioning whether in fact Mr. Romney has presidential timber, whether this in fact doesn't raise further questions about his qualification to be successful in this November presidential elections. Under normal circumstances you wou ld expect to see politicians of all strides rally around the American flag and mourn the dead in the immediate aftermath of an incident like this... Mitt Romney had every opportunity to withdraw [his] statement. He didn't do so. He doubled-down and put it back into the public domain once again... This is definitely going to be an issue that Mitt Romney has to deal with for many days to come."

Thailand
Bangkok Post writes: "Yemeni protesters storm US embassy," with wide notice of the US deployment of warships to Libya, as well as Obama's pledge to "bring to justice" Ambassador Stevens' killers.

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan
The second lead story in Afghan media was that the U.S. Embassy in Afghanistan and the International Security Assistance Force today condemned the death of U.S. ambassador as a result of violent protests in Libya and asked Afghan leaders and people to be calm and tolerant. *BBC Pashto* reported that President Obama, in a telephone call, discussed the issue of the film and the demonstrations in Libya and Egypt with President Hamid Karzai. According to report, President Karzai expressed condolences over the death of American diplomats and both leaders empha sized that Kabul and Washington should work together to prevent such incidents in Afghanistan. *Shamshad TV* reported that President Obama and a number of other leaders of the world condemned the incidents and asked for punishment of the perpetrators. *Pajwhok* reported that yesterday the Afghan government strongly condemned the movie released in the U.S., which is insulting the Prophet Mohammad. *Bukhdi News Agency* reported that President Karzai has asked for the film to be banned, but didn't mention any count ry.

Radio Azadi reported that based on Iranian media, there will be also protests in front of Swiss embassy in Tehran today to condemn the insult. The Student's Islamic Council in Iran had asked all Iranians to participate in the protest to condemn the Americans insult of Islam.

Daily Outlook: "The tragedy in Libya is condemnable in strongest words...It is unfortunate that Muslims always react violently against some sick minds who try to achieve cheap fame with their bigotry. The best is to ignore such bi gots who want to fuel clashes and provoke reaction that often gets violent in instable Muslim countries."

Bangladesh
Headlines note "Additional Security at U.S. Embassy in Dhaka."

The Independent reports that Bangladesh on September 12 condemned the atta ck. In a condolence message, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni said, "We strongly condemn the recent terrorist attack in Benghazi that killed U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens and other officials."

India
The Asian Age, *Economic Times*, and *The Indian Express* report "Yemeni protesters storm US embassy in Sanaa... defying efforts by riot police to hold them at bay." *The Hindu* adds, "U.S. embassy in Yemen stormed; missions step up security. *NDTV* reports a protester was killed outside the Sanaa embassy. *Indian Express* frets, "Violence returns to Cairo" while *Zee News* notes "Clashes in front of US embassy in Egypt over anti -Islam film." *Hindustan Times* similarly

headlines, "US embassies attacked in Yemen, Egypt after Libya envoy killed." *NDTV* notes President Morsi's comments condemning the Libya attack and vowing to protect foreign embassies in Egypt.

The Hindu and *Indian Express* report on India's "strong condemnation" of the "violent acts," noting Foreign Secretary Ranjan Mathai's call to the US Ambassador in D elhi to convey his condolences and "deep shock at the attack." All major Indian media note the tightening of security measures at the US embassy and consulates in India, according to remarks by Home Minister Sushilkumar Shinde. *Times of India* headlines: "After Libya attack, security up at US missions."

Lokmat: "The terror-sponsors have deliberately chosen a relatively calm city in Libya to remind the U.S. that U.S. interests and diplomatic facilities can be harmed anywhere and anytime in the world. And m ore so in the Arab world where the U.S. is trying hard to exercise hegemonic control. The attack on the Libyan consulate is a planned terrorist activity, not a mere pro-Islam protest. It is said that the rocket attack avenges the death of Abu Yaya al -Libi, Al Qaeda's second-in-command, killed a few months ago in Pakistan. The attack was timed for the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks, which were commemorated across the U.S. on Tuesday. Al Qaeda has now demonstrated its rising strength in the Islamic world, beyond Afghanistan and Pakistan. From India's perspective, this and every other attack should be condemned because global peace is jeopardized when fundamentalists surface in any part of the world."

In "As You Sow So Shall You Reap," *Urdu Times* writes: "The U.S. is now helplessly reaping the crop of violence against its own-sowed poisonous seeds of hatred. What happened in Egypt and Libya is the result of U.S.' on -going activities against Islam and Muslims...The U.S. should now realize that its mis deeds have made the Islamic world its enemy, and it is resulting in violence and killings of human beings including the American citizens...The occurrences in Libya and Egypt should serve as an eye-opener for the U.S."

Nepal
The Himalayan headlines "US embassies in Yemen, Egypt bear brunt of mob fury."

Pakistan
The murders of Ambassador Chris Stevens and three American employees of the consulate in Benghazi are reported in all media. Some TV stations referred to the murders as "tragic." Networks also reported that MQM Party Chief Altaf Hussain sent an urgent telegram to President Obama, Secretary Clinton, and UN Secretary General Ban Ki -Moon demanding that the film that reportedly sparked the Cairo and Benghazi riots be "banned immediatel y as it has hurt the feelings of over one billion Muslims around the world." Morning newspapers run a Foreign Ministry statement condemning the airing of the "defamatory video" in the United States since it "maligns the revered and pious personality of the Prophet Muhammad." All media highlight statements from President Obama and Secretary Clinton denouncing the attacks and ordering increased security at U.S. embassies around the world.

Express reports that the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority conf irmed a Ministry of Information mandate to block the video in Pakistan. NOTE: The video is still accessible as of mid -day September 13.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Argentina
La Nación: "We'll have to await the passage of time to know whether the indignation pr ovoked in part of the citizenry by the film deflates like a soufflé, or whether it instead produces an escalation that ends up further deteriorating the already difficult relations between the US and the Islamic world."

Clarín: "The attack raises the pr oblem of the vulnerability of the US in countries where it accompanied rebel groups who overthrew dictators during the Arab Spring and in which groups remain active that don't forget the White House's support of those dictators."

Canada
Canadian media outlets such as the *Vancouver Sun*, *Globe and Mail*, and *CBC News* headline "Protesters storm US missions in Yemen, Egypt." *Ottawa Citizen* reports on Yemeni President Hadi's apology to Obama over the Sanaa embassy attack. *Ottawa Citizen* and *CTV* report "Obama sends in marines, warships after ambassador, three others killed" as the President pledges that "justice will be done" after Ambassador Stevens' death in Libya. *Vancouver Sun* and *Globe*

and Mail highlight President Morsi's comments "condemnin g Prophet insult, embassy attack." Prominent dailies such as *Winnipeg Free Press*, *Vancouver Sun*, and the *Toronto Star* report "Security worries prompt one-day closure of Canadian embassy in Cairo."

Ottawa Citizen: "The US could never purge its population of every bigot and crank and offensive film, even if it wanted to. And it must have the courage to declare...that it doesn't want to ... The protesters in Cairo were trying to lay the responsibility for the film at the feet of the USG. The government has to be very careful not to pick it up. It is not the government's job to allow or disallow opinion, no matter how offensive those opinions are."

Globe and Mail: Stevens' "violent death is a sobering reminder of the wide gap between functioning democracies a nd countries that have little or no experience of political freedom."

Globe and Mail: Stevens' demise "challenges a major tenet of U.S. President Barack Obama's foreign policy during the homestretch of an election."

In "U.S. envoy's death is a stark cu e for chaos," former Canadian Ambassador Michael Bell writes in *The Globe and Mail*: "The killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other Americans sends a sobering message to Western countries respecting their diplomatic representation abroad, part icularly in the Middle East, where new and fragile regimes are coping with radical groups once suppressed by the old autocrats. Jihadists now feel they have a golden opportunity."

Toronto Star: "Did Libyans wage their heroic Arab Spring revolution for thi s? That an enraged, heavily-armed mob might murder US Ambassador Chris Stevens and three fellow diplomats, the very people who helped Libya's reformers usher in democracy? ... American officials were left scrambling to determine whether Al Qaeda -style militants exploited the surge of anger to provide cover for a previously planned 9/11 anniversary attack ...Manipulated or not, the violence the world saw in Cairo and Benghazi this week will grow until it sweeps away the Arab Spring's gains."

Ecuador
Hoy notes comments by President Obama and SecState, as well as indications that the Libyan attack may have been organized by terrorists, observing: "In the apparent origin of the conflict and the criminal reaction, absolutely reprehensible fundamentalist actions of various types are seen... They are deplorable expressions of sectors motivated by the fanaticism that unleashes unjustifiable violence."

Mexico
Noting that the last assassination of a US ambassador occurred in the Carter administration, *Crónica* wonders whether unlike Carter, "Will Barack Obama be capable of responding to the double challenge —violence and provocation—with effectiveness and intelligence?"

Venezuela
El Universal: "The coincidence of the Benghazi attack with the tragic date of 9/11... suggests that this was something perfectly prepared beforehand."

AFRICA

South Africa
IOL News and *Times Live* report "US warships moving towards Libya: officials," noting the USS Laboon and USS McFaul are moving into position off the Libyan coast.

Daily Maverick: "The US ambassador to Libya pays the ultimate price of religious madness...This is inevitably going to force a new level of introspection among American policy makers and diplomats as to what happens now for America in the countries of the Arab Spring."

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:37 PM
To: SchwerinDB[redacted] nulandvj[redacted] SullivanJJ[redacted] reinesp[redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy; VentrellPH [redacted] KennedyPF[redacted]
Subject: RE: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

Now that I've had a chance to read this, I see some really beautiful language here. Thank you so much. [redacted]

From: Schwerin, Daniel B [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:18 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted] NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H; Kennedy, Patrick F
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

Here's a draft for you to review:

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY CLINTON

Tyrone S. Woods and Glen A. Doherty

The attack on our diplomatic post in Benghazi, Libya on Tuesday claimed the lives of four Americans. Yesterday, I spoke about two: Ambassador Chris Stevens and I nformation Management Officer Sean Smith. Today, we also recognize the two personnel security contractors who died helping protect their colleagues. Tyrone S. Woods and Glen A. Doherty were both decorated military veterans who served our country with hon or and distinction. Our thoughts, prayers, and deepest gratitude are with their families and friends. The United States could not carry on the critical work of diplomacy around the world without the service and sacrifice of brave people like Tyrone and G len.

Tyrone joined the State Department in 2010. His friends and colleagues called him "Rone," and they relied on his courage and skill, honed over two decades as a Navy SEAL. In uniform, he served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. At the State Department, he protected American diplomats and development experts in dangerous posts from Central America to the Middle East. He had the hands of a healer as well as the arm of a warrior, earning distinction as a registered nurse and certified paramedic. All our hearts go out to Tyrone's wife Dorothy and their three sons, Tyrone Jr., Hunter, and Kai, who was born just a few months ago.

We also grieve for Glen Doherty, called Bub, and his family: his father Bernard, his mother Barbara, his brother Greg ory, and his sister Kathleen. Since 2004, Glen served as an indispensible member of our State Department team. He was also a former Navy SEAL and an experienced paramedic. And he put his life on the line many times, protecting Americans in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other hotspots. In the end, he died the way he lived – with selfless honor and unstinting valor.

The attack that took the lives of these heroes should shock the conscience of people of all faiths and traditions. We condemn it in the strongest terms, and we appreciate the statements of support that have poured in from across the region and the world. People of conscience and goodwill everywhere must stand together in these difficult days against violence, hate, and division.

I am enormously proud of the men and women of the State Department who risk their lives every day in the service of our country and our values. They help make the United States the greatest force for peace, progress and human dignity that the world has ever known. We honor the memory of our fallen colleagues by continuing their work and carrying on the best traditions of a bold and generous nation.

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From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:17 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted]; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; 'Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H; Schwerin, Daniel B; Kennedy, Patrick F
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

Brad Klapper just called, says he is about to run that they are CIA. Where are we on statement?

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:20 AM
To: [redacted]; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H; Schwerin, Daniel B; Kennedy, Patrick F
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: I know we are all busy

So is that a wrap? All NOK stuff finished, [redacted]? We are good to go with statement? Also, Patrick K and [redacted] – we are to call them Personal Security Contractors of the Department? or something else

At podium, I'll need to explain that category ☺

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] [mailto: [redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:17 AM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: I know we are all busy

Toria – I've just confirmed that the children's mother has been informed, and the parents. I'll check on the photos.

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto: [redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:07 AM
To: [redacted]; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary;

Ventrell, Patrick H
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: I know we are all busy

[redacted] how is it looking for getting NOK's done before I go out at 12:30. WE are besieged now that Doherty relative is talking.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] [mailto: [redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 8:59 AM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: I know we are all busy

Tried calling in. Wanted to let you all know that notifications are NOT/NOT complete. Still trying to reach two teenage sons who live with a former spouse. Will get you everything as soon as possible.

From: [redacted] CIV OSD PA <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:00 PM
To: [redacted]; Vietor, Tommy; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] 'Media [redacted]
Subject: Re: The Two Other Benghazi Fallen

Thanks, [redacted] Will pass along to our speechwriters.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:07 PM
To: [redacted] CIV OSD PA; tvietor [redacted] <[redacted]>; [redacted] <[redacted]>
Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]>; Media [redacted] <[redacted]>
Subject: The Two Other Benghazi Fallen

[redacted], Tommy -- FYSA, the bios on the two other people killed in Benghazi. The Department will release the names shortly.

[redacted], it occurs to us that since Sec. Panetta is scheduled to speak at the historical document release event at GMU this afternoon, with lots of media in attendance, he might be asked about these two former SEALs. Thanks, Didi

Tyrone S. Woods -- Personnel Security Contractor

Tyrone "Rone" S. Woods, a Personnel Security Contractor to the Department of State since September 2010, was driven to serve and protect. In this short time, he deployed to Central America, Middle East, Iraq, and most recently Libya, always serving with distinction. He had an impressive military background that culminated with his retirement after twenty years in the U.S. Navy SEALs. While on active duty, he served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. A Registered Nurse and a Nationally Certified Paramedic, Mr. Woods was also lead instructor at both the SEAL Qualifications Course and the Medical Department. Mr. Woods earned many awards, including th e Bronze Star, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, and the Navy SEAL Trident. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and three sons, Tyrone Jr. (age 16), Hunter (age 15), and Kai, born just a few months ago (June).

Glen A. Doherty -- Personnel Security Contractor

Glen "Bub" A. Doherty proudly and honorably served as a Personnel Security Contractor to the Department of State since February 2004. He deployed for us to locations th roughout the Middle East--including Iraq and Afghanistan --in Central America, and most recently to Libya to protect Embassy personnel and visiting dignitaries. He, too, served this country as a U.S. Navy SEAL, completing multiple combat tours as a medic and was also a Nationally Certified Paramedic. He is survived by his father Bernard, his mother Barbara, and siblings Gregory and Kathleen. His military honors, too many to fully detail, include the Navy Commendation Medal with Valor, a Presidential Unit Citation, a Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal with Gold Star, and the Navy SEAL Trident.

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:01 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: Ventrell, Patrick H
Subject: RE: REMARKS: Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Moroccan Foreign Minister Saad-Eddine Al-Othmani At the Opening Plenary of the U.S.-Morocco Strategic Dialogue

tx

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:57 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Cc: Ventrell, Patrick H
Subject: Fw: REMARKS: Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Moroccan Foreign Minister Saad -Eddine Al-Othmani At the Opening Plenary of the U.S. -Morocco Strategic Dialogue

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From: State Department Press Office [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:45 PM
To: State Department Press Office
Subject: REMARKS: Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Moroccan Foreign Minister Saad -Eddine Al-Othmani At the Opening Plenary of the U.S. -Morocco Strategic Dialogue

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release
2012/1428

September 13, 2012

REMARKS

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and
Moroccan Foreign Minister Saad-Eddine Al-Othmani
At the Opening Plenary of the U.S.-Morocco Strategic Dialogue

September 13, 2012
Benjamin Franklin Room

SECRETARY CLINTON: Good morning. Well, let me welcome our friends and colleagues from Morocco here to the Benjamin Franklin Room on the eighth floor of the State Department for this very important first session of the U.S. -Morocco Strategic Dialogue. Before I begin to address the significance of this Strategic Dialogue and the next step in our long relations with Morocco, I want to say a few words about the events unfolding in the world today.

We are closely watching what is happening in Yemen and elsewhere, and we certainly ho pe and expect that there will be steps taken to avoid violence and prevent the escalation of protests into violence.

I also want to take a moment to address the video circulating on the internet that has led to these protests in a number of countries. Let me state very clearly – and I hope it is obvious – that the United States Government had absolutely nothing to do with this video. We absolutely reject its content and message. America's commitment to religious tolerance goes back to the very beginning of our nation. And as you know, we are home to people of all religions, many of whom came to this country seeking the right to exercise their own religion, including, of course, millions of Muslims. And we have the greatest respect for people of faith.

To us, to me personally, this video is disgusting and reprehensible. It appears to have a deeply cynical purpose: to denigrate a great religion and to provoke rage. But as I said yesterday, there is no justification, none at all, for responding to this video with violence. We condemn the violence that has resulted in the strongest terms, and we greatly appreciate that many Muslims in the United States and around the world have spoken out on this issue.

Violence, we believe, has no place in religion and is no way to honor religion. Islam, like other religions, respects the fundamental dignity of human beings, and it is a violation of that fundamental dignity to wage attacks on innocents. As long as there are those who are willing to shed blood and take innocent life in the name of religion, the name of God, the world will never know a true and lasting peace. It is especially wrong for violence to be directed against diplomatic missions. These are places whose very purpose is peaceful: to promote better understanding across countries and cultures. All governments have a responsibility to protect those spaces and people, because to attack an embassy is to attack the idea that we can work together to bui ld understanding and a better future.

Now, I know it is hard for some people to understand why the United States cannot or does not just prevent these kinds of reprehensible videos from ever seeing the light of day. Now, I would note that in today's worl d with today's technologies, that is impossible. But even if it were possible, our country does have a long tradition of free expression which is enshrined in our Constitution and our law, and we do not stop individual citizens from expressing their views no matter how distasteful they may be.

There are, of course, different views around the world about the outer limits of free speech and free expression, but there should be no debate about the simple proposition that violence in response to speech is n ot acceptable. We all – whether we are leaders in government, leaders in civil society or religious leaders – must draw the line at violence. And any responsible leader should be standing up now and drawing that line.

I wanted to begin with this state ment, because, as our Moroccan friends and all of you know, this has been a difficult week at the State Department. I very much appreciate, Minister, the condolences your government expressed to our Embassy in Rabat. And even though that tragedy happened far away in Benghazi, we found a reminder of the deep bounds that connect Morocco to the United States. It was in the High Atlas Mountains of Morocco that one of the Americans we lost this week, Ambassador Chris Stevens, fell in love with the region when he served as a Peace Corps volunteer there. That experience set him on a decades -long career of service. So in the memory of fallen friends and colleagues, let us remind ourselves of the many ways in which not just our governments but the people of our two nations have worked together to build a better future.

In many ways, the United States looks to Morocco to be a leader and a model. His Majesty King Mohammed deserves great credit for the work you've undertaken. In fact, after my visit to Rabat ear lier this year, I told my team: "We need to start a Strategic Dialogue with Morocco." No country has been a friend of the United States longer than Morocco. You were the first nation to recognize us back in 1777. But we're not satisfied with simply hav ing a friendship that is longstanding. We want one that is dynamic, growing, looking toward the future. So let me highlight a few of the areas we should focus on today.

On political reform, we have all seen remarkable changes taking place across North A frica and the Middle East. I commend Morocco and your government for your efforts to stay ahead of these changes by holding free and fair elections, empowering the elected parliament, taking other steps to ensure that the government reflects the will of t he people. Today, our political working group will discuss how the United States can continue to support your efforts to translate commitments into actions. Because as we all know, democracy, real reform, require that people themselves

feel the changes in their everyday lives: the courts reformed, the government more open and transparent, universal human rights of all Moroccans – men and women alike – respected.

I'm especially pleased by Morocco's commitments to take on the deeply troubling problem of ch ild marriage. We know that child brides are less likely to get an education, more likely to face life -threatening problems, particularly around child birth and delivery, which not only shortchanges them but can even rob them and their communities of their lives and talents. So we want to encourage the government and civil society to continue their important work together on this issue.

With regard to the Western Sahara, the United States continues to support efforts to find a peaceful, sustainable, mutually agreed-upon solution. U.S. policy toward the Western Sahara has remained consistent for many years. We have made clear that Morocco's autonomy plan is serious, realistic, and credible, and that it represents a potential approach that could satisfy the aspirations of the people in the Western Sahara to run their own affairs in peace and dignity. We continue to support the negotiations carried out by the United Nations and hope parties can work toward resolution.

With respect to the economy, our second working group will focus on what more can be done to deliver tangible economic benefits. Morocco's economy is relatively healthy, but you face the same problem that is now endemic across the world – unemployment is still too high, especially among young people.

That's why the United States is providing $1.5 million to support an effort to attract foreign investors, foster local economic development, and combat corruption across the region. And I'm pleased to announce that later this year we will hold a Morocco business development conference here in Washington to connect businesses from both countries.

Today, we should discuss ways to build on all of these efforts by increasing bilateral trade, a particular goal of mine since so much trade from Morocco goes to Europe. I'd like to increase the amount of trade coming to the United States, and also to improve economic integration across North Africa, which could greatly benefit Morocco because of Morocco's stability and Morocco's very strong econom ic foundation. The greater integration there is, the greater the benefits for Moroccans.

Third, the attack in Benghazi this week reminds us that security remains a vital issue. Through our work together on the Global Counterterrorism Task Force, the U nited States and Morocco already share crucial information and best practices, and I thank Morocco for hosting a Global Counterterrorism Task Force workshop on threats in the South Atlantic next month.

We are also collaborating through USAID, the Peace Co rps, and other agencies to help provide Moroccan youth with alternatives to criminal and extremist organizations. And so we are partnering to help strengthen Morocco's criminal justice system and law enforcement.

There will be a lot to discuss in the m eeting today. And let me add, the United States greatly appreciates the constructive role Morocco is playing on the UN Security Council, especially your support for the effort to end the violence and bloodshed in Syria and help to usher in a new democrati c future for that country. I commend Morocco for offering to host the next ministerial meeting of the Friends of the Syrian People, and we look forward to continuing to work closely together as close partners even after your term on the Security Council h as ended.

Finally, our education and cultural ties are reason for much celebration. This year marks the 30th anniversary of our official program to facilitate academic exchanges and other bonds between us. There are more than 5,000 Moroccan alumni of these programs. Two are with us today – Dr. Benjelloun and Dr. Ouaouicha – and we thank them. But among all our work on this front, from preserving Morocco's historic sites to empowering youth, there's one area I particularly hope we can focus on today and receive your advice and counsel – namely, interfaith dialogue.

In these tense and turbulent times, it's more important than ever for people of different faiths to exchange ideas, to build understanding, to promote religious tolerance. It's one of the great challenges of the 21st century, and it's one that we must address together.

So we have a lot of work to do, Minister, but our friendship runs long and deep, and as the treaty our nations signed in 1786 says, and I quote, "Trusting in God, it will remain permanent." I'm confident that we will continue to solve problems and produce results that make our nations stronger, more peaceful, more secure, more prosperous, and also contribute to doing the same for the world.

So again, let me welcome you, Minister. It's been a great pleasure for me to get to know you, to work with you, to be your colleague bilaterally, regionally, and globally, and also welcome your distinguished delegation.

Thank you. (Applause.)

FOREIGN MINISTER AL-OTHMANI: I would like to express my sincere condolences of the American people and the government for the death of the U.S. Ambassador in Libya and the other diplomats. We condemn this act of violence and we share the sorrow of their families and the America n people.

(Via interpreter) Madam Secretary, honored, distinguished audience, I would like to thank Madam Secretary for the clear positions and frank positions that she expressed today. And these are positions that indicate that you have a balanced and prudent policy. And I would like to confirm that yesterday, with instructions from His Majesty King Mohammed VI, there was a clear message from Morocco issued by the Moroccan Government that condemned the attack that took place on the U.S. Consulate in Libya, and also condemned the killing of diplomats – of American diplomats, innocent diplomats who work – who should be protected because they're ambassadors and diplomats.

Also, once again, would like to reiterate Morocco's clear position against violenc e and against any confrontation as a way to solve problems and settle conflicts. Morocco has always been – has always stressed peace and security, while also maintaining the positions of each person, but solving problems through dialogue and conviction, b ut within the framework of peace and stability.

At the same time, I would like to thank Madam Secretary for her clear position vis -a-vis the video that attacks the Prophet and also for her position against this insult, and I would like to say that the K ingdom of Morocco also has the same position. We say all prophets should be respected and should not be attacked or insulted. We respect Prophet Moses and Jesus and Muhammad and all prophets because they are symbols for humanity, for the entire humanity, and insulting them is an insult to millions of human beings who respect them and hold them in high esteem. And any kind of insult would only provoke hate and conflict between people. And we live in a world that is tired of conflict. It's tired of hate. And it needs policies that promote peace and security.

I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to Madam Secretary for her special attention and personal attention that she paid to hold this first session of Strategic Dialogue. I am pleased and honored to be here with Madam Secretary in opening this dialogue. And as you indicated, the relationship between Morocco and the U.S. are historic, and they go back to centuries ago, and there are protocols of friendship that go back to t he first protocol signed in 1787, and is still in effect and also it's been succeeded by numerous agreements. And since that time, the two countries, Morocco and the U.S., have continued to be partners in several – on several issues and problems within th e framework of engagement and direct dialogue, and also within the framework of working to establish the principles of sovereignty and abiding by international legitimacy, and also peaceful resolution to conflict within international law and convention of the UN and also within the framework of respect for human rights.

We have also referred to these issues in the strategic relationship during the latest visit that His Majesty paid to Washington, in which he called for – and I quote – His Majesty said that we should provide the right environment to promote a strategic partnership in the Mediterranean and also that within its European context and our signing of the memorandum of understanding is only a confirmation of this mutual desire for consultation betw een the two

countries. It's also within the framework of renewed partnership in order to exchange opinions and views about issues of priority in our relations and also to better coordinate our positions vis -a-vis international issues of mutual concern.

This diversity and wealth of our relationship will allow us to dedicate today four committees, four working committees, to address political, economic, security, and educational issues between us and also to activate the results and the decisions that would result as a result of these meetings and our distinguished relationship and Morocco's balanced participation in the Mediterranean dialogue for the – for NATO and its active contribution to the UN efforts to maintain peace and – international peace and security, and also mutual cooperation between our two countries within the framework of the Security Coordination Committee makes Morocco a partner – a credible partner – in our Strategic Dialogue with the U.S.

Morocco, as you mentioned – as Madam Secretary mentioned – was in the lead since a decade ago to join, based on a deep conviction, to also engage in a series of daring reform, and these have been crowned with the adoption of a new constitution that dedicates its determination to move forward in building democracy and also establishing the rule of law. The changes in the entire Arab region and also in the North Africa and the – last year reflect the aspirations of their people to democracy and human rights, and also this has dedicated Morocco's conviction to move forward in this direction that it has chosen earlier.

At the political level, I would like to point out or refer to four different portfolios. The first one is Morocco's deep engagement in building the Maghreb Union as a strategic choice that is entrenched in the constitution as a priority for Moroccan foreign policy. And this we seek to achieve in coordination with our partnership in the region by strengthening our mutual relations and also through building a Maghreb – a democratic Maghreb Union, a prosperous one that respects human rights and also its own peoples.

The second issue is the security issue on the – in the Sahel region and the Sahara, and I would like to point out that Morocco is deeply engaged and heavily engaged in working with various partners, whether private nonprofit organizations or even civil society organization, and also countries in the region and international partners to establish peace and security in the Sahara and the Sahel regions using – through the peace and security mechanisms and also using political mechanisms. Therefore, Morocco is attempting to coordinate at the highest level with neighboring countries, and also with West Africa – African nations, and the Maghreb Union because maintaining security in the region is – maintaining also tribal security and the security of the Mediterranean. And this directly impacts international peace and security.

The third issue is the Western Sahara issue. Maghreb – Morocco has bravely submitted a proposal for self -rule, and it considers it to be base for negotiations to reach a final agreement to this long -lasting conflict.

And I would like to extend to you, Madam Secretary, my deepest thanks for your clear position that you repeatedly reiterated, and you once again confirmed it today, considering the self -rule solution to be a realistic solution and a serious one. And Morocco is open to implement UN resolutions in participating with sincere credibility in negotiations that would lead to such a final resolution.

Finally, the Syrian problem. You notice that Madam Secretary also noted that Morocco's direct involvement and its sincere commitment to the partnership and also coordination with various parts and locally and internationally to put an end to this nightmare – to this horrific nightmare that the Syrian people – our brotherly Syrian people is facing. And we are committed to continue on this path of cooperation to put an end to the violence that the Syrian people are experiencing. And in this regard, Morocco will be hosting the upcoming meeting for the Friends of Syria meetings next October, and I wish that you would honor us with your participation.

The Strategic Dialogue that brings us together today is not just political and not just economic. Morocco is like any other countries in the region, has economic problems, and our major partners in Europe are also facing recessions, and this affects Morocco directly. For that reason, we are delighted to have this dialogue today on economic issues so that we can deepen our economic cooperation between the two countries and also attract more American investments in

Morocco. And we would like to learn what concerns U.S. investors have so that we can a ddress them and discuss them, and also find ways to attract these investments to Morocco.

We also would like to have a Free Trade Agreement between the two countries – more successful and more balanced, and this could also – so that it can open avenues for Morocco to benefit from it. As I said before, Morocco is committed to effectively contribute to the entire region to maintain peace and security, and therefore a discussion of issues related to the economic problems is very vital to this.

Finally, we have the educational discussions and also a dialogue between civilizations. And then this has been led by His Majesty, as Prince of the Faithful, and he's been sponsoring dialogue between various cultures. And Morocco has always been a meeting place for all civilizations, and we are very delighted to be part of this discussion as well.

Giving us today, the – today marking the onset of this U.S. -Moroccan dialogue that we started today with the signing of Memorandum of Understanding is a very important st ep in our mutual relationship, and it's a very important turning point in our strategic relationship, and reflects the determination of His Majesty and also President – Morocco – President Obama, to further enhance and development this relationship. And we will do our utmost best to enrich the strategic relationship for the interests – best interests of all – both our people.

And you will find in Morocco a credible partner, and thank you very much. (Applause.)

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From:	President Press Office <president.pressofficee@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:10 PM
To:	President Press Office
Subject:	US President Obama and Secretary Clinton call President Karzai to Discuss Issues of Mutual Interest
Attachments:	US President Obama and Secretary Clinton call President Karzai to Discuss Issues of Mutual Interest.docx

Press Release

September 13, 2012

US President Obama and Secretary Clinton call President Karzai to Discuss Issues of Mutual Interest

President Obama called President Hamid Karzai on Wednesday evening, condemning the film that insults Prophet Mohammad (PBUH).

In the phone conversation, President Karzai and President Obama denounced the film and termed it as insulting to Islamic beliefs and values.

The two Presidents also discussed the tragic incidents that took place in Benghazi city of Lib ya, where U.S. diplomats were killed. President Karzai offered condolences to his US counterpart for the tragic loss of American life.

Moreover, President Karzai talked with Obama on US commitment to transferring the rest of Afghan detainees to Afghan authority as well as underscored that as per the MoU signed between the two governments, issue of the handover of the detainees is very important for Afghanistan's sovereignty which has to be taken into account.

With respect to Afghan sovereignty, Preside nt Obama reaffirmed his commitment to transferring detainees to Afghan authority.

The two Presidents agreed to speak again soon on the issue via teleconference.

On the same evening, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton also called President Karzai and d iscussed the above issues.

or further information, please contact:

Office of the Spokesperson to the President of Afghanistan,

Tel.: *+93 (20) 210 2853*

+93 (20) 210 3705

president.pressofficee@gmail.com

www.president.gov.af

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوريت
د مطبوعاتو رياست
د جمهور رئيس دويانه دفتر

جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان
ریاست مطبوعات
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From: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:14 PM
To: [redacted]; SchwerinDB[redacted] nulandvj[redacted] [redacted] SullivanJJ[redacted] reinesp[redacted] Vietor, Tommy; VentrellPH[redacted] KennedyPF[redacted]
Subject: RE: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

Agree. Nice work Dan, on this and yesterday's statement.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:37 PM
To: SchwerinDB[redacted]; nulandvj[redacted] [redacted]; SullivanJJ[redacted] reinesp [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy; VentrellPH[redacted] KennedyPF [redacted]
Subject: RE: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

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From: Schwerin, Daniel B [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:18 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted]; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin J. Rhodes[redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H; Kennedy, Patrick F
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

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STATEMENT BY SECRETARY CLINTON

Tyrone S. Woods and Glen A. Doherty

The attack on our diplomatic post in Benghazi, Libya on Tuesday claimed the lives of four Americans. Yesterday, I spoke about two: Ambassador Chris Stevens and Information Management Officer Sean Smith. Today, we also recognize the two personnel security contractors who died helping protect their colleagues. Tyrone S. Woods and Glen A. Doherty were both decorated military veterans who served our country with honor and distinction. Our thoughts, prayers, and deepest gratitude are with their families and friends. The United States could not carry on the critical work of diplomacy around the world without the service and sacrifice of brave people like Tyrone and Glen.

Tyrone joined the State Department in 2010. His friends and colleagues called him "Rone," and they relied on his courage and skill, honed over two decades as a Navy SEAL. In uniform, he served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. At the State Department, he protected American diplomats and development experts in dangerous posts from Central America to the Middle East. He had the hands of a healer as well as the arm of a warrior, earning distinction as a registered nurse and certified paramedic. All our hearts go out to Tyrone's wife Dorothy and their three sons, Tyrone Jr., Hunter, and Kai, who was born just a few months ago.

We also grieve for Glen Doherty, called Bub, and his family: his fathe r Bernard, his mother Barbara, his brother Gregory, and his sister Kathleen. Since 2004, Glen served as an indispensible member of our State Department team. He was also a former Navy SEAL and an experienced paramedic. And he put his life on the line ma ny times, protecting

Americans in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other hotspots. In the end, he died the way he lived – with selfless honor and unstinting valor.

The attack that took the lives of these heroes should shock the conscience of people of all faiths and traditions. We condemn it in the strongest terms, and we appreciate the statements of support that have poured in from across the region and the world. People of conscience and goodwill everywhere must stand together in these difficult days against violence, hate, and division.

I am enormously proud of the men and women of the State Department who risk their lives every day in the service of our country and our values. They help make the United States the greatest force for peace, progress and hum an dignity that the world has ever known. We honor the memory of our fallen colleagues by continuing their work and carrying on the best traditions of a bold and generous nation.

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From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:17 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted]; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; 'Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted] NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H; Schwerin, Daniel B; Kennedy, Patrick F
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

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To: [redacted]; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H; Schwerin, Daniel B; Kennedy, Patrick F
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: I know we are all busy

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To: Nuland, Victoria J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H

Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: I know we are all busy

Toria – I've just confirmed that the children's mother has been informed, and the parents. I'll check on the photos.

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:07 AM
To: [redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: I know we are all busy

[redacted], how is it looking for getting NOK's done before I go out at 12:30. WE are besieged now that Doherty relative is talking.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 8:59 AM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: I know we are all busy

Tried calling in. Wanted to let you all know that notifications are NOT/NOT complete. Still trying to reach two teenage sons who live with a former spouse. Will get you everything as soon as possible.

From: Schwerin, Daniel B <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:19 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Cc: Benaim, Daniel; Rooney, Megan
Subject: RE: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

Thanks Ben. Yesterday was a Benaim/Rooney/Schwerin team effort. Hopefully the kind of statement none of us will have to write again.

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This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:22 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

FYSA

From: [redacted] (OPA) [mailto: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:48 AM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

From: USDOJ-Office of Public Affairs (SMO)
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:24 AM
To: USDOJ-Office of Public Affairs (SMO)
Subject: REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2012
WWW.JUSTICE.GOV

AG
(202) 514-2007
TTY (866) 544-5309

REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AT THE ARAB FORUM ON ASSET RECOVERY

DOHA, QATAR

Thank you, Dr. Al Marri, for those kind words – and for welcoming me back to your beautiful city. It is, as always, a pleasure to be in Doha – and to stand among so many esteemed colleagues. I would like to pay special tribute to my distinguished friend, Dr. Al Marri, who has been a leader on rule of law issues not only within the region, but worldwide.

And I'd like to join President Obama in thanking the government of the State of Qatar – particularly His Highness the Emir and His Excellency Dr. Al Marri – for hosting this important gathering.

Even as we come together in a spirit of partnership, I know we are also bound by shock and sorrow a t the tragic events that took place earlier this week at the United States Consulate in Benghazi, where the lives of four courageous Americans were lost in a senseless and brutal attack.

Among these extraordinary Americans was our Ambassador to Libya, Chr is Stevens – who dedicated his career to strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the United States and the Libyan people. Through conflict and revolution – in times of uncertainty and transition – he stood shoulder-to-shoulder with all who spoke out – and fought – for the democratic ideals that have always defined our shared aspirations. Today, we condemn – in the strongest possible terms – the deplorable and savage acts of violence that claimed his life and those of the three other brave Americans who served with him. I can assure you – as the President has assured the world – that we are committed to working with the Libyan government to seek justice for the victims of this outrageous and unjustified attack, and to supporting the p eople of Libya – and millions of others throughout this region and around the world – as we promote religious tolerance and uphold the unshakeable values – of freedom, opportunity, and justice – for which these four brave individuals gave their lives. To that end, the FBI has opened an investigation into their deaths and the attack on the U.S. Consulate.

Today, I'd like to commend each of the delegations represented here for your contributions in advancing what's become a robust and ongoing dialogue about the role that each of our nations can play – and the responsibilities that we all must fulfill – in combating corruption, recovering stolen assets, and establishing a framework for cooperation and collaboration not only throughout this region – but across the globe. The hard work done here over the past few days – building relationships, establishing guidelines for the type of information that needs to be exchanged, and discussing what evidence exists – will pay dividends for all our citizens.

As President Obama reminded the United Nations General Assembly just last year: "No country can afford the corruption that plagues the world like a cancer." And as he reiterated in his videotaped remarks to this Forum, no people should be forced to bear the costs incurred by the corruption of their former leaders. Through our participation in this inaugural Forum, we affirm that *every* country must take part in the struggle to combat corruption and, wherever possible, to r eturn stolen assets to ordinary citizens who are all deserving and in need. And I am proud to join you in pledging my own best efforts – and the full support of the United States government – as we take our collective anticorruption work to the next level and build on the excellent foundation provided by this historic gathering.

My colleagues and I are determined to do everything in our power to extend the record of achievement that's been established in recent years – and to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with any nation that strives to ensure integrity, to foster innovation, and to create opportunities for prosperity and progress; that cherishes the benefits of a free, fair, and open society; and that seeks to eradicate the public corruption and official mis conduct that can weaken political institutions, threaten the democratic process, undermine the strength and promise of civil society and negatively impact, in a very real way, the lives of ordinary people.

Of course, fighting against these forces never ha s been – and never will be – easy. But, in many ways, it's never been more important. Corruption has long been recognized as a transnational problem that demands a coordinated, global response. Time and again, we've seen its destructive, corrosive effec ts – hindering development, impeding advancement, and siphoning precious resources away from those in need at a time when they could hardly be more scarce – and when the world economy could hardly be more vulnerable. We've

come to understand its impact in eroding trust, favoring the interests of a dishonest few over the needs of the hardworking many, and even breeding contempt for the rule of law.

This is something I've witnessed firsthand – when, more than 35 years ago, I began my career as a young attorney in the Justice Department's Public Integrity Section, prosecuting government officials in the United States who violated the trust of those they were sworn to serve. Like many of you, I quickly recognized that, in the United States as in other nations – large and small, rich and poor, young and old, in every corner of the globe – when corruption takes hold, both stability and legitimacy may be compromised. The health of international markets can be adversely affected. Foreign investment is frequently driven away. And competition – more often than not – is stifled.

Over the course of my career, I've learned that corruption often becomes a "gateway crime," paving the way for organized crime, money laundering, and, in some cases, even terrorism to take hold. And all of our nations have seen that effectively beating back corruption requires nothing less than a fundamental shift in the way public business is conducted, the way law enforcement operates, and the way civic leaders and members of the private sector think of themselves and the role they play.

Fortunately, recent years have provided ample proof that progress is possible. In the winds of change that have swept across the Middle East and fueled the Arab Spring; in the groundbreaking forum for transnational cooperation that this diverse group has begun to build; and in the growing call for gatherings like this event – we've seen that significant, even transformational, change is not out of our reach. And that the fundamental shifts we seek to bring about can – and do – happen. Progress, positive change is possible.

In 2009 – during my first year as Attorney General – I was proud to help mark the beginning of one such shift right here in Doha, when I joined Dr. Al Marri and many of you in openin g the sixth – and final – Global Forum on Combating Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity. That day, heads of state, attorneys general, and justice and interior ministers from around the world came together to articulate a new vision for a brighter, more prosperous future. We concluded the Global Forum series with a fresh resolve to continue its important work. And we left this city more determined than ever to push for the full implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption; to recov er and repatriate the proceeds of corruption; and to end immunity for officials who engage in corrupt activities.

Less than a year later – in Uganda, during the summer of 2010 – I stood with leaders from across Africa to announce a new Justice Department program known as the Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative, an effort aimed at making good on the United States government's commitment to help lead the fight against large -scale corruption, and to recover stolen funds so they can be used for their intende d, legitimate purpose. Since then, we've assembled a team of highly-skilled prosecutors – a number of whom are present at this Forum – to enhance our anticorruption activities and bring offenders to justice. And I'm pleased to report that – despite the complexity inherent in all major international corruption cases – the Initiative's work is paying dividends.

Late last year, for instance, the Justice Department filed civil forfeiture complaints against more than $70 million in alleged proceeds from corru pt activities conducted by a government minister in Equatorial Guinea, who – we have alleged – had laundered these assets through the United States. Earlier this summer, we obtained a forfeiture judgment allowing the United States to dispose of more than $400,000 in assets traced to a former Nigerian public official who was impeached in 2005 – the first judgment obtained under the Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative. Just under two months ago, we secured a restraining order against more than $3 million in corruption proceeds connected to another former Nigerian official – who, earlier this year in the United Kingdom, was convicted of conspiracy to defraud and money laundering, and has been sentenced to 13 years in prison.

And, as we demonstrated at the end of February – when the United States implemented the mandate of the United Nations to freeze approximately $30 billion in Libyan assets, preventing Moammar Gaddafi from using them to flee or fuel a brutal crackdown on the Libyan people – wherever possible, we're determined to cooperate and bring innovative tools and strategies to bear in order to stop corrupt regimes from exploiting public resources for personal gain.

There's no question that each of these actions represents a meaningful, measurable step in the right direction. We are committed to work together with all of you to achieve the same results if we can locate stolen funds from your countries within the United States. But – if we hope to expand on these and similar efforts; if we intend to capitalize on the momentum we've built; and if we aspire to usher in a new era of integrity and accountability among public officials around the world – the reality is that these initial steps, on their own, will never be enough. Our continued progress will increasingly depend on our ability – and our willingness – to tear down traditional impediments to sharing information and to come together in common cause. Over the years, we've learned that asset recovery cannot be successful unless we work across borders and jurisdictions – and approach this work with a new level of commitment and understanding. For example, nations requesting help locating stolen assets that may have been laundered abroad cannot necessarily expect their partners to know where the assets stolen from a prior regime are located and to simply send them back. Similarly, states that have been called upon to provide such assistance cannot expect that victim states will be able to pinpoint all of the assets and criminal activity involved at the outset of an investigation. Progress – and justice – can only be achieved through a partnership that allows us to share the information that is essential to allow the tracing and forfeiture of these stolen funds.

With this week's Forum, you've already stepped to the forefront of this work. You've signaled your support for a worldwide kleptocracy initiative – and your commitment to the important work of recovering proceeds of corruption so that these assets can benefit people – from Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Yemen and other nations that have struggled to combat corruption – who've been harmed by abuses of power. With the launch of the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, you will help ensure that direct engagement and robust enforcement can be prioritized by frontline practitioners and experts alike as they work to prevent and eliminate corruption throughout these and other countries in the region. And – thanks to the agreements you've begun to translate into action, the partnerships you've proposed and started to formalize, and the individual cases that – already – many of you are striving to advance – the leaders in this room have demonstrated an impressive commitment to driving this difficult and complex work into the future.

This shared commitment is also what has propelled the U.S. Justice Department to take unprecedented steps to engage with partners like you – along with business leaders and members of the nonprofit and advocacy communities – in order to help identify and disseminate best practices to prevent corruption, to share knowledge and innovative enforcement techniques, and to help develop and sustain the institutions that will always be at the center of this work. It's what has led us to build and strengthen relationships with leading nongovernmental organizations and other independent actors around the world. And it's helped to inform, to augment, and to re-energize our broad-based, global efforts to confront a range of critical challenges – from fighting transnational crime and terrorism, to promoting global security and good governance, to ensuring equality and fair opportunity for all.

In each of these areas – and particularly when it comes to anticorruption – I want to make clear that the United States intends to serve not as a patron, but as a partner; not as a monitor, but as a collaborator. Like you, we approach the challenges before us with resolve, humility, and an eagerness to reinforce old friendships and forge new ones. And we understand intimately that this work – though global in its reach – must begin at home.

That's why we're determined not just to support and strengthen the efforts that each of you have undertaken – but to apply the lessons we learn, and the tools and techniques we develop together, in our own prevention and enforcement efforts. As Attorney General, I've consistently worked to ensure that

anticorruption remains a top priority for my colleagues at every level of the Justice Department. From our robust enforcement of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act – an important law under which we have secured more than 30 individual convictions and over 40 corporate resolutions, totaling more than $2.1 billion in penalties, over the last three years alone; to the anticorruption work of our prosecutors stationed both in the United States and overseas – I'm proud to report that we've made great strides in our fight against corruption, within – as well as beyond – our borders.

In particular, over the last two decades – in partnership with the U.S. Department of State, and at the request of host nations – the Justice Department's Criminal Division has placed U.S. prosecutors to serve as legal advisors in dozens of countries around the world, including Yemen, UAE, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey, and Egypt. I am pleased today to announce that the U.S. Department of Justice, in support of the G8 and Deauville Partnership Arab Asset Recovery Plan, and with the support of the U.S. Department of State, will appoint two additional Justice Department attorneys to work exclusively with Deauville transition countries and their regional partners on asset recovery and mutual legal assistance issues. One of these attorneys – who will specialize exclusively in asset recovery work – will be based here in the Middle East / North Africa region, and the other in Washington. And their duties will be two-fold: first, they will be available to coordinate case cooperation between the Deauville Partnership and the Justice Department's Kleptocracy Unit on identifying and tracing assets. Second, they will conduct intensive interactive courses on Asset Recovery in coordination with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, and other law enforcement agencies to increase effectiveness of transnational financial and corruption investigations.

This dedication of new U.S. government resources, like the creation of my Department's Kleptocracy unit, demonstrates the American commitment to the cause that has brought us all together at this Forum. I know that much remains to be done, and that it will continue to take very hard work to locate and recover the funds that have been stolen from the countries of this region. But make no mistake: everyone here can be proud – and encouraged – by the work that's been done here this week; by the remarkable, once-unimaginable progress that this Forum represents; and by the record of achievement that our nations stand poised to build upon. But we cannot yet be satisfied – and this is no time to become complacent.

As I said here in Doha in 2009, asset recovery is a global imperative. It is our duty to act together to develop the investigations, evidence, and expertise that will enable us to recover monies stolen through the violation of public trust. This is our shared responsibility to the citizens harmed by abuse of office.

In advancing this work, I am grateful for your partnership. I am counting on your leadership. And I look forward to all that we must – and surely will – accomplish together - for our nations and for the people we all serve.

Thank you.

###

DO NOT REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE USE THE CONTACTS IN THE MESSAGE OR CALL THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT 202-514-2007.

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:34 PM
To: [redacted] (OPA) ([redacted]; [redacted] (OPA) ([redacted]); [redacted]
Subject: FW: AP: White House: Deplores prophet film inciting raids

Pick up Holder's Doha remarks re: Libya

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:32 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; [redacted]

Subject: AP: White House: Deplores prophet film inciting raids

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/U.S_WHITE_HOUSE_PROPHET_FILM?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

Sep 13, 1:28 PM EDT

White House: Deplores prophet film inciting raids
By CHARLES BABINGTON
Associated Press

GOLDEN, Colo. (AP) -- The White House says the U.S. deplores the content of an amateur film that denigrates Islam, but America's free speech rights allow such films to air.

White House press secretary Jay Carney told reporters Thursday that the Obama administration also condemns the violence in several Islamic countries the film has reportedly triggered. He says the attacks on U.S. facilities in Egypt, Libya and Yemen are totally unjustified and should be squelched by local governments.

The attack in Benghazi, Libya, killed four U.S. diplomats, including the ambassador.

Carney said America has a long tradition of free expression that puzzles some foreigners, who blame the government for not blocking the film from the Internet.

Attorney General Eric Holder said Justice Department officials had opened a criminal investigation into the diplomats' deaths.

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From: [redacted] (OPA) <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:47 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: RE: AP: White House: Deplores prophet film inciting raids

What's your direct?

From: Meehan, Bernadette [mailto:[redacted]]
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From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:47 PM
To: 'Schmaler, Tracy (OPA)'
Subject: RE: AP: White House: Deplores prophet film inciting raids

[redacted]

From: Schmaler, Tracy (OPA) [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:47 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: RE: AP: White House: Deplores prophet film inciting raids

What's your direct?

From: Meehan, Bernadette [mailto:[redacted]].
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:34 PM
To: Schmaler, Tracy (OPA); Andy, Adora (OPA); Goodman, Mary Beth
Subject: FW: AP: White House: Deplores prophet film inciting raids

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From: Velz, Peter
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:32 PM
To: DL-WHO-Press; Alhassani, Mehdi K.; Arguelles, Adam; Barkoff, Kendra; Bartoloni, Kristen; Bates, Andrew J.; Beechem, Stephanie; Bird, Debbie; Borrin, Danielle; Bradsher, Tanya; Buffa, Nikki; Canegallo, Kristie A.; Carney, Jay; Chen, Hillary; Childress, Mark; Cloud, Donald; Cloud, Rosye B.; Compton, Matt; Dean, Laura; Earnest, Joshua R.; Evans, Bess; Favreau, Jon; Finer, Jonathan J.; Gelman, Jeffrey D.; Gottlieb, Mike; Govashiri, Ferial; Hankins, Hannah R.; Hayden, Caitlin; Holzer, Benjamin; Hughes, Caroline; Inouye, Shin; Jenkins, Brad; Kahan, Alex; Keenan, Cody; Kolachalam, Namrata; Lee, Jesse C.; Lepow, Brandon D.; Lundeberg, Greta; McDonough, Denis R.; McKeon, Brian P.; O'Connor, Kyle; Ortiz, Michael; Papas, Nick; Pfeiffer, Dan; Phillips, Macon; Platkin, Alex; Prescott, Jeffrey; Rakestraw, London; Rangel, Antoinette N.; Ratner, Stephen (Intern); Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Richardson, Karen E.; Rodriguez, Miguel; MacFarquhar, Rory; Ruemmler, Kathryn H.; Ruiz, Ria; Sahgal, Rishi R.; Selak, Dawn; Shapiro, Nicholas S.; Sheehy, Kathleen; Smith, Jamie; Szuplat, Terry; Traber, Alexandra; Updegrove, Laura; Velz, Peter; Vietor, Tommy; Vinograd, Samantha; Wozniak, Natalie S.; Zafar, Shaarik; Abizaid, Christine; Bajraktari, Yiber; Bernstein, Jarrod; Berschinski, Rob; Chadda, Nitin; Citrin, Ruth; Lehrich, Matt; Lowry, Keri M.; Matusiak, Ari; Moussavian, Roxana; Parker, Samuel; Power, Samantha J.; Samuels, Jonathan D.; Simon, Steven; Smith, Jamie; Withers, Anne; Buckhout, Scott; Carroll, Bradley; DuBois, Joshua P.; Monteiro, D. Paul; Tracey-Mooney, Maureen
Subject: AP: White House: Deplores prophet film inciting raids

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From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:59 PM
To: nulandv[redacted] SchwerinDB[redacted] SullivanJJ [redacted] reinesp[redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy; VentrellPH [redacted] KennedyPF[redacted]
Subject: RE: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:26 PM
To: Schwerin, Daniel B; [redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted] NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H; Kennedy, Patrick F
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

Cuppla small things to soften a bit and then pls pls lets get this out.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Schwerin, Daniel B
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:18 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted] NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H; Kennedy, Patrick F
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

Here's a draft for you to review:

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY CLINTON

Tyrone S. Woods and Glen A. Doherty

The attack on our diplomatic post in Benghazi, Libya on Tuesday claimed the lives of four Americans. Yesterday, I spoke about two: Ambassador Chris Stevens and Information Management Officer Sean Smith. Today, we also recognize the two ~~personnel~~ security contractors who died helping protect their colleagues. Tyrone S. Woods and Glen A. Doherty were both decorated military veterans who served our country with honor and distinction. Our thoughts, prayers, and deepest gratitude are with their families and friends. The United States could not carry on the critical work of diplomacy around the world without the service and sacrifice of brave people like Tyrone and Glen.

Tyrone's ~~began work with the State Department in 2010. His~~ friends and colleagues called him "Rone," and they relied on his courage and skill, honed over two decades as a Navy SEAL. In uniform, he served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. ~~At the State Department,~~ He protected American diplomats and development experts in dangerous posts

from Central America to the Middle East since 2010. He had the hands of a healer as well as the arm of a warrior, earning distinction as a registered nurse and certified paramedic. All our hearts go out to Tyrone's wife Dorothy and ~~their~~ his three sons, Tyrone Jr., Hunter, and Kai, who was born just a few months ago.

We also grieve for Glen Doherty, called Bub, and his family: his father Bernard, his mother Barbara, his brother Gregory, and his sister Kathleen. Since 2004, Glen served as an indispensible member of our ~~State Department~~ team. He was also a former Navy SEAL and an experienced paramedic. And he put his life on the line many times, protecting Americans in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other hotspots. In the end, he died the way he lived -- with selfless honor and unstinting valor.

The attack that took the lives of these heroes should shock the conscience of people of all faiths and traditions. We condemn it in the strongest terms, and we appreciate the statements of support that have poured in from across the region and the world. People of conscience and goodwill everywhere must stand together in these difficult days against violence, hate, and division.

I am enormously proud of the men and women who risk their lives every day in the service of this Department, our country and our values. They help make the United States the greatest force for peace, progress and human dignity that the world has ever known. We honor the memory of our fallen colleagues by continuing their work and carrying on the best traditions of a bold and generous nation.

###

From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:17 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted]; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; 'Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted] NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H; Schwerin, Daniel B; Kennedy, Patrick F
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: HEADS UP: AP may be about to OUT these guys

Brad Klapper just called, says he is about to run that they are CIA. Where are we on statement?

