



(b)(1)
(b)(2)
(b)(3)
(b)(6)

~~TOP SECRET//NOFORN~~

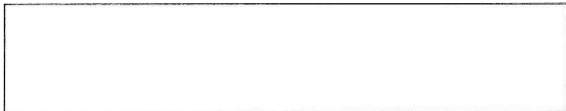


From: OCA Subject: Due-Outs from HPSCI Coffee
Office of Congressional Affairs
Secure: [redacted]
Open: [redacted]
Date: 09/14/2012 11:29 AM Cc: [redacted]

SI
OCC
NLS
OCA
DIR
OCA

This message is digitally signed.

Classification: ~~TOP SECRET//NOFORN~~



For the Committee:

- 1) "White Paper" on press guidance (OPA, OGC, DI, NE)
 **We've already spoken to OPA who will be coording with the WH as well
- 2) Paper on motivations for Green, or Blue violence (OSA)
- 3) Contact State Legl. Affairs for questions on document destruction at consulate (OCA)

For DCIA:

- 1) Cable(s) to [redacted] warning of protests linked to the film and response (NE)
- 2) Cable(s) to stations on 9/11 security (DS, NCS)

Please send Committee responses to OCA for 7th floor coord.

Please send DCIA responses to ODCIA.

Thank you!

[redacted]
Office of Congressional Affairs
Secure: [redacted]
Open: [redacted]

Classification: ~~TOP SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~TOP SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[Redacted] Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Classified By: 2... 09/14/2012 03:19:00 PM

From: [Redacted]
To: [Redacted] NE
Cc: [Redacted] NCS
[Redacted] NCS
[Redacted] CTC
[Redacted] DIR
[Redacted] OCA
[Redacted] DI Stephen W. Preston
[Redacted] OGC
[Redacted] OGC

Date: 09/14/2012 03:19 PM
Subject: Re: Looping ODNCS - Re: Fw: FLASH coordination - write paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[Redacted]

Good point that it could be interpreted this way - perhaps better stated that we know they participated in the protests. We do not know who was responsible for the deaths.

[Redacted]
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis
secure: [Redacted]
open: [Redacted]

[Redacted] NE Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Classified By: 2... 09/14/2012 03:16:33 PM

From: [Redacted] NE
To: [Redacted] NCS
Cc: [Redacted] NCS
[Redacted] CTC
[Redacted] CTC
[Redacted] DIR
[Redacted] NE OCA
[Redacted] Stephen W. Preston
[Redacted] OGC
[Redacted] OGC

Date: 09/14/2012 03:16 PM
Subject: Re: Looping ODNCS - Re: Fw: FLASH coordination - write paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[Redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2

2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Good question - I'll defer to [redacted] (cc'd) given the CT angle.

(Added in OGC and OPA as well as FYI).

Second tick says we know extremists with ties to AQ participated in the attack, which implies complicity in the deaths of the American officers. Do we know this?

NCS Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Classified By: 2... 09/14/2012 02:52:57 PM

From: [redacted] NCS
To: [redacted] NE
Cc: [redacted] NCS
[redacted] NCS
[redacted] CTC
[redacted] CTC
[redacted] SIR
[redacted] OCA
[redacted] DI Stephen W. Preston [redacted]

Date: 09/14/2012 02:52 PM
Subject: Re: Looping ODNS - Re: Fw: FLASH coordination - white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted]

Second tick says we know extremists with ties to AQ participated in the attack, which implies complicity in the deaths of the American officers. Do we know this?

NE Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Classified By: 2... 09/14/2012 02:39:49 PM

From: [redacted] NE
To: [redacted] NCS
[redacted] NCS
Cc: [redacted] NO
[redacted] CTC
[redacted] CTC
[redacted] SIR
[redacted] OCA
[redacted] DI Stephen W. Preston [redacted]

Date: 09/14/2012 02:39 PM
Subject: Looping ODNS - Re: Fw: FLASH coordination - white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- NE coords on the below paper, to include the earlier edits.

We have looped in ODNCS and others to ensure everyone has a chance to review given the urgency at which this is being requested.

For ODNCS - at this morning HPSCI coffee with DCIA, HPSCI members eagerly sought some sort of "white paper" they could use to reply to numerous media requests asking for comments on other inflammatory press articles regarding the Benghazi attacks.

HPSCI has asked for unclassified points immediately that they can use in talking to the media. I have been asked to provide a bit on responsibility. NE is pulling together the final product. In addition to other topics, NE will add material about warnings we gave to Cairo prior to the demonstrations, as well as material on warnings we issued prior to 9/11 anniversary. Please take a quick look to see if you believe that this is A) accurate and B) unclass.

For CTC/Legal, asked that I send this to you and anybody you think needs to see in OGC to make sure that nothing we are saying here is likely to impact any potential future legal prosecution.

Thanks

- *We believe based on currently available information that the attacks in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated.*
- *The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa'ida participated in the attack.*
- *Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that the its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.*
- *The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.*
- *Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants; including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.*
- *We are working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.*

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Classified By: 2...

09/14/2012 02:27:18 PM

From:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

4

4

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

To: [redacted] *NE*
Date: 09/14/2012 02:27 PM
Subject: Fw: FLASH coordination - white paper for HPSCI

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted]

Sorry, sent to the wrong [redacted] ..

[redacted]
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis
secure: [redacted]
open: [redacted]

--- Forwarded by [redacted] on 09/14/2012 02:27 PM ---

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted] *NE*
Date: 09/14/2012 12:49 PM
Subject: Fw: FLASH coordination - white paper for HPSCI

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted]

I didn't ask NE/INT. Just CTC/INT.

Please see the one suggested addition from OGC.

Let me know if you need anything else. Also, please be sure that DI FO gets a copy.

[redacted]
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis
secure: [redacted]
open: [redacted]

--- Forwarded by [redacted] on 09/14/2012 12:47 PM ---

From: [redacted] *OGC*
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] *CTC, OGC, NE*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

5

5

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DI, OGC

Date: 09/14/2012 12:23 PM
Subject: Re: FLASH coordination - white paper for HPSCI

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

[Redacted]

Hi [Redacted] - I've consulted with colleagues and the only statement that might have implications for future prosecution is the first bullet. recommend adding the text indicated to add some insulation. please let me know if you have any questions. thanks.

[Redacted] Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Classified By: 2... 09/14/2012 11:15:24 AM

From: [Redacted]
To: [Redacted] CTC, OGC, NE, DI
Cc: [Redacted]

Date: 09/14/2012 11:15 AM
Subject: FLASH coordination - white paper for HPSCI

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

[Redacted]

HPSCI has asked for unclassified points immediately that they can use in talking to the media. I have been asked to provide a bit on responsibility. NE is pulling together the final product. In addition to other topics, NE will add material about warnings we gave to Cairo prior to the demonstrations, as well as material on warnings we issued prior to 9/11 anniversary. Please take a quick look to see if you believe that this is A) accurate and B) unclass.

For CTC/Legal, [Redacted] asked that I send this to you and anybody you think needs to see in OGC to make sure that nothing we are saying here is likely to impact any potential future legal prosecution.

Thanks

[Redacted]

We believe based on currently available information that the attacks in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- o The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society . That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa'ida participated in the attack.
- o Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that the its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's facebook page aims to spread *sharia* in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- o The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- o Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- o We are working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

[Redacted]
 Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis
 secure: [Redacted]
 open: [Redacted]

=====
Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====
Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====
Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====
Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====
Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====
Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====
Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====
Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====
Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====
Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 11:17 AM
To: Vietor, Tommy
Cc: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS PRESS** [Redacted]
Subject: Congressional talking points en route this afternoon for coord.

Tommy:

Echoing my voicemail to you:

You should be seeing some "White Paper" talking points from us this afternoon for coordination. They are for Congressional use, per their request, re Benghazi issues.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

[Redacted]



From: [Redacted] *OPA*
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:00 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Cleaned HPSCI TPs
Attachments: Cleaned HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media.doc

HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012

- We believe based on currently available information that the attacks in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated.
- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa'ida participated in the attack.
- Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that the its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- We are working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM
 To: Victor, Tommy Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] **NSS PRESS**
 [redacted] **WH PRESS**
 Cc: [redacted] **CIA OCA**
 Subject: HPSCI talking points for review.

Colleagues:

HPSCI has requested talking points from the DCIA for use with the media.

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

Thanks very much,

[redacted]

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

[redacted]

HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012

We believe based on currently available information that the attacks in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated:

- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa'ida participated in the attack.
- Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- We are working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:27 PM
 To: [Redacted] Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS PRESS**
 Cc: **WHP PRESS**
 CIA OLA
 Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

We still have a number of components coordinating here on these points and we will have further edits. We are multi-tasking due to the time constraints.

I'll send you an updated version around 1600 today.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM
 To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS PRESS, WHP PRESS**
 Cc: **CIA OLA**
 Subject: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

HPSCI has requested talking points from the DCIA for use with the media.

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

Thanks very much,

[Redacted]

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

[Redacted]

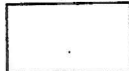
**HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012**

- o We believe based on currently available information that the attacks in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated.
- o The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa'ida participated in the attack.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



From: Stephen W. Preston
General Counsel



Date: 09/14/2012 04:20 PM

Subject: Re: Looping ODNCS -- Re: Fw: FLASH coordination --
white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

To: OGC
Cc: NE, NCS
NCS
CTC

This message is digitally signed.

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



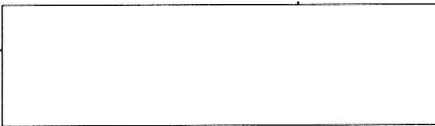
Folks, I know there is a hurry to get this out, but we need to hold it long enough to ascertain whether providing it conflicts with express instructions from NSS/DOJ/FBI that, in light of the criminal investigation, we are not to generate statements with assessments as to who did this, etc. -- even internally, not to mention for public release. I am copying [redacted] who may be more familiar with those instructions and the tasking arising from the HPSCI coffee.

