



**Results of Interviews Conducted by the
House Select Committee on Benghazi:**

**No Evidence to Support Top Republican
Allegations About Secretary Hillary Clinton**

Democratic Staff Report

**Select Committee on the Events Surrounding the 2012 Terrorist Attack in Benghazi
Ranking Member Elijah E. Cummings**

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democrats.benghazi.house.gov

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report has been prepared on behalf of the Democratic Members of the House Select Committee on Benghazi to summarize the results of 54 transcribed interviews and depositions conducted by the Select Committee.

The report concludes that none of the witnesses substantiated repeated claims that Republican Members of Congress and presidential candidates have been making about former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for the past three years relating to the attacks in Benghazi.

The report also releases key excerpts from unclassified interviews conducted by the Select Committee and calls on Chairman Trey Gowdy to release the full transcripts of all interviews and depositions conducted to date, consistent with classification guidelines.

Finally, the report provides additional information about Secretary Clinton's actions during and after the attacks.

Politicization of Benghazi Select Committee

When Republican Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy admitted on national television that Republicans have been using millions of taxpayer dollars to damage Secretary Clinton's campaign for president, he crystallized in one moment the ground truth of this investigation.

One week later, a self-described "conservative Republican" investigator publicly revealed that he had been fired from the Select Committee's staff in part because he wanted to conduct an objective investigation and refused to go along with Republican leadership plans to use the Select Committee to "hyper focus on Hillary Clinton."

Then, last week Republican House Member Richard Hanna admitted during a radio interview: "This may not be politically correct, but I think that there was a big part of this investigation that was designed to go after people and an individual, Hillary Clinton."

Chairman Gowdy has denied these criticisms, stating: "I cannot say it any plainer than stating the facts, the Benghazi Committee is not focused on Secretary Clinton." He has also argued that, "instead of listening to someone else's words, why don't you look at our actions?"

In fact, these remarkable and repeated Republican admissions are consistent with the actions of the Select Committee to aggressively target Secretary Clinton, while abandoning plans to conduct a more thorough, fact-based investigation of the attacks. For example:

- Chairman Gowdy identified Secretary Clinton as the first witness he wanted to testify one day after Stop Hillary PAC, a group that describes itself as "created for one reason only—to ensure Hillary Clinton never becomes President of the United States," delivered about 264,000 signatures demanding that he subpoena her. This is the same group that aired a highly offensive attack ad last week exploiting images of the four Americans killed in Benghazi and Ambassador Steven's grave—without the knowledge or consent of his family.

- After the *New York Times* issued its story on Secretary Clinton’s emails in March, the Select Committee abandoned all of its scheduled monthly hearings for 2015—except its hearing with Secretary Clinton. The Select Committee has not held a single public hearing since January.
- The Select Committee abandoned its plans for a public hearing with the Secretary of Defense, as well as its plans for a private interview with him. The Select Committee has never asked a single question to the Secretary of Defense—in public or private.
- The Select Committee has never held a single hearing with anyone from the Department of Defense in 17 months, and the Select Committee has conducted nearly ten times as many interviews of State Department employees than Defense Department employees (39 compared to 4).
- Of the 70,000 pages of documents obtained by the Select Committee, the only documents Chairman Gowdy has chosen to release publicly are Secretary Clinton’s emails with Sidney Blumenthal. His actions contradict his own claim that “serious investigations” do not “make selective releases of information without full and proper context.”
- At the same time, Chairman Gowdy has blocked the public release of Mr. Blumenthal’s deposition transcript, which would reveal the questions Republicans asked about issues related to Secretary Clinton that have nothing to do with Benghazi, as well as Mr. Blumenthal’s answers to questions about the emails that Chairman Gowdy released.
- The Select Committee has been engaged in an aggressive press campaign focused almost entirely on Secretary Clinton, issuing 27 press releases related to Secretary Clinton since March, but only 5 on all other topics combined. Chairman Gowdy has referenced Secretary Clinton more than 50 times in nationally televised interviews since March.

Select Committee Interviews and Depositions

Chairman Gowdy has attempted to defend the Select Committee’s record by explaining that it has broken new ground in witness interviews. On October 7, 2015, he wrote: “The Committee has interviewed over 50 witnesses to date who have never before been interviewed.” However, this claim is inaccurate, and the *Washington Post* Fact Checker referred to it as an effort to “hype the numbers.”

The Select Committee has conducted a total of 54 transcribed interviews and depositions to date. Previous congressional committees and the independent Accountability Review Board (ARB) had already spoken to 23 of these individuals. In other words, the actual number of “new” interviews is 31—significantly lower than the 50 interviews cited by the Chairman.

Moreover, the majority of the Select Committee’s 31 new interviews have been with State Department employees, and they have included current and former campaign officials, IT employees, press officials, and others who had little or nothing to do with the attacks in Benghazi.

More important than the number of interviews is what these individuals told the Select Committee. In an effort to be thorough, consistent, and accurate, Democratic investigators developed a set of standard questions based on some of the most prominent Republican accusations against Secretary Clinton over the past three years. They posed these questions to every witness, regardless of agency affiliation, title, or position.

Many of these Republican accusations share common features: they claim Secretary Clinton took personal and knowing action to endanger the lives of the four Americans killed in Benghazi, they are based on no evidence or evidence that is unsubstantiated or distorted, they use extreme rhetoric that has no basis in fact, and they often make a direct link to Secretary Clinton's bid for president.

For example, Carly Fiorina stated that Secretary Clinton "has blood on her hands," Mike Huckabee accused her of "ignoring the warning calls from dying Americans in Benghazi," Senator Rand Paul stated that "Benghazi was a 3:00 a.m. phone call that she never picked up," and Senator Lindsay Graham tweeted, "Where the hell were you on the night of the Benghazi attack?"

In stark contrast to these baseless political attacks, the 54 individuals who have now been interviewed by the Select Committee have identified:

- no evidence that Secretary Clinton ordered the military to stand down on the night of the attacks;
- no evidence that Secretary Clinton personally approved or ordered a reduction of security in Benghazi prior to the attacks;
- no evidence that Secretary Clinton pressed the United States into supporting the United Nations campaign in Libya under false pretenses;
- no evidence that Secretary Clinton or her aides oversaw an operation at the State Department to destroy or scrub embarrassing documents; and
- no evidence that Secretary Clinton or any other U.S. official directed or authorized the U.S. Mission in Benghazi to transfer weapons from Libya to another country.

The evidence obtained by the Select Committee also corroborates previous testimony to Congress indicating that Secretary Clinton was deeply engaged during and after the attacks and took action to ensure the safety and security of U.S. personnel, even as intelligence assessments of the attacks changed more than once during this period.

Attached to this report are key excerpts from the transcripts of unclassified interviews conducted by the Select Committee. This report does not include excerpts from interviews that were conducted in classified settings, have not completed the inter-agency classification review process, or have not completed the transcription process. This report also does not include excerpts from transcripts of depositions since, under House procedures, they cannot be released without the consent of the Chairman, which he has declined to provide.

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I. NO EVIDENCE OF REPUBLICAN ALLEGATIONS

A. No evidence that Secretary Clinton ordered the military to stand down on the night of the attacks.

The Republican investigation of the attacks in Benghazi was initiated more than three years ago by Rep. Darrell Issa, then the Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Chairman Issa held the first hearing on Benghazi on October 10, 2012, and at the time was leading Republican efforts to investigate the attacks in the House of Representatives.

Chairman Issa made clear that his efforts were aimed at Secretary Clinton when he spoke at a Republican fundraiser in New Hampshire and stated—with no evidence—that he suspected that Secretary Clinton had ordered Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta to “stand down” on the night of the attacks.

Traveling to address the Republican Party of New Hampshire on February 14, 2014, Chairman Issa explained his goal: “I came here to hopefully shape the debate for 2016.”¹ During his speech, he made the following statement:

We need to have an answer of when the secretary of defense had assets that he could have begun spinning up. Why there was not one order given to turn on one Department of Defense asset? I have my suspicions, which is Secretary Clinton told Leon to stand down, and we all heard about the stand down order for two military personnel. That order is undeniable. They were told not to get on—get off the airplane and kind of stand by—and they’re going to characterize it wasn’t stand down. But when we’re done with Benghazi, the real question is, was there a stand-down order to Leon Panetta or did he just not do his job? Was there a stand-down order from the president who said he told them to use their resources and they didn’t use them? Those questions have to be answered.²

His accusation prompted an immediate reaction from Rep. Elijah Cummings, the Ranking Member of the Oversight Committee. In a letter to Chairman Issa on February 21, 2014, he wrote:

The definition of treason is the betrayal of allegiance owed to one’s country, and your statements seem to accuse former Secretary Clinton of this offense. You suggest that Secretary Clinton directed the Secretary of Defense of the United States to intentionally withhold military assistance that may have saved the lives of one of her own ambassadors

¹ *Darrell Issa Wants to ‘Shape The Debate’ For 2016*, Associated Press (Feb. 18, 2014) (online at www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/02/18/darrell-issa-2016_n_4807790.html).

