

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2016 6:05 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: C-BH SVTC Readout 11-18-15
Attach: 15-11-18 Counter Boko Haram SVTC Readout.docx

B6
B7(F)

References CVE assessment. For FOIA search.

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RELEASE IN PART B7(F),B6

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 23, 2015 9:05 AM
To: Counter Boko Haram Coordination DL Group

Subject: C-BH SVTC Readout 11-18-15

All,

Please see attached the readout from last Wednesday's Counter Boko Haram SVTC for your reading pleasure.

Please note: There will be no SVTC this week on Wednesday 25 November due to Thanksgiving. See you on December 2.

Happy Thanksgiving week!

[REDACTED]
Bureau of African Affairs
U.S. Department of State
[REDACTED]

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Clarke Ellis, Senior
Reviewer

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SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED**Counter Boko Haram SVTC Readout**

November 18, 2015

0800 – 0900

RELEASE IN PART B7(E)Introduction

- Update on C-BH strategy
 - There is pressure from the NSCS to do a substantial update of the strategy and complete it by January
 - We are working with NSCS on a more realistic timeline that follows a sequence to complete the progress review and NCTC strategic assessment before updating the strategy (Note: we subsequently proposed to NSCS that March would be a more realistic, albeit still ambitious, deadline for an approved revised strategy.)
- SFRC Staff Briefing
 - Joint State/DoD briefing on the Cameroon deployment and C-BH strategy
 - Addressed a range of questions on deployment, ISR capability, capacity of the Cameroonians, etc
 - Discussed the status of MNJTF and our support to MNJTF and contributing countries
 - The session was friendly and open
- Meeting with Mark Bryson-Richardson, the Director of the UK's Stabilisation Unit
 - This is an interagency office
 - They are looking at defections policy
 - Specifically looking to support community reintegration rather than supporting individual defectors
- NSCS led Nigeria stabilization and civilian security small group meeting held Wednesday

Incident Updates

- Nigeria
 - Yola Bomb blast
 - At around 8:00 pm local time on Tuesday, November 18th, there was a bomb blast at the "Tipper Truck Stop", a motor park, in the Jambutu area of Yola, the capital of the eastern Nigerian state of Adamawa. The motor park is a commercial center at the crossways for north-south travel between Borno State and Adamawa as well as east-west commercial transport between Nigeria and neighboring Chad. A routine gathering place for the likes of food/art vendors, artists, and taxi drivers, the motor park also has a livestock market, an open-air restaurant, and a mosque that had just completed evening prayers.
 - U.S. Embassy security contacts stated that an unidentified vehicle dropped off two passengers, a teenaged male and female, who were believed to be the suicide bombers. With the intent of attracting more victims, the female began selling rice at a very inexpensive price. The male attracted attention to himself by reportedly giving out free cash - an unprecedented tactic for gathering more passersby. Both the male and female reportedly were wearing suicide vests and either remote- or self-detonated within minutes of each other killing 32 and injuring 80 people.
 - Cable from Abuja coming out regarding army's use of public posters to identify BH members
- Cameroon
 - There was a bombing in Fotokol last week

**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Clarke Ellis,
Senior Reviewer**SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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- There has been an uptick in raids, which have also become more violent
- There is reporting on a beheading in Karoua, but the reporting is conflicting, so full details are not clear
- Some attacks have been stopped by the security services
- Post attended a briefing at the National Security Council at the presidency on C-BH, which demonstrated some Cameroonian interagency work on the issue
- Will be releasing a cable on child recruitment into BH
- Niger
 - Rumor of 125 killed in a raid over the weekend, but no confirmation
 - Attack in Bosso
 - Slit throats of 5 people
 - Decapitated Imam
 - Decapitation is new in Niger, however Abuja noted that this has been common in Nigeria; also noted that decapitations have occurred in Chad for some time as well
 - Note: Cameroon is also starting to see decapitations, which have not occurred there previously
 - Also seeing other new tactics/technologies in Niger
 - These have been seen in Nigeria, but use in Niger is new
 - Concern about spread of technology/tactics across borders
 - 12 potential BH members were arrested trying to smuggle goods across the border on Tuesday
 - Report of 21 BH members who turned themselves into the FAN
 - Not clear if they were Nigerien or Nigerian

MNJTF

- Beginning to see some movement forward from MNJTF
- Comms training on radio equipment starting soon
 - 26 participants have arrived ; 14 more arriving soon
 - Will allow Gen Abbah and Sectors to coordinate with sector commands via HF
 - AFRICOM still working on CODAN/Motorola contractors, but having some fiscal/legal issues on the contract
 - AFRICOM still working on VSAT closed network system
- Gen Abbah had a meeting with sector commanders
 - Gen Abbah provided an intel update
 - Reporting from sector commanders on status of troops
 - Reiterated importance of comms training
- 6 staff officers from Benin still expected to arrive soon
- Still have not moved to new HQ
 - Gen Abbah says 4 things need to happen before they can move
 - All equipment, including comms, needs to be in place
 - Building finished (done)
 - Sleeping accommodation for Beninois soldiers complete
 - Completion of dining facility
 - Realistically Mission N'Djamena projects HQ will be set up and operational by late December/early January
- Composition of sector troops

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- Sectors boundaries will be based on country lines
- Some units will have cross-border authority if pursuing BH
- CCL expected to receive final/update on Thursday
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- SIA between AU and LCBC not yet signed
 - Still seem to be some disagreements
 - USAU has not been able to see a draft but is trying
 - AU Commissioner Chergui expected to be in N'Djamena later this month/early December
 - Expect signing to occur then

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AFRICOM update

- P3 coordination
 - French have proposed CCL/P3 coordination mechanism
 - There was a discussion during the military P3 working group
 - UK have sent 2 additional ops people to MNJTF
- Follow up from Recce to Maiduguri,
 - UK agreed to do Counter IED and Medical support
 - US agreed to Ops and Intel
 - Verbal asks for US and UK presence in Maiduguri
 - Have reiterated that we need a formal request in writing
 - UK would like to present a coordinated response
- MG Ali from Nigeria is currently at SOCAF for a conference

USAID/West Africa CVE programming visit to Cameroon

- Thanks to Mission Yaounde for support
- Met with development partners who discussed challenges
 - Situation in extreme north remains fluid
 - Donor/Development coordination needs to be improved
 - Most assistance is humanitarian heavy in the north
 - Not much planning on development
 - Concern over whether GoC will be able to capitalize on solidarity/unity against BH
- Potential opportunities for upcoming program
 - Broadcast on solidarity
 - Sensitize communities
 - Raise awareness on importance of education
- Next steps
 - Return mission to Yaounde in December
 - Meeting with implementer
 - Coordinated trip up north with DoD
 - OTI would like to go up north to see if there are opportunities for OTI programming there

Note: USAID/Nigeria will send separate update on joint USAID-DIFD defections assessment, as the input was cut off due to time constraints

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