OGC Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Classified By: 2... 09/14/2012 03:29:32 PM

From: OGC
To: NE, NCS
Cc: NCS
NCS, CTC
CTC
DIR.
Stephen W. Preston

Date: 09/14/2012 03:29 PM
Subject: Re: Looping ODNCS -- Re: Fw: FLASH coordination -- white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



OGC coords. on the TPs, including the change to the second tick noted by [redacted]

All content within this email, including attachments and email threads, carry the controls [redacted] even when not specified in the classification line unless otherwise noted.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED



From: Subject: HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for review before
 Chief, Media Relations Branch White House
 Office of Public Affairs To:
 Date: 09/14/2012 04:42 PM Cc: D, R, DDCIA-FO, OPA

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

For review before sending to the White House:

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media

14 September 2012

◦The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.

◦The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

◦Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.

◦The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.

UNCLASSIFIED

15

15

UNCLASSIFIED

•The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.

•The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

[Redacted]
Chief, Media Relations Branch, Office of Public Affairs
Secure: [Redacted]
Open: [Redacted]
[Redacted]

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]

From: Victor, Tommy; [Redacted] Thomas F. Victor
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 4:57 PM
To: [Redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
Cc: WH PRESS, CIA OCA
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

[Redacted] is there an updated version of this I can circulate internally?

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:27 PM
To: [Redacted] Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS WH PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

We still have a number of components coordinating here on these points and we will have further edits. We are multi-tasking due to the time constraints.

I'll send you an updated version around 1600 today.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM
To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS WH PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

HPSCI has requested talking points from the DCIA for use with the media.

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

Thanks very much,

[Redacted]

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

[Redacted]

HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012

[redacted]
 From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:04 PM
 To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS
 Cc: [redacted] WH PRESS, CIA OCA
 Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Tommy:

Very sorry for the delay. We've been steadily working on them and they are now at the final stop before coming to you soon. I'll rush them to you as soon as possible.

[redacted]
 From: Victor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 4:57 PM
 To: [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
 Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA
 Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

[redacted] is there an updated version of this I can circulate internally?

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:27 PM
 To: [redacted] Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS WH PRESS
 Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA
 Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

We still have a number of components coordinating here on these points and we will have further edits. We are multi-tasking due to the time constraints.

I'll send you an updated version around 1600 today.

Thanks,

[redacted]
 From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM
 To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
 Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA
 Subject: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

HPSCI has requested talking points from the DCIA for use with the media.

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:05 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review.

Should we include Shawn Turner on the coord for the points?

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:27 PM
To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review.

Colleagues:

We still have a number of components coordinating here on these points and we will have further edits. We are multi-tasking due to the time constraints.

I'll send you an updated version around 1600 today.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM
To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: HPSCI talking points for review.

Colleagues:

HPSCI has requested talking points from the DCIA for use with the media.

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

Thanks very much,

[Redacted]

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

[Redacted]

HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012

[Redacted]
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Thanks for the reminder. Yes, I told him we would.

[Redacted]
From: OA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:05 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Should we include Shawn Turner on the coord for the points?

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:27 PM
To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

We still have a number of components coordinating here on these points and we will have further edits. We are multi-tasking due to the time constraints.

I'll send you an updated version around 1600 today.

Thanks,

[Redacted]
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM
To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

HPSCI has requested talking points from the DCIA for use with the media.

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

Thanks very much,

[Redacted]

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM.
 To: Victor Tommiv Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] **USS PRESS**
 [redacted] **WIF PRESS**
 C/Acc Shawn S Turner
 Subject: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012

- o The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- o The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- o Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- o The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- o The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- o The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

Thanks,

[redacted]

Chief, Media Relations

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:10 PM
 To: [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
 Cc: [redacted] W.H. PRESS
 Subject: CIA OCA Shawn S. Turner
 RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks. Will vet here now.

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM
 To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS W.H. PRESS
 Cc: CIA OCA Shawn Turner
 Subject: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
 14 September 2012

- o The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- o The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- o Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- o The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- o The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- o The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:20 PM
To: FBI PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

FYI.

These are talking points for HPSCI's use with the media. They asked the DCIA for them today.

White House is reviewing and DNI is aware.

[Redacted]

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM
To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA Shawn S Turner
Subject: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that Jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's

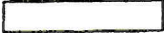
Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for Jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.

- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

Thanks,



Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs



[Redacted]
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:04 PM
To: [Redacted] *FBI PRESS*
Cc: *CIA OSA*
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

I'm told that Chairman Rogers intends to use these talking points on Sunday.

Kindly respond to this note indicating that you've reviewed these talking points ASAP.

Thanks,

[Redacted]
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:20 PM
To: [Redacted] *FBI PRESS*
Cc: *CIA OSA*
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

FYI.

These are talking points for HPSCI's use with the media. They asked the DCIA for them today.

White House is reviewing and DNI is aware.

[Redacted]
Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs
[Redacted]

[Redacted]
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM
To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [Redacted] *NSS PRESS, WH PRESS*
Cc: *CIA OSA* Shawn S Turner
Subject: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

25

25

From: Viator, Tommy [Thomas F. Viator] [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM
 To: [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS
 [redacted] WHT PRESS
 Cc: [redacted] Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

[redacted], I know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits: One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are full coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
 14 September 2012

- o The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of Embassy CAIRO and that Jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- o The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- o Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- o The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- o The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- o The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM
 To: Viator, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS, WHT PRESS
 Cc: [redacted] Shawn Turner
 Subject: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM
 To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
 Cc: WHP PRESS
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas_F_Vietor@state.gov]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM
 To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS; WHP PRESS
 Cc: Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review.

[redacted] know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits. One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are fully coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
 14 September 2012

- o The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of Embassy CAIRO and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- o The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- o Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- o The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- o The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:33 PM
 To: nulanovj [redacted] STATE SCA, STATE PA
 C/A [redacted]
 Subject: HPSCI Talking Points for review

Colleagues:

HPSCI requested these talkers from the DCIA this morning.

The White House has reviewed them and wanted to ensure that you saw them – especially the portions highlighted by the White House.

Kindly indicate that you have reviewed these points. We are planning on transmitting them to the Hill tonight.

Thanks,

[redacted]

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012.

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of Embassy CAIRO and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

From: Shawn S Turner
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM
 To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
 Cc: WITNESS, CIA OCA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I've been very careful not to say we issued a warning. Any concerns with adjusting the first highlighted line to say:

- On 10 September we notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM
 To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WIT PRESS
 Cc: CIA OCA, Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

From: Victor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Victor@state.gov]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM
 To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WIT PRESS
 Cc: Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits. One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are fully coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
 14 September 2012

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of Embassy CAIRO and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM
 To: Shawn S Turner; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
 Cc: CIAOC; LWH PRESS; Nuland, Victoria J.; STATE PA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Looping in State. I think that's a good adjustment.

From: Shawn S Turner
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM
 To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, LWH PRESS
 Cc: CIAOC
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I've been very careful not to say we issued a warning. Any concerns with adjusting the first highlighted line to say:

- On 10 September we notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.

From: [Redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM
 To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, LWH PRESS
 Cc: CIAOC; Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

[Redacted]

From: Vietor, Tommy (mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@state.gov)
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM
 To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, LWH PRESS
 Cc: CIAOC; Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

[Redacted] know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits. One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are fully coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
 14 September 2012**

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM
 To: Shawn S Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
 NSS PRESS, WH PRESS; nulandvj; STATE PA
 C/O CIA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review.

FYI, Brennan will have edits. Im waiting for those.

From: []
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM
 To: Shawn Turner; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
 WH PRESS; nulandvj; STATE PA
 C/O CIA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Looping in State. I think that's a good adjustment.

From: Shawn S Turner
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM
 To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
 C/O CIA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I've been very careful not to say we issued a warning. Any concerns with adjusting the first highlighted line to say:

On 10 September we notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy:

From: []
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM
 To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
 C/O CIA; Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM
 To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
 C/O CIA; Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits. One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are full coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.

From: Vietor, Tommy (Thomas F. Vietor [redacted])
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:52 PM
To: [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS
 [redacted] WH PRESS
Cc: CIA/CA Shawn S Turner
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

John's edits are below..Mostly in bullet 2.

I like the edit Shawn sent around.

From: Vietor, Tommy
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM
To: [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS WH PRESS
Cc: CIA/CA Shawn Turner [redacted]
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review.

[redacted] I know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits: One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are full coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
 14 September 2012

- o The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of Embassy CAIRO and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- o The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. We do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- o Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for Jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- o The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- o The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- o The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:53 PM
 To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS PRESS**
WJH PRESS
 Cc: **CIA/C** Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Excellent. Will implement.

Thanks, Tommy

From: Victor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas_F_Victor@hpsci.gov]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:52 PM
 To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS PRESS, WJH PRESS**
 Cc: **CIA/C** Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review.

John's edits are below. Mostly in bullet 2.

I like the edit Shawn sent around.

From: Victor, Tommy
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM
 To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS PRESS, WJH PRESS**
 Cc: **CIA/DCA** Shawn Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits. One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are full coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
 14 September 2012

- o The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of Embassy CAIRO and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- o The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. We do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- o Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.

From: Nuland, Victoria J [nulandv]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM
 To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Shawn S Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA
 C/O CIA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Are these for open or closed hearing? If open, the line about "knowing" there were extremists among the demonstrators will come back to us at podium - how do we know, who were they, etc... So I'll need answers to those if we deploy that line, tx.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas_F_Vietor]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM
 To: Shawn Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
 WH PRESS; Nuland, Victoria J; STATE PA
 C/O CIA OCA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

FYI, Brennan will have edits. Im waiting for those.

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM
 To: Shawn Turner; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
 WH PRESS, CIA OCA; nulandv; STATE PA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Looping in State. I think that's a good adjustment.

From: Shawn S Turner
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM
 To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
 C/O CIA OCA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I've been very careful not to say we issued a warning. Any concerns with adjusting the first highlighted line to say:

- On 10 September we notified Embassy Cairo of social-media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM
 To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] *FBI PRESS*
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:18 PM
To: [Redacted] *FBI PRESS*
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

[Redacted] - we are taking a look and I will respond back.

From: [Redacted]
To: [Redacted] *FBI PRESS*
Cc: *CIA OCA*
Sent: Fri Sep 14 18:04:08 2012
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

I'm told that Chairman Rogers intends to use these talking points on Sunday.