² Republican Party of New Hampshire, *Concord GOP Committee and Merrimack County GOP Committee* (Feb. 17, 2014) (online at www.patch.com/new-hampshire/concord-nh/issa-i-will-get-to-the-top-of-benghazi).

and three other brave Americans serving their country. Your accusations are beyond the pale, and you should immediately retract them and issue a public apology.³

Chairman Issa made these accusations despite the fact that only four days earlier, his Republican counterparts on the House Committee on Armed Services had come to the opposite conclusion. Chairman Howard “Buck” McKeon had been working in partnership with Chairman Issa, conducting interviews of military officials jointly with the Oversight Committee. On February 10, 2014, Chairman McKeon, Vice Chairman Mac Thornberry, Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee Chair Martha Roby, and five Republican Members of that subcommittee issued their own report identifying no evidence that Secretary Clinton ordered Secretary Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks.

The report first described the steps taken by the military to mobilize after the attacks:

When the Department of State learned the SMC was being assaulted on September 11, officials notified DOD’s National Military Command Center at the Pentagon. Thus began a chain of events that involved DOD allocating various forces to the crisis. The response decisions were based upon what forces were available and could readily be brought to bear on the situation as it was understood by senior leaders.

The first step DOD took upon learning of the attack involved a U.S. drone that was overflying Darnah, a city in northeastern Libya. AFRICOM’s operations officer immediately redirected the unarmed Predator to Benghazi, which was about an hour’s flight time away. Separately, following the meeting in the White House, Secretary Panetta (in consultation with General Ham, General Dempsey, and others) verbally authorized three specific actions. First, two Marine FAST platoons in Rota, Spain were ordered to prepare to deploy; one bound for Benghazi and one destined for Tripoli. Second, a special operations unit assigned to the European Command, known as a Commander’s In-Extremis Force (CIF), which was training in Croatia was ordered to move to a U.S. Naval Air Station in Sigonella, Italy and await further instructions. Third, a special operations unit in the United States was also dispatched to the region. These orders were issued approximately two to four hours after the initial attack on the SMC.⁴

The report also concluded:

Secretary Panetta said the President was “well informed” about events and worried about American lives. He and General Dempsey also testified they had no further contact with the President, nor did Secretary of State Hillary Clinton ever communicate with them that

³ Letter from Ranking Member Elijah E. Cummings to Chairman Darrell E. Issa, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (Feb. 21, 2014) (online at <http://democrats.oversight.house.gov/sites/democrats.oversight.house.gov/files/migrated/uploads/2014-02-21%20EEC%20to%20DEI.pdf>).

⁴ House Committee on Armed Services, *Majority Interim Report: Benghazi Investigation Update* (Feb. 2014) (online at http://armedservices.house.gov/index.cfm/files/serve?File_id=C4E16543-8F99-430C-BEBA-0045A6433426#page=17).

evening. ... General Dempsey answered “no” when asked by the House Armed Services Committee if he had “any restrictions placed on whatever it is that you thought needed to get done to respond to ... Benghazi.”⁵

Subsequent interviews confirmed these facts. On March 18, 2014, AFRICOM Director of Operations Rear Admiral Richard Landolt was asked during a transcribed interview whether he or anyone in his command received any order from the Secretary of State to stand down. He responded: “Not at all. We did not.”⁶

On March 20, 2014, AFRICOM Deputy Commander for Military Operations Vice Admiral Charles J. Leidig was asked during a transcribed interview whether he or anyone in his command received any order from the Secretary of State to stand down. He answered: “I never received any orders from the Secretary of State or heard of any orders from the Secretary of State.”⁷

On April 9, 2014, AFRICOM Commander General Carter Ham was asked whether he or anyone in his command received any order from the Secretary of State to stand down. He responded: “No, and we would not receive direct communications from the Secretary of State.”⁸

Soon thereafter, Chairman Issa began to publicly disagree with the course of Chairman McKeon’s investigation, as well as its conclusions. He decided to hold his own hearing on May 1, 2014, with a Defense Department witness who had not been vetted previously by either committee. Chairman McKeon issued a press release on that day condemning these actions and stating that Chairman Issa’s witness “did not further the investigation or reveal anything new” and “did not serve in a capacity that gave him reliable insight into operational options available to commanders.”⁹

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and House Committee on Armed Services, Joint Interview of Rear Admiral Richard Landolt (Mar. 18, 2014) (online at <http://armedservices.house.gov/pdfs/7r%20-%20March%2018%2C%202014%20-%20Rear%20Admiral%20Richard%20Landolt.pdf>).

⁷ House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and House Committee on Armed Services, Joint Interview of Vice Admiral Charles J. Leidig (Mar. 20, 2014) (online at <http://armedservices.house.gov/pdfs/8r%20-%20March%2020%2C%202014%20-%20Vice%20Admiral%20Charles%20Leidig%20Jr..pdf>).

⁸ House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and House Committee on Armed Services, Joint Interview of General Carter Ham (Apr. 9, 2014) (online at <http://armedservices.house.gov/pdfs/9r%20-%20April%2009%2C%202014%20-%20General%20Carter%20Ham.pdf>).

⁹ House Committee on Armed Services, *Statement by House Committee on Armed Services Chairman Howard “Buck” McKeon* (May 1, 2014).

The *Washington Post*'s Fact Checker awarded Chairman Issa "Four Pinocchios" for his accusation against Secretary Clinton, its highest rating for inaccurate statements. As the Fact Checker explained:

[H]is repeated use of the phrase "stand down" and his personalizing of the alleged actions ("Secretary Clinton;" "Leon") leave a distinct impression that either Clinton or Obama delivered some sort of instruction to Panetta to not act as forcefully as possible. He even incorrectly asserts that not a single order was given to use any DOD asset. One could argue the response was slow, bungled or poorly handled. But Issa is crossing a line when he suggests there was no response—or a deliberate effort to hinder it.¹⁰

Even after obtaining all of the evidence described above, some Republicans continue to allege that "somebody" ordered U.S. military personnel to stand down. For example, on September 10, 2014, Rep. Jason Chaffetz, Chairman Issa's successor on the Oversight Committee, stated:

The president of the United States said they did everything they could possibly do to save the people in Benghazi. I still highly doubt that statement. ... You cannot name a single military asset that was ordered to go into Benghazi during those hours. ... Somebody in that food chain said "stand down."¹¹

None of the 54 individuals interviewed by the Select Committee identified any evidence to support this Republican claim against Secretary Clinton.

B. No evidence that Secretary Clinton personally approved or ordered a reduction of security in Benghazi prior to the attacks.

Over the past three years, Republican Members of Congress and presidential candidates have alleged that Secretary Clinton personally approved or ordered a reduction in security that contributed to the Special Mission Compound's inadequate security posture in Benghazi.

To date, the definitive accounting of the inadequate security posture in Benghazi has come from the independent Accountability Review Board (ARB), which conducted more than 100 interviews in approximately three months—far more than the Select Committee in much less time. The Board's report was highly critical of the State Department, concluding:

Systemic failures and leadership and management deficiencies at senior levels within two bureaus of the State Department (the "Department") resulted in a Special Mission

¹⁰ *Issa's 'Suspicions' That Hillary Clinton Told Panetta to 'Stand Down' on Benghazi*, *Washington Post* (Feb. 22, 2014) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/fact-checker/wp/2014/02/21/issas-suspicions-that-hillary-clinton-told-panetta-to-stand-down-on-benghazi/).

¹¹ *GOP's Benghazi Committee Prepares for Media Spotlight*, *The Hill* (Sept. 10, 2014) (online at <http://thehill.com/homenews/news/217206-gops-benghazi-committee-prepares-for-media-spotlight>).

security posture that was inadequate for Benghazi and grossly inadequate to deal with the attack that took place.¹²

The Board also determined that requests for more security personnel were rejected by Washington-based Diplomatic Security personnel:

The Board determined that DS staffing levels in Benghazi after Embassy Tripoli reopened were inadequate, decreasing significantly after then-Special Envoy Stevens' departure in November 2011. Although a full complement of five DS agents for Benghazi was initially projected, and later requested multiple times, Special Mission Benghazi achieved a level of five DS agents (not counting DoD-provided TDY Site Security Team personnel sent by Embassy Tripoli) for only 23 days between January 1-September 9, 2012.¹³

On April 23, 2013, however, the Republican Chairmen of five House committees—Foreign Affairs, Oversight and Government Reform, Armed Services, Judiciary, and Intelligence—issued a joint report going a step further and accusing Secretary Clinton directly of personally signing a cable that was issued on April 19, 2012, declining additional security requests. Although this report was never debated or voted on by any of the five committees, it alleged:

Reductions of security levels prior to the attacks in Benghazi were approved at the highest levels of the State Department, up to and including Secretary Clinton. This fact contradicts her testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on January 23, 2013.¹⁴

The Republican report stated that, “in a cable signed by Secretary Clinton in April 2012, the State Department settled on a plan to scale back security assets for the U.S. Mission in Libya, including Benghazi.”¹⁵

The next day, Oversight Committee Chairman Darrell Issa appeared on national television and repeated this claim, stating:

The Secretary of State was just wrong. She said she did not participate in this, and yet only a few months before the attack, she outright denied security in her signature in a cable, April 2012.¹⁶

¹² Benghazi Accountability Review Board Report (Dec. 18, 2012) (online at www.state.gov/documents/organization/202446.pdf).