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:20 AM
To: [redacted]; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted]; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Ventrell, Patrick H; Schwerin, Daniel B; Kennedy, Patrick F
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: I know we are all busy

So is that a wrap? All NOK stuff finished, [redacted]? We are good to go with statement? Also, Patrick K and [redacted] – we are to call them Personal Security Contractors of the Department? or something else

At podium, I'll need to explain that category ☺

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] (PACE) <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:06 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: PA RRU; Ventrell, Patrick H; [redacted] Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: Rapid Response Unit Special Report: U.S. Embassy Cairo Statement

For your information and internal use.

Best regards,

[redacted]

RAPID RESPONSE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE • BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RRU SPECIAL REPORT
TRADITIONAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA REACTION TO U.S. EMBASSY CAIRO STATEMENT
WEDNESDAY 09/12/2012 02:00PM

While coverage by traditional media is very limited, Twitter users globally react to the statement by U.S. Embassy Cairo titled "U.S. Embassy Condemns Religious Incitement" and express confusion or misunderstanding as to whether it was issued before or after pro testors stormed the Embassy compound, with some users believing it was an effort to "cool down emotions over a film that defamed the Prophet Muhammad" and many critical of presidential candidate Mitt Romney's reaction.

TRADITIONAL MEDIA

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Independent *Al-Dostur* reported that the United States Embassy in Cairo "condemned the continued attempts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims" and condemned "efforts to offend believers of all religions. In a statement the U.S. Embassy said, 'Americans are honoring our patriots and those who serve our nation as the fitting response to the enemies of democracy. Respect for religious beliefs is a cornerstone of American democracy.' The Embassy 'firmly rejected the actions by those who abuse the universal right of free speech to hurt the religious beliefs of others.'

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With the headline "Obama Administration Disavows Cairo Embassy Apology," Israel's *Arutz Sheva* reports "The Obama administration is disavowing a statement from its own Cairo Embassy that seemed to apologize for anti-Muslim activity in the United States." The paper further adds "The U.S. Embassy in Cairo issued a statement Tuesday condemning the anti -Muslim film that reportedly sparked the violent protests against U.S. diplomatic missions in Egypt and Libya: 'The Embassy of the United States in Cairo condemns the continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims – as we condemn efforts to offend believers of all religions.' The paper points out that "The Romney campaign slammed the Obama administration for failing to decisively condemn radical Islamist attacks on the American embassies."

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With the headline "Attacks jeopardize Obama's reelection bid" *Sing Tao Daily* (Chinese-language, center-left, circ 40,000) combined newswire stories and stated, "There are less than two months before the U.S. presidential elections, however, the escalating diplomatic crisis in North Africa and the Middle East has been challenging the presidential elections. A few hours before anti-U.S. protests broke out in Egypt, the U.S. embassy in Cairo issued a statement to condemn the individuals who shot a film insulting the Muslim Prophet, criticizing the continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims."

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Channel NewsAsia writes: "It is an incredible political gamble that Mitt Romney has taken...and one that has shocked and frankly horrified many senior Republicans who are now privately questioning whether in fact Mr. Romney has presidential timber, whether this in fact doesn't raise further questions about his qualification to be successful in this November presidentia l elections. Under normal circumstances you would expect to see politicians of all strides rally around the American flag and mourn the dead in the immediate aftermath of an incident like this… Mitt Romney had every opportunity to withdraw [his] statement. He didn't do so. He doubled-down and put it back into the public domain once again… This is definitely going to be an issue that Mitt Romney has to deal with for many days to come."

SOCIAL MEDIA

Middle East

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Rbecker51[ii] reports "Romney campaign attacks Obama over mythical apology to embassy attackers." A former Egypt Independent journalist in Cairo *valecattane*[iii] links to the *FP* article and comments "the statement i told u about...Inside the public relations disaster at the Cairo embassy." The Egyptian writer *Bassem_Sabry*[iii] in Egypt re-tweets the FP staff writer *@JoshRogin*[iv] tweeting "writes on the controversy over the U.S. embas sy in Cairo's statement, calls the affair a PR 'disaster'." According to another Journalist *aaronross6*[v] who wonders "Can someone enlighten as to what was wrong w/ it? MT" Meanwhile *KShawarby*[vi] re-tweets the US Embassy Cairo saying

"statement by Embassy Cairo was not cleared by Washington and does not reflect the views of the United States government."

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A tweet by *Skygak*[vii] in Tehran says "Correcting my previous - it was the Cairo Embassy whose PRE-storming statement Romney condemned. But Stevens would have signed on." *AGFlores*[viii] likens the Mitt Romney campaign to "watching a football team resort to the "Hail Mary Pass" halfway through the 3rd quarter." Meanwhile *4lgsgood*[ix] in Tehran says "He's unfit Mitt."

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tinyMugwump[xv] in Paris says "OMG, Romney not only lying about nature of Cairo Embassy statement but is criticizing embassy officials that were under attack."

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Jkirchick[xvi] in Berlin notes that "Romney critics say that embassy Cairo statement being released before attack exculpates them from accusation of appeasement."

Italy
Crislomb[xvii] tweets "The US Embassy in Cairo released a statement hours before protesters stormed the embassy building."

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Romania
Ira_ira18[xix] links to a blog "Cairo Embassy's statement: What went wrong? A series of ill-timed, tragic events led to the Cairo's Embassy's statement being taken out of context."

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RichHardiman[xx] in London says "So the Cairo embassy statement attacked by Mittens was a full 4 -5 hours before violence erupted? How do you not have someone check that?" *TheosElizabeth*[xxi] asserts "Obama Administration Distances Self From Statement Issued by US Embassy in Cairo on offence 2 religious beliefs." *Fieldproducer*[xxii] tweets "Romney accuses the administration of a 'severe miscalculation' after the Cairo embassy statement." Meanwhile *OliverKamm*[xxiii] writes "we condemn efforts to offend believers of all religions." Shocking, shameful statement by US Embassy in Cairo." *Robwinder*[xxiv]:1,378 followers points out "Lots of people angry over this odd US embassy in Cairo statement."

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Mali

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Rajat_Basu [xxvii] tweets "Cairo embassy staffer ignored concerns about statement ."

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[i] *Rbecker51*:1,147 followers
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[x] *IsraelNewsStory*: 9,488 followers
[xi] *IsraelMatzav*: 3,656 followers
[xii] *amthinker* : 6,768 followers
[xiii] *MissScoutFinch*:116 followers
[xiv] *Madskolby*: 804 followers
[xv] *tinyMugwump*: 335 followers
[xvi] *Jkirchick*: 2,121 followers
[xvii] *Crislomb*: 901 followers
[xviii] *FranMorales_*:2,207 followers
[xix] *Ira_ira18*: 2,429 followers
[xx] *RichHardiman*: 211 followers
[xxi] *TheosElizabeth*: 1,589 followers
[xxii] *Fieldproducer*: 52,265 followers

[xxiii] *OliverKamm*:4,214 followers
[xxiv] *Robwinder:* 1,378 followers
[xxv] *KlaasTjoelker:* 70 followers
[xxvi] *m_matino2*:351 followers
[xxvii] *Rajat_Basu* : 573 followers

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Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:11 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: PA RRU; Ventrell, Patrick H; [redacted] Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: RESENDING WITH CORRECT DATE Rapid Response Unit Special Report: U.S. Embassy Cairo Statement

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[viii] *AGFlores*: 118 followers
[ix] *algsgood*: 786 followers
[x] *IsraelNewsStory*: 9,488 followers
[xi] *IsraelMatzav*: 3,656 followers
[xii] *amthinker* : 6,768 followers
[xiii] *MissScoutFinch*:116 followers
[xiv] *Madskolby*: 804 followers
[xv] *tinyMugwump*: 335 followers
[xvi] *Jkirchick*: 2,121 followers
[xvii] *Crislomb*: 901 followers

[xviii] *FranMorales_*:2,207 followers
[xix] *Ira_ira18:* 2,429 followers
[xx] *RichHardiman:* 211 followers
[xxi] *TheosElizabeth:* 1,589 followers
[xxii] *Fieldproducer*: 52,265 followers
[xxiii] *OliverKamm*:4,214 followers
[xxiv] *Robwinder:* 1,378 followers
[xxv] *KlaasTjoelker:* 70 followers
[xxvi] *m_matino2*:351 followers
[xxvii] *Rajat_Basu* : 573 followers

SCB 000147

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:31 PM
To: [redacted] Hayden, Caitlin
Subject: FW: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

In case you don't get these...

[redacted]
Afghanistan Desk Officer
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW, Suite 1880
Washington, DC 20520
[redacted]

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: American Foreign Service Association [mailto:[redacted]] **On Behalf Of** American Foreign Service Association
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:00 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Servic e Colleagues

In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Is this email not displaying correctly?
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SCB 000148

In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Dear Colleagues,

In honor and memory of the four American diplomatic personnel tragically killed Tuesday in Benghazi, Libya, AFSA placed a memorial wreath outside our headquarters building at 2101 E Street NW, and then in the C Street lobby of the Harry S. Truman Building of the Department of State.

We have provided boards in both locations on which anyone who wishes to write messages of condolence, reflection, and support for the individuals lost and the sacrifices of the United States Foreign Service may do so, as many have already done. Those who wish to leave flowers or other mementos are encouraged to do so at the condolence board available outside AFSA.

SCB 000149

Please come and visit and pay your respects and leave a flower and something poignant as you see best and most fitting. Please forward this message to your colleagues or friends – please help get the word out.

Ambassador John Christopher Stevens, Information Management Specialist Sean P. Smith and their two as-yet unnamed colleagues were true patriots who died in service to our country. We want to honor their memory and our nation's diplomats who serve and sacrifice overseas.

Susan R. Johnson
AFSA President

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SCB 000150

From: OpsAlert <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:37 PM
Subject: SPOT REPORT No. 5 09/13/II (SBU)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

SPOT REPORT No. 5

Reactions to Attacks on U.S. Missions and Controversi al Film

Thursday, September 13, 2012
1430 EDT

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

- (U) The deputy interior minister announced Libyan authorities made four arrests in the investigation into the attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi. ***(Reuters)***
- (SBU) The numbers of demonstrators increased in Cairo but they are located away from the Embassy's perimeter. Police used tear gas throughout the afternoon and there is a heavy deployment of security forces around the Embassy. ***(Ops/Egypt desk e-mail)***
- (U) In Iraq, several hundred Shiite hardliners protested in Sadr City following threats of anti -U.S. attacks by Shiite militia. ***(AP)***
- (SBU) The Swiss Embassy in Tehran reported the demonstration around the compound dispersed without incident. An estimated 500-1000 people congregated, and Iran provided sufficient law enforcement personnel. There are calls for additional protests throughout the country September 14. ***(Ops/Iran desk e-mail)***
- (SBU) Approximately 75 peaceful protesters gathered in Khartoum S eptember 12 to present a letter to the embassy and departed several hours later. Embassy Khartoum expects further demonstrations throughout the city September 14 and 15 and all COM personnel non -essential movements are restricted. ***(Ops/Embassy Khartoum e-mail)***
- (SBU) Consulate General Jerusalem reports large protests are planned September 14 in Gaza City and Khan Yunis. ***(Jerusalem 2292)***
- (SBU) Embassy Abuja confirmed Nigerian police are monitoring attempts to mobilize demonstrations in four cities. The Police Commissioner confirmed there will be a "major" show of force around Abuja during prayer time on September 14. ***(Ops/Embassy Abuja e-mail)***
- (SBU) In Muscat, a 100-person non-violent protest, outnumbered by some 150 riot police, broke up with the call to evening prayer. Under a new law any gathering of more than nine people is illegal. An additional protest is expected September 14. ***(Ops/Embassy Muscat e-mail)***
- (SBU) Around 1000 protestors in the Dhaka city center were dispersed by polic e. A larger protest is expected September 14 after Friday prayers at a mosque located in the city center. ***(Ops/Embassy Dhaka e-mail, Reuters)***
- (SBU) About 30-40 demonstrators turned out September 12 in Kuwait City for less than an hour amid heavy police presence. Leading Islamist Members of Parliament and influential figures called for a second protest in front of the Embassy after evening prayers September 13. ***(Kuwait 765)***

SCB 000151

INTERNATIONAL REACTION

• (U) The French MFA released a statement condemning the attack against Embassy Sana'a. It reaffirmed French support for the continuation of the political transition process under way in Yemen. ***(French Ministry of Foreign Affairs)***

• (U) Turkey's top Muslim cleric condemned the Benghazi attack and stated, "It is impossible to explain such acts of violence on any humanitarian or Islamic grounds." ***(TodaysZaman)***

• (SBU) The Vatican released a statement expressing hope that, despite the Benghazi tragedy, "the international community may discover the most favourable ways to continue its commitment in favour of peace in Libya and the entire Middle East." ***(Ops/Embassy to the Holy See e-mail)***

• (SBU) An editorial in Mali's *Le Republicain* proposed while the Benghazi attack was counter to Islamic tenets, the tragedy could have been expected given the United States helped overthrow and kill Col. Qadahfi in 2011. ***(Ops/Embassy Bamako e-mail)***

• (U) Saudi Arabia denounced the "irresponsible" group which produced the film and condemned "the violent reactions that occurred in a number of countries against American interests." ***(Reuters)***

• (SBU) Media outlets in Pakistan reported the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority confirmed a Ministry of Information mandate to block the controversial video, however Embassy Islamabad comments the video was still accessible as of mid-day September 13. ***(Ops/Embassy Islamabad e-mail)***

Additional updates on events in LIBYA AND YEMEN are available through our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted]SOh Approved: [redacted]
Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SCB 000152

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:53 PM
To: [redacted] Hayden, Caitlin
Subject: RE: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Thanks for passing. If you hear of a memorial service scheduled, can you let me know?

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:31 PM
To: [redacted]; 'Hayden, Caitlin'
Subject: FW: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

In case you don't get these...

[redacted]
Afghanistan Desk Officer
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW, Suite 1880
Washington, DC 20520
[redacted]

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: American Foreign Service Association [mailto: [redacted]] **On Behalf Of** American Foreign Service Association
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:00 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Is this email not displaying correctly?
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SCB 000153

In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Dear Colleagues,

In honor and memory of the four American diplomatic personnel tragically killed Tuesday in Benghazi, Libya, AFSA placed a memorial wreath outside our headquarters building at 2101 E Street NW, and then in the C Street lobby of the Harry S. Truman Building of the Department of State.

We have provided boards in both locations on which anyone who wishes to write messages of condolence, reflection, and support for the individuals lost and the sacrifices of the United States Foreign Service may do so, as many have already done. Those who wish to leave flowers or other mementos are encouraged to do so at the condolence board available outside AFSA.

SCB 000154

Please come and visit and pay your respects and leave a flower and something poignant as you see best and most fitting. Please forward this message to your colleagues or friends – please help get the word out.

Ambassador John Christopher Stevens, Information Management Specialist Sean P. Smith and their two as-yet unnamed colleagues were true patriots who died in service to our country. We want to honor their memory and our nation's diplomats who serve and sacrifice overseas.

Susan R. Johnson
AFSA President

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SCB 000155

From: Hayden, Caitlin
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:02 PM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: RE: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Ditto.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:53 PM
To: [redacted]; Hayden, Caitlin
Subject: RE: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Thanks for passing. If you hear of a memorial service scheduled, can you let me know?

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:31 PM
To: [redacted]; 'Hayden, Caitlin'
Subject: FW: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

In case you don't get these...

[redacted]
Afghanistan Desk Officer
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW, Suite 1880
Washington, DC 20520
[redacted]

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: American Foreign Service Association [mailto:[redacted]] **On Behalf Of** American Foreign Service Association
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:00 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

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SCB 000156

In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Dear Colleagues,

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SCB 000157

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Susan R. Johnson
AFSA President

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SCB 000158

From: Kaan Soyak <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:03 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Cc: Gabe Ross

Ben

I was informed that Libyan President just landed in Benghazi and 6 terrorist have been captured and they will capture another 10 tonight.

Hope they will capture all.

Best.

Kaan Soyak

Trusa Consulting Services
Manhasset, New York 11030
Direct: +1[redacted]
Mobile:+1[redacted](U.S.)
Mobile:+90[redacted](Turkey)
Email:[redacted]
Website: www.trusa.com - www.soyak.net

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:09 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: reports of arrests

Lots of interest here on arrest reports in Benghazi, including from the press folks who are wondering if they can respond. I told they we are unlikely to know, but if you are in touch with Tripoli, would be great to get a sense of what they are hearing through their contacts.

One Libyan guy just said Magariaf landed in Benghazi too.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:16 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: reports of arrests

Thanks – that was my guess as well.
They're likely to arrest all kinds of folks to show activity. Who knows if they're serious.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:14 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: reports of arrests

Ok, we'll try. I just don't think we know.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:09 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: reports of arrests

Lots of interest here on arrest reports in Benghazi, including from the press folks who are wondering if they can respond. I told they we are unlikely to know, but if you are in touch with Tripoli, would be great to get a sense of what they are hearing through their contacts.

One Libyan guy just said Magariaf landed in Benghazi too.

SCB 000159

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:17 PM
To: Hayden, Caitlin; [redacted]
Subject: RE: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Info for the ramp ceremony is below. I'm sure there will be something else will keep you posted.

AB

Return of the Remains of Our Colleagues from Benghazi

Secretary Clinton will receive back in the United States the remains of our colleagues who were killed in Benghazi on September 11, 2012 at:

Andrews Air Force Base
Friday, September 14, 2012
2:00 p.m.

HST employees who would like to be present should p lan to travel to Andrews via buses provided by the Department, departing from the C Street entrance between 12:15 and 1:00 p.m. Buses will also leave from the Visitor Center entrance of FSI and the Nash Street overpass in Rosslyn (SA -6) at 1:00 p.m.

Please contact your Executive Office today by 3:00 p.m. to reserve a seat.

[redacted]
Afghanistan Desk Officer
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW, Suite 1880
Washington, DC 20520
[redacted]

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Hayden, Caitlin [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:02 PM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: RE: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Ditto.

SCB 000160

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:53 PM
To: [redacted]; Hayden, Caitlin
Subject: RE: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Thanks for passing. If you hear of a memorial service s cheduled, can you let me know?

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:31 PM
To: [redacted]; 'Hayden, Caitlin'
Subject: FW: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

In case you don't get these...

[redacted]
Afghanistan Desk Officer
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW, Suite 1880
Washington, DC 20520
[redacted]

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: American Foreign Service Association [mailto:[redacted]] **On Behalf Of** American Foreign Service Association
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 9:00 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

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SCB 000161

In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Dear Colleagues,

In honor and memory of the four American diplomatic personnel tragically killed Tuesday in Benghazi, Libya, AFSA placed a memorial wreath outside our headquarters building at 2101 E Street NW, and then in the C Street lobby of the Harry S. Truman Building of the Department of State.

We have provided boards in both locations on which anyone who wishes to write messages of condolence, reflection, and support for the individuals lost and the sacrifices of the United States Foreign Service may do so, as many have already done. Those who wish to leave flowers or other mementos are encouraged to do so at the condolence board available outside AFSA.

SCB 000162

Please come and visit and pay your respe cts and leave a flower and something poignant as you see best and most fitting. Please forward this message to your colleagues or friends – please help get the word out.

Ambassador John Christopher Stevens, Information Management Specialist Sean P. Smith and their two as-yet unnamed colleagues were true patriots who died in service to our country. We want to honor their memory and our nation's diplomats who serve and sacrifice overseas.

Susan R. Johnson
AFSA President

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From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:18 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: REMARKS: Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Moroccan Foreign Minister Saad-Eddine Al-Othmani At the Opening Plenary of the U.S.-Morocco Strategic Dialogue

Well done, of course.

[redacted]
Afghanistan Desk Officer
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW, Suite 1880
Washington, DC 20520
[redacted]

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:13 PM
To: SSRAP; SCA-Pakistan-Only-DL; SCA/A-ONLY-DL
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: REMARKS: Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Moroccan Foreign Minister Saad -Eddine Al-Othmani At the Opening Plenary of the U.S. -Morocco Strategic Dialogue

Remarks on video highlighted.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: State Department Press Office [mailto: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:45 PM
To: State Department Press Office
Subject: REMARKS: Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Moroccan Foreign Minister Saad -Eddine Al-Othmani At the Opening Plenary of the U.S. -Morocco Strategic Dialogue

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release
2012/1428

September 13, 2012

REMARKS

1

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and
Moroccan Foreign Minister Saad-Eddine Al-Othmani
At the Opening Plenary of the U.S.-Morocco Strategic Dialogue

September 13, 2012
Benjamin Franklin Room

SECRETARY CLINTON: Good morning. Well, let me welcome our friends and colleagues from Morocco here to the Benjamin Franklin Room on the eighth flo or of the State Department for this very important first session of the U.S. - Morocco Strategic Dialogue. Before I begin to address the significance of this Strategic Dialogue and the next step in our long relations with Morocco, I want to say a few words about the events unfolding in the world today.

We are closely watching what is happening in Yemen and elsewhere, and we certainly hope and expect that there will be steps taken to avoid violence and prevent the escalation of protests into violence.

I also want to take a moment to address the video circulating on the internet that has led to these protests in a number of countries. Let me state very clearly – and I hope it is obvious – that the United States Government had absolutely nothing to do with th is video. We absolutely reject its content and message. America's commitment to religious tolerance goes back to the very beginning of our nation. And as you know, we are home to people of all religions, many of whom came to this country seeking the rig ht to exercise their own religion, including, of course, millions of Muslims. And we have the greatest respect for people of faith.

To us, to me personally, this video is disgusting and reprehensible. It appears to have a deeply cynical purpose: to denigrate a great religion and to provoke rage. But as I said yesterday, there is no justification, none at all, for responding to this video with violence. We condemn the violence that has resulted in the strongest terms, and we greatly appreciate that man y Muslims in the United States and around the world have spoken out on this issue.

Violence, we believe, has no place in religion and is no way to honor religion. Islam, like other religions, respects the fundamental dignity of human beings, and it is a violation of that fundamental dignity to wage attacks on innocents. As long as there are those who are willing to shed blood and take innocent life in the name of religion, the name of God, the world will never know a true and lasting peace. It is especially wrong for violence to be directed against diplomatic missions. These are places whose very purpose is peaceful: to promote better understanding across countries and cultures. All governments have a responsibility to protect those spaces and people, because to attack an embassy is to attack the idea that we can work together to build understanding and a better future.

Now, I know it is hard for some people to understand why the United States cannot or does not just prevent these kinds of reprehensible videos from ever seeing the light of day. Now, I would note that in today's world with today's technologies, that is impossible. But even if it were possible, our country does have a long tradition of free expression which is enshrined in our Constitu tion and our law, and we do not stop individual citizens from expressing their views no matter how distasteful they may be.

There are, of course, different views around the world about the outer limits of free speech and free expression, but there should be no debate about the simple proposition that violence in response to speech is not acceptable. We all – whether we are leaders in government, leaders in civil society or religious leaders – must draw the line at violence. And any responsible leader s hould be standing up now and drawing that line.

I wanted to begin with this statement, because, as our Moroccan friends and all of you know, this has been a difficult week at the State Department. I very much appreciate, Minister, the condolences your government expressed to our Embassy in Rabat. And even though that tragedy happened far away in Benghazi, we found a reminder of the deep bounds that connect Morocco to the United States. It was in the High Atlas Mountains of Morocco that one of the Americans we lost this week, Ambassador Chris Stevens, fell in love with the region when he served as a Peace Corps

volunteer there. That experience set him on a decades -long career of service. So in the memory of fallen friends and colleagues, let us remind ourselves of the many ways in which not just our governments but the people of our two nations have worked together to build a better future.

In many ways, the United States looks to Morocco to be a leader and a model. His Majesty King Mohammed deserve s great credit for the work you've undertaken. In fact, after my visit to Rabat earlier this year, I told my team: "We need to start a Strategic Dialogue with Morocco." No country has been a friend of the United States longer than Morocco. You were the first nation to recognize us back in 1777. But we're not satisfied with simply having a friendship that is longstanding. We want one that is dynamic, growing, looking toward the future. So let me highlight a few of the areas we should focus on today.

On political reform, we have all seen remarkable changes taking place across North Africa and the Middle East. I commend Morocco and your government for your efforts to stay ahead of these changes by holding free and fair elections, empowering the elected parliament, taking other steps to ensure that the government reflects the will of the people. Today, our political working group will discuss how the United States can continue to support your efforts to translate commitments into actions. Because as we all know, democracy, real reform, require that people themselves feel the changes in their everyday lives: the courts reformed, the government more open and transparent, universal human rights of all Moroccans – men and women alike – respected.

I'm especially pleased by Morocco's commitments to take on the deeply troubling problem of child marriage. We know that child brides are less likely to get an education, more likely to face life -threatening problems, particularly around child birth and delivery, which not only shortchanges them but can even rob them and their communities of their lives and talents. So we want to encourage the government and civil society to continue their important work together on this issue.

With regard to the Western Sahara, the United States continues to support efforts to find a peaceful, sustainable, mutually agreed-upon solution. U.S. policy toward the Western Sahara has remained consistent for many years. We have made clear that Morocco's autonomy plan is ser ious, realistic, and credible, and that it represents a potential approach that could satisfy the aspirations of the people in the Western Sahara to run their own affairs in peace and dignity. We continue to support the negotiations carried out by the Uni ted Nations and hope parties can work toward resolution.

With respect to the economy, our second working group will focus on what more can be done to deliver tangible economic benefits. Morocco's economy is relatively healthy, but you face the same pro blem that is now endemic across the world – unemployment is still too high, especially among young people.

That's why the United States is providing $1.5 million to support an effort to attract foreign investors, foster local economic development, and c ombat corruption across the region. And I'm pleased to announce that later this year we will hold a Morocco business development conference here in Washington to connect businesses from both countries.

Today, we should discuss ways to build on all of the se efforts by increasing bilateral trade, a particular goal of mine since so much trade from Morocco goes to Europe. I'd like to increase the amount of trade coming to the United States, and also to improve economic integration across North Africa, which could greatly benefit Morocco because of Morocco's stability and Morocco's very strong economic foundation. The greater integration there is, the greater the benefits for Moroccans.

Third, the attack in Benghazi this week reminds us that security remai ns a vital issue. Through our work together on the Global Counterterrorism Task Force, the United States and Morocco already share crucial information and best practices, and I thank Morocco for hosting a Global Counterterrorism Task Force workshop on thr eats in the South Atlantic next month.

We are also collaborating through USAID, the Peace Corps, and other agencies to help provide Moroccan youth with alternatives to criminal and extremist organizations. And so we are partnering to help strengthen Moro cco's criminal justice system and law enforcement.

There will be a lot to discuss in the meeting today. And let me add, the United States greatly appreciates the constructive role Morocco is playing on the UN Security Council, especially your support f or the effort to end the violence and bloodshed in Syria and help to usher in a new democratic future for that country. I commend Morocco for offering to host the next ministerial meeting of the Friends of the Syrian People, and we look forward to continu ing to work closely together as close partners even after your term on the Security Council has ended.

Finally, our education and cultural ties are reason for much celebration. This year marks the 30th anniversary of our official program to facilitate ac ademic exchanges and other bonds between us. There are more than 5,000 Moroccan alumni of these programs. Two are with us today – Dr. Benjelloun and Dr. Ouaouicha – and we thank them. But among all our work on this front, from preserving Morocco's histo ric sites to empowering youth, there's one area I particularly hope we can focus on today and receive your advice and counsel – namely, interfaith dialogue.

In these tense and turbulent times, it's more important than ever for people of different faiths to exchange ideas, to build understanding, to promote religious tolerance. It's one of the great challenges of the 21st century, and it's one that we must address together.

So we have a lot of work to do, Minister, but our friendship runs long and deep, and as the treaty our nations signed in 1786 says, and I quote, "Trusting in God, it will remain permanent." I'm confident that we will continue to solve problems and produce results that make our nations stronger, more peaceful, more secure, more prospe rous, and also contribute to doing the same for the world.

So again, let me welcome you, Minister. It's been a great pleasure for me to get to know you, to work with you, to be your colleague bilaterally, regionally, and globally, and also welcome your distinguished delegation.

Thank you. (Applause.)

FOREIGN MINISTER AL-OTHMANI: I would like to express my sincere condolences of the American people and the government for the death of the U.S. Ambassador in Libya and the other diplomats. We condemn this act of violence and we share the sorrow of their families and the American people.

(Via interpreter) Madam Secretary, honored, distinguished audience, I would like to thank Madam Secretary for the clear positions and frank position that she expres sed today. And these are positions that indicate that you have a balanced and prudent policy. And I would like to confirm that yesterday, with instructions from His Majesty King Mohammed VI, there was a clear message from Morocco issued by the Moroccan G overnment that condemned the attack that took place on the U.S. Consulate in Libya, and also condemned the killing of diplomats – of American diplomats, innocent diplomats who work – who should be protected because they're ambassadors and diplomats.

Also, once again, would like to reiterate Morocco's clear position against violence and against any confrontation as a way to solve problems and settle conflicts. Morocco has always been – has always stressed peace and security, while also maintaining the positions of each person, but solving problems through dialogue and conviction, but within the framework of peace and stability.

At the same time, I would like to thank Madam Secretary for her clear position vis -a-vis the video that attacks the Prophet and also for her position against this insult, and I would like to say that the Kingdom of Morocco also has the same position. We say all prophets should be respected and should not be attacked or insulted. We respect Prophet Moses and Jesus and Muhamma d and all prophets because they are symbols for humanity, for the entire humanity, and insulting them is an insult to millions of human beings who respect them and hold them in high esteem. And any kind of

insult would only provoke hate and conflict betwe en people. And we live in a world that is tired of conflict. It's tired of hate. And it needs policies that promote peace and security.

I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to Madam Secretary for her special attention and personal attention that she paid to hold this first session of Strategic Dialogue. I am pleased and honored to be here with Madam Secretary in opening this dialogue. And as you indicated, the relationship between Morocco and the U.S. are historic, and they go back to centuries ago, and there are protocols of friendship that go back to the first protocol signed in 1787, and is still in effect and also it's been succeeded by numerous agreements. And since that time, the two countries, Morocco and the U.S., h ave continued to be partners in several – on several issues and problems within the framework of engagement and direct dialogue, and also within the framework of working to establish the principles of sovereignty and abiding by international legitimacy, an d also peaceful resolution to conflict within international law and convention of the UN and also within the framework of respect for human rights.

We have also referred to these issues in the strategic relationship during the latest visit that His Majest y paid to Washington, in which he called for – and I quote – His Majesty said that we should provide the right environment to promote a strategic partnership in the Mediterranean and also that within its European context and our signing of the memorandum of understanding is only a confirmation of this mutual desire for consultation between the two countries. It's also within the framework of renewed partnership in order to exchange opinions and views about issues of priority in our relations and also to be tter coordinate our positions vis -a-vis international issues of mutual concern.

This diversity and wealth of our relationship will allow us to dedicate today four committees, four working committees, to address political, economic, security, and educati onal issues between us and also to activate the results and the decisions that would result as a result of these meetings and our distinguished relationship and Morocco's balanced participation in the Mediterranean dialogue for the – for NATO and its activ e contribution to the UN efforts to maintain peace and – international peace and security, and also mutual cooperation between our two countries within the framework of the Security Coordination Committee makes Morocco a partner – a credible partner – in our Strategic Dialogue with the U.S.

Morocco, as you mentioned – as Madam Secretary mentioned – was in the lead since a decade ago to join, based on a deep conviction, to also engage in a series of daring reform, and these have been crowned with the adop tion of a new constitution that dedicates its determination to move forward in building democracy and also establishing the rule of law. The changes in the entire Arab region and also in the North Africa and the – last year reflect the aspirations of thei r people to democracy and human rights, and also this has dedicated Morocco's conviction to move forward in this direction that it has chosen earlier.

At the political level, I would like to point out or refer to four different portfolios. The first one is Morocco's deep engagement in building the Maghreb Union as a strategic choice that is entrenched in the constitution as a priority for Moroccan foreign policy. And this we seek to achieve in coordination with our partnership in the region by strengthening our mutual relations and also through building a Maghreb – a democratic Maghreb Union, a prosperous one that respects human rights and also its own peoples.

The second issue is the security issue on the – in the Sahel region and the Sahara, and I woul d like to point out that Morocco is deeply engaged and heavily engaged in working with various partners, whether private nonprofit organizations or even civil society organization, and also countries in the region and international partners to establish peace and security in the Sahara and the Sahel regions using – through the peace and security mechanisms and also using political mechanisms. Therefore, Morocco is attempting to coordinate at the highest level with neighboring countries, and also with West Africa – African nations, and the Maghreb Union because maintaining security in the region is – maintaining also tribal security and the security of the Mediterranean. And this directly impacts international peace and security.

The third issue is the W estern Sahara issue. Maghreb – Morocco has bravely submitted a proposal for self -rule; and it considers it to be base for negotiations to reach a final agreement to this long -lasting conflict.

And I would like to extend to you, Madam Secretary, my deep est thanks for your clear position that you repeatedly reiterated, and you once again confirmed it today, considering the self -rule solution to be a realistic solution and a serious one. And Morocco is open to implement UN resolutions in participating wit h sincere credibility in negotiations that would lead to such a final resolution.

Finally, the Syrian problem. You notice that Madam Secretary also noted that Morocco's direct involvement and its sincere commitment to the partnership and also coordinati on with various parts and locally and internationally to put an end to this nightmare – to this horrific nightmare that the Syrian people – our brotherly Syrian people is facing. And we are committed to continue on this path of cooperation to put an end t o the violence that the Syrian people are experiencing. And in this regard, Morocco will be hosting the upcoming meeting for the Friends of Syria meetings next October, and I wish that you would honor us with your participation.

The Strategic Dialogue that brings us together today is not just political and not just economic. Morocco is like any other countries in the region, has economic problems, and our major partners in Europe are also facing recessions, and this affects Morocco directly. For that reason, we are delighted to have this dialogue today on economic issues so that we can deepen our economic cooperation between the two countries and also attract more American investments in Morocco. And we would like to learn what concerns U.S. investors have so that we can address them and discuss them, and also find ways to attract these investments to Morocco.

We also would like to have a Free Trade Agreement between the two countries – more successful and more balanced, and this could also – so that it can open avenues for Morocco to benefit from it. As I said before, Morocco is committed to effectively contribute to the entire region to maintain peace and security, and therefore a discussion of issues related to the economic problems is very vital to this.

Finally, we have the educational discussions and also a dialogue between civilizations. And then this has been led by His Majesty, as Prince of the Faithful, and he's been sponsoring dialogue between various cultures. And Morocco has always been a meeting place for all civilizations, and we are very delighted to be part of this discussion as well.

Giving us today, the – today marking the onset of this U.S. -Moroccan dialogue that we started today with the signing of Memorandum of Understanding is a very important step in our mutual relationship, and it's a very important turning point in our strategic relationship, and reflects the determination of His Majesty and also President – Morocco – President Obama, to further enhance and development this relationship. And we will do our utmost best to enrich the strategic relationship for the interests – best interests of all – both our people.

And you will find in Morocco a credible partner, and thank you very much. (Applause.)

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From: [redacted] (PACE) <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:52 PM
To: PAO Group; PA HUB DIRECTORS
Subject: WH Daily Press Briefing 9/13

White House Daily Press Briefing (Gaggle)
September 13, 2012

Embassy Protests

1. President's conversation with leaders of Egypt and Libya
2. Additional security sent to embassy in Yemen
3. USG has nothing to do with movie / US promotion of religious tolerance
4. US has tradition of free expression
5. Partnership with Egypt continues
6. Embassy Cairo is secure and personnel are safe
7. Egypt is not an ally / U.S. doesn't have a mutual defense treaty with Egypt
8. Potential protests on Friday / Precautions being taken to enhance security worldwide
9. Readout of call with President Morsi

1. President's conversation with leaders of Egypt and Libya

MR. CARNEY: I just wanted to note at the top that the President spoke with the leaders of Libya and Egypt last night. As you know, we put out statements on those productive phone calls that the President had. And beyond that, I think I'll just take -- we can take your questions.

2. Additional security sent to embass y in Yemen

Q Can you respond to the latest outbreak in Yemen? Are you guys concerned about that? And does that add some more pressure to -- where are you on that?

MR. CARNEY: Well, we are doing everything we can to protect the safety and s ecurity of our personnel in Yemen. And since the protests began, the Yemeni government has sent additional security forces to our embassy, and Yemen's President Hadi and other senior officials committed to maintain order and protect our personnel and diplomatic facilities.

President Hadi has publicly condemned violence against diplomatic personnel and facilities. The Yemeni government has also made clear that they will not tolerate violence against American personnel and will hold perpetrators accountable for any such actions. Just so you know, all U.S. embassy personnel are safe and accounted for.

3. USG has nothing to do with movie / US promotion of religious tolerance

I think it's important to note with regards to that protest that there are prot ests taking place in different countries across the world that are responding to the movie that has circulated on the Internet. As Secretary Clinton said today, the United States government had nothing to do with this movie. We reject its message and its contents. We find it disgusting and reprehensible. America has a history of religious tolerance and respect for religious beliefs that goes back to our nation's founding. We are stronger because we are the home to people of all religions, including millions of Muslims, and we reject the denigration of religion.

We also believe that there is no justification at all for responding to this movie with violence. Muslims in the United States and around the world have spoken out against violence, which has no place in religion and is no way to

honor religion. Islam respects the fundamental dignity of human beings, and it violates that dignity to wage attacks on innocents. It is especially wrong for violence to be directed against diplomatic missions. These, after all, are places whose very purpose is peaceful to promote better understanding across countries and cultures. Governments everywhere have a responsibility to protect these places.

Now, we understand that it is hard for some people around the world to understand why the United States does not prevent movies like this from seeing the light of day. But as you know, our country --

Q Jay, just to be clear, you're still reading --

Q What Clinton --

MR. CARNEY: No, no, I'm sorry, this is me. This is all me. I'm reiterating -- yes, I mean, I'm paraphrasing some of what Clinton said.

Q Reiterating what Clinton said --

MR. CARNEY: No, when I said as Secretary Clinton said -- these are not --

Q -- reprehensible?

MR. CARNEY: Yes, I'm paraphrasing her. The United States had nothing to do with this movie. We rejected -- this is building off of what Secretary Clinton said, but this is not a verbatim quote of her stateme nts.

4. US has tradition of free expression

Q Can you pick it up from "we understand it's hard for some" --

MR. CARNEY: Sure. It is hard for some people around the world to understand why the United States does not prevent movies like this from seei ng the light of day. For one, that is impossible in today's world, as you know. But, furthermore, and more importantly, our country has a long tradition of free expression, which is protected by law. Our government does not and cannot stop individual ci tizens from expressing their views. Those of us who care about religious tolerance and who respect religious beliefs must not allow a tiny minority of people to provoke conflict between different religions, cultures, and countries. All leaders must draw a stark line against violence.

5. Partnership with Egypt continues

Q Jay, can I ask about Egypt? Is the President considering withholding any aid or putting new strings attached to the aid that's already in place?

MR. CARNEY: No. I think it's impor tant to note, as the readout of the President's call noted, that the -- first of all, that we appreciate the public statements that President Morsi has made condemning acts of violence and emphasizing that Egypt will honor its obligation to ensure the safe ty of American personnel. The President last night made clear to his counterpart that the United States rejects efforts to denigrate Islam, but underscored that there is never any justification for violence against innocents and acts that endanger America n personnel and facilities.

We have an important strategic partnership with Egypt, and that partnership continues. We are focused on assisting Egypt as it -- and the new government there -- as it makes its way in the post-Mubarak era for that country. And we are, as we are around the region, interested in assisting these countries to promote democracy, respect for human rights, and economic development. And that's certainly the case with Egypt.

Q So no thoughts to amending any of that aid?

MR. CARNEY: No.

6. Embassy Cairo is secure and personnel are safe

Q Are you satisfied with the efforts the Egyptian government has taken to protect the U.S. facilities there?

MR. CARNEY: Well, I can tell you that the United States embassy in Cairo i s secure and all U.S. government personnel are safe and accounted for. There are protests, small protests, in Cairo continuing, and obviously, we are monitoring that situation closely. And I would note that, again, the protests we're seeing around the re gion are in reaction to this movie. They are not directly in reaction to any policy of the United States or the government of the United States or the people of the United States.

Any violence associated with the offense taken by the movie, of course, is unjustified, as we've made clear. But we are monitoring the situation and the security of our embassies and our facilities and our personnel around the world. It is important to note that as these protests are taking place in different countries aroun d the world, responding to the movie, that Friday, tomorrow, has historically been a day when there are protests in the Muslim world. And we are watching very closely for developments that could lead to more protests. We anticipate that they may continue.

7. Egypt is not an ally / U.S. doesn't have a mutual defense treaty with Egypt

Q Jay, the President yesterday said that Egypt isn't an ally. Is that a new position, or based on some new evaluation? Can you expand on --

MR. CARNEY: No. The President, in diplomatic and legal terms, was speaking correctly, that we do not have an alliance treaty with Egypt. "Ally" is a legal term of art. As I said, we don't have a mutual defense treaty with Egypt like we do, for example, with our NATO allies. But as the President has said, Egypt is a longstanding and close partner of the United States, and we have built on that foundation by supporting Egypt's transition to democracy and working with the new government.

Just last night, as you know, the President spoke with President Morsi to review the strategic partnership between the United States and Egypt, while making clear our mutual obligations, including the protection of diplomats and diplomatic facilities.

8. Potential protests on Friday / Precautions being taken to enhance security worldwide

Q Can I go back to the protests you expect to continue tomorrow in Cairo? Is the U.S. --

MR. CARNEY: Well, I don't know specifically in Cairo. It's just been the tradition -- it has been commonplace through this period for protests to occur in the region, in particular on Fridays.

Q Is the U.S. -- are there any specific precautions that the U.S. is making to prepare for that? How is the President monitoring that? And are we coordinating with President Morsi?

MR. CARNEY: We are, yes, coordinating with governments in the region and making sure that there's a clear understanding about the responsibility of host governments to protect diplomatic facilities and personnel. The President, very early after the incidents occurred in Benghazi and Cairo, directed that security -- precautions be taken to enhance security at embassies and facilities around the world. And that is continuing to take place.

And he is being -- he is very much on top of this. I meant to and neglected to last night read out a briefing he received from his Deputy National Security Advisor Denis McDonough that was focused specifically on developments in the region with regards to the protest, but especially o n the progress of efforts underway to enhance security at our facilities.

He will also have a briefing later today with senior members of his national security team from here in Colorado after this event.

9. Readout of call with President Morsi

Q Can I just go back to Morsi real quick? It seems clear from the readout of the call that the President is frustrated, or trying to put pressure anyway.

MR. CARNEY: Not at all.

Q No?

MR. CARNEY: Well, he was very clear. I wouldn't say he was frustrated. I was with him when he made the call. It was a long and substantive call. As the readout makes clear, the President reiterated the importance that and the obligation that Egypt, as other countries, has to protect diplomatic personnel an d diplomatic facilities. And he appreciated President Morsi's expression of condolences as well as his assertion that he will abide by that commitment.

Q Was there something more specifically that the White House would like to see him do or say?

MR. CARNEY: I believe President Morsi this morning -- well, this morning our time, I'm not sure what time in Egypt -- did make some public statements. That was what I was referring to when I talked about appreciating the public statements that President Mors I has made condemning acts of violence and emphasizing that Egypt will honor its obligation to ensure the safety of American personnel. Those were statements he made this morning.

[redacted]
Bureau of Public Affairs | Office of Press Relations
U.S. Department of State
[redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 5:49 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: CNN.com on Libya/Egypt
Attachments: 2012.09.13.CNN.Libya and Egypt.docx

Another article—last one this week. [redacted]

Ex-ambassador: No time for accusers, apologists or political gamesters

Editor's note: Daniel Kurtzer is the S. Daniel Abraham Professor of Middle East policy studies at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. During a 29 -year career in diplomacy, he served as the U.S. ambassador to Egypt and to Israel. The views expressed are his own.

By **Daniel Kurtzer**, Special to CNN

September 13th, 2012

Some years ago, while on a trans-Atlantic flight, I was reading a thriller novel when I came across a stunning passage: the American ambassador in Cairo was assassinated by the villains in the novel. What was so disconcerting personally was that I was the American ambassador at that time!

The novel got me thinking about the day after such an assassination: that is, the reactions of family, friends, colleagues and American government. Surely, there would be favorable obituaries and fond remembrances. There would be outrage over the murder and calls for bringing the perpetrators to justice. Over time, the personal sense of loss among family members would linger, while the professional friends would naturally move on.

These ruminations of long ago came back to me up on hearing the news of the assassination of Chris Stevens and three of his colleagues in Benghazi at the hands of heavily armed militants. This was an act of terrorism — horrific, inexcusable, intolerable assaults against a prominent diplomat — and a message to all Americans. Chris was a first-rate diplomat, who many of us of a certain age knew would be the "next generation" of our diplomatic leaders . His death stings us all.

Today is the day after his assassination. Besides the outpouring of emotions from family and friends, we also hear from our leaders and from editorialists about the need for resolve and steadfastness against terrorism. This is, of course, right, as are the calls for bringing the perpetrators to justice. Our diplomats and our embassies cannot beco me targets of choice for fanatics of any stripe.

But, on this day after, we are also hearing the voices of apologists, accusers and political gamesters, those who are intent on exploiting these acts of terrorism to advance narrow agendas. The apologists trot out familiar, offensive arguments that seek to blame us: they say that Muslims have a right to feel offended because of American attitudes or

SCB 000163

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 6:36 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: families attending

For Chris - both parents and both siblings will attend tomorrow. Sean Smith's family is expected there as well, as are the families of the other two killed in Benghazi.

SCB 000164

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 6:37 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FW: up-dates from NEA on Tripoli issues

From: Greg Hicks [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 5:00 PM
To: Jones, Beth E
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: up-dates from NEA on Tripoli issues

Hi Beth:

Thanks. I received your message. The updates are much appreciated. I will advise the MFA about the invitations to Ambassador Aujali. The Marines moved over to the Villas tonight, and we plan to return to there tomorrow. We will look in the residence for the it ems you listed below. Apologies for being difficult to reach by telephone today. The system was just awful. I will be available for a phone call at the time you proposed.

PM al-Keeb (he is still PM until a swearing-in ceremony to be conducted in approximately 2 weeks) and(separately) the Foreign Minister asked to see me this evening. Both expressed deep sorrow for Chris's death and the loss of our staff. Libya, they said, had lost its best American friend, and both indicated that they had lost a personal friend. Both called his death a crime against Libya and the Libyan people, as well as the United States. They both pledged to pursue the criminals responsible for the attack on our compounds until apprehended, tried, and convicted. Both expressed willingness to cooperate with us in the investigation and determination to protect our diplomats and facilities against further harm.

I thanked PM al-Keeb for his condolences and for the strength of his joint statement with President Magariaf condemning the attack on our compounds. I mentioned that we had brought our Marines to Tripoli only to protect our diplomats and facilities. 3rd Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Haramain (2nd DPM Omar Abd al -Karim also attended the meeting) expressed dismay about reports in th e press that the U.S. was flying drones over Libya and sending ships armed with tomahawk missiles into the waters near Libya. Haramain said that the press reports would complicate the government's efforts to find and apprehend the criminals.

The PM expressed great interest in contacting the families of our fallen and in the timing and location of the memorial service for Ambassador Stevens. The PM said that he would like to write the families a letter or call them. He mentioned that after he has passed the baton to PM-elect Abu Shughur, he intended to travel to the U.S. and suggested that he would like to call on the families at their homes if they would be willing to receive him. He also asked if he might be able to telephone Deputy Secretary Burns if there might be an opening in his schedule.

The meeting with the Foreign Minister largely followed the same path, except that he introduced me to a GNC member, Dr. [redacted], who is a member of the GNC's national security committee. [redacted] stated that all GNC members condemned the crime and fully supported the executive branch's effort to investigate and prosecute the case. He also asked if he could lead a delegation of GNC members to the United States to attend the funeral, pay their respect s to Ambassador Stevens' memory, and call on Members of Congress. He noted that he had talked to NSS's Ben Fishman, who recommended that he speak to the Embassy

about the request [redacted] met Ben during his visit to Libya). He stressed that he wanted to co me to the U.S. as soon as possible to deliver the message to the American people that the crime in Benghazi was committed by a group of individuals, not the Libyan people as a whole. We will cal [redacted] tomorrow to obtain the identities and the number of members likely to be in the delegation and the timing of the visit.

Before seeing the PM and the FM, RSO and I called on the Deputy Interior Minister. He said that the government had formed a senior committee to lead the investigation of the crime and th at a team had been sent to Benghazi to investigate the sites of our Benghazi compounds and to begin the hunt for the criminals. He indicated that they were reaching out to tribal elders in the east to help identify the criminals and to facilitate their capture. He expressed willingness to cooperate with us on the investigation and pledged to maintain an extra strong police presence around our compounds through Saturday. He advised that there would be a demonstration at 3 pm on Friday in Martyr's Square but that it would be against the crime in Benghazi and demand an increase in security. He also introduced RSO to counterparts in the Ministry who would be able to facilitate cooperation on facilities security and law enforcement issues in the future.

I hope this is helpful.

Greg.

SCB 000166

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 6:45 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: up-dates from NEA on Tripoli issues

Thanks.
Glad he connected with [redacted] I can work that directly with him once I get the go -ahead from my folks and take that off the Embassy's plate.

[redacted] is a US citizen with passport, etc.

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 6:37 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FW: up-dates from NEA on Tripoli issues

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Greg.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:48 AM
To: [redacted]; Benjamin I Fishman [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted]
Subject: Libyan American Association of Southern California (LAASC) Press Release Regarding Attack on US Consulate
Attachments: LAASC Press Release Sept 12.docx

Dear Respected Sirs,
The LAASC offers its sincere condolences to the families of our service members killed in the line of duty and our strong condemnation of the barbaric attack that occurred in Benghazi, Libya. Please see the attached press release by our organization.
Thank you.

--
[redacted]
Assistant Professor of Medicine
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
Director, Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory
Olive View-UCLA Medical Center
[redacted]
Phone: [redacted]
Fax:
Pager:

Libyan American Association of Southern California
Press Release

Contact: Dr. Mahmoud Traina

Email: mitraina@gmail.com

Phone: (310) 658-8938
Office: (818) 364-4287

September 12, 2012

For Immediate Release, Los Angeles, California –

The Libyan American Association of Southern California condemns the cowardly and vicious attack on the American Consulate in Benghazi. We mourn the loss of the United States Ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens and three other members of the United States Diplomatic core in Libya.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and loved ones of our dear friend, Ambassador Stevens and his colleagues, as we grieve with the rest of the nation. Ambassador Stevens worked tirelessly for the cause of the Libyan Revolution since March of 2011 when he entered Benghazi on a cargo ship. He was a strong advocate for the UN No-fly zone which protected the city of Benghazi in late March from Gaddafi's onslaught, and since then, has been a true believer in the revolution and the capacity of the Libyan people. The sacrifice of Ambassador Stevens and his colleagues will be rememb ered forever.

The attempt by those wishing to derail the positive progress the Libyan authorities and people have made in support of democracy and freedom has resulted in the loss of those dedicated to freedom. This horrifying attack only strengthens ou r resolve to ensure that the vision which Ambassador Stevens had for Libya, and is shared by millions of Libyans and Americans alike, comes true. Those who perpetrated the attack do not share the values and ideals that inspired the February 17th Revolution and continue to shape our identity as a free nation.

The Libyan people will never forget the courageous stand that the American government and people took with the Libyan people during the February 17th Revolution. We hope our new government begins this chapter in our history with a commitment to securing ju stice and safety for all who enter Libya. We call on our democratically -elected officials to pursue the violent criminals responsible for this tragedy and to bring them to justice.

A silent vigil will be held at The District at the Tustin L egacy (2437 Park Avenue, Tustin, CA 92782) from 7pm to 9pm in memory of Ambassador Christopher Stevens and those lost in this tragedy. All are welcome to attend.

The Libyan American Association of Southern California is a nonprofit organization based in the United States. The Association was created to strengthen Libyan relations and to provide a venue for Libyan-Americans to contribute and share their democratic aspirations to the American people.

# # #

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:07 AM
To: [redacted]; 'Benjamin I Fishman[redacted]; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Libyan American Association of Southern California (LAASC) Press Release Regarding Attack on US Consulate

Dr. [redacted]

Thanks for sharing this strong statement and for your leadership in the community at this difficult time.

With appreciation,

[redacted]

From: [redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 03:48 AM
To: [redacted]; Benjamin I Fishman[redacted] <[redacted]>; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted]<[redacted]>
Subject: Libyan American Association of Southern California (LAASC) Press Release Regarding Attack on US C onsulate

Dear Respected Sirs,
The LAASC offers its sincere condolences to the families of our service members killed in the line of duty and our strong condemnation of the barbaric attack that occurred in Benghazi, Libya. Please see the attached press release by our organization.
Thank you.

--
[redacted] M.D.
Assistant Professor of Medicine
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
Director, Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory
Olive View-UCLA Medical Center
[redacted]
Phone: [redacted]
Fax:
Pager:

From: OpsAlert <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:53 AM
Subject: SITUATION REPORT No. 1 09/14/I (SBU)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

SITUATION REPORT No. 1

Middle East Protests Monitoring Group MGMEP01

Friday, September 14, 2012
0600 EDT

EGYPT

• (U) Riot police used tear gas in an attempt to disperse demonstrators. Egyptian authorities erected large concrete barriers to block the route to the embassy and deployed approximately 4000 security per sonnel to the area. ***(Ops/DS Command Center telcon, Reuters)***

• (U) Embassy Cairo reported the Muslim Brotherhood cancelled earlier calls for nationwide demonstrations at major mosques, but supported symbolic demonstrations at Tahrir Square. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Cairo telcon)***

LIBYA

(U) Air traffic in Benghazi was suspended September 13 due to security reasons. ***(AFP)***

YEMEN

• (SBU) Embassy Sana'a reported increased security presence but no apparent protests at the Sheraton hotel. ***(Ops/Embassy Sana'a telcon)***

• (U) Yemeni security forces blocked streets surrounding the U.S. Embassy, where approximately 30 protesters gathered. ***(Reuters)***

KUWAIT

• (SBU) Around 400 protesters, including parliament members and prominent Sunni Islami sts, congregated peacefully for nearly two hours in front of the Embassy September 13. Police arrested several youth who tried to jump the compounds outermost perimeter. ***(GMEP01/Embassy Kuwait City e-mail)***

• (SBU) Embassy Kuwait City reported another d emonstration is planned for 1200 EDT/1900 Kuwait City. The embassy and the government added extra security around the compound and received security reinforcements from the government. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Kuwait City telcon)***

PAKISTAN

• (SBU) Consulate General Lahore reported calls for nationwide protests, including large demonstrations at the consulate's press club. Authorities deployed riot police to the consulate and limited access to the road. Consulate General Lahore dismiss ed all employ ees at 0300 EDT/1200 Lahore. ***(MGMEP01/Consulate General Lahore e-mail)***

• (SBU) Embassy Islamabad reported police are preparing to prevent demonstrators from approaching diplomatic enclaves and police reserves are on stand -by. Embassy Islamabad dismissed non-emergency personnel. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Islamabad e -mail)***
• (SBU) Consulate General Peshawar reported two protests were scheduled to take place approximately four kilometers from the consulate. Additional police was assigned to reinforce security. ***(MGMEP01/Consulate General Peshawar e-mail)***
• (SBU) Consulate General Karachi reported riot police were deployed to the compound, with more on standby. ***(MGMEP01/Consulate General Karachi e -mail)***

INDONESIA

• (SBU) Embassy Jakarta reported a peaceful demonstration of approximately 300 people. ***(Embassy Jakarta Emergency Message)***
• (U) Over 250 riot police were put on alert ahead of the demonstrations. Indonesian leaders urged calm. ***(AP)***

MALAYSIA

• (SBU) Police said they are prepared for demonstrations near the U.S. Embassy and mosques in various cities. ***(Embassy Kuala Lumpur Emergency Message)***
• (U) Around 30 people gathered peacefully outside the Embassy and submitted a memorandum demanding an apology and action from the U.S. government against the filmmakers. ***(The Star)***

SUDAN

(U) Islamic scholars called for the expulsion of the U.S. and German Ambassadors and for peaceful mass protests at their embassies in Khartoum. ***(Reuters)***

INDIA

(U) A small group of protesters gathered peacefully September 13 in Kashmir. The most senior Islamic cleric in Kashmir told U.S. citizens to "immediately leave" the region. ***(AFP)***

IRAN

(SBU) The Swiss Embassy in Tehran will be closed in anticipation of p lanned demonstrations. ***(MGMEP01/Iran desk e-mail)***

INTERNATIONAL REACTION

• (U) Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov said the Benghazi attack confirms "the need for the joint efforts of our countries, as well as the global community in combating the evi l of terrorism." ***(Russia Today)***
• (U) The Arab League condemned the Benghazi attack and called on the U.S. government to take a serious position against the film producers. ***(MENA)***
• (SBU) The Bahamas, Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Panama, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela have also issued condemnations and condolences, bringing to 26 the n umber of countries in the western hemisphere condemning the attacks in Benghazi. ***(MGMEP01/Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs Office of Policy Planning and Coordination e-mail)***
• (U) Libyan Prime Minister Abu Shagour said he will work "vigorously" to i mprove security by boosting the national police force and army as well as implementing programs to collect and regulate weapons. ***(Reuters)***
• (U) Yemeni President Hadi apologized for the attack September 13, and ordered an expeditious and thorough investigation. ***(Embassy of Yemen Statement)***

Additional updates on events in LIBYA are available through our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted] Approved: [redacted]
Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SCB 000168

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:10 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: [redacted]

Ben,

[redacted] is at the airport in Benghazi now, waiting for a flight to Tripoli where he will stay with [redacted] on the Embassy residential compound which is being protected by the FAST team and people are settling back in. The airport in Benghazi was closed earlier today due to a MANPADs threat, but the Minister of Interior ordered it to open two hours ago. The DATT is sending some trusted contacts to go to the airport to wait with [redacted] If the airport doesn't open soon, [redacted] might decide to just drive to Tripoli instead.

