

**RELEASE IN PART  
B6**

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**From:** Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 21, 2013 9:30 AM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: Tanks Surround Ministries of Information and Education in Eritrean Capital (SBU)

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**From:** Carson, Johnnie  
**Sent:** Monday, January 21, 2013 09:10 AM  
**To:** Sherman, Wendy R  
**Cc:** Ashraf, Madeeha S; Lakhdir, Kamala S; Burns, William J; Nides, Thomas R; Mills, Cheryl D; Kennedy, Patrick F; 'gharris'  
**Subject:** Re: Tanks Surround Ministries of Information and Education in Eritrean Capital (SBU)

Wendy: Thanks. We are following this closely. The situation is confused. A small group of soldiers have apparently taken over the Ministry of Communication, but there does not appear any to be any effort to go attack the president's headquarters or home or to take over the ministry of defense. Asmara is calm. We do not/not have any dependents at post and our numbers are low. Number of US citizens is (very) small. A warden message is being sent out and our team has met. Will keep you up to date. Johnnie

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**From:** Sherman, Wendy R  
**Sent:** Monday, January 21, 2013 07:53 AM  
**To:** Carson, Johnnie  
**Cc:** Ashraf, Madeeha S; Lakhdir, Kamala S; Burns, William J; Nides, Thomas R; Mills, Cheryl D; Kennedy, Patrick F  
**Subject:** Fw: Tanks Surround Ministries of Information and Education in Eritrean Capital (SBU)

No end of action for you Johnnie. Please keep us posted of any changes or needs of embassy. Assume embassy will or has held EAC. Thank you.

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**From:** OpsAlert@state.gov [mailto:OpsAlert@state.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 21, 2013 07:26 AM  
**Subject:** Tanks Surround Ministries of Information and Education in Eritrean Capital (SBU)

(SBU) Embassy Asmara reports the acting information minister has reportedly been arrested. State run television and radio have stopped broadcasting.

(SBU) All chief of mission personnel are safe and accounted for.

(SBU) Diplomatic Security Command Center reports it is believed the Eritrean government is in the process of suppressing a possible coup. However, there are no obvious signs of a coup and no reports of violence or gunfire.

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