RELEASED IN PART B5,B2,B6 | REVIEW AUTHORITY: Archie Bolster, Senior Reviewer

B6

From:	Meehan, Bernadette
Sent:	Wednesday, September 12, 2012 8:14 AM
To:	Rhodes, Benjamin J.; _____ NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Nuland, Victoria J; Ventrell, Patrick H; Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I;
	Hammer, Michael A;; Knopf, Payton L (USUN), ; Lalley, Jonathan P;;
	Pelton, Erin; Adora.Andy@usdoj.gov'; Govashiri, Ferial; Smith, Dana S (PA); Snipe, Aaron D; Vasquez, Edgar J
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:**

B2

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 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 Ambassador in Tripoli, he has supported Libya's transition to democracy.

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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.

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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 Foreign 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 Libyan 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, Chris 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 Benghazi, 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 helping 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.

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From: Meehan, Bernadette
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 6:58 AM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.;   ; Vietor, Tommy; 'nulandvj@state.gov'; 'ventrellph@state.gov';
'SullivanJJ@state.gov'; 'reinesp@state.gov';
                                                    'hammerma@state.gov';
'knopfpl@state.gov';   'lalleyjp@state.gov';

'peltone@state.gov';   'Adora.Andy@usdoj.gov'; Govashiri, Ferial
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: Meehan, Bernadette; Vietor, Tommy; 'nulandvj@state.gov'; 'ventrellph@state.gov';
'SullivanJJ@state.gov'; 'reinesp@state.gov';
                                                    'hammerma@state.gov';
'knopfpl@state.gov';   'lalleyjp@state.gov';

'peltone@state.gov';   'Adora.Andy@usdoj.gov'; Govashiri, Ferial
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 taking – WH, State, DoD, etc – so that in the morning we can use that for updates and to inform press.

From:
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:47 PM
To: Meehan, Bernadette; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy; 'nulandvj@state.gov'; 'ventrellph@state.gov';
'SullivanJJ@state.gov'; 'reinesp@state.gov';
                                                    'hammerma@state.gov';
'knopfpl@state.gov';   'lalleyjp@state.gov';

'peltone@state.gov';   'Adora.Andy@usdoj.gov'
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:]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 09:32 PM

B6

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To: Rhodes, Benjamin J. ⬛ ; Vietor, Tommy ⬛   B6
Nuland, Victoria J (nulandvj@state.gov) <nulandvj@state.gov>; ventrellph@state.gov <ventrellph@state.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob J (SullivanJJ@state.gov) <SullivanJJ@state.gov>; 'reinesp@state.gov' <reinesp@state.gov>; ⬛

⬛ 'hammerma@state.gov' <'hammerma@state.gov'>; ⬛
⬛ ; 'knopfpl@state.gov' <'knopfpl@state.gov'>; ⬛
⬛ ; 'lalleyjp@state.gov' <'lalleyjp@state.gov'>; ⬛

⬛ 'peltone@state.gov' <peltone@state.gov>; ⬛
⬛ Andy, Adora (OPA) (Adora.Andy@usdoj.gov)
<Adora.Andy@usdoj.gov>
Subject: USG Public Response to Events in Libya and Egypt

All,

B5

Thanks,
Bernadettè   B6