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ Interim Progress Report for the Members of the House Republican Conference on the Events Surrounding the September 11, 2012 Terrorist Attacks in Benghazi, Libya (Apr. 23, 2013) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Libya-Progress-Report-Final-1.pdf>).

¹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁶ *Fox & Friends*, Fox News (Apr. 24, 2013) (online at <https://youtu.be/MsJpsW59jCs>).

Similarly, on May 19, 2013, Senator Rand Paul repeated this claim during a nationally televised interview, stating:

She was asked repeatedly to provide security in Benghazi on several occasions including direct cables, and she says she never read the cables on security. I find that inexcusable and a dereliction of duty.¹⁷

Although Republicans had reviewed a copy of the cable at issue, they failed to explain to the public that the “signature” line on the cable was merely a pro forma stamp with the Secretary of State’s name, similar to millions of other State Department cables issued every year. Since this Republican report was not vetted through standard committee procedures, this critical omission was not identified until after the report was issued.

After reviewing Chairman Issa’s claim, the *Washington Post*’s Fact Checker called it “absurd” and a “whopper,” awarding it “Four Pinocchios,” its highest rating for inaccurate statements. As the Fact Checker explained: “every cable from an embassy bears the ‘signature’ of the ambassador—and every cable from Washington bears the ‘signature’ of the secretary of state.”¹⁸

The Fact Checker cited Republican and Democratic officials who served previously at the State Department to debunk this claim. According to R. Nicholas Burns, a career diplomat who served as Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs for Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, “A very small fraction would be seen by the secretary of state.” This was confirmed by Larry Wilkerson, former chief of staff to Secretary Colin Powell, who stated, “I can say that from being there with one secretary and reviewing the work of many other secretaries in my academic research, there are many, many cables the secretary never sees.”¹⁹

The *Tampa Bay Times*’ PolitiFact reviewed Senator Paul’s statement and concluded:

[W]e see no evidence that Clinton herself was made aware of these requests. For example, there’s no “direct cable” that automatically appears on the secretary of state’s desk. Instead, all cables would have carried her name, and only those passed up the chain by staff would have reached her.²⁰

¹⁷ *State of the Union*, CNN (May 19, 2013) (online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=enwwbnPmVvs).

¹⁸ *Issa’s Absurd Claim that Clinton’s ‘Signature’ Means She Personally Approved It*, Washington Post (Apr. 26, 2013) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/fact-checker/post/issas-absurd-claim-that-clintons-signature-means-she-personally-approved-it/2013/04/25/58c2f5b4-adf8-11e2-a986-eec837b1888b_blog.html).

¹⁹ *Id.*

²⁰ *Rand Paul Says Hillary Clinton Was ‘Asked Repeatedly to Provide Security in Benghazi ... Including Direct Cables,’* PolitiFact (May 22, 2013) (online at www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/statements/2013/may/22/rand-paul/rand-paul-says-hillary-clinton-was-asked-repeatedl/).

Yet, four days after entering the presidential race, Senator Paul continued to make this unsubstantiated allegation against Secretary Clinton. On April 11, 2015, Senator Paul appeared on CNN and stated: “She didn’t—she didn’t provide the security, not just that day, for nine months. Dozens and dozens of requests for more security, all completely ignored by Hillary Clinton.”²¹

Again, PolitiFact reviewed Senator Paul’s allegation and concluded that, while the “numerous requests from officials on the ground in Libya for better security for the Benghazi compound are undeniable and well-documented,” no one “has shown Clinton willfully ignored the cries for help from Libya.”²²

None of the 54 individuals interviewed by the Select Committee identified any evidence to support this Republican claim against Secretary Clinton.

C. No evidence that Secretary Clinton pressed the United States into supporting the United Nations campaign in Libya under false pretenses.

Republican Members of Congress and presidential candidates have repeatedly alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence about the Qaddafi regime’s atrocities in order to press the United States into supporting the United Nations-led coalition in Libya.

During an interview with *Breitbart News* in January 2015, Senator Rand Paul summarized his claims:

What I’ve been saying for over a year now is that Hillary took us to war in Libya under false pretenses. . . . She claimed there was some sort of imminent threat and that there was going to be some sort of genocide and she sold this war to the Obama administration.

Senator Paul continued, linking his criticism to Secretary Clinton’s electability as president:

This is involved on so many levels. One, you want a Commander-in-Chief who has wisdom and would look to all different various parts of government for information. You would want a Commander-in-Chief who would listen to the military, who would listen to the State Department, who would also listen to the intelligence community. But in this case, you have Hillary Clinton basically not listening to anyone while promulgating

²¹ *State of the Union*, CNN (Apr. 11, 2015) (online at www.cnn.com/2015/04/12/politics/rand-paul-hillary-clinton-foreign-policy/).

²² *Rand Paul Attacks Hillary Clinton’s Response to Benghazi Attack*, PolitiFact (Apr. 12, 2015) (online at www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/statements/2015/apr/12/rand-paul/rand-paul-attacks-hillary-clintons-response-bengha/).

something that really appears to be contradicted by other branches of government—in that there was some sort of imminent genocide awaiting in Libya.²³

Rep. Ted Poe repeated these accusations against Secretary Clinton to *The Washington Times* in February 2015:

You have a false report from the Secretary of State, and then the military holding a completely different view of what's taking place. ... They wanted [the president] to have facts—facts as opposed to what Secretary Clinton was hoping the facts would be; that Moammar Gadhafi was killing innocent women and children. That was was [sic] a false narrative. So, it would make sense that they would want to get that information straight to the president and not go through the Secretary of State.²⁴

In 2011, however, many prominent Republicans were calling for military action to protect civilians in Libya. For example, on March 30, 2011, Senator Marco Rubio sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell warning about the consequences of inaction in Libya. He wrote:

As long as Qaddafi remains in power, he will be in a position to terrorize his own people and potentially the rest of the world. In fact he has vowed to turn rebel strongholds into “rivers of blood.” If he succeeds, it will provide a blueprint to repressive regimes across the Middle East in the use of force against unarmed civilians.²⁵

Similarly, during a visit to Benghazi in April 2011, Senator John McCain issued the following statement:

We need to urgently step up the NATO air campaign to protect Libyan civilians, especially in Misurata. We desperately need more close air-support and precision strike assets—such as A-10s and AC-130s. And I applaud Secretary Gates's decision to use Predator aircraft to help in this effort. We can better identify and destroy Qaddafi's forces as they seek to conceal themselves in civilian areas. Finally, responsible nations need to provide the military forces of the Transitional National Council with every appropriate means of assistance to enable them to create conditions on the ground that increase the pressure on Qaddafi to leave power. That includes command and control

²³ *Exclusive—Rand Paul: Obama Defended 'Hillary's War' in Libya in Secret Capitol Hill Meeting with GOP*, Breitbart News (Jan. 29, 2015) (online at www.breitbart.com/big-government/2015/01/29/exclusive-rand-paul-obama-defended-hillarys-war-in-libya-in-secret-capitol-hill-meeting-with-gop/).

²⁴ *House Benghazi Committee to Review Secret Hillary Tapes on Libya*, Washington Times (Feb. 2, 2015) (online at www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/feb/2/hillary-clinton-libya-tapes-set-house-benghazi-com/?page=all).

²⁵ Letter from Senator Marco Rubio to Majority Leader Harry Reid and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (Mar. 30, 2011) (online at <http://www.rubio.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?ID=6e2704bf-b318-4ea4-a74d-3added704679>).

support, battlefield intelligence, training, and weapons. I have met with these brave fighters, and they are not Al-Qaeda. To the contrary: They are Libyan patriots who want to liberate their nation. We should help them do it.²⁶

None of the 54 individuals interviewed by the Select Committee identified any evidence to support this Republican claim against Secretary Clinton.

D. No evidence that Secretary Clinton or her aides oversaw an operation at the State Department to destroy or scrub embarrassing documents.

On September 15, 2014, an article in *The Daily Signal* reported that Raymond Maxwell, the former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Maghreb Affairs, had come forward with “a startling allegation.” Specifically, the report claimed that “Hillary Clinton confidants were part of an operation to ‘separate’ damaging documents before they were turned over to the Accountability Review Board.” The article identified the confidants as Chief of Staff Cheryl Mills and Deputy Chief of Staff Jake Sullivan.²⁷

According to this account, employees were instructed to review documents and “pull out anything” that might put senior officials “in a bad light.” The article also stated that Mr. Maxwell said that he “couldn’t help but wonder if the ARB—perhaps unknowingly—had received from his bureau a scrubbed set of documents with the most damaging material missing.”²⁸

The report also described an incident in which Ms. Mills and Mr. Sullivan allegedly checked in on the operation and came into contact with Mr. Maxwell:

“When Cheryl saw me, she snapped, ‘Who are you?’” Maxwell says. “Jake explained, ‘That’s Ray Maxwell, an NEA deputy assistant secretary.’ She conceded, ‘Well, OK.’”²⁹

Several conservative press outlets immediately seized on *The Daily Signal*’s report to claim that former aides to Secretary Clinton ordered the destruction of documents to prevent Congress and the ARB from ever seeing them.³⁰

²⁶ Senator John McCain, *Statement by Senator McCain in Benghazi, Libya* (Apr. 22, 2011) (online at www.mccain.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?ID=7e95d18f-a9eb-80ef-e599-95754897384e).