[redacted] asked about possible ways to get [redacted] a special immigrant visa to the United States if he wants one. There are a few mechanisms out there if he wants one we will get him one.

[redacted]

SCB 000169

From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 10:18 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

From: Hayden, Caitlin
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:21 PM
To: #MENA; #PRESS
Subject: FW: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

FYI. From State...

Return of the Remains of Our Colleagues from Benghazi

Secretary Clinton will receive back in the United States the remains of our colleagues who were killed in Benghazi on September 11, 2012 at:

Andrews Air Force Base
Friday, September 14, 2012
2:00 p.m.

HST employees who would like to be present should p lan to travel to Andrews via buses provided by the Department, departing from the C Street entrance between 12:15 and 1:00 p.m. Buses will also leave from the Visitor Center entrance of FSI and the Nash Street overpass in Rosslyn (SA -6) at 1:00 p.m.

Please contact your Executive Office today by 3:00 p.m. to reserve a seat.

SCB 000170

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 10:19 AM
To: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: RE: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

Thanks. SO sad. I'm still fighting tears when reading all of the beautiful pieces.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Meehan, Bernadette [[redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 10:18 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: AFSANET: In Memory of Our Fallen Foreign Service Colleagues

---

From: Hayden, Caitlin
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 3:21 PM
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Please contact your Executive Office today by 3:00 p.m. to reserve a seat.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 10:50 AM
To: [redacted] Meehan, Bernadette
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Influential Turkish Imam Statement
Attachments: FINAL ASV press release 13 September 2012.pdf

Hi guys,
A statement from Gulen on the violence. Not sure how much resonance this will have with people in the streets, but nonetheless an influential voice speaking out...

Alliance *for* Shared Values

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 13, 2012

STATEMENT FROM FETHULLAH GULEN CONDEMNING VIOLENCE FOLLOWING ATTACK ON U.S. CONSULATE IN LIBYA

"I have learned with sadness about the attack on the United States Consulate in the Libyan city of Benghazi which resulted in the deaths of U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens, consulate personnel and several others. I strongly condemn this heinous attack which targeted public servants representing their country in Libya and thus were guests of Libyan government and people. On this sad occasion I reiterate my condemnation of all forms of terror regardless of its perpetrators and the purposes for which it is carried out.

"As we witness other violent protests in Cairo, Yemen and elsewhere, my message is that lasting change will only result from peaceful expressions of reaction and open dialogue. Consorting to violence and targeting human life for protest constitute a betrayal of the soul of the very Islamic tradition that many of these protestors seemingly claim to defend. What suits Muslims is to express their reactions in a peaceful and calm manner that befits the dignity of their faith.

"I send my sincere condolences to those who lost loved ones in the tragedy, to the United States Government, to American people and especially to U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton under whom the ambassador and his staff have been serving. I share their pain in my heart and I pray for the fast recovery of those who were injured."

About Fethullah Gulen
Mr. Fethullah Gulen is known and respected among Turkish Muslims as well as Muslims and non-Muslims from around the world as an authoritative mainstream Muslim scholar of the Sunni tradition, to which 87 –90% of the world's Muslim population belongs. He was among the first influent ial Muslim figures to publicly condemn the 9/11 attacks. He is also a thinker, a poet, a prolific author, an educational activist and an opinion leader. His readership in Turkey is estimated to be millions. His influence outside Turkey is growing daily as his works are translated into many languages including English, Arabic, Russian, German, Spanish, Urdu, Bosnian, Albanian, Malay and Indonesian. He recently received the 2011 Peace-building Award from the East West Institute in New York.

About Alliance for Shared Values
The Alliance for Shared Values, is a non-profit umbrella organization serving as a centralized collaboration platform, and a unified voice for its member dialogue and cultural organizations in the United States. The Alliance is composed of a diverse set of organizations dedicated to promoting philanthropy, community service, intercultural and interfaith understanding to elevate humanity and bring greater peace. The Alliance for Shared Values works to promote projects and initiatives for community enrichment by facilitating networking, the sharing of best practices and augmenting local resources of its member or partner organizations.

Contact: David Vermillion
Direct Impact
(212) 614-4355
david.vermillion@directimpact.com

SCB 000171

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 12:50 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Ideas on Libya

Hi Ben. It's been a tough week. We wanted to offer a couple quick ideas to contribute to what we hope is an emerging conversation:

1. Radicals are a small minority in Libya and the government and people remain broadly pro -US. Any US-intiated strike should be targeted to limit backlash for the new government.

2. The US should reach out to newly elected representatives from Derna, the city nearest reported camps, to discuss their role in building understanding and curtailing radicalism.

3. Support to the Benghazi city council should be reiterated and fast -tracked. Civil society networks supported by OTI and others should be encouraged to host discussions of free speech in a democratic society and to explain the abhorance of most Americans to the video.

4. US assistance on SSR should be intensified, beginning with immediate assistance on counter -extremism.

5. The state department should publicly reiterate our friendship with the Libyan people and emphasize cooperation to protect Libya's revolution.

CSO has personnel and expertise to support these steps and would be happy to host an options discussion early next week with a focus on minimizing blowback from kinetic counter extremism.

Let us know how we can support your efforts.

Thanks,

[redacted]

SCB 000172

From: Aiman Tarsin <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 1:25 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Subject: Ambassador Chris Stevens

Mr. Rhodes,

My name is Aiman Tarsin, and I am the President of the Libyan Social Association in Washington DC. I had the pleasure of meeting you during a round table discussion with members of the Libyan community, that was hosted by the Whitehouse on February 16, 2012.

On behalf of the Libyan Social Association, and the countless Libyans who are mourning the pas sing of Ambassador Stevens, allow me to express our deepest condolences to President Obama, members of your administration, and indeed, the American people.

I had the pleasure of meeting Ambassador Stevens during a brief visit to Benghazi on May of 201 1. At the time, I was visiting as a delegation member on behalf of the Tripoli Local Council, and together, we were part of a larger delegation of local councils representing most of the cities in the southern and western regions that remained under Col. Gaddafi's brutal occupation. Our purpose was to recognize and support the National Transitional Council as the legitimate representative of the Libyan people. We met with the ambassador at the Tbisti hotel in Benghazi, who expressed the United States' co mmitment to realizing our national aspirations: namely to establish a democratic Libya that respected the individual rights of its citizens, and promoted a pluralistic society. It was abundantly obvious to me during the meeting that the US envoy was perso nally committed to this enterprise, and that he served his country with a tremendous sense of compassion and care.

Indeed, Libya has lost a tremendous friend in Ambassador Stevens. Yet the work that he set out to accomplish remains as critical now as it was during the days of our civil war. As we mourn his passing, it is my hope that President Obama will reflect upon the incredible grace and luminous character that was abundantly evident in Ambassador Stevens, and that was especially contagious to those who knew and met him.

As the United States and Libya seek justice in this atrocious crime, let us renew our commitment build a democratic Libya that upholds the universal principles of freedom, justice, and equality.

My very best wishes and prayers to you, and the family of Ambassador Stevens.

Warm Regards,

Aiman Mahmoud Tarsin
P - [redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:48 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: Meehan, Bernadette
Subject: FW: Continued Calls from Political, Religious, and Civil Society Leaders in NEA

Add one more to the list (see link immediately below) but this isn't USG if that makes it easier/more credible to disseminate.

From: [redacted] (NEA/PPD) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:43 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Continued Calls from Political, Religious, and Civil Society Leaders in NEA

In addition, the following website is collecting statements by a number of international Islamic organizations. -mc

http://theamericanmuslim.org/tam.php/features/articles/muslims-and-muslim-organizations-condemn-attacks-on-u.s.-embassies/0019348

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:36 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Continued Calls from Political, Religious, and Civil Society Leaders in NEA

Thx [redacted] Saw that earlier...

From: [redacted] (NEA/PPD) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:36 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Continued Calls from Political, Religious, and Civil Society Leaders in NEA

From ECA:

Hundreds of Alumni Participate in Online Discussion of Events in Libya
In support of outreach efforts in the wake of the attacks in Benghazi, the Alumni Affairs Division is currently hosting a discussion forum on the State Alumni website. Alumni were invited to participate in the forum yesterday afternoon and already more than 800 alumni have viewed the comments and nearly 200 alumni from 75 countries have contributed to the conversation. Nearly all alumni express sadness at the events with many noting that these violent actions are not representative of Islam or their country. Many also question how free speech can protect what they see as defamation. We encourage you to log on to State Alumni and learn what alumni from your region are saying about these events.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:31 PM
To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Continued Calls from Political, Religious, and Civil Society Leaders in NEA

[redacted] here you go, from NEA.

[redacted] thanks very much!

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:30 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Continued Calls from Political, Religious, and Civil Society Leaders in NEA

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:28 PM
To: [redacted] (NEA/PPD)
Subject: Input

From Iraq

In Iraq, Ali al-Alak, the Shiite head of parliament's religious committee, ur ged Muslims worldwide to use "wise methods" in responding to it instead of turning to violence. Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki called on Muslims to demonstrate peacefully and refrain from resorting to violence. In Erbil, Consul General Paul Sutphin met w ith 18 Imams at the Kurdistan Islamic Scientist Union in which Senior Imam Haji Saeed Abdulla made a statement rejecting the violence in Libya, Cairo, and Yemen. In a Friday sermon from Al-Hussein shrine in Karbala, Imam Sheik Abdul-Mahdi Al-Karbalae'e said that Muslims have a responsibility to keep peace with their Christian brothers, even in the face of the provocation of the film.

From Lebanon

In Lebanon, President Sleiman rejected violent reactions against the film, calling for dialogue. Prime Minister Mikati made a statement saying the violent reaction to the film, "is no way to defend Islamic values." He also sent a message of condolence to Secretary Clinton on the death of the U.S. Ambassador in Libya.

March 14 Reaction:

Former Prime Minister Siniora: Following a meeting with Maronite Patriarch Rai, the head of pro-Hariri Future Movement, former Prime Minister Fouad Siniora talked about the Pope's visit and added: "This act [the movie] is denounced and such abuses cannot be accepted," noting that "those who prepared the film and timed its broadcast aim at inflaming strife, and

the Muslim anger towards destruction and differences with western society." He also noted that the objective behind it is to "weaken the democratic surge in the Arab worl d." He added: "If those who made and produced the movie are from a certain nationality, this does not mean that citizens from the same nationality are responsible for this crime." He confirmed that such crimes to kill the innocent are against humanity and we have to be vigilant to what is being planned for us so that we do not fall into these traps. Siniora also denounced sharply the maker of the film and denounced again all the violence and revenge acts against the innocent.

Samir Geagea: The Media Office of the President of the Lebanese Forces Party Dr. Samir Geagea issued the following statement:

"The President of the Lebanese Forces Party Samir Geagea stressed the necessity to respect religions and sanctities and not touch them or harm them, which t ransforms civilized interaction between people into an uncreative conflict. He denounced the abusiveness addressed by one movie to the prophet of Islam.

The President of the Lebanese Forces Party denounced in his name and on behalf of the Lebanese Forces Party the violent and bloody reactions, particularly the attack against the American Consulate in Benghazi which led to the killing of the U.S. Ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens and three Embassy employees, presenting his most sincere condolences to their families and the American people.

Later, Geagea's media office issued a second statement in which it noted that the Geagea called the US Ambassador to Lebanon Maura Connelly and presented his condolences over the killing of the U.S. Ambassador to Libya and three other Americans. He denounced the attacks that U.S. diplomatic missions are being subjected to in a number of countries in the region.

Former Prime Minister Saad Hariri: Former Prime Minister Saad Hariri condemned the film "The innocence of Muslims" and what he characterized as the suspicious attempts behind it to stir up hatred and discord between religions and peoples, at a time when we are working to build bridges of dialogue, understanding and mutual respect.

Hariri denounced the violent reactions against the movie, the murder of Ambassador Chris Stevens and the attacks that targeted U.S. embassies and consulates in many regions.

He said: "Such brutal and violent practices and attacks offend Muslims just as this suspicious film offended Islam, they are also detrimental to the Arab Spring path in general and give free excuses and justifications to the enemies of this promising path, in order to discredit it and disable its constructive effects in implementing democracy, freedom and di gnity of the Arab peoples."

Premier Hariri warned against being dragged behind this suspicious scheme, and called to uphold the right to peaceful protest against any act that insults Islamic sanctities in particular and religious sanctities in general. He also stressed his adherence to defend Islam, its values, principles and sanctities, namely the Holy Quran and Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him), and his commitment to the values of openness, moderation, tolerance, dialogue and coexistence with the other religions.

From Saudi Arabia

Text of SAG condemnation as released by official Saudi Press Agency (SPA)
"An official source has condemned the violent reactions in a number of countries against U.S. interests. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia expressed condolences and sympathy to the United States of America over the victims of the violent acts in Libya, which targeted the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi,' an official source said in a statement. 'The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia also deplored a film that is offensive to Prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him) produced by an irresponsible group in the United States of America, confirming the Kingdom's rejection of all acts that harm religions and their symbols,' the official sourc e added."

From Morocco

- **The High Council of Ulema strongly condemned the movie aimed at the person of the Prophet Mohammed (BUH), and distorting the tenor of his message, based on peace, tranquility, love and concord among humans, including all ethnicit ies and religions** - Front-page in Istiqlal (nationalist) French-language daily ***L'Opinion***

- **Moroccan government strongly condemns the attack against the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, which claimed several lives, and offers condolences to the U.S. government and people** - Front-page in Istiqlal (nationalist) French-language daily ***L'Opinion*** and USFP (socialist) French-language daily ***Liberation***

- **El Khalfi: the government will go after those who incite violence against America** - "According to well-informed sources, strict instructions were given by the Moroccan government to different security bodies to raise the security alert and confront all kinds of protests that some parties are planning for Friday, September 14 before American institutions in Morocco, to protest against an anti-Islam movie. The same sources denied that Morocco is exposed to a terrorist attack, confirming that Moroccan security bodies are tracking all suspicious movements." - USFP (socialist) Arabic-language daily ***Al Ittihad Al Ishtiraki***

Positive Tweets from MENA Faith Leaders:

"You don't show loyalty [to the prophet], by going to embassies and pelting them with stones, or setting it on fire and killing the ambassador and those with him. This isn't what we are supposed to say. America as a nation is not behind this."

Yusuf al-Qaradawi – Friday sermon

"It is not permissible to kill ambassadors, covenanters, those in our protection, or tourists in the name of defending the prophet peace be upon him, because that is a crime unsanctio ned by Islam and contributes to the distortion of the image of Muslims."

Sheikh Dr. Aaidh al-Qarni – tweeted by prominent Saudi cleric

"I call on you not to attack a soul, not to destroy property, not assault embassies, and don't violate the values you are defending. Attacking innocents and killing of diplomats and ambassadors is a violation of religion before it is a violation of protocol."

Sheikh Abdullah bin Bayyah - Prominent Mauritanian cleric, based in Saudi Arabia

"We repudiate this heinous act and every criminal destructive act which are not from the teachings of our great religion."

Sheikh Mahmood al-Masry – prominent Egyptian cleric

"What is happening around the American Embassy of clashes with police and burning of police cars is an act not sanctioned by the law of God, and has nothing to do with the defending our prophet peace be upon him."

Sheikh Mahmood Jabir – prominent Egyptian cleric

Prominent Saudi cleric, Salman al-Ouda, appeared on Al-Jazeera and MBC TV calling for "normal civil responses" through peaceful protests, rallies, conferences, seminars, or discussions. He warned against "methods that relay on killing and targeting others" giving examples of how the prophet protected envoys.

Speaking to Yemen's *Akhbar Al-Youm*, Sheikh *Akeel al-Maktiry*, member of the Scholars Association of Yemen, considered the storming of the American Embassy in Sana'a an act of vandalism that does not relate to peace protests, saying "organizing peaceful rallies to the gate of the American Embassy is a legitimate act, but to break into th e embassy is an act that contradicts the protests over the insult of the prophet peace be upon him... I'm afraid there are infiltrators [in the protests], especially those chanting "death to America.. death to Israel," adding that the revolutionary youth would never do such a despicable thing.

Nothing from Algiers, Cairo, Jerusalem or the Gulf

SCB 000173

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:33 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: from greg on the investigation

(SBU) RSO, ARSO, and DATT spoke with GOL lead investigator for the attack on the consulate while he was doing his first inspection of the facilities. They established a good rapport as they walked him through the unburned building. Unfortunately, the conversation indicated that the safe has been taken from the premises. We asked him to secure all papers and personal effects that he finds and return them to us.

From: Hicks, Gregory N
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 04:48 PM
To: Jones, Beth E; [redacted]
Cc: Operations Center; [redacted]
Subject: (SBU) Priority and High Ranking TDYs, And Other Important Issues

[redacted]

(SBU) I spoke with LEGATT [redacted] this evening. He said that FBI would like to send as soon as possible a 5-person team to Tripoli, including [redacted] 2 investigators from New York, and two support agents. [redacted] indicated that he had convinced FBI HQ that Benghazi was not in the cards in the short term. They want to bring weapons and are asking for additional security support while here, because their teams always become "targets" during these investigations. They agreed that a DS agent could accompany th em on all investigations. We would prefer that DS send an appropriate agent to Post for this purpose. Even with only five person on the team, this will be a high maintenance visit that will diminish our ability to support other tdy activity. Otherwise, we may have to ground the FBI team temporarily to support other tdy visitors that Washington deems to be priority. Please advise if we should begin working with [redacted] to identify dates and rooms for this visit.

SCB 000174

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 10:24 AM
To: 'Aiman Tarsin'
Subject: RE: Ambassador Chris Stevens

Aiman thanks for the very kind message it is deeply appreciated. I know that Ambassador Stevens valued so much his contacts with Libyans and Libyan-Americans. While this is such a sad time for many of us, I want to assure you that remain committed to carrying forward the work that he did to help build a relationship between the United States and Libya, and to help the new Libya succeed. Best, Ben

From: Aiman Tarsin [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 1:25 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Subject: Ambassador Chris Stevens

Mr. Rhodes,

My name is Aiman Tarsin, and I am the President of the Libyan Social Association in Washington DC. I had the pleasure of meeting you during a round table discussion with members of the Li byan community, that was hosted by the Whitehouse on February 16, 2012.

On behalf of the Libyan Social Association, and the countless Libyans who are mourning the passing of Ambassador Stevens, allow me to express our deepest condolences to President Obam a, members of your administration, and indeed, the American people.

I had the pleasure of meeting Ambassador Stevens during a brief visit to Benghazi on May of 2011. At the time, I was visiting as a delegation member on behalf of the Tripoli Local Coun cil, and together, we were part of a larger delegation of local councils representing most of the cities in the southern and western regions that remained under Col. Gaddafi's brutal occupation. Our purpose was to recognize and support the National Transitional Council as the legitimate representative of the Libyan people. We met with the ambassador at the Tbisti hotel in Benghazi, who expressed the United States' commitment to realizing our national aspirations: namely to establish a democratic Libya tha t respected the individual rights of its citizens, and promoted a pluralistic society. It was abundantly obvious to me during the meeting that the US envoy was personally committed to this enterprise, and that he served his country with a tremendous sense of compassion and care.

Indeed, Libya has lost a tremendous friend in Ambassador Stevens. Yet the work that he set out to accomplish remains as critical now as it was during the days of our civil war. As we mourn his passing, it is my hope that President Obama will reflect upon the incredible grace and luminous character that was abundantly evident in Ambassador Stevens, and that was especially contagious to those who knew and met him.

As the United States and Libya seek justice in this atrocious cri me, let us renew our commitment build a democratic Libya that upholds the universal principles of freedom, justice, and equality.

My very best wishes and prayers to you, and the family of Ambassador Stevens.

Warm Regards,

SCB 000175

Aiman Mahmoud Tarsin
P - [redacted]

SCB 000176

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 10:24 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Ambassador Chris Stevens

Getting a bunch of notes like this

From: Aiman Tarsin [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 1:25 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Subject: Ambassador Chris Stevens

Mr. Rhodes,

My name is Aiman Tarsin, and I am the President of the Libyan Social Association in Washington DC. I had the pleasure of meeting you during a round table discussion with members of the Libyan community, that was hosted by the Whitehouse on February 16, 20 12.

On behalf of the Libyan Social Association, and the countless Libyans who are mourning the passing of Ambassador Stevens, allow me to express our deepest condolences to President Obama, members of your administration, and indeed, the American people.

I had the pleasure of meeting Ambassador Stevens during a brief visit to Benghazi on May of 2011. At the time, I was visiting as a delegation member on behalf of the Tripoli Local Council, and together, we were part of a larger delegation of local coun cils representing most of the cities in the southern and western regions that remained under Col. Gaddafi's brutal occupation. Our purpose was to recognize and support the National Transitional Council as the legitimate representative of the Libyan people . We met with the ambassador at the Tbisti hotel in Benghazi, who expressed the United States' commitment to realizing our national aspirations: namely to establish a democratic Libya that respected the individual rights of its citizens, and promoted a pluralistic society. It was abundantly obvious to me during the meeting that the US envoy was personally committed to this enterprise, and that he served his country with a tremendous sense of compassion and care.

Indeed, Libya has lost a tremendous friend in Ambassador Stevens. Yet the work that he set out to accomplish remains as critical now as it was during the days of our civil war. As we mourn his passing, it is my hope that President Obama will reflect upon the incredible grace and luminous charact er that was abundantly evident in Ambassador Stevens, and that was especially contagious to those who knew and met him.

As the United States and Libya seek justice in this atrocious crime, let us renew our commitment build a democratic Libya that uphold s the universal principles of freedom, justice, and equality.

My very best wishes and prayers to you, and the family of Ambassador Stevens.

Warm Regards,

Aiman Mahmoud Tarsin
P - [redacted]

SCB 000177

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 10:52 AM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Subject: Re: Ambassador Chris Stevens

Me too. I think every tv station and newspaper in the region has written me, plus a ton of Pals and Libyans.

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 10:24 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Ambassador Chris Stevens

Getting a bunch of notes like this

From: Aiman Tarsin [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 1:25 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.
Subject: Ambassador Chris Stevens

Mr. Rhodes,

My name is Aiman Tarsin, and I am the President of the Libyan Social Association in Washington DC. I had the pleasure of meeting you during a round table discussion with members of the Libyan community, that was hosted by the Whitehouse on February 16, 2012.

On behalf of the Libyan Social Association, and the countless Libyans who are mourning the passing of Ambassador Stevens, allow me to express our deepest condolences to President Obama, members of your administration, and indeed, the American people.

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As the United States and Libya seek justice in this atrocious crime, let us renew our commitment build a democratic Libya that upholds the universal principl es of freedom, justice, and equality.

SCB 000178

My very best wishes and prayers to you, and the family of Ambassador Stevens.

Warm Regards,

Aiman Mahmoud Tarsin
P - [redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 5:18 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Fw: S- Libyan PM-elect Abu-Shagur Call Readout

Please don't frwd.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 04:15 PM
To: NEA-MAG-DL
Cc: NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL
Subject: Fw: S- Libyan PM-elect Abu-Shagur Call Readout

From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 03:05 PM
To: Jones, Beth E; Dibble, Elizabeth L; [redacted]; NEA -Staff-Assistants-DL
Cc: S SpecialAssistants
Subject: S- Libyan PM-elect Abu-Shagur Call Readout

9 minute call: The Secretary thanked the Libyan PM -elect for his governments strong condemnation of the killing of our diplomats and attacks on our mission in Benghazi. She said that the support we received after these horrible incidents was very important to us and represents the strength of our relations hip. He offered his condolences to the Secretary and said that Libya lost a dear friend in Ambassador Chris Stevens and that the entire country was mourning his loss. He said the people who did this were criminal and do not reflect their values and that they planned on doing everything in their power to bring them to justice. The PM-elect informed the secretary that they had already arrested 4 people and were pursuing others; he let the Secretary know that he was personally involved and getting regular u pdates on the investigation. PM-elect Abu Shagur also thanked the Secretary for the U.S. government's continued support. The Secretary said that this support would continue and that we were especially interested in helping the Libyan government consolidate control over the militias and establish a real security apparatus for the benefit of the Libyan people and the stability of the country. Abu Shagur informed the Secretary that because he was in the process of forming a government that he would not be a ble to attend UNGA but that he looked forward to seeing her soon, either in Libya or in the US.

[redacted]
Special Assistant
Office of the Secretary of State
[redacted]

From: OpsAlert <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 5:31 PM
Subject: SITUATION REPORT No. 8 09/16/III (SBU)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

SITUATION REPORT No. 8

Middle East Protests Monitoring Group MGMEP01

Sunday, September 16, 2012
1730 EDT

LIBYA

• (U) President Magarief said approximately 50 people were arrested in connection with last week's assault on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi. ***(Reuters)***

• (U) In Tripoli, the airport resumed operations after air traffic controllers agreed September 16 to end a strike that had halted most flights in and out of Libya. ***(Reuters)***

PAKISTAN

• (SBU) Demonstrations in Lahore and Islamabad concluded peacefully. Embassy Islamabad and Consulate Lahore will be closed September 17. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Islamabad e-mail)***

• (SBU) In Karachi, approximately 5000 protesters marched toward the consulate. Pakistani police fired tear gas and used water cannons September 16. As of 2000 local time, all protesters had dispersed. One demonstrator was killed and six wounded. All American personnel are in the consulate compound and safe. There was no breach of the compound and only minor damage. Protests are planned for September 17 and Consulate General Karachi will be closed to the public. ***(MGMEP01/Consulate General Karachi telcon and e-mail)***

• (SBU) In Peshawar, media report protests on September 17 and 18 are scheduled near the consulate compound. Consulate Peshawar remains closed. ***(MGMEP01/DS Command e-mail/Embassy Islamabad e-mail)***

TUNISIA

• (SBU) Evacuees arrived in Frankfurt at 1531 local time September 16 and were transported to an airport hotel for the evening. One hundred of the 129 family members evacuated from Tunis will be flying to the United States in the coming days. ***(MGMEP01/Consulate General Frankfurt e-mail)***

• (U) Tunisian authorities arrested 75 people in connection with protests and the attack on U.S. Embassy Tunis. ***(Bloomberg)***

SUDAN

• (SBU) In Khartoum, the situation is calm; organizers called off the planned September 16 protest. Additional protests are anticipated September 21. The embassy will be closed September 17. ***(MGMEP01/DS Command e-mail)***

• (U) Germany ordered some staff members to leave its embassy in Khartoum and bolstered security after protesters stormed the facility September 14. ***(Reuters)***

EGYPT

(SBU) Embassy Cairo will be open September 17, however visa services will be suspended. Consulate Alexandria will be closed September 17. ***(MGMEP01/ExecSec e-mail)***

GUINEA

(SBU) A planned demonstration is scheduled at Embassy Conakry September 17. The embassy will be closed September 17, and all personnel will remain in their residences. Post anticipates reopening for normal business September 18. ***(MGMEP01/DS Command e-mail, Embassy Conakry e-mail)***

TURKEY

- (SBU) The Turkish National Police (TNP) augmented security at Embassy Ankara with a total of over 200 officers. Two demonstrations occurred across the street from the compound and concluded without incident. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Ankara e-mail)***
- (SBU) The TNP provided approximately 60 police officers to reinforce security at Consulate General Istanbul, but there were no protests September 16. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Ankara e-mail)***
- (SBU) In Adana, one individual was arrested by police stationed at the consulate after the individual threw paint on its perimeter wall. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Ankara e-mail)***

LEBANON

(U) The leader of Hizballah called for protests against the inflammatory video starting September 17, but said Muslims must not attack embassies. ***(AP)***

INDIA

- (SBU) India's Urdu press published the Grand Mufti's call not to attack U.S. diplomats. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy New Delhi e-mail)***
- (SBU) Consulate General Chennai will be closed to the public September 17. ***(MGMEP01/Consulate General Chennai e-mail)***

GERMANY

(U) Germany barred controversial U.S. pastor Jones from entering the country and said a visit would be contrary to the "interest in maintaining public order," media report. A far-right group planned to invite Jones to Germany and stage a Berlin screening of the inflammatory video. ***(The Australian)***

INDONESIA

(SBU) In Medan, police approved a student protest for September 17. They are taking steps to keep the number of protesters low and prevent the demonstration from escalating. ***(MGMEP01/APP Medan e-mail)***

NIGER

(U) The Islamic Council of Niger condemned the inflammatory video and asked Muslims not to attack Christian churches in protest, media report. Separately, Niger President Mahamadou called the attack on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi "cowardly" and sa id "terrorism must be combated with the utmost vigor." ***(AP)***

AIRPORTS OPERATIONAL

(SBU) International airports in Tripoli, Tunis, Khartoum, Cairo, and Sana'a are open and operational. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Tripoli telcon, Bureau of Consular Affairs e -mail, Reuters)***

OUTREACH TO U.S. CITIZENS

(SBU) Since September 11, 71 U.S. embassies and consulates issued 105 Security and Emergency Messages related to the Middle East protests. ***(MGMEP01/Bureau of Consular Affairs e-mail)***

Please see our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted] Approved: [redacted]

Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 10:24 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Fw: LSClibyans Mass Demonstration planned in benghazi

---

From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 10:14 PM
To: [redacted] Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Fw: LSClibyans Mass Demonstration planned in benghazi

[redacted], Ben: Please read e-mail below from the people of Benghazi today Sunday September 1 6th and the call for a massive demonstrations to denounce last week's criminal act and demand all unlawful armed men surrender their weapons .

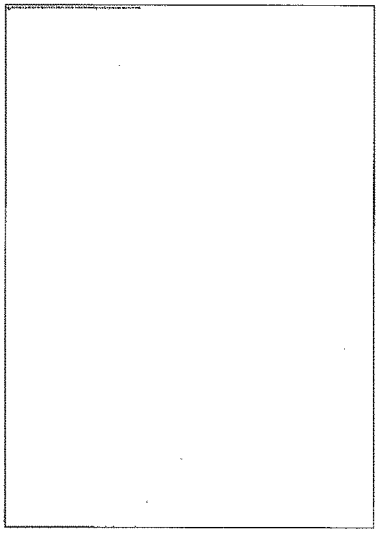
Regards,
[redacted]

----- Forwarded Message -----
From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
To: "lsclibyans [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 4:31 PM
Subject: LSClibyans Mass Demonstration planned in benghazi

[redacted]All,
Benghazi has been pretty quite in the last few days and life is as close to normal as it can be. Recon planes are still circling the city making sleeping a bit tough for some. There was a large meeting today attended by many of the local Civil Society organizations and they agreed to organize a large demonstration to denounce last week's attack and the security situation in general. they agreed on 7 demands as listed below. They also agreed that all brigades adhere to the demand of eliminating all signs of unlawful armed presence. The plan is for the people of Benghazi to give these brigades ONE Week to comply and if they don't, the people will forcefully enter their bases and occupy them.

We all plan to be there, young and old, including families and chil dren.
Please remember to include us in your prayers.

regards,
[redacted]



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From: [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 10:48 PM
To: [redacted]; Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: LSClibyans Mass Demonstration planned in benghazi

Thanks for the heads up on this, [redacted]

From: [redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 10:14 PM
To: [redacted]; Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Fw: LSClibyans Mass Demonstration planned in benghazi

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Regards,
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Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 4:31 PM
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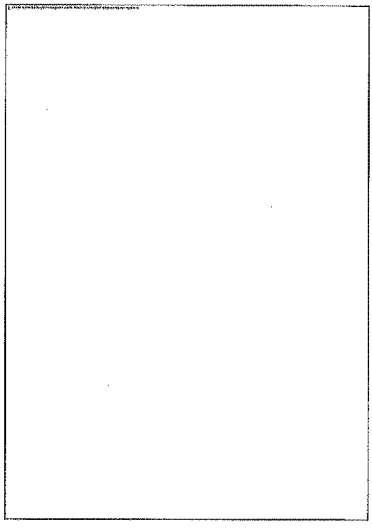
[redacted]



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SCB 000179

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 9:10 AM
To: 'malinot[redacted]
Subject: Re: FBI and Benghazi

Thanks, Tom. The story was exaggerated and we're linked up from tripoli to the extent possible. Do you have folks in benghazi now?

-Ben

From: Tom Malinowski [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 02:01 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FBI and Benghazi

Hi Ben,

Is this story true (from today's Washington Post) that FBI is having trouble getting into Benghazi and connecting with the authorities there? Seems strange, but if there are issues perhaps we can help.

Tom

SCB 000180

From: Tom Malinowski <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 10:20 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: FBI and Benghazi

We don't. But [redacted] who'll be here this week, is in touch daily with the key officials there, including the head of the justice system, as well as some of the more informal sources of authority. I still think it would be useful for you guys to debrief her and compare notes . . .

One concern we have, based on past experience, is that the Benghazi authorities may not be able to hold detainees securely. There are well intentioned people there (typical of Libya), but when they're tried to go after militants in the past, there have been assassinations (for example the head of the SSC in Derna), and militants have thought nothing of attacking detention facilities and springing their people. When we read that 50 people have been arrested, our reaction is that they are either arresting the wrong people, or they are arresting the right people, in which case watch out.

This is delicate because you can't have Tripoli people coming into Benghazi and taking over everything local authorities, formal and informal, need to feel like they are involved. But to the extent possible, suspects, once detained, should be gotten out of Benghazi perhaps ideally to the secure facility now being used for hig h value detainees.

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To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FBI and Benghazi

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Tom

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

Despite - or perhaps because of - the killings in Benghazi, General Vuono is still planning his next trip to Tripoli o/a 7 October. We believe that it's important to demonstrate that elements of the US private sector have confidence in the new Libyn government.

If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 12:21 PM
To: Chollet, Derek H CIV OSD POLICY ([redacted]
Subject: FW: Recent Events

Maybe you could meet with Vuono (former army chief of staff) before he goes.
Brad has been in touch with these guys and think they met with Joe M at one point a while ago. If we really want to help the Libyans on security stuff, the private sector option may be the only realistic one at this point to get anything meaningful done in a short timeframe.

From: [redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

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If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 12:31 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FW: Holding Egypt and Libya Accountable

Hope you're holding up. FYSA below..

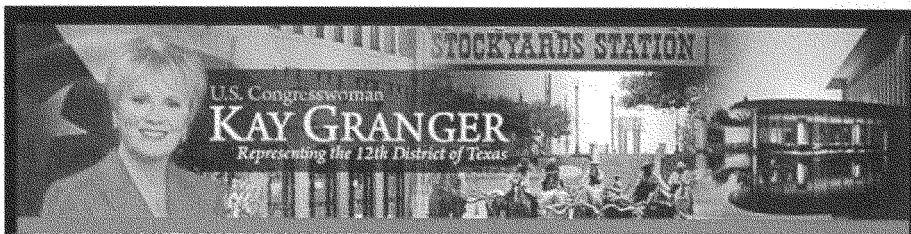
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 8:48 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Holding Egypt and Libya Accountable

FYI

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Congresswoman Kay Granger [[redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:29 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Holding Egypt and Libya Accountable



ABOUT KAY | 12TH DISTRICT | CONSTITUENT SERVICES | ISSUES | MEDIA CENTER | CONTACT KAY

Dear Friend,

This week the United States suffered a great loss. On September 11, 2012, four Americans, including U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens, were tragically killed during a violent protest in Benghazi, Libya. I strongly condemned the attacks that occurred on our diplomatic facilities in Libya and Egypt. My deepest sympathies go out to the families of those who lost their lives or were

Yes, please periodically send me e-mail updates.*

injured.

I am disappointed in the response of the Administration. These senseless attacks were not warranted and we must not stand by while our sovereignty is violated. The Government of Libya should bring to justice the individuals who are responsible for this vicious attack. All foreign governments must fulfill their responsibilities to keep our diplomats safe and secure.

As Chairwoman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations, it is my responsibility to oversee U.S. foreign assistance. This week, new questions were asked about our foreign aid as Congress passed a Continuing Resolution which contains funds for both Libya and Egypt. I want to be clear that even though there was funding in the bill, we can still stop aid from being delivered to these countries. This is exactly why I put $2.7 million of assistance to Libya on hold this week.

The same is true for Egypt. As I have said since the fall of former President Hosni Mubarak, we need to know exactly who we are working with before we provide assistance to a government that has not yet demonstrated they are a partner of the United States. That is why I put strict conditions on any funding for Egypt including requirements that they must fulfill their commitment to the peace treaty with Israel and that they must protect freedom of religion. It is also why I have put a hold on $18.3 million of their economic assistance.

Finally, the Administration committed to spend $1 billion to help relieve the Egyptian government of their debt obligations. The timing of this commitment could not come at a worse time. I want to assure you that if the Administration decides to move forward, I have the ability to stop it when I am notified.

I am watching the situation throughout the Middle East very closely. I want you to know that I take my oversight responsibilities very seriously. If you ever have any questions about U.S. foreign assistance please contact my office and we will help answer your questions.

Sincerely,

Kay

Kay Granger
Member of Congress

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Fax: (202) 225-5683

Fort Worth Office
1701 River Run Rd. Suite 407
Fort Worth, TX 76107
Phone: (817) 338-0909
Fax: (817) 335-5852

SCB 000181

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 2:59 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: FBI and Benghazi

He raises a worthwhile point on detention capacity in Benghazi. I don't know the answer but might be worth having Post inquire about the ability to hold detainees in Benghazi. ICRC might have the answer. Treatment once detained is a different story.

From: Tom Malinowski [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 10:20 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: FBI and Benghazi

We don't. But [redacted] who'll be here this week, is in touch daily with the key officials there, includi ng the head of the justice system, as well as some of the more informal sources of authority. I still think it would be useful for you guys to debrief her and compare notes . . .

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Subject: Re: FBI and Benghazi

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-Ben

From: Tom Malinowski [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 02:01 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FBI and Benghazi

SCB 000182

Hi Ben,

Is this story true (from today's Washington Post) that FBI is having trouble getting into Be nghazi and connecting with the authorities there? Seems strange, but if there are issues perhaps we can help.

Tom

SCB 000183

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 4:19 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: with gratitude

[redacted]

Just wanted to send an overdue note expressing deep appreciation and admiration for your outstanding work over the last week under the worst of circumstances. I know you had just left Benghazi when this all unfolded so can only imagine how it feels. I was six weeks out from the villa and it still feels very close, particularly the way we welcomed so many Libyans there and how much they want us to be present in Benghazi.

On a brighter note, I don't know if you've seen the Michael Lewis article in Vanity Fair about President Obama, but you should read it here. http://www.vanityfair.com/politics/2012/10/michael-lewis-profile-barack-obama. I've copied below the story of Bubaker and his interview.

As I've told Greg, if there's anything we can help with from back here, please don't hesitate to ask.

All the best,

-Ben

The soldiers from the Libyan rebel militia who found Tyler Stark weren't entirely sure what to make of him, as he didn't speak Arabic and they didn't speak anything else. At any rate, he didn't seem inclined to talk. The Libyans were now of course aware that someone was dropping bombs on Qaddafi's troops, but they were a little unclear about who exactly was doing it. After taking a good long look at this pilot who had fallen from the sky they decided he must be French. And so when Bubaker Habib, who owned an English-language school in Tripoli, and was then hunkered down with fellow dissidents in a hotel in Benghazi, received the phone call from a friend of his in the rebel army, the friend asked him if he spoke French. "He tells me there is a French pilot," says Bubaker. "He's crashed. Because I spent 2003 in France, I still have some French words. So I said yes."

The friend asked if Bubaker would mind driving the 30 kilometers or so out of Benghazi to talk to the "French pilot," so they could figure out the best way to help him. Even though it was the middle of the night, and you could hear bombs exploding and guns firing, Bubaker jumped in his car. "I found Stark sitting there, holding his knee," says Bubaker. "He was, to be honest with you, frantic. He doesn't know what is going on. He was surrounded by the militia. He doesn't know if they are friends or enemies."

"*Bonjour,*" said Bubaker, or maybe not he has forgotten the first thing out of his mouth. But in response Tyler Stark said something and Bubaker instantly recognized the accent. "Are you *American?*" asked Bubaker. Stark said he was. Bubaker leaned over and told him that he actually had friends in the U.S. Embassy who had fled in the early days of the war, and that if Stark would come with him back to Benghazi he could put them in touch. "He looked at me, astonished," remembers Bubaker.

On the drive to Benghazi, Bubaker sensed that Stark was both shocked and wary. At any rate, as much as Bubaker might have wanted to know more about why America was dropping bombs on Libya, Stark would not tell him. And so Bubaker put on some 80s music and changed the subject to something other than war. The first

song that came on was Diana Ross and Lionel Richie singing "Endless Love." "You know what," sai d Bubaker. "This song reminds me of my second marriage." They talked the rest of the way, says Bubaker, "and we didn't mention anything of any military action." He drove the "American pilot" back to the hotel and instructed the militia to surround the plac e. Even in Libya they understood the fickle nature of American public opinion. "I told them, 'We have an American pilot here. If he gets caught or killed it's the end of the mission. Make sure he is safe and sound.'" Bubaker then called his friend, the for mer staffer in the U.S. Embassy in Tripoli, now removed to Washington, D.C.

It took a few hours for someone to come and fetch Stark. As he waited with Bubaker inside the hotel, word spread of this French pilot who had saved their lives. When they'd arrived at the hotel a man had handed Tyler Stark a rose, which the American found both strange and touching. Now women from across the city came with flowers to the front of the hotel. When Stark entered a room full of people they stood up and gave him a round of applause. "I'm not sure what I was expecting in Libya," he says, "but I was not expecting a round of applause."

Bubaker found doctors to treat Stark's leg and one of the doctors had Skype on his iPod. Stark tried to call his base, but he couldn't remembe r the country code for Britain, so he called the most useful phone number he could remember, his parents'.

At some point Bubaker turned to him and asked, "Do you know why you are in Libya?"

"I just have my orders," said Stark.

"He didn't know why he'd been sent," says Bubaker. "So I showed him some video. Of kids being killed."

From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:01 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Great idea

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 12:21 PM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY
Subject: FW: Recent Events

Maybe you could meet with Vuono (former army chief of staff) before he goes.

[redacted] has been in touch with these guys and think they met with [redacted] at one point a while ago. If we really want to help the Libyans on security stuff, the private sector option may be the only realistic one at this point to get anything meaningful done in a short timeframe.

From: [redacted] [[redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

Despite - or perhaps because of - the killings in Benghazi, General Vuono is still planning his next trip to Tripoli o/a 7 October. We believe that it's important to demonstrate that elements of the US private sector have confidence in the new Libyn government.

If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:06 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Thanks, [redacted] It's certainly a challenging time but also an important opportunity.
Suggest you and Gen Vuono try to get in to see new ASD Derek Chollet, my former boss here on the Libya account, prior to the trip. I'm happy to catch up as well but Derek indicated he would also be interesting in see you to discuss potential next steps. He knows the Libya issues quite well from his time at the White House.

-Ben

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Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

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If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:07 PM
To: 'Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY'
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Cool. I told them to request something with you.

Did you talk to Bill about a trip this week?

-----Original Message-----
From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY [[redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:01 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Great idea

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
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To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY
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Subject: Recent Events

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If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

SCB 000185

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:08 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: paper on Libyan popular response

Great.
I heard from one guy today that people have been hesitant to show up to demonstrate (on the right side) in Benghazi for fear of retribution. That may be why we haven't seen large numbers in public, but the sentiments are certainly there.

-Ben

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 4:52 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: paper on Libyan popular response

[redacted] is working on it he says there is lots to report from social media.

SCB 000186

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:27 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Media Campaign Libya

Ben- Further to our conversation, Libya Awalan will begin our first day of a new media campaign to promote moderation and generate increased public awareness amongst the general population. We will feature elders and regional leaders in a discussion tonigh t, followed by street interviews in Benghazi tomorrow evening, and street interviews in Tripoli on Wednesday.

Best,
[redacted]

SCB 000187

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:29 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Campaign Libya

Thanks [redacted]
Who's the best person at Awalan for our public affairs office in Tripoli to connect with? Perhaps they can start working together on messaging issues.

-Ben

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:27 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Media Campaign Libya

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Best,
[redacted]

SCB 000188

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 6:22 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Media Campaign Libya

Sure thing Ben, we would be happy to assist in any way. Below is the contact information for two of our station managers. I have informed them both of possible contact, and gave them instructions to assist with any requests. I would suggest first contact b e made through [redacted] in our Cairo control room. [redacted] is fluent in English and is responsible for the day to day programming for the channel. [redacted] uns our Tripoli office and would coordinate with your colleagues and [redacted] for any message c ampaign.

In Unity and Friendship,
[redacted]

[redacted] + [redacted]
[redacted] + [redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. <[redacted]>;
To: [redacted] <[redacted]>;
Subject: RE: Media Campaign Libya
Sent: Mon, Sep 17, 2012 9:29:15 PM

Thanks [redacted]

Who's the best person at Awalan for our public affairs office in Tripoli to connect with? Perhaps they can start working together on messaging issues.

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Best,
[redacted]

SCB 000189

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 6:53 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Campaign Libya

Great, I'll pass along the info. Thanks,
-Ben

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 6:22 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Media Campaign Libya

Sure thing Ben, we would be happy to assist in any way. Below is the contact information for two of our station managers. I have informed them both of possible contact, and gave them instructions to assist with any requests. I would suggest first contact b e made through [redacted] in our Cairo control room. [redacted] is fluent in English and is responsible for the day to day programming for the channel. [redacted] uns our Tripoli office and would coordinate with your colleagues and [redacted] for any message c ampaign.

In Unity and Friendship,
[redacted]

[redacted] +[redacted]
[redacted] +[redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. <[redacted]>;
To: [redacted] <[redacted]>;
Subject: RE: Media Campaign Libya
Sent: Mon, Sep 17, 2012 9:29:15 PM

Thanks [redacted]

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moderation and generate increased public awareness amongst the general population. We will feature elders and regional leaders in a discussion tonigh t, followed by street interviews in Benghazi tomorrow evening, and street interviews in Tripoli on Wednesday.

Best,
[redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 6:54 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Recent Events

Ben,

Thanks for the recommendation. Do you have his e-mail address?

And I'd still be glad to buy you a cup of coffee to give you our take - and to review our plans.

warm regards,

[redacted]

On Mon, Sep 17, 2012 at 5:06 PM, Fishman, Benjamin I. <[redacted]> wrote:

Thanks, [redacted]. It's certainly a challenging time but also an important opportunity.

Suggest you and Gen Vuono try to get in to see new ASD Derek Chollet, my former boss here on the Libya account, prior to the trip. I'm happy to catch up as well but Derek indicated he would also be interesting in see you to discuss potential next steps. He knows the Libya issues quite well from his time at the White House.

-Ben

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Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

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If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

SCB 000191

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 7:11 PM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Campaign Libya

Hi [redacted]

An overdue note of gratitude and appreciation for your incredible work under the worst of circumstances. Among other challenges, it will be really hard to separate the tragedy of last week from our (and Chris') broader goals in Libya, and to demonstrate our continued goodwill in the country despite what happened. Thank you for driving forward with that mission.

Below are the contacts for the Awalan TV network if you have not engaged with them previously. They have a partnership with CNN and may have evolved from Libya al -Hurra since both are owned by Libyan businessman [redacted] You'll see below that they are working on a media campaign to promote moderation among the population. Might be worth connecting with them to see what opportunities might exist for partnerships going forward. You'll know better than me what their viewership is in Libya.

All the best,
-Ben

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 6:22 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Media Campaign Libya

Sure thing Ben, we would be happy to assist in any way. Below is the contact information for two of our station managers. I have informed them both of possible contact, and gave them instructio ns to assist with any requests. I would suggest first contact be made through [redacted] in our Cairo control room. [redacted] s fluent in English and is responsible for the day to day programming for the channel. [redacted] uns our Tripoli office and would coordinate with your colleagues and [redacted] for any message campaign.

In Unity and Friendship,
[redacted]

[redacted] + [redacted]
[redacted] + [redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. <[redacted]>;
To: [redacted] <[redacted]>;
Subject: RE: Media Campaign Libya
Sent: Mon, Sep 17, 2012 9:29:15 PM

Thanks [redacted]

Who's the best person at Awalan for our public affairs office in Tripoli to connect with? Perhaps they can start working together on messaging issues.

SCB 000192

-Ben

From: [redacted] [mailto: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:27 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Media Campaign Libya

Ben- Further to our conversation, Libya Awalan will begin our first day of a new media campaign to promote moderation and generate increased public awareness amongst the general population. We will feature elders and regional leaders in a discussion tonigh t, followed by street interviews in Benghazi tomorrow evening, and street interviews in Tripoli on Wednesday.

Best,
[redacted]

SCB 000193

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 7:14 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Campaign Libya

Hi [redacted]

An overdue note of gratitude and appreciation for your incredible work under the worst of circumstances. Among other challenges, it will be really hard to separate the tragedy of last week from our (and Chris') broader goals in Libya, and to demonstrate our continued goodwill in the country despite what happened. Thank you for driving forward with that mission.

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All the best,
-Ben

From: [redacted] [mailto: [redacted]]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 6:22 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Media Campaign Libya

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In Unity and Friendship,
[redacted]

[redacted] + [redacted]
[redacted] + [redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. <[redacted]>;
To: [redacted] <[redacted]>;
Subject: RE: Media Campaign Libya
Sent: Mon, Sep 17, 2012 9:29:15 PM

Thanks [redacted]

Who's the best person at Awalan for our public affairs office in Tripoli to connect with? Perhaps they can start working

SCB 000194

together on messaging issues.

-Ben

From: [redacted] [mailto: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:27 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Media Campaign Libya

Ben- Further to our conversation, Libya Awalan will begin our first day of a new media campaign to promote moderation and generate increased public awareness a mongst the general population. We will feature elders and regional leaders in a discussion tonight, followed by street interviews in Benghazi tomorrow evening, and street interviews in Tripoli on Wednesday.

Best,
[redacted]

SCB 000195

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 7:36 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: with gratitude

Thank you so much for this note Ben. There's a lot of "what ifs" we're all going through right now, and the encouragement is much appreciated.

It's incredibly sad -- focusing on Chris' life and the incredible things he did. I can't stop that.

But there's some other incredible stories:

I'm particularly grateful for the work of three very special A/RSOs: [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] (critical condition). They were in the fight, risked their lives repeated times just to try to get Chris out of the fire, and all feel absolutely terrible and horrified that they were unable to do so.

When we talk, I'd like to tell you their special stories. Just a preview: [redacted] saved two pilots while a Navy jumper on aircraft carriers. You can google him for the press wire stories of the account. He was also in hot conflict delivering supplies to tsunami survivors. [redacted] saved two little baby Iraqis in Sadr city during a firefight. You can google him because an Apache caught the wikileaked video footage of his courageous assault on AQ held positions to do it.

I was with them in Benghazi for the two or so weeks I was acting PO. Didn't know them before I got there, but left that morning thinking I'd keep in touch with both of them because I was so impressed with the things they were doing there as first tour A/RSOs.

[redacted] is an A/RSO here. He was the most senior security guy on compound and expertly managed the response that ultimately saved lives.

If the white house is looking for anything good out of this, these guys deserve attention.

As investigations start gearing up, I was on the phone with these three men all night during the fight, met them in Tripoli when they evacuated, and actually sat with [redacted] at th e hospital, just to keep them company. Would be happy to talk to you about what gems they are.

Also, as the last "Principal Officer" there, I'm in a position to give some observations that will hopefully make posts like Benghazi a little safer.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 10:19 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: with gratitude

[redacted],

Just wanted to send an overdue note expressing deep appreciation and admiration for your outsta nding work over the last week under the worst of circumstances. I know you had just left Benghazi when this all unfolded so can only imagine how it feels. I was six weeks out from the villa and it still feels very close, particularly the way we welcomed so many Libyans there and how much they want us to be present in Benghazi.

On a brighter note, I don't know if you've seen the Michael Lewis article in Vanity Fair about President Obama, but you should read it here. http://www.vanityfair.com/politics/2012/10/michael -lewis-profile-barack-obama. I've copied below the story of Bubaker and his interview.

As I've told Greg, if there's anything we can help with from back here, please don't hesitate to ask.

All the best,

-Ben

The soldiers from the Libyan rebel militia who found Tyler Stark weren't entirely sure what to make of him, as he didn't speak Arabic and they didn't speak anything else. At any rate, he didn't seem inclined to talk. The Libyans were now of course aware that someone was dropping bombs on Qad dafi's troops, but they were a little unclear about who exactly was doing it. After taking a good long look at this pilot who had fallen from the sky they decided he must be French. And so when Bubaker Habib, who owned an English-language school in Tripoli, and was then hunkered down with fellow dissidents in a hotel in Ben ghazi, received the phone call from a friend of his in the rebel army, the friend asked him if he spoke French. "He tells me there is a French pilot ," says Bubaker. "He's crashed. Because I spent 2003 in France, I still have some French words. So I said yes."

