

B6  
B7(C)

**From:** Rayburn, Dorothy J  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:51 AM  
**To:** Drucker, Joy E; [redacted] Chartrand, Jennifer; Rademacher, Paul R; Bulgrin, Julie K; Devine, Kristin; Canedo, Denese; H\_DAS  
**Cc:** Canedo, Denese; [redacted] DS CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS  
**Subject:** RE:

RELEASE IN PART  
B7(C),B6

For today's call, Amb. Boswell may be asked whether State had sent up a justification for a waiver of the DS criteria for Benghazi.

**From:** Drucker, Joy E  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:28 AM  
**To:** Drucker, Joy E; [redacted]; Chartrand, Jennifer; Rayburn, Dorothy J; Rademacher, Paul R; Bulgrin, Julie K; Devine, Kristin; Canedo, Denese; H\_DAS  
**Cc:** Canedo, Denese; [redacted] DS CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS  
**Subject:** RE:

Notes after the call.

**From:** Bulgrin, Julie K  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:55 PM  
**To:** H\_Egypt; Canedo, Denese; Lang, Alan; 'Rodriguez, Miguel'; 'Arguelles, Adam'; 'Lundeberg, Greta'; 'Ortiz, Michael'; 'Lee, Collin'; Pitkin, Douglas A; Maier, Christina A  
**Subject:** Write up of U/S Kennedy Call with Hill re Libya

The call ended up starting around 6:30pm. Here are the raw notes.

Staff names from beginning.

- Alan goldsmith - hfac
- Jen Stewart - speaker
- Chris - Risch
- Erin - hac
- Jason Rauch - mccaskill
- Marin Stein - nelson
- Rich Harper - Feinstein
- Mike Phelan - SFRC
- Rachel Ieman - house rules
- Robert Marcus - hfac
- Rep. Wilson office
- Bob Corker office
- Preeti Shah - Durbin
- Brian - Schwartz
- Jason Steinbaum - hfac
- Alan Makovsky - hfac

U/S Kennedy

Benghazi was an interim office. As soon as Benghazi fell, we got back in and had two compounds.

All times est

4pm – Benghazi main compound took on fire from libyan extremists.

4:15pm – broke through and somehow building set fire. Libyan guard force and us mil personnel engaged/exchanged fire.

- Three people inside bldg at the time – amb, imo, and rso
- Try to evacuate bldg under fire and smoke.
- When rso got out, he found he didn't have others. attempted to get others out when not.
- Found sean dead of apparent asphyxiation.
- Then went back in to try to get ambo, but couldn't find him. Driven by the bldg by smoke, fire, and small arms.

4:45pm – us security personnel from annex reached compound to try to get in. took heavy fire and retreated to annex.

5:20pm – US and Libyan security made another attempt and were finally able to gain access to main building, secure the rso's (five) – one badly injured to lungs smoke damage, plus remains of sean smith. Then retreated due to fire.

Approximately 5:40-50 – annex under attack – included possible mortars, rpgs, etc. two us personnel wounded, two killed. Finally were able to gain control over compound. During that time, we believe ambo had been taken to hospital by others. However, attempts to get to compound – were unable to break through going through to hospital.

Somehow, Libyans brought body of ambo to hospital during time of retreat.

Then retreated to Benghazi airport. Three badly injured. Put the injured and a small number of personnel to Tripoli.

Got in second aircraft. During the time between the first and second aircraft, local employee was able to get body of ambo from hospital and bring him to airport. All personnel was evac from Benghazi.

Today got medivac c-17. Libyans treated wounded well. Then also reduced staff to emergency levels.

Then landed at ramstein afb. Longstool hospital.

Personnel will be held at hotel for a week or so in case can go back in, if necessary.

This is fog of war. Less than 18 hours.

This is an initial report. Haven't been able to interview everyone yet.

Starr- was ambo still alive when he was extracted?