²⁷ *Benghazi Bombshell: Clinton State Department Official Reveals Details of Alleged Document Review*, *Daily Signal* (Sept. 15, 2014) (online at <http://dailysignal.com/2014/09/15/benghazi-bombshell-clinton-state-department-official-reveals-alleged-details-document-review/>).

²⁸ *Id.*

²⁹ *Id.*

On October 17, 2014, Chairman Gowdy was interviewed on *Fox News* by Greta Van Susteren, who asked if he believed Mr. Maxwell's allegation that "documents were tossed out." In response, the Chairman stated:

What you would do is what I'm going to do Greta, and that is, give Mr. Maxwell an opportunity to say what he perceived to happen and he's going to have to give us the names of the other people who were involved and then we're going to give them an opportunity to say whether or not they have a different perspective. It's going to be an investigation. And if there is a dispute as to what happened then we'll let your audience decide who has more credibility.³¹

By the time Chairman Gowdy made this statement, however, his staff had already interviewed Mr. Maxwell without including, inviting, or even notifying Democratic Members or staff. Mr. Maxwell apparently identified for Republican staff a second witness that he claimed was present during this document review at the State Department. Mr. Maxwell identified this person as someone who could corroborate his allegations and someone he believes is credible.

Then, on October 16—one day before Chairman Gowdy appeared on *Fox News*—his staff interviewed this second witness, again without including Democrats. However, this second witness did not substantiate Mr. Maxwell's claims. To the contrary, he did not recall ever having been in the document review session Mr. Maxwell described, he said he was never instructed to flag information in documents that might be unfavorable to the Department, and he reported that he never engaged in or was aware of any destruction of documents.

Democrats did not discover any of this information from Chairman Gowdy or his staff, but from the witnesses themselves. When Democratic staff inquired with Republican staff about what they learned from the witness identified by Mr. Maxwell, they stated that he did work at the State Department during this period. Beyond that, however, they reported: "We learned nothing else of note in our discussion, so we don't plan to conduct any additional follow up."³²

³⁰ See, e.g., *Former State Department Official: Clinton Camp Destroyed Benghazi Documents*, TruthInMedia.com (Sept. 16, 2014) (online at <http://truthinmedia.com/former-state-department-official-clinton-camp-destroyed-benghazi-documents/>); *Hillary Clinton Staffers Destroyed Benghazi Documents, State Dept. Official Claims*, Christian Post (Sept. 16, 2014) (online at www.christianpost.com/news/hillary-clinton-staffers-destroyed-benghazi-documents-state-dept-official-claims-126510/); *Report: State Department Official Claims They Destroyed Benghazi Documents to Protect Hillary Clinton*, Conservative Tree House (Sept. 15, 2014) (online at <http://theconservativetreehouse.com/2014/09/15/report-state-department-official-claims-they-destroyed-benghazi-documents-to-protect-hillary-clinton/>).

³¹ *On the Record with Greta Van Susteren*, Fox News (Oct. 17, 2014) (online at <http://gretawire.foxnewsinsider.com/video/video-benghazi-select-committee-chairman-trey-gowdy-our-goal-was-to-play-it-straight/>).

³² Email from Republican Staff to Democratic Staff, House Select Committee on Benghazi (Oct. 23, 2014).

On November 24, 2014, Ranking Member Elijah Cummings wrote to Chairman Gowdy objecting to the exclusion of Democrats from Committee interviews and requesting that the Select Committee vote on official rules to prevent this from happening again. He wrote:

I am sure you understand—as a former prosecutor—that evaluating the credibility of witnesses and their allegations depends on whether the information they provide can be corroborated. Although your staff stated that they learned nothing “of note,” in fact they learned that this claim was not substantiated by a key witness. If our goal is the truth, and not a preconceived political narrative, these interviews should have been conducted jointly, with both Democrats and Republicans present.³³

Since that time, Chairman Gowdy has consistently refused Democratic requests to adopt rules for the Select Committee that would guarantee Democratic participation in all aspects of the investigation.

None of the 54 individuals that were interviewed by the Select Committee identified any evidence to support this Republican claim against Secretary Clinton.

E. No evidence that Secretary Clinton or any other U.S. official directed or authorized the U.S. Mission in Benghazi to transfer weapons from Libya to another country.

For years, Republican Members of Congress and presidential candidates have alleged that Secretary Clinton was aware of, and a proponent of, an illicit government program to transfer weapons from Libya to Syria. The Select Committee continues to investigate this theory despite the fact that it was debunked by the Republican-led House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

On January 23, 2013, Senator Rand Paul asked Secretary Clinton about this weapons-transfer theory when she testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. They had the following exchange:

Sen. Paul: It’s been in news reports that ships have been leaving from Libya and that they may have weapons. And what I would like to know is the annex that was close by, were they involved with procuring, buying, selling, obtaining weapons, and were any of these weapons being transferred to other countries? Any countries, Turkey included?

Sec. Clinton: Well, Senator, you will have to direct, direct that question to the agency that ran the annex. I will see what information is available and ...

Sen. Paul: You’re saying you don’t know.

³³ Letter from Ranking Member Elijah E. Cummings to Chairman Trey Gowdy, House Select Committee on Benghazi (Nov. 24, 2014) (online at http://democrats.benghazi.house.gov/sites/democrats.benghazi.house.gov/files/documents/2014_11_24_EEC_to_TG_Bipartisan_Committee.pdf).

Sec. Clinton: I do not know, I don't have any information on that.³⁴

After the hearing, the State Department supplemented the hearing record with an official statement: "The United States is not involved with any transfer of weapons from Libya to Turkey."³⁵

On April 21, 2013, Senator Paul explained his theory further during a radio interview:

With regard to Benghazi, I think it's important because it may have something to do with why the compound was attacked if we were involved with shipping guns to Turkey. There was a report that a ship left from Libya towards Turkey and that there were arms on it in the week preceding this. There were reports that our Ambassador was meeting with the Turkish Attaché. So, I think with regards to figuring out what happened at Benghazi, it's very important to know whether or not the CIA annex had anything to do with facilitating guns being sent to Turkey and ultimately to Syria.³⁶

In January 2014, the Republican Members of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence issued an "Update on Benghazi" dispelling this allegation based on evidence and testimony they had received. The report stated:

All CIA activities in Benghazi were legal and authorized. On-the-record testimony establishes that CIA was **not** sending weapons (including MANPADS) from Libya to Syria, or facilitating other organizations or states that were transferring weapons from Libya to Syria.³⁷

Nonetheless, in a radio interview on July 14, 2014, Senator Paul not only repeated his claim, but escalated his allegations to question whether Secretary Clinton had lied about this issue when she testified before Congress:

I'm concerned about the veracity of how she responded. For example, the New York Times about two weeks ago reported that the CIA has been involved with facilitating weapons to Syria for over a year. And it's also been reported I think in the New York Times as well that Hillary Clinton was the big cheerleader for arming Syria when there was two factions within the Obama Administration arguing this. Hillary Clinton was the

³⁴ Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, *Benghazi: The Attacks and the Lessons Learned*, 113th Cong. (Jan. 23, 2013) (online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=CIXicd6ZFhQ).

³⁵ Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, *Benghazi: The Attacks and the Lessons Learned*, 113th Cong. (Jan. 23, 2013) (online at www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CHRG-113shrg86780/pdf/CHRG-113shrg86780.pdf).

³⁶ *Aaron Klein Investigative Radio*, AM 970 (Apr. 21, 2013) (online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=FCI5csafSuM).

³⁷ House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, *HPSCI January 2014 Update on Benghazi* (Jan. 30, 2014) (online at <http://intelligence.house.gov/sites/intelligence.house.gov/files/documents/HPSCIBenghaziUpdateJan2014.pdf>) (emphasis in original).

one, you know, cheering them on to get weapons. She was the hard-liner that wanted to get involved in the war in Syria. And yet, in the hearing she says oh, she's never heard of this? I find that hard to believe. And after Clapper's coming to Congress and lying because he said it was classified, my question to Hillary Clinton is, did you lie to Congress simply because it was a classified program, or were you telling the truth? And I really kind of doubt the Secretary of State has no knowledge that the CIA is facilitating weapons to Syria.³⁸

On July 31, 2014, after nearly two years of "comprehensive and exhaustive" investigation, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, led by Republican Chairman Mike Rogers, adopted its final bipartisan report definitively putting this allegation to rest. The report, which was publicly released on November 21, 2014, concluded:

Finding #4: The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria.