The friend asked if Bubaker would mind driving the 30 kilometers or so out of Ben ghazi to talk to the "French pilot," so they could figure out the best way to help him. Even though it was the middle of the night, and you could hear bombs exploding and guns firing, Bubaker jumped in his car. "I found Stark sitting there, holding his knee," says Bubaker. "He was, to be honest with you, frantic. He doesn't know what is going on. He was surrounded by the militia. He doesn't know if they are friends or enemies."

"*Bonjour,*" said Bubaker, or maybe not he has forgotten the first thing out of his mouth. But in response Tyler Stark said something and Bubaker instantly recognized the accent. "Are you *American?*" asked Bubaker. Stark said he was. Bubaker leaned over and told him that he actually had friends in the U.S. Embassy who had fled in the early days of the war, and that if Stark would come with him bac k to Benghazi he could put them in touch. "He looked at me, astonished," remembers Bubaker.

On the drive to Benghazi, Bubaker sensed that Stark was both shocked and wary. At any rate, as much as Bubaker might have wanted to know more about why America wa s dropping bombs on Libya, Stark would not tell him. And so Bubaker put on some 80s music and changed the subject to something other than war. The first song that came on was Diana Ross and Lionel Richie singing "Endless Love." "You know what," said Bubake r. "This song reminds me of my second marriage." They talked the rest of the way, says Bubaker, "and we didn't mention anything of any military action." He drove the "American pilot" back to the hotel and instructed the militia to surround the place. Even in Libya they understood the fickle nature of American public opinion. "I told them, 'We have an American pilot here. If he gets caught or killed it's the end of the mission. Make sure he is safe and sound.'" Bubaker then called his friend, the former staf fer in the U.S. Embassy in Tripoli, now removed to Washington, D.C.

It took a few hours for someone to come and fetch Stark. As he waited with Bubaker inside the hotel, word spread of this French pilot who had saved their lives. When they'd arrived at the hotel a man had handed Tyler Stark a rose, which the American found both strange and touching. Now women from across the city came with flowers to the front of the hotel. When Stark entered a room full of people they stood up and gave him a round of applause. "I'm not sure what I was expecting in Libya," he says, "but I was not expecting a round of applause."

Bubaker found doctors to treat Stark's leg and one of the doctors had Skype on his iPod. Stark tried to call his base, but he couldn't remember the co untry code for Britain, so he called the most useful phone number he could remember, his parents'.

At some point Bubaker turned to him and asked, "Do you know why you are in Libya?"

"I just have my orders," said Stark.

"He didn't know why he'd been sent," says Bubaker. "So I showed him some video. Of kids being killed."

SCB 000198

From: [redacted] < [redacted] >
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 8:32 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: FW: (SBU) Mission Libya Situation Report 09/17/2012
Attachments: photo 2.jpg

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 8:25 PM
To: SES-O; SWO-Cables; NEA-MAG-DL; Hicks, Gregory N
Cc: [redacted]; Hicks, Gregory N; [redacted]
Subject: (SBU) Mission Libya Situation Report – 09/17/2012

Mission Libya Situation Report – September 17, 2012

(U) Situation Reports: We are reconstituting Mission Libya Situation Reports on an as -needed basis. Please instruct appropriate personnel not addressed in this message to send requests for inclusion in future SitReps to [redacted].

(U) Thank you: The staff of U.S. Mission Libya deeply appreciate the support and kindness of our colleagues in Washington and around the world following the events of September 11, 2012.

(U) Contacts:

- Greg Hicks is Mission Libya's Charge d'Affairs: [redacted]
- [redacted] is Acting Deputy Chief of Mission: [redacted]

(SBU) Security: Marines have established perimeter at residential villas.

(SBU) Communications: Opennet and SIPR available, but connection speed severely limits capacity to send or receive e -mails, transmit cables, save or print files, or perform basic Opennet tasks. Contacts at the Ministry of Communications advise us that work underway (performed by the quasi -governmental communications company Hatef) to complete installation of a fiberoptic line to the Embassy villas will be completed "in 10 days at maximum." We expect bandwidth to increase, and, at present are conducting system upgrades in preparation for the fiberoptic connection.

(SBU) Property Management: Post Management and RSO are seeking OBO assistance with f inalizing the leases of 3 plots of land directly adjacent to the Embassy Tripoli residential villas. The purpose of the leases is to establish a continuous perimeter wall, strengthening weak points along the current perimeter. Post Management is also seeking OBO assistance in expediting the completion of renovations to vacant villas at the residential compound to increase office space.

SCB 000199

(SBU) Relocation of Chancery Operations to the Residential Villas : Work is underway to temporarily convert residential space at our residential compound to office space for use by American and some LES staff. With very few exceptions (primarily emergency consular operations and some management functions like end of year procurement), we are conducting most chancery operations from our residential compound. Work at the Chancery requires pre-approval from RSO. We are calling on some LESes for their assistance from home.

(U) Status of American Personnel in Germany : Management Officer [redacted] has requested from NEA/EX ([redacted]/NEA-EX record e-mail) authorization for some Embassy staff to return from Germany to Embassy Tripoli soonest. Staff departures:

- Sept 15: [redacted] (OBO) departed to the United States
- Sept 16: [redacted] (POL/ECON), David Yadron (GSO) and Mike Lebson (A/PAO) departed to the United States. [redacted] (A/RSO) medivac'd to the United States. [redacted] (GSO WAE) returned to Paraguay.
- September 17: [redacted] (OMS), [redacted] (OBO), [redacted] (A/RSO), [redacted] (A/RSO) [redacted] (A/RSO) returned to the U.S., and [redacted] (A/RSO) medevac'd to GE) left the base in good physical heath to be with his wife in Germany.
- Remaining in Germany: [redacted] (POL), [redacted] (USAID), [redacted] (USAID), [redacted] (Econ/FCS) and [redacted] (HRO) remain in Germany.

(SBU) Status of Locally Engaged Staff at U.S. Special Mission Benghazi:

- [redacted] (translator/advisor) is currently residing at U.S. Embassy Tripoli villas.
- [redacted] (Administrative Assistant) has returned to her home in Benghazi and is in daily contact with U.S. Embassy Tripoli.
- [redacted] (Driver) has returned to his home in Benghazi and is in periodic contact with U.S. Embassy Tripoli.

(SBU) Upcoming Visits:

- **September 17**: Legatt [redacted] (Milair)
- **September 18**: FBI/DS Investigative Team (5+1) (visas obtained)
- **September 20-21**: D(B) + 2: Control [redacted] + [redacted]
- **September 20-21**: General Ham, AFRICOM: Control DATT [redacted] + [redacted]

(SBU) Inbound TDY Staff: Post is assessing issuance of country clearance for inbound, TDY staff on a case by case basis.

(U) FBI visit approved by GOL and on schedule : Charge secured the Prime Minister-elect and Foreign Minister's support for the planned FBI visit. PM-Elect Abu Shughur recommended that the team meet first with Libya's Prosecutor General and the Foreign Minister instructed his staff to facilitate all meetings requested by t he Embassy for the FBI team. [redacted], the LEGATT for Libya arrived in Tripoli on the evening of September 17. The other six members of the FBI/DS investigative team will arrive on the morning of September 18. A Deputy Minister of the Interior will lead the GOL delegation that will meet them at the airport. [redacted] are control officers.

SCB 000200

(U) GOL's UNGA delegation: CA officer printed 16 visas for the proposed 19 person GOL UNGA delegation. The remaining three GOL officials did not receive visas on grounds that the SAO vetting could not be completed due to insufficient information.

(U) GOL requests Post's approval to hold a national memorial service : The GOL contacted the Embassy about the possibility of hosting a public memorial service for Ambassador Stevens. In response, the Embassy suggested that it would be more appropriate for the GOL to host a memorial service for the Ambassador, and noted that the Embassy would like to participate if the GOL made such a decision. President Magariaf's daughter [redacted] will likely lead the planning for the ceremony and PM-elect Abu Shughur mentioned his support to Charge this morning. Security permitting, Post would likely participate by opening a condolence book during and after the ceremony.

(U) Note on Sean Smith Memorial: We received the following e-mail from [redacted] Counselor for Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy The Hague, +[redacted] Text follows:
Dear colleagues: I wonder if you could help me. Sean Smith, our colleague who died in Libya had been in the FS for 10 years. He served in Pretoria, Baghdad, Montreal and The Hague. We are holding a memorial service here in the Embassy The Hague on Friday, September 21 and Sean's wife and children will be present. I would like to solicit messages from his former colleagues that we could read out at the service. LES in the aforementioned posts may remember him and we'd appreciate their input. However, FS have probably moved on and are scattered around the world. Could you give us a hand in trying to reach these people by polling your mission to find out if anyone knew Sean and if so if they would like to give me something in writing about him that we could use in the memorial service? I know that it would mean a lot to Heather.

(U) Charge Thanks Hospital Staff: Charge, RAO RMO, RAO RPO, Nurse Practitioner, and AFRICOM medic returned to al-Afiyah Hospital today to thank medical staff for their tremendous efforts to save the lives and limbs of our colleagues wounded during the attack and their professionalism in preventing MOI investigators from bothering the wounded as well as their forebearance in discussing their activities with the press. Charge, RMO, and Nurse Practitioner all insisted that the privately-owned hospital present the Embassy with a bill for services. The head doctor indicated that they would send a bill to the Embassy, but only for the prices usually charged.

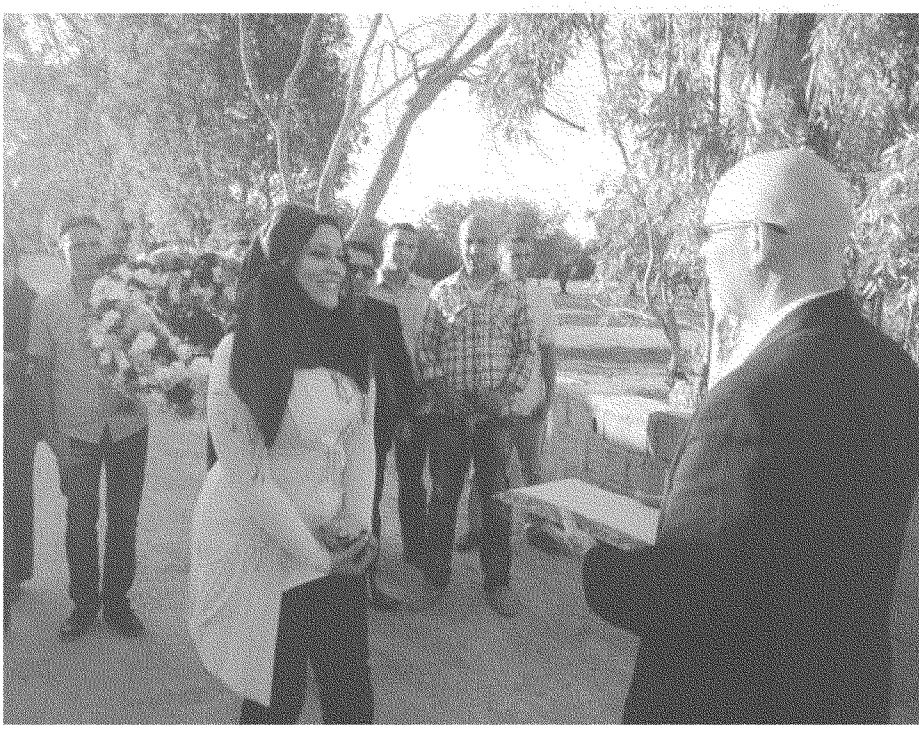
(U) Impromptu Delivery of Condolences and Flowers: Towards the end of the day, a small delegation of young Libyans approached the Villa compound bearing wreaths, bouquets, and condolence messages. Charge, PAO, and Consul met them outside the gate after the party was screened by police guarding the entrance to the approach road to the Villas Compound's main gate. After hearing the condolence messages and receiving a letter to the family and the flowers, Charge thanked the group and assured them of continued U.S. support for the Libyan people and their goal of achieving a country based on freedom and democracy.

(U) Medical/Health Staffing: A Regional Medical Officer and a Regional Psychiatrist are available for consultations: POC: Medical Unit: [redacted] RMO [redacted] successor from September 20 through October 10. We are checking on the status of [redacted] visa approval number, but would appreciate any assistance from DC pushing for issuance ASAP.

(U) Tripoli Air Controllers End Strike at TIP: We have confirmed that a strike by air traffic controls that halted flights until this morning has ended.

(U) GOL Sacks Security Benghazi Security Chief : We confirmed press reports that the GOL had sacked Deputy Interior Minister Wanis Sharif (Benghazi).

SCB 000201



From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 8:38 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Recent Events

[redacted]
Suggest you set it up via COL [redacted] in OSD who replaced [redacted] I believe you have his contacts but let me know if you need it.
I'll let him know to expect it.

-Ben

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 6:54 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Recent Events

Ben,

Thanks for the recommendation. Do you have his e-mail address?

And I'd still be glad to buy you a cup of coffee to give you our take - and to review our plans.

warm regards,

[redacted]

On Mon, Sep 17, 2012 at 5:06 PM, Fishman, Benjamin I. <[redacted]> wrote:

Thanks, [redacted] It's certainly a challenging time but also an import ant opportunity.

Suggest you and Gen Vuono try to get in to see new ASD Derek Chollet, my former boss here on the Libya account, prior to the trip. I'm happy to catch up as well but Derek indicated he would also be interesting in see you to discuss potent ial next steps. He knows the Libya issues quite well from his time at the White House.

-Ben

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

Despite - or perhaps because of - the killings in Benghazi, General Vuono is still planning his next trip to Tripoli o/a 7 October. We believe that it's important to demonstrate that elements of the US private sector have confidence in the new Libyn government.

If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 9:21 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Recent Events

Ben,

Good - thanks. I know Brad.

[redacted]

On Tue, Sep 18, 2012 at 8:38 AM, Fishman, Benjamin I. <[redacted]> wrote:

[redacted]

Suggest you set it up via COL [redacted] in OSD who replaced [redacted]. I believe you have his contacts but let me know if you need it.

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Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 6:54 PM
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[redacted]

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Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

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If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 9:58 AM
To: [redacted] COL (USA) OSD POLICY ([redacted]
Subject: FW: Recent Events

[redacted]
Chollet said he'd meet with Vuono prior to this trip. I've asked [redacted] to be in touch with you to arrange.

-Ben

From: [redacted] [[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

Despite - or perhaps because of - the killings in Benghazi, General Vuono is still planning his next trip to Tripoli o/a 7 October. We believe that it's important to demonstrate that elements of the US private sector have confidence in the new Libyn government.

If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]COL (USA) OSD POLICY < [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 10:18 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Rgr. We're good. I have been in close contact with [redacted] over recent months...

COL [redacted]
Regional Director, North Africa
Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy
[redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 9:58 AM
To: [redacted]COL (USA) OSD POLICY
Subject: FW: Recent Events

[redacted]

Chollet said he'd meet with Vuono prior to this trip. I've asked [redacted] to be in touch with you to arrange.

-Ben

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

Despite - or perhaps because of - the killings in Benghazi, General Vuono is still planning his next trip to Tripoli o/a 7 October. We believe that it's important to demonstrate that elements of the US private sector have confidence in the new Libyn government.

If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 10:22 AM
To: '[redacted] COL (USA) OSD POLICY'
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Great.
I'll also try to ramp up some outreach to Mangush per email exchange with [redacted]. Know you've been pushing, but I can try to have our folks here reach out directly to CJCS or the Vice, if you agree.
Also would be good to get our UK/FR colleagues to reach out and amplify the message that now's the time to get serious and start making key organizational decisions and lining up requests.

-Ben

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted] COL (USA) OSD POLICY [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 10:18 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Rgr. We're good. I have been in close contact with [redacted] over recent months...

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Regional Director, North Africa
Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy
[redacted]

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Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 9:58 AM
To: [redacted] COL (USA) OSD POLICY
Subject: FW: Recent Events

[redacted]

Chollet said he'd meet with Vuono prior to this trip. I've asked [redacted] to be in touch with you to arrange.

-Ben

From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

Despite - or perhaps because of - the killings in Benghazi, General Vuono is still planning his next trip to Tripoli o/a 7 October. We believe that it's important to demonstrate that elements of the US private sector have confidence in the new Libyn government.

If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 10:35 AM
To: 'Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY'
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Brad will set it up.

Separately, we really should gin up some high level outreach to the Libyan CHOD, General Mangush. The DATT agrees he will be key in getting them to start taking serious decisions on security, setting up the military, dealing with militias, etc. Could you try to work a call from the Chairman? A visit here by Mangush down the road would also be great. [redacted] to reach out to Winnefeld directly to see what's possible. Their MOD is still a lame duck, but we can try a SECDEF call once a new MOD is in place.

-----Original Message-----
From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:01 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Great idea

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 12:21 PM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY
Subject: FW: Recent Events

Maybe you could meet with Vuono (former army chief of staff) before he goes.

[redacted] has been in touch with these guys and think they met with [redacted] at one point a while ago. If we really want to help the Libyans on security stuff, the private sector option may be the only realistic one at this point to get anything meaningful done in a short timeframe.

From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

Despite - or perhaps because of - the killings in Benghazi, General Vuono is still planning his next trip to Tripoli o/a 7 October. We believe that it's important to demonstrate that elements of the US private sector have confidence in the new Libyn government.

If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 3:13 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

You around at 530? I am over there for a meeting that ends then and can chat for a bit.

Like the idea of a chairman call. Let me work it.

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 10:35 AM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY
Subject: RE: Recent Events

[redacted] will set it up.

Separately, we really should gin up some high level outreach to the Libyan CHOD, General Mangush. The DATT agrees he will be key in getting them to start taking serious decisions on security, setting up the military, dealing with militias, etc. Could you try to work a call from the Chairman? A visit here by Mangush down the road would also be great. [redacted] to reach out to Winnefeld directly to see what's possible. Their MOD is still a lame duck, but we can try a SECDEF call once a new MOD is in place.

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Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:01 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Great idea

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From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 12:21 PM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY
Subject: FW: Recent Events

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From: [redacted] [[redacted]]

Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

Despite - or perhaps because of - the killings in Benghazi, General Vuono is still planning his next trip to Tripoli o/a 7 October. We believe that it's important to demonstrate that elements of the US private sector have confidence in the new Libyn government.

If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 3:20 PM
To: 'Derek.Chollet[redacted]
Subject: Re: Recent Events

Cool, I'll come find you.

----- Original Message -----
From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 03:12 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

You around at 530? I am over there for a meeting that ends then and can chat for a bit.

Like the idea of a chairman call. Let me work it.

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 10:35 AM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY
Subject: RE: Recent Events

[redacted] will set it up.

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-----Original Message-----
From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5 :01 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Great idea

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 12:21 PM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY
Subject: FW: Recent Events

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From: Chris Shoemaker [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

Despite - or perhaps because of - the killings in Benghazi, General Vuono is still planning his next trip to Tripoli o/a 7 October. We believe that it's important to demonstrate that elements of the US private sector have confidence in the new Libyn government.

If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 3:26 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

I will be in LSR office. Can u round up [redacted] too?

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 3:20 PM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY
Subject: Re: Recent Events

Cool, I'll come find you.

----- Original Message -----
From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 03:12 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

You around at 530? I am over the re for a meeting that ends then and can chat for a bit.

Like the idea of a chairman call. Let me work it.

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 10:35 AM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY
Subject: RE: Recent Events

[redacted] will set it up.

Separately, we really should gin up some high level outreach to the Libyan CHOD, General Mangush. The DATT agrees he will be key in getting them to start taking serious decisions on security, setting up the military, dealing with militias, etc. Could you try to work a call from the Chairman? A visit here by Mangush down the road would also be great. [redacted] to reach out to Winnefeld directly to see what's possible. Their MOD is still a lame duck, but we can try a SECDEF call once a new MOD is in place.

-----Original Message-----
From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY [[redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:01 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Great idea

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 12:21 PM
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From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

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If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,

[redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 4:09 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx
Attachments: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

Appreciate input, thanks.

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Core Points

- **(SBU) Benghazi Attack:** I appreciate your condolences for loss of Ambassador Stevens and the three other diplomats who lost their lives . Thank you for your public condemnation of this brutal attack and for your support of the FBI investigation. We must work together to ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice and that your government can guarantee the inviolability of diplomatic missions. I appreciate the attention to ensuring our Embassy in Tripoli is adequately protected and, when the time comes, assuring security for our movements throughout the country. We continue our effort to locate appropriate land to build a permanent embassy compound in Tripoli. We must not let this attack and these actions of a handful of violent extremists affect the opportunity to build a strong bilateral relationship based on mutual interests and shared democratic values.

- **(SBU) U.S. Support for Libya:** The Libyan government faces considerable challenges as you transition towards a full democracy. We cannot let extremist minority voices drown out the majority voices that desire peace and stability. The United States will continue to stand by y ou as long as you remain committed to pursuing democracy and countering violence; we are ready to provide support and will continue to urge our partners to work with the UN Support Mission in Libya to coordinate international assistance. Take full advantage of these international resources while they are available. Our security assistance, with that of partners, can help in your efforts to establish control over the militias, strengthen your border security, secure loose weapons, and develop the capacitie s of your armed forces and police. Given recent events, it is important to ensure that Libya's chemical weapon stockpiles are secure. We are ready to help but your government must be specific about what it wants, realistic about what it needs, and ready to work with us to ensure this assistance is effective.

- **(SBU) Government Effectiveness:** Congratulations on holding successful elections July 7 and the establishment of an elected government. It is truly an inspiring, although challenging, time in Libya. This government has significant credibility now, but it must deliver results soon to the Libyan people. It is important that decisions are made transparently and communicated effectively to the public. The government ministries must be given clear authorities and responsibilities to avoid infighting. What are your next steps in establishin g a constitutional drafting commission? How will you ensure that the whole

country, including the East, feels sufficiently represented and included in the process?

- **(SBU) Transitional Justice:** Libya must demonstrate that the illegal practices of the Qadhafi regime are over. Illegal detention and torture have no place in the new Libya, where justice, human rights, and the rule of law must be respected. It is important that Libya work with the International Criminal Court to meet its international obligations. Fair trials of high-profile former regime officials will demonstrate the values of the new Libya. The United States can provide support in prison management, judicial police, and the treatment of detainees and prisoners. We also encourage the pr omotion of reconciliation through rule of law reform and civic education.

- **(SBU) Pan American Flight 103 Bombing:** Thank you for understanding the importance of close cooperation on obtaining evidence for the Pan American Flight 103 investigation, including access to those who might have been involved in the planning or execution of the bombing [redacted]

- **(SBU) (IF ASKED) Status of Mission in Benghazi:** The incident on the night of September 11 is under investigation. No decision about our presence in Benghazi has been made.

Approved: Acting Assistant Secretary Beth Jones

Drafted: NEA/MAG – [redacted] and cell [redacted]
[redacted] and cell: [redacted]

Cleared: NEA/FO – LDibble
NEA/FO – RMaxwell
NEA/MAG – WRoebuck ok
D(B) – [redacted] ok
D(N) – [redacted] ok
P – [redacted] ok
S/P – [redacted] ok
D(B)MET – [redacted] ok

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:29 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

I sat with Uzra and [redacted] for a bit and walked them through where we've been with the Libyans and what Chris was trying to do, and where he was frustrated, etc. Burns does like the specifics so those are important to include.
We can have him brief Antarctica policy on the next visit or maybe save for Corker.

Bill still seemed a bit distracted. I think it registered he needed to think on it more. I'll drop Liz a line too. I tried to pop in to say hi, but she was with the Libyan border guys of all things.

I also think you might see if [redacted] or one of the other Benghazi vets might want to go out. Maybe they are shaken but I bet their loyalty to Chris would prevail. I agree a total newbie wouldn't necessaril y be helpful. Pelofsky also said he'd go, but he's been saying that for a while...

Are you going to the thing in Georgetown tonight? I'm not sure I can make it.

From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:23 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

Fantastic.
Nothing on Antarctica?
Nice to see you. Sounds like they might send out some ambo to post. I still think Bill would be really valuabl e instead of someone who is new to the issues and people.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:18 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

The biggest thing is to combine the second and third points and to provide some specifics, which I think is what Burns likes to be able to reference.

We are still ready to help, but now is your time to demo nstrate leadership and take some of the key decisions the that the government has lacked for too many months - indecisiveness that frankly contributed to the unstable situation in the East. You have a mandate. The public wants you to take action. So now is the moment to adopt real policies about security, about controlling weapons, integrating militias and protecting Libya's borders.

With such policies intact, the international community can mobilize to help you implement them. But the starting point is to adopt a clear government policy about security and extremism. This will also require the appointment of capable and empowered minister of defense and interior to manage these policies.

We have tools available to help you implement these programs. For too long, Chris and our team have waited for guidance from your government, or for you to say yes when we have programs on offer.

- I'm very pleased we have a team from the MOD and Customs Authority in the United States now. They will see and learn about our advanced systems for border security. We can do more programs like this going forward.
- We are ready to start immediately a training program for Libya's special forces if your government says yes and works out the issues of protections that our Em bassy has raised with you before.
- We have a longstanding offer to help control loose weapons. We stand ready to advance that project, working together with our UN colleagues. I know you have had some concerns about how to handle the MANPADS issue. So let's commit to working out this agreement and find a way forward.
- And we have recommended a series of security upgrades you could make at the chemical weapons security facility in Waddan. Those should be acted upon soon, which will allow the OPCW to return so you can begin destruction work required under Libya's international obligations.

These are only a few examples of outstanding offers of assistance that we could act upon very quickly. If you identify additional priorities, we can work to support them together with our international partners.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 4:09 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

Appreciate input, thanks.

SCB 000202

From: SLCharles1[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:53 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] [redacted] hicksgn [redacted] Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Condolences fr [redacted] Interim DPM of NTC
Attachments: CondolenceMessage.doc

hi!

would appreciate it if you could be sure Chris' family and others who should see it, gets this message of condolence.

Many thanks.

In a message dated 9/17/2012 8:40:05 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, [redacted] writes:

> Dear Sandy
>
> I hope you are well. My apologies for troubling you again. I have been asked by [redacted] who was the Interim Deputy Prime Minister of the National Transitional Council of Libya during the early period of the Libyan revolution to convey the following condolences to the US government as he is currently travelling with limited internet access.
>
> I would be grateful if there could be a way of forwarding the attached message to the family of the late Ambassador Christopher Stevens and to the US government.
>
> With best wishes and thanks
>
> [redacted]

SCB 000203

13th September 2012

Message of Condolence

It is with profound sadness and regret that I offer my deepest condolences to the family of U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens and the other victims, to President Barack Obama, the American government and the American people.

The murder of Ambassador Christopher Stevens was a despicable act that is contrary to our values and to every moral code, and against the principles that every Libyan holds. This act in no way reflects the immense admiration that the Libyan people hold for Ambassador Stevens, and his memory shall be forever etched in our hearts.

I was privileged to have worked with Ambassador Stevens since the beginning of the Libyan revolution. He was one of the early ambassadors to stay in Benghazi and was deeply committed to helping the Libyan people to achieve a better future. We will miss him as a friend and as a dear colleague. He gave our people hope and his contribution to our nation is one that we shall not forget.

[redacted]
Former Deputy Prime Minister, National Transitional Council, Libya

SCB 000204

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:55 PM
To: SLCharles1[redacted]
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted] Hicks, Gregory N; Fishman, Benjamin I; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Condolences fr [redacted] Interim DPM of NTC
Attachments: CondolenceMessage.doc

Thanks very much Sandy.

I also wanted to note that Ambassador Stevens' family has set up a website:

RememberingChrisStevens.com

Best,
[redacted]

From: SLCharles1[redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:53 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; Hicks, Gregory N; bfishman[redacted]
Subject: Condolences fr [redacted] Interim DPM of NTC

hi!

would appreciate it if you could be sure Chris' family and others who should see it, gets this message of condolence.

Many thanks.

In a message dated 9/17/2012 8:40:05 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, [redacted] writes:

> Dear Sandy
>
> I hope you are well. My apologies for troubling you again. I have been asked by [redacted] who was the Interim Deputy Prime Minister of the National Transitional Council of Libya during the early period of the Libyan revolution to convey the following condolences to the US government as he is currently travelling with limited internet access.
>
> I would be grateful if there could be a way of forwarding the attached message to the family of the late Ambassador Christopher Stevens and to the US government.
>
> With best wishes and thanks
>
> [redacted]

SCB 000205

13th September 2012

Message of Condolence

It is with profound sadness and regret that I offer my deepest condolences to the family of U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens and the other victims, to President Barack Obama, the American government and the American people.

The murder of Ambassador Christopher Stevens was a despicable act that is contrary to our values and to every moral code, and against the principles that every Libyan holds. This act in no way reflects the immense admiration that the Libyan people hold for Ambassador Stevens, and his memory shall be forever etched in our hearts.

I was privileged to have worked with Ambassador Stevens since the beginning of the Libyan revolution. He was one of the early ambassadors to stay in Benghazi and was deeply committed to helping the Libyan people to achieve a better future. We will miss him as a friend and as a dear colleague. He gave our people hope and his contribution to our nation is one that we shall not forget.

[redacted]
Former Deputy Prime Minister, National Transitional Council, Libya

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 6:37 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

I'll have to check out the site from home. It seems to be partially blocked from here but that's really nice.
Did you get to meet any of his family?

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:52 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

The specifics are great.

[redacted] is actually free for a month because he was going to be in Benghazi. So we should be able to get him there.

[redacted] and I are going to go for a bit. I will likely not last long. Have you seen the website rememberingchrisstevens.com?

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:29 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

I sat with Uzra and [redacted] for a bit and walked them through where we've been with the Libyans and what Chris was trying to do, and where he was frustrated, etc. Burns does like the specifics so those are important to include.
We can have him brief Antarctica policy on the next visit or maybe save for Corker.

Bill still seemed a bit distracted. I think it registered he needed to think on it more. I'll drop Liz a line too. I tried to pop in to say hi, but she was with the Libyan border guys of all things.

I also think you might see if [redacted] or one of the other Benghazi vets might want to go out. Maybe they are shaken but I bet their loyalty to Chris would prevail. I agree a total newbie wouldn't necessarily be helpful. Pelofsky also said he'd go, but he's been saying that for a while...

Are you going to the thing in Georgetown tonight? I'm not sure I can make it.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:23 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

Fantastic.
Nothing on Antarctica?
Nice to see you. Sounds like they might send out some ambo to post. I still think Bill would be really valuable instead of someone who is new to the issues and people.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 5:18 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

The biggest thing is to combine the second and third points and to provide some specifics, which I think is what Burns likes to be able to reference.

We are still ready to help, but now is your time to demonstrate leadership and take some of the key decisions the that the government has lacked for too many months - indecisiveness that frankly contributed to the unstable situation in the East. You have a mandate. The public wants you to take action. So now is the moment to adopt real policies about security, about controlling weapons, integrating militias and protecting Libya's borders.

With such policies intact, the international community can mobili ze to help you implement them. But the starting point is to adopt a clear government policy about security and extremism. This will also require the appointment of capable and empowered minister of defense and interior to manage these policies.

We have tools available to help you implement these programs. For too long, Chris and our team have waited for guidance from your government, or for you to say yes when we have programs on offer.

- I'm very pleased we have a team from the MOD and Customs Authori ty in the United States now. They will see and learn about our advanced systems for border security. We can do more programs like this going forward.
- We are ready to start immediately a training program for Libya's special forces if your government say s yes and works out the issues of protections that our Embassy has raised with you before.
- We have a longstanding offer to help control loose weapons. We stand ready to advance that project, working together with our UN colleagues. I know you have had some concerns about how to handle the MANPADS issue. So let's commit to working out this agreement and find a way forward.
- And we have recommended a series of security upgrades you could make at the chemical weapons security facility in Waddan. Those should be acted upon soon, which will allow the OPCW to return so you can begin destruction work required under Libya's international obligations.

These are only a few examples of outstanding offers of assistance that we could act upon very quickly. If you identify additional priorities, we can work to support them together with our international partners.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 4:09 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

Appreciate input, thanks.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 6:45 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

Not this week. I met his mom and step-dad at his confirmation hearing and then sister and parents at his swearing in. Of course they are all crazy nice, like Chris.

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From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 4:09 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: 12.09.17 Core Points Burns.docx

Appreciate input, thanks.

From: [redacted] < [redacted] >
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 10:14 PM
To: benjamin i. fishman [redacted]
Subject: Fw: (SBU) Mission Libya Situation Report - 09/18/2012
Attachments: Mohamad Sowan Condolence.pdf; Ministry of Interior Condolence.pdf; Minister of Interior Letter ENG.rtf

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From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 08:02 PM
To: SES-O; SWO-Cables; NEA-MAG-DL; Hicks, Gregory N; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: (SBU) Mission Libya Situation Report – 09/18/2012

Mission Libya Situation Report – September 18, 2012

(U) Thank you: Thank you to our colleagues at OBO for expediting leases for 3 plots of land directly adjacent to th e Embassy Tripoli residential villas. We are now moving forward with plans to strengthen the perimeter wall.

(SBU) Security: At present, 51 Marines secure two U.S. Mission compounds in Tripoli. Outside the Embassy Tripoli residential villas, Libyan national police presence varies from 2 to 4 police cars with armed officers. We are in consultation with the MOI and currently assessing the feasibility of assigning additional MOI security personnel.

(U) Temporary Suspension on NIV Services, Continuance of Emergency AMCIT Services: CA is presently reviewing language to announce the temporary suspension of NIV services and the continuance, on a limited basis, of emergency AMCIT services.

(SBU) Upcoming Visits:

September 18-2?:	Legatt [redacted] (Milair): Control Officer: [redacted] + [redacted]
September 19-2?:	FBI/DS Investigative Team (5+1): Control Officer: [redacted] + [redacted]
September 20-21:	D(B) + 2: Control Officer: [redacted] + [redacted]
September 20-21:	General Ham, AFRICOM: Control Officer: DATT [redacted] + [redacted]
October 1-2:	A/AS Beth Jones (visit): Control Officer: [redacted] + [redacted]
October 3:	A/AS Beth Jones (transit): Control Officer: [redacted] + [redacted]
October TBD:	Senator Corker +2: Control Officer: TBD

(SBU) Inbound TDY Staff: DS has requested Embassy assistance in obtaining visa approval numbers for the following Mobile Security Detachment (MSD) personn el who are scheduled to arrive at post within the coming days: [redacted]

[redacted] Embassy point of contact is Protocol Officer [redacted], who is working with the MFA.

(U) Accommodations: Capacity for housing and services at Embassy Tripoli is n earing full.

(U) Consular Reports of Death Abroad: Embassy Tripoli Consul is working with Department Consular Affairs to complete processing on required Consular Reports of Death Abroad for the four victims of the September 11, 2012 attacks. Consul expects to submit two of the reports to CA on September 19. Processing for the remaining two continues. Post will remit 20 copies of the reports to authorized members of each of the families, and condolence letters currently being drafted by PAO [redacted]. The reports and condolence letters will be dispatched by DHL. FBI investigators will obtain death certificates from the Prosecutor General in meetings on September 19.

(U) GOL plans for national memorial service: GNC President Mohammad Magariaf's public affairs director, Asma Magariaf, is coordinating with us on arrangements for a GOL/GNC organized memorial service scheduled for 18:00 on Thursday, September 20. Proposed venue: Great Hall at General National Congress (site of the TNC -GNC handover of power ceremony). Magariaf expects to limit attendance to 60 -100 high-level participants. Embassy invited to nominate some invitees. D(B) scheduled to deliver brief remarks. Further details forthcoming. Post trying to obtain condolence book for use at the ceremony.

(U) Condolences: PAO [redacted] is collecting condolence letters and will forward as appropriate. Condolence letters from Justice and Construction Party's Mohammad Sowan and Interior Minister (unofficial translation) att ached.

(SBU) Condolences and the Road Forward on Mil -Mil Cooperation: In meetings throughout the week, senior members of the Libyan Armed Forces, including members of the Chief of Staff's office, the Director of Operations and the Minister of Defense, have relayed condolences to Embassy DAO. All have expressed desire to continue engaging with the US military, however, they emphasize the need for lower profile engagement and express a preference for training Libyan Armed Forces outside of Libya for this reason. DAO has also contacted NATO colleagues -- all of whom have expressed their condolences and stated they stand ready to support the USG. The Italian attaché has offered specific support which is being worked in Rome.

(SBU) Attacks Pre-planned, Not Spontaneous: In a September 17 meeting with the DAO, the Libyan Minister of Defense said he believed that the September 11 attacks were not spontaneous, but pre -planned surprise attacks. He stated but did not provide further information that while there is no clear evidence as to the perpetrators of the attacks, the GOL did have strong suspicions. An emergency inter-agency committee had been formed, he said, shortly after the event and the decision was made for the MOI to take investigatory lead on the case. MOD, *thuwar*, and various brigades would have responsibility for tracking down any known or suspected persons of interest in the case.

(SBU) Minister of Defense on His Future at the MOD: The Libyan Minister of Defense told DAO that he did not know what his political future holds, but indicated whether he remained in official office or not, he was willing to support and continue to work with the USG. The previous government had created some fundamental problems within the defense architecture, problems which he has spoken about publicly, that the new government must address otherwise continued lack of coordination and effectiveness could be expected. When asked about the road ahead, the Minister advised the US focus predominantly on civilia n to civilian engagement activity as opposed to open military engagement, which is exploited by mutual adversaries as evidence of the GOL's lack of security control or even sovereignty over the country. He cited recent drone activity over Benghazi as an example of this. The threat of further attacks is currently located in the east but will spread to the west, he said.

(SBU) UNSMIL White Paper meetings continued last week, concluding on the 17th of September. The GOL participants continue to be in receive mode as UNSMIL helps to flesh out what it hopes to be an document that will ultimately help the GOL create its own strategic defense White Paper.

(U) UNGA delegations: Consul delivered 16 visas to the MFA for the GOL's UNGA delegation. Three remaining GOL officials will provide additional information required for additional SAO processing: Libyan Chargé in Malta, Fadel Ben

Ashur; Director of MFA Cooperation Division Abdalla Almaghrawi; and Counselor Mohamed Reda Dukali. **Magariaf's UNGA delegation**: According to General National Congress staff, GNC President Mohammad Magariaf + 18 will apply for visas on September 19. We will request expedited clearances once the applications are submitted.

(U) Medical/Health Staffing: A Regional Medical Officer and a Regional Psychiatrist are available for consultations: POC: Medical Unit: [redacted] RMO [redacted]'s successor from September 21 through October 10.

Ministry of the Interior
Minister's Office

Ref: 382
Date: Sept. 13 2012

To: Honourable Hillary Clinton
US State Secretary

Dear Secretary Clinton,

With deep sadness and mourning we received the news of the death of Ambassador Chris Stevens and his colleagues in the attacks on the American Consulate in Benghazi carried out by outlaws who aimed at affecting the distinguished relations between Libya and the USA made possible thanks to the efforts of faithful and friendly Ambassador Stevens during his tour as Ambassador to Libya.

While we strongly condemn the abuse of he person of the Holy Prophet, we strongly reject the killing of innocents and the use of force in response to any offense against monotheistic religions.

And, while we convey our sincerest condolences and heartfelt to your Excellency and to the families of the victims, we hereby confirm to you that the Ministry of the Interior will make its best to uncover the circumstances of this tragic incident, reach for the criminals and bring them to a fair court, and we welcome any joint cooperation in this respect in order to achieve this goal.

We avail ourselves of his occasion to renew to your Excellency our highest considerations,

Sincerely yours,

Seal and Signature

Fawzi Taher Abdul 'Aal
Minister of the Interior

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
MINISTER'S OFFICE

وزارة الداخلية
مكتب الوزير

التاريخ 2012/9/17

الرقم الإشاري : 787

معالي السيدة هيلاري كلنتون

وزير الخارجية الأمريكية .

"بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم"

تلقينا ببالغ الأسى والحزن نبأ وفاة سعادة السفير كريس ستيفنز وزملائه في واقعة الاعتداء على مقر القنصلية الأمريكية في بنغازي من قبل خارجين عن القانون هدفهم التأثير على العلاقات المتميزة بين ليبيا والولايات المتحدة الأمريكية بفضل الجهود الذي بذلها الصديق المخلص طوال فترة عمله سفيراً في ليبيا .

وفي الوقت الذي ندين فيه بشدة الإساءة لشخص الرسول الكريم فإننا نرفض بشدة قتل الأبرياء واستخدام العنف في الرد على أية إساءة للأديان السماوية .

وإذ نتوجه إليكم وإلى أسر الضحايا بأحر التعازي والمواساة القلبية نؤكد لكم بأن وزارة الداخلية ستبذل قصارى جهدها في كشف ملابسات هذه الواقعة والوصول إلى الجناة وتقديمهم إلى محاكمة عادلة مرحبين بالتعاون المشترك في سبيل تحقيق ذلك .

وتفضلوا بقبول فائق التقدير والاحترام

فوزي الطاهر عبد العالي

وزير الداخلية

وزارة الداخلية

حررت في : / / 1433 هـ
الموافق : 17 / 9 / 2012م
م.ع.ح

SCB 000437

A B Party

العدالة والبناء

2012/09/13 التاريخ
2012-028 الرقم المرجعي

Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S State Department
Washington DC

Dear Secretary of State

We ,at the Adala Bena Party (Justice and Development Party) would like to extend our most heart-felt condolences to the grieving families and friends of the late Ambassador Chris Stevens and his colleagues. We also would like to extend these deep condolences to the American people, President Obama, Secretary Clinton and all members of the diplomatic corps.

We share with the American people and the American Administration our outrage and condemnation of this heinous murderous act of one of the finest American diplomats and his colleagues. We have known Ambassador Stevens as a man of courage and honor and we can never forget his sacrifice and dedication for a free, democratic and prosperous Libya.

We affirm our commitment to support the Libyan government to act swiftly and firmly to bring the savage perpetrators of this crime to justice. We will work diligently with the new Libyan government to rid our country of the security threats and uncontrolled militias as we work hard to develop our army and national security forces.

We reiterate our commitment to stand against violent extremism under any guise and we will work with the world community and international partners to ensure Libya's transition to a country based on democratic principles, the rule of law and the respect of human rights and liberties.

Mohamed H Sowane
AB Party President

Abdullah Ibn Salam St., Bin Ashour, Tripoli – Libya – شارع عبدالله بن سلام - بن عاشور - طرابلس - ليبيا
☎ +218 21 715 4443 El 1515 Tripoli, Libya 🖷 +218 21 715 4447 @ info@ab.ly - www.ab.ly

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 10:02 AM
To: HicksGN[redacted] (TRIPOLI TDY) ([redacted]
Cc: RoebuckWV[redacted]
Subject: Belhaj as MOI?

Team

In light of press rumors of Belhaj maneuvering to take on MOI, wanted to pass this along.
I have been getting calls over the last few days from a U.S. based associate of [redacted] a Libyan business leader who Gene used to see regularly. Not sure if you've met [redacted] (he's quite a character and quite secular himself) but think he threw a goodbye party for Gene.
[redacted] apparently has been engaging regularly with Ali Salabi and Belhaj and met the other day with Belhaj in Tunis at Belhaj's request. While [redacted]s guy said he didn't think Belhaj was involved in the Benghazi attacks, he is being put forward by the Islamist camp to be MOI, and they look to him to be a bridge to the government. [redacted] is also in touch with the investigators and suggested that cooperation might be a bit slow in coming, which I imagine you'll be able to assess after today.

Separately, [redacted]s funded NGO Libya al-Hurra is working to put together a memorial event for NGOs on Sunday at the Corinthia. They have invited Belhaj to participate. They have also been active in the media with their Awalan TV station, which [redacted] owns, connected to CNN.

[redacted] is still abroad, I think, but his number is +[redacted] if you want to engage him directly. He may be maneuvering to be Foreign Minister.

-Ben

From: [redacted]COL (USA) OSD POLICY < [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 10:41 AM
To: [redacted]LTC; [redacted]
Fishman, Benjamin I.
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Video Timeline
Attachments: Document2 [Compatibility Mode].docx

Fysa.

COL [redacted]
Regional Director, North Africa
Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy
[redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted]MAJ (USA) OSD POLICY
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 10:32 AM
To: [redacted]CIV OSD POLICY
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Video Timeline

All -

Attached is an open-source history of the video's production/dissemination FYSA.

So DASD Dory is tracking, ASD Sheehan just asked for one and this is what I put together.

v/r,
[redacted]

TIMELINE FOR VIDEO, PROTESTS, & ATTACKS

June 23
The only known full screening of *Innocence of Muslims* is held at Hollywood's Vine Theatre, according to the *Los Angeles Times*. The *L.A. Times*' source, an unidentified police officer who spoke with *The Daily Beast*, and Steve Klein, a Christian anti-Islam activist who advised on the film, all agree that almost nobody attended the screening.

June 27
A Los Angeles blogger, John Walsh, sounds the alarm about the film, in a blog post titled "ARE MILITANT ISLAMISTS ABOUT TO GATHER ON HOLLYWOOD BLVD.?" Two days later, at a Los Angeles City Council meeting, he repeats his warning: "A group has rented the Vine Street theater to show a video entitled *Innocence of Bin Laden*. We have no idea what this group is."

June 30
A second screening of the movie is planned and, reportedly, aborted. Wals h says he tried to buy a ticket but was told the screening was canceled.

July 2
A YouTube user, "Sam Bacile," uploads "Muhammad Movie Trailer," the 1 4-miunte clip that is all almost anyone has seen of the movie to date. Nobody pays attention.

Sept. 2
Bacile uploads an Arabic-lanugage version of the movie trailer to YouTube, then deletes it.

Sept. 4
Another Arabic-language version is uploaded by persons unknown.

Sept. 5
Morris Sedak, Washington, D.C.-based Coptic Christian and anti-Islam activist, starts promoting the movie trailer to journalists and via social media, timing his pitch to Florida pastor Terry Jones' "International Judge Muhammad Day" on S ept. 11.

Sept. 8
Egyptian television firebrand Sheik Khaled Abdalla airs part of the the Arabic version of the clip on local channel *Al Nas*, condemning it harshly. The trailer's YouTube view-count skyrockets.

Sept. 10
Pastor Jones, known for threatening to burn the Koran on previous Sept. 11 anniversaries, announces that he will show part of the movie at his "Judge Muhammad Day."

Sept 11
Protesters decrying the movie storm the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, scaling the wall and replacing the American flag with a black one inscribed with a Muslim slogan used by militant groups. In Benghazi, Libya, a protest outside the U.S. consulate turns deadly when heavily armed militants, possibly using the protest as cover for a premeditated attack, kill U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other U.S. diplomatic personnel. "Sam Bacile" talks to the *AP* and *Wall Street Journal*, claiming to be an Israeli-American real estate developer funded by Jewish donors.

Sept. 12
As protests spread to Tunisia and Morocco, Bacile's story starts to unravel. *AP* reporters and other journalists use his cell phone number and other clues to track him to the house of Coptic Christian activist Nakoula Basseley Nakoula, whose criminal history is littered with aliases very similar to "Bacile." Actors and crew from the movie say they were duped, and condemn the trailer, saying the film they made was a pre-Islam historical action flick, *Desert Warrior*, that was later poorly overdubbed with anti-Islam language.

Sept. 15
Nakoula is brought in for questioning over probable violations of his parole, which forbade him from using computers and the internet without permission.

Sept. 17
Protests have spread to at least 20 countries, including close U.S. allies like Britain, France, and Australia, and 10 protesters have been killed. In Egypt, al Qaeda–linked jihadist Ahmed Ashoush issues a fatwa against anyone who took part in the film. The blood of the participants, he says on an Islamist militant website, "should be shed, including the producer, the director, and the actors" adding, "their killing is a duty of every capable Muslim."

From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 1:03 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc:
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Thanks. A CJCS call to reinforce would be great. Will DepSecState and Gen Ham be doing any meetings together?

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted] MG USARMY JS J5 (US) [[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 12:56 PM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] Benjamin I. Fishman
([redacted]); [redacted]
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Derek,

FYI, GEN Ham will be in Libya tomorrow (DEPSECSTATE joining him), and will have meetings with both CHOD and MOD. GEN Ham is going to discuss starting the 1208 program during those meetings. If there are immediate TPs we want to push, believe GEN Ham will be best positioned to deliver them during those meetings.

A follow-up call after a short period of time by CJCS could reinforce messages to Lib yans ' to start taking serious decisions on security, setting up the military, dealing with militias, etc.'

Vr,
[redacted]

-------Original Message-------
From: Derek Chollet
To: [redacted] CIV OSD-POLICY [redacted]
To: [redacted]
To: [redacted] CIV OSD POLICY [redacted]
To: [redacted] COL (USA) OSD POLICY [redacted]
Subject: FW: Recent Events
Sent: Sep 18, 2012 3:13 PM

I like the idea of a Chairman call. Can you reach out to [redacted]?

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 10:35 AM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY
Subject: RE: Recent Events

[redacted] will set it up.

Separately, we really should gin up some high level outreach to the Libyan CHOD, General Mangush. The DATT agrees he will be key in getting them to start taking serious decisions on security, setting up the military, dealing with militias, etc. Could you try to work a call from the Chairman? A visit here by Mangush down the road would also be great. [redacted] to reach out to Winnefeld directly to see what's possible. Their MOD is still a lame duck, but we can try a SECDEF call once a new MOD is in place.

-----Original Message-----
From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:01 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Great idea

-----Original Message-----
From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 12:21 PM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY
Subject: FW: Recent Events

Maybe you could meet with Vuono (former army chief of staff) before he goes.

[redacted] has been in touch with these guys and think they met with [redacted] at one point a while ago. If we really want to help the Libyans on security stuff, the private sector option may be the only realistic one at this point to get anything meaningful done in a short timeframe.

From: [redacted] [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Recent Events

Ben,

Despite - or perhaps because of - the killings in Benghazi, General Vuono is still planning his next trip to Tripoli o/a 7 October. We believe that it's important to demonstrate that elements of the U S private sector have confidence in the new Libyn government.

If you've got a few minutes, I'd be glad to swing by and give you an update.

warm regards,
[redacted]

---sent from my wireless handheld---

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 1:46 PM
To: 'Derek.Chollet[redacted]
Subject: Re: Recent Events

Thanks

----- Original Message -----
From: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY [[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 01:02 PM
To: [redacted]
<[redacted]
Cc: [redacted]>;
Fishman, Benjamin I.; [redacted]
<[redacted]>
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Thanks. A CJCS call to reinforce would be great. Will DepSecState and Gen Ham be doing any meetings together?

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted] MG USARMY JS J5 (US) [[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 12:56 PM
To: Chollet, Derek H HON OSD POLICY; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] Benjamin I. Fishman
([redacted]); [redacted]
Subject: RE: Recent Events

Derek,

FYI, GEN Ham will be in Libya tomorrow (DEPSECSTATE joining him), and will have meetings with both CHOD and MOD. GEN Ham is going to discuss starting the 1208 program during those meetings. If there are immediate TPs we want to push, believe GEN Ham will be best positioned to deliver them during those meetings.

A follow-up call after a short period of time by CJCS could reinforce messages to Libyans ' to start taking serious decisions on security, setting up the military, dealing with militias, etc.'

Vr,
[redacted]

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To: [redacted]
To:
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Subject: FW: Recent Events
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[redacted]

---sent from my wireless handheld---

From: House Foreign Affairs Press Office <[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 3:27 PM
Subject: VIDEO: By Holding the Perpetrators of the Embassy Attacks Accountable, We Honor Those Who Died, Ros-Lehtinen Says

CONTACT: Steve Sutton 202-225-5021 ▫ Alex Cruz (South Florida) 202-225 8200

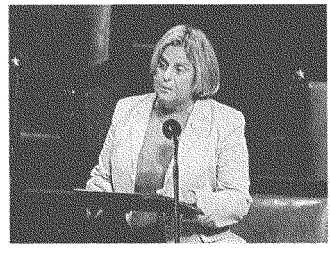
*** Video and Statement***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – **September 19, 2012**

House Foreign Affairs Committee:
Ileana Ros Lehtinen, Chairman

By Holding the Perpetrators of the Embassy Attacks Accountable, We Honor Those Who Died, Ros-Lehtinen Says

Washington, D.C. –U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, spoke today in favor of H.Res.786, honoring the four United States public servants who died in Libya and condemning the attacks on United States diplomatic facilities in Libya, Egypt, and Yemen. Chairman Ros-Lehtinen expressed her deepest condolences to the families of those who were killed and all members of the Foreign Service as they continue their meaningful work abroad in service of our country. Ros-Lehtinen also called for the perpetrators of these attacks to be held accountable and for the United States to continue to stand up for American values and support voices of moderation. The Chairman stated that the video allegedly responsible for these protests is not an excuse for the actions taken against our embassies and that there should be no apologies from the U.S. The measure passed the House by voice vote. Ros-Lehtinen made the following remarks in support of the resolution:



From: [redacted] (USUN) <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 7:59 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I; Pelofsky, Eric J; [redacted]
Subject: Readout of DPA Meeting re Libya

Thanks again for the points for today. A brief readout is below.

I met this afternoon with [redacted], the new Libya Desk Officer in DPA. [redacted] comes to the job with significant experience working for the UN in Jerusalem and Sudan/SoSudan. He's going to a be a real asset to DPA on the Libya file, particularly after 5 months without a desk officer.

Ian Martin is scheduled to depart Libya on Friday. He will be in New York next week and will attend the SG's meeting with the Libyan President. Tarek Mitri, the incoming SRSG, will arrive in New York on October 4 and Ian will stay in town to meet with him. I said we would welcome a visit by Mitri to Washington, but [redacted] said Mitri is extremely tight on time as he has to complete mandatory t raining, meet with key Secretariat contacts and possibly Member States before heading off to Libya around October 15. I stressed that a meeting prior to his departure with at least some Council members would be important. The UN is keen to get Mitri to T ripoli quickly to avoid a long period sans SRSG. [redacted] suggested Mitri could possibly visit DC when he is back in town next, likely for the November UNSMIL consultations.

On security sector assistance and coordination, [redacted] said Jeff Feltman had h eard our message loud and clear on the need for greater UN involvement during the recent UNSMIL consultations. Feltman plans to discuss options for increasing these efforts and coordination with Martin and Mitri. Jonathan flagged that the forthcoming for mation of the new government would also likely allow UNSMIL to engage more robustly with the GOL on these issues.

[redacted] had little to say on any new idea in UNSMIL on priorities, mostly I believe because DPA wants to first consult with Mitri.

On UNMIL operations, Jonathan confirmed that the 14 staff who were in Benghazi were relocated to Tripoli September 13. UNSMIL has requested additional police protection at the Palm City compound and UNSMIL is restricting staff movements around Tripoli. Jonathan made clear that UNSMIL has not received and specific threats to date.

[redacted]

SCB 000206

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 8:17 PM
To: benjamin i. fishman [redacted]
Subject: Fw: (SBU) Mission Libya Situation Report 09/19/2012

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 06:25 PM
To: [redacted] SES-O; SWO-Cables; NEA-MAG-DL; Hicks, Gregory N
Cc: [redacted] Hicks, Gregory N; [redacted]
S; [redacted]
Subject: (SBU) Mission Libya Situation Report – 09/19/2012

Mission Libya Situation Report – September 19, 2012

(SBU) September 19 Emergency Action Committee: CDA convened a meeting of Embassy Tripoli's Emer gency Action Committee to review the Embassy's security posture ahead of possible protests related to the release of an inflammatory cartoon of the Prophet Mohammad. Members agreed that besides movement off compound related to the upcoming visits of Deputy Secretary Burns and General Ham personnel would remain confined to compound, particularly Friday, September 21.