Kindly respond to this note indicating that you've reviewed these talking points ASAP.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:20 PM
To: [Redacted] *FBI PRESS*
Cc: *CIA OCA*
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

FYI.

These are talking points for HPSCI's use with the media. They asked the DCIA for them today.

White House is reviewing and DNI is aware.

[Redacted]

Chief, Media Relations
 CIA Office of Public Affairs

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM
To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; *NSS PRESS, WA PRESS*

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:29 PM
To: FO, CIA OCA
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Guys -- see Toria's question below. Can we soften this a bit?

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:nulandv@state.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM
To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Shawn S Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review
NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA

Are these for open or closed hearing? If open, the line about "knowing" there were extremists among the demonstrators will come back to us at podium -- how do we know, who were they, etc... So I'll need answers to those if we deploy that line, tx.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Victor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Victor@state.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM
To: Shawn Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
Cc: Nuland, Victoria J; STATE PA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review
WH PRESS, CIA OCA

FVI, Brennan will have edits. Im waiting for those.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM
To: Shawn Turner; Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
Cc: Nuland, Victoria J; STATE PA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review
WH PRESS, CIA OCA

Looping in State. I think that's a good adjustment.

From: Shawn S Turner
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM
To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

ve been very careful not to say we issued a warning. Any concerns with adjusting the first highlighted line to say:

[Redacted]

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto: [Redacted]]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM.
 To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [Redacted] Shawn S Turner;
 [Redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [Redacted] NSS PRESS
 [Redacted] CIA/CSA
 Ce: [Redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I just had a convo with [Redacted] and I now understand that these are being prepared to give to Members of Congress to use with the media.

On that basis, I have serious concerns about all the parts highlighted below, and urging members of Congress to start making assertions to the media that we ourselves are not making because we don't want to prejudice the investigation.

In same vein, why do we want Hill to be fingering Ansar al-Sharia, when we aren't doing that ourselves until we have investigation results... and the penultimate point could be abused by Members to beat the State Department for not paying attention to Agency warnings so why do we want to feed that either? Concerned...

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM
 To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [Redacted] Shawn Turner [Redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
 [Redacted] NSS PRESS, WLD PRESS, STATE PA
 [Redacted] CIA/CSA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Are these for open or closed hearing? If open, the line about "knowing" there were extremists among the demonstrators will come back to us at podium - how do we know, who were they, etc... So I'll need answers to those if we deploy that line, tx.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas_F_Vietor [Redacted]]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM
 To: [Redacted] Shawn Turner [Redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS

[redacted]
From: [redacted] FBI PRESS
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:51 PM
To: [redacted] FBI PRESS
Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

[redacted] in coordination with CTD, we have some concerns:

1. The accuracy of the sentence of the first bullet point which states "On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy." And- who is the "we" that is referenced?
2. We recommend editing the last sentence in the second bullet point to "That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations."

I will be free to discuss in about 20 minutes if necessary.

[redacted]

From: [redacted] FBI PRESS
To: [redacted] FBI PRESS
Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA
Sent: Fri Sep 14 19:17:51 2012
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

[redacted] we are taking a look and I will respond back.

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted] FBI PRESS
Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA
Sent: Fri Sep 14 18:04:08 2012
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

I'm told that Chairman Rogers intends to use these talking points on Sunday.

Kindly respond to this note indicating that you've reviewed these talking points ASAP.

Thanks,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:20 PM
To: [redacted] FBI PRESS
Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

I

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:52 PM
 To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary, Shawn S Turner; [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Meehan, Bernadette; [redacted] NSC PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA; Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S; [redacted] FBI PRESS
 Cc: [redacted] FBI PRESS, CIA OCA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

On that very issue, Toria, we are waiting to hear back from the Bureau: [redacted]

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:nulandv@state.gov]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM
 To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary: [redacted] Shawn S Turner; [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSC PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA; Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S
 Cc: CIA OCA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I just had a convo with [redacted] and I now understand that these are being prepared to give to Members of Congress to use with the media:

On that basis, I have serious concerns about all the parts highlighted below, and arming members of Congress to start making assertions to the media that we ourselves are not making because we don't want to prejudice the investigation.

In same vein, why do we want Hill to be fingering Ansar al-Sharia, when we aren't doing that ourselves until we have investigation results... and the penultimate point could be abused by Members to beat the State Department for not paying attention to Agency warnings so why do we want to feed that either? Concerned...

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM
 To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [redacted] Shawn Turner; [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSC PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA
 Cc: CIA OCA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

[Redacted]

From: Adams, David S (AdamsDS [Redacted])
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:39 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [Redacted] Shawn S Turner;
[Redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [Redacted] NSS PRESS
[Redacted] WH PRESS STATE PA [Redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: [Redacted] CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I'm with Toria. The last bullet especially will read to members like we had been repeatedly warned.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [Redacted] Shawn Turner [Redacted]
Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [Redacted] NSS PRESS WH PRESS STATE PA [Redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J;
Adams, David S
Cc: [Redacted] CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I just had a convo with [Redacted] and I now understand that these are being prepared to give to Members of Congress to use with the media.

On that basis, I have serious concerns about all the parts highlighted below, and arming members of Congress to start making assertions to the media that we ourselves are not making because we don't want to prejudice the investigation.

In same vein, why do we want Hill to be fingering Ansar al Shāria, when we aren't doing that ourselves until we have investigation results.. and the penultimate point could be abused by Members to beat the State Department for not paying attention to Agency warnings so why do we want to feed that either? Concerned...

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM
To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [Redacted] Shawn Turner [Redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
[Redacted] NSS PRESS WH PRESS STATE PA [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Are these for open or closed hearing? If open, the line about "knowing" there were extremists among the demonstrators will come back to us at podium - how do we know, who were they, etc... So I'll need answers to those if we deploy that line, tx.

STATE STAFF ASST.

From: Vietor, Tommy [Thomas_F._Vietor [redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:58 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **STATE PA**
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

We will use these too

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

From: Nuland, Victoria J [nulandv [redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:55 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Vietor, Tommy; Sullivan, Jacob J; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **State PA**
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

These are points for Congress to use w press. Shdnt they be consistent with our own public lines if we are recommending them?

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas_F._Vietor [redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:43 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Rhodes, Benjamin J. <Benjamin_J._Rhodes [redacted] **STATE PA** ; Nuland, Victoria J
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

There is massive disinformation out there, in particular with Congress. They all think it was premeditated based on inaccurate assumptions or briefings. So I think this is a response to not only a tasking from the house intel committee but also NSC guidance that we need to brief members/press and correct the record

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

From: Sullivan, Jacob J [SullivanJJ [redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:40 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy; **STATE PA** ; Nuland, Victoria J
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Skinnying list. I do not understand the nature of this exercise. And some of the statements below are new by me. Can we have a conversation before this goes out?

From: Adams, David S
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:39 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary: [redacted] Shawn.Turner [redacted] ; **STATE PA** ; Sullivan, Jacob J
Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS, WH PRESS
Cc: **CIA OCA**
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I'm with Toria. The last bullet especially will read to members like we had been repeatedly warned.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM
 To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [redacted] Shawn.Turner [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS, WH PRESS** **STATE PA**; Sullivan, Jacob J;
 Adams, David S
 Cc: **CIA OCA**
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I just had a convo with [redacted] and I now understand that these are being prepared to give to Members of Congress to use with the media.

On that basis, I have serious concerns about all the parts highlighted below, and arming members of Congress to start making assertions to the media that we ourselves are not making because we don't want to prejudice the investigation.

In same vein, why do we want Hill to be fingering Ansar al Sharia, when we aren't doing that ourselves until we have investigation results... and the penultimate point could be abused by Members to beat the State Department for not paying attention to Agency warnings so why do we want to feed that either? Concerned...

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM
 To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [redacted] Shawn.Turner [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
NSS, WH PRESS **STATE PA**
 Cc: **CIA OCA**
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Are these for open or closed hearing? If open, the line about "knowing" there were extremists among the demonstrators will come back to us at podium – how do we know, who were they, etc... So I'll need answers to those if we deploy that line, tx.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@state.gov] [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM
 To: [redacted] Shawn.Turner [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS PRESS,**
WH PRESS. Nuland, Victoria J; **STATE PA**
 Cc: **CIA OCA**
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

FYI, Brennan will have edits. Im waiting for those.

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM
 To: Shawn.Turner [redacted] Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS PRESS, WH PRESS** [redacted] **STATE PA**
 Cc: **CIA OCA**
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Looping in State. I think that's a good adjustment.

From: Shawn S Turner
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM
 To: [redacted] Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS, WH PRESS**
 Cc: **CIA OCA**
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I've been very careful not to say we issued a warning. Any concerns with adjusting the first highlighted line to say:

- On 10 September we notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM
 To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS, WH PRESS**
 Cc: **CIA** [redacted] Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

[redacted]

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM
 To: [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS, WH PRESS**
 Cc: **CIA** [redacted] Shawn S Turner
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

[redacted] I know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits. One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are full coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a

demonstration in front of Embassy CAIRO and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy. (this is ok as changed above...)

- o The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.

- o The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- o The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- o The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM

To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; *NSS, WH PRESS*

Cc: *CIA OCA* Shawn.Turner [REDACTED]

Subject: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

Apoigies for the day.

Please review this revised version:

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012

- o The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- o The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- o Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's

Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.

- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

Thanks,



Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:15 PM
To: [Redacted] OCA
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI talking points

Here's where we stand as of this hour.

Everyone has submitted coordination comments.

The State Department had major reservations with much or most of the document. We revised the document with their concerns in mind. The latest version is below, as sent to State.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:59 PM
To: nulan@v [Redacted]
Cc: STATE PA [Redacted]
Subject: Revised HPSCI talking points

Toria:

We further discussed the HPSCI talking points with your comments and concerns in mind.

The FBI did not have major concerns with the points and offered only a couple of minor suggestions.