Multiple media outlets have reported allegations about CIA collecting weapons in Benghazi and facilitating weapons from Libya to Syria. The eyewitness testimony and thousands of pages of CIA cables and emails that the Committee reviewed provide no support for this allegation. Committee Members and staff asked all witnesses what they observed at the Benghazi Annex and whether they had any information to support allegations about weapons being collected and transported to Syria. Each witness reported seeing only standard CIA security weapons at the base. No witness testified that non-CIA weapons were brought to the Annex. Security personnel and officers testified that they had complete access to the Annex and would have observed any weapons, such as MANPADs, stored at the facility. Security personnel and officers also testified that nobody told them to hide or withhold any information from the Committee. This record is consistent throughout the Committee interviews by Members and staff. According to testimony from CIA Deputy Director Morell and confirmed by other witnesses, the CIA's mission in Benghazi was to collect foreign intelligence. From the Annex in Benghazi, the CIA was collecting intelligence about foreign entities that were themselves collecting weapons in Libya and facilitating their passage to Syria. The Benghazi Annex was not itself collecting weapons. The Committee has not seen any credible information to dispute these facts.³⁹

Despite these definitive findings, the Select Committee has continued to investigate this accusation. On November 18, 2014—in the Select Committee's first substantive document request to the Department of State—Chairman Gowdy requested the following documents relating to Secretary Clinton and others:

³⁸ Aaron Klein *Investigative Radio*, AM 970 (July 14, 2014) (online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9UcDic6ENM).

³⁹ House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, *Investigative Report on the Terrorist Attacks on U.S. Facilities in Benghazi, Libya, September 11-12, 2012* (Nov. 21, 2014) (online at <http://intelligence.house.gov/sites/intelligence.house.gov/files/documents/Benghazi%20Report.pdf>) (emphasis in original).

For the time period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2012: Any and all documents and communications referring or relating to policies, decisions, or activities regarding ... weapons located or found in, imported or brought into, and/or exported or removed from Libya, authored by, sent to, or received by the following individuals.⁴⁰

On January 23, 2015, Ranking Member Cummings expressed concerns about the Select Committee's ongoing investigation of this repeatedly debunked accusation after Republicans interviewed yet another individual who confirmed the Intelligence Committee's findings:

I have recently learned that you have chosen to disregard the statements of someone who has firsthand information relevant to allegations that you continue to investigate and discuss publicly. Among other things, she has confirmed—based on her expertise and personal experience in Benghazi in the time period immediately before the attacks—that there was no illegal transfer of weapons from Libya to Syria. In fact, she said that the bipartisan report of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) should have been stronger in its language making this point. In its report, HPSCI concluded that “eyewitness testimony and thousands of pages of CIA cables and emails that the Committee reviewed provide no support for this allegation.” Instead of crediting her testimony to help put this previously investigated and debunked allegation to rest, you followed up your private, Republican-only interview of this witness by requesting a broad set of documents from the State Department on this debunked allegation.⁴¹

Disregarding all of these previous findings and the concerns expressed by the Ranking Member, the Chairman decided to go a step further and, on March 4, 2015, issued a unilateral subpoena without any debate or vote by the Select Committee demanding the production of documents in this category.⁴²

None of the 54 individuals interviewed by the Select Committee identified any evidence to support this Republican claim against Secretary Clinton.

⁴⁰ Letter from Chairman Trey Gowdy, Select Committee on Benghazi, to Secretary John F. Kerry, Department of State (Nov. 18, 2014).

⁴¹ Letter from Ranking Member Elijah E. Cummings to Chairman Trey Gowdy, House Select Committee on Benghazi (Jan. 23, 2015) (online at http://democrats.benghazi.house.gov/sites/democrats.benghazi.house.gov/files/documents/2015_01_23_EEC_to_TG.PDF).

⁴² Subpoena from Chairman Trey Gowdy, House Select Committee on Benghazi, to the Honorable Hillary R. Clinton (Mar. 4, 2015).

II. SECRETARY CLINTON'S ACTIONS DURING AND AFTER THE ATTACKS

The evidence obtained by the Select Committee confirms that Secretary Clinton was “deeply engaged” in responding to the attacks in Benghazi and sought to mobilize resources to protect the lives of U.S. officials across the region, contrary to claims by Republican Members of Congress and presidential candidates.⁴³

In addition, the evidence confirms previous findings that intelligence assessments changed not once, but twice, in the days after the attacks. Based on these changing assessments, the evidence also corroborates Secretary Clinton’s previous statement that, “I myself went back and forth on what likely happened, who did it, and what mix of factors—like the video—played a part.”⁴⁴

Finally, the evidence confirms previous findings that the State Department was inundated that week with dozens of reports of protests and violence around the world and that the Intelligence Community was receiving conflicting reports about the motivation for the Benghazi attacks from both open source and classified sources.⁴⁵

A. The Night of the Attacks

Secretary Clinton first learned about the attacks in Benghazi shortly after 4 p.m. EST on September 11, 2012.

In the following hours, she spoke with President Obama, National Security Advisor Tom Donilon, Central Intelligence Agency Director David Petraeus, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Martin Dempsey, the State Department’s Charge d’Affaires in Tripoli, Acting Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs Beth Jones, Under Secretary for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman, Under Secretary for Management Patrick Kennedy, Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources Thomas Nides, Executive Secretary Stephen Mull, State Department Spokesperson Victoria Nuland, Chief of Staff Cheryl Mills, Deputy Chief of Staff Jake Sullivan, and Libyan General National Congress President Magariaf. She also personally participated in a Secure Video Tele-Conference (SVTC) with senior officials from the Intelligence Community, the White House, and the Department of Defense.

Secretary Clinton testified twice before Congress in 2013 about the Benghazi attacks. During her testimony, she explained:

⁴³ See, e.g., *Lindsay Graham Wins Second-Tier #GOPDebate on Twitter*, CBS News (Sept. 16, 2015) (online at www.cbsnews.com/news/top-5-lindsey-graham-moments-tweeted-during-gop-republican-debate-2015/) (“Where the hell were you on the night of the Benghazi attack?”).

⁴⁴ Hillary Clinton, *Hard Choices* (2014).

⁴⁵ See, e.g., Congressional Research Service, *Recent Protests in Muslim Countries: Background and Issues for Congress* (Sept. 20, 2012) (online at www.hsdl.org/?view&did=723794#page=16). See also *A Deadly Mix in Benghazi*, New York Times (Dec. 28, 2013) (online at www.nytimes.com/projects/2013/benghazi/#/?chapt=0).

I was notified of the attack shortly after 4 p.m. Over the following hours, we were in continuous meetings and conversations, both within the Department, with our team in Tripoli, with the interagency, and internationally. I instructed our senior Department officials and our diplomatic security personnel to consider every option, to just break down the doors of the Libyan officials to get as much security support as we possibly could, to coordinate with them.⁴⁶

Secretary Clinton also testified about many of the steps she took that afternoon and evening:

I spoke several times with National Security Advisor Tom Donilon to seek all possible support from the White House, which they quickly provided. I also spoke with our Charge d’Affaires in Tripoli to receive updates on the situation and to former CIA Director Petraeus to confer and coordinate. I called Libyan General National Congress President Magariaf to press him for greater support not only in Benghazi but also in Tripoli. I participated in a secure video conference of senior officials from the intelligence community, the White House, and the Department of Defense, during which we reviewed the options and the actions we were taking. And I spoke with President Obama later in the evening to update him on the situation. I spoke early on the morning of September 12 with General Dempsey and again with Tom Donilon.⁴⁷

Documents obtained by the Select Committee from the State Department’s Operations Center confirm Secretary Clinton’s testimony about her actions on the night of the attacks. For example, the documents show:

- At 6:41 p.m., the Operations Center reported that Secretary Clinton requested a telephone call with Libyan President Magariaf.⁴⁸
- At 6:49 p.m., the Operations Center reported that the Secretary spoke with President Magariaf.⁴⁹
- At 6:57 p.m., the Operations Center reported that the Secretary requested to speak with Deputy Chief of Mission Gregory Hicks at the U.S. Embassy in Tripoli.⁵⁰
- At 7:03 p.m., the Operations Center reported that the Secretary requested a conference call with Gregory Hicks, Patrick Kennedy, Cheryl Mills, Steve Mull, Wendy Sherman, Tom Nides, and Jake Sullivan.⁵¹

⁴⁶ Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, *Hearing on Benghazi: The Attacks and the Lessons Learned* (Jan. 23, 2013) (online at www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CHRG-113shrg86780/pdf/CHRG-113shrg86780.pdf).

⁴⁷ *Id.*

⁴⁸ Email from Operations Center (Sept. 11, 2012) (SCB0084318).

⁴⁹ Email from Operations Center (Sept. 11, 2012) (SCB0084317).

⁵⁰ Email from Operations Center (Sept. 11, 2012) (SCB0084316).

- At 7:03 p.m., the Operations Center reported that the Secretary began the conference call with the various parties.⁵²
- At 7:14 p.m., the Operations Center updated the conference call to add Acting Assistant Secretary Beth Jones.⁵³
- At 7:45 p.m., an email from Secretary Clinton's office confirmed that the Secretary participated in a SVTC with the White House and agency officials regarding the situation at the consulate in Benghazi.⁵⁴
- At 8:31 p.m., a subsequent email from the Secretary's office reported that the Secretary had just completed the 40-45 minute SVTC.⁵⁵

The State Department Chief of Staff, Cheryl Mills, who was with Secretary Clinton on the night of the attacks, confirmed these facts during her interview with the Select Committee:

The Secretary reached out to the government. So, too, were others reaching out, both on the ground, if I recall, in Tripoli, and it might have been the case that also the Assistant Secretary or her team was doing the same thing. But, candidly, everybody was trying to reach to whatever asset or individual or government partner who they thought would be able to help secure our people and ensure their safety.⁵⁶

She also stated:

She was pretty emphatic about wanting whatever to be done and whatever were assets that could be deployed, if that was both effective and possible to be done. Obviously, it was a challenging environment, given that our compound had been overrun. And so you want to ensure that, as you also are thinking about who else might go in, how they are able to do that effectively. But my observation and impression and, obviously, engagements were around what can be done, what can be sent, and how can that be done best. There was not any notion of not doing that to the fullest amount that was practical, effective, and possible.⁵⁷

When asked if Secretary Clinton requested that military assets be deployed, Ms. Mills responded:

⁵¹ Email from Operations Center (Sept. 11, 2012) (SCB0084315).

