

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 12, 2012 12:46 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; [REDACTED]; Burns, William J; Sherman, Wendy R; [REDACTED] (S); S\_SpecialAssistants; Sullivan, Jacob J; Kennedy, Patrick F; Mills, Cheryl D;  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; [REDACTED] Maxwell, Raymond D; [REDACTED] L; [REDACTED]; NEA-LIBYADESK; NEA-DAS-DL; [REDACTED] Gordon, Phillip H; [REDACTED] Jones, Beth E  
**Subject:** RE: Libya update from Beth Jones

**Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**SMARTCategory:** Working

From AA/S Jones:

I spoke to Libyan Ambassador Aujali at about 9:45am and told him that we would like him to help ensure that our wounded in the hospital in Tripoli are not disturbed by the investigation that Libyan officials are apparently beginning to conduct. I said we appreciate the Libyan desire to conduct an investigation, but I vehemently stressed the importance of allowing our wounded to recover in peace without the slightest disturbance. I thanked him for the excellent care that [REDACTED] told us the wounded are receiving from Libyan doctors.

I also emphasized the importance of Libyan leaders continuing to make strong statements. Aujali noted that his President and Prime Minister had apologized publicly to the American people and the families of the victims. When he said his government suspected that former Qaddafi regime elements carried out the attacks, I told him that the group that conducted the attacks – Ansar Al Sharia – is affiliated with Islamic extremists.

Aujali said the people of Libya are shocked by the attacks and deeply saddened by the loss of Chris Stevens: "He is the man of Libya." He said he fervently hopes that this attack will not affect the relations between our two countries. The Libyans sincerely appreciate what the United States has done and is doing in Libya.

I informed him that it was too dangerous for our personnel to remain in Benghazi and let him know that we have pulled everyone out.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

**From:** Jones, Beth E  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 12, 2012 9:51 AM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; [REDACTED] Burns, William J; Sherman, Wendy R; [REDACTED] (S); S\_SpecialAssistants; Sullivan, Jacob J; Kennedy, Patrick F; Mills, Cheryl D; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; [REDACTED] Maxwell, Raymond D; [REDACTED]; NEA-LIBYADESK; NEA-DAS-DL; [REDACTED] Gordon, Phillip H; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Libya update from Beth Jones

Good news: [REDACTED] just called to report that our wounded in the hospital in Tripoli are doing much better. Libyan doctors have apparently served them very well so far.

[ ] also said the Libyan PM, Prosecutor General and Attorney General arrived at the hospital this morning (DC time). According to [ ] source in the hospital – the Embassy nurse – the Libyan officials plan to begin carrying out an investigation about the attack in Benghazi last night. [ ] said he is headed to the hospital immediately to shield the wounded from any attempts to interview them.

In the meantime, those selected for evacuation are gathering for the ride to the airport

**From:** Jones, Beth E

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2012 6:58 PM

**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; [ ]; Burns, William J; Sherman, Wendy R; [ ] (S);

S\_SpecialAssistants; Sullivan, Jacob J; Kennedy, Patrick F; Mills, Cheryl D

**Cc:** [ ]@state.gov; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; [ ]

[ ] Maxwell, Raymond D; [ ] Dibble, Elizabeth L; [ ]

NEA-LIBYADESK; NEA-DAS-DL; [ ] Gordon, Phillip H; [ ]

**Subject:** RE: Libya update from Beth Jones

[ ] just provided the following update about the three Embassy buildings in Tripoli:

- All 33 COM (State) personnel in Tripoli are accounted for and currently they are all at the Residential Compound.
- The [ ] has approximately 33 people as well, and they are all there.
- No one is currently at the Embassy itself.

I passed on U/S Kennedy's recommendation that the personnel all move together to one compound in Tripoli; [ ] said that suggestion made good sense and that he would discuss with the COS as to which compound is the most secure.

Other points:

- [ ] said he has closed the Embassy tomorrow, and no one will travel from the residential compound into town except, as necessary, for him, the RSO and the DATT.
- [ ] and the RSO held a Town Hall meeting in the last half hour to reassure the Embassy staff; they remain calm and are responding well.
- [ ] has requested police protection for the Residential Compound and the [ ] at the moment, the police are protecting the Embassy. He is checking now on what the extra protection situation is with the Residential Compound and the [ ] [ ] is in touch with the militias with which it works to ensure extra protection.

In Benghazi:

- [ ] is working with the COS to make sure he is aware of reports that another mob has gathered in Benghazi headed for the [ ]. They will ensure extra protection there, too.