Here's the latest version of the points. Please let us know your thoughts ASAP.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012**

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September the Agency notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.
- The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

From: [redacted] *FBI PRESS*
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:19 PM
 To: [redacted] nulandv; [redacted] Thomas F. Vietor; [redacted] Shawn S Turner; [redacted] Benjamin J. Rhodes; [redacted] *NSS PRESS*
 [redacted] *NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA*
 [redacted] Sullivan, J; [redacted] Adams DS; [redacted] *FBI PRESS*
 Cc: [redacted] *CIA OCA*
 Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Just a question- but separate from the FBI concerns, has DOJ, provided input? They will have to deal with the the prosecution and related legal matters surrounding the federal investigation.

From: [redacted]
 To: nulandv; [redacted] <nulandv>; [redacted] Thomas F. Vietor; [redacted] <Thomas_F_Vietor>; Shawn Turner; [redacted] <Shawn.Turner>; Benjamin J. Rhodes; [redacted] <Benjamin_J_Rhodes>; [redacted] *NSS PRESS*
 [redacted] *NSS PRESS, STATE PA* [redacted] Sullivan, J
 <Sullivan, J>; [redacted] Adams DS; [redacted] <Adams DS>; [redacted] *FBI PRESS*
 [redacted] *CIA OCA*

Sent: Fri Sep 14 19:52:25 2012
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

On that very issue, Toria, we are waiting to hear back from the Bureau. [redacted]

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:nulandv]; [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM
 To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [redacted]; Shawn S Turner; [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S
 [redacted] *NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA*
 Cc: [redacted] *CIA OCA*
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I just had a convo with [redacted] and I now understand that these are being prepared to give to Members of Congress to use with the media.

On that basis, I have serious concerns about all the parts highlighted below, and arming members of Congress to start making assertions to the media that we ourselves are not making because we don't want to prejudice the investigation:

In same vein, why do we want Hill to be fingering Ansar al Sharia, when we aren't doing that ourselves until we have investigation results... and the penultimate point could be abused by Members to beat the State Department for not paying attention to Agency warnings so why do we want to feed that either? Concerned...

Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

[Redacted]
 From: Nuland, Victoria J [nulanov]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:24 PM
 To: [Redacted]
 Cc: STATE PR [Redacted]
 Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI talking points

These don't resolve all my issues or those of my building leadership. They are consulting w NSS.

From: [Redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:58 PM
 To: Nuland, Victoria J
 Cc: STATE PR [Redacted]
 Subject: Revised HPSCI talking points

Toria:

We further discussed the HPSCI talking points with your comments and concerns in mind.

The FBI did not have major concerns with the points and offered only a couple of minor suggestions.

Here's the latest version of the points. Please let us know your thoughts ASAP.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
 14 September 2012**

- o The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September the Agency notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.
- o The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- o The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- o The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.

STATE STAFF ASST.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:24 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Fw: Revised HPSCI taking points

Fysa

From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:23 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: State PA ; [Redacted]
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI taking points

These don't resolve all my issues or those of my building leadership. They are consulting w NSS.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:58 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J
Cc: State PA ; [Redacted]
Subject: Revised HPSCI taking points

Toria:

We further discussed the HPSCI talking points with your comments and concerns in mind.

The FBI did not have major concerns with the points and offered only a couple of minor suggestions.

Here's the latest version of the points. Please let us know your thoughts ASAP.

Thanks,



**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012**

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September the Agency notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.
- The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.



Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

[Redacted]

From: Sullivan, Jacob J [Sullivan, J.]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:25 PM
 To: Adams, David S; Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [Redacted] Shawn S
 Turner; [Redacted] Benjamin J. Rhodes
 NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA,
 CIA OCA
 Cc: [Redacted]
 Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I spoke with Tommy. We'll work through this in the morning and get comments back.

From: Adams, David S
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:38 PM
 To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [Redacted] Shawn Turner [Redacted]
 <Shawn.Turner@state.gov> [Redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.
 <Benjamin.J.Rhodes@state.gov> [Redacted] NSS PRESS
 NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA [Redacted] Sullivan, Jacob
 Cc: [Redacted] CIA OCA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I'm with Toria. The last bullet especially will read to members like we had been repeatedly warned.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM
 To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary [Redacted] Shawn Turner [Redacted]
 Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [Redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA [Redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J;
 Adams, David S
 Cc: [Redacted] CIA OCA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I just had a convo with [Redacted] and I now understand that these are being prepared to give to Members of Congress to use with the media.

On that basis, I have serious concerns about all the parts highlighted below, and arming members of Congress to start making assertions to the media that we ourselves are not making because we don't want to prejudice the investigation.

In same vein, why do we want Hill to be fingering Ansar al-Sharia, when we aren't doing that ourselves until we have investigation results... and the penultimate point could be abused by Members to beat the State Department for not paying attention to Agency warnings. so why do we want to feed that either? Concerned...

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

..is email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Victor, Tommy (Thomas F. Victor [redacted])
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:26 PM
 To: FBI PRESS [redacted] nulanv [redacted] Shawn S Turner;
 Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS [redacted]
 WH PRESS STATE PA [redacted] Sullivan J. [redacted]
 Adams DS [redacted] FBI PRESS [redacted]
 CIA OCA [redacted]
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review.

Given the DOJ equities and States desire to run some traps, safe to assume we can hold on this until tomorrow?

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

From: FBI PRESS [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:19 PM Eastern Standard Time
 To: nulanv [redacted] Victor, Tommy; Shawn Turner [redacted]
 Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA [redacted]
 Sullivan J [redacted] Adams DS [redacted] FBI PRESS [redacted]
 Cc: CIA OCA [redacted]
 Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Just a question- but separate from the FBI concerns, has DOJ provided input? They will have to deal with the the prosecution and related legal matters surrounding the federal investigation.

From: [redacted]
 To: nulanv [redacted] <nulanv [redacted]> Thomas F. Victor [redacted] Thomas F. Victor [redacted]
 Shawn Turner [redacted] <Shawn.Turner [redacted]>
 Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted] Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted] NSS PRESS [redacted]
 NSS PRESS [redacted] Sullivan J [redacted]
 WH PRESS STATE PA [redacted]
 <Sullivan J [redacted]> Adams DS [redacted] Adams DS [redacted] FBI PRESS [redacted]
 CIA OCA [redacted]
 Sent: Fri Sep 14 19:52:25 2012
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

On that very issue, Toria, we are waiting to hear back from the Bureau. [redacted]

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:nulanv [redacted]]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM
 To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Shawn S Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
 NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA [redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S
 CIA OCA [redacted]
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review.

I just had a convo with [redacted] and I now understand that these are being prepared to give to Members of Congress to use with the media.

Sullivan, Jacob J

From: Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:32 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI taking points

Talked to Tommy - we can make edits.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:23 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Fw: Revised HPSCI taking points

Fysa

From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:23 PM
To: [Redacted]
C: STATE PA [Redacted]
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI taking points

These don't resolve all my issues or those of my building leadership. They are consulting w NSS.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:58 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J [Redacted]
Cc: STATE PA [Redacted]
Subject: Revised HPSCI taking points

Toria:

We further discussed the HPSCI talking points with your comments and concerns in mind.
The FBI did not have major concerns with the points and offered only a couple of minor suggestions.
Here's the latest version of the points. Please let us know your thoughts ASAP.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September the Agency

notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.

- The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

[Redacted]

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

[Redacted]

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. (Benjamin J. Rhodes [Redacted])
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:34 PM
To: Viator, Tommy; FBI PRESS; [Redacted]; NulandVJ; Shawn S Turner; [Redacted]; NSS PRESS; WH PRESS; STATE PR; Sullivan; AdamsDS; [Redacted]; FBI PRESS; CIA OCA

Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

All -

Sorry to be late to this discussion. We need to resolve this in a way that respects all of the relevant equities, particularly the investigation.

There is a ton of wrong information getting out into the public domain from Congress and people who are not particularly informed. Insofar as we have firmed up assessments that don't compromise intel or the investigation, we need to have the capability to correct the record, as there are significant policy and messaging ramifications that would flow from a hardened mis-impression.

We can take this up tomorrow morning at deputies.

From: Viator, Tommy
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:26 PM
To: FBI PRESS; [Redacted]; NulandVJ; <nulandvj>; Shawn Turner; <Shawn.Turner>; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS; WH PRESS; Sullivan; STATE PA; Sullivan; AdamsDS; AdamsDS; FBI PRESS; FBI PRESS; CIA OCA

Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Given the DOJ equities and States desire to run some traps, safe to assume we can hold on this until tomorrow?

Original Message:
From: FBI PRESS
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:19 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: NulandVJ; Viator, Tommy; Shawn Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS; WH PRESS; STATE PA; Sullivan; AdamsDS; FBI PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Just a question- but separate from the FBI concerns, has DOJ provided input? They will have to deal with the the prosecution and related legal matters surrounding the federal investigation.

From: [redacted]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:36 PM
 To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy; FBI PRESS; NulandVJ; Shawn S Turner; STATE PA; SullivanJ; AdamsDS; FBI PRESS; CIA/CSA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks, Ben. Looping in [redacted]

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin_J_Rhodes@state.gov]
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:34 PM
 To: Vietor, Tommy; FBI PRESS; NulandVJ; Shawn S Turner; AdamsDS; STATE PA; SullivanJ; FBI PRESS
 Cc: CIA/CSA
 Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

All -

Sorry to be late to this discussion. We need to resolve this in a way that respects all of the relevant equities, particularly the investigation.

There is a ton of wrong information getting out into the public domain from Congress and people who are not particularly informed. Insofar as we have firmed up assessments that don't compromise intel or the investigation, we need to have the capability to correct the record, as there are significant policy and messaging ramifications that would flow from a hardened mis-impression.

We can take this up tomorrow morning at deputies.

From: Vietor, Tommy
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:26 PM
 To: FBI PRESS; NulandVJ; Shawn.Turner; Shawn.Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS; WJH PRESS; STATE PA; SullivanJ; AdamsDS; AdamsDS; FBI PRESS; FBI PRESS, CIA/CSA
 Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Given the DOJ equities and States desire to run some traps, safe to assume we can hold on this until tomorrow?

Original Message

From: FBI PRESS
 Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:19 PM Eastern Standard Time
 To: NulandVJ; Vietor, Tommy; Shawn.Turner

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] OCA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:43 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI talking points

Thanks [Redacted] Fyi FBI says AQ (not AQIM) was involved and they are pursuing that theory.