(SBU) D(B) and Africom General Ham visits set for wheels down about noon on September 20: Embassy Tripoli will host two delegations: Deputy Secretary William Burns (September 20-21) and Africom General Carter Ham (September 20). D(B) and General Ham will meet briefly upon arrival. Escorted by the CDA Greg Hicks [redacted] D(B) will conduct meetings with: Prime Minister ElKeib, Prime Minister-elect Abu Shugur, President of the General National Congress Magariaf, and Minister of Foreign Affairs bin Khayal. Escorted by [redacted] and [redacted] General Ham will conduct mee tings with the Chief of Staff of the Libyan Armed Forces and Minister of Defense. D(B) will deliver remarks at a memorial ceremony honoring Ambassador Chris Stevens. For much of the duration of the visits, Embassy Tripoli most Embassy Tripoli staff will be available by cell phone only.

- Control officer for D(B) is [redacted]
- Control officer for General Ham is Lt. Col. [redacted]

(SBU) Memorial Ceremony for Ambassador Chris Stevens September 20, 18:00 : The Office of President of the General National Congress (GNC) Dr. Muhammad al-Magariaf will host a memorial ceremony on September 20 at 18:00 in the grand hall of the Libyan government compound. The ceremony will include short speeches by D(B), President M agariaf, PM ElKeib, PM-elect Abu Shugur, FM bin Khayal, UN Head of Mission Ian Martin, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps (Ambassador of Togo), and a civil society representative. International and local media will cover and the MFA will present a short video in honor of Ambassador Stevens. The ceremony is expected to last about 1.5 hours and may be televised on local channels. The ceremony will also recognize the other U.S. victims of the attack.

SCB 000207

(SBU) [redacted] **(Magariaf)**: In a September 19 planning meet ing at Embassy Tripoli residential villas, [redacted] (Magariaf), General National Congress President Mohammad al -Magariaf's Public Affairs officer and the organizer of Ambassador Steven's memorial ceremony , discussed: 1) arrangements for ceremony; 2) de tails of her father's trip to Benghazi in the wake of the September 11 attack; and 3) and her (and reportedly her father's) assessment of the utter failure of the Ministry of Interior on national security in general and the investigation into the deaths of the victims of the September 11 attacks in Benghazi in particular.

- Magariaf said that she expects approximately 200 attendees, including members of Congress, cabinet members, representatives of the international diplomatic corps, and other participants w ho knew Ambassador Stevens. We have heard from contacts that at least some invitations have already been distributed.
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

(SBU) GOL Security to U.S. Mission: GOL Ministry of Interior Diplomatic Security representative Colonel Samir told RSO today that beyond deterrence -- the MOI would be unable to react to serious threats against Embassy Tripoli security, a result of insufficient training and under-equipping of security forces, and a lack of internal organization.

(U) Temporary Suspension on NIV Services, Continuance of Emergency AMCIT Services : Post's NIV and ACS internet pages have been updated to indicate temporary suspension of NIV and instructions for seeking emergency AMCIT services. A warden message was issued September 18 with instructions on AMCIT services as well.

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organized in advance, that there had been no notice of protests in social media or other outlets around Bengh azi, and that he believed Ansar al-Sharia was probably to blame.

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(U) Medical/Health Staffing: A Regional Medical Officer and a Regional Psychiatrist are available for consultations: POC: Medical Unit: [redacted]. RMO [redacted]'s successor from September 21 through October 10.

SCB 000209

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 8:50 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: (SBU) Mission Libya Situation Report 09/19/2012

[redacted] is great. She just went back to help her father and got thrown into all this.

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(U) Medical/Health Staffing: A Regional Medical Officer and a Regional Psychiatrist are available for consultations: POC: Medical Unit: [redacted] RMO [redacted]s successor from September 21 through October 10.

SCB 000213

From: OpsAlert <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 6:29 AM
Subject: SITUATION REPORT No. 15 09/20/I (SBU)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

SITUATION REPORT No. 15

Middle East Protests Monitoring Group MGMEP01

Thursday, September 20, 2012
0625 EDT

PAKISTAN

- (SBU) Interior Minister Malik said the government would attempt to counter protests by organizing a government-led peace conference September 21. Malik expected approximately 8,000 people to parti cipate and Prime Minister Ashraf to preside. ***(MGMEP01/Pakistan desk e-mail)***
- (SBU) A government-run television station reaching 90 percent of the country's audience aired President Obama's and Secretary Clinton's remarks on the film. Several other television and radio stations will air the message through September 21. ***(MGMEP01/Pakistan desk e-mail)***
- (SBU) Approximately 100 demonstrated peacefully in front of Consulate General Lahore. In another demonstration, 1500 members of a Sunni religious madrassa marched toward the Lahore Press Club and dispersed without incident. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Islamabad e-mail)***

LIBYA

- (SBU) The Office of the President of the General National Congress will host a memorial ceremony September 20, with speeches by President Magariaf, Prime Minister -elect Abu Shagour, and other local officials. Approximately 200 guests, including members of Congress, cabinet officials, and diplomatic representatives are expected to attend. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Tripoli e-mail)***
- (SBU) Benghazi citizens plan a march September 21 to protest the attack on the U.S. mission and the general security environment. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Tripoli e-mail)***
- (SBU) The French Consulate in Benghazi is closed. The French Consul General and his staff have departed Libya due to the publication of satirical cartoons in France. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Tripoli e-mail)***

TUNISIA

(SBU) The Constituent Assembly convened September 19 to question Ministers of Interior and Defense about the September 14 events. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Tunis telcon)***

AFGHANISTAN

(U) Hundreds of Afghans protested September 20 for the first time against cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed published in France and staged fresh rallies against the controversial video. Demonstrations were peaceful. ***(AFP)***

SCB 000214

INDONESIA

(U) About 50 students from an Islamic university gathered September 20 in Makassar. They burned tires and forced a McDonald's restaurant to close. ***(AP)***

AUSTRALIA

(SBU) Local authorities are expecting anti -American demonstrations September 22 -23 in Sydney and Melbourne. ***(Consulate General Sydney Emergency Message)***

PHILIPPINES

(SBU) Manila's mayor said Muslim clerics and political leaders agreed not to protest in fr ont of the embassy September 21. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Manila e -mail)***

KENYA

(SBU) A Facebook post referenced the controversial video in a call for a protest September 21 in Nairobi against Muslim leadership for not responding forcefully to a number of wr ongs suffered by Muslims. ***(Nairobi 3070)***

Please see our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted] Approved: [redacted]

Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

State Department Operations Center

[redacted]

SCB 000215

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 6:37 AM
To: PAO Group
Subject: DRAFT Tasking List for Thursday, September 20, 2012

Good Morning

The DPB will be at 12:30pm today. Guidance Collection will begin at 11am till Noon in the PA/FO 6th Floor Conference Room.

Thanks,

DRAFT Tasking List for Thursday, September 20, 2012
Unclassified E-mail: PA PO Group **Classified E-mail**: PAPress_Officers

Daily Schedule
DPB
Tasking list prepared by Darby G. Holladay ([redacted]) (or in the PA/FO at [redacted] after 11 a.m.)

Pending Releases (Please Notify Us ASAP)
NOTE: Please notify us as early in the morning as possible of statements, media notes and fact sheets so we can work them into our news flow. Please aim to have all statements, fact sheets and media notes completely cleared and ready for the Daily Press Briefing.

DPB

AFRICA
No Taskings

EAST ASIA
EAP/DS/CA/CHINA: Have the Chinese informed us that they will conduct an investigation into the incident with the Amb.'s car?
CA/EAP/NEW ZEALAND: Return the guidance on the death of the Amcit in the cou ntry.

EUROPE
TO: EUR/L/ITALY: Does the U.S. have a reaction to the Italian court's decision to uphold the convictions of 23 Americans in the kidnapping of an Egyptian terror suspect as part of the CIA's extraordinary rendition program?

NEAR EAST
NEA/EUR/DRL/IO/PRM/USAID/CT/PM/SANAC/J/SYRIA: Update what is happening on the ground and our humanitarian efforts. Who is attending the Friends of Syria meeting in the Hague on our behalf? What further sanctions are being considered? Do we believe they will move the regime to talks?

NEA/H/F/IRAQ/IRAN: We may need a line on Sen. Kerry's comments tying Iraq aid to Baghdad's cooperation on Iranian resupply efforts to Assad. Iranian resupply efforts to Syria via Iraq has a lot of visibility today.
NEA/CA/IRAN: With the numerous stories of Iran creating its own internal internet, it may be useful to return our guidance on access to our virtual embassy in the country and how many viewers it has.
M/CA/DS/NEA/CT/H/L/LIBYA: Unsure who will lead this, but we will need a new guidance on DOS setting up its review panel on the Benghazi attack, how it will work, when it must report, and updating it as the investigation goes forward.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA
SCA/S/RAP/EUR/AFGHANISTAN: Do we think the NATO/ISAF meeting to discuss insider attacks is a good thing? Would we attend?
SCA/S/RAP/F/USAID/AFGHANISTAN: Do we support Karzai's moves to remove provincial officials? Should this action placate foreign donors or do we believe more must be done?

WESTERN HEMISPHERE
No Taskings

MISCELLANEOUS
Protest Updates: M/CA/DS/EAP/SCA/AF/NEA: Please update your guidances whether you have ongoing protests and the status of Posts. Note, do them as you did yesterday.

SCB 000217

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 9:07 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: (SBU) Mission Libya Situation Report 09/19/2012

Thought you'd like to see that [redacted] is in the thick of things.

Hope you're hanging in...

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 8:17 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Fw: (SBU) Mission Libya Situation Report – 09/19/2012

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 06:25 PM
To: [redacted] -Cables; NEA-MAG-DL; Hicks, Gregory N
Cc: [redacted] Hicks, Gregory N; [redacted] S; [redacted]
Subject: (SBU) Mission Libya Situation Report – 09/19/2012

Mission Libya Situation Report – September 19, 2012

(SBU) September 19 Emergency Action Committee: CDA convened a meeting of Embassy Tripoli's Emergency Action Committee to review the Embassy's security posture ahead of possible protests related to the release of an inflammatory cartoon of the Prophet Mohammad. Members agreed that besides movement off compound related to the upcoming visits of Deputy Secretary Burns and General Ham personnel would remain confined to compound, particularly Friday, September 21.

(SBU) D(B) and Africom General Ham visits set for wheels down about noon on September 20: Embassy Tripoli will host two delegations: Deputy Secretary William Burns (September 20-21) and Africom General Carter Ham (September 20). D(B) and General Ham will meet briefly upon arrival. Escorted by the CDA Greg Hicks + [redacted] D(B) will conduct meetings with: Prime Minister ElKeib, Prime Minister-elect Abu Shugur, President of the General National Congress Magariaf, and Minister of Foreign Affairs bin Khayal. Escorted by A/DCM [redacted] + [redacted] and [redacted] + [redacted] General Ham will conduct meetings with the Chief of Staff of the Libyan Armed Forces and Minister of Defense. D(B) will deliver remarks at a memorial ceremony honoring Ambassador Chris Stevens. For much of the duration of the visits, Embassy Tripoli most Embassy Tripoli staff will be available by cell phone only.

- Control officer for D(B) is [redacted] + [redacted]
- Control officer for General Ham is Lt. Col. [redacted] + [redacted]

SCB 000218

(SBU) Memorial Ceremony for Ambassador Chris Stevens September 20, 18:00 : The Office of President of the General National Congress (GNC) Dr. Muhammad al-Magariaf will host a memorial ceremony on September 20 at 18:00 in the grand hall of the Libyan government compound. The ceremony will include short speeches by D(B), President Magariaf, PM ElKeib, PM-elect Abu Shugur, FM bin Khaya l, UN Head of Mission Ian Martin, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps (Ambassador of Togo), and a civil society representative. International and local media will cover and the MFA will present a short video in honor of Ambassador Stevens. The ceremony is expected to last about 1.5 hours and may be televised on local channels. The ceremony will also recognize the other U.S. victims of the attack.

(SBU) [redacted] **(Magariaf)**: In a September 19 planning meeting at Embassy Tripoli residential villas, [redacted] (Magariaf), General National Congress President Mohammad al -Magariaf's Public Affairs officer and the organizer of Ambassador Steven's memorial ceremony , discussed: 1) arrangements for ceremony; 2) details of her father's trip to Benghazi in the wake of the September 11 attack; and 3) and her (and reportedly her father's) assessment of the utter failure of the Ministry of Interior on national security in general and the investigation into the deaths of the victims of the September 11 attacks in Benghazi in particular.

- Magariaf said that she expects approximately 200 attendees, including members of Congress, cabinet members, representatives of the international diplomatic corps, and other participants who knew Ambassador Stevens. We have heard from contacts that at least some invitations have already been distributed.
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

(SBU) GOL Security to U.S. Mission : GOL Ministry of Interior Diplomatic Security representative Colon el Samir told RSO today that beyond deterrence -- the MOI would be unable to react to serious threats against Embassy Tripoli security, a result of insufficient training and under-equipping of security forces, and a lack of internal organization.

(U) Temporary Suspension on NIV Services, Continuance of Emergency AMCIT Services : Post's NIV and ACS internet pages have been updated to indicate temporary suspension of NIV and instructions for seeking emergency AMCIT services. A warden message was issued September 18 with instructions on AMCIT services as well.

(U) UNGA delegations: Consul delivered 1 additional visa to the MFA for the GOL's UNGA delegation (Americas Director Abdurrahman El Gannas). **Magariaf's UNGA delegation**: On September 19, Consul received and processed applications for General National Congress President Mohammad Magariaf + 10 and notified CA of the need for expedited clearances. The delegation plans to depart Libya Sunday, September 23.

(SBU) Benghazi March to "Save Benghazi" Planned for Friday, September 21 : Groups of citizens in Benghazi are planning to hold a march on Friday, September 21 to protest 1) the September 11 attack on the U.S. Special Mission in Benghazi, 2) militia control of the city, 3) proliferation of weapons; and 4) the general security environment. Organizers intend to assemble at 17:00 at the Tibesti Hotel in Benghazi and march to a mosque in Kish Square for prayers, near the

site of the Ansar al-Sharia headquarters. Some contacts in Benghazi assert that t he march could spark clashes between marchers and Ansar al-Sharia. [redacted] Honorary Consul for Finland, told A/DCM on September 19, however, that similar protest events planned for Friday, September 14 had low turn -out. "We are just ashamed of Benghazi," he said. Libyan-American Businessmen Association Director **Mahmoud ElMufti,** who met with Ambassador Stevens at the U.S. Mission in Benghazi a few hours before the attacks, told us that he expected participation to be extraordinarily high, because outrage by citizens over a failure of the government to protect Benghazi, which was a peaceful city, had "hurt long enough," and should not be a stage of violence or terrorism. "Businesswise everybody's pessimistic," ElMufti said, companies are retreating why would anyone want to come here now?" ElMufti said that the attack was planned and organized in advance, that there had been no notice of protests in social media or other outlets around Benghazi, and that he believed Ansar al-Sharia was probably to blame.

(U) "Save Benghazi" announcement attached : The attached announcement calls for the protest march and establishes goals:

1. Withdraw the authority of all armed groups;
2. Request the GNC issue a law in which the armed groups will be conside red criminals.
3. All armed groups to be evicted from the government buildings. Organize the collection of arms.
4. Give full authority, support and protection to the police and army to carry out their work.

(SBU) Italian Consul General [redacted] – "Attack absolutely planned" : The September 11 attacks against the U.S. Special Mission in Benghazi were coordinated with a degree of military efficiency that points to premeditated intent and effective planning, Italian Consul General [redacted] told A/DCM on September 19. [redacted] lives within minutes of the Mission in Benghazi and hurried to the site immediately after he heard the initial explosions. "There were no protestors there and there was n o advanced warning of protests," [redacted] said. Italian diplomatic security personnel had arrived in Benghazi earlier today and would now provide personal protective detail and static security for staff and facilities of the Italian Consulate. Until the September 12 attacks, [redacted] did not have security and drove himself freely around Benghazi in his personal vehicle. The Italian Consulate will close Friday, September 21, in cautionary response to anticipated unrest in the wake of the release of a French cartoon that reportedly depicts the Prophet Mohammad unfavorably. Conditions in Benghazi had returned to normal, [redacted] said, streets busy with traffic and business continuing as usual. A protest planned for September 21 against the attack in Benghazi's "Freedom Square" would not likely draw a significant number of participants, [redacted] predicted, given concerns about security and his assessment of a "return to normalcy" around town. [redacted] has physical control of Ambassador Steven's notebook, pilfered from the U.S. Mission Benghazi compound by an unknown person, and will have the Italian Ambassador deliver it to Embassy Tripoli as soon as he is able to arrange safe travel here.

(U) French Consulate in Benghazi Closed : The French Consul General and his staff have departed country.

(SBU) Upcoming Visits :

September 18-2?: Legatt [redacted] (Milair): Control Officer: [redacted] + [redacted]
September 19-2?: FBI/DS Investigative Team (5+1): Control Officer: [redacted] + [redacted]
September 20-21: D(B) + 2: Control Officer: [redacted] + [redacted]
September 20-21: General Ham, AFRICOM: Control Officer: Lt. Col. [redacted] + [redacted]
October 1-2: A/AS Beth Jones (visit): Control Officer: [redacted] + [redacted]
October TBD: Senator Corker +2: Control Officer: TBD

(SBU) Inbound TDY Staff: DS has requested Embassy assistance in obtaining visa approval numbers for the following Mobile Security Detachment (MSD) personnel who are scheduled to arrive at post within the coming days: [redacted] and [redacted]. Embassy point of contact is Protocol Officer [redacted], who is working with the MFA.

SCB 000220

(U) Accommodations: Capacity for housing and services at Embassy Tripoli is nearing full.

(U) Medical/Health Staffing: A Regional Medical Officer and a Regional Psychiatrist are available for consultations: POC: Medical Unit: [redacted] RMO [redacted] s successor from September 21 through October 10.

SCB 000221

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 9:56 AM
To: Cunningham, James B; Kaidanow, Tina S; Llorens, Hugo; [redacted] Kabul Front Office; Kabul Exec CDDEA Deputies; Kabul IPA Coordinator; Kabul RSO Intel; Kabul POL Americans; Kabul PolMil Americans; Kabul Press; [redacted]
Cc: Middle East Protests; Operations Center; SSRAP StaffAssistants; [redacted] SCA-Press; Hayden, Caitlin; West, Thomas; [redacted] Kabul PD Field Officers
Subject: IPA Afghanistan Field Reports -- Reaction to Controversial Film and Cartoons -- Thurs 20 Sept @ 1830
Attachments: 2012 09 19 IPA Afghanistan Field Reporting.docx

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED / FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
From the Office of Interagency Provincial Affairs (IPA)

--THIS IS OUR SECOND OF TWO REPORTS FOR THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2012 --

The following is the **most recent compilation** of field reports covering civilian engagement in the field with Afghan counterparts and observed local reactions regarding the controversial film at the center of events in Libya and Egypt of September 11, 2012, and the release of cartoons purportedly depi cting the Prophet Mohammed in a French publication. Key Leader Engagements (KLE) and other discussions are conducted by various field units at the level of the Platform, Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) and District Support Team (DST).

Field reports represent immediate readouts from Mission civilian staff located throughout Afghanistan for the purpose of decision-maker situation awareness, and are not subject to rigorous analytical review. Events in Kabul and engagements with Kabul-based government officials are generally NOT/NOT covered in this report.

US Embassy Kabul Front Office produces official Mission Afghanistan sitreps. Other offices may provide more specific input to targeted audiences, such as Public Affairs Section reporting of Afghan med ia reaction.

IPA continues to collect reports from the field and will update this information periodically.

Please find NEW REPORTING below in REVERSE CHRONOLOGICAL order. Previous days' reporting regarding this series of events is ATTACHED.

****NEW REPORTING****

THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2012: AFTERNOON REPORTS

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- **Herat Province: Several sources are reporting possible "meetings or gatherings" Friday** in Herat city to condemn the video and French caricatures. These are different from demonstrations or street protests as they would be confined to one place and not go out into the streets, and not require a police demonstration permit. At 1600 today, neither the Police Chief nor Governor had knowledge of any application for a demonstration permit for Friday.
- Gov Saba informed Consul that there are plans for **protests in Towrghundi, the small town on the border with Turkmenistan, and in the southern district of Adraskan**, site of yesterday's IED explosion killing/wounding ANSF and civilians outside the NTM-A training facility and where there were violent demonstrations Feb 24 resulting in fatalities and injuries protesting the burning of the Holy Qur'an.
- Concerns remain that the charismatic, independent, fire-brand imam of Gazargah mosque, Mujib ur-Rahman, and members of the Akhlaq wa Marefat group may organize and stage protests and demonstrations after Friday prayers in Herat city.
- An internal meeting was planned for 16:30 today at the main Shi'a madrassah in Herat, Madrassah-ye Sidiqqiyyah. Senior Shi'a leader, Hajji Tawakoli, told Consul the meeting was to discuss and condemn the video and French caricatures and would be peaceful, confined to the madrassah, and not include burning of American flags or photos of President Obama. He expected the gathering to call for legal actions be taken against the film maker.
- Tawakoli told Consul today that he condemned the murder of US diplomats in Libya, stating that in Islam it is to kill or attack someone else for the actions of another. But he seemed genuinely perplexed that countries would not act against such hate-mongerers when the effects around the world are so notably negative. If there are protests on Friday, he said Herat's Shi'a community would not participate in them.
- Increased ANSF presence around the Consulate remains (see previous reporting).
- **Badghis Province:** PRT Team Lead attended a weapons handover ceremony that was peaceful. There were no indications of any planned protests.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Balkh Province:** No protests over the video or the French cartoons were reported today. Platform staff attended a Peace and Unity event presided by Governor Atta in the morning. The Governor did not raise these issues, and no reaction in that regard was had.
- Public Diplomacy Officer discussed a wide range of issues with Deputy Line Director for Education Qais Meherayeen, including the current controversial film and cartoons. PDO reports that Meheryaeen demonstrated a nuanced understanding of the concept of freedom of speech, and was a passionate and articulate speaker on what the Koran says about violence (condemns it), other religions (respect them), and the unfortunate role that fundamentalist Pakistan-trained mullahs have played in whipping up local populations (vs "enlightened" mullahs who have been trained in Afghan Madressas).
- Meherayeen said that Governor Atta laid down the law forbidding protests out in the open. Atta made it clear that protests and debates were fine in enclosed areas that could be controlled, such as school auditoriums, mosques, university halls, or even the stadium, but outdoor demonstrations risked nefarious elements whipping up anger and creating an out-of-control mob. Meherayeen emphasized several times that the local populace are simple people; the majority are illiterate, and can be easily manipulated. He noted that it is difficult for Afghans to understand why the USG would allow individual Americans to do things that make its citizens vulnerable to violent reprisals overseas.
- **Baghlan Province:** District Governor of Dahna-e-Ghori, Khan Zada, told us that **a demonstration took place in Dahna-e-Ghori today**. Approximately two hundred people gathered and chanted against the video and its producers. The protest occurred from approximately 08:30 to 10:30.
- **PRT staff expects a protest on Friday in Pul-e-Khumri.**

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Kandahar Province:** PRT staff continue receiving reports that local mullahs and police officials are instructing residents not to demonstrate.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

** REPORTING FROM EARLIER IN THE DAY**

THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2012: MORNING REPORTS

KABUL IPA (Coordinator [redacted]

- **RSO confirmed a demonstration against the video in question in the Kot -e Sangi area southwest of Kabul University, about 6.5 km from the U.S. Embassy.** Protestors had signs and banners and were blocking traffic lanes, but at the time of this writing the demonstration remained peaceful, with Kabul Police walking along on both sides and behind the crowd.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- Platform staff are attending events in Mazar and will report on KLE and atmospherics later today. **SCR notes that the French cartoons adds a new complexity to the ongoing issue, but that experience has shown that it will take several days for news of those cartoons to spread throughout communities and for reactions to develop.**
- **Arzu TV** reported that, following an anti-Islamic video by an American that insulted to Prophet Mohammad was broadcast, a French publication has now printed caricatures of the Prophet Mohammad. The reported noted that French officials have asked Muslims around the world to refrain from violence.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No reports of protests or disturbances in the South related to the video in question or the new French cartoons.
- There were demonstrations in Kandahar, but they were related to a recent bus crash in Ghazni Province that resulted in the deaths of five Kandahari journalists, as protesters questioned transportation safety standards.
- Today's Southern press reports included the following: *Thousands of people staged a peaceful protest against the anti-Islam film in Qalat City on Tuesday, 18 September. The protesters chanted anti-US slogans. [SAP20120919457001 Tarin Kot Paiwastoon Ghag in Pashto 0330 GMT 18 Sep 12 -- private radio station reportedly owned by Uruzgan Provincial Police Chief Matiullah Khan]* **NOTE:** We previously reported that this demonstration was much smaller than reported in this press piece, and was contained within the blue mosque under the eye of ANSF. **END NOTE.**

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

SCB 000224

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

****PREVIOUS DAYS' REPORTING ATTACHED****

Office of Interagency Provincial Affairs (IPA)
US Embassy Kabul, Afghanistan

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

SCB 000225

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED
Office of Interagency Provincial Affairs (IPA)

IPA Afghanistan Field Reporting
RE: Reactions to the Events in Libya of September 11, 2012

The following is a running compilation of field reports covering civilian engagement in the field with Afghan counterparts and observed local reactions regarding the events in Libya and Egypt of September 11, 2012. Key Leader Engagements (KLE) and other discussions are conducted by various field units at the level of the Platform, Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) and District Support Team (DST).

Field reports represent immediate readouts from Mission civilian staff located throughout Afghanistan for the purpose of decision-maker situation awareness, and are not subject to rigorous analytical review. Engagements with Kabul-based government officials are NOT/NOT covered in this report.

US Embassy Kabul Front Office produces official Mission Afghanistan sitreps. Other offices may provide more specific input to targeted audiences, such as Public Affairs Section reporting of Afghan media reaction.

The reports below are in **REVERSE CHRONOLOGICAL** order.

WEDNESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2012: AFTERNOON REPORTS

KABUL IPA (Coordinator [redacted]

- The lead story this afternoon in the Afghan media was the c ommemoration of the anniversary of the assassination of former President and High Peace Council Chair Burhanuddin Rabani. Wreath laying ceremonies and speeches were conducted without incident. Potential events on Friday are being closely monitored.

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- **Badghis Province:** No demonstrations were reported today. Some who had threatened protests today ended up at the kickoff of the Peace Weak ceremony at the Governor's compound. The atmosphere there was charged but peaceful. Provincial authorities asked PRT staff to avoid the venue for security and to avoid incitement. LES attended.
- Reports indicate that the Acting Vice-Governor (who has indicated interest in an Immigrant Visa to the United States) gave an inflammatory and misguided anti-U.S. speech while condemning the video. PRT staff are attempting to discuss his remarks with him on Thursday.
- **Herat Province: Security was visibly beefed up around the Consulate by the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF). Several vehicles with heavy weaponry were parked near the Consulate Wednesday afternoon, and the ANSF conducted occasional spot checks of vehicles passing on the main road in front of the Consulate.**
- Governor Saba has heard rumors that a branch of Hezb-e Islami Jamiat, led by educated Ghulam Sakhi, may be planning a protest after Friday prayers in Herat. Consequently, civil society organizers decided to postpone their large rally in Herat stadium on Friday, Sept 21 to

mark International Peace Day and National Peace and Unity Week (see previous reporting). They moved the event to Sunday, Sept 23 from 1500 to 1800 at the same venue.

- Provincial Ulama Council Chairman, Mulawi Khodadod Saleh, made a strong, useful statement at the weekly Ulama Council (comprised of about 700 Herat ulama) meeting September 18, which was then broadcast on some of Herat TV stations. He appealed for calm. His statement may be rebroadcast on Thursday, September 20. **COMMENT:** Khodadod took a strong, public position on this subject, Consulate assess, because he generally supports President Karzai, who signaled that he wants no violence surrounding this latest incident. **END COMMENT**.
- Provincial Council Chairman, Dr. Faizzadeh, assured Consul and Pol/Econ Chief that he and other PC members will continue efforts to keep the situation calm. He also strongly recommended that the USG find some way to prosecute the makers of this hateful video and then publicize the action.
- Provincial Independent Election Council Chairman noted that Heratis are very religious and they are genuinely offended by such portrayals of the Prophet. Heratis, he said, are also influenced by watching Iranian TV and listening to Iranian radio stations, which are trying to inflame the situation.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- **Balkh Province:** There were rumblings of a protest at a downtown Mazar mosque, but contacts said the provincial government denied permission.
- SCR met with Balkh Deputy Governor Zaher Wahdat. When asked about the video, he appeared completely uninterested and turned to other topics.
- The Governor is hosting a large Peace and Unity Week event Thursday on his compound for local officials and diplomats. Given his preference so far to assert peace, we have no indication that the conference will turn into a protest about the video.
- Public Diplomacy Officer (PDO) met with Balkh University's Foreign Affairs and Cultural Affairs Director (who is also an English professor who studied in Kansas) Sayed Mustafa Zewary. Zewary dismissed the video, saying that he had not seen it, is not interested in seeing it, and has vociferously encouraged his students to ignore it, keep their noses down, and do their lessons. He added that "bad people will get their reward." Finally, Zewary emphasized that Gov'r Atta has called for calm, so there will be calm. **COMENT:** Zewary and PDO had this conversation surrounded by a large group of students intensely curious to listen to the conversation, although it was unclear how many understood English. Zewary was clear in his passion about the fact that this video was an incendiary ploy meant to bait Muslims, and he would make sure that none of his pupils took the bait. **END COMMENT.**
- **Baghlan Province:** Our civilian lead in Pul-e-Khumri also engaged with local religious leaders in a fruitful discussion to mitigate the impact of the video and turn it into an opportunity to enhance dialogue. He also notes that extra security precautions in anticipation of the possibility of a large protest later this week. I've attached his full report to this email.
- **Jowzjan Province:** An expected peace and unity conference in Shibirghan, Jowzjan that would have also addressed the video did not take place. The governor held a peace and unity week ceremony September 18, but local sources said it did not focus on the video.
- **Media Reaction: RTA Balkh (State owed, Pro Atta) reported** on a meeting between Major General Dahl and Governor Atta, during which General Dahl expressed his sadness and

condemned the anti-Islamic film. The two also discussed security related issues, including maintaining and equipping Afghan military and the Afghan Local Police; joint operations; and NATO shipments from the Hairatan Border. **Ariana Balkh (liberal) TV** reported on an ISAF statement saying that the video insulting the Prophet Mohammad should not be the reason for increased attacks on ISAF soldiers by Afghan forces. **Arzu TV and Ariana Balkh** reported on the NATO order to decrease the rate of ISAF and ANSF joint operations due to the risk of increased Afghan protests as a result of the video insulting the Prophet Mohammad. **Mehr TV (pro-Iran)** reported on Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Martin Dempsy's statement that attacks by Afghan soldiers on international forces are a serious threat to transitioning responsibility for security to the ANSF. The report noted that General Dempsy bluntly called the green-on-blue attacks a "serious threat." **Ariana Balkh** reported that the Russian Attorney General prohibited the anti-Islamic video from being shown.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Helmand Province**: Helmand continues to see no local reporting on protests within the province. Local police contacts mentioned a small protest in Lashkar Gah yesterday afternoon, but the location was unclear and was not covered on any news outlets. While national broadcasts are covering protests elsewhere in Afghanistan, the video and its aftermath are not receiving coverage by local outlets.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Nangarhar Province**: Surk Rod District Governor Sayed Ali Akbar reported that there were 600-800 students protesting at the University near Duranta Dam. The District Governor and ANP forces were on site to control the crowd and the protests were peaceful. Locally Employed staff estimated that less than 200 people were actual protesters, while others joined in simply to avoid attending class.
- **Logar Province**: PRT staff have had their mobility limited, but have received no reports of any protests.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Kandahar Province**: PRT staff discussed the video at a meeting with Provincial Governor Wesa and his security team. He attributed a lack of public reaction to his government's outreach to local mullahs and others. At the same time, he suggested that protests emerging around this issue (as well as the recent deaths of five journalists in a road accident that killed more than 50 people) could easily have turned violent in the absence of such outreach. The subject did not come up at all at a meeting yesterday with the district governor of Maiwand, one of the more kinetic districts in southern Afghanistan.

TUESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2012: AFTERNOON REPORTS

IPA Kabul

- As widely reported in the press, a suicide vehicle-borne improvised explosive device targeted a mini-van traveling toward Kabul International Airport at 0645 this morning. The mini-van held

nine foreign contractors who supported airport operations, includi ng US Embassy Air flights. The attack occurred approximately 2 kilometers west of Kabul International Airport and approximately 3.8 kilometers from the United States Embassy. There were no American citizens or Chief of Mission personnel killed or injured i n the attack.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Balkh Province**: SCR and staff met Shia and Sunni Ulema Council Chiefs this afternoon and urged them to continue delivering a message of peace and non -violence. Kazem Jafferi, the Shia leader, had already delivered a message of tolerance on September 15 at a Peace and Unity event with Governor Atta. According to news reports, the Sunni leader, Mawlawi Mohammad Shah Adeli, had riled up crowds just before the 2011 attack on t he UN compound. They both understood the importance of refraining from violence. Jafferi and Adeli noted they had met with Governor Atta this morning along with other religious leaders. Atta urged them to continue to ensure that protests stay peaceful.
- Major General Dahl flew into Mazar today and met with Governor Atta to discuss other matters. Dahl told the Governor that we appreciated Atta's efforts to prevent violence related to the video.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Logar Province**: PRT staff were told that demonstrators had gathered following the funeral for a local insurgent killed in action by Coalition Forces and were prepared to descend on Combat Outpost (COP) Pul-e Alam. The move on the base never mat erialized.

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- **Badghis Province: Badghis University students organized a demonstration in Qal -e-Now City this morning to protest the movie.** The demonstrators closed the university gate and started their protest inside the agriculture and education faculty compound. The protestors chanted anti-American slogans and burned the U.S. flag, as well as a photo of President Obama. The protesters issued a press release asking the USG to bring the producer of the offensive video to justice. According to police commanders, the university had coordinated the event with the Afghan National Police (ANP). PRT staff was told that university students helped t he ANP search everyone that entered the university for the protest, and ANP forces had surrounded the university compound. Police did not allow another protest by religious leaders to take place because proper permits had not been obtained.
- **Herat Province**: Herat provincial Afghan National Police (ANP) Chief General Ghafar told Consul and RSO today that he would continue to actively manage those who wish to protest so that peace is maintained and extremists are contained. He said he had personally discussed the terms of the Sept 16 Herat University demonstration (previously reported) with the student organizers, stressing the absolute need to remain peaceful and abide by the law and terms of protest. He said that included keeping protests away from the stre et in front of the Consulate. Playing on the sense of cultural heritage of Herat, he said he had also warned organizers that if violence were to come from their demonstrations, the students would be blamed, bringing shame to them and the University. The Chief said he visited the demonstration toward its end and spoke to some of those in the crowd.

- The Police Chief also said he recorded a message for RTA, which may air tonight, complimenting the student demonstrators for obeying the law and airing their c oncerns peacefully, and calling on all citizens who want to protest to do likewise.
- Consul complimented General Ghafar for his personal efforts, particularly the media clip initiative, noting this strong message needed to be conveyed to Herat ulama as well . He said he was also working on this message with the ulama, naming a couple of the more radical ones. Consul expressed concern that some extremists might still try to foment violence, using peaceful demonstrations as an ruse to attack the Consulate or cause Americans harm. The Chief said he hoped that efforts over the last few months of working with civil society and promoting peaceful demonstrations would successfully counter efforts by extremists.
- Consul and RSO expressed our gratitude for the ANP's increased security assistance around the Consulate Sept 16 and requested continued increased ANP protection. Consul noted that an important worldwide lesson is that where host government security forces are seen by the public to be protecting diplomatic missions, those intending us harm are often deterred. Gen Ghafar said he understood this lesson and ANP protection of the Consulate would continue. Governor Saba similarly pledged continued increased attention to the Consulate's security in a September 17 meeting.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reportin g.

TUESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2012: MORNING REPORTS

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- **Badghis Province: Staff received information that students at the Teachers Training Institute in Qal-e-Now may launch a demonstration today.**
- **Herat Province**: The Governor informed Consul that neither he nor ANSF contacts have any information about any planned protests or demonstrations in Herat today. Herat Consul and RSO are to meet with Herat provincial Afghan National Pol ice (ANP) chief today to discuss security situation.
- Governor shared that Herat civil society is planning a big rally in the Herat stadium after Friday prayers, Sept 21. Purpose is to celebrate International Peace Day, following day Sept 22, and as part of the National Peace and Unity Week. Governor supports this civil society initiative.
- Embassy Political Counselor's visit to Herat was cancelled. Herat Consul and Political -Economic Chief will carry out some of the planned KLEs.
- **Farah Province**: The situation in Farah appears to be stable. PRT leaders returned from attending a Provincial Council monthly accountability meeting, which involved extensive interaction between members of the public and ministry Line Directors. Concerns about security

issues in general were raised, but the broader focus of the discussion was rooting out corruption and fostering greater transparency.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- Platform staff are meeting the Chairs of the Sunni and Shi'a Ulema Councils this afternoon to discuss the ongoing situation.
- **Kunduz Province**: Rocks were thrown at the outset of a protest involving 50-100 people in Kunduz, but the crowd was confined to the university.
- The lead story in the local media was the continuation of demonstrations against the anti-Islamic video in Mazar-e-Sharif, Takhar, Baghlan, and Kapisa provinces. Reports said that the demonstrations, with the exception of Kabul, were peaceful.
- **Arina Balkh (Liberal) TV, RTA Blkh (State owed, pro Atta) Mehr TV (pro Iran) and Arzu TV (pro Atta)** reported that hundreds of Balkh University Students and a number of professors gathered in protest at Balkh University Hall condemned the video and asked for the perpetrators who created it to be punished for insulting Islam. The report added that a few days ago Governor Atta urged people to protest peacefully and avoid violence while demonstrating. Afghan Government officials also highlighted that the enemies of Afghanistan are trying to incite the people's feelings to exploit them for their own benefits. **Mehr TV and Arzu TV** reported that protests in Kabul against the video became violent. According to the Kabul Police Chief said that hundreds of protestors got very close to the vicinity of ISAF and American facilities in Kabul and as the result 50 Policemen were injured.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

MONDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2012: AFTERNOON REPORTS

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- **Herat Province**: According to Governor Saba and ANSF contacts, there have been no protests or demonstrations in Herat today. Although the Governor was pleased the Sept 16 demonstration outside Herat U passed peacefully (see previous reporting), he expressed concern about this coming Friday. Consul briefed him on some of the notable points from Balkh Governor Atta's recent speech (see previous reporting). He agreed with Atta's strong condemnation of suicide bombers, and Consul's suggestion that more needed to be done to persuade the Herat ulama to condemn them.

- Consulate Herat will continue engaging with key government and religious leaders during the Embassy Political Counselor's visit to Herat later this week.
- The lead story in the Herat local media focused on yesterday's demonstrations at Herat University. The protesters released a four article statement and asked that the U.S. government bring the producer of the offensive film to justice. Herat Police Commander General Sayed Abdul Qafar Sayedzade said that the security measures had been taken to prevent any trouble. He added that this demonstration was organized in coordination with the police.
- Several senior government officials who viewed Afghan TV news film footage of the Sept 16 Herat and Kabul university demonstrations noted to SCR that an identical placard with the American flag and derogatory language on a white background was seen in both demonstrations, suggesting that perhaps the same organizers were involved.
- Consulate learned that, as a precaution, Italiana Cooperazione staff safe harbored at another location Sept 16.
- **Badghis Province**: PRT Team Lead saw the Vice-Governor and NDS chief among others today. The Governor had traveled to Kabul. They insisted (as they had to the PRT commander on Saturday) that they had the situation well under control. They said that they had told the Ulema Council and others in the community that they could demonstrate freely in their own spaces, but not in the streets. They said they had stressed that violence would not be tolerated. They said President Karzai himself had called all the Governors to tell them to keep a lid on violence.
- PRT staff received reports that Qal-E-Now university students will demonstrate, tomorrow, but they will keep it peaceful and on the university grounds. Asked if most students were particularly devout, and official responded that they simply didn't want to be left behind after hearing about demonstrations at Kabul University and elsewhere.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted])

- **Logar Province**: PRT staff met with Governor Sabari to discuss local reaction to the video in question and the events in Libya and Egypt. Sabari told PRT staff that he had met with local religious and tribal leaders in order to counsel calm. He said that he told local leaders that protests and demonstrations would only harm residents in Logar and called for their support in promoting a peaceful reaction. PRT has heard speculation from some interlocutors that some in Logar could soon launch protests in order to demonstrate their piety in line with protests elsewhere in Afghanistan. Sabari dismissed the possibility of local protests, saying that the people of Logar didn't care about a "stupid" movie.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted])

- **Zabul Province**: Approximately 200 demonstrators ultimately marched from one mosque to another without incident in Qalat (see reporting below).

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted])

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted])

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

MONDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2012: MORNING REPORTS

IPA KABUL

- RSO Kabul monitored several protests in and around Kabul.
- At approximately 0730 a group of protesters gathered in the Hood Kheyl neighborhood off of Jalalabad Road east of Camp Phoenix. By 0830 the protest grew to about 500 people who clashed with Ministry of Interior (MOI) personnel on Jalalabad Road. Between 0830 and 1000 local time, protesters threw rocks at Afghan police, used sling shots to target nearby outposts, and destroyed up to two Afghan police vehicles. Protesters were also burning tires on Jalalabad Road, causing large plumes of smoke. The protesters reached Green Village, but by 1030 local time, the protesters have been pushed back toward Camp Warehouse and were starting to disperse. Throughout the protest, the demonstrators were at least four kilometers from the Embassy.
- At approximately 0930 local time, a group of approximately 100 former MoD officers gathered near Ghazi (Soccer) Stadium to protest the film. The group then departed the stadium marching towards Freedom Circle (a few kilometers from the Embassy).
- A small protest commenced at 1030 on Jalalabad Rd two kilometers from the Embassy. 20-30 people protested against the United States, burning a tire.
- Afghan authorities have placed additional assets at Massoud Circle near the Embassy and have more stationed in reserve.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- **Zabul Province:** Zabul PRT was told that some 100 community elders met at the Qalat blue mosque this morning to discuss the video in question. There was also some reporting that they may be recommending that shops in the bazaar close Tuesday morning as a form of protest. There were other reports of a few protestors in Qalat setting up effigies but no demonstrations as of noon. There were no demonstrations or groups forming in the Shah Joy area, where officials have been meeting with local mullahs to urge peaceful demonstrations.
- In light of recent attacks in the region, the SCR instructed COM personnel to cancel the majority of meetings/visits with local and provincial officials for the next 48 hours.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- RC-North has seen a few scattered, peaceful protests today, and additional, helpful interventions by political leadership.
- On the press side, **Ariana Balkh** continues to carry the message of peace and tolerance from Amb. Llorens and Gov. Atta's September 13 press conference. Ariana Balkh also reported that governor of Takhar province urged the ulema and community leaders to play a key role in bringing peace.
- **Mehr TV (Pro Iran)** and **Arzu TV (Pro Atta)** reported on the continuation of peaceful demonstration in Kabul and Herat Provinces, noting that students demonstrating at Kabul University blocked the entrances to the school. Arzu TV also reported that the Senate called for

people to exhibit patience in response to the film. The report noted that some members of the Senate walked out of Parliament as a sign of protest.

- **Balkh Province**: Students at Balkh University in Mazar staged a protest. While we're still trying to get more details about the number of students and what they actually did, the protest has already peacefully dispersed.
- **Baghlan Province**: The PRT in Pul-e-Khumri reached out to the governor, police chief and NDS about the video. All indicated that they have reached out to mullahs to urge peace. The governor downplayed the potential for immediate video-related demonstrations, but he expressed concern about a protest on Wednesday against the poor condition of the road to the Salang Pass.
- **Takhar Province**: A Provincial Council member told Kunduz PRT of a demonstration at a university in Taloqan against the video. The PC member spoke to the university president and advised him to do what he could to keep the protest contained to the university, rather than spilling out onto the streets. It has remained peaceful through the morning.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reporting.

SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2012: AFTERNOON REPORTS

IPA KABUL

- Embassy Kabul reported that student protests took place at Kabul University and Polytechnic University. The Afghan Directorate of Security confirmed one protest with approximately 500 students occurred at Kabul University. Students agreed to confine the protests to the university campus.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Zabul Province: Military commanders are reassessing force protection and movement policies in light of the attack reported below. Several Chief of Mission personnel would be affected by certain decisions, and PRT Zabul and Platform civilian leadership are engaged.**
- **Kandahar Province**: Platform Public Diplomacy staff received reports of mixed sermons and messages delivered by mullahs in the South region, over the last few days including:
- A mullah in Kandahar City said that he was disappointed because Americans humiliated Muslims once again. He reminded them of the incident involving the Holy Quran and told his followers to peacefully protest the anti-Islamic film.

- Haji Agha in Zharay gave a message of peace and understanding to inform and calm the people, so that they would not be angered by what they may hear about the anti -Islamic film. Another mullah spoke about the Muslim brotherhood and how their violent actions are against Islam , but that they do have the right to fight for their rights. Another spoke about the importance of supporting the ALP and the ANA in their fight against the Taliban who always abuse their children and families.

- -A mullah in Qalat said, *"Allah tests his creation in this world. Allah tested Ibrahim and Allah always says tests us. We should sacrifice what we have for Allah just like Ibrahim sacrificed his son. Nowadays, Infidels are in our country and it is a test. We must pray so Allah forgives us and puts an end to this situation."*

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- **Kunar Province**: The Governor's cultural advisor reports **500-1000 members of political parties and shuras are traveling to Kunar from Kabul to express support fo r Kunar on issue of Pakistan border shelling. There is the possibility that this could turn into a large demonstration, potentially with a spillover effect related to the film.** Representatives from some of the Kabul - based groups had been to the Governor's compound in Asadabad yesterday to make arrangements, and ANSF put together a security plan. The governor's office says that the main body is still on its way from Kabul, with many near Jalalabad by Sunday evening. Depending on the arrival time, a large sc ale meeting could take place either Sunday evening or Monday.

- **Logar Province**: Conditions remain calm in Logar, with no indication of unrest connected to the video. PRT staff will meet with Governor Sabari on Monday, September 17 in order to discuss the video, its local impact, and whether or not there is a need and opportunity for outreach.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- **Helmand Province**: Provincial Governor Muhammad Gulab Mangal provided the following condolence message to ISAF IJC and the PRT:

  "We sorrowfully got information that two ISAF service members has been killed two wounded when a Local Police turned his weapon against ISAF service members. I myself as Helmand's governor am very upset about ISAF soldier's casualty occurred by local police and I offer my sympathy to the families, relatives and the country mates of the departed souls. I can confidently say that the residents of the Helmand province will never forget and ignore the, efforts and sacrifices of the ISAF forces that they sacrificed themselves and prepared relieved life and development for people in Helmand province. Such schemes of the enemies of the people of the country as result of which ISAF forces are killed by local police, will never hav e negative effects on the relation of ours and ISAF forces but our relations will be further strengthened because we both work for joint purpose as well we will maintain our relations and efforts well together as before."

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted].

- **Herat Province**: Herat remained quiet throughout the day following the morning's demonstration by university and secondary school students (reported below).

- **Maihan TV** reported September 15 that the residents of Her at province strongly condemned the movie released in the U.S., which insults the Prophet Mohammad. The Chief of Ulema Council in

the Western Region of Afghanistan Mawlavi Khodadad Saleh condemned this movie and asked the people to be calm and tolerant. He demanded that the Afghan government ask the U.S. government to stop the broadcasting of this movie and that the U.S. government punish the perpetrators. **NOTE:** Consulate Herat communicated USG positions with Saleh and provided him written materials. **END NOTE.**

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from earlier reports.

SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2012: MORNING REPORTS

IPA KABUL

- Based on multiple reporting streams, we are aware of the following nine demonstrations across Afghanistan thus far related to the video in question. To our knowledge, all have been peaceful, albeit accompanied by some anti-American rhetoric and instances of desecration of the U.S. flag. *Other demonstrations have taken place in the last several days in protest of unrelated issues, such as Pakistani shelling into Afghanistan territory.*

Sept 14

- **Kabul Province:** Pol-e Chisti Mosque, approximately 50 people
- **Kabul Province:** approximately 50 people
- **Nangarhar Province:** Bati Kot District, Mako Bazaar to FOB Shinwari, approximately 400 people
- **Nangarhar Province:** Jalalabad District Center, approximately 300 people
- **Paktiya Province:** Ahmad Khail, several hundred people

Sept 15

- **Khost Province:** University of Khost, approximately 150 people
- **Nangarhar Province:** Jalalabad Murakhabat Square, approximately 50 people dispersed quickly

Sept 16

- **Herat Province:** Herat University, approximately 400 college and secondary students
- **Zabul Province:** Qualat blue mosque, approximately 50 people, ushered into the mosque by security forces

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- **Herat Province: A demonstration took place as planned (see yesterday's reportin g) outside Herat University. The event passed without incident, and Consulate American staff that had moved to a safe haven location were to be returned to the Consulate (LES staff had been instructed to stay home for the day.).** Consul has recommended the return to normal operations as of September 17, including Embassy Air Flights to and from Herat, which had been suspended pending the demonstration.
- Approximately 250 university students gathered in front of Herat U's main gate in the morning. Another approximately 150 students from the nearby Experimental High School ("Tajrobawi Lycee" affiliated with Herat U Education Faculty) also joined the demonstration. Using loudspeakers, they shouted slogans such as, "Marg bar Amrika" (Death to America) and "Let us unite to oppose those who oppose Islam," and reports indicated that demonstrators had burned the American flag. The protest remained otherwise peaceful. Consulate staff had received

reports that, prior to the demonstration, at approximately 0615 men on motorcycles were shouting anti-American slogans east of the Consulate.

- Consulate staff reported that Afghanistan National Security Forces (ANSF) were out in force to monitor the demonstration, and had blocked entrances to the road leading to the Govern or's residential compound that runs parallel to the east side of the University compound. Seven Afghan National Civil Order Police (ANCOP) trucks with troops were parked in front of the Consulate.
- Governor Saba told Consul that the city was "normal" as of 1110.
- **Herat National TV** reported that during the September 14 Friday prayers, religious leaders strongly condemned the movie released in the U.S., which is insulting to the Prophet Mohammad. The prayers and Mullahs demanded that the Afghan government a sk the U.S. government to stop the broadcast of this movie and that the perpetrators be punished. Also the Ulema Council in the Western Region of Afghanistan condemned the movie which is insulting the Prophet Mohammad and asked the people to remain calm an d tolerant.
- There were no reports of activity related to the video elsewhere in the region.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Zabul Province: Approximately 50 men gathered in Qalat bazaar near the blue mosque in the late morning. Observers noted only a handful of individuals trying to rally the group using a single bullhorn. Reports suggest that ANSF personnel ultimately convinced the men to move into the mosque itself, rather than demonstrate outside.**
- International news outlets began covering the story of an insider threat incident that occurred overnight in Zabul province, reportedly resulting in the deaths of four ISAF personnel. At the time of this writing, no link between the attack and the video in question has been publicly reported.
- PRT Zabul was informed of two inflammatory sermons that took place on Friday, September 14. According to the reports, one mullah stated, *"Infidels try to defame Mohammad, Islam and Muslims by showing the film. In every Muslim country people are protesting. In Afghanistan people should protest and stand up against the Infidels. People do not make sacrifices and are afraid of ISAF and that is why people do not protest."* Another was reported to have said, *"Muslims should never get disappointed or tired in fighting the Infidels. In the beginning of Islam 3000 Muslims could fight 10,000 Infidels. Muslims must get angry over the film shown in the U.S."*
- Kandahar PRT staff reported that local media have credited Governor Wesa's proactive meeting with mullahs on Thursday with helping to maintain calm.
- There were no reports of activity related to the video elsewhere in the region.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Ghazni Province:** While there were no disturbances in the province, a high -level provincial official told PRT staff this morning there is still wide condemnation of the video taking place in the mosques and by the mullahs. He said some of the more extreme and inf luential elders and/or those under the influence of the Taliban are trying to organize or encourage some type of movement or demonstration, but that GIRoA is trying to negotiate with them in order to keep things calm.

- There were no reports of activity rela ted to the video elsewhere in the region.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Balkh Province:** There were no reported demonstrations or incidents related to the video. One local newspaper reported on Governor Atta's commen ts at an event yesterday (previously reported). RP-N staff provided this translated excerpt: ***Governor Atta also condemned the making of a film by a Jewish in California that insulted the Prophet Mohammad. He called on the Afghan government to consult wit h the US government to stop insulting over one billion Muslims under the pretext of democracy and freedom of expression***. *He said the US is paying for this act with lives and treasure. He said this act brings the honesty of the US government in respecting Islam under question. Atta added that he was saddened by the killing of US diplomats in Benghazi. He said the US should make good on its promise of respecting Islam and stop these people from making such insults.* ***He called for calm and said violence will only harm themselves.***

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from earlier reports.

SATURDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2012: AFTERNOON REPORTS

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted])

- **Nanagarhar Province: Reports indicate police dispersed a group of about 50 people demonstrating in the Jalalabad market Saturday afternoon.**
- **Wardak Province:** Wardak remains calm. Gov Fidai met with Af ANSF throughout Wardak. There have been no protests today in Wardak nor are any anticipated at this time.

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- **Herat Province: A relatively large demonstration is expected at Herat University tomorrow to protest the film.** Consul met with Acting Chancellor Mohammad Naser Rahyab this afternoon, and later discussed the matter with the Governor. Herat RSO met with the Afghan National Police (ANP) Chief.
- Police have given permission for only students to demonstrate on Sunday from 8 t o 10 am outside the University, along the road parallel the university campus to the east. Student organizers have pledged to keep the demonstration peaceful and to allow only students to participate. In his morning meeting with about fifteen students rep resenting a range of faculties, Acting Chancellor stressed the students had to apply for a demonstration permit (which they obtained), had to keep it peaceful (which they pledged), and could not block the main entrance to the University (which they agreed).
- ANP Chief promised to control the demonstration and to provide extra protection to keep the demonstrators away from the Consulate. The Governor, in spite of reassurances from influential persons that the demonstration will be peaceful, expressed concern that some of

those who organized other recent protests in Herat may latch on to the student demonstration and turn it ugly. He is convening a security meeting at 19:30 to discuss.

