

RELEASE IN PART  
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**From:** Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 28, 2012 1:33 PM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** FW: CAR: Friday Morning Wrap-Up Call

**From:** Carson, Johnnie  
**Sent:** Friday, December 28, 2012 1:31 PM  
**To:** Burns, William J; Mills, Cheryl D; Kennedy, Patrick F; Harris, Grant  
**Cc:** Ashraf, Madeeha S; Herrup, Andrew R; Meyer, Robin D; Yamamoto, Donald Y; Akuetteh, Cynthia H; Yamamoto, Donald Y; Akuetteh, Cynthia H; Meyer, Robin D; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] Runyan, Christopher (DCHA/PPM); Sullivan, Steph - D(N); Cave, Anna; Folmsbee, Paul A; Brewer, Maria E  
**Subject:** CAR: Friday Morning Wrap-Up Call

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Bill, Cheryl, Wendy, Pat and Grant:

As you all know, the CAR evacuation took place smoothly last night, with our evacuees arriving safely in Yaoundé, Cameroon. The CAR Task Force led by PDAS Don Yamamoto warped up last night around midnight. This morning, I hosted the last of our daily (sometimes twice daily) conference calls with Amb. Wohlers and his team – now in Embassy Yaoundé. Following are the top line items coming out of that final call with two decisions taken at end of the meeting for further action:

#### GENERAL SECURITY SITUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Amb. Wohlers reported that he has been in contact with senior FSN's at Embassy Bangui. They said Bangui is calm, although government troops appear to be arresting members of an ethnic community that has been opposed to President Bozize. The CAR army also appears to launching a counter offensive against the rebels. The French remain in place with no intentions to evacuate any of its citizens or personnel, and the UN office remains open. Amb. Wohlers outlined arrangements that have been made for our FSN/**Locally Engaged political staff to send unclassified reports to Washington.** We also discussed the need for **Amb. Wohlers, his staff and the AF/Central Africa office to prepare a reverse trip wire paper** to have on hand to determine when it might be appropriate and safe for American personnel to return to Bangui.

**CONSULAR ISSUES:** Embassy Yaoundé and DCM Gilmour reported that **all non-official Americans** evacuated had been put in touch with their respective embassies or **given assistance** and appropriate support by the US embassy. The eight official personnel were also being enabled to return to the US or to their duty stations. Amb. Wohlers will go on leave in

Morocco for a short period and then go to Libreville to observe/participate in any talks between President Bozize's government and the rebels.

**MANAGEMENT ISSUES:** Amb. Wohlers and Consular Bureau officials reported that a **new Travel Warning for CAR has been now been issued** and that arrangements have made to ensure that the remaining Americans are aware of the current situation and the recommendation to leave. There are currently 45 American missionary located near the Cameroonian border who have chosen to stay in CAR, and about 10-15 dual nationals in Bangui. Embassy Bangui and Consular officials have a way to contact them. **AF, L and M are completing the diplomatic note that will be exchanged with the French to make the French Embassy our "Protective Power" in Bangui.** Once that note is exchanged, Consular Services will alert the remaining Americans (with specific contacts) that they should seek French assistance. AF agreed to make sure Embassy Bangui and Department press releases announcing the suspension of operation were widely disseminated.

#### DECISIONS AND FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:

Amb. Wohlers and AF/C will develop a set of **reverse trip wires** to measure and outline when it would be safe and appropriate to reopen Embassy Bangui.

AF/EX, AF/C and the AF Front office will prepare a **lessons learned** after action report for future use. AF will coordinate this paper with other Bureaus and with DOD/ARICOM before putting it into final.

No further calls are scheduled.

Concluding the meeting, I expressed on behalf of AF our sincere appreciation to AFRICOM, M, Consular Services, OP Center, DS, DOD and especially Ambassadors Rob Jackson (Cameroon) and Mark Boulware (Chad) and Embassies Libreville and Nairobi for their support.

Johnnie

Grant: Please pass to NSS colleagues as appropriate. Many thanks. jc