So we are not ahead of law enforcement how;

So are cleared to send to congress?

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:14 PM
To: [Redacted] OCA
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI talking points

Here's where we stand as of this hour.

Everyone has submitted coordination comments.

The State Department had major reservations with much or most of the document. We revised the document with their concerns in mind. The latest version is below, as sent to State.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:59 PM
To: pulandvi
Cc: STATE PA
Subject: Revised HPSCI talking points

Toria:

We further discussed the HPSCI talking points with your comments and concerns in mind.

The FBI did not have major concerns with the points and offered only a couple of minor suggestions.

Here's the latest version of the points. Please let us know your thoughts ASAP.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012**

The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:52 PM
To: [Redacted]
cc: [Redacted] *CLC*
Subject: Draft Note for Director on HPSCI TPs

[Redacted] Here's a draft note to the DIRECTOR

Sir - We've tried to work the draft talking points for HPSCI through the coordination process but have run into major problems. Perhaps as a result of the afternoon teleconference, a number of agencies have been looped in. The White House cleared quickly, but State has major concerns. The Bureau cleared with a few comments but asked that Justice, which would handle any criminal prosecution, be brought in. It is evident that will not happen tonight, and Ben Rhodes has asked that this issue be reviewed tomorrow morning at the Deputies' meeting.

Additionally, Eric Schmitt of the NYT contacted us to let us know that he had spoken with Rep. Ruppertsberger, who had given him a readout of your session.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:53 PM
To: OCA, [Redacted]
Cc: CIA OSA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI talking points

Nope

From: OCA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:43 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: CIA OSA
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI talking points

Thanks [Redacted] Fyi FBI says AQ (not AQIM) was involved and they are pursuing that theory.

So we are not ahead of law enforcement now.

So are cleared to send to congress?

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:14 PM
To: [Redacted] OCA
Cc: CIA OSA
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI talking points

Here's where we stand as of this hour.

Everyone has submitted coordination comments.

The State Department had major reservations with much or most of the document. We revised the document with their concerns in mind. The latest version is below, as sent to State.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:59 PM
To: nufandv [Redacted]
Cc: STATE PA [Redacted]
Subject: Revised HPSCI talking points

Toria:

We further discussed the HPSCI talking points with your comments and concerns in mind.

The FBI did not have major concerns with the points and offered only a couple of minor suggestions.

Here's the latest version of the points. Please let us know your thoughts ASAP.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 10:22 PM
To: [Redacted] FO
Cc: [Redacted] FO
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI taking points

FO - attached below is the latest version of the HPSCI talkers. I will send you another email chain with Ben Rhodes' comment. Cheers, [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:53 PM
To: OCA [Redacted]
Cc: EIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI taking points

Nope

From: OCA [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:43 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: EIA OCA
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI taking points

Thanks [Redacted] Fyi FBI says AQ (not AQIM) was involved and they are pursuing that theory.

so we are not ahead of law enforcement now.

So are cleared to send to congress?

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:14 PM
To: [Redacted] OCA
Cc: EIA OCA
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI taking points

Here's where we stand as of this hour.

Everyone has submitted coordination comments.

The State Department had major reservations with much or most of the document. We revised the document with their concerns in mind. The latest version is below, as sent to State.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:59 PM
To: nulanv [Redacted]
Cc: STATE PA [Redacted]
Subject: Revised HPSCI taking points

Toria:

We further discussed the HPSCI talking points with your comments and concerns in mind.

The FBI did not have major concerns with the points and offered only a couple of minor suggestions.

Here's the latest version of the points. Please let us know your thoughts ASAP.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012**

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September the Agency notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.
- The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

[Redacted]
Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

[Redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media

14 September 2012.

① The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. ^② This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September the Agency notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.

③ The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.

- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.

and
 The US Government is working with Libyan authorities ~~and intelligence partners~~ in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

- NCS
- DI

MICHAEL
 MOREAU

- Robert Cordillo
- Alan Piro
- Matt Olson
- Jake Sullivan
- Marc Guiliano
- Lisa Monaco

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED



From: [Redacted] Subject: Fw: DDCIA tasking - IMMEDIATE - by 1100 today
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis(9/15) - coord on TPs for HPSCI
To: [Redacted]
Date: 11/21/2012 01:47 PM

This message is digitally signed.

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis

Just to complete the loop.

— Forwarded by [Redacted] on 11/21/2012 01:45 PM —

From: [Redacted]
To: [Redacted] *DI, NE*
Cc: [Redacted]
Date: 09/15/2012 08:49 AM
Subject: Re: Fw: DDCIA tasking - IMMEDIATE - by 1100 today (9/15) - coord on TPs for HPSCI

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

They are fine with me. But, pretty sure HPSCI won't like them. :-)

[Redacted]
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis

[Redacted] *DI* Classification: UNCLASSIFIED ===== 09/15/2012 09:47:46 AM

From: [Redacted] *DI*
To: [Redacted] *NE*
Cc: [Redacted] *DI*
Date: 09/15/2012 09:47 AM
Subject: Fw: DDCIA tasking - IMMEDIATE - by 1100 today (9/15) - coord on TPs for HPSCI

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Hi,
Please let us know if you have any comments by 10:30.
Thanks!

UNCLASSIFIED

64

64

UNCLASSIFIED

DI
Executive Assistant to the DI Front Office

[Redacted]

Forwarded by DI on 09/15/2012 09:46 AM

From: DDCIA-FO
To: NCS, FO
Cc: NCS
DI, NCS

Date: 09/15/2012 09:45 AM
Subject: DDCIA tasking - IMMEDIATE - by 1100 today (9/15) - coord on TPs for HPSCI

DDCIA requests right away internal coordination on the enclosed unclass TPs for HPSCI. Please respond ASAP.

Thanks,
DDCIA-FO

UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media

14 September 2012

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex.
- This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.
- The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

=====
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

=====
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

=====
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

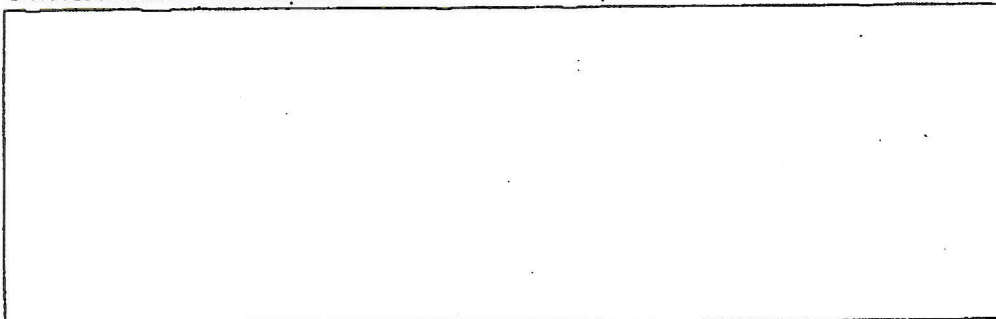


From: Matthew G. Olsen . Subject: [AIN] FW: Unclassified Talking Points
Date: 09/15/2012 11:09 AM To: MICHAJEJM

Please respond to "Matthew G. Olsen"

History: This message has been forwarded.

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



Michael -- TPs sent to Ruppertsberger from ODNI leg.

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

From: NCTC/OLA
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 10:51 AM
To: Nicholas J Rasmussen; Matthew G. Olsen
Cc: NCTC
Subject: Unclassified Talking Points

Sirs - Here is what we sent Heather Molino (Ruppertsberger)

It's very early, less than 72 hours since the attack. So there is a lot we don't know.

As time progresses, we are learning more, but we still don't have a complete picture of what happened. Fortunately we have the FBI leading the investigation of the attack. Regrettably they have all too much experience in these matters.

At this point, we are not aware of any actionable intelligence that this attack was planned or imminent. The intelligence community is combing through reporting from before and after the attack to determine the full extent of who was involved.

Libya is awash in weapons - unconventional weapons were stored in unsecured locations across the country. Following the revolution, there are still many

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

well-armed militia remaining.

Since the revolution, we have some indicators al-Qa'ida and other groups are seeking to establish a presence in Libya. Remember some senior al-Qa'ida members such as Abu Yahya al-Libi came from Libya.

We are very cautious about drawing any firm conclusions at this point with regard to the identification and motivation of the attackers. The IC is working aggressively to this end, and the FBI will continue its investigation.

Unrest in the Middle East creates a permissive environment for terrorists. In the days and weeks ahead, we need to be especially vigilant in protecting our people.

AICTE/OLA
Legislative Liaison
Office of the Director
of National Intelligence



UNCLASSIFIED

68

68

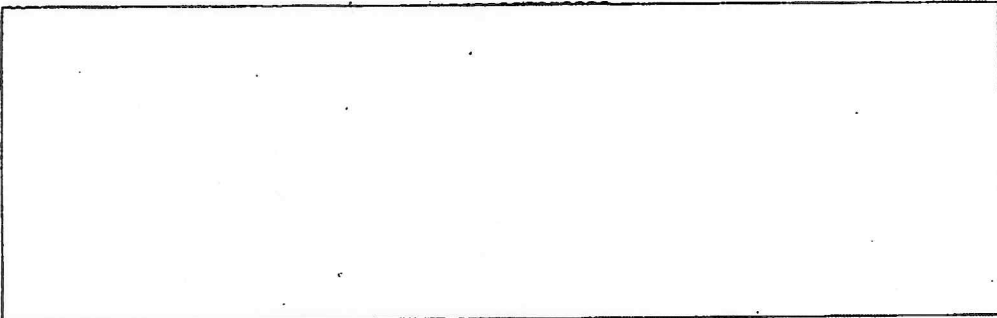
UNCLASSIFIED



From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. Subject: [A/N] RE: [redacted]
 Date: 09/15/2012 11:12 AM To: 'michaejm [redacted] Robert Cardillo [redacted]
 alanr [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]
 sullivan [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted]
 Cc: [redacted]
 [redacted] Fo [redacted]

Please respond to "Rhodes, Benjamin J."

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



This is good by me.

