

RELEASE IN PART B3 CIA
PERS/ORG,B6

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 1:25 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: Special Envoy Stevens report from Benghazi 4/26 1200 (SBU)

From: Mull, Stephen D
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 1:21 PM
To: Mills, Cheryl D; Kennedy, Patrick F; Nides, Thomas R
Cc: Toiv, Nora F; Laszczych, Joanne; Austin-Ferguson, Kathleen T
Subject: FW: Special Envoy Stevens report from Benghazi 4/26 1200 (SBU)

Here are more details on the overnight traffic accident.

From: Tomlinson, Christina
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 13:02 PM
To: SES_DutyDeputies; S_SpecialAssistants; D(S); D(N); P; M_Staff
Cc: Feltman, Jeffrey D; Schlicher, Ronald L; Sanderson, Janet A; Holtz, Greta C (NEA); NEA-MAG-DL; Tripoli Cooperation; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Dibble, Elizabeth L; Harris, Rian H; EUR-RPM-Libya; USNATO Libya DL; [redacted] DS Command Center; SES-O; PA FO Core; Malin, Mary Catherine; 'Amanda_M_Catanzano [redacted]; 'Benjamin_I._Fishman [redacted]; 'Shawn_W_Brimley [redacted]; 'Loren_Schulman [redacted]; 'Derek_H_Chollet [redacted]; 'Nisha_J_Desai [redacted]; Maier, Christina A; Gotoh, Kay E; INR-STAFFER; SES-O_Shift-II; SP_Staff Assistants
Subject: Special Envoy Stevens report from Benghazi 4/26 1200 (SBU)

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Dear Colleagues,

S/E Chris Stevens provided the following update from Benghazi at 1200 EDT to Embassy Tripoli DCM Polaschik and NEA/MAG Director Roebuck:

- Traffic accident: Following discussions with S/E Stevens and other USG officials, the TNC has agreed not to issue any public statement regarding the accident. S/E Stevens' USG colleagues are waiting for guidance from their HQ regarding proposed compensation of 52,000 Libyan dinars (\$43,312): 13,000 (\$10,828) per victim, to cover funeral costs and other compensation. TNC will accompany S/E Stevens on his courtesy calls on the families, to take place either today or tomorrow. In the view of S/E Stevens, the TNC has been handling this incident in a professional and low-profile manner.
- [**Note:** S/E Stevens separately provided the following details of the accident: The U.S. vehicle was traveling back from the Benghazi airport at moderate speed. The U.S. vehicle was struck by the Libyan vehicle going at high speed in an intersection. As a **correction** to earlier information – four people were killed and only two were injured.]
- Police chief: S/E Stevens met with the Benghazi chief of police today, following discussions related to the accident. The police chief is a university professor who took on these police duties after the revolution. According to the police chief, there are only 3,000 police in the Benghazi area, down from 6,000 prior to the revolution. Many police simply did not return to their jobs after the revolution, as they feared retaliation. EU and UK reps have met with the

police chief to discuss possible assistance; the UK is offering body armor and radios, and is chairing a local donor coordination working group on security issues.

- **TNC governing capacity:** Following up on concerns raised by the UK Envoy regarding the TNC's governing capacities, S/E Stevens said that there are indeed gaps in the TNC's structure and services, as well as some concerns regarding PM-equivalent Mahmoud Jibril's prolonged absences from Benghazi. However, the TNC is taking steps to address these concerns. The Council is holding meetings this week to appoint Ministers-equivalent for Interior and Justice, and will hold its first cabinet meetings this weekend (April 30-May 1) after Jibril returns from abroad. While S/E Stevens shares the UK's concerns regarding the TNC's governing capacities, he does not think there is a need yet to address this directly with the TNC. S/E Stevens recommends that we wait to see how the TNC addresses these issues over the next week.



Christina Tomlinson
Senior Watch Officer
State Department Operations Center
tomlinsonc@state.gov 202-647-1512

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From: Tomlinson, Christina

Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 8:41 AM

To: SES_DutyDeputies; S_SpecialAssistants; D(S); D(N); P; M_Staff

Cc: Feltman, Jeffrey D; Schlicher, Ronald L; Sanderson, Janet A; Holtz, Greta C (NEA); NEA-MAG-DL; Tripoli Cooperation; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Dibble, Elizabeth L; Harris, Rian H; EUR-RPM-Libya; USNATO Libya DI ;

[REDACTED]; DS Command Center; SES-O; PA FO Core; Malin, Mary Catherine

B3 CIA PERS/ORG

Subject: Special Envoy Stevens report from Benghazi 4/26 0700 (SBU)

Special Envoy Stevens reported at 0700 EDT on 4/26:

- **Traffic accident:** Police have accepted the USG version of the story: that it was an accident and the victims were not wearing seatbelts. The USG employees were returning from the airport when the incident occurred. **A total of four people died and six injured.** USG employee injuries are light if any. Our people are standing by pending official USG instructions. Stevens notes there is a UK flight tomorrow they could be on if necessary. The TNC wants to do a press release to quell the rumor mill. Stevens will send the draft back to Department for L and PA clearance.
- The **British envoy** departs tomorrow on permanent change of station. There will be a gap before his replacement, John Jenkins, arrives from Baghdad.
- TNC head **Mahmoud Jibril** will be going to Jordan and will not be back in Benghazi until Friday. The development is likely to be met with additional criticism that he is spending too much time abroad at the expense of other government affairs.



Christina Tomlinson
Senior Watch Officer
State Department Operations Center
tomlinsonc@state.gov 202-647-1512

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