⁵² Email from Operations Center (Sept. 11, 2012) (SCB0084314).

⁵³ Email from Operations Center (Sept. 11, 2012) (SCB0084313).

⁵⁴ Email from Office Manager, Office of the Secretary (Sept. 11, 2012) (SCB00085747).

⁵⁵ *Id.*

⁵⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Cheryl Mills (Sept. 3, 2015).

⁵⁷ *Id.*

She actually on our SVTCS—which obviously had the presence of a number of different agencies, of which I believe DOD was one—said we need to be taking whatever steps we can, to do whatever we can to secure our people. And I can remember that someone from the White House said that the President was 100 percent behind whatever needed to be done and we needed to do whatever needed to be done. And that’s, you know, that’s what he would expect, but it’s also what was said.⁵⁸

Ms. Mills also had this exchange:

A: She was very concerned. She was also very determined that whatever needed to be done was done. And she was worried. She was worried not only about our team on the ground in Benghazi but worried about our teams that were on the ground in Libya and our teams on the ground in a number of places, given what we had seen unfold in Egypt.

Q: Did she seem uncertain as to how to respond?

A: No. She was very—she was very certain. And, indeed, when we said it was going to be a staff SVTCS, which was our diplomatic way of saying that maybe she shouldn’t be attending, she said, “I’m coming.” And so we tried to make sure the rest of the interagency knew ahead of time that she was going to be on, but we were unsuccessful, so they were surprised when she sat down.

Q: So were you surprised by that?

A: I’m not surprised, because that’s her approach. She’s a person who steps in and leads. She’s someone who, when there is accountability, takes it. So I wasn’t surprised. But I know that it can sometimes be intimidating to other staff that there is a principal present. And what she really was communicating that night is, “I’m here because I want my team safe. I’m not here because I’m here for any other reason than trying to get their safety. And whatever we need to do to do that I want to do.”⁵⁹

Ms. Mills also explained Secretary Clinton’s reaction to the deaths of Ambassador Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty:

I think she was devastated. Ambassador Stevens was someone she had a lot of confidence and respect for. And his guidance and his way was a compelling one. And the notion that he had been murdered, I think, was something that all of us thought was unbearable, but I think she particularly felt the pain of that. She also felt the pain of the loss of other Americans that were there that night, whom she didn’t have a personal relationship with but who she knew were there because they were trying to further our own interests. And so she felt very strongly about claiming all of them, even at a time where there was ambiguity about how that should or shouldn’t be done, but also in

⁵⁸ *Id.*

⁵⁹ *Id.*

honoring their service and what they had done. And, in the days afterwards, she spent time reaching out to our team in Tripoli, constantly trying to determine if they had what they needed, constantly trying to remind people that, while we all have jobs, people are fragile and you have to remember the fragility of people and their humanity and you have to give respect to that. And she made herself consistently present to people on her team because she wanted them to know that, as hard as this was, this was something that required us all to bear witness, to learn, and to try to be the very best we could in those moments.⁶⁰

The State Department's Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Policy Planning, Jake Sullivan, was also with Secretary Clinton on the night of the attacks and corroborated Ms. Mills' account. During a previous interview with the Oversight Committee, he stated:

She was deeply engaged. She not only was receiving regular reports and updates, but she was proactively reaching out. She spoke with Director Petraeus. She spoke with the national security adviser on more than one occasion. She participated in the SVTS, and she made other phone calls that night, and from the time she first learned of it, this was the only thing that she was focused on.⁶¹

He also stated:

Secretary Clinton was receiving reports of what was happening, and she made a series of phone calls as a result of that and gave direction to Pat Kennedy, to diplomatic security, to Beth Jones to do everything possible both with respect to our own resources and with respect to Libyan resources to try to respond to this.⁶²

He also explained that her "very clear guidance" was that "no effort be spared":

Q: Could you just elaborate on that? And could you maybe help us explain, did that statement, did your observation of her and her performance that night, did that carry through throughout the response of the attack?

A: Yes, it did. She provided very clear guidance that whether it was the diplomatic security service, or it was our diplomats in Washington and out in Tripoli that no effort be spared to respond to this as effectively as possible. She communicated that same message to all of the interagency colleagues with whom she spoke that night.

Q: Okay. And when we talk about her level of engagement that night, did you witness that others, other stakeholders were also engaged in this process.

⁶⁰ *Id.*

⁶¹ House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Interview of Jacob Sullivan (Sept. 12, 2013). The Select Committee has re-interviewed Mr. Sullivan, but the transcript of that interview has not completed the classification review process.

⁶² *Id.*

A: Yes. This was an all hands on deck situation.⁶³

B. The Aftermath of the Attacks

The evidence obtained by the Select Committee confirms previous accounts that the information being gathered in the aftermath of the attacks—and intelligence assessments of that information—continued to change throughout the week. For example, although initial reports claimed that Ansar al-Sharia was responsible for the attacks, the group later disavowed responsibility.⁶⁴

In her book, Secretary Clinton explained that she personally changed views several times that week about the possible motivations of the attackers, whether there was a protest, and whether the attacks were preplanned:

What about the attack in Benghazi? In the heat of the crisis we had no way of knowing for sure what combination of factors motivated the assault or whether and how long it had been planned. I was clear about this in my remarks the next morning, and in the days that followed administration officials continued to tell the American people that we had incomplete information and were still looking for answers. There were many theories—but still little evidence. **I myself went back and forth on what likely happened, who did it, and what mix of factors—like the video—played a part.** But it was unquestionably inciting the region and triggering protests all over, so it would have been strange not to consider, as days of protests unfolded, that it might have had the same effect here, too. That’s just common sense. Later investigation and reporting confirmed that the video was indeed a factor. All we knew at that time with complete certainty was that Americans had been killed and others were still in danger.⁶⁵

Documents obtained by the Select Committee indicate that Ansar al-Sharia appeared to have claimed responsibility for the attacks on the night of September 11, 2012.

At 6:07 p.m. on the night of the attacks, the State Department Operations Center sent an alert titled: “Ansar al-Sharia Claims Responsibility for Benghazi Attack.” This alert stated: “Embassy Tripoli reports the group claimed responsibility on Facebook and Twitter and has called for an attack on Embassy Tripoli.”⁶⁶ This alert appears to have been based on reports from Deputy Chief of Mission Greg Hicks, who was located in Tripoli and whose team was reviewing internet traffic.⁶⁷

⁶³ *Id.*

⁶⁴ Written Statement of Michael Morell, Deputy Director, Central Intelligence Agency, *Hearing on the Benghazi Talking Points and Michael J. Morell’s Role in Shaping the Administration’s Narrative* (Apr. 2, 2014) (online at <https://intelligence.house.gov/sites/intelligence.house.gov/files/documents/MorellSFR04022014.pdf#page=1>).

⁶⁵ Hillary Clinton, *Hard Choices* (2014) (emphasis added).

⁶⁶ Email from Operations Center (Sept. 11, 2012) (C5272001).

⁶⁷ Email from Deputy Chief of Mission Gregory Hicks (Sept. 11, 2012) (C5391036).

At 6:49 p.m., an email was sent with notes from Secretary Clinton's call with Libyan General National Congress President Mohammed Magariaf. These notes show that Secretary Clinton pressed the Libyan government to take immediate action to protect American lives and that she relayed that Ansar al-Sharia was claiming responsibility for the attacks:

We need your immediate help, as one of our diplomats was killed and our Ambassador, who you know, is missing. We have asked for the Libyan government to provide additional security to the compound immediately as there is a gun battle ongoing, which I understand Ansar as-Sharia is claiming responsibility for. We also need you to provide additional capacity for firefighting as there are reports that the principle officer's residence has been bombed or set on fire. We believe that it is important for your government, as well as ours, to condemn this attack in the strongest possible terms and promise that these criminals will be brought to justice. I also need you to help us secure our mission in Tripoli. We have seen serious threats on social media sites, like Facebook, and it is important that your government take all possible measures, in an urgent manner, to secure our facilities. We need you to have people who you are confident in, who will follow your direction, and that your government trusts to secure our compounds.⁶⁸

The notes also indicate that the Secretary stated: "If there is anything that you need or that I can do please do not hesitate to call me at any time, day or night."⁶⁹

Social media traffic, including Twitter posts that night and in the following days, cited the video as justification for the attacks and called for further violence throughout the region.⁷⁰

Late that night, Secretary Clinton issued the following public statement:

I condemn in the strongest terms the attack on our mission in Benghazi today. As we work to secure our personnel and facilities, we have confirmed that one of our State Department officers was killed. We are heartbroken by this terrible loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and those who have suffered in this attack.