- Due to the proximity of the demonstration venue to the Consulate (about 400-500 meters at the intersection closest to the Consulate), Consul convened an EAC at 1830, and will provide input to the Governor's security meeting. **As the Consulate did Friday, options may include various means to reduce staff footprint at the Consul ate during the hours of the demonstration.**
- This morning's small demonstration at Herat University (reported below) was in condemnation of recent Pakistani shelling into eastern Afghanistan. Protesters also denounced a proposal reported in international press to divide Afghanistan into multiple regions, and decried ongoing insecurity across Afghanistan.
- The situation remained calm elsewhere in the region.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- **Helmand Province**: ISAF forces are in the process of assessing the extent of the damage from last night's attack and returning to normal base operations. All Chief of Mission personnel are safe and accounted for.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- **Uruzgan Province**: Director of the Haj Malawi Hamdullah told PRT staff via telephone that between 200 and 300 elders and religious scholars (ulema) gathered Friday evening at the Provincial Police Headquarters (PPHQ). ***The group discussed the video in question and its implications. It was decided to urge the people to remain calm and not let the Taliban exploit their anger.*** The group also decided that the USG should bring legal action against the filmmaker for intentionally inciting violence.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- **Balkh Province**: No protests or other gatherings to report in Balkh as the day passed quietly.
- Staff of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) told Platform staff that Governor Atta touched on the issue of the video at the morning Massood commemoration/peace and unity week ceremony (reported below). He strongly condemned any desecrating act of Islam and requested the Karzai government to address the issue. He said the Afghan government should promote understanding among Americans of the religious tenets of Islam. ***He also called on the crowds to remain calm and to show restraint, and to avoid demonstrations that would allow insurgents to manipulate the situation.*** Atta called for prior consultations with him if people wished to stage peaceful demonstrations.
- Mohammad Kazin Jaffari, Chief Shiite Ulemah Council, agreed with Atta's statements, adding that blasphemy against Islam deeply hurt all Muslims and the people in Afghanis tan. ***He stressed that citizens have the right to protest, but it should be in a peaceful manner in prior consultation with the Governor.***
- **Baghlan Province**: PRT Chief of Misison (COM) personnel have been conferring with Hungarian PRT Commander regarding mov ements in furtherance of update ISAF guidance. PRT staff have

requested meetings on Sunday with the Provincial Governor and and the Director of Religious Affairs to promote continued dialogue with the scholars and mullahs.

SATURDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2012: MORNING REPORTS

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- **Helmand Province**: Last night, insurgents attacked Camp Bastion/Leatherneck with both small arms fire and indirect fire, killing two ISAF service members and causing damage to buildings and aircraft on the flight line. Currently, ISAF forces are in the process of assessing the extent of the damage. All Chief of Mission personnel are safe and accounted for.
- SCR [redacted] and ARSO [redacted] continue to account for and support Chief of Mission employees, ensuring renewed attention to personal security protocols and compliance with all RC(SW) security direction.
- RP-SW, Helmand PRT, and DST staff have official guidance and background from IJC on the attack on Camp Bastion/Leatherneck, and have been advised that ISAF military forces have the lead on all media engagement.
- BBC Online ran a story at 11:01 reporting that Taliban spokesman Qari Yousef Ahmadi called the BBC to claim responsibility for the attack on Camp Bastion/Leatherneck as "revenge" for the anti-Islamic video: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-19608561
- Reuters Online ran coverage at 11:05, reporting that Taliban spokesman Qari Yousef Ahmadi 's called Reuters to claim responsibility for the Camp Bastion attack and he said "The aim of this attack was revenge against Americans for the anti-Prophet movie." The Reuters feed also quoted Provincial Governor Gulab Mangal's spokesperson from the Helmand Media and Information Center (HMIC) as saying that 17 insurgents had been killed in the fighting: http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/09/15/us-afghanistan-attack-bastion-idUSBRE88D1MM20120915
- We have not yet seen news of last night's attack hit the regional or local media in Helmand or Nimroz Provinces. Our field officers have no reports of community protests or reactions from the outlying districts.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- **Khost Province**: Protest ongoing in Khost City as of 10:00 local, with a crowd of several hundred Afghans chanting anti-U.S. slogans, including "Death to America," related to the "Innocence of Islam" video. Protest is peaceful and contained; AUP are on site. No sightings of any GIRoA officials, elders, or senior religious figures participating in the protest.
- No other incidents to report at this time.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- **Kunduz Province**: Things are so far calm in Kunduz. Governor Jegdelek has been proactive in gathering local GIRoA and religious officials to discuss the issue. As I indicated yesterday, their discussion hit all the right points about promoting non-violence. Unfortunately, their later statements to the press were less helpful and more aggressive in tone in condemning the

internet film. Only the deputy governor's press statement directly called for citizens to avoid violence. Jegdelek reportedly will have a security meeting tomorrow which I will plan to attend, pending a security reassessment in the morning. We have scheduled no appointments for outside the PRT today.

- **Faryab Province**: According to a DAIL official, who is also a prominent member of the local community, the situation in Faryab remains calm.
- **Balkh Province**: Mazar and Balkh have also been quiet. The Governor held a large ceremony commemorating Massood and Rabbani this morning presumably as part of Peace and Unite Week -- which resulted in a crowd of 100-150 people gathering in the middle of the city, but it didn't develop into a protest. There are also increased checkpoints in the city, but it remains calm.
- On the press side, the press conference with Ambassador Llorens, Governor Atta and German DCM Owcza continued to garner coverage. Also, according to media, speakers at Friday prayers urged peace. ***RTA Balkh (state TV/pro-Atta) reported that during Friday prayers in major mosques in Balkh province, speakers before the prayers discussed refraining from violence and the importance of patience as a value of a good Muslim.***

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- **Herat Province**: Gov Saba confirmed there were no protests/demonstrations after Friday prayers in Herat city or the 15 districts of the province. And there is no information about any planned protests or demonstrations for today. He remains concerned, especially after news of protests in Pakistan, that later in the week and in particular next Friday, there will be protests/demonstations in Herat. He believes outsiders, as in the past, will instruct/advise extremist ulama and others on how to protest, demonstrate, and it is taking some time for them to decide how to proceed.
- A small peaceful demonstration (no more than 20 people) gathered outside Herat University, concerning an issue with Pakistan, and NOT/NOT related to the video.
- **Farah Province**: PRT staff visited a malnutrition feeding station in Farah City and observed a beefed up police presence with several new security checkpoints on the route into the city, but the PRT has seen no signs of unrest today.
- No significant activities noted in **Ghor** or **Badghiz** provinces.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Kandahar Province**: Kandahar Air Field (KAF) suffered a rocket attack in the early morning of Saturday. **IPA NOTE:** *KAF and several other ISAF facilities around Afghanistan hosting Chief of Mission are subject to regular Indirect Fire (IDF) attacks of this nature, sometimes on an average of three or more per week.* **END NOTE.**
- In light of the attack in Helmand (above), RP-S leadership requested a meeting with military counterparts to review physical and communications security.
- ***PRT Kandahar reports that there was a mix of sermons yesterday mentioning the video and the protests, many calling for peaceful protest or for people to stay in their homes, but a few others calling for expelling Americans from Afghanistan.*** In conversations with military counterparts, staff were reminded that during the uproar from Terry Jones' Koran-burning in

2011, riots did not break until 12 days after the event, due to the slow news cycle/time required for instigators to get organized to take advantage of it.

- A radio station reported that many religious scholars and tribal leaders in Kandahar Province condemned the film on Friday, saying whoever made the movie must be punished. The report stated that the Taliban called on its members and the public to take reve nge on the enemy for making such a movie. Mawlawi Azhar, a religious scholar in Kandahar Province, was quoted as saying such actions by non-Muslims cannot harm Islam, but that he called on people not to demonstrate in the streets because it leads to prope rty damage and loss of life which was not allowed in Islam. [SAP20120914457001 Tarin Kot Paiwastoon Ghag in Pashto 0330 GMT 14 Sep 12 – private radio station reportedly owned by Uruzgan Provincial Police Chief Matiullah Khan]
- **Uruzgan Province:** Elders in Tarin Kowt expressed dismay over stories they had heard concerning "a short film," but also said they understood that in a democracy "media speech" has wider protections even if the speech is offensive. They understood that even "bad" speech has a right to be heard. **NOTE:** *The USG personnel involved in this discussion indicated that the group with whom he spoke were largely uneducated and struggled with these concepts, while reaching their own, seemingly tolerant, conclusions.* **END NOTE.**

FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2012: AFTERNOON REPORTS

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- **Logar Province:** Has been quiet throughout the day, and for the preceding few days. Today's mosque sermon in Pul-e Alam passed without incident, and the PRT is not tracking any threats to COM personnel in Pul-e Alam or any signs of unusual protest activity in Logar.
- **Nangarhar:** There was a peaceful demonstration in Shinwar district, circa the Marco Bazaar. It was reported that around 200 people tried to block HWY 7 after the Friday prayers but police already located there didn't allow it to happen. By 1445 demonstrators had left the area.
- The PCOP reported that the PHQ had received a notification letter from the student bo dy at Nangarhar University stating their intent to demonstrate but so far he has not seen or heard of any demonstration.
- **Kunar:** Some minor incidents in Manogai and Chowkai districts but not sure if this was related to the film. They are still investigating.
- **Laghman:** Sources informed A/SCR that there were no demonstrations whatsoever in Mehtarlam.
- **Khost:** No reaction to video in Khost city or other areas in the province after prayers.
- **Paktya:** No indications in Paktya of video-related unrest, either (just anti-Governor protest as noted).
- **Wardak:** The situation today is calm; no protestors. Gov Fidai was directed to return to Maidan Shahr this morning to ensure security was in place. He arrived by 1100. According to Gov Fidai's Chief of Staff, Maidean Shahr was "flooded" with ANSF today in anticipation of possible

protests. Further, the local ANA chaplain reported to PRT staff that there would be no protests on Friday; however, there will be protests 15 Sep.

- **Kapisa Province**: Director for Information and Culture coordinated with religious leaders to limit the reaction and make condemnation from the mosques.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Balk Province**: Governor Atta and PC Chairman had requested the Ulamah Council in the province to refrain from delivering provocative preaches on the issue of the video. RC -N staff was told that the video in question was discussed at the Blue Mosque downtown, but the Mullah appealed for calm. There were no discussion of protests, and none were observed.

- Friday morning press coverage in the North was limited to a recitation of events taking place in other countries, and coverage of comments made by Governor Atta and Ambassador Llorens on Thursday at a economic development press conference. (NOTE: The press conference was reported here yesterday. END NOTE).

- RP-N sent out Ambassador Cunningham's statement on recent events to local media outlets that attended the Amb Llorens/Governor Atta press conference on Thursday.

- **Fayab Province**: Reports to RP-N indicated no incidents or calls to protest.

- **Kuduz Province**: The Germans report no unusual activity. LESs who live downtown report the same, but others with more experience suggest that the citizens of Kunduz tend to react to these kind of events 2 or 3 days after reactions elsewhere.

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- **Herat Province:** Afghan National Police (ANP) Chief General Ghafar reported to Consul at 14:20 that the situation had been calm at his mosque, and worshippers dispersed peacefully. He attends mosque at Masjed-e Jom'ah (the main congregational mosque in Herat and largest in Afghanistan). He believed the situation to be the same at Gazargah mosque.

- Gov Saba told Consul that there were reports that several imams preached against the videos, condemning them, asking the Afghan government to condemn them and to take some unspecified action in consort with other Muslim countries. But he had no reports of protests or demonstrations in Herat city or in the province after Friday prayers. Nevertheless, he said we must watch the situation carefully day by day.

- Consul shared with the Governor a report we got from a well -informed LES colleague that Mullah Farugh Hossaini had decided not to urge his parishioners to protest and resort to violence, lest he and other mullahs be blamed for bloodshed, which would work against their longer term propaganda and goals. Governor simply responded, "Good." Governor and I agreed to remain in contact rest of the day.

- All ANSF commanders , most senior provincial government officials, and very senior delegations from ISAF and IJC Kabul, as well as the Italian Undersecretary of Defense and Italian generals from Rome, attended the RC-W Commander's Transition of Authority (TOA) event Friday morning. Consul and USAID Senior Development Officer (SDO) represented USG civilians and the Consulate. Other three provincial governors from Regional Command West were not

present for the ceremony, presumably in furtherance to President Karzai's reported instruction to governors to stay in their provinces Friday to maintain calm.

- Each ANSF commander separately reassured Consul that the security situation in Herat city was under control, and that none expected any violent pro tests. The commanders also insisted that they would be able to manage the situation on the off chance that protests were to break out. The Afghan National Civil Order Police (ANCOP) Commander provided his personal phone number to call if there were any pr oblems: the ANCOP distinguished itself in containing violent demonstrators Feb 24.

- Dr. Faizzadeh, Provincial Council Chairman, told Consul that, after their conversation Thursday evening, he had called several influential ulama urging calm. He said he was a little concerned about Gazargah Mosque (where independent, emotional, smart, charismatic, young Mujib ur - Rahman preaches) and an organization called "Marefat -e Akhlaq" (Teaching Morals, an organization recently active in Qur'an study sessions during Ra mazan and involved in some of the anti-concert demonstrations). Then he phoned Mujib ur -Rahman and later informed me he thought the situation would be OK at Gazargah mosque, that there would not be any violent demonstrations emanating from that mosque tod ay. As for Marefat-e Akhlaq, he explained that some of its leaders are his professors in the Herat U Law and Political Science Faculty (Dr. Faizzadeh is also a student in this faculty) and he reached out to them to urge calm.

- There were some reports that the Taliban distributed night letters in Shindand and Pashtun Zarghun districts urging citizens to defend their religion.

- **Farah Province**: All contacts and PRT LES report heightened security on the streets, but no unusual activity. In an intensive appeal for calm, the Provincial Governor and Provincial Council President engaged in outreach to religious and civic leaders that extended late into the night of September 14 and resumed early on September 15. PC President Haji Abdul Basir Khairkhah indicated that he and Governor Khpalwak had called for large group meetings to make their case, but citing security concerns many of the leaders would not travel to Farah City, so the two worked the phones and met with smaller groups. Conservative mullahs were inte nt on calling for protests, but ultimately Khairkah said he and the Governor dissuaded them on the grounds that protests would embolden the enemies of the people and only exacerbate an already bad security situation in light of two violent incidents in the past week alone. Governor Khpalwak indicated he made extensive use of the background materials provided by the Embassy to GIROA and highlighted the fraudulent background of the movie producers and their intent to incite hatred and violence.

- **Ghor Province**: All is quiet in Chagcharan and there have been no reports of incidents or demonstrations elsewhere in Ghor. There are reports that the mullahs throughout Ghor did not discuss this issue in the mosques today. The NDS and Police Chief held a me eting yesterday with a group of mullahs to discourage their making any provocative statements.

- **Badghis Province**: Badghis has been quiet today. There was no reported trouble at the mosque and the Imam did not make any inflammatory remarks. However, there ha ve been second-hand reports of at least one and possibly more mullahs condemning the video and calling for demonstrations "in the coming days." Badghis had demonstrations during the book burning crisis that remained peaceful. We are joining the Spanish in observing a suspension of civil activity outside the base pending further review.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Kandahar Province**: All reports indicated a relatively calm day. PRT Kandahar Commander and Civilian Lead met PGov Naseri Friday morning and provided a copy of the Embassy's statement. The Governor said he would contact the PRT if anything significant unfolds.
- According to local staff, most Kandahar City residents are still not even aware of the vide o and the Embassy attacks in the Middle East and North Africa.
- The Kandahar Governor's Office held a meeting yesterday that was attended by about 100 religious and local leaders, including Provincial Council members, Peace Council chief and members, Ulema Shura, Hajj and Awqaf representatives, district elders and religious scholars, and imams from mosques in Kandahar City. The primary message of the gathering was that people should express their anger over the disrespectful act, but do so in a peaceful way. (Note: this is the same type of messaging that was projected in the February Qu'ran burning incident).
- In the Kandahar Media Information Center (KMIC) press conference following the meeting, Governor Wesa strongly condemned the film and called it inhumane , unjust, and anti-religious. He said that the people of Kandahar and Muslims worldwide have the right to protest but that it should be done peacefully, and that they should not destroy the property of other Muslims. Head of Kandahar's Ulema Council Mullah Toor Jan strongly condemned the film and said that it is insulting to all religions and it is against all holy books. The Hajj and Awqaf Director Noorul Aziz, Provincial Council members, and other local mullahs all asked the people to express their anger, but peacefully.
- After the meeting and ensuing press conference, the KMIC released pictures on Facebook and tweeted that religious leaders attending the meeting urged people to remain calm and not commit violence.
- Platform Public Diplomacy staff noted seve ral Twitter tweets of interest, in English, including: 1) *Friday in Kandahar was calm as was expected, luckily there weren't demonstrations and protests against the Anti-Islam movie.* 2) *Big gathering of Mullahs and elders in Kandahar yesterday, sabotaged the anger of people and prevented them from coming out to the roads for protests.* 3) *Religious leaders to people in KDR: Don't come out on roads as this will cause more civilian death which is forbidden in Islam as there are verses in Quran that says "killi ng 1 innocent human is equal to killing the entire humans in the world."*
- **Uruzgan Province**: It appears most people have gone home after prayers. No demonstrations reported. Tarin Kowt is quiet with light traffic in the city.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reports below.

FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2012: OVERNIGHT REPORT

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- **Herat Province**: As a precaution, the Consulate will reduce staff footprint on Friday, Sept 14.

- Herat Police Chief told Consul on Thursday, September 13 that he believed many mullahs would preach about the events in Friday's sermons, but had no information regarding spec ific plans for protests or demonstrations. He advised us not to publicize the events, to work quietly, lest extremists think we are preparing for a large, vocal reaction, and they behave accordingly. He shared plans for dealing with protests and demonstr ations and pledged full support for protecting Americans and the Consulate (more information provided in other channels).
- Gov Saba confirmed reports that the Palace asked governors to remain in their provinces this Friday to work for calm. He also noted an IDLG instruction to reach out to mullahs to calm the situation. He also had no information of any specific protests or demonstrations on Friday. He expressed more concern for the following days, noting that few in Herat have access to international news reporting, that it will take some time for word to spread by word of mouth. He said that he, the NDS Chief, and ANP Chief all agreed NOT to convene a large group of ulema to discuss this issue, lest they draw more attention to the issue, but rather, to reach out quietly to selective ulama and other leaders. The Governor engaged in quiet outreach on Thursday, September 13 to some key ulama, influential elders, and at a previously scheduled meeting of 150 Herat city leaders, including Mayor Taraki, tryin g to counsel calm without drawing a lot of attention to the film. He was meeting with police chief and NDS chief later that evening to discuss security as well as with several elders. He believes that Heratis are peaceful, but acknowledged some extremist ulama may try to exploit the situation. Consul briefed the Governor on key media reports and Consulate issues, and agreed to stay in close touch on Friday.
- The Consulate distributed USG statements translated in Dari and Pashto to the ulema via LES. We also distributed full packages of statements to the Governor, Police Chief, NDS Chief, Provincial Peace Council Chairman, Provincial Council Chairman, and via e-mail to local press.
- We received some reports that one mullah in particular, Mullah Farugh Hoss aini, a veteran rabble rouser, planned to preach about the incident tomorrow and may indirectly suggest his audience take to the streets. Senior government officials here dismiss his ability alone to galvanize many people, but state in conjunction with o ther like-minded mullahs, may be able to do so.
- SCR-W spoke with influential, populist PC Chairman, Dr. Faizzadeh, Thursday evening, drawing his attention to the Obama/Karzai phone call and appeal for calm and no further violence and bloodshed. Dr. Faizzadeh responded he had received and studied our statements, had watched President Obama's speeches on TV, was well aware of Afghan government policy, and had discussed the security situation with the Governor and provincial security officials, as well as some leaders of civil society. He said he was working to ensure that any protests were not violent, but remained peaceful.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Bagram Air Field (BAF):** A fragmentary order (FRAGO) from ISAF Joint Command (IJC) restricts International Security Force Afghanistan (ISAF) movements to mission -essential. BAF has adjusted logistics/combat operations and pushed out instructions to military units to contact all ANSF commanders to ask them to use thei r cultural and religious advisors for outreach to local elders and provincial leaders.
- **Nangarhar Province:** Governor Sherzai's Chief of Staff reported that President Karzai and IDLG have ordered all provincial governors to stay in their provinces to help mitigate any violence if

protests begin. PRT met with members of the Ulema Council in Nangarhar, who said they would advise Mullahs on their statements in Friday's Jumaah Prayers. Governor Sherzai called in security heads and asked them to remain focused and vigilant. NDS reported that they have received some information that there could be some disturbances after Jumaah Prayers Friday. Chief of Staff recommended we not release US/ISAF statements as they might inflame the situation unnecessarily, however, if things heat up than they will be used by the Governor's spokesman in his evening address.

- **Wardak Province**: Chief of Staff to Gov Fidai reported that Gov Fidai discussed the video with the PCOP and NDS Chief on the evening of Wednesday, September 12. He appealed for calm among citizens. Additionally, he expressed his condolences that the US Ambassador to Libya was slain.
- **Kunar Province**: Martyrs Day event on Thursday, September 13 in Asadabad focused on deceased figures and victims of the Pakistani border shelling, not on the video. Chief of the Ulema Council did not touch on movie trailer at all. PJST head and a PPC member from Asmar did condemn the anti-Mohammad film as an insult to Islam. The latter stated that the USG should hold the filmmaker responsible for the death of the US Ambassador in Libya. Governor Wahidi made following points:
    - He had received phone calls from elders, mullahs, and youth upset about the film.
    - Americans contacted him early, by phone and email, and expressed sadness about the film.
    - Reminded everyone that Kunar has had a good history with Americans, who had nothing to do with the Koran burning or urination video. Need to maintain that good relationship.
    - Thanked mullahs for their past efforts in keeping the peace when other crises arose (e.g., Koran burning), making sure people engaged in non-violent demonstrations, not in armed attacks.
    - Urged the ulema to keep trying to maintain calm with this new situation.
- **Ghazni Province**: Governor does not want to raise issue with community elders and religious preachers fearing that this may result into further incitement/ reverse impact. There are no known protests planned as of Thursday, September 12. In a first call, the NDS Director was quite emotional, condemning the video and predicting the PRT could be attacked. In a follow-up call later, he claimed to have had religious leaders in his office and that his emotional remarks were meant to mollify them. He supported the Governor's position that the best course of action was to not talk about the issue. Provincial Chief of Police have been notified to monitor the situation and stay alert.
- **Paktika Province**: Governor's Samim's spokesman reported Samim is aware of the existence of the video and death of Amb Stevens in Libya. He does not expect public protest in Paktika stemming from the video. Governor will meet influential elders from across the province Friday morning (unclear if this was a pre-scheduled meeting or a specific reaction to the video/current events) and counsel that violence is not an acceptable reaction to the video and the video does not represent the Coalition, United States Forces in Afghanistan (USFOR-A) or wider US views on Islam. We are expecting a follow up report from the Governor's office in the after noon and the Rushmore TAC is in constant communication with the Paktika OCC-P to monitor any ANSF reports of violence. SCR-E forwarded the Pashto translation of the Joint Embassy-ISAF statement condemning the violence to the spokesman Thursday evening.

- **Parwan Province**: Deputy Governor reported that the Governor has started outreach activities (no details), and that security staff are on a higher alert, but are not aware of any specific events, dangers, or threats in Parwan related to the film.

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Balkh Province**: SCR called the Head of the Provincial Council, the Director of the Blue Mosque, and Governor Atta's Chief of Staff on Wednesday, 12 September. Also discussed with the ANA Commander, ANP Commander, and ANCOP Commander. All thanked us for the heads up and said they would help explain the situation to constituents, line directors, and others. The Director of the Blue Mosque said he would pass the message to the Imams and r ecommended we do as much outreach as possible. (NOTE: The head of the Provincial Council was the one who incited the crowd in the April 2011 UN compound attack. We had met with him two days earlier and had coincidentally discussed the importance of helpi ng to channel frustration of this nature in a safe way. END NOTE.).
- **Faryab Province**: While SCR was in Faryab for the transition ceremony Wednesday, September 12, he met with the head of the Provincial Council and the Head of the Ulema Council and stressed American values and our respect for Islam, asking for their support to keep things under control. They said they will get the message out and appreciated that we reached out. They said they think people appreciate that these sorts of things do not repre sent mainstream America.
- **Kunduz Province**: The PRT Commander's handover ceremony was Thursday, September 13, and many GIRoA officials were in attendance. PRT Officer Westfall tried to speak to key provincial leaders, drawing from the press guidance Kabul provided.
- **Pul e Khumri Province**: The Hungarian PRT Commander met with the NDS and Police Chief on Thursday, September 13 to discuss the incidents, and PRT Officers tried to meet with the Governor and the Director of Religious Affairs in Baghlan Province.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reports below.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- No significant updates from previous reports below.

THURSDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2012

IPA KABUL

- According to the NATO Senior Civilian Representative (SCR) office, the Director General (DG) of the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG) asked Provincial Governors to engage with mullahs in their provinces in an effort to maintain calm. The SCR also told us that the DG

informed him that President Karzai instructed provincial governors to stay in their provinces and avoid travel to ISAF facilities for the next several days.

- **NOTE:** The reported order from Karzai was corroborated by reports from Farah Province (RP -W, below) and Kunduz Province (RP -N, below). We also note that an invitation to five governors to attend a September 16 event in Kabul with the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan (SRAP) was declined by the IDLG in the early evening of September 12. Within this context, the NATO SCR office raised the specter that if this situation drags on for several days, it could jeopardize the September 22 PRT Synchronization Conference at ISAF, and event that representatives of the IDLG, Ministry of Finance, the Transition Coordination Commission, and other GIRoA bodies are currently scheduled to attend. **END NOTE.**

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Balkh Province:** During a previously scheduled press conference to highlight regional economic development, **Ambassador Llorens** and **Governor Atta** both condemned the violence seen in Libya and Egypt and called for calm. Ambassador Llorens noted, *"Our diplomatic post was attacked and we lost four diplomatic colleagues and friends. It is an attack that shook the conscience of all faiths around the world. Some people seek to justify this behavior in response to inflammatory material on the internet. Violence is no way to honor a faith. We honor our Muslim compatriots. In moments like this, calm is important. Violence is never a way to honor God."*

- Governor Atta opened the press conference by saying: *"I found out that diplomats were killed in Benghazi and I was saddened by the attacks. Hi-level USG officials have condemned the attacks. I have also heard about the video made by a pastor in California in which he insulted the Prophet Muhammed, and I also heard about the violence in response to the video. People who do this kind of thing want a reaction from the Muslim community.* ***I call for calm among my people, and I ask them not to be carried away by their emotions. By engaging in violent acts, we only harm our people and cause financial damage and we gain nothing from it.*** *Let's let the authorities of the U.S. and Afghan Governments deal with this, so that the people who commit such crimes (the video) are not allowed to do so in the future."*

- Al Jazeera and nine Afghan media outlets covered the press conference. (Public Diplomacy Officer Janae Cooley has a full readout).

- **Kunduz Province:** It was quiet in the capital city today. The Provincial Governor held a security meeting that included the Director of Hajj and Religious Affairs to discuss possible fallout from the internet film. PRT officials were told that provincial leaders agreed to do all they could to make sure any expressions of anger about the video remained peaceful.

- The PRT handover ceremony went well, but **GIRoA participation was very light**. PGOV, PCOP and one district governor were the most senior officials present. Not clear if this was because officials are not wanting to travel to the PRT right now.

- **COMMENT:** It was a very good day of messaging. No word of any disturbances, or anything moving in that direction. The key thing to watch tonight is if anyone airs the video as happened in Egypt, but as we understand it that will not happen here. We are assuming that at some point the video will start to seep out, and that could be where there will be problems. On the other hand, if the first exposure to it is verbal, and the rage has dissipated by the time people actually see the footage, that might be the best formula for keeping a lid on things. **END COMMENT.**

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted])

- **Herat Province**: Consul and RSO were scheduled to meet with the police chief. Consulate Herat had received fragmentary information that some extremists were planning protests for Friday in Herat.
- **Farah Province**: Governor Khpalwak called the PRT to notify staff that he is canceling plans to fly to Herat Friday, Sept 14, indicating that ***President Karzai has instructed all governors to remain in their provinces to appeal for calm in the event that protests break out in the coming days.***
- The Governor later said he is meeting key Mullahs from around the province before Friday prayers to discuss ways to stem the ongoing spate of insurgent attacks and forestall future violence related to the movie clip that spawned the attack in Cairo. He indicated that GIROA has provided a message from the Embassy.
- None of the participants of the Provincial Council meeting held Thursday, September 13 seemed to be aware of international developments that might elevate the threat level and there was no discussion of such developments at the meeting.
- **Ghor Province**: Governor Rahmati told the PRT's Lithuanian PolRep this morning that he is concerned about public sentiment in Ghor and he urged the PRT to take precautions. LTU Polrep conveyed points similar to ours, and the PRT US Team Lead followed up with an email to the Governor with the Embassy/ISAF statement, as well as links to statements in Dari by President Obama and Secretary Clinton. (NOTE: Rahmati has an assistant who translates emails for him. END NOTE) The Governor told LTU PolRep that he is urging calm, so we are confident that he will play a positive role.
- The PRT Chief of Staff (Commander is on his way to TOA event in Herat) held a meeting Thursday afternoon (13 Sept) to discuss messaging and force protection. At this point, the PRT is monitoring the situation carefully but not actively reaching out to other GIRoA or public figures (e.g., the local media or the religious community). PRT US Team Lead is coordinating with PRT public relations staff as they prepare talking points to use if there are indications that the situation may escalate. The PRT is not changing its force protection level at this point, but is cancelling non-essential movements off the PRT Friday, and will decide on off-PRT activities in the following days as the situation develops.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted])

- **Kandahar Province**: Civilian head of KPRT has learned that Governor Wesa and the Kandahar Media Information Center (KMIC) are planning to hold a meeting involving about 100 religious leaders from the Ulema Council and other key mullahs to condemn the film in a peaceful way. This is something they have done before following similar incidents; it is their way of being proactive. Afterwards, KMIC will likely send out a press release about it.
- The only LOCAL media coverage seen so far today is from Radio Killid:
- ***Presidential Statement Condemns US Film That Insults Islam:*** *A press release from the Afghan Presidential Palace yesterday said that Afghan President Hamid Karzai strongly condemned a US film that blasphemes the Muslim prophet. The president said the inhuman act of releasing the aforementioned film may cause an enmity between cultures. [SAP20120912646002 Kandahar*

Radio Killid in Pashto 1300 GMT 12 Sep 12 -- independent radio station supported by Development and Humanitarian Services for Afghanistan]

- **Uruzgan Province:** PRT Uruzgan does not believe that large, organized protests will occur as a result of the video. However, individuals could exploit the protests in Libya and Egypt to promote anti-western and anti-GIROA sentiment. Claims of "cultural insensitivity" and "religious blasphemy" could add to the strain of relations between Afghanistan National Security Forces (ANSF) and Coalition Forces (CF), thus increasing the threat of "insider attacks."
- PRT Uruzgan spoke with Governor Akhundzada the afternoon of September 13 and hit the major themes in the talking points. The Governor was understanding and said he appreciated our comments. He told PRT members that he had had conversations with a number of mullahs in Tarin Kowt today. Based on those conversations, the governor said he is not overtly concerned about violent protests in Uruzgan. The Governor said he is leaving for Ka bul tonight (Sept 13) and would not travel if the risk of things getting out of control was high.
- The Combined Team Uruzgan (CTU) commander talked to both the Provincial Chief of Police and the ANA 4th Brigade commander, and both agree they see the risk in Uruzgan as minimal. Also, the PRT will conduct religious outreach with the Provincial Director of Haji and Islamic Affairs to determine his assessment of any possible reaction.
- Only one station, Pajho wk, was carrying the story locally.
- **COMMENT:** The next 24 hours will be critical in terms of gauging sentiment, and what happens during, and after, Friday prayers will shape the reaction that comes thereafter. **END COMMENT.**

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted].

- As of 1745 Thursday, September 13, there were no reports of community reaction or demonstrations in Helmand or Nimroz Provinces.
- SCR [redacted] and ARSO [redacted] distributed guidance from the EAC to all Chief of Mission employees, urging renewed attention to security protocols and vigilant monitoring of local atmospherics.
- RP-SW, Helmand PRT, and DST staff have official guidance and background on the video and attacks in Benghazi and Cairo, and will report on key leader engagements and any community reaction.
- Given the narrow scope of television and internet infrastructure in Helmand and Nimroz, international news penetration in SW is often delayed and limited. The Platform will continue to monitor and report on subsequent coverage and reaction.
- **Helmand Radio** picked up the Karzai statement about the video, and also Karzai's phone call with POTUS regarding the attacks in Benghazi and Cairo. Those items did not lead any of the radio news hours, instead they were sandwiched between reports of violence in Farah and Karzai's postponement of his trip to Norway:
- ***Karzai criticises anti-Islamic Film.*** *The Afghan President Hamid Karzai vehemently condemned an anti-Islamic film that has been backed by the American pastor Terry Jones. The Presidential Office issued a statement on Wednesday that said, "We strongly and resolutely denounce this desecrating and disrespectful act as an abhorrence and insult to all Muslims. This heinous act*

has created outrage and anxiety for all peace-loving human beings who support the idea of peaceful coexistence. Sacrilege is not part of freedom of expression but a criminal act that has now greatly hurt the righteous sentiments of the 1.5 billion Muslims across the globe."

- ***US President phones Karzai to discuss deadly attack on US consulate in Libya.*** *The White House has issued a statement to say that the US President Barack Obama called his Afghan counterpart Hamid Karzai on Wednesday to discuss the deadly gun-assault on the US consulate in Libya's eastern city of Benghazi. Protesters who had been angered by a film that ridiculed Islam's Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (peace be upon him), fired weapons and burned down the US consulate in the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi on Tuesday night, killin g US Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens and 3 other diplomats. The statement said: "Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Wednesday extended his deepest condolences for the tragic loss of American life to the US President, Barack Obama. Both presidents discussed the significance of working together to help ensure that the circumstances that led to the violence in Libya and Egypt do not pose a threat to US forces or Afghans."*

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- **Kunar Province**: PRT Team Lead spoke to Governor Wahidi on Wednesday, September 12. The Governor happened to be meeting with a group of maulawis on Thursday September 13 and said he'd be perfectly willing to send them any message we think appropriate. (He has done a good job in the past defusing crises, calming the religious leaders down during the aftermath of the Qur'an burning and urination video.)
- **Nangarhar Province**: Acting PRT Team Lead spoke to Governor Sherzai's Chief of Staff on Wednesday, September 12 and asked him to alert the governor and his security commander. Sherzai's COS said the governor was aware and tracking the loss of our Ambassador and COM officers. Governor Sherzai is drafting a letter of condolences to be sent to the Embassy. PRT FSNs are also trying to reach out to the Ulema Council leaders (PRT has a good relationship with them and they are supportive.)

WEDNESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2012

REGIONAL PLATFORM NORTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- We will see Governor Atta tomorrow with Ambassador Llorens and will be prepared to engage press as feasible.
- The news started to hit while we were in Faryab for the transition ceremony. We met with the head of the Provincial Council and the Head of the Ulema Council and stressed the American values issue and our respect for Islam, asking for their support to keep things under control. They said they will get the message out and appreciated that we reached out. They said they think people appreciate that these sorts of things do not represent mainstream America.
- We discussed the threat with the Deputy Minister of the Interior and other officials from Kabul. They said they appreciated the heads up and would help mitigate the risks.
- In Mazar we called the Head of the Provincial Council, the Director of the Blue Mosque, and Governor Atta's Chief of Staff. Also discussed with the ANA Commander, ANP Commander, and

ANCOP Commander. All thanked us for the heads up and said they would help explain the situation to constituents, line directors, and others. The Director of the Blue Mosque said he would pass the message to the Imams and recommended we do as much outreach as possible. (NOTE: The head of the Provincial Council was the one who incited the crowd i n the April 2011 UN compound attack. We had met with him two days earlier and had coincidentally discussed the importance of helping to channel frustration with these sorts of things in a safe way).

- I raised it at the evening Battle Update Brief (BUB) and the RC North Commander directed that staff get out to commanders and direct them to take the pulse of their AO tomorrow, without proactively doing KLE which ISAF has not directed them to do. He wants them to watch the situation and be ready to react as necessary by restricting movement and reinforcing compounds.

REGIONAL PLATFORM WEST (Senior Civilian Representative / Consul [redacted]

- Consulate Herat convened an EAC meeting and will be watching the local reaction very carefully.
- Consul/SCR [redacted] will meet with Gov Saba later this evening to discuss.
- New provincial police chief has pledged support if needed in the next couple days to protect the Consulate.
- The Platform is concerned that some of the extremist ulama and outsiders will ex ploit this situation to foment the kind of violent demonstration that occurred 24 February 2012.

REGIONAL PLATFORM EAST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- The general consensus at the Platform is that when the story about the new anti -Islamic video finally hits Afghanistan, the reaction in RC-East will be severe.
- RP-E staff will rely on contacts developed in previous similar situations to help preserve calm. In the past, a radio station in Parwan worked with us to broadcast messages from loca l mullahs, officials and ANSF who appealed to the people for calm, which greatly helped defuse tensions. Once a message/talking points are released by the Embassy, the Platform will work with local media outlets, mullahs and community leaders in places lik e Parwan, Bagram and Jalalabad.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTH (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

- The Platform is following the situation closely. There were no demonstrations in Kandahar today, but there is certainly concern.

REGIONAL PLATFORM SOUTHWEST (Senior Civilian Representative [redacted]

No report as of this writing.

SCB 000253

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 11:32 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Remarks

Hi Ben,

It has been incredibly hectic for me during the last week. We were going to assemble a congressional delegation to go to the US quickly, but Due to the politics between the different blocks, we had to open the choice for the blocks to select their delegate. Because many people wanted to part of the delegation and the lack of time to resolve the issue of selection we were not able to get it going. I left this with congress administration and other members to complete because I am on my way back to the US. I will be in touch soon. I hope that they can form the delegation soon.

[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 13, 2012, at 9:14 PM, "Fishman, Benjamin I." <[redacted] wrote:

> Hi [redacted]
>
> Please find below secretary clinton's importa nt remarks tonight on religious tolerance, together with ambassador aujali's touching words about chris.
> These will be translated into arabic but please help circulate in Libya.
>
> -Ben
>
> Remarks at Reception Marking Eid ul -Fitr <http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2012/09/197735.htm>
> 09/13/2012 09:35 PM EDT
>
>
> Remarks at Reception Marking Eid ul -Fitr
>
>
> Remarks
> Hillary Rodham Clinton
> Secretary of State
> Ben Franklin Room
>
> Washington, DC
>
> September 13, 2012
>
> _____
>
>

> SECRETARY CLINTON: Good evening, and although I am many weeks overdue in saying it: Eid Mubarak. No matter how belated we are honoring Eid and the end of Ramadan, this is a cherished tradition here at the State De partment. And I would like to thank all of you for being here, including the many members of the Diplomatic Corps.
>
> Tonight, our gathering is more somber than any of us would like. This comes during sad and difficult days for the State Department family. We lost four Americans. They were good and brave men. They were committed to the cause of building a brighter future for the people of Libya. And we condemn the violence in the strongest terms, the violence against our posts in Benghazi, in Egypt, and n ow in Yemen.
>
> The Libyan ambassador is with us tonight, and I want to take a moment to thank him for the support that his government and the Libyan people have shown to the United States in this tragedy, particularly the outpouring of feelings of grief and loss because of the killing of our ambassador.
>
> Ambassador Aujali, would you mind saying a few words?
>
> AMBASSADOR AUJALI: Thank you very much, Secretary Clinton. Standing beside you here in the Department of State, it shows the world how much the Americans are standing by the Libyans and the Libya revolution. You do support us during the war, but you have to support us during the peace. We are going through a very difficult time, and we need the help of friends.
>
> It is a very sad day for me, since I learned of the death of my dear friend and colleague, Ambassador Chris Stevens. I knew Chris for the last six years. We play tennis together, we drive in one car, and we had some traditional Libyan food in my house. I must tell you, Madam Secreta ry, and tell the American people, that Chris is a hero. He is a real hero. He's the man who believes in the Libyans and the Libyan ability that they will achieve democracy after 42 years of the dictatorship.
>
> Now we are facing a serious problem, and we have to maintain and we have to we need security and stability in our country. The government, unfortunately, faces a serious problem, personnel and equipment. And the support of you and the friends who support us during the war is very important.
>
> I want to show you and to show the American people how much it was we were shocked by the death of four American diplomats. It is a very sad story to tell. But I am sure that it is our responsibility, and the responsibility of th e Libyan people, that we have to protect our people, we have to protect the Americans in the first place and have to protect all the diplomatic missions who are serving in our country. I am sure that without the help, we will not be able to do it.
>
> I hope that this sad incident which happened, this terrorist attack which took place against the American consulate in Libya, it will tell us how much we have to work closely. Our religion, our culture, never tells us that this is the way to express your view. It is in fact (inaudible) a terrorist act. This is condemned by all the world and by all the Libyans at the top level of the Libyan authority.
>
> Please, Madam Secretary, accept our apology and accept our condolence for the loss of the four Americans, innocent people. They lost their lives in the Libyan territory. Chris, he loves Benghazi, he loves the people, he talks to them, he eats with them, and he committed -- and unfortunately lost his life because of this commitment.
>
> Madam Secretary, thank you very much indeed. (Applause.)
>
> SECRETARY CLINTON: Thank you very much, Ambassador. I know that that was a very personal loss for you, as it was for me. I'm the one who sent Chris to Benghazi during the revolution to show support and be able to advise our government about what we could do to bring freedom and democracy and opportunity to the people of Libya.
>

> Religious freedom and religious tolerance are essential to the stability of any nation, any people. Hatred and violence in the name of religion only poison the well. All people of faith and good will know that the actions of a small and savage group in Benghazi do not honor religion or God in any way. Nor do they speak for the more than one billion Muslims around the world, many of whom have shown an outpouring of support during this time.
>
> Unfortunately, however, over the last 24 hours, we have also seen violence spread elsewhere. Some seek to justify this behavior as a response to inflammatory, despicable material posted on the internet. As I said earlier today, the United States rejects both the content and the message of that video. The United Stat es deplores any intentional effort to denigrate the religious beliefs of others. At our meeting earlier today, my colleague, the foreign minister of Morocco, said that all prophets should be respected because they are all symbols of our humanity, for all h umanity.
>
> But both of us were crystal clear in this paramount message: There is never any justification for violent acts of this kind. And we look to leaders around the world to stand up and speak out against violence, and to take steps to protect diplomatic missions from attack.
>
> Think about it. When Christians are subject to insults to their faith, and that certainly happens, we expect them not to resort to violence. When Hindus or Buddhists are subjected to insults to their faiths, and that also certainly happens, we expect them not to resort to violence. The same goes for all faiths, including Islam.
>
> When all of us who are people of faith and I am one feel the pain of insults, of misunderstanding, of denigration to what we cherish, we mu st expect ourselves and others not to resort to violence. That is a universal standard and expectation, and it is everyone's obligation to meet that, so that we make no differences, we expect no less of ourselves than we expect of others. You cannot respon d to offensive speech with violence without begetting more violence.
>
> And I so strongly believe that the great religions of the world are stronger than any insults. They have withstood offense for centuries. Refraining from violence, then, is not a sig n of weakness in one's faith; it is absolutely the opposite, a sign that one's faith is unshakable.
>
> So tonight, we must come together and recommit ourselves to working toward a future marked by understanding and acceptance rather than distrust, hatred, and fear. We can pledge that whenever one person speaks out in ignorance and bigotry, ten voices will answer. They will answer resoundingly against the offense and the insult, answering ignorance with enlightenment, answering hatred with understanding, a nswering darkness with light; that if one person commits a violent act in the name of religion, millions will stand up and condemn it out of strength.
>
> In times like these, it can be easy to despair that some differences are irreconcilable, some mounta ins too steep to climb; we will therefore never reach the level of understanding and peacefulness that we seek, and which I believe the great religions of the world call us to pursue. But that's not what I believe, and I don't think it's what you believe e ither here tonight. Part of what makes our country so special is we keep trying. We keep working. We keep investing in our future. We keep supporting the next generation, believing that young people can keep us moving forward in a positive direction.
>
> So tonight I think it's important that we talk not just about that better tomorrow that we all seek, but also about some of the things the real, practical, tangible things that young people are doing to help shape that better future.
>
> Two years ago in this room, at our Eid reception, we launched a program called Generation Change to lead a grassroots agenda of positive engagement with Muslim communities. And I asked the young Muslim leaders in the audience that night to be our unofficial ambassadors , to help build personal connections, seek out partners in other countries. And I can report to you tonight they did not disappoint. In a few minutes, you're going to meet some of these young leaders, each with a powerful story to tell.
>
> The Generation Change network that started in this room now circles the globe. We are building an international alliance of young people who want to drive change in their own communities. They act as mentors, spark respectful

debates, simply offer words of encouragement when needed. But most importantly, they inspire others to keep expanding the circle of mutual understanding and respect, one person at a time.

>

> Even as we work to spread tolerance more broadly, we also are working to deepen our appreciation for the experiences of others. Our 2012 Hours Against Hate initiative encourages young people to put themselves in another person's shoes through service projects. So far, young people from all over the world have pledged thousands of volunteer hours to help people from a different background, to see them as a fellow human being, not a stereotype, not a caricature, but another real live person people who don't look like you, live like you, pray like you, but with whom we will share this planet. And therefore, we ha ve work to do.

>

> People of faith and conscience are called to be the leaders of tolerance. In my tradition, like all traditions, we are expected to love one another. And together, we have to translate that into better understanding and cooperation. I'm particularly pleased that the young people you will hear from tonight are really setting an example, not only for young people elsewhere in the world but, frankly, for us who are older as well.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 1:36 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Fw: (s) 9/19, Foreign Affairs: Sources of Salafi Conduct (Libya-Egypt-Gulf)

Do we have anything good on gulf funding of salafi thugs?

From: COResources [[redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 01:11 PM
To: [redacted] <[redacted]>; coresorces [redacted] <[redacted]>; coresources1 [redacted] <[redacted]>; [redacted] <[redacted]>; [redacted] <[redacted]>; [redacted]>
Subject: (s) 9/19, Foreign Affairs: Sources of Salafi Conduct (Libya-Egypt-Gulf)

Foreign Affairs

The Sources of Salafi Conduct

By William McCants
September 19, 2012

If the Arab Spring uprisings were an earthquake in Middle Eastern politics, last week was a major aftershock. The rumbling began in Cairo, where a satellite TV station run by Salafis played clips of an inflammatory film about the Prophet Muhammad. Soon after, Salafi religious leaders called for protests at the U.S. embassy in Cairo, blaming Washington for not censoring a film made in the United States. The pattern was repeated in Libya, Tunisia, Yemen, and elsewhere. Although much has been made of the riots as a response to the film, they are more fundamentally about the nature of the post-Arab Spring regimes, and specifically about who gets to police public morality. Salafis across the region see themselves as the rightful guardians of the public sphere -- and are acting to ensure that others see them that way, too.

Although Salafis do not make up a majority of the population in any of these countries, they were able to set the political agendas there for the past week for several reasons. They punch above their weight because of the vast funding they receive from fellow travelers in the wealthy Gulf monarchies, particularly in Kuwait, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia. Each year, millions of dollars flow out of the Gulf and into Salafi charities and satellite channels like the one that touched off the r iots. (By comparison, liberal NGOs receive far less support from the wealthy countries in the region.) Salafi leaders spend this money on social programs and proselytizing, handy tools with which to gin up votes or whip up anger at perceived slights to Salafism or Islam.

Indeed, most of the Salafi groups do not aspire to take over the sta te through violence or even elections -- their numbers are too small. Instead, they seek to use public anger to pull these states to the right. Where they have strong political and cultural institutions behind them, as in Egypt, they can do so through poli tical pressure and shows of strength in the street. Where such institutions are lacking, Salafis instead use vigilantism or preaching to challenge the powers that be.

It is unclear what percentage of Egypt's population Salafis make up, but they control a quarter of the parliament. This means that the less conservative Muslim Brotherhood, which won both the parliamentary and presidential elections, cannot ignore them. In parliament, Salafis have agitated for a constitution that recognizes the paramount aut hority of Islamic law. They have also pushed for legal codes that reflect the Koran's commandments.

Like the religious right in Israel, Egyptian Salafis hold the feet of less conservative politicians to the fire. They demonstrated the full extent of thei r power to do so last week as protests raged. On September 13, the deputy head of the Muslim Brotherhood, Khairat el-Shater, sent a conciliatory letter to the American people via The New York Times. In it, he wrote that "the breach of the United States Emb assy premises by Egyptian protesters is illegal under international law. The failure of the protecting police force has to be investigated." Presumably, he did not want to provoke Western anger and put U.S. financial assistance at risk. But Cairo had to wo rry about domestic politics, too, and so Egyptian President

Mohamed Morsi embraced the protests and turned a blind eye to their excesses, either hoping for the Salafis' praise or fearing their wrath.

In other countries, Salafis make up even smaller perce ntages of the population and have less institutional clout, but their penchant for vigilantism makes them feared nonetheless. In Tunisia, the moderate Islamists in power only recently allowed the Salafis to establish a political party leaving the Salafis w ithout representation in the new Constituent Assembly. To push their conservative agenda, Salafi activists have taken to the streets, where they have ransacked alleged symbols of Western decadence such as bars and art exhibits and clashed with police in pr otests against the secular state. Salafi rioters also burned cars and smashed windows at the American embassy, allegedly encouraged by a jihadi Salafi cleric in Tunisia. The Tunisian government has since sought his arrest.

Organizationally, Libya's Salaf is fall somewhere in between those of Tunisia and Egypt. Their number is reportedly greater than in Tunisia but they do not have the centralized institutions of the Egyptian Salafis, which makes it hard for them to mobilize politically. Their three politic al parties fared poorly in the recent elections, winning only one seat between them. Like their Tunisian counterparts, Libyan Salafis are noteworthy for their vigilantism, particularly for attacking the shrines of local saints. It seems likely that Salafi jihadis led the assault on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi that resulted in the death of several American citizens, including the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens. The government responded quickly by condemning the violence and vowing to track down the culprits. Libyan citizens also protested against the perpetrators of the attack.

As the United States considers how to respond to the protests, it would do well to consider the varied national circumstances underlying them. In Egypt, after all, Salafis who participate in politics have shown that they are not necessarily hostile to U.S. security interests in the region. As shown by their political platforms, they care more about cultural issues. Yet it is precisely their anger over a cultural issu e that led to their assault on the U.S. consulates and embassies. If Salafis become involved in electoral politics across the region, their cultural views will not change. At the very least, though, they would become more answerable to their fellow citizen s.

The best course for the United States is to address its concerns about Salafi groups to their respective governments and to make it clear that these concerns have to do with security and not religion. Washington must emphasize that it expects governments in the region to prevent the most extreme of its Salafis from resorting to violence. Withholding aid from these countries would be the most drastic measure; the United States can also issue travel alerts, which hurt the tourism and foreign investment that these governments depend on. Calling attention to the double talk of political and religious leaders in the region also helps hold them accountable. Even raising doubts about the status of an ally, as Obama did in an interview with Telemundo last week, can give more leverage to Islamists working to improve relations with the West.

If Middle Eastern governments respond by punishing those who harmed American property and citizens, protecting U.S. embassies during future protests, and discouraging violen t reprisals for cultural insults, the United States will not have to act on its threats. Indeed, Tunisia and Libya are already doing so, which the United States should reward with security assistance if those countries require it. But if those same governm ents pander to the protestors or continue to allow them to destroy American lives and property, then the United States should respond quickly. A U.S. failure to enforce its redlines hurts non-Salafi Islamists as much as it hurts the United States. The non -Salafi Islamists appear weak, dancing to someone else's tune. They also appear incapable of policing their own citizens.

Salafis also stand to gain by reining in their vigilantes. The movement is too closely associated with violent excess, which has hindered Salafism from becoming a majority movement outside the Gulf. During the recent protests, the self - described "jihadi trend" was in full view. Al Qaeda's flag flew prominently at several demonstrations; protesters even raised it over the U.S. embassy in Cairo in place of the American one. Al Qaeda leader Ayman al -Zawahiri's brother, a self-professed jihadi, also played a prominent role in the Cairo protests. The refrain "Obama, all of us are Osama" was written on nearby walls, and it echoed around the pr otest. Such slogans scare moderates in the region, regardless of ideology, and likely worry outside Salafi funders who would rather avoid association with an international pariah such as al Qaeda.

The embassy protests will not be the last aftershock of the Arab uprisings. There are simply too many extremists and provocateurs on both sides of the Atlantic. As the region continues to rebuild itself, the Salafis will not likely come to po wer but will certainly continue to press those who do. Until moderate Islamists take them to task, Salafis will continue to erode their authority and jeopardize their alliances.

SCB 000451

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 1:37 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: (s) 9/19, Foreign Affairs: Sources of Salafi Conduct (Libya-Egypt-Gulf)

Not at my fingertips. [redacted] and his team, or Treasury, should be able to pull something together.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 1:36 PM
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Subject: Fw: (s) 9/19, Foreign Affairs: Sources of Salafi Conduct (Libya -Egypt-Gulf)

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Indeed, most of the Salafi groups do not aspire to take over the state through violence or even elections -- their numbers are too small. Instead, they seek to use public anger to pull these states to the right. Where they have strong political and cultural institutions behind them, as in Egypt, they can do so through political pressure and shows of strength in the street . Where such institutions are lacking, Salafis instead use vigilantism or preaching to challenge the powers that be.

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cannot ignore them. In parliament, Salafis have agitated for a constitution that recognizes the paramount authority of Islamic law. They have also pushed for legal codes that reflect the Koran's commandments.

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The embassy protests will not be the last aftershock of the Arab uprisings. There are simply too many extremists and provocateurs on both sides of the Atlantic. As the region conti nues to rebuild itself, the Salafis will not likely come to power but will certainly continue to press those who do. Until moderate Islamists take them to task, Salafis will continue to erode their authority and jeopardize their alliances.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 1:39 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: (s) 9/19, Foreign Affairs: Sources of Salafi Conduct (Libya-Egypt-Gulf)

Might ask them.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 01:37 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: RE: (s) 9/19, Foreign Affairs: Sources of Salafi Conduct (Libya -Egypt-Gulf)

Not at my fingertips. [redacted]and his team, or Treasury, should be able to pull something together.

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 1:36 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Fw: (s) 9/19, Foreign Affairs: Sources of Salafi Conduct (Li bya-Egypt-Gulf)

Do we have anything good on gulf funding of salafi thugs?

From: COResources [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 01:11 PM
To: [redacted] <
coresources1 [redacted] <
[redacted] <
[redacted] >
Subject: (s) 9/19, Foreign Affairs: Sources of Salafi Conduct (Libya -Egypt-Gulf)

Foreign Affairs

The Sources of Salafi Conduct

By William McCants
September 19, 2012

If the Arab Spring uprisings were an earthquake in Middle Eastern politics, last week was a major aftershock. The rumbling began in Cairo, where a satellite TV station run by Salafis played clips of an inflammatory film about the Prophet Muhammad. Soon after, Salafi religious leaders called for protests at the U.S. embassy in Cairo, blaming Washington for not censoring a film made in the United States. The pattern was repeated in Libya, Tunisia, Yemen, and elsewhere. Although much has been made of the riots as a response to the film, they are more fundamentally about the nature of the post-Arab Spring regimes, and specifically about who gets to police public morality. Salafis across the region see themselves as the rightful guardians of the public sphere -- and are acting to ensure that others see them that way, too.