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

From: michaejm [redacted] (mailto:michaejm [redacted])
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
 To: Robert Cardillo [redacted] alanr [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]
 sullivan [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
 jcinrl [redacted]; lisa.mohacc [redacted]
 Cc: [redacted] Fo [redacted]
 Subject: [redacted]

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED



From: Matthew G. Olsen
Date: 09/15/2012 11:15 AM

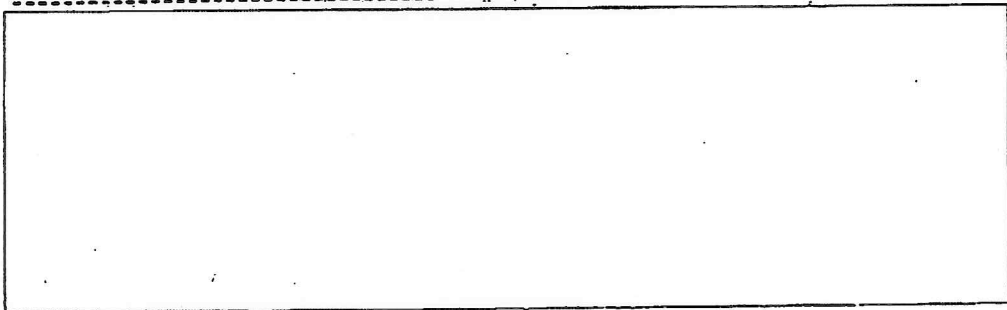
Subject: [AIN] RE:

To: Rhodes, Benjamin L. MICHAELM, Robert Cardillo-Alan
R Pine [redacted] mark.g. [redacted]
jclngli [redacted] lisa.monaco [redacted]

Cc: [redacted] FO

Please respond to "Matthew G. Olsen"

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



Michael -- This looks good to me.

-Matt

These are the points that ONDI leg sent to Ruppertsberger yesterday afternoon based on his request:

It's very early, less than 72 hours since the attack. So there is a lot we don't know.

As time progresses, we are learning more, but we still don't have a complete picture of what happened. Fortunately we have the FBI leading the investigation of the attack. Regrettably they have all too much experience in these matters.

At this point, we are not aware of any actionable intelligence that this attack was planned or imminent. The intelligence community is combing through reporting from before and after the attack to determine the full extent of who was involved.

Libya is awash in weapons - unconventional weapons were stored in unsecured locations across the country. Following the revolution, there are still many well-armed militia remaining.

Since the revolution, we have some indicators al-Qa'ida and other groups are seeking to establish a presence in Libya. Remember some senior al-Qa'ida members such as Abu Yahya al-Libi came from Libya.

We are very cautious about drawing any firm conclusions at this point with regard to the identification and motivation of the attackers. The IC is

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

working aggressively to this end, and the FBI will continue its investigation.

Unrest in the Middle East creates a permissive environment for terrorists. In the days and weeks ahead, we need to be especially vigilant in protecting our people.

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

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin.J.Rhodes [redacted]]
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM
 To: MICHAELJM; Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen;
 sullivanjj [redacted]; mark.giuliano [redacted]; jcingl [redacted];
 lisa.monac [redacted]
 Cc: [redacted] Fo [redacted]
 Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

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

From: michaeljm [redacted] [mailto:michaeljm [redacted]]
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
 To: Robert Cardillo [redacted]; alanrp [redacted]; matt.olsen [redacted];
 sullivanjj [redacted]; mark.giuliano [redacted]; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
 jcingl [redacted]; lisa.monac [redacted]
 Cc: [redacted] Fo [redacted]
 Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

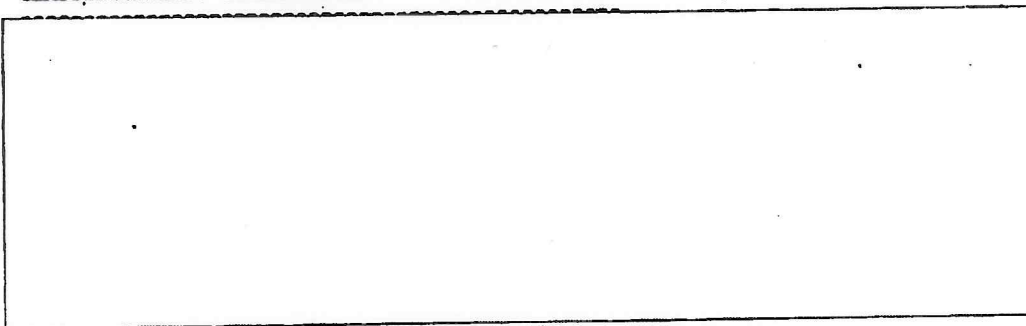
UNCLASSIFIED



From: Matthew G. Olsen
 Date: 09/15/2012 11:16 AM
 Subject: [A/N] RE:
 To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; MICHAEL M.; Robert Cardillo, Alan R. Pino; sullivanj; mark.giuliano; jcingli; lisa.monaco; Mark Giuliano
 Cc: [redacted] fo [redacted]

Please respond to "Matthew G. Olsen"

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



Adding the correct email for Giuliano.

-----Original Message-----
 From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin.J.Rhodes@redacted]
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM
 To: MICHAEL M.; Robert Cardillo; Alan R. Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; sullivanj; mark.giuliano; jcingli
 lisa.monaco
 Cc: [redacted] fo [redacted]
 Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

-----Original Message-----
 From: michaelm [mailto:michaelm@redacted]
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
 To: Robert Cardillo; alanrp; matt.olsen; sullivanj; mark.giuliano; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; jcingli; lisa.monaco
 Cc: [redacted] fo [redacted]
 Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

UNCLASSIFIED

72

72

UNCLASSIFIED

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

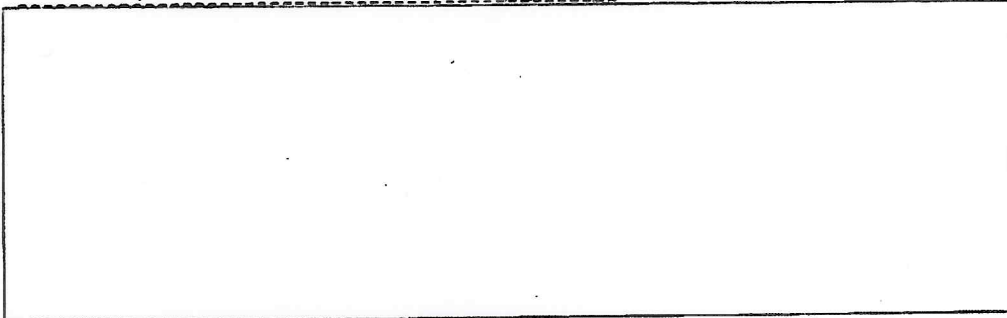
UNCLASSIFIED



From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. Subject: [AIN] RE:
 Date: 09/15/2012 11:25 AM To: 'michael [redacted] Robert.Cerdillo [redacted]
 alanr [redacted] matt.olser [redacted]
 sullivan [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted]
 Cc: [redacted]
 [redacted] Fo [redacted]

Please respond to "Rhodes, Benjamin J."

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



One edit for accuracy:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US (cut: Consulate) diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

-----Original Message-----
 From: michael [redacted] [mailto:michael [redacted]]
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
 To: Robert.Cerdillo [redacted] alanr [redacted] matt.olser [redacted]
 sullivan [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
 jcinola [redacted] lisa.monack [redacted]
 Cc: [redacted] Fo [redacted]
 Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

75

75

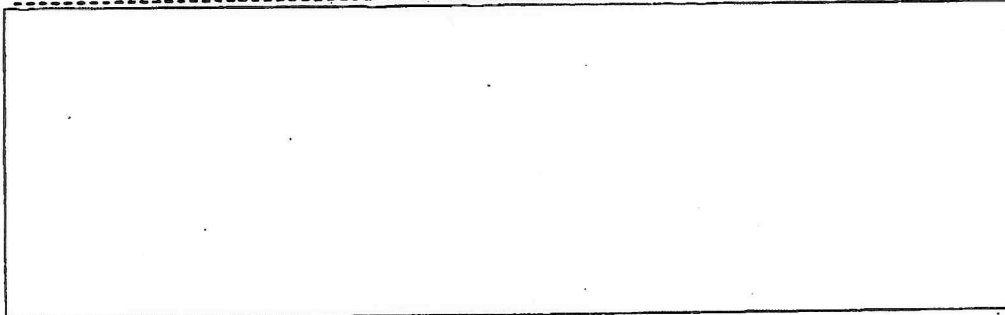
UNCLASSIFIED



From: Sullivan, Jacob J Subject: [AIN] RE:
Date: 09/15/2012 11:26 AM To: Rhodes, Benjamin J., michaejm, Robert Cardillo, alanrp,
matt.olsen, mark.giuliano, jcingli, isa.monaco
Cc: [redacted] Fo [redacted]

Please respond to "Sullivan,
Jacob J"

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



This looks good. Two small edits:

1. We call it "the US mission" or the "US diplomatic post" because it is not actually a Consulate.
2. There is a missing "of" in the third t/c.