This evening, I called Libyan President Magariaf to coordinate additional support to protect Americans in Libya. President Magariaf expressed his condemnation and condolences and pledged his government's full cooperation.

Some have sought to justify this vicious behavior as a response to inflammatory material posted on the Internet. The United States deplores any intentional effort to denigrate the religious beliefs of others. Our commitment to religious tolerance goes back to the very

⁶⁸ Email from Lawrence Randolph Memorializing Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton's Call with Libyan General Nat'l Congress President Mohammed Magariaf (Sept. 11, 2012) (SCB71244).

⁶⁹ *Id.*

⁷⁰ House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Interview of Victoria Nuland (Sept. 28, 2013).

beginning of our nation. But let me be clear: There is never any justification for violent acts of this kind.

In light of the events of today, the United States government is working with partner countries around the world to protect our personnel, our missions, and American citizens worldwide.⁷¹

In the early morning hours of September 12, 2012, an intelligence product was issued stating that “the presence of armed assailants from the incidents outset suggest that this was an intentional assault and not an escalation of the peaceful protests,” as previously explained to Congress by the Deputy Director of the CIA.⁷²

Later that morning, Secretary Clinton spoke publicly about the attacks, stating:

Yesterday, our U.S. diplomatic post in Benghazi, Libya was attacked. Heavily armed militants assaulted the compound and set fire to our buildings. American and Libyan security personnel battled the attackers together. Four Americans were killed. . . . This is an attack that should shock the conscience of people of all faiths around the world. We condemn in the strongest terms this senseless act of violence, and we send our prayers to the families, friends, and colleagues of those we’ve lost. . . . There will be more time later to reflect, but today, we have work to do. There is no higher priority than protecting our men and women wherever they serve. We are working to determine the precise motivations and methods of those who carried out this assault. Some have sought to justify this vicious behavior, along with the protest that took place at our Embassy in Cairo yesterday, as a response to inflammatory material posted on the internet. America’s commitment to religious tolerance goes back to the very beginning of our nation. But let me be clear—there is no justification for this, none. Violence like this is no way to honor religion or faith. And as long as there are those who would take innocent life in the name of God, the world will never know a true and lasting peace.⁷³

Secretary Clinton testified previously to Congress that her statements were intended to acknowledge this terrorist attack, prevent future attacks, and condemn anyone seeking to use the video to justify violence, regardless of the various motives of the attackers:

⁷¹ Press Statement from Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, *Statement on the Attack in Benghazi* (Sept. 11, 2012) (online at www.state.gov/secretary/20092013clinton/rm/2012/09/197628.htm).

⁷² Michael Morell, Deputy Director, Central Intelligence Agency, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, *Hearing on the Benghazi Talking Points and Michael J. Morell’s Role in Shaping the Administration’s Narrative* (Apr. 2, 2014) (online at www.c-span.org/video/?318648-1/benghazi-obama-administration).

⁷³ Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, *Remarks on the Deaths of American Personnel in Benghazi, Libya* (Sept. 12, 2012) (online at www.state.gov/secretary/20092013clinton/rm/2012/09/197654.htm).

As I stated before the Committee, the tragedy in Benghazi was a terrorist attack. On September 12, I stated that “heavily armed militants assaulted the compound” the previous day, and the President spoke of an act of terror. We did not know who the attackers were, what their motives were, what the context of the attack was, and other information of that sort. At the same time, we were dealing with protests against our facilities in the region that were clearly connected to the video, and we were focused on keeping our people safe. We had our compounds breached in Cairo, Tunis, Khartoum, and Sana’a, in addition to Benghazi. We had serious disturbances in Pakistan and protests in more than 10 other countries that week. So we were working around the clock on high alert to deal with those threats and to protect our personnel and our facilities.

Throughout, we saw public comments that such violence was justified by—whether or not it was motivated by—inflammatory material posted on the internet, including the video. The Administration made clear that all such violence was unacceptable and unjustified, regardless of the motives. The intelligence community has addressed the fact that it assessed in the immediate aftermath that the attack in Benghazi began spontaneously following protests earlier that day in Cairo. The senior Administration officials who spoke to this, including me, had the same information from the intelligence community—which reflected the best, most current assessment at the time—and made clear that we were continuing to gather information and our assessment might change. And when additional information was collected, we updated our public posture which is normal in fluid circumstances.⁷⁴

On the afternoon of September 12, Secretary Clinton received notes to prepare for a 4:30 p.m. meeting on the attacks in Benghazi and Cairo. The notes stated that “sources indicate a group named Ansar al-Sharia, affiliated with Islamic extremists, organized the attack.” The notes also stated that Embassy Tripoli was reporting that the attack in Benghazi was pre-planned, similar to the intelligence report issued earlier that morning: “Embassy Tripoli reports that the attack was sophisticated, well-organized, involved over 50 armed gunmen, and appears to have been planned in advance.”⁷⁵

Later that afternoon, Secretary Clinton had a call with the Egyptian Prime Minister Hesham Kandil regarding the events in Cairo and Libya. The notes from that call indicate that the Secretary relayed information consistent with reporting at the time: “We know that the attack in Libya had nothing to do with the film. It was a planned attack—not a protest.” The notes also indicate that she acknowledged that Ansar al-Sharia reportedly claimed responsibility for the attacks: “Your [sic] not kidding. Based on the information we saw today we believe the group that claimed responsibility for this was affiliated with al Qaeda.”⁷⁶

⁷⁴ Response to Question for the Record submitted to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton by Representative Rohrabacher, House Committee on Foreign Affairs (Jan. 23, 2013).

⁷⁵ Secretary’s Participation in the Small Group Meeting on Libya and Egypt (Sept. 12, 2012) (C05447784; SCB0085910-12).

⁷⁶ Call Notes from Secretary’s Call with Egyptian PM Kandil (Sept. 12, 2012) (C05561911).

On that same day, however, Ansar al-Sharia reportedly disavowed responsibility for the attacks, claiming that they were spontaneous protests against the video and its maker. The group reportedly posted a video on YouTube that praised the attacks in Benghazi, referencing the “American pastor who is known for his animosity to Islam and Muslims.” It also reportedly stated:

The Ansar al-Shari’ah Battalion did not participate in this popular uprising as an independent entity. ... Rather it was a spontaneous and popular uprising in response to what the West did.⁷⁷

As these events unfolded, the Intelligence Community was making significant changes to the initial early morning assessment that “the presence of armed assailants from the incidents outset suggest that this was an intentional assault and not as escalation of the peaceful protests.”⁷⁸ In fact, according to the Deputy CIA Director, this sentence “was not written by the analysts,” but rather was “added after the analysts had finished their work and gone home for the night.”⁷⁹ He explained:

It was written by a senior CIA editor with expertise in military matters but no expertise in Libya or what had just happened in Benghazi. This editor added the sentence because she thought the early-morning update on the twelfth needed a bottom line. She never showed the sentence to the analysts; had she done so, they would have removed it. When the analysts came in the next morning, they complained vehemently about the edit.⁸⁰

It was not until September 13 that the Intelligence Community issued its “first thorough, fully coordinated, assessment of what happened in Benghazi.” The title of this assessment was: “Extremists Capitalized on Benghazi Protests.” Although the full assessment remains classified, it contained the following now-unclassified analysis from the Intelligence Community:

- “We assess the attacks on Tuesday against the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi began spontaneously.”
- “[T]he attacks began spontaneously following the protests at the U.S. embassy in Cairo.”

⁷⁷ Open Source Center, *Video: Ansar Al-Shari’ah Statement on US Consulate Attack in Benghazi* (Sept. 12, 2012) (online at www.opensource.gov/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_0_).

⁷⁸ Michael Morell, Deputy Director, Central Intelligence Agency, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, *Hearing on the Benghazi Talking Points and Michael J. Morell’s Role in Shaping the Administration’s Narrative* (Apr. 2, 2014) (online at www.c-span.org/video/?318648-1/benghazi-obama-administration).

⁷⁹ Michael Morell, *The Great War of Our Time: The CIA’s Fight Against Terrorism—From al Qa’ida to ISIS* (2015).

⁸⁰ *Id.*

- “Extremists with ties to al-Qa’ida were involved in the attacks.”⁸¹

This assessment was the basis for the talking points provided by the Intelligence Community to Congress and also passed along by others to Ambassador Susan Rice before her appearance on the Sunday talk shows later that week. Those talking points stated:

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.⁸²

On September 14, Secretary Clinton spoke at a ceremony to honor those lost in the attacks in Benghazi, stating:

This has been a difficult week for the State Department and for our country. We’ve seen the heavy assault on our post in Benghazi that took the lives of those brave men. We’ve seen rage and violence directed at American embassies over an awful internet video that we had nothing to do with. It is hard for the American people to make sense of that because it is senseless, and it is totally unacceptable.