- We were told by a phone call that they were taken by Libyan bystanders – ambo got out, collapsed on edge of compound, and taken to the hospital.

Rick Kessler – hfac- so last time we saw ambo was when rso and others were exiting bldg. how many ds personnel were in bldg and annex?

- Two ds at main bldg, 25-30 at annex. Approximately 15 security personnel.
- Three amcits at main bldg. other four security officers were in other buildings on the compound returning fire.
- Annex is several miles away from main compound.

Alan Makovsky – any estimate of number of attackers?

- We think 20-40 at first attack, maybe close to 100 in second attack.
- No idea who they might have been? There has been a group who has claimed responsibility, but we're investigating it ourselves to identify group.

Victor – Rubio – situation in Tripoli

- Relatively stable. PM express regret, deep humiliation. Have increased our security.
- We have reduced staffing.
- We have two compounds. First embassy was burned out.
- No attacks in Tripoli.
- Just this morning, we have moved all personnel to one of two compounds.

Perry – SFRC – any reason to think this wasn't premeditated? How effect operations regionally?

- I am not prepared to render formal opinion, except to say attack of this nature says this is semi-complex attack. This is personal opinion.
- We called senior security officer and embassies worldwide. We are operating.

Paul Foldi – SFRC – what was ambo doing in Benghazi and was it publicized?

- He makes periodic trips – duality to Libya.
  - We don't widely advertise his travel.
  - He does do appointments, so it's known
- Paul Grove – any info on attackers killed or wounded? Any information?
- Believe there were wounded. Think that we couldn't gain access to hospital because some attacking forces had taken their wounded to hospital and effectively shut down hospital.
  - Govt is offering assistance. We are going to follow-up in any possible way
- Chris McCain – cooperation from GOL?
- GOL is shaken and embarrassed. Govt truly wants good relations.
  - They have given us additional security support.
  - Their dedication and capabilities do not match in equal strength.
- AnneMarie – HACFO – security footprint – role of contract forces, militias, and if MSG contingent there.
- No MSGs. Used alternate security. Contract guard force – unarmed. A unit of GOL security personnel – 6 people – who lived in barracks on compound at all times.
- Robert Carter – burgess – typical arrangement for consulate?
- This is a special office.
  - In our smaller installations, there are probably more arm security in Benghazi than any other office of comparable size. To have five RSOs on compound, it's odd.
  - In terms of timeline – was it true there was an initial attack then second attack? Unclear.
    - o Attack started at 10pm their time on main compound. 1015 breach compound...then go through the timeline again.
- Matt Zweig- HFAC – light and medium weapons used – what do you mean?
- We're talking AK-47. Medium – RPGs or mortars.
- Ayotte – some forewarning that attacks will happen?
- none.
- Steve Marchese – HACFO – how many attackers?
- Not sure. Attack at 10pm. 20-30 on first compound, maybe as many as 100 on second.
  - Did they take over hospital?
    - o We got call warning us of dangers of trying to reach hospital, but we were never able to break through.
    - o We believe they never knew who he was. His body wasn't desecrated. And our national was able to take him away.
- Rob – Ayotte – any video cameras on compound?
- No, interim compound.
- Mike P – ssrc – any arrangement for Libyan forces at compound? What arrangement?
- There was a six person detachment in residence on the compound. When we called for assistance, it didn't come immediately, not in as heavy numbers, but we cannot say Libyans w/in capabilities that they didn't muster help. From compound one to two, they did assist us, to airport. There was will, but not capability.
- Brent Woolfork – HFAC – at second site, was there for 6.5 hours, then got permission to leave from DC.
- When they called us, they said they were leaving and we said yes. No one was holding them there.
  - Did Libyans provide help the entire time? - yes.
- Alan Makovsky – hfac – given the fact that this incident was going on for such a long time, was any thought that US troops could be brought in to help?
- All avenues were being considered. We were in contact with senior levels of DOD, National Security Staff, etc.
  - Why weren't troops inserted? – the entire thing lasted approximately 4.5 hours. No US forces within time to get there.
- Matt Zweig – HFAC – was there preexisting plan for QRF for such an occurrence?
- Yes, we knew who to call in such an incident. It took awhile for them to get there.
  - Started at 4, then at 5:20, they had second sorti which included Libyans.
- Chris – Risch – What is security footing of embassy and consulate on 9/11?