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

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin.J._Rhodes@redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM
To: 'michaejm@redacted'; Robert.Cardillo@redacted alanrp@redacted
matt.olsen@redacted Sullivan, Jacob J; mark.giuliano@redacted
jcingli@redacted isa.monaco@redacted
Cc: [redacted] Fo [redacted]

Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

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

From: michaejm@redacted [mailto:michaejm@redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert.Cardillo@redacted alanrp@redacted matt.olsen@redacted
sullivanj@redacted mark.giuliano@redacted Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
jcingli@redacted isa.monaco@redacted
Cc: [redacted] Fo [redacted]

Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

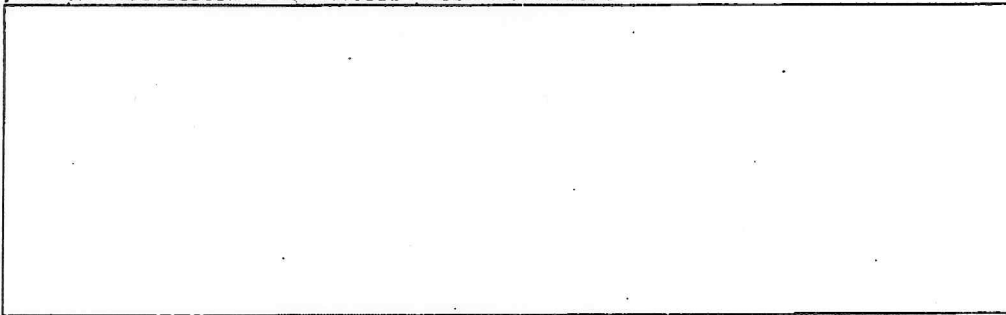
UNCLASSIFIED



From: Monaco, Lisa (NSD) Subject: [AIN] RE:
 Date: 09/15/2012 11:46 AM To: michael [redacted] Robert Cardillo [redacted]
 alanr [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]
 sullivan [redacted] mark.guanti [redacted]
 Cc: [redacted]
 FO [redacted]

Please respond to "Monaco, Lisa (NSD)"

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



Michael - DOJ and FBI are ok with these. Thanks

-----Original Message-----
 From: michael [redacted] (mailto:michael [redacted])
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
 To: Robert Cardillo [redacted] alanr [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]
 sullivan [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted] Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted]
 jcingli [redacted] Monaco, Lisa (NSD)
 Cc: [redacted] FO [redacted]
 Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED



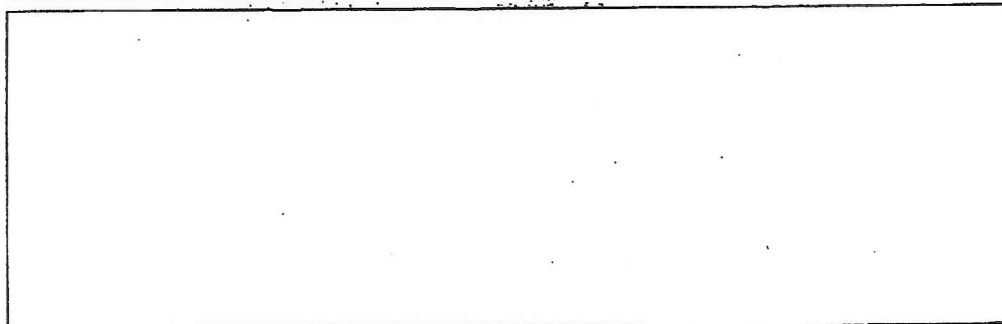
From: Inglis, John C.
Date: 09/15/2012 11:58 AM

Subject: [A]N[RE]:
To: Sullivan, Jacob J.; Rhodes, Benjamin J.
michaelm [redacted] Robert Cardillo
alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]
[redacted] Fo [redacted] "Inglis, John C.", "Fleisch,"

Please respond to "Inglis, John C."

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



NSA concurs with the content and cast of the bullets. Thanks for the chance to review.

Chris Inglis

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

From: michaelm [redacted] (mailto:michaelm [redacted])
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert Cardillo [redacted] alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]
sullivanj [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
jcinola [redacted] isa.monaco [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] Fo [redacted]

Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM
To: MICHAELJM
Cc: [Redacted] FO [Redacted]
Subject: Re: [Redacted]

Michael,
Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

V/r
[Redacted]

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

From: MICHAELJM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj' [Redacted]
<sullivanj [Redacted] 'mark.giuliano [Redacted] <mark.giuliano [Redacted]
'Benjamin J. Rhodes [Redacted] <Benjamin.J.Rhodes [Redacted] 'jcingli [Redacted]
<jcingli [Redacted] 'lisa.monacc [Redacted] <lisa.monacc [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] FO [Redacted]
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM
To: [Redacted] MICHAELJM
Cc: [Redacted] FO [Redacted]
Subject: Re: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Before going to the committees, may I please ask you to send these to the Director? He needs to know in advance what is going to the Hill in his name, even if it going with the force of full interagency coordination.

Cheers, [Redacted]
Cheers, [Redacted]

----- Original Message -----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:02 PM
To: MICHAELJM
Cc: [Redacted] FO [Redacted]
Subject: Re: [Redacted]

Michael,
Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

[Redacted]

----- Original Message -----
From: MICHAELJM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Oisen; 'sullivanj' [Redacted]
<sullivanj [Redacted]> 'mark.giuliano' [Redacted] <mark.giuliano [Redacted]>
'Benjamin J. Rhodes' [Redacted] <Benjamin.J.Rhodes [Redacted]> 'jcingli' [Redacted]
<jcingli [Redacted]> 'lisa.monaco' [Redacted] <lisa.monaco [Redacted]>
Cc: [Redacted] FO [Redacted]
Subject: [Redacted]

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

-The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

[Redacted]
 From: [Redacted]
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:14 PM
 To: MICHAELM
 Cc: FO [Redacted]
 Subject: RE: [Redacted]

Here's where we are with the tweaks after tweaks from Ben and Jake:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

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

From: [Redacted]
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM
 To: MICHAELM
 Cc: [Redacted] FO [Redacted]
 Subject: Re: [Redacted]

Michael,
 Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

V/r

[Redacted]

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

From: MICHAELM
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
 To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj1' [Redacted]
 <sullivanj1 [Redacted]> 'mark.giuliano' [Redacted] <mark.giuliano [Redacted]>
 'Benjamin J. Rhodes' [Redacted] <Benjamin.J.Rhodes [Redacted]> 'jcingli' [Redacted]
 <jcingli [Redacted]> 'lisa.monaco' [Redacted] <lisa.monaco [Redacted]>
 Cc: [Redacted] FO [Redacted]
 Subject: [Redacted]

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TP's for MPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

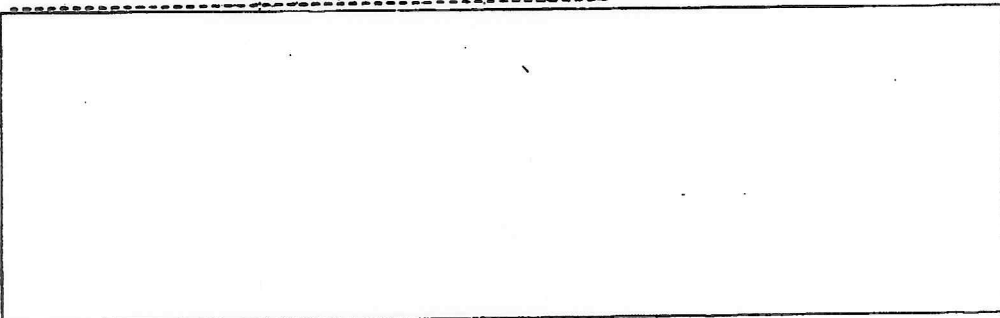
--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED



From: Robert Cardillo
Date: 09/15/2012 12:24 PM
Subject: [AIN] Re:
Te: MICHAELJM; Alan R. Pino.
Please respond to Robert Cardillo.

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



I am, Michael.

----- Original Message -----
From: MICHAELJM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:20 PM
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R. Pino.
Subject: Fw:

Robert, Alan--Everyone else has coordinated and HPSCI is waiting not so patiently. Are you guys good? Michael

----- Original Message -----
From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM
To: MICHAELJM
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE:

Here's where we are with the tweaks after tweaks from Ben and Jake:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

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

From: [REDACTED]
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM
 To: MICHAELJM
 Cc: [REDACTED]
 Subject: Re:

Michael,

Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

V/r

[REDACTED]

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

From: MICHAELJM
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
 To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj'; [REDACTED]
 <sullivanj>; 'mark.giulian'; [REDACTED] <mark.giulian>;
 'Benjamin J. Rhodes'; [REDACTED] <Benjamin J. Rhodes>;
 'jcingli'; [REDACTED] <jcingli>; 'lisa.monacc'; [REDACTED]
 <lisa.monacc>;
 Cc: [REDACTED] Fo [REDACTED]
 Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HESCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

85

85

UNCLASSIFIED

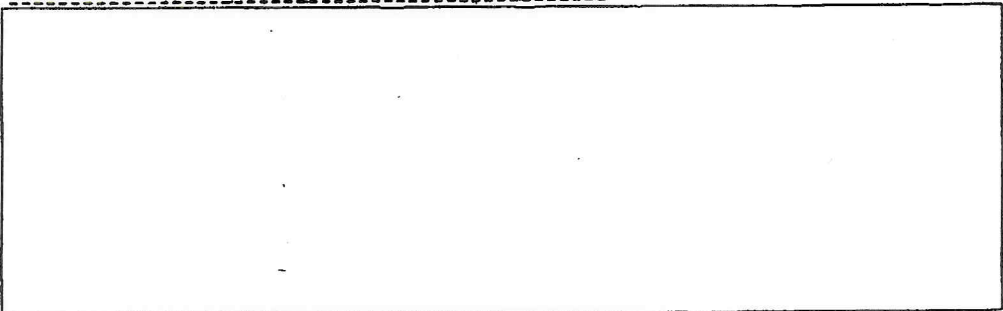


From: FO
Date: 09/15/2012 12:32 PM

Subject: [AIN] RE:
To: MICHAELM
Cc: [redacted]

Please respond to
FO

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



This is to confirm in writing: I just spoke with Alan on the phone. Allen said he concurred with the TPs.

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

From: MICHAELM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:19 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: FO [redacted]
Subject: Re:

Thanks. I will bug Robert and Alan.

