

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 1:48 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: Holding back press on CAR evac

FYSA

From: Kennedy, Patrick F
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 1:38 PM
To: Ventrell, Patrick H; Mills, Cheryl D; Nuland, Victoria J; Carson, Johnnie
Cc: Bass, John R; Smith, Dana S (PA); Sherman, Wendy R
Subject: RE: Holding back press on CAR evac

Patrick

Many thanks

Much appreciate your efforts to keep this under wraps to extent possible

ALL: latest is that DOD bird is running about three hours behind schedule [late takeoff] and thus will not arrive Bangui until +/- 0300 Local [vice midnight local], which is 9 p.m. Washington time tonite

Regards

pat

From: Ventrell, Patrick H
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 1:32 PM
To: Kennedy, Patrick F; Mills, Cheryl D; Nuland, Victoria J; Carson, Johnnie
Cc: Bass, John R; Smith, Dana S (PA)
Subject: Holding back press on CAR evac

Just wanted to follow up on discussion from 8:45 am. AP, AFP and CBS now all have the story that we are pulling out, and so far I've been able to hold them back from publishing anything about it on security grounds. AP and AFP understandably got wind of this from their people actually in the field, which makes sense because we were reaching out to folks as Pat mentioned. More troubling, CBS (definitely doesn't have stringers in the Central African Republic!) seems to have a fairly good read on this from Washington including approximate number of passengers and that we are using milair, which sounds to me like someone interagency talking. I'll keep doing my best to keep this under wraps until everyone is wheels up.

SBU
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