- Equivalent of defcon 5. We had discussions, conducted EACs, planned, etc. Any embassy depends on host nation for preponderance of security.

Rob Carter – was this an attack under the cover of a protest?

- No this was a direct breaching attack.
- Do we have any ideas of who launched? Leads?
  - o Some claims from someone who has never made threat before, but everyone is looking at this closely.
- Do we believe coordinated w/Cairo?
  - o Attack in Cairo was a demonstration. There were no weapons shown or used. A few cans of spray paint.

Matt Zweig – speaking in broad terms, are there any additional threats to the region to our compounds/embassies?

- Generally speaking, there have been demonstrations. Tunis, Cairo, Sudan. We are monitoring (overarching term) as we were two days ago – in constant contact with host nations and security forces.

Who is in charge in Tripoli now?

-Charge is Gregory Hicks. Formerly DCM.

Alan Makovsky – Any plans regarding Chris' return/remains? Memorial service?

- We are working on this, hopefully for Friday afternoon.
- There will be a memorial service. Will let you know.

Marin Stein – when will we learn the identity of others?

- Some problems finding the next of kin.

Were they State Department employees?

- Yes.

AnneMarie – Can someone give us an update on Egypt?

- We have been talking govt-to-govt.
- Apology
- We're talking to them = deploying additional police forces. Getting good cooperation.

Steve – refused to pull protesters off wall?

- It took police awhile to get protesters off the wall. They were there.
- We invited them in to remove the 6-8 who got in.

-for those of you who aren't there, there are three buildings. They were running around the grounds, but didn't penetrate the buildings.

Julie K. Bulgrin  
Legislative Management Officer  
for Near Eastern Affairs  
Bureau of Legislative Affairs  
U.S. Department of State  
Phone: (202) 647-8729

SBU  
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Drucker, Joy E  
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:27 AM

To: [redacted] A; Chartrand, Jennifer; Rayburn, Dorothy J; Rademacher, Paul R; Bulgrin, Julie K; Devine, Kristin; Canedo, Denese; H\_DAS  
Cc: Canedo, Denese; [redacted] DS CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS  
Subject: RE:

B6  
B7(C)

I can send you H's write up after the call, but I don't think we asked for points to be generated and I think he spoke from the cuff, but I'm adding others to weigh in if they know more!

---

From: [redacted]  
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:23 AM  
To: Drucker, Joy E  
Cc: Canedo, Denese; [redacted] DS CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS  
Subject: RE:

Can I get the points from the U/S call with the Hill staff yesterday. I need to share with Ambassador Boswell. Thanks..

[redacted]  
Legislative Affairs Advisor  
Office of the Assistant Secretary  
Bureau of Diplomatic Security  
Office: [redacted]  
BB: [redacted]

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

---

From: Drucker, Joy E  
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:02 AM  
To: Maier, Christina A; [redacted] Bulgrin, Julie K; Canedo, Denese  
Cc: Chartrand, Jennifer; Rademacher, Paul R; Rayburn, Dorothy J; Blumenfeld, Joshua R; Kramer, Rori A; Rodriguez, Laura I; H\_DAS  
Subject:

Just linking us all up by email as we seek to stand up a conference call on embassy security in light of events and in advance of House CR floor consideration. We're all waiting to hear back from Christy and [redacted] on whether this is doable and timing, but in the interim could Julie and Denese tee up a draft email to relevant staff so we're poised to send as soon as we get word. Joy and Jen and someone from the Sen. Team should just make sure we have the right list and are standing by to clear it.