The people of Egypt, Libya, Yemen, and Tunisia did not trade the tyranny of a dictator for the tyranny of a mob. Reasonable people and responsible leaders in these countries need to do everything they can to restore security and hold accountable those behind these violent acts. And we will, under the President’s leadership, keep taking steps to protect our personnel around the world.⁸³

On September 18, the Libyan officials provided their assessment of the video footage from security cameras just before the attack, but they did not provide the video itself. According to the Deputy CIA Director:

It was not until 18 September, when CIA received the Libyan Government’s assessment of video footage from the State Department facility’s security cameras that showed the front of the facility just before the attack—with no sign of protesters—that it became clear that we needed to revisit our analysis. It is important to note that on 18 September,

⁸¹ House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Written Statement of Michael Morell, Deputy Director of the CIA, *Hearing on the Benghazi Talking Points and Michael J. Morell’s Role in Shaping the Administration’s Narrative* (Apr. 2, 2014) (online at <https://intelligence.house.gov/sites/intelligence.house.gov/files/documents/MorellSFR04022014.pdf#page=1>).

⁸² Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, *Review of the Terrorist Attacks on U.S. Facilities In Benghazi, Libya, September 11-12, 2012* (Jan. 15, 2014) (online at www.congress.gov/113/crpt/srpt134/CRPT-113srpt134.pdf).

⁸³ Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, *Remarks at the Transfer of Remains Ceremony to Honor Those Lost in Attacks in Benghazi, Libya* (Sept. 14, 2012) (online at www.state.gov/secretary/20092013clinton/rm/2012/09/197780.htm).

the Libyans did not provide the video; they only provided their assessment of the video. Analysts refined their analysis, and on 22 September, CIA—in coordination with the Intelligence Community—published a joint piece with NCTC that assessed that the attacks were a deliberate assault by extremists influenced by events in Cairo, not that they grew spontaneously out of local protests.⁸⁴

Once the video footage and FBI reporting from interviews of personnel on the ground in Benghazi during the attacks became available, the CIA changed its assessment. As explained in the bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:

“Once the video footage became available on September 18, 2012, two days after Ambassador Rice spoke, and FBI reporting from interviews with U.S. officials on the ground began to be published on September 22, 2012, CIA changed its judgment and made it clear in a WIRE that ran on September 24th that CIA now assessed that no protest had occurred outside the TMF.”⁸⁵

On September 28, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence issued a statement reflecting this revised assessment. It stated:

In the immediate aftermath, there was information that led us to assess that the attack began spontaneously following protests earlier that day at our embassy in Cairo. We provided that initial assessment to Executive Branch officials and members of Congress, who used that information to discuss the attack publicly and provide updates as they became available. Throughout our investigation we continued to emphasize that information gathered was preliminary and evolving.

As we learned more about the attack, we revised our initial assessment to reflect new information indicating that it was a deliberate and organized terrorist attack carried out by extremists. It remains unclear if any group or person exercised overall command and control of the attack, and if extremist group leaders directed their members to participate. However, we do assess that some of those involved were linked to groups affiliated with, or sympathetic to al-Qa’ida. We continue to make progress, but there remain many unanswered questions. As more information becomes available our analysis will

⁸⁴ Written Statement of Michael Morell, Deputy Director, Central Intelligence Agency, *Hearing on the Benghazi Talking Points and Michael J. Morell’s Role in Shaping the Administration’s Narrative* (Apr. 2, 2014) (online at <https://intelligence.house.gov/sites/intelligence.house.gov/files/documents/MorellSFR04022014.pdf#page=1>).

⁸⁵ House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, *Investigative Report on the Terrorist Attacks on U.S. Facilities in Benghazi, Libya, September 27, 2012* (Nov. 21, 2014) (online at <http://intelligence.house.gov/sites/intelligence.house.gov/files/documents/Benghazi%20Report.pdf>) (emphasis in original).

continue to evolve and we will obtain a more complete understanding of the circumstances surrounding the terrorist attack.⁸⁶

In June 2014, Ahmed Abu Khatallah was captured in Libya and brought to the United States to face prosecution. According to press reports, witnesses saw him “directing the swarming attackers who ultimately killed Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens and three other Americans.”⁸⁷ Press accounts also reported:

On the day of the attack, Islamists in Cairo had staged a demonstration outside the United States Embassy there to protest an American-made online video mocking Islam, and the protest culminated in a breach of the embassy’s walls—images that flashed through news coverage around the Arab world. As the attack in Benghazi was unfolding a few hours later, Mr. Abu Khattala told fellow Islamist fighters and others that the assault was retaliation for the same insulting video, according to people who heard him.⁸⁸

According to the bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence more than a year ago: “Much of the early intelligence was conflicting and two years later, intelligence gaps remain.” The report concluded: “To this day, significant intelligence gaps regarding the identities, affiliations and motivations of the attackers remain.”⁸⁹

⁸⁶ Office of the Director of National Intelligence, *Statement by the Director of Public Affairs for ODNI, Shawn Turner, on the Intelligence Related to the Terrorist Attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya* (Sept. 28, 2012) (online at www.dni.gov/index.php/newsroom/press-releases/96-press-releases-2012/731-statement-by-the-odni-s-director-of-public-affairs-on-intelligence-related-to-the-terrorist-attack-on-the-u-s-consulate-in-benghazi).

⁸⁷ *U.S. Captured Benghazi Suspect in Secret Raid*, Washington Post (June 17, 2014) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/us-captured-benghazi-suspect-in-secret-raid/2014/06/17/7ef8746e-f5cf-11e3-a3a5-42be35962a52_story.html).

⁸⁸ *Brazen Figure May Hold Key to Mysteries*, New York Times (June 17, 2014) (online at www.nytimes.com/2014/06/18/world/middleeast/apprehension-of-ahmed-abu-khattala-may-begin-to-answer-questions-on-assault.html?_r=0).

⁸⁹ House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, *Investigative Report on the Terrorist Attacks on U.S. Facilities in Benghazi, Libya, September 11-12, 2012* (Nov. 21, 2014) (online at <http://intelligence.house.gov/sites/intelligence.house.gov/files/documents/Benghazi%20Report.pdf>).

III. EXCERPTS FROM WITNESS INTERVIEWS

A. No evidence that Secretary Clinton ordered the military to stand down on the night of the attacks.

None of the 54 individuals interviewed by the Select Committee identified any evidence to support this Republican claim against Secretary Clinton.

1. State Department Chief of Staff

The State Department Chief of Staff from 2009 until February 1, 2013, who was with the Secretary on the night of the attacks, had the following exchange:

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli?

A: I don't.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. Former Republican Congressman Howard Buck McKeon, the former chair of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks after which he stated, "Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did." Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: I could not.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could've saved lives if the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.⁹⁰

2. Diplomatic Security Command Center Senior Watch Officer

A Senior Watch Officer in the Diplomatic Security Command Center from 2011 to 2013 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down” and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that quote “there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi.” Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand down order issued to military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks after which he stated, given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you have evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives, but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.⁹¹

⁹⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of State Department Chief of Staff (Sept. 3, 2015).

3. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down,” end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?
- A: No, ma’am.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?
- A: No, ma’am, I would not have any access to information.
- Q: It has been alleged —
- A: — like that.
- Q: It has —
- A: — like that. I’m sorry.

- Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second flighting [sic] plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that these those four individuals were, instead, ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “There was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” end quote. Do you any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?
- A: No, ma’am.
- Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. Former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee conducted a review of the attacks after which he stated, quote, “Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened and how quick it dissipated, we probably couldn’t have done more than we did.” Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?
- A: No, ma’am.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to

⁹¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of DS Command Center Senior Watch Officer (Aug. 19, 2015).

them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No, ma'am.⁹²

4. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the summer and fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman speculated that, quote, "Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down," close quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to, quote, "stand down," close quote, on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has also been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on a second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to, quote, "remain in place," close quote, in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance at that location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, "there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi," close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that, quote, "there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi," close quote?

A: No.

Q: It has also been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard "Buck" McKeon, former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, "Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did," close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

⁹² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (May 8, 2015).

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.⁹³

5. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the summer and fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down,” close quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to, quote, “stand down,” close quote, on the nights of the attacks?

A: None.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: None.

Q: It has further been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi but were ordered by their superiors to, quote, “stand down,” close quote, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to, quote, “remain in place,” close quote, in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. The Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “There was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: None.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, “Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn’t have done more than we did,” close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon’s

⁹³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 15, 2015).

conclusion?

A: None.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: None.⁹⁴

6. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No, sir.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No, sir.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that there was no standdown order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion the House Armed Services Committee report that there was no standdown order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: None, sir.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that could have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard Buck McKeon, the former chairman the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, given where the troops were, how quickly things all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did. Do you have any evidence to contradict Chairman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No, sir.

⁹⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 26, 2015).

- Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have been -- that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy them?
- A: Not that I'm aware of, sir.⁹⁵

7. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring and summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down. And this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?
- A: Nope.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?
- A: No, ma'am.

- Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead, ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that there was no standdown order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no standdown order issued to the U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?
- A: No, ma'am.
- Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Congressman Howard "Buck" McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee conducted a review of the attacks after which he stated, "Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we could." Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?
- A: No, ma'am.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to

⁹⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (May 19, 2015).

them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives, but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No, ma'am.⁹⁶

8. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the spring and summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated, quote, "that Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down," end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi on the night of the attacks. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: I don't.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli, to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, "There was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi." Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard P. "Buck" McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, "Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did." Do you have any evidence to contradict Chairman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives, but that the

⁹⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Mar. 24, 2015).

A: Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?
No.⁹⁷

9. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: So it has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that quote “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down” end quote and