**From:** [ ]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:55 PM

**To:** [ ]; Nuland, Victoria J; [ ]; Burns, William J; Sherman, Wendy R; [ ]

[ ] (S); S\_SpecialAssistants; Sullivan, Jacob J; Kennedy, Patrick F; Mills, Cheryl D

**Cc:** [ ]; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; [ ]

Maxwell, Raymond D; [ ]; Dibble, Elizabeth L; [ ] NEA-LIBYADESK; NEA-

DAS-DL; [ ] Gordon, Phillip H; [ ]

**Subject:** RE: Libya update from Beth Jones

I just spoke again to [redacted] who himself spoke again to the offices of the Libyan President and Prime Minister, asking them to provide firefighting equipment to the Benghazi compound. He said the PD shop at Embassy Tripoli has found postings on Facebook indicating that the "Tripoli Council" plans to carry out an attack on Embassy Tripoli. He said he was promised increased police protection but it had not yet materialized.

[redacted] said his team reports that the extremist group Ansar Al Sharia has taken credit for the attack in Benghazi. He heard reports that the February 17 Brigade is currently engaged in a running battle with Ansar Al Sharia; he asked the offices of the President and PM to pursue Ansar al Sharia.

On working to locate Ambassador Stevens, the RSO team and militia are still on compound, which is 50 acres - [redacted] expressed the hope that Ambassador Stevens is in hiding somewhere on the compound. The PO's residence is still on fire.

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:32 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted] Burns, William J; Sherman, Wendy R; [redacted] (S); S\_SpecialAssistants; Sullivan, Jacob J; Kennedy, Patrick F; Mills, Cheryl D  
**Cc:** [redacted] NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; [redacted] Maxwell, Raymond D; [redacted] Dibble, Elizabeth L; [redacted] NEA-LIBYADESK; NEA-DAS-DL; [redacted]; Gordon, Phillip H; [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Libya update from Beth Jones

The fighting has stopped, DCM [redacted] just confirmed to me. He also confirmed one fatality: [redacted] - a TDY'er from The Hague - has died. His body has been recovered. The five ARSOs are accounted for, but they're still trying to find the Ambassador. The Principal Officer's residence is still on fire with toxic smoke.

I have spoken to A/S Gordon and Liz Dibble is contacting the Charge at The Hague, [redacted] to inform them.

**From:** Nuland, Victoria J  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:25 PM  
**To:** [redacted] Burns, William J; Sherman, Wendy R; [redacted] (S); S\_SpecialAssistants; Sullivan, Jacob J; Kennedy, Patrick F  
**Cc:** [redacted] NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; [redacted]; Maxwell, Raymond D; [redacted] Dibble, Elizabeth L  
**Subject:** RE: Libya update from Beth Jones

We just asked NEA for hold lines for press. We are getting besieged.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:15 PM  
**To:** [redacted] Burns, William J; Sherman, Wendy R; [redacted] (S); S\_SpecialAssistants; Sullivan, Jacob J; Nuland, Victoria J; Kennedy, Patrick F  
**Cc:** [redacted] NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; [redacted]; Maxwell, Raymond D; [redacted] Dibble, Elizabeth L  
**Subject:** RE: Libya update from Beth Jones

+Cheryl Mills

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2012 5:13 PM  
**To:** [redacted] Burns, William J; Sherman, Wendy R; [redacted] (S); S\_SpecialAssistants; Sullivan, Jacob J; Nuland, Victoria J; Kennedy, Patrick F  
**Cc:** [redacted] NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; [redacted]  
Maxwell, Raymond D; [redacted] Dibble, Elizabeth L  
**Subject:** RE: Libya update from Beth Jones

Just spoke again with [redacted], who confirmed the party includes Ambassador Stevens plus three, not plus four. [redacted] has been in contact twice with the Libyan President's office and twice with the Libyan PM's office; their offices assured him they are fully engaged and consider themselves personal friends of Ambassador Stevens. [redacted] has been coordinating with the [redacted] who has learned from the QRF about the status of the compound - currently they are clearing the compound and working to access the party.

I also urged Libyan Ambassador to the U.S. Aujali to engage on this immediately at the highest level.

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:49 PM  
**To:** Burns, William J; Sherman, Wendy R; [redacted] (S); S\_SpecialAssistants; Sullivan, Jacob J; Nuland, Victoria J  
**Cc:** [redacted] NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; [redacted]  
Maxwell, Raymond D; [redacted] Dibble, Elizabeth L  
**Subject:** Libya update from Beth Jones

All:

Beth Jones just spoke with DCM Tripoli [redacted], who advised a Libyan militia (we now know this is the 17<sup>th</sup> Feb brigade, as requested by Emb office) is responding to the attack on the diplomatic mission in Benghazi. The QRF is in the compound, engaging the attackers, taking fire, and working its way through the compound to get to the villa, where Ambassador Stevens is in safe haven for extraction. The ARSO is also there in the compound. [redacted] spoke with Amb Stevens by phone 20 minutes before my call (which was about ten minutes ago. [redacted] will talk to the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff, and then speak with the Foreign Minister. I have spoken to [redacted] who is also in touch with its QRF contacts to ask for engagement. Embassy is sending medical assistance to Benghazi to be on stand-by.

More updates to follow.

[redacted]