

RELEASE IN PART
B6

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2012 8:58 AM
To: H
Subject: FW: CAR Conference Call -- December 26n. 7:15 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Sherman, Wendy R
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2012 8:32 AM
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Nides, Thomas R; Kennedy, Patrick F; Burns, William J
Subject: FW: CAR Conference Call -- December 26n. 7:15 AM

FYI.

-----Original Message-----

From: Carson, Johnnie
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2012 8:29 AM
To: Sherman, Wendy R
Cc: Ashraf, Madeeha S; Bass, John R; Yamamoto, Donald Y; Meyer, Robin D; Akuetteh, Cynthia H; 'Grant_T_Harris [redacted] Folmsbee, Paul A; Herrup, Andrew R
Subject: CAR Conference Call -- December 26n. 7:15 AM

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Wendy: The situation in Bangui took a negative turn overnight and we have decided to move toward an orderly suspension of operations in Bangui by Saturday. We held a 30 minute conference call this morning. All key players participated, including AFRICOM and DOD. Over night, there was an extended non-violent demonstration in front of our embassy. Demonstrators were there overnight and most disturbingly were supported by a shadowy political figure associated with Pres Bozize's government. The Demonstrators are now gone. There was also a larger and more boisterous demonstration in front of the French Embassy, with demonstrators tearing down part of the Embassy fence/wall, breaking windows and going into the compound. The French deployed their soldiers and used tear gas to control the situation. No casualties in any location. With the ambassador and his team, I have agreed that we should move toward an orderly suspension of operations by Saturday. The earliest commercial available flights are Saturday -- and we have grabbed the seats. We are looking at possible mil operations if they are needed before Saturday and can be mobilized sooner. We are also looking at UN charters. I will call Pres Bozize this morning and will call his ambassador in to make sure the additional police we have requested to protect our staff is provided. Our next conference call is 12:00. I am en route to the office. Johnnie