Although Salafis do not make up a majority of the population in any of these countries, they were able to set the political agendas there for the past week for several reasons. They punch above their weight because of the vast funding they receive from fellow travelers in the wealthy Gulf monarchies, particularly in Kuwait, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia. Each year, millions of dollars flow out of the Gulf and into Salafi charities and satellite channe ls like the one that touched off the riots. (By comparison, liberal NGOs receive far less support from the wealthy countries in the region.) Salafi leaders spend this

money on social programs and proselytizing, handy tools with which to gin up votes or whi p up anger at perceived slights to Salafism or Islam.

Indeed, most of the Salafi groups do not aspire to take over the state through violence or even elections -- their numbers are too small. Instead, they seek to use public anger to pull these states to the right. Where they have strong political and cultural institutions behind them, as in Egypt, they can do so through political pressure and shows of strength in the street . Where such institutions are lacking, Salafis instead use vigilantism or preachin g to challenge the powers that be.

It is unclear what percentage of Egypt's population Salafis make up, but they control a quarter of the parliament. This means that the less conservative Muslim Brotherhood, which won both the parliamentary and president ial elections, cannot ignore them. In parliament, Salafis have agitated for a constitution that recognizes the paramount authority of Islamic law. They have also pushed for legal codes that reflect the Koran's commandments.

Like the religious right in Israel, Egyptian Salafis hold the feet of less conservative politicians to the fire. They demonstrated the full extent of their power to do so last week as protests raged. On September 13, the deputy head of the Muslim Brotherhood, Khairat el-Shater, sent a conciliatory letter to the American people via The New York Times. In it, he wrote that "the breach of the United States Embassy premises by Egyptian protesters is illegal under international law. The failure of the protecting police force has to be invest igated." Presumably, he did not want to provoke Western anger and put U.S. financial assistance at risk. But Cairo had to worry about domestic politics, too, and so Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi embraced the protests and turned a blind eye to their exce sses, either hoping for the Salafis' praise or fearing their wrath.

In other countries, Salafis make up even smaller percentages of the population and have less institutional clout, but their penchant for vigilantism makes them feared nonetheless. In Tun isia, the moderate Islamists in power only recently allowed the Salafis to establish a political party leaving the Salafis without representation in the new Constituent Assembly. To push their conservative agenda, Salafi activists have taken to the streets , where they have ransacked alleged symbols of Western decadence such as bars and art exhibits and clashed with police in protests against the secular state. Salafi rioters also burned cars and smashed windows at the American embassy, allegedly encouraged by a jihadi Salafi cleric in Tunisia. The Tunisian government has since sought his arrest.

Organizationally, Libya's Salafis fall somewhere in between those of Tunisia and Egypt. Their number is reportedly greater than in Tunisia but they do not have the centralized institutions of the Egyptian Salafis, which makes it hard for them to mobilize politically. Their three political parties fared poorly in the recent elections, winning only one seat between them. Like their Tunisian counterparts, Libyan Salafi s are noteworthy for their vigilantism, particularly for attacking the shrines of local saints. It seems likely that Salafi jihadis led the assault on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi that resulted in the deat h of several American citizens, including the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens. The government responded quickly by condemning the violence and vowing to track down the culprits. Libyan citizens also protested against the perpetrators of the attack.

As the United States considers how to re spond to the protests, it would do well to consider the varied national circumstances underlying them. In Egypt, after all, Salafis who participate in politics have shown that they are not necessarily hostile to U.S. security interests in the region. As sh own by their political platforms, they care more about cultural issues. Yet it is precisely their anger over a cultural issue that led to their assault on the U.S. consulates and embassies. If Salafis become involved in electoral politics across the region , their cultural views will not change. At the very least, though, they would become more answerable to their fellow citizens.

The best course for the United States is to address its concerns about Salafi groups to their respective governments and to make it clear that these concerns have to do with security and not religion. Washington must emphasize that it expects governments in the region to prevent the most extreme of its Salafis from resorting to violence. Withholding aid from these countries would be the most drastic measure; the United States can also issue travel alerts, which hurt the tourism and foreign investment that these governments depend on. Calling attention to the double talk of political and religious leaders in the region also helps hold them accountable. Even raising doubts about the status of an ally, as Obama did in an interview with Telemundo last week, can give more leverage to Islamists working to improve relations with the West.

If Middle Eastern governments respond by punishing those who harmed American property and citizens, protecting U.S. embassies during future protests, and discouraging violent reprisals for cultural insults, the United States will not have to act on its threats. Indeed, Tunisia and Libya are already doing so, which the United States should reward with security assistance if those countries require it. But if those same governments pander to the protestors or continue to allow them to destroy American lives and property, then the United States should respond quickly. A U.S. failure to enforce its redlines hurts non-Salafi Islamists as much as it hurts the United States. The non -Salafi Islamists appear weak, dancing to someone else's tune. They also appear inca pable of policing their own citizens.

Salafis also stand to gain by reining in their vigilantes. The movement is too closely associated with violent excess, which has hindered Salafism from becoming a majority movement outside the Gulf. During the recent protests, the self-described "jihadi trend" was in full view. Al Qaeda's flag flew prominently at several demonstrations; protesters even raised it over the U.S. embassy in Cairo in place of the American one. Al Qaeda leader Ayman al -Zawahiri's brother, a self-professed jihadi, also played a prominent role in the Cairo protests. The refrain "Obama, all of us are Osama" was written on nearby walls, and it echoed around the protest. Such slogans scare moderates in the region, regardless of ideology, and likely worry outside Salafi funders who would rather avoid association with an international pariah such as al Qaeda.

The embassy protests will not be the last aftershock of the Arab uprisings. There are simply too many extremists and provocateurs on both sides of the Atlantic. As the region continues to rebuild itself, the Salafis will not likely come to power but will certainly continue to press those who do. Until moderate Islamists take them to task, Salafis will continue to erode their authority and jeopardize their alliances.

SCB 000257

From: OpsAlert <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 4:30 PM
Subject: SITUATION REPORT No. 16 09/20/III (SBU Version)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
Operations Center

SITUATION REPORT No. 16

Middle East Protest Monitoring Group MGMEP01

Thursday, September 20, 2012
1630 EDT

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

(U) The EU, Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Arab League, and African Union issued a joint statement condemning recent attacks on diplomatic missions and calling for peace and to lerance. ***(News Tribe)***

PAKISTAN

- (SBU) Estimates of the number of protesters in Islamabad ranged dramatically, with Pakistani media estimating 3000 to 4000 people participated while local police said there were between 20,000 and 25,000 demonstrators. The protest was violent at times, with pol ice using tear gas to prevent demonstrators from approaching the diplomatic enclave housing the U.S. embassy. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Islamabad e-mail)***
- (SBU) Only emergency personnel will staff the embassy September 21. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Islamabad e-mail)***
- (SBU) Protests in Lahore concluded peacefully. Four protests are scheduled for September 21. ***(MGMEP01/Consulate General Lahore e-mail)***
- (U) More than 200 protesters set fire to an effigy of President Obama in the capital of Pakistani -administered Kashmir. ***(Al Jazeera)***

SUDAN

(SBU) There have been calls for protests at the U.S. and French embassies September 21. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Khartoum e-mail)***

LIBYA

(U) Libya apologized to visiting Deputy Secretary Burns for the attack on the U.S. Diplo matic Mission in Benghazi, and Foreign Minister Khayyal praised Ambassador Stevens as a "friend of Libya." ***(Reuters)***

JORDAN

(SBU) Reports indicate a demonstration might take place September 21 at Amman's al -Kurdi mosque, approximately a half-mile from the U.S. embassy. The Gendarmerie will deploy extra officers to the embassy. Protests are also planned in downtown Amman and several other major cities. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Amman e-mail)***

INDONESIA

• (SBU) Between 300 and 400 protesters from the Muslim Students Association will demonstrate September 21 at the U.S. embassy. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Jakarta e-mail)***

• (SBU) A protest is planned near Consulate General Surabaya September 21. Indonesian National Police will provide extra security at the consulate, the Surabaya International School, and Peace Corps offices. ***(MGMEP01/Consulate General Surabaya e-mail)***

SINGAPORE

(U) Google blocked YouTube users in Singapore from viewing clips of the inflammatory video, and also blocked access to clips of the video in neighboring Malaysia and Indonesia. ***(Press Trust of India)***

MALAYSIA

(SBU) Demonstrations are scheduled September 21 near the U.S. embassy. Post will close to the public at 1100 local. Separately, Prime Minister Razak issued a statement urging Muslims to remain peaceful and not resort to violence. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Kuala Lumpur e-mail)***

INDIA

(SBU) Mission India has no specific or credible information regarding protests and plans to open as normal. Consulate General Chennai will release all staff at 1200 local September 21. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy New Delhi e-mail)***

BANGLADESH

(SBU) A non-violent demonstration was reported September 20 approximately 80 miles north of Dhaka, and a protest is scheduled near the U.S. embassy September 21, which is not a workday for post employees. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Dhaka e-mail)***

GUINEA

(SBU) Police said a peaceful demonstration might occur in front of the U.S. embassy September 21, but the embassy plans to remain open. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Conakry e-mail)***

NIGERIA

(SBU) Protests in the northern cities of Zaria and Markafi attracted 2000 and 500 de monstrators, respectively. Embassy Abuja will be closed September 21 due to a planned demonstration at a mosque approximately one mile from the chancery. Consulate General Lagos will close at 1100 local September 21. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Abuja e-mail)***

SERBIA

(SBU) A Muslim group with a history of clashing with local law enforcement will hold a protest September 21 in the city of Novi Pazar, approximately 185 miles south of Belgrade. The USAID office and American Corner located there will close Septemb er 21 at 1200 local in anticipation of the demonstration. ***(MGMEP01/Embassy Belgrade e-mail)***

Additional updates on events in BAHRAIN, YEMEN, SWEDEN, NORWAY are available through our classified website at [redacted]

Drafted: [redacted] Approved: [redacted]

Dist: State (all bureaus), NSS, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, OSC, NCTC, DHS, DNI

SCB 000259

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 8:12 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Fw: Quick readout - Burns Visit to Tripoli

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 04:26 PM
To: Jones, Beth E; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: Quick readout - Burns Visit to Tripoli

Greg provided the follow quick readout:

DepSec Burns had very positive meetings. The memorial ceremony was moving and well organized.

President Magariaf voiced familiar themes, reiterating that he views secur ity as the key priority and extremism as real threat to the revolution. He acknowledged that there is an AQ problem (I presume he means primarily AQIM, al Qaeda in Islamic Maghreb). He pledged complete cooperation with U.S. on investigation into the attack on the Benghazi Mission.

PM elect Abu Shagour said he expected to have a Cabinet appointed by early next week. He said he was still in the process of identifying up to three candidates for each Cabinet position. Abu Shagour said the Cabinet would be broad and inclusive, hinting that he hoped for a national unity government. He noted, however, that former PM Jibril (leader of the National Forces Alliance, leading vote getter) indicated that he/NFA would be supportive but would not supply ministers for the Cabinet. Abu Shagour said he was urging Jibril to re consider.

The FM told Burns that he had spoken to Magariaf about the importance of supportive the 1208/CT training for Libyan special forces and that the President was ready to move forward. The FM expected quick approval. Greg offered that the issue may need a bit of work with Abu Shagour.

Burns suggested that Greg and his team prepare a list of 6 7 items in the security area that the GOL should be focused on in its discussions with the U.S. The Embassy should get the list to Magariaf by September 22, so that the President could use it in preparing for his meeting with the Secretary at UNGA. Greg indicated that [redacted], and some specifics on border security would make the li st.

Greg said that General Ham also had positive meetings but did not have specifics. He was scheduled to see the Minister of Defense and Chief of Staff Mangoush.

Ham has departed. Bill leaves in the morning.

[redacted]

SCB 000260

Director

Office of Maghreb Affairs

Department of State

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted] (DPCC) <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Floor Activity for Thursday, September 20, 2012

Thursday, September 20, 2012

LEADER REMARKS:

COONS—**Welcomes Visiting Reverend from DE:** I rise to express gratitude to the Reverend Dr. Doug Gerdts. The Reverend leads the Congregation at First and Central Presbyterian Church in Wilmington.

REID—**Schedule:** The Senate is now considering the MTP to HJ Res. 117, the CR. The two hours will be equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders or their designees with the Republicans controlling the first half and the Majority controlling the final half.
At 2:00pm, all post-cloture time on the motion to proceed to H.J.Res.117, the continuing resolution will be considered expired and the Senate will proceed to a roll call vote on the motion to proceed to H.J.Res.117. We hope we're able to reach agreement and avoid a weekend and early part of next week session.

Consideration on the MTP to HJ Res. 117, the CR:

REID—**Hispanic Heritage Month:** This month, I joined more than 52 million Latinos to celebration Hispanic Heritage Month. Today, more than ¼ of Nevada's population is Hispanic. To ensure our country thrives, we must make sure our Hispanic population thrives as well. That's why President Obama and Ds in Congress have fought for the policies that are making Hispanic families stronger and more prosper ous. **The Recovery Act, which included tax cuts for working families kept more than 2m Hispanics out of poverty. Unlike Romney, we know Americans who access unemployment benefits are not victims and are not unwilling to take personal responsibility for thei r lives.**

McCONNELL—**Ds Abdicating Leadership; Failing to Do Job:** We all understand there's an election going on around here, but I'd like to remind my colleagues on other side that we've also got a job to do right now. We've got multiply crisis level issues to deal with. Never before has a President and a Senate done so little to confront challenges so great. The Ds haven't' bothered to pass a budget in three years. **Every single American will get hit with a massive tax hike in just three months, if we don't act to prevent it. The Defense budget is about to suffer automatic cuts that the President's own defense sec. said would be, devastating. The Ds can't be bothered to figure out a way to avoid them.** The ME is in turmoil. Just let the debt grow, let taxes go up, let defense cuts stand, let gas prices get higher, don't pass a budget, don't pass any spending bills, don't do anything that involves making tough choices. **Just sit around and kill time in the hopes that the voters will focus on the other guys inst ead. Never before have a President and Senate Maj. done so littler when our challenges were so great.**

ALEXANDER—I say we need a chance in behavior. We've had 12 Approps bills. The Committee did its's work. 11 of 12 have been reported to floor. The House did its work. But the Maj. Leader said we're not going to consider any approps bills. **We need an R majority. If we had one, we coul;d have a budget. If we had one, we will bring approps bills to the floor. We will do our jobs.**

THUNE—**For the last 3.5 years, the President and Ds have failed to provide the leadership that America needs —a strong middle class.** The President promised to lower HC costs by $2.5k per family. Instead, average family premiums have increased by $3k since he took office. **Rs have solutions to grow the economy and help the middle class. We support common sense solutions like increasing domestic energy, reforming tax code, stopping job -killing regulation.**

ENZI—**The President, the Admin and the Senate Maj have failed to govern during a cr ucial time for our nation.** There is a willingness to kick our problems down the road with hopes that the next election will suddenly inspire action. **Their answer to jobs is a bill with a good tittle and a poison pill that comes right to the floor and its s et up so the**

pill can't be amended out and wonder why the bill can't pass. That's not politics. That's not legislating.. Rs are prepared to lead today and in future.

COLLINS—Many of us have offered proposals to reform the regulatory process. **Even the President's own jobs council has out forth ideas like strengthening the cost-benefit analysis. This just makes common sense but regrettably, the Senate has failed to act.** If we want to put people back to work, we have to cut the red tape that is strangling our job creators.

BOOZMAN—if you look at any objective measurements—we are clearly not headed in the right direction. **What's the cause? Lack in leadership in Admin and USS. If you don't know what your taxes are going to be, if you don't know what your HC costs are going to be, the last thing in the world you're going to do is hire a bunch of people.**

BLUNT—The House has passed bills and a budget and get regulation under control, the Senate hasn't, but I hope when we get back, we need to focus on more Americ an jobs.

DeMINT—When Obama took office four years ago, you promised to create jobs and reduce deficit. You say raising taxes will solve our problems, but those who create jobs disagree. **If you really want to create jobs, help our economy and reduce the deficit, stop threatening to raise taxes.**

PORTMAN—It's pretty simple, we believe we ought to live within our means, fiscal discipline is part of getting economy back on track, reforming the tax code to spur economic growth. **There are solutions that Rs have offered that haven't gotten a fair hearing on this floor for us to begin turning this economy around.**

HATCH—**While Obama's failure can be observed across board -the President is putting entire economy in jeopardy to conserve his own political interest.** At end of this year, the bipartisan tax relief bill singed is set ot expire. **The President is putting class warfare and own political future ahead of the immediate and long -term interest of our economy.**

SESSIONS—This nation has never faced a more predicta ble crisis. **Today marks the 1,240th day since the D leadership has adopted a budget. I believe that is a colossal failure of leadership, a failure of fundamental responsibility and puts them in a position of, in my opinion, of being unable to ask to be ret urned to leadership in Senate.**

CORNYN—Both R and Ds have realized that the President's proposed budget are unserious attempts to solve some of our most serious challenges. **When Rs regain the Majority in the Senate, we will pass a budget, reduce the defic it, tackle long-term debt and help grow economy by getting our boot off the neck of the small businesses and job creators.**

CORKER—This year, we will spend 60 percent of tax payer money and 40 percent is borrowed. We haven't had a budget in 1,240 days—this is an embarrassment. **What we need in this nation is new leadership in Nov that has the courage and will to address the most major issue: fiscal reform.**

CHAMBLISS—Let's get back to business of America, let's get a budget to the floor, let's balance our budget.

JOHANNS—When the President submits a budget plan—what happened? It did not get a single vote. What happened on House side—the same thing. **Many are working on this-Simpson-Bowles worked on this. What happens? Four years-no budget.**

JOHNSON—Last year with the debt ceiling debate, we increased our debt limit by a little more than $2T. We will blow through that in two years. **We're facing the most predictable financial crisis in our nation and the President refuses to lead, this Senate refused to lead. Americans hungers for leadership.**

LEE—**All the calls for compromise fall on deaf ears unless or until we have two willing parties at the table with proposals that they're willing to offer.**

KYL—**The two big questions: why has Senate not acted to stop the tax hike on January 1? And why has Senate not voted to replace the across-the –board defense cuts that will devastate our national security?** The House has acted, election year or not-no excuse for Senate not to act.

SNOWE—**It's astounding to me after putti ng nation through the self-inflicted travesty of last year's debt ceiling debacle that we're facing another manufactures crisis this year with the fiscal cliff. I call on Maj. Leader to continue to have us remain in session to lay the groundwork for the b ipartisan solutions on these monumental issues.** The Senate has wasted two years with inaction. America deserves better.

COBURN—The problems in front of our country are not insolvable. What we lack is leadership to call us to do those hard things. We risk our economy future and a future of liberty. **Under the leadership of Reid, the Senate has not attempted to do hard things. Where is Maj. Leader's and President's plan?**

TOOMEY—**It's long past time that the D Leadership accept its responsibility —pass a budget and get fiscal house in order.**

BURR—Two years ago, we extended the 2010 tax cuts. We've known about the fiscal cliff for a long time and there's been no shortage of warnings about the dire economy consequences of doing nothing. **There's a reason President Obama and those on other side target Romney and Ryan plan —it's because they don't have a plan—they don't even have an excuse for what this body has not done.**

MORAN—We desperately need leadership—it's embarrassing and lacking.

COCHRAN—Despite efforts to create new jobs, our economy is not getting significantly better. Investments in small business growth have languished. **The course we're on is not good enough—we hope and urge Senate to make strong stand, let's get together, let's get a game plan for economic recovery.**

McCAIN—Last night, I came to the floor to object to an hour debate on a measure that would have draconian effect on our relations in ME. **The Maj. Leader of the USS said 'the day of amdts here is over.' Is there a m ore telling description of how this body has deteriorated and degenerated over the yrs?** As we debated a bill for veteran's jobs program, the **Maj. Leader for first time in 50 years-we have not taken up a Defense Auth bill. It's shameful.**

AYOTTE—**The world is a dangerous place. President Obama stop leading from behind.** President Obama-lead an effort. We've heard what's happening in the world —leader, be the Commander. Your Leadership has been absent. **You have been AWOL on this critical issue and our troops and nation deserves better.**

GRASSLEY—We should all celebrate—is there anybody deterred from attacking American in the ME because OBL is dead? **Has anybody said 'I better not go over the wall of the Embassy in Egypt, you know, we killed OBL?' If this continues, the world is going to devolve into chaos. So much for restarting.**

CHAMBLISS—America hungers for leadership—and unfortunately the USS lacks leadership from the Majority on issues that affect the safety of all Americans.

ROBERTS—I urge the Senate to fully investigate the circumstances regarding the attack uipon our US consulate in Benghazi. **The war against terrorism is not over. There is no strong horse or recourse —it's merry go round that has to stop.**

RISCH—There are national security issues in the world and unfortunately they have been pushed to the back page because of the lack of conviction of this country. **Number of our embassies are under siege—this is a foreign policy that is in shambles. In Middle East, it's a policy of appeasement, apology, dithering and looking the other way.**

MURKOWSKI—The events of past week are clear and direct reminder are the need to choose to end nation's dependency on foreign oil. This is our choice. **This Admin may talk a good game on oil production, but words and actions are entirely different. We're not running out of oil, we're running out excuses to continue to rely on OPAC.**

BARRASSO—Just yesterday, the WH went out and applauded the fact that SA is creating more, pro ducing more oil. The President went to Brazil and tells the President of Brazil , we want to be your number -one customer. **The President's policies continue to block new jobs from being created. The President continues to block Keystone. Harry Reid stands at that desk and he blocks over a dozen bills passed by the House that are good American energy jobs, that will put people to work.**

VITTER—Gas prices have doubled in 4 yrs. The Majority in the USS has done nothing to address. The President's five - year lease plan for offshore leases if half of what the previous plan is. **We're the most energy rich country in world, but this Senate Majority and Admin won't allow us to access our own resources.**

HOEVEN—In Middle East—we have more than 20 countries demonstrating anti-America, yet, at same time we continue to be dependent on them for our energy? This just takes the will to move fwd with the energy plan we've proposed. **We need an Admin that will work with us to advance that energy plan. We need to get going on this right now.**

COATS—23m Americans are either un or underemployed and millions have given up. What's the President's response? Reject every plan by Rs. **The D-led Senate—avoid all efforts to address this problem—on one of the most critical issues facing this country. Americans are desperate for leadership in the WH and USS.**

WICKER—Yesterday, the NYT the 112th Congress is set to enter books as the least productive body in a generation. The Maj. Leader has shut off the right to amend a record number of times. **The Maj. Leader has filled the tree a record 66 times. He shuts off the right to debate. In s short, Ds has failed to pass a budget, have failed to do a single approps bill .Americans need new leadership.**

McCONNELL—**Failure of Leadership from Obama Admin, D-Led Senate; Rs Will Solve Nation's Problems if in Majority:** The nation and world need strong American leadership and robust political institution to meet challenges. **But the President with a lot of help from D -led Senate has deliberately chosen inaction. Why? Because the D-led Senate has seen themselves as an extension of the President's re -election campaign.** Everything it'ss done and hasn't done is meant to help the President, not the American people. **Ds haven't' passed a budget in more than 3 years. W e haven't passed a single approps bill. I guess the new rule is no amdts in Committee and on the floor. There's a lot of Sens in both parties wondering 'what is their job?'** Enzi said all we do is vote on bills with fancy titles and a poison pill. There are a whole lot of members wondering why are they here? They fought hard for their jobs. They come ready to work — and nothing happens. **McCain pointed out no Defense Auth bill—we've managed to do that for half a century despite our differences. It's a complete disgrace.** Regardless of our philosophical difference, we take our job seriously. **If America decides they want to make a change—the commitment I make to them is that the R conference is going to pass a budget.** It may be hard, and we may have to do it on a p artisan basis. But the law doesn't say, 'don't do it if it's hard.' We owe to the American people, to do, at the least, to do the basic work of gov't. It's embarrassing. For the sake of this institution and our country, we need to straighten this place out , we need an attitude change. **We don't need a rule change—this is about us. All we have to do is decide to operate differently. This pledge we make to the American people—if they decide they want new leadership in the USS—we will do these things, even if they're hard.** We've got a lot of other problems—the tax problem, the sequester problem. **The ships are still going down unless we make our entitlements programs meet and fit the demographics of our country. It's time for some statesmen to show up. No matter what the American people decide in Nov—the problems are there—our promise to American people if we're in the majority, we'll do the basic work of gov't and our hand will be out to colleagues on other side.**

REID—**Response to R Colloquy on Failure of Obama Admin and D-Led Senate; Unprecedented R Obstructionism:** I've watched enough to understand what's going on. This has been a remarkable show of arrogance. From the R side, **Rs have stood to complain about how the USS hasn't gotten a lot done. What they have d one is the very definition of hutzpah—what nerve?! They're complaining about a result that they themselves created?** They've conducted filibuster after another—then complain the USS cant' pass anything. I've been leader for six years, I've had to file motions to overcome filibusters 382 filibusters in six years. To think they're here complaining we're not getting anything done when they've caused it? The R Leader —I appreciate his candor—he said his number one goal is to defeat Obama—and they've legislated accordingly. Most important issue facing country—cybersectuity. The Rs blocked a cyber-bill, stopped it. They've blocked the bill to stop outsourcing jobs more than once. One all these TV ads that you see, we thought it would be kind of a good idea that Amer icans knew who was paying for these ads—but no, twice they said no-let's keep them secret. They've blocked many bills dealing with unnecessary tax subsidies for large oil companies. **The record is clear in trying to defeat the President has done everything they can to make the economy look as bad**

as they can because if the economy is really bad, it's going to help them get re -elected. The middle class—we know how they feel about the middle class. One party stands for obstruction and the rich. It is a lie and untruthful for them to come here and say we didn't pass a budget. **For my friend from AZ to come and say that the USS isn't working because of Ds is a big lie. We've been waiting for months for them to come to me with an agreement on the Defense Auth. Here's the issue with Rs—we thought the Olympics were over—but yesterday we say them trying to break marathon, sprint records to avoid questions on their Presidential nominee.** We're going to continue to work the best we can—we're going to come back and hopeful ly they will decide at that time maybe they have something better to do than to try to make the POTUS look bad.

DURBIN— **Response to R Colloquy on Failure of Obama Admin and D -Led Senate; Unprecedented R Obstructionism:** One of the greatest orators in the history of English-speaking people was Churchill. **This morning McConnell tried to write the history of the USS and unfortunately his version was a little different than the memory of most of us in terms of what actually h appened.** When we were losing 750k jobs a month, business failing, families losing 1/3rd of the value of their savings—At that time McConnell said my 'highest priority is to make sure that Obama is a one-term President.' His highest priority. As Reid came t o the floor and explained, they have broken all records in the USS for filibusters. I **took a look at this morning, of the 30 Senators on the R side who got up to speak, about 10 of them talked about the fact that there was no budget. I took a look at the v otes on the BCA and those same 10 voted for the BCA. I am calling for an official investigation by attending the physician to see if there is something on the coffee in the R cloakroom causing amnesia.** We know if we're going to thrive—the middle class working families need a chance. We want to give working families a tax break, and we passed it —sent it over to the House where it's never going to be taken up for a vote. **The Rs came to the floor this morning and gave us this grand vision of when they were on control, they tried to rewrite history. Maybe Churchill was capable of doing that, but I would say the R Senators failed to meet that challenge.**

CONRAD—**Response to R Claims in There Being No Budget; Ryan Plan Fails the Moral Test:** Let me just start by saying our R colleagues at the Leadership level decided early on that their strategy to be successful was to stop things from pass in the USS. That's why we have seen more than 380 filibusters in this body, which is completely unprecedented in the history of the USS. **The R leader did not say his top priority was to solve the problems of the country, he did not say his top priority was to get our economy back on track. He said his top priority was to defeat President Obama.** I heard colleagues say things that aren't true. **How do I know that it isn't true that there's a budget? Because I remember what we voted on and it's in writing. It's a law. It's called the BCA.** Ryan came before the House and laid out his budget blueprint. What does that do? Extends all of the Bush era tax cuts. In a circumstance in which we're borrowing 40 cents of every dollar we spend, to say the answer is more and more tax cuts for the very wealthy among us? And then to try and pay for it by shredding the SS net that is critically import ant to those who are the least fortunate among us? Frankly, I think that fails the moral test. What we saw from R friends this morning, that's not the answer. That's the problem. What we desperately need are Ds and Rs, to be enacted when we return, to get American back on track. I very much hope when we return after this election that colleagues on both sides will be prepared to act in that spirit.

WHITEHOUSE—**Ryan Budget:** The Ryan budget would lower the top tax rates for both corporations and the highest - earning individuals from 35 -to-25 percent. Ds have tried repeatedly to offer tax incentives to companies that bring jobs home to the US, and nobody in this body has worked harder than Sherrod Brown. The Ryan Plan would do exactly the opposite. It would tell big corporations that if they move their business operations overseas, they'll never pay taxes on those again. The Ryan Plan is really a jobs bill for China, for India. Ryan would also convert Medicare to a voucher system, which according to CBO would ul timately add an estimated $6k in annual out of pockets costs for seniors. **The Ryan budget would repeal the ACA and take away access to affordable health insurance for millions of Americans. Ryan's plan is not an act of courage. It's just pandering to the T ea Party. But that is what is being held hostage on this sequester. I hope when the election season is over, no matter who wins, that Rs will work us without insisting on a monstrosity, insisting on ending Medicare.**

MURRAY— **Response to R Colloquy on Failure of Obama Admin and D-Led Senate; Unprecedented R Obstructionism:** I caught some of the dog and pony show that Rs put on this morning, and I thought it was pretty indicative of their approach to this entire Congress: all politics, no participation. I'm here to sat that an hour of speeches on the Senate floor cannot erase an entire Congress of constructionism. Let me assure Rs of one thing, their record of obstruction and their refusal to compromise will not go away at the 11th hour. **We know from everything we've seen and attempted on the Senate floor, no matter how good or bad of an idea, no matter which struggling American would**

benefit, it seems that if the President supports it you can pretty much guarantee Senate Rs will not. That's the legacy Senate Rs are going to take home to voters, the legacy that when middle-class American families needed their the most, they refused to compromise to get things done. No amount of snappy speeches are going to change that.

RUBIO—**Paul Amdt to Cut off Aid to Middle Eastern Countries is Not Wise:** We have the right to be angry—the American people are angry and rightfully so. For years, we've been investing our taxpayer dollars on aid into that region and yet we turn on the TV and we see these protests against us. Whi le we have the right to be angry, we should remain smart in our foreign policy. I want to talk about is what it means to have a smart foreign policy, a pro -American foreign policy in that region of the world given these factors that we're facing. The Paul Amdt…this is complicated issue and not all these countries are the same. **There is a belief—in the Muslim world that if you produce a YouTube video or any movie, your gov't must have approved it. But that's not true. Their leader knows better.** Instead of standing up and explaining that to their people, they go along with this stuff. This is a long pattern of double -playing behavior that we shouldn't stand for and should not tolerate. In my mind, it's unacceptable that a full two days went by before the Egypt ian gov't clearly condemned the attack on Benghazi and clearly condemned these actions against America. **This was not a result of YouTube video. It was an anti-American terrorist attack. I wish the media in the US would give more coverage to the Libyans in the streets protesting the terrorists, holding up sings apologizing.** Now, I don't have a magic solution and I've only been here for 1.5 years. We should expect more from leaders in the region. **We should expect Muslim Brotherhood and others to stand up to p eople say, we understand you're upset, but you don't have the right to burn down an Embassy. And btw, in America, the gov't doesn't control these videos. Number two, we should expect them to say the same thing sin Arabic as they're saying in English.** We need to be very clear; we will support those who want a better future. We're not asking them to abandon their religion or their beliefs. **But we also have to accept the hard, cold fact that there are radical Islamists in that part of the world that you can ne ver and will never be able to reason with. They are never going to change their mind. It's a clear choice: either they win or we win. And the sooner we accept that, the better off we're going to be. I hope Paul and those who support his amdt will consider, at a minimum, restructuring that amdt to recognize that there's a difference b/t Libya and Egypt, and we should take different approaches in that regard. We have a right to be angry, but we should never abandon being smart.**

HAGAN—**Importance to Remember Sacrifices of Armed Forces:** There are over 77k US service members deployed in Afghanistan right now who remain in harm's way. Sometimes I feel as if the war is hardly an issue in the news, in daily life anywhere, except for those who are personally affecte d by it. Our focus is too often drawn to the news of the elections, of the economy, politics, and celebrities, scandals, of the rich and famous. We don't hear enough about the brave souls who have lost their lives while trying to make the world safer for t he rest of us. As we scale down our presence in Afghanistan and bring our service men and women home, we must remember every day that this war is still going on.

MANCHIN—**Plans to Vote 'No' on CR; Need to Follow Through on Promises Made (sequestration):** A CR will let the gov't limp along again for another six months. That way we can go home and come back after the election and fix the budget. I haven't had anybody in WV tell me that we should hurry home to campaign. In the time I've been here, there have been 12 of these CR's. **A baker's dozen is one too many for me. Enough is enough. I can't vote for this measure to simple kick the can any further down the road.** I think we all remember the sequestration. That is the penalty we put on ourselves. **The Supercommittee wasn't that super, didn't work out the way we thought it would. That was a year ago. We could have been working to fix all of that between now and then. We've done a great job of spending, that's got to change.** When you look at the ballooning cost s of what's happened to our DoD, most of the money spent on contracting, most of the increases on contracting, people doing the same job making three and four and five times more than a man or woman in uniform, that's not right. And they're telling me we c an't cut it? If anybody is betting we can fix our spending in the lame duck Congress, I'll remind them somebody was betting on the Super Committee last year. That didn't work out too well. This has been self-inflicted and we can't keep going on this way. W e have reached what the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform call the moment of truth. We have to have a fair revenue stream and we've got to look at cutting the fat. We need a tax system where everybody pays their fair share and where American businesses are free to do what they do best. **I know Rs don't want to talk about revenue. I know Ds don't want to talk about entitlement reform, but we need to start thinking more about the next generation than ourselves, or the next election, or th e next new cycle or the next flight out of Washington.**

WHITEHOUSE—**Passing of Russell Train, EPA Administrator under Presidents Nixon and Ford:** week, the conversation community mourns the passing of a great American leader, a passionate individual and an inspiration and friend to many, Russell Train. President Nixon first names Russell as Under Secretary of the Dep't of the Interior and then as the first Chairman of the new WH Council on Environmental Quality.

REID—**To Whitehouse:** We have to do something about our oceans.

REID—**Judicial Nominee Vacancies:** We currently have 17 district judges on the calendar, 14 reported by voice vote, and for the people within the sound of my voice. They're noncontroversial. **I'm disappointed to say that my R friends on the other side have informed me that they will not agree on votes of any of these nominees. Rs can offer no reason for blocking these bipartisan consensus district court judge nominees.** I understand if they didn't want us to do circuit nominees. I may disagr ee but I understand that b/c Ds have set boundaries in the past as when we would no longer accept circuit court judges. Rs should work with Ds to confirm these consensus district court nominees now. Refusing to do so is really irresponsible. **I don't want to file cloture on these nominees before the end of the year** .

REID—**Asks UC to Take Up and Confirm 17 District Judges:**

McCONNELL—**Objects to Reid's UC Request to Confirm 17 District Judges:** I object. It's quite curious that the Maj. Leader is complaining in the one area where the Senate has met historic norms. We have handled judicial confirmations in this Congress here in the Senate in a way that meets and in some ways exceeds historic norms. This year, we've done 29. So far, the Senate has confirmed 158 o f President Obama's judicial nominees, compare that to President Bush's second term when the Senate confirmed only 122. Not only is President Obama being treated fairly in absolute terms, but the Senate is also treating him fairly relative to the number o f nominees he's submitted. We cannot allow the Majority to jam us here at the end of session.
REID—**To McConnell:** No matter how you try to juggle the numbers —we still have 12 emergencies. I would hope that my friends on the other side would at least look at some of those emergencies.

McCONNELL—**To Reid: There's no way to spin the math; President Obama has been treated quite fairly. I rest my case.**

SCHUMER—**Expresses Dismay over R Objection to Confirming Judicial Vacancies:** It's not the first time we've obstruction over obstruction sake over noncontroversial consensus nominees to the federal bench. We hear excuse after excuse after another for filibuster judges, recess appointments; the so -called Thurman Rule has never applied to district court nominees. I support the Maj. Leader's motion for UC for these pending district court nominees, and hope colleagues will think about it before we leave this week.

COATS—**Cybersecurity:** Landrieu and I entered a colloquy into the record yesterday. This was essentially to clarify a provision regarding cybersecutiy that is incorporated in the CR which we will be taking up here shortly. This provision does not intrude upon authorizer's jurisdiction. This provision does not have anything to do with the regulation or private sector infrastructure. DHS has confirmed that in writing this provision doesn't enable a new Exec. Order in any way. I'm hopeful even though we weren't able to ultimately pa ss and incorporate a workable cyber protection language, we can continue to do so,

WHITEHOUSE—**Carbon Pollution Causing Ocean Acidification:** Now, up to 30 percent of oceans is acidity, and that is projected to increase to 160 percent in acidity at unprece dented rates in millions of years. The unprecedented changes that I'm talking about in ocean acidity are not happening along, they're happening on top of dramatically changing ocean temperatures, also driven by carbon pollution. Romney and his PAC and the RNC have received at least $13M in campaign contributions from the fossil fuel industry executives or related groups. The laws of nature aren't subject to repeal. NO matter how much special interests money flows into campaign coffers. The laws of chemistry don't care about the filibuster. The laws of physics don't care how Senators vote. Nature will work its will, and one day there will be an accounting.

LAUTENBERG—**Who Are the '47 Percent'; America Deserves Better than Romney:** In the privacy of the event, Romney spilled to donors there what he really thinks about half of the American people. That's over 150m people. Romney said, "I'll never convince (the 47 percent of Obama supporters) them that they should take personal responsibility and acre for their lives." These comments are disturbing coming from anybody, but coming from him,

they're disgrace. In plain English, he says if you don't pay federal income taxes or receive a government benefits, then you don't take responsibility personally for your life. Who are these 47 percent? **Who is Romney and his R friends feel such contempt for? They're parents who work hard every day to give their families a better future, seniors who help build this country and now depend on SS to keep food on the table, they're ve terans who risked their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan. What would Mitt Romney say to veterans who don't owe federal income tax or receive a government benefit? He says they are victims who never be convinced to take personal responsibility for their lives.** Romney simply said what many in today's R party believe —he has revealed the stark choice facing the American people. American deserves better in a potential Presidential candidate that dismisses the contribution that had 47 percent, to be more precise, of our fellow Americans get decision and disrespect.

BENNET—**S.3525, the Sportsmen's Act of 2012:** In my view, the House ought to pass a five-year farm bill. There is no reason the House shouldn't pass this bill. In rural communities all over my state, no one wanted to know what was going on in the Presidential Election, no one wanted to talk about anything except, why can't the farm bill get passed? The Tester bill represents some of the best bipartisan ideas out there to promote hunting, fishing, and recrea tional access. The measure would require that 1.5 percent of annual Land and Water Conservation Fund, and this provision builds on the fine legacy of that program. The overall Sportsman's Package is widely supported, ranging from Teddy Roosevelt partnershi p to the Boon and Crockett Club. **It's my hope that once the election is over and we come back, we work together to avoid surfing over this fiscal cliff that be so damaging to this economy.**

BENNET—**Disappointment in USDA's Emergency Watershed Protection P rogram Not Included in CR:** Mark Udall and I have been working to provide resources for the USDA's Emergency Watershed Protection Program. EPW communities recover from wildfires, specifically watersheds that after being burned are unstable and risk harming critical drinking water infrastructure and sometimes jeopardize human lives. The House CR didn't contain this critical funding. We're disappointed; we're going to continue to fight for these resources.

BENNET— **Urges House to Pass Farm Bill:** I had traveled 2,500 miles around the state of CO, in rural parts of our state, nobody wanted to talk about anything except why can't we get a farm bill passed? It makes no sense to them. They know it was complete bipartisan here in the Senate. In the case of the CO's farmers and ranchers, we're going through the worst drought that we've had in generations. And they want to know why DC has a completely different set of priorities than they have. **There's still time for the House to pass this bill. And they cannot even g et a vote.**

STABENOW— **Urges House to Pass Farm Bill:** The riskiest business in the world is farming and ranching. We need to give them the economic certainty of a 5 year farm bill. We have 10 days until the farm bill expires. 16 million people that rely on agriculture jobs will be in limbo. We passed a bill as quickly as we could so the House would have time to act. This is my 4th farm Bill, never have I experienced the House not take it up. **The house Rs are planning to leave without finishing our work on our farm bill.** I am confident that the chairman and the ranking member, working in a bipartisan manner could pass this in a day. I don't know why the House won't act. **The only thing that has passed the senate that is bipartisan deficit reduction is our farm bill. Now it is time for the House to do their job. The speakers said they are going home with no action. The House of Representatives should be ashamed of themselves for not supporting rural America.**

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE—MTP to HJ Res. 117, the CR; Motion is Agreed to:</u>

<u>YEAs:</u> 67

<u>NAYs:</u> 31

REID—**Files Cloture on CR; Outlines Tentative Vote & Legislative Schedule for Duration of Session:** For the last several days, I've been telling everyone we need to do a couple things: CR, Sportsman's package. I have filled th e tree and filed cloture on the CR. Unless we get consent, the cloture vote on the CR will occur sometime after midnight on Friday, tomorrow at 1am. Once we invoke cloture on the CR, the 30 hours post cloture would run until about 7:30am on Sunday. We would pass the CR immediately thereafter, we'd invoke cloture to proceed to the Sportsman's package. **Here's where this leaves us: we file cloture on the CR and MTP to Sportsman's. That sets up two votes for Sunday morning very early.** I picked an hour because Paul has been talking about this for week. **If McCain wants more time, I don't care.** I've had conversation with Graham and Lieberman , the two have been pushing very hard on a containment resolution that deals with Iran. I think it would be nice if we had an Ambassador to go to Iraq. That's being help up. I also

think it would be a good idea that we had an American Ambassador to Pakistan. **We'll vote on whenever the Rs want, but no later than Saturday morning at a time that we'll decide. We'll have a vote on f inal passage of the CR and a MTP to Tester. It's very clear: we can complete everything tonight quickly or we can come here in the middle of night sometime early Sunday morning and be in the very same place. It's up to the Rs with what to with Paul's UC request that they objected to yesterday.**

INOUYE—**Support of HJ Res. 117, the CR**: This bill is $19B more than was approved by the House in the Ryan Budget, so I am encouraged that the House has finally repudiated its own budget. I'm only sorry it's taken th em so long to come to their senses. **One of the primary reasons Congress faces this CR is that the House broke this agreement on spending.** I support this measure, even though it is far from perfect. I would say it's not a good bill, but passing it is much better than allowing the government to shut down. **Never before in history has Congress passed a stop-gap resolution in September to fund the entire gov't for half the coming fiscal year.** It's unfortunate it's come to this. I disagreed with those who used the filibuster against HCR in 2012. **But this year, the Senate has been held up, delayed and rendered ineffective for at least 30 percent of its time by the abuse of the filibuster. No one should be interested in delaying or defeating this bill.**

COCHRAN— **Support of HJ Res. 117, the CR**: This CR results from an agreement reached between the President and the Congressional Leadership for a six-month clean CR. It adheres to FY13 spending levels set out in the BCA. The CR doesn't make reductions in programs for w hich the President requested less money in FY13, nor does it make cuts that have been proposed by the Congress. Enactment of the CR will, for the time being, avoid a disruptive government shutdown fight. **The Resolution represents a lost opportunity. We've lost the opportunity to provide agencies with at least some certainty about funding for this fiscal year. I deeply regret that the Maj. Leader chose not to call up a single Approps bill.**

INOUYE—**To Cochran:** Let the record show the work of Cochran. We have demonstrated to our colleagues that bipartisanship works in this Senate. All they have to do it watch us operate.

KOHL—**Passing of Jennifer Greener, Staff Member:** I rise to with great sadness to inform the Senate that Jennifer Greener, a valued member of my staff and cherished member of the Senate family passed away last weekend after a brief illness.

LEE—**Honors Brian McCoy, Departing Staff Member:**

FRANKEN—**Need to Address Challenges Facing Middle Class:** Two enormous challenges still await us when we return from recess. Our economy is still not yet fully recovered and the prospects for our middle class and for those aspiring to be in the middle class or to get bac k into the middle class remains uncertain.

REID—**No More Votes Today:** We have no more votes today. It's obvious to me what's going on. I've been to a few of these rodeos. It's obvious there is a big stall taking place. One of the Senators who doesn't want to debate tonight won't be in debate. While he can't use the Senate as an excuse, there will be no more votes today.

FRANKEN— **Need to Address Challenges Facing Middle Class:** I didn't feel great about all the cuts I've had to vote for over the last couple of years. But I don't think we're going to get anywhere if we're so invested in following our own ideologies that we refuse to acknowledge the lessons of where we have been or the truth about where we are headed. No, you won't cut the deficit by cutting t axes. Yes, we're going to have to raise both revenues, raise revenues and reduce spending if we want to get a balanced budget. And no, asking the wealthy to pay a little more wont' drive us back into a recession.

McCONNELL— **Makes UC Request on Paul Foreign Aid Bill, Iran Containment; CR:** Asks UC 5pm today the Senate proceed to S.3576 (Paul's bill on foreign aid); there be 2 hours for debate prior to a vote on passage, with a 60 -vote threshold; that following the vote, the Senate proceed to vote on passage of S.J.Res.41, that there be 60 - minutes for debate prior to a vote; and the Senate then proceed to the consideration of H.J.Res.117, Continuing Resolution, there be 30 minutes for debate prior to a vote on passage, with a 60 -vote threshold.

REID—**I object.** We've had a stall here for several days now. **I wanted to make sure that one of the Senators' who wanted to go a debate would be able to do that tonight. So, he can go now. I'm happy to have all these votes, but I**

am happy to have the debate tonight on the Containment Resolution and the Paul Amdt. Understand this; we are not separating the vote on the CR and a piece of legislation that groups around this country having trying to get done for years, being held up here.

McCONNELL—**To Reid:** I just offered the consent the Maj. Leader was trying to get last tonight. Senate Rs are prepared to finish today. I was a little surprised that he intended to offer shortly the UC that the Maj. Leader himself was shopping last night. Our side is prepared to finish up th e business for this particular pre -election session.

REID—**To McConnell: While we're educating Senators—we're willing to vote on all these things. We'll do it tomorrow, not today.**

McCONNELL—**To Reid:** That's a new development.

REID—**To McConnell:** Everyone has known for a long time that we will have a vote on the Sportsman Package.

REID—**All Senators Briefing from Secretary Clinton on Situation in Middle East:** The Secretary of State is coming here to address all of us as to what's going on in the Middle Eas t. I ask UC we recess from 4 -5pm.

CORNYN—**Need for Comprehensive Tax Code Reform; Ds Need to Tax:** Earlier this month, we received another big jobs report, and along with it-a serious disappointment. The numbers speak for themselves. The Chinese economy has slowed down dramatically. And the US continues to face major economic headwinds. **We can't afford any self-inflicted wounds. All I'm suggesting is that we maintain the current federal tax rates until we can work together in a bipartisan way and adopt real tax reform.** Yet, the President occasionally calls that position extreme. Ironically, the same position he himself held in December 2012. We need look no further than the 2012 health care law, the law that went to the USSC. Two aspects of it were found unco nstitutional, but not the tax on middle -class Americans. In addition to the middle class tax increase, the law contains a new excuse tax on medical device manufacturers that will discourage companies from building factories and creating jobs in the US. If you raise taxes on medical devices, it's only logical, reasonable, common sensical to expect that these companies will produce fewer jobs, and in the process, less innovation. The federal gov't just doesn't spend money. The federal gov't has a tax code th at benefits certain industries at sectors of the economy. Let's get a trillion dollars or more of these special tax expenditures on the table and look at the ones that still make sense and the ones we should do away with. As long as the tax code is as comp licated as ours is, it's a drag on the economy. **Given how much Obama talks about fairness of the tax code, you would think he would be all over this. Instead, the President wants to use the tax code as an ATM machine to subsidize particular industries and interest groups while punishing others. The President and Congress shouldn't be using your tax dollars to make risky politically motivated investments this benefit specific companies or industries at your expense.**

DURBIN—**Economy is Recovering:** Four years ago, our economy was in a free fall. It's not an exaggeration to call the crisis we faces the worst since the Great Depression. There is a lot of work still to be done. We all would like to see more jobs created, but it's clear our economy is better off a nd we are better off than we were four years ago. Newcorps Steel Plant in Bourbon Ace, IL—it makes rebard that is used in construction across the country. Why this company is unique is that during the Recession when many companies were shedding employees, Newcrop made a commitment to keep all of their full-time employees. It wasn't easy. **Business is picking up. Businesses are hiring people back, in some cases, expanding. Across America, 30 consecutive months of private sector job growth tells us we're movin g in the right direction. 4.6m private sector jobs have been added since January 2010. Now is not the time to go back to policies that brought us into this recession but to move forward.**

DURBIN—**Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Treaty :** Recently, we celebrated the 22nd anniversary of the ADA-Americans with Disability Act. The members of this body now have an opportunity to affirm our nation's leadership on disability issues by ratifying this treaty. I hope we will do with strong biparti san support that has always characterized the Senate's work on disability issues. We have an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment and advance the Disability Rights Around the World by ratifying the convention or the rights of persons with disabilities . I thank my friend, McCain, who is leading this effort with me to pass this convention on disabilities. Ratifying this treaty will help t o ensure they enjoy the same accessibility and opportunity the do right here at home. Ratifying this will give the US a well-deserved seat at the international table so the US can provide its guidance and expertise and experience to other countries working to adopt laws, upgrade infrastructure and modernize facilities to meet the high standard we've already set and met.

DURBIN—**Asks UC to Vote on the Ratification of Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities:**

LEE—**Objects to Durbin's UC Request to Pass the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Treaty:** I object. I have a letter by 36 members who express the viewpoint that because of the prerogative that we have as USS to ratify treaties 2/3rd of us have to provide our advice and consent to ratify a treaty. In the letter, we don't think that any treaty should come up for ratification during the lame -duck period of the 112th Congress. **We explain that no treaty should be brought up during this time period and conclude that we will oppose efforts to consider any treaty. I, and some of my colleagues, are not comfortable with it and some of my colleagues are not yet convinced as to the full ramifications of the language of this proposed treaty.**

DURBIN—**Response to Lee: We're not in a lame duck. I might say this treaty has been out there for review for months.** This was produced for review and amdt, we had a full hearing before the SFRC and a vote was taken.

HARKIN—**To Lee; Expresses Dismay on His Objection:** I am sorry to see this happen. This has been a long time coming. The Admin said that ratification of this c onvention will not require any change in US law and will have no fiscal impact. So it doesn't require any change. That makes sense because we're the leader in the world on disability law. I just say, this isn't something that popped up overnight. **I also say that we want to be that Shining City on the Hill and this is one area in which the US has no equal. We have taken the lead in the world on this issue. We should be at the table.** I'm perplexed as to why this is an issue. I just don't notice politics in th is whatsoever. I don't know why we can't bring this up and have a small debate on it and vote on it.

LEE—**To Harkin, Explains Objections:** I understand and appreciate they might not some of the same concerns expressed in this letter. **I understand some of my colleagues might be satisfied with the assurances provided by some lawyers within the State Department to the effect it wouldn't impose any additional new different obligations on US law. I'm not satisfied that's the case.**

HARKIN—**Response to Lee:** I don't know what would satisfy Lee. Unless he could inform us as to what it would be that would satisfy him. This is not something that sprung up overnight. This has been in the works for a number of years. **My hope is that US ratification will have a moral impac t, my hope is that it would send a signal to the rest of the world that isn't not ok to leave a baby with Down's Syndrome by the side of the road to die.** I hope we use the time b/t now and when we come back in the lame duck after the election to address an y issues that have been raised about the CRPD. If Senators have issues and want them raised, let's them out. We must reaffirm our leadership on this issue and let the rest of the world know that we are not stepping backwards on this.

SESSIONS—**No Senate Democratic Budget:** Sen. Reid was stung a bit this morning from remarks made about the failure of the Senate to pass a budget, move an appropriations bill or bring up NDAA . **I was disappointed to hear comments from Reid and Conrad in frustration about this Re publican truth-telling.** The Senate majority needs to produce a budget every year by law. The Senate D budget doesn't exist. Ds defiantly refuse to present version of how to deal with federal debt and spending. Sen. Conrad's promised budget markup never hap pened. **Senate Dems' comments are outrageous. They're inaccurate. They're hypocritical.** It's not a lie to say we didn't have a budget this year. We're failing to confront the sequester. BCA is not a budget. The parliamentarian has already ruled it's not a b udget. Disappointed that Sen. Conrad attacked the House for having the gumption to lay out a plan to put us on the path to prosperity.

HOEVEN—**S. 3512 the Coal Ash Recycling And Oversight Act Of 2012:** This is exactly the kind of energy legislation that can help take our nation to energy security or energy independence. It's not just about energy. It's about jobs. Americans do not want to be dependent on importing energy from the middle east, and the reality is with the right energy plan, we can produce that energy here at home and be energy secure, create good jobs, get our economy growing at the same time. This is just one step but it's one more important step on that journey. **This is truly a concept where we're recycling the coal ash and the coal residuals.** This truly is American ingenuity and American innovation at work. Right now, coal ash is regulated under subtitle D of the resource conservation and recovery act. That's nonhazardous waste. But E.P.A. is looking at changing that to regulating it under s ubtitle C, which is the hazardous waste section. **This bill establishes comprehensive federal standards for coal ash disposal. Under this legislation, states can set up their own permitting programs for the management and the disposal of coal ash. These pro grams would be required to be based on existing E.P.A. regulations.** This legislation is needed to protect jobs.

COATS— **Oppose S.3576 (Paul Foreign Aid bill):** Events this past year and especially this past week in the Middle East and North Africa continue to present us with enormous challenges. We have mishandled them badly. No one should be deluded enough to see it in any other way. It's understandable to ask why on earth should we send one more dime to these people who hate us so much? Based on recent eve nts, I agree that we need to reassess the foreign aid we do send to these countries. However, I also believe that we need to avoid a shortsighted reaction and consider a broader review of the purposes and the costs of foreign aid. **We should cut where it makes sense to cut. But when there is a discussion about eliminating all aid to Pakistan, Libya and Egypt, let's be honest with the American people about the true cost of all that. Together this aid only constitutes a fraction of a single percent of our fede ral budget and cutting it would be nothing but a gesture toward the real austerity required to deal with our deficit.** We need to reevaluate the way we make our foreign aid determinations. But rather than cutting off all foreign aid in an instinctual way after these horrific scenes that we've seen on television, it's important to step back and assess how we go about reasse ssing our distribution of foreign aid.

BLUMENTHAL—**FHA Action to Punish States for Protecting Against Unfair Mortgage Practices:** FHA actions punish CT and four other states four other states for effectively protecting our citizens against unfair and abusiv e mortgage foreclosure practices. I am determined to fight this action. The protections that we have in place now against those abusive banking tactics that have so pervaded the mortgage foreclosure process, increased the length of time that it sometimes takes for foreclosure, and we have a mediation process that keeps people in their homes and enables settlements that actually save money. I am determined to fight this fee.