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

From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM
To: MICHAELM
Cc: FO [redacted]
Subject: RK:

Here's where we are with the tweaks after tweaks from Ben and Jake:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

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

From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM
To: MICHAELJM
Cc: [redacted] FO [redacted]
Subject: Re:

Michael,
Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

V/r

[redacted]

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

From: MICHAELJM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj' [redacted]
<sullivanj' [redacted] 'mark.giuliano' [redacted] <mark.giuliano' [redacted]
'Benjamin J. Rhodes' [redacted] <Benjamin.J.Rhodes' [redacted]
'jcingli' [redacted] <jcingli' [redacted] 'lisa.monaco' [redacted]
<lisa.monaco' [redacted] FO [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

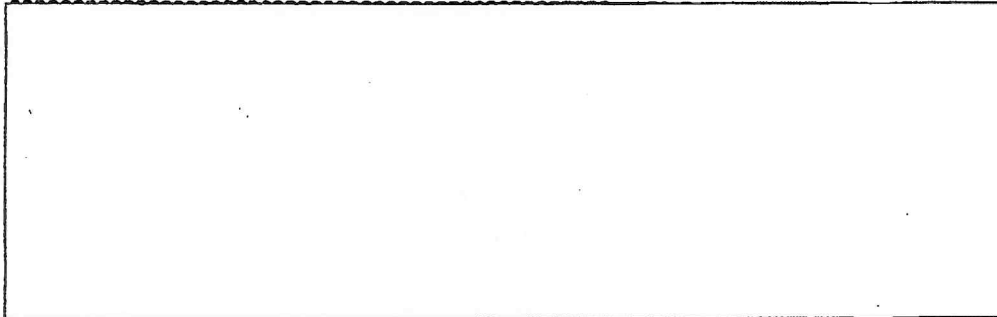
UNCLASSIFIED



From: [redacted] Subject: [AIN] Re:
Date: 09/15/2012 12:43 PM To: MICHAELJM

Please respond to
[redacted]

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



Copy...on it.

----- Original Message -----
From: MICHAELJM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:37 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: FO [redacted]
Subject: Re:

[redacted] everyone has coordinated. [redacted] has captured the changes below. Please run the points by the Director, then get them to HPSCI. I spoke to the Director earlier about State's deep concerns about mentioning the warnings and the other work done on this, but you will want to reemphasize in your note to DCIA. Thanks. Michael

----- Original Message -----
From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM
To: MICHAELJM
Cc: FO [redacted]
Subject: RE:

Here's where we are with the tweaks after tweaks from Ben and Jake:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

citizens.

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

From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM
To: MICHAELJM
Cc: [redacted] Fo [redacted]
Subject: Re:

Michael,

Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

V/r

[redacted]

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

From: MICHAELJM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj' [redacted]
<sullivanj [redacted] 'mark.giuliano [redacted] <mark.giuliano [redacted]
'Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted] <Benjamin.J.Rhodes [redacted]
'jcingli [redacted] <jcingli [redacted] 'lisa.monaco [redacted]
<lisa.monaco [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] Fo [redacted]
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

UNCLASSIFIED

Sullivan, Jacob J

From: Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:44 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

[redacted]
From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:51 PM
To: DAVIDHP74
Cc: MICHAELM; [redacted] *DDCA/OS, FO* [redacted] *OCA*
Subject: Hill Talking Points

Sir,

Here are the inter agency approved points for the Hill. They were worked through the DC this morning and were then shot out for final approval. As mentioned last night, State had voiced strong concerns with the original text due to the criminal investigation. That said, I understand NSS is working on all members briefing this coming week and these are a good starting point.

With your concurrence we will get them to our oversight committees and to leadership.

V/r,

[redacted]
--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

USUN

From: USUN
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 2:21 PM
To: USUN
Subject: Re: SBU/CLOSEHOLD: 0800 SVTS on Movie Protests/Violence

Please do--I have not reached out.

Best,
USUN

From: USUN
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 02:15 PM
To: USUN
Subject: Re: SBU/CLOSEHOLD: 0800 SVTS on Movie Protests/Violence

I'm going to email Jake on the libya points references below unless either of you are linked in to this effort. Pls let me know.

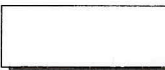
From: USUN
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 01:23 PM
To: Rice, Susan E (USUN); USUN ; DiCarlo, Rosemary A (USUN); USUN
Cc: USUN
Subject: SBU/CLOSEHOLD: 0800 SVTS on Movie Protests/Violence

92

92

Libya:

- **HPSCI request:** Late this week, CIA Director Petraeus gave the HPSCI a "hots spots" briefing and was asked for unclassified talking points that its members could use about incident in Benghazi. (Apparently NCTC Director Matt Olson received a similar committee from a congressional committee.) The first draft apparently seemed unsuitable (based on conversations on the SVTS and afterwards) because they seemed to encourage the reader to infer incorrectly that the CIA had warned about a specific attack on our embassy. On the SVTS, Morell noted that these points were not good and he had taken a heavy editing hand to them. He noted that he would be happy to work with Jake Sullivan and Rhodes to develop appropriate talking points. McDonough, on Rhodes's behalf, deferred to Sullivan. It was agreed that Jake would work closely with the intelligence community (within a small group) to finalize points on Saturday that could be shared with HPSCI. I spoke to Jake immediately after the SVTS and noted that you were doing the Sunday morning shows and would need to be aware of the final posture that these points took. He committed to ensure that we were updated in advance of the Sunday shows. I specifically mentioned USUN as the one coordinating your preparations for the shows and also strongly encouraged him to loop in USUN during the process.



From: DAVIDHP74
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 2:27 PM
 To: [Redacted]
 Cc: MICHAELM; [Redacted] *Draikos, FO* [Redacted] *OCA*
 Subject: RE: Hill Talking Points

No mention of the cable to Cairo, either? Frankly, I'd just as soon not use this, then... NSS's call, to be sure; however, this is certainly not what Vice Chairman Ruppertsberger was hoping to get for unclas. use. Regardless, thx for the great work -

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

From: [Redacted]
 Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:51 PM
 To: DAVIDHP74
 Cc: MICHAELM; [Redacted] *Draikos, FO* [Redacted] *OCA*
 Subject: Hill Talking Points

Sir,

Here are the inter agency approved points for the Hill. They were worked through the DC this morning and were then shot out for final approval. As mentioned last night, State had voiced strong concerns with the original text due to the criminal investigation. That said, I understand NSS is working an all members briefing this coming week and these are a good starting point.

With your concurrence we will get them to our oversight committees and to leadership.

V/c



--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

Sullivan, Jacob J

From: Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 2:44 PM
To: USUN
Cc: USUN
Subject: Re: Libya - Unclass IC pts

Coming your way.

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

From: USUN
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 02:33 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: USUN
Subject: Libya - Unclass IC pts

Jake - understand from USUN that you're working a set of unclass IC pts on libya for the Hill. If these are going to be finalized by Sunday am (or COB today), can we get a copy for Susan to ensure we're on the same msg? Happy to have USUN work with whomever on the State team is handling this, unless it's you - in which case happy to get them directly. Whatever is easiest.

Many thx.

USUN

Sullivan, Jacob J

From: Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 2:44 PM
To: USUN
Subject: Fw:

Check out the below. You and USUN should confirm w Ben that Susan can deploy tomorrow.

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

From: Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:26 AM
To: 'Rhodes, Benjamin J.' <Benjamin.J.Rhodes@state.gov>; 'michaelj@state.gov'; alanr@state.gov
<michaelj@state.gov>; Robert.Cardillo@state.gov <Robert.Cardillo@state.gov>; mark.giuliano@state.gov
<alanr@state.gov>; matt.olser@state.gov <matt.olser@state.gov>; lisa.monaco@state.gov
<mark.giuliano@state.gov>; jcingli@state.gov <jcingli@state.gov>; lisa.monaco@state.gov
<lisa.monaco@state.gov>
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: FD

This looks good. Two small edits:

1. We call it "the US mission" or the "US diplomatic post" because it is not actually a Consulate.
2. There is a missing "of" in the third tic.

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

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin.J.Rhodes@state.gov]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM
To: 'michaelj@state.gov'; Robert.Cardillo@state.gov; alanr@state.gov; matt.olser@state.gov
Sullivan, Jacob J; mark.giuliano@state.gov; jcingli@state.gov; lisa.monaco@state.gov
Cc: [redacted] FO
Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

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

From: michaelj@state.gov [mailto:michaelj@state.gov]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert.Cardillo@state.gov; alanr@state.gov; matt.olser@state.gov; sullivanj@state.gov
mark.giuliano@state.gov; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; jcingli@state.gov; lisa.monaco@state.gov
Cc: [redacted] FO
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 3:09 PM
To: MICHAELJ;
Cc: FO [Redacted]
Subject: Re: [Redacted]

The email has been sent to the Hill.

V/r

[Redacted]

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

From: MICHAELJ
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:37 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: FO [Redacted]
Subject: Re: [Redacted]

[Redacted] everyone has coordinated. [Redacted] has captured the changes below. Please run the points by the Director, then get them to HPSCI. I spoke to the Director earlier about State's deep concerns about mentioning the warnings and the other work done on this, but you will want to reemphasize in your note to DCIA. Thanks. Michael

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

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM
To: [Redacted] MICHAELJ
Cc: FO [Redacted]
Subject: RE: [Redacted]

Here's where we are with the tweaks after tweaks from Ben and Jake:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

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

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM
To: MICHAELJ
Cc: [Redacted] FO [Redacted]
Subject: Re: [Redacted]

Michael,

USUN

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [Benjamin J. Rhodes]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 7:12 PM
To: USUN NSC Deputy Press Secretary
Subject: Re:

Yup

From: USUN
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 05:59 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy
Subject: FW:

Is this the final language you want to use on Benghazi? Have short window to get her something on paper soon.

----- Original Message -----
From: Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 02:43 PM
To: USUN
Subject: Fw:

Check out the below. You and vsm should confirm w Ben that Susan can deploy tomorrow.

----- Original Message -----
From: Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:26 AM
To: 'Rhodes, Benjamin J.' <Benjamin.J.Rhodes>; 'michaelj' <michaelj>; Robert Cardillo <Robert.Cardillo>; alanrp <alanrp>; matt.olsen <matt.olsen>; mark.giuliano <mark.giuliano>; jcingli <jcingli>; lisa.monacc <lisa.monacc>
Cc:
Subject: RE:

This looks good. Two small edits:

- 1. We call it "the US mission" or the "US diplomatic post" because it is not actually a Consulate.
2. There is a missing "of" in the third tic.

-----Original Message-----
From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin.J.Rhodes]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM
To: 'michaelj'; Robert.Cardillo; alanrp; matt.olsen; Sullivan, Jacob J; mark.giuliano; jcingli; lisa.monacc
Cc:
Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

-----Original Message-----
From: michaelj [mailto:michaelj]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert.Cardillo; alanrp; matt.olsen; sullivanj; mark.giuliano; Rhodes,