BLUMENTHAL—**DREAM Act:** Young people known as dreamers are undocumented immigrants, brought to this country as an early age, some in their infancy. No fault of their own. The consequence is they are here without proper documentation. America is their home. They often know no other language. All of their life is here. The need is for a mor e certain, stable, secure solution so that they can come out of the shadows.

CASEY—**Confirmation of Federal District Court Judges:** Nearly all DC judges on the calendar are noncontroversial. Justice delayed is justice denied. It's especially egregious and o utrageous that they're held up here when in many cases they get out of the judiciary committee after a long process. **The ability of the federal courts to provide justice to the American people has been indeed threatened by this vacancy crisis.** The PA nominees are highly qualified, non-controversial and would fill judicial emergencies. I urge that we move forward and allow a vote.

SHAHEEN—**Urging the House to pass Senate VAWA:** We need to continue this critical funding for survivors of domestic violence. Domestic violence isn't just a women's issue. It affects all of us. It affects our entire economy. It affects our families. This is a bill that's also a good investment. This is about telling the victims of violence that we stand with them, because having safe, healthy citizens benefits all of us. We need to get the House to join with us in passing the Senate bill so that we can include those expanded protections that are needed so much by women and families across this country.

SANDERS—**Social Security:** Our national debt is $16 trillion. That is a serious problem. But let us be equally clear in understanding that social security has not contributed one nickel to the federal deficit. We should never, never underestimate the incredibly positive impact that socia l security has had on our nation. Social security not only provides retirement benefits for 34 million Americans but also enables millions of people with disabilities and widows, widowers and children who live in dignity and security. **What we are looking at right now are attacks on social security coming from Mitt Romney, from Paul Ryan and from virtually every republican in congress who are calling for major cuts in social security. There are also some benefits who are considering cutting social security a s part of some deficit reduction grand bargain. I strongly disagree with that approach, and I hope that Obama will make it clear as he did four years ago that he also disagrees with that approach.** Some want to adjust the chain CPI so that the benefits will be less. This means not only cuts for seniors, it means cuts for veterans. **Moving toward a chain C.P.I. would be a disgraceful effort to balance the budget on some of the most vulnerable people in this country.** I will do everything that I can to make sure that we do not balance the budget on the backs of the elderly, the children, the sick and the poor.

REID—**Schedule:** Discussions continue on processing the business we need to address before we leave. As I've said repeatedly, we need to do just a couple of things before we break for the elections. We need to pass a CR we need to vote on proceeding to the sportsman's pack age. To help move the CR, we have been told that the Rs now have decided they are willing to vote sometime on the Paul bill, on foreign aid and also the Iran containment resolution. As I said yesterday,

we're willing to do that. In the worst case, under th e rules, a cloture vote on the CR would occur tomorrow night at 1:00 a.m. on Saturday. Once we invoke cloture on the CR, the 30 hours post -cloture would run out at about 7:30 or 8:00 in the morning Sunday. I hope that we can have more to report on that tom orrow. It appears at this stage there is no agreement on having any votes tomorrow, so we may have to finish our work tomorrow, beginning tomorrow night very late.

MERKLEY—**Wrap Up:**

SCHEDULE FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2012
The Senate will convene at 12:00pm on Friday, September 21, 2012. Following the prayer and pledge, the Majority Leader will be recognized.

The first hour will be equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders or their designees with the Majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half.

During Thursday's session, cloture was filed on H.J.Res.117, the continuing resolution and on the motion to proceed to S.3525, the Sportsmen's Act of 2012.

Unless an agreement is reached, the next roll call vo te will be after midnight (technically Saturday, September 22nd). We hope we can work something out in order to complete our work.

WRAP UP FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2012
ROLL CALL VOTE
1) Motion to proceed to H.J.Res.117, the continuing resolution; Agree d to: 67-31

LEGISLATIVE ITEMS
Began the Rule 14 process of S.3607, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline. (Hoeven)
Completed the Rule 14 process of S.3576, Limitation on Foreign Assistance. (Paul)

EXECUTIVE ITEMS
Jointly referred PN1948, the nomination of Keith Kelly, of Montana, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans–Employment and Training, sent to the Senate by the President, to the HELP and Veterans' Affairs Committees.

[redacted]
Democratic Policy and Communications Center
[redacted]

SCB 000261

From: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 11:19 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Remarks

Hi [redacted]

Many thanks for your efforts with the ceremony yesterday. I understand it was very meaningful and much appreciated.

Hope things are well all things considering.

-Ben

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 06:37 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Remarks

Thanks Ben. I will circulate

On Fri, Sep 14, 2012 at 6:13 AM, Fishman, Benjamin I. <[redacted]> wrote:

Hi [redacted]

Please find below secretary clinton's important remarks tonight on religious tolerance, together with ambassador aujali's touching words about chris.
These will be translated into arabic but please help circulate in L ibya.

-Ben

Remarks at Reception Marking Eid ul -Fitr <http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2012/09/197735.htm >
09/13/2012 09:35 PM EDT

Remarks at Reception Marking Eid ul -Fitr

Remarks
Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
Ben Franklin Room

Washington, DC

September 13, 2012

SECRETARY CLINTON: Good evening, and although I am many weeks overdue in saying it: Eid Mubarak. No matter how belated we are honoring Eid and the end of Ramadan, this is a cherished tradition here at the State Department. And I would like to thank all of you for being here, including the many members of the Diplomatic Corps.

Tonight, our gathering is more somber than any of us would like. This comes during sad and difficult days for the State Department family. We lost four Americans. They were good and brave men. They were committed to the cause of building a brighter future for the people of Libya. And we condemn the violence in the strongest terms, the violence against our posts in Benghazi, in Egypt, and now in Yemen.

The Libyan ambassador is with us tonight, and I want to take a moment to thank him for the support that his government and the Libyan people have shown to the United States in this tragedy, particularly the outpouring of feelings of grief and loss because of the killing of our ambassador.

Ambassador Aujali, would you mind saying a few words?

AMBASSADOR AUJALI: Thank you very much, Secretary Clinton. Standing beside you here in the Department of State, it shows the world how much the Americans are standing by the Libyans and the Libya revolution. You do support us during the war, but you have to support us during the peace. We are going through a very difficult time, and we need the help of friends.

It is a very sad day for me, since I learned of the death of my dear friend and colleague, Ambassador Chris Stevens. I knew Chris for the last six years. We play tennis together, we drive in one car, and we had some traditional Libyan food in my house. I must tell you, Madam Secretary, and tell the American people, that Chris is a hero. He is a real hero. He's the man who believes in the Libyans and the Libyan ability that they will achieve democracy after 42 years of the dictatorship.

Now we are facing a serious problem, and we have to maintain and we have to we need security and stability in our country. The government, unfortunately, faces a serious problem, personnel and equipment. And the support of you and the friends who support us during the war is very important.

I want to show you and to show the American people how much it was we were shocked by the death of four American diplomats. It is a very sad story to tell. But I am sure that it is our responsibility, and the responsibility of the Libyan people, that we have to protect our people, we have to protect the Americans in the first place and have to protect all the diplomatic missions who are serving in our country. I am sure that without the help, we will not be able to do it.

I hope that this sad incident which happened, this terrorist attack which took place against the American consulate in Libya, it will tell us how much we have to work closely. Our religion, our culture, never tells us that this is the way to express your view. It is in fact (inaudible) a terrorist act. This is condemned by all the world and by all the Libyans at the top level of the Libyan authority.

Please, Madam Secretary, accept our apology and accept our condolence for the loss of the four Americans, innocent people. They lost their lives in the Libyan territory. Chris, he loves Benghazi, he loves the people, he talks to them, he eats with them, and he committed -- and unfortunately lost his life because of this commitment.

Madam Secretary, thank you very much indeed. (Applause.)

SECRETARY CLINTON: Thank you very much, Ambassador. I know that that was a very personal loss for you, as it was for me. I'm the one who sent Chris to Benghazi during the revolution to show support and be able to advise our government about what we could do to bring freedom and democracy and opportunity to the people of Libya.

Religious freedom and religious tolerance are essential to the stability of any nation, any people. Hatred and violence in the name of religion only poison the well. All people of faith and good will know that the actions of a small and savage group in Benghazi do not honor religion or God in any way. Nor do they speak for the more than one billion Muslims around the world, many of whom have shown an outpouring of support during this time.

Unfortunately, however, over the last 24 hours, we have also seen violence spread elsewhere. Some seek to justify this behavior as a response to inflammatory, despicable materia l posted on the internet. As I said earlier today, the United States rejects both the content and the message of that video. The United States deplores any intentional effort to denigrate the religious beliefs of others. At our meeting earlier today, my co lleague, the foreign minister of Morocco, said that all prophets should be respected because they are all symbols of our humanity, for all humanity.

But both of us were crystal clear in this paramount message: There is never any justification for violent acts of this kind. And we look to leaders around the world to stand up and speak out against violence, and to take steps to protect diplomatic missions from attack.

Think about it. When Christians are subject to insults to their faith, and that certainly happens, we expect them not to resort to violence. When Hindus or Buddhists are subjected to insults to their faiths, and that also certainly happens, we expect them not to resort to violence. The same goes for all faiths, including Islam.

When all of us who are people of faith and I am one feel the pain of insults, of misunderstanding, of denigration to what we cherish, we must expect ourselves and others not to resort to violence. That is a universal standard and expectation, and it is everyone's obl igation to meet that, so that we make no differences, we expect no less of ourselves than we expect of others. You cannot respond to offensive speech with violence without begetting more violence.

And I so strongly believe that the great religions of the world are stronger than any insults. They have withstood offense for centuries. Refraining from violence, then, is not a sign of weakness in one's faith; it is absolutely the opposite, a sign that one's faith is unshakable.

So tonight, we must come together and recommit ourselves to working toward a future marked by understanding and acceptance rather than distrust, hatred, and fear. We can pledge that whenever one person speaks out in ignorance and bigotry, ten voices will answer. They will answer resound ingly against the offense and the insult, answering ignorance with enlightenment, answering hatred with understanding, answering darkness with light; that if one person commits a violent act in the name of religion, millions will stand up and condemn it out of strength.

In times like these, it can be easy to despair that some differences are irreconcilable, some mountains too steep to climb; we will therefore never reach the level of understanding and peacefulness that we seek, and which I believe the great religions of the world call us to pursue. But that's not what I believe, and I don't think it's what you believe either here tonight. Part of what makes our country so special is we keep trying. We keep working. We keep investing in our future. We keep s upporting the next generation, believing that young people can keep us moving forward in a positive direction.

So tonight I think it's important that we talk not just about that better tomorrow that we all seek, but also about some of the things the real, practical, tangible things that young people are doing to help shape that better future.

Two years ago in this room, at our Eid reception, we launched a program called Generation Change to lead a grassroots agenda of positive engagement with Muslim c ommunities. And I asked the young Muslim leaders in the audience that night to be our unofficial ambassadors, to help build personal connections, seek out partners in other countries. And I can report to you tonight they did not disappoint. In a few minute s, you're going to meet some of these young leaders, each with a powerful story to tell.

The Generation Change network that started in this room now circles the globe. We are building an international alliance of young people who want to drive change in t heir own communities. They act as mentors, spark respectful debates, simply offer words of encouragement when needed. But most importantly, they inspire others to keep expanding the circle of mutual understanding and respect, one person at a time.

Even as we work to spread tolerance more broadly, we also are working to deepen our appreciation for the experiences of others. Our 2012 Hours Against Hate initiative encourages young people to put themselves in another person's shoes through service projects. So far, young people from all over the world have pledged thousands of volunteer hours to help people from a different background, to see them as a fellow human being, not a stereotype, not a caricature, but another real live person people who don't look l ike you, live like you, pray like you, but with whom we will share this planet. And therefore, we have work to do.

People of faith and conscience are called to be the leaders of tolerance. In my tradition, like all traditions, we are expected to love one another. And together, we have to translate that into better understanding and cooperation. I'm particularly pleased that the young people you will hear from tonight are really setting an example, not only for young people elsewhere in the world but, frank ly, for us who are older as well.

SCB 000265

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 6:02 AM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I; '[redacted]
Subject: RE: Media Campaign Libya

Dear Ben, thank you very much for your note, and we will certainly reach out to the Awalan people. I am still basically on lockdown here, but I hope that I will be allowed some engagements soon.

[redacted]

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 1:11 AM
To: [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: FW: Media Campaign Libya

Hi [redacted]

An overdue note of gratitude and appreciation fo r your incredible work under the worst of circumstances. Among other challenges, it will be really hard to separate the tragedy of last week from our (and Chris') broader goals in Libya, and to demonstrate our continued goodwill in the country despite wh at happened. Thank you for driving forward with that mission.

Below are the contacts for the Awalan TV network if you have not engaged with them previously. They have a partnership with CNN and may have evolved from Libya al -Hurra since both are owned by Libyan businessman [redacted] You'll see below that they are working on a media campaign to promote moderation among the population. Might be worth connecting with them to see what opportunities might exist for partnerships going forward. You'll know better than me what their viewership is in Libya.

All the best,
-Ben

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 6:22 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Re: Media Campaign Libya

Sure thing Ben, we would be ha ppy to assist in any way. Below is the contact information for two of our station managers. I have informed them both of possible contact, and gave them instructions to assist with any requests. I would suggest first contact be made through [redacted] in our Cairo control room. [redacted] is fluent in English and is responsible for the day to day programming for the channel. [redacted] uns our Tripoli office and would coordinate with your colleagues and [redacted] for any message campaign.

In Unity and Friendship,
[redacted]

[redacted] +[redacted]
[redacted] +[redacted]

SCB 000266

From: Fishman, Benjamin I. <[redacted]>;
To: [redacted] <[redacted]>;
Subject: RE: Media Campaign Libya
Sent: Mon, Sep 17, 2012 9:29:15 PM

Thanks [redacted]

Who's the best person at Awalan for our public affairs office in Tripoli to connect with? Perhaps they can start working together on messaging issues.

-Ben

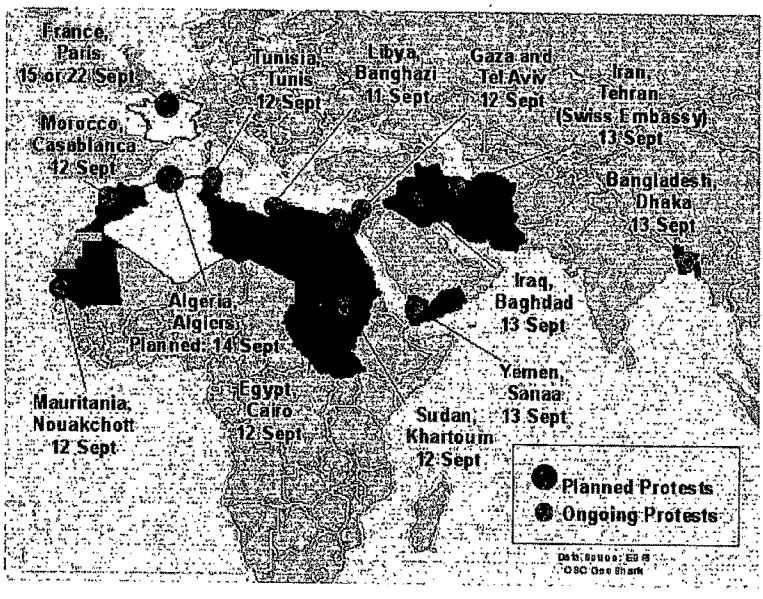
From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 5:27 PM
To: Fishman, Benjamin I.
Subject: Media Campaign Libya

Ben- Further to our conversation, Libya Awalan will begin our first day of a new media campaign to promote moderation and generate increased public awarene ss amongst the general population. We will feature elders and regional leaders in a discussion tonight, followed by street interviews in Benghazi tomorrow evening, and street interviews in Tripoli on Wednesday.

Best,
[redacted]

CIA Documents

Protests Against Controversial Film, US Embassies



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FROM:	OSC RESTON VA
TO:	CIA WASHINGTON DC
TITLE:	(U//FOUO) Libya: Ansar Al-Shari'ah Video Statement on US Consulate Attack in Benghazi
TEXT:	

WARNING: Topic: FOUO, TERRORISM, URGENT

SERIAL: GMP20120912094001

COUNTRY: Denmark, Libya, United States

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SUBJ: (U//FOUO) Libya: Ansar Al-Shari'ah Video Statement on US Consulate Attack in Benghazi

SOURCE: YouTube in Arabic, English 12 Sep 12 (U//FOUO)

TEXT:

[(U//FOUO) Corrected version: The acronym "ASS" corrected to "AAS"; For a copy of the video, contact [redacted] or the OSC Customer Center at [redacted] Selected video also available at OpenSource.gov.]

[Internet]

[OSC Translated Text]

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The 5-minute 1-second video starts with a caption that reads: "Statement by the Ansar al-Shari'ah Brigade on the Incident of the US Consulate in Benghazi"

Speaking in a press conference from the Al-Shuhada (formerly Al-Jala) Hospital, in front of a banner that reads: "We Ansar al-Shari'ah [supporters of the Shari'ah] vow to God and then to our people to be a shield to protect our religion, people, and country. Together to champion the Shari'ah; together to build Libya. Ansar al-Shari'ah; your sons at your service," the AAS spokesperson says:

Praise be to God, the Lord of all creation. Prayer and peace be upon our Prophet Muhammad and upon all prophets and messengers. May God be pleased with the pious companions and those who followed them in piety until Judgment Day.

We greet our Muslim Libyan people for this popular uprising, out of zeal for God's religion and in championship of God's Messenger, God's prayer and peace be upon him.

Almighty God said, and the Almighty still says: "Such days (of varying fortunes) We give to men and men by turns," [partial Koranic verse, Al Imran, 3:140]."We give to men and men by turns" means that We dispose and turn them in various ways.

Recently, our Prophet, God's prayer and peace be upon him, has been derided, by an evil Danish caricaturist in his caricatures. Back then, our Muslim Libyan youths revolted and decided to march to the Italian consulate. The response of the tyrant's [Al-Qadhafi] entourage to these armless youths was blazing, burning fire. Some of them were killed, we ask God to accept them among martyrs.

Now, history repeats itself, but with different people. Our Prophet, God's prayer and peace be upon him, has been assaulted and derided by some people in the United States and other countries. There, there is an American pastor who is known for his animosity to Islam and Muslims, supported by some of the Copts in Diaspora. They carried out this outrageous act.

As we greet our people for their zeal in defense of God's religion and in championship of His Messenger, God's prayer and peace be upon him, we say that the response must be firm and decisive without leniency. This is so because we derived this response from the traditions of our Prophet, may God's prayers and peace be upon him. It is known that the Prophet, may God's prayers and peace be upon

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him, said to his companions: "Who would kill Ka'b Bin-al-Ashraf?" Ka'b Bin-al-Ashraf wrote poems satirizing our Prophet, may God's prayers and peace be upon him. The Prophet, God's prayers and peace be upon him, said: "Who would kill Ka'b Bin-al-Ashraf? Muhammad Bin-Maslamah, may God be pleased with him, said: 'O God's Apostle! Do you like me to kill him?" He replied in the affirmative. So, Muhammad Bin-Maslamah, may God be pleased with him, went to him [Ka'b] and killed him by his sword, and thus his chest was healed."

So, deriding Islam and the master of the sons of Adnan [Prophet Muhammad], prayers and peace be upon him, must be dealt with sternly. What is important is that it was a popular uprising in which all Libyans participated in support of the religion of the Lord of all creation, and in support of the master of all messengers, may the best of prayers and salutations be upon our Prophet.

The Ansar al-Shari'ah Brigade did not participate in this popular uprising as an independent entity. Rather, it was performing its duty in the Al-Jala Hospital and other places where the Brigade was entrusted with some duties. The Brigade did not participate as independent entity acting upon some orders. Rather, it was a spontaneous and popular uprising in response to what the West did. Thank you.

To see the video, please go to document ID FBS 20120912542729

[Description of Source: YouTube in English -- Website providing a platform for sharing, viewing, and reviewing videos; URL: http://www.youtube.com]

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Source Name: YouTube

Source Type(s): Internet

Source Start Date: 12 Sep 12

Source End Date: 12 Sep 12

Language(s): Arabic, English

Article Metadata

Document ID: GMP20120912094001

Content Type: Translation/Transcription

Processing Ind: OSC Translated Text

Precedence: Immediate

Country(s): Denmark, Libya, United States

Region(s): Europe, Africa, Americas

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Subregion(s): North Europe, North Africa, North Americas

Topic(s): FOUO, TERRORISM, URGENT

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DOCUMENT_ID:	ON86998330
DOCST:	ACTIVE
SOURCE-INFO:	ENGLISH DIALOG [BBC] INTERNATIONAL REPORTS (MIDDLE EAST) 20120912062244 NEWSROOM ALERT 2038584633 989 At 1005 gmt on 12 September Al-Jazeera TV began airing "live" a press conference in Benghazi by Libyan Undersecretary at the Interior Ministry Wanis al-Sharif on the attack on the US consulate in Libya, which reports say has led to the death of the US ambassador there.
ORIGIN:	
ORIGDATE:	20120912062244
GUIDE-UID:	1002/1cwsfs
LANGUAGE:	ENGLISH
AUTHOR:	At 1005 gmt on 12 September Al-Jazeera TV began airing "live" a press conference in Benghazi by Libyan Undersecretary at the Interior Ministry Wanis al-Sharif on the attack on the US consulate in Libya, which reports say has led to the death of the US ambassador there.
PUBLISHR:	NEWSROOM ALERT
PUBNAME:	BBC INTERNATIONAL REPORTS (MIDDLE EAST)
PUBNO:	2038584633
VENDOR:	DIALOG
RECEIPT DATE:	osd091220120933102291201209120936 13
INPUT_ID:	osd091220120933102291
DOR:	20120912
TOR:	093613
FILENO:	989
CLASS:	UNCLASSIFIED
TOPLINES:	At 1005 gmt on 12 September Al-Jazeera TV began airing "live" a press conference in Benghazi by Libyan Undersecretary at the Interior Ministry Wanis al-Sharif on the attack on the US consulate in Libya, which reports say has led to the death of the US ambassador there.
HEADER:	
TITLE:	Libyan official says US guards opened fire during protest, notes warnings

TEXT:

At 1005 gmt on 12 September Al-Jazeera TV began airing "live" a press conference in Benghazi by Libyan Undersecretary at the Interior Ministry Wanis al-Sharif on the attack on the US consulate in Libya, which reports say has led to the death of the US ambassador there.

At the start of the live footage, Al-Sharif criticized the film "funded by Copts in America under the supervision of Pastor [Terry] Jones" that "prompted armed individuals to be present in front of the US consulate in Benghazi".

Libyan official says US guards opened fire during protest, notes warnings

Explaining the circumstances of the attack, Al-Sharif said: "Yes, they [the people attacking the consulate] were carrying weapons, they opened fire in anger, disapproval and denunciation of the content of this film and in protest at the US not stopping this film."

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He added: "At this time, when guards inside the consulate heard the sound of gunfire, it seems that they thought there was an attack, or that there was going to be an attack on the consulate, so they opened fire from inside the consulate. This increased the people's ire, as their emotions were inflamed and anger was at its peak, which led to the consulate being stormed."

Al-Sharif said that other individuals had become embedded with protesters, "whether previously known criminals or those seeking to sow sedition or those seeking to destabilise order".

"This situation was taken advantage of for their own aims", he added.

Due to the large size of the crowd and in an attempt to ensure the situation was not further enflamed, the undersecretary said that he "personally ordered" the withdrawal of the security forces protecting the consulate. He said he believed that "the situation would be confined to a protest".

Al-Sharif said that two individuals were killed in the attack, including "the consul, who was hospitalized... and later died, due to asphyxiation", and another injured.

The official stressed numerous times that the film had "tainted" symbols of Islam and that "these are symbols that no doubt provoke the ire of Muslims". He said the situation "had its justifications from the point of view of the protesters and so on... as it is not a personal matter, but a matter that touches the Muslims' sacred symbols".

Al-Sharif added that the attack could have been anticipated and that the authorities had suggested boosting the consulate's security. "Of course all of us as Muslims are with them in condemning the film," he said, but added that the way things occurred "was what was out of our control, and they [appearing to refer to the US officials] bear a part of the responsibility for not withdrawing embassy staff despite the warnings they received".

Al-Sharif said that members of the Ansar al-Shari'ah battalion had denied any participation in the storming of the consulate and that this had been confirmed.

He also said that the consulate, "perhaps all of it", was burned.

Source: Al-Jazeera TV, Doha, in Arabic 1005 gmt 12 Sep 12

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2012-09-12 06:22:44

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33 [OSC | GMP20120912950009 | 20120912 | (U) Al-Jazirah: Libyan Militia Storms US Consulate in Benghazi Over Prophet Film | (U) | Doha Al-Jazirah Satellite Channel Television in Arabic -- Independent Television station financed by the Qatari Government]

Document ID: FB225562899
GUIDE-UID: 1008/2hm9sr
Document Status: ACTIVE
Title: (U) Al-Jazirah: Libyan Militia Storms US Consulate in Benghazi Over Prophet Film
Source: OSC
Producer: RESTON VA
Origination Date: 201209120729
Document Type: FIELD
Precedence: P
Document No.: GMP20120912950009
Time of Receipt: 032922
Date of Receipt: 20120912
Input_Id: 12-HQS061244812
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
From: OSC RESTON VA
To: CIA WASHINGTON DC

Header:

OMF ACP
UNCLAS
120729ZSEP12
OSC RESTON VA
TO: PRIORITY CIA WASHINGTON DC

Text:

WARNING: Topic: DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, TERRORISM, URGENT

SERIAL: GMP20120912950009

COUNTRY: Libya, Qatar, United States

SUBJ: (U) Al-Jazirah: Libyan Militia Storms US Consulate in Benghazi Over Prophet Film

SOURCE: Doha Al-Jazirah Satellite Channel Television in Arabic 2130 GMT 11 Sep 12 (U)

TEXT:

[(U) Corrected version: Adding further topic, country tags, editing text]

[Television]

[OSC Translated Text]

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[Presenter] An armed group called Ansar al-Shari'ah [Supporters of the Shari'ah] stormed the US Consulate in Benghazi and fired light assault weapons and rocket-propelled grenades (RPG) at the building. The 17 February Brigade, part of the Council of Rebel Units, moved in and evacuated the consul and members of staff from the building.

An Al-Jazirah correspondent reported that the attack was in protest at a film produced by American Copts deemed insulting to Prophet Muhammad, prayers and peace be upon him.

The assailants tried to set fire to the consulate after storming it.

[Al-Jazirah's Tripoli bureau chief Abd-al-Azim Mohamed Abd-al-Azim] The armed group that attacked the US Consulate in Benghazi was still in the building after it took control of it, pulled down the US flag and raised a flag with the words: "There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his messenger" over the building.

From time to time, the sound of gunshots could be heard around the building, which is totally under the control of the armed group.

I learned that the group consists of 60 to 70 people with light arms and RPG.

Seven RPGs were fired at the consulate before a 40-strong group stormed it and took total control.

It seems that moments before the attack the 17 February Brigade managed to evacuate the US consul and members of staff.

A minor clash broke out between the armed group that attacked the building and the consulate security guards at the beginning of the assault. But due to the heavy fire and the big size of Ansar al-Shari'ah, who carried out the attack, the assailants surrounded the building and stormed it.

Thus, the consulate guards were unable to defend it. The 17 February Brigade stepped in only to evacuate members of staff and did not get involved in any

clashes because members of Ansar al-Shari'ah group were talking about the film, which is insulting to the Prophet and is supposed to be broadcast from the US.

There is a feeling of extreme indignation and tensions and emotions are running high; this is why the 17 February Brigade avoided clashes and arguments with the armed group.

All it did wasÂ evacuate the consulate staff, leaving the building to the armed group. There are no reports of casualties among the staff or the assailants. From time to time the sound of gunshots is heard around the building.

The group is still firing shots inside the building.

[Presenter] We confirm that all members of the US Consulate staff are safe. Who is the Ansar al-Shari'ah group? Who is it affiliated with?

[Correspondent Abd-al-Azim] Ansar al-Shari'ah is a group of rebels from Benghazi and the eastern region. It is known for its commitment to enforcing the Shari'ah even if it is outside the authority of the state.

It holds certain views on some practices. An armed group claimed responsibility for a recent attack on the offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Benghazi under the pretext that the offices were running missionary activities.

There is an Islamic sentiment, or rather an extremist sentiment, in this region. In general, an Islamic sentiment prevails all over Libya. No wonder the news about a film that is insulting to the Prophet stirs up everyone, let alone an armed group that was close to the offices of the US Consulate.

[Wanis al-Sharef, undersecretary of the Libyan Ministry of Interior in the eastern region,Â speaking from Benghazi]: A few hours ago, supporters of Ansar al-Shari'ah, an armed group with a certain view and outlook, were joined by other groups in the protest against the film, which was posted on the Internet and produced by the pastor Jones, who burnt a copy of the Koran in the past.

There was a sense of indignation among the group, which was joined by other people in the street as well as rebel units; they all stood outside the consulate and fired shots as an expression of anger at the film and the insults made against the Prophet and his wives.

Emotions ran high, leading to the storming of the embassy, part of which was set on fire.

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InBook20-254

Members of staff were taken out; the consulate has three annexes. Now the area is being surrounded with [the special force's] Thunder unit and the Ministry of Defense's Libya Shield force moving in to control the situation.

Now the situation is under control. No one was killed or wounded in the clashes. The consulate security guards were pulled out to avoid bloodshed on both sides. There was no balance between the group that attacked and the group that was attacked.

We pray to God that the situation will end there.

[Presenter] The correspondent said Ansar al-Shari'ah seeks to enforce the Shari'ah even if it is outside the authority of the state. What is the position of the Ministry of Interior on this point specifically?

[Al-Sharef] The group is avowedly seeking to enforce the Shari'ah. But we are in the first stage of building the state; the group adopts certain beliefs. However, we will not allow any group to operate outside the authority of the state.

When the building process is complete, especially when the cabinet is formed in the next days, we will put an end to violations and acts outside the law.

[Presenter] Obviously, there is no desire to confront those groups. So what is the way out of this?

[Al-Sharef] No, it is not about avoiding clashes. We found that there was no balance of power given the current proliferation of weapons in Libya and some units having access to heavy weaponry.

The group, which was in charge of securing the [consulate] building, was surprised by the use of heavy weaponry, which was not commensurate with its power. It decided to withdraw for its own safety and that of others.

[Presenter] But the 17 February Brigade moved in.

[Al-Sharef] It moved in but then it was pulled out because we care about its safety. We don't want to see a repeat of the 2006 Italian embassy incident and its consequences.

We pulled out to save lives on both sides. We don't want any bloodshed on both sides because we are all brothers and we belong to the same nation.

[Description of Source: Doha Al-Jazirah Satellite Channel Television in Arabic -- Independent Television station financed by the Qatari Government]

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SourceÂ MetadataÂ Â Â Â

Â Â SourceÂ Name:Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Al-JazirahÂ SatelliteÂ ChannelÂ Television

Â Â SourceÂ Type(s):Â Â Â Â Television

Â Â SourceÂ City:Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Doha

Â Â SourceÂ Country:Â Â Â Â Qatar

Â Â SourceÂ StartÂ Date:Â 2130Â GMTÂ 11Â SepÂ 12

Â Â SourceÂ EndÂ Date:Â Â Â 2130Â GMTÂ 11Â SepÂ 12

Â Â Language(s):Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Arabic

ArticleÂ MetadataÂ Â Â

Â Â DocumentÂ ID:Â Â Â Â Â Â Â GMP20120912950009

Â Â ContentÂ Type:Â Â Â Â Â Â Translation/Transcription

Â Â ProcessingÂ Ind:Â Â Â Â OSCÂ TranslatedÂ Text

Â Â Precedence:Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Priority

Â Â Country(s):Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Libya,Â Qatar,Â UnitedÂ States

Â Â Region(s):Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Africa,Â MiddleÂ East,Â Americas

Â Â Subregion(s):Â Â Â Â Â Â NorthÂ Africa,Â MiddleÂ East,Â NorthÂ Americas

Â Â Topic(s):Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â DOMESTICÂ POLITICAL,Â INTERNATIONALÂ POLITICAL,Â TERRORISM,Â URGENT

CABLETYPE: FBISEMS ACP 1.0
RELNO: FBISEMS002522496
ORIG: OSC/EMS (OSC, 65814); REL: OSC
NNNN

32 [Open Source | 20120911 | | CNN.COM: Protesters attack U.S. diplomatic compounds in Egypt, Libya | (U) |]

Document ID: ON86957298
GUIDE-UID: 1002/1ctz9v
Document Status: ACTIVE
Title: Protesters attack U.S. diplomatic compounds in Egypt, Libya
Publication: CNN.COM
Publisher: CABLE NEWS NETWORK
Origination Date: 20120911
Time of Receipt: 230431
Date of Receipt: 20120911
Classification: UNCLASSIFIEDAngry protesters attacked U.S. diplomatic compounds in Libya and Egypt on Tuesday, citing in both instances an online film considered offensive to Islam.

Toplines:

Angry protesters attacked U.S. diplomatic compounds in Libya and Egypt on Tuesday, citing in both instances an online film considered offensive to Islam.

Text:

Angry protesters attacked U.S. diplomatic compounds in Libya and Egypt on Tuesday, citing in both instances an online film considered offensive to Islam.

In Cairo, several men scaled the walls of the U.S. Embassy and tore down its American flag, according to CNN producer Mohamed Fadel Fahmy, who was on the scene.

In Libya, witnesses say members of a radical Islamist group called Ansar al-Sharia protested near the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, where NATO jets established no-fly zones last year to blunt ground attacks from then Libyan strongman Moammar Gadhafi.

The group then clashed with security forces in the city, blocking roads leading to the consulate, witnesses said.

The Libyan government notified the United States that an employee at the U.S. Consulate was killed, a State Department official told CNN.

The State Department does not have independent confirmation of the death, the official said. The nationality of the worker was not immediately known.

Libya's General National Conference condemned the attack, saying it "led to the regrettable injury and death of a number of individuals." Lawmakers said in a statement Tuesday night that they were investigating.

It was unclear whether the two attacks were coordinated, CNN national security contributor Fran Townsend said Tuesday night.

"One such breach of an embassy or consulate's walls or security on any given day would be tremendous news. ... The fact that two of them happened on the same day that is the 9/11 anniversary where Americans are remembering those that we lost, you have to ask yourself, what are American officials trying to understand about this and whether or not these two are related?" she asked.

In Egypt, police and army personnel formed defensive lines around the U.S. Embassy in an effort to prevent demonstrators from advancing, but not before the protesters affixed a black flag atop a ladder in the American compound.

The black flag, which hangs in full view from inside the complex, is adorned with white characters that read, "There is no God but Allah and Mohammed is his messenger," an emblem often used by Islamic radicals.

A volley of warning shots were fired as a large crowd gathered around the compound, although it is not clear who fired the shots.

Are you there? Share your images and videos.

Egyptian groups point to U.S. websites, including YouTube, that have scenes from the film. Some anti-Muslim blogs also have flagged the movie.

In a series of disjointed scenes, filmmakers depict Prophet Mohammed as a child molester, womanizer and ruthless killer.

Most of the Muslim world considers depictions of Mohammed to be blasphemous and deeply offensive.

It was not clear late Tuesday who produced the film and under what auspices.

Embassy officials issued a warning to Americans in Egypt, telling them to avoid the demonstrations which "may gather in front of the U.S. Embassy, or Egyptian government buildings such as the People's Assembly and Ministry of Interior."

"It is unclear if large numbers will take to the streets, but clashes may occur should two opposing groups come into contact with one another," the U.S. Embassy said in a statement. "Large gatherings and non-essential travel in and around downtown and Garden City should be avoided this afternoon."

Frenzied protesters could been seen Tuesday afternoon holding up bits of a shredded American flag to television camera crews while chanting anti-U.S. slogans.

An embassy phone operator told CNN that the compound had been cleared of diplomatic personnel earlier in the day, ahead of the apparent threat, while Egyptian riot police and the army were called in.

"This is an expression of a feeling that is thought to be an insult," said Nizih El Naggary, a spokesman for the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. "But events like this are extremely deplorable. And we have to work to get things under control."

The Foreign Ministry issued a statement Tuesday, pledging to protect embassies and warning of the protests' potentially debilitating effects on the Egyptian economy.

"There are police forces at the demonstrations," El Naggary said. "They should be protecting the embassy and asking people to leave."

Several individuals claimed responsibility for organizing the demonstrations Tuesday, including Salafist leader Wesam Abdel-Wareth, who is president of Egypt's conservative Hekma television channel.

Mohamed al-Zawahiri -- the brother of al Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri -- added, "We called for the peaceful protest joined by different Islamic factions including the Islamicc Jihad (and the) Hazem Abu Ismael movement."

"We were surprised to see the big numbers show up, including the soccer Ultra fans," he said. "I just want to say, how would the Americans feel if films insulting leading Christian figures like the pope or historical figures like Abraham Lincoln were produced?"

He added that "the film portrays the prophet in a very ugly manner, alluding to topics like sex, which is not acceptable."

The U.S. Embassy in Cairo announced that it had canceled visa services for Wednesday.

It also said in a statement that it "condemns the continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims -- as we condemn efforts to offend believers of all religions."

"Respect for religious beliefs is a cornerstone of American democracy," the statement said. "We firmly reject the actions by those who abuse the universal right of free speech to hurt the religious beliefs of others."

Demonstrations elicited a mixture of reactions from the Egyptian street, where last year tens of thousands turned out in opposition to former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

This summer, Egypt's first Islamist president, Mohamed Morsy, was sworn into power at Tahrir Square, the scene of the nation's revolution in 2011.

Though Tuesday's embassy protests are the first that Morsy has dealt with, Egypt recently produced similar scenarios when protesters attacked the Israeli and Syrian embassies in unrelated episodes.

"These protests are a bad image for Egypt," said a Cairo street vendor named Ahmed. "Of course I'm against insulting Islam, but it's the undereducated, poor people who are out here causing problems."

"All I want for Egypt is security and stability," he said. "And as you can see this isn't it."

The incident occurred on the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks as crowds gathered across the United States in somber remembrance of a day that left nearly 3,000 people dead.

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Tuesday's focus on the controversial film also drew comparisons to outcry generated from a 2008 movie produced by an anti-Muslim Dutch lawmaker, which then sought to portray Islam as a violent religion.

Geert Wilders' film "Fitna," which he released online, featured images of terrorist acts superimposed over verses from the Quran.

Report: Egypt's ex-PM Ahmed Shafik faces arrest, extradition order

Egypt kills militants, seizes weapons in Sinai offensive

U.S. companies eye Egypt for investment

September 11, 2012

REQUEST 17-0210
IntBook20-251

31 [OSC | EUP20120912029008 | 20120912 | (U) Libya: Eye-Witness Describes Attack on US Consulate in Benghazi | (U) | Paris FRANCE 24 Online in English -- Website of the English-language service of France 24, public French channel focusing on international news and current affairs; URL: http//www.france24.com/en]

Document ID: FB225566712
GUIDE-UID: 1008/2hms96
Document Status: ACTIVE
Title: (U) Libya: Eye-Witness Describes Attack on US Consulate in Benghazi
Source: OSC
Producer: RESTON VA
Origination Date: 201209121437
Document Type: FIELD
Precedence: P
Document No.: EUP20120912029008
Time of Receipt: 103803
Date of Receipt: 20120912
Input_Id: 12-HQS061256976
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
From: OSC RESTON VA
To: CIA WASHINGTON DC

Header:

OMF ACP
UNCLAS
121437ZSEP12
OSC RESTON VA
TO: PRIORITY CIA WASHINGTON DC

Text:

WARNING: Topic: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, TERRORISM, URGENT

SERIAL: EUP20120912029008

COUNTRY: France, Libya, United States

SUBJ: (U) Libya: Eye-Witness Describes Attack on US Consulate in Benghazi

SOURCE: Paris FRANCE 24 Online in English 12 Sep 12 (U)

TEXT:

[(U) Unattributed report: "Exclusive Testimony of Attack on US Consulate in Benghazi"]

[Internet]

[OSC Transcribed Text]

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The US Consulate in Benghazi was set to fire and sword Tuesday [11 September] evening.Â The US ambassador in Libya and three other employees died in the violence, sparked by a movie deemed to be offensive to the prophet Muhammad.Â A witness who spent the evening there told us how the situation degenerated.

The origin of the violence was the broadcast on the Internet of a trailer for a movie entitled "Innocence of Muslims," a full-length movie produced by a Muslim-hating Israeli-US construction agent.

In Cairo, a group of several thousand people, including many Salafists, gathered outside the US Embassy, where the US flag was torn down and replaced by a huge black banner bearing the Muslim profession of faith: "There is no God other than God, and Muhammad is his prophet."

In Benghazi, outraged demonstrators gathered outside the US Consulate.Â In the evening, an armed group entered the building, sparking an exchange of fire with law and order forces, who had to withdraw.Â According to a Libyan official, US Ambassador to Libya J Christopher Stevens and three other US officials were killed by rocket fire, while they were in a car.

France has asked the Libyan authorities to "shed full light on these odious and unacceptable crimes, to identify those responsible, and to bring them to justice."

"When it comes to religion, the Islamists do whatever they want"

Sofian Kadura is an airline pilot.Â He lives in Benghazi.

"I was out with some friends, at around 2100-2200, as we entered the street where the Consulate is located.Â We suddenly found ourselves in the midst of a crowd.Â There were shots coming from inside the Consulate, and more from outside.Â But it is difficult to say who exactly which shooting.Â We

quickly sought shelter 200 m away from the Consulate.Â My friends and I -- who were all combatants on the rebel side during the war -- wanted to find out what was happening.Â I took my Kalashnikov rifle from the car and we withdrew a little.Â (I am at present a member of a volunteer brigade responsible for security in Benghazi.)

"As we approached the Consulate, we realized that armed Islamists had blocked the streets.Â They were equipped with automatic rifles, rocket launchers, and heavy machine guns mounted on cars.Â It was obvious that they were Islamists, because they all wore long beards.Â I told them that I was belonged to a security brigade, but they refused to let me pass.Â On my side there was a crowd of civilians, many of whom demanded that they stop the violence.Â But they shouted that they wanted to kill everyone in the Consulate.Â They were told that there were Libyans inside as well, but they didn't care.Â They replied to us that those people should never have worked with Americans.Â They added that it was Consulate security that had fired firsts (this information was not confirmed by any independent source -- France 24 editor's note.)Â I replied: 'Do you really think it's a good idea to demonstrate with automatic rifles and rocket launchers?'"

"We didn't fight in the war for this"

"We stayed until the Islamists left, at around midnight.Â Generally, when major incidents occur in Benghazi, the members of the security brigades receive orders by walkie-talkie via a call center.Â But this time we received nothing.Â There was a brigade at the end of the street but they did not approach.Â I was very shocked.Â We didn't fight in the war for this.Â I think that this movie is indeed insulting and should never have existed, but violence isn't the solution.

"Now people in Benghazi are angry with the assailants. Â But we are in a very complicated situation, because to criticize them could be interpreted as adopting a position against the Prophet.Â The Islamists that I saw last night belonged to the Ansar Al-Sharia brigade, which means "Defenders of the Sharia."Â (According to the BBC, other witnesses and a Libyan official att ributed the attack to the same group -- France 24 editor's note.)Â In recent months they really have grown stronger and brought increasing attention to themselves.Â Like the other brigades in the city, they are supposed to provide security when the authorities ask them to do so.

"Recently the city hospital requested their intervention.Â Since they have been in charge of its surveillance, no unrest has been reported.Â But when it comes to religion, they do whatever they want.Â In recent months they have destroyed Muslim mausoleums that they considered blasphemous.

"People are afraid of them because these Islamists don't fear death.Â There have always been Islamists in Benghazi, but during the Al-Qadhafi era they were thrown into jail.Â They're obviously making up for that now.Â Until the government issues the order to arrest them, we brigades can't do much.Â

Nevertheless I think that it won't take long, because they went much too far yesterday evening."

[Description of Source: Paris FRANCE 24 Online in English -- Website of the English-language service of France 24, public French channel focusing on international news and current affairs; URL: http//www.france24.com/en]

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SourceÂ MetadataÂ Â Â Â

Â Â SourceÂ Name:Â Â Â Â Â Â Â FRANCEÂ 24Â Online

Â Â SourceÂ Type(s):Â Â Â Â Internet

Â Â SourceÂ City:Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Paris

Â Â SourceÂ Country:Â Â Â Â France

Â Â SourceÂ StartÂ Date:Â 12Â SepÂ 12

Â Â SourceÂ EndÂ Date:Â Â Â 12Â SepÂ 12

Â Â Language(s):Â Â Â Â Â Â Â English

ArticleÂ MetadataÂ Â Â

Â Â DocumentÂ ID:Â Â Â Â Â Â Â EUP20120912029008

Â Â ContentÂ Type:Â Â Â Â Â Â Translation/Transcription

Â Â ProcessingÂ Ind:Â Â Â Â OSCÂ TranscribedÂ Text

Â Â Precedence:Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Priority

Â Â Country(s):Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â France,Â Libya,Â UnitedÂ States

Â Â Region(s):Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Europe,Â Africa,Â Americas

Â Â Subregion(s):Â Â Â Â Â Â SouthÂ Europe,Â NorthÂ Africa,Â NorthÂ Americas

Â Â Topic(s):Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â INTERNATIONALÂ POLITICAL,Â TERRORISM,Â URGENT

CABLETYPE: FBISEMS ACP 1.0

RELNO: FBISEMS002526451
ORIG: OSC/EMS (OSC, 65814); REL: OSC
NNNN

29 [Open Source | 20120911 | THE NEW YORK TIMES BLOGS (THE LEDE): Obscure Film Mocking Muslim Prophet Sparks Anti-U.S. Protests in Egypt and Libya | (U) |]

Document ID: ON86963160
GUIDE-UID: 1002/1cv7vp
Document Status: ACTIVE
Title: Obscure Film Mocking Muslim Prophet Sparks Anti-U.S. Protests in Egypt and Libya
Publication: THE NEW YORK TIMES BLOGS (THE LEDE)
Publisher: THE NEWS YORK TIMES COMPANY
Origination Date: 20120911
Time of Receipt: 024557
Date of Receipt: 20120912
Classification: UNCLASSIFIEDUpdated | 8:13 p.m. Angered by reports in the Egyptian media that members of the Coptic Christian diaspora in Washington had produced a crude film mocking the Muslim prophet, protesters climbed the walls of the United States Embassy in Cairo on Tuesday and tore down the American flag. Later, a Libyan security official told Reuters that armed militiamen had attacked the United States consulate in Benghazi, killing a staff member.

Toplines:

Updated | 8:13 p.m. Angered by reports in the Egyptian media that members of the Coptic Christian diaspora in Washington had produced a crude film mocking the Muslim prophet, protesters climbed the walls of the United States Embassy in Cairo on Tuesday and tore down the American flag. Later, a Libyan security official told Reuters that armed militiamen had attacked the United States consulate in Benghazi, killing a staff member.

Text:

Updated | 8:13 p.m. Angered by reports in the Egyptian media that members of the Coptic Christian diaspora in Washington had produced a crude film mocking the Muslim prophet, protesters climbed the walls of the United States Embassy in Cairo on Tuesday and tore down the American flag. Later, a Libyan security official told Reuters that armed militiamen had attacked the United States consulate in Benghazi, killing a staff member.

A a 14-minute trailer for the English-language film, which was posted on YouTube in July, attracted little attention until last week, when a version dubbed into Arabic was posted on the same YouTube channel and then copied and viewed tens of thousands of times more.

Although there was initial confusion about who made the film, The Wall Street Journal reported that the drama, titled "Innocence of Muslims," was produced and directed by an Israeli-American, Sam Bacile, a California real-estate developer who called Islam "a cancer," in an interview. Mr. Bacile told The Journal that he raised $5 million from about 100 Jewish donors and shot the two-hour movie in California last year.

Last week, an Egyptian-American Copt known for his broadsides against Muslims drew attention to the trailer in an Arabic-language blog post and an e-mail newsletter in English publicizing the latest publicity stunt of the Florida pastor Terry Jones, reviled in the Muslim world for burning copies of the Koran. Reached by telephone in Florida, a representative of Mr. Jones seemed unaware of the film, but hours later the pastor sent The Lede a statement by e-mail in which he complained of the attack on the embassy in Cairo and announced plans to screen the trailer for the film on Tuesday night. He said that it "reveals in a satirical fashion the life of Muhammad."

The Coptic activist, Morris Sadek, did not respond to a request for an interview, but he is an ally of Mr. Jones and his blog post features a photograph of the two men at a tiny, anti-Islam protest outside the White House in June. Later, he told The Associated Press that he planned screenings of the film.

Although Mr. Sadek never claimed in his e-mail promoting Mr. Jones to have produced the movie -- which dramatizes the life of Muhammad, incorporating scenes based on slurs about him that are often repeated by Islamophobes -- three days after he passed around a link to the film's trailer, a Cairo newspaper reported that the leader of an Egyptian political party had "denounced the production of the film with the participation of vengeful Copts, accompanied by the extremist priest Terry Jones."

The same day, a scene from the film -- in which an actor playing a buffoonish caricature of the prophet Muhammad calls a donkey "the first Muslim animal" -- was broadcast on the Egyptian television channel Al-Nas by the host Sheikh Khaled Abdalla.

Last year, the Egyptian-British journalist and blogger Sarah Carr wrote, "Sheikh Khaled Abdalla is part of a school of particularly shrill religious demagogues who turn every possible event into an attack on Islam." She added that Sheikh Khaled regularly attacked Egypt's Coptic Christian community.

The Egyptian news media reports appear to have drawn much more attention to the obscure film trailer, which was posted on YouTube by someone using the name Sam Bacile who failed to respond to a request for comment on Tuesday.

As Menna Alaa reported for The Egypt Independent, photographs and video posted online showed the protesters at the embassy in Cairo on Tuesday ripping the American flag apart and raising a black jihadist flag with the words, "There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is his messenger."

The Cairene blogger who writes as Zeinobia reported there were "also pro-Al Qaeda chants unfortunately," which was particularly striking on the 11th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States.

Mostafa Hussein, a psychiatrist and blogger, pointed to a photograph that showed that the protesters had also scrawled the name Osama bin Laden on a sign outside the embassy.

Ben Laden written on US embassy sign. Yeah right you are protesting an insult to Islam. http://t.co/vhKEsoTt /via @Mad_Darsh

- Mostafa Hussein (@moftasa)11 Sep 12

Zeinobia also reported that confusion about the origins of the film was so general that one group of fundamentalist Muslims was "calling for another huge protest at the embassy of Netherlands, demanding its closure because the Dutch government is producing an insult film against Islam." Dutch diplomats responded with a statement denying these claims, she noted.

The Egyptian blogger who writes as The Big Pharaoh noted that one sign wielded by a protester outside the American embassy in Cairo even called for "the expulsion of Coptic Diaspora from Egypt."

A protester demanding the expulsion of Coptic Diaspora from Egypt LOL http://t.co/XIfTvPqc

- The Big Pharaoh (@TheBigPharaoh)11 Sep 12

Before the protesters attacked the compound, the U.S. mission in Cairo issued said in a statement: "The Embassy of the United States in Cairo condemns the continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims - as we condemn efforts to offend believers of all religions." Later, the embassy's official Twitter feed condemned both the provocative film and the attack on the compound.

3) Sorry, but neither breaches of our compound or angry messages will dissuade us from defending freedom of speech AND criticizing bigotry

- US Embassy Cairo (@USEmbassyCairo)11 Sep 12

Video of the Security Crackdown in CairoVideo Shows Cairo Protesters Were Attacked by Armed AssailantsEgyptian Bloggers Parse London Riots in Real TimeTension Rises as Islamists Dominate Tahrir SquareSudan Deports Egyptian Journalist and Detains Bloggers as Protests Continue

September 12, 2012

4 [OSC | GMP20120912950034 | 20120912 | (U) Libyan Official: US Guards Fired at Benghazi Protest; US Consul Killed | (U) | Doha Al-Jazirah Satellite Channel Television in Arabic -- Independent Television station financed by the Qatari Government]

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WARNING: Topic: DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, URGENT

SERIAL: GMP20120912950034

COUNTRY: Libya, United States

SUBJ: (U) Libyan Official: US Guards Fired at Benghazi Protest; US Consul Killed

SOURCE: Doha Al-Jazirah Satellite Channel Television in Arabic 1005 GMT 12 Sep 12 (U)

TEXT:

[(U) Corrected version: adding Urgent tag, upgrading precedence, rewording headline for clarity.]

[Television]

[OSC Summary]

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At 1005 gmt on 12 September Al-Jazeera TV began airing "live" a press conference in Benghazi by Libyan Undersecretary at the Interior Ministry Wanis al-Sharif on the attack on the US consulate in Libya, which reports say has led to the death of the US ambassador there.

At the start of the live footage, Al-Sharif criticized the film "funded by Copts in America under the supervision of Pastor [Terry] Jones" that "prompted armed individuals to be present in front of the US consulate in Benghazi".

Explaining the circumstances of the attack, Al-Sharif said: "Yes, they [the people attacking the consulate] were carrying weapons, they opened fire in anger, disapproval and denunciation of the content of this film and in protest at the US not stopping this film."

He added: "At this time, when guards inside the consulate heard the sound of gunfire, it seems that they thought there was an attack, or that there was going to be an attack on the consulate, so they opened fire from inside the consulate. This increased the people's ire, as their emotions were inflamed and anger was at its peak, which led to the consulate being stormed."

Al-Sharif said that other individuals had become embedded with protesters, "whether previously known criminals or those seeking to sow sedition or those seeking to destabilise order".

"This situation was taken advantage of for their own aims", he added.

Due to the large size of the crowd and in an attempt to ensure the situation was not further enflamed, the undersecretary said that he "personally ordered" the withdrawal of the security forces protecting the consulate. He said he believed that "the situation would be confined to a protest".

Al-Sharif said that two individuals were killed in the attack, including "the consul, who was hospitalized... and later died, due to asphyxiation", and another injured.

The official stressed numerous times that the film had "tainted" symbols of Islam and that "these are symbols that no doubt provoke the ire of Muslims". He said the situation "had its justifications from the point of view of the protesters and so on... as it is not a personal matter, but a matter that touches the Muslims' sacred symbols".

Al-Sharif added that the attack could have been anticipated and that the authorities had suggested boosting the consulate's security. "Of course all of us as Muslims are with them in condemning the film," he said, but added that the way things occurred "was what was out of our control, and they [appearing to refer to the US officials] bear a part of the responsibility for not withdrawing embassy staff despite the warnings they received".

Al-Sharif said that members of the Ansar al-Shari'ah battalion had denied any participation in the storming of the consulate and that this had been confirmed.

He also said that the consulate, "perhaps all of it", was burned.

[Description of Source: Doha Al-Jazirah Satellite Channel Television in Arabic -- Independent Television station financed by the Qatari Government]

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SourceÂ MetadataÂ Â Â Â

Â Â SourceÂ Name:Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Al-JazirahÂ SatelliteÂ ChannelÂ Television

Â Â SourceÂ Type(s):Â Â Â Â Television

Â Â SourceÂ City:Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Doha

Â Â SourceÂ Country:Â Â Â Â Qatar

Â Â SourceÂ StartÂ Date:Â 1005Â GMTÂ 12Â SepÂ 12

Â Â SourceÂ EndÂ Date:Â Â Â 1005Â GMTÂ 12Â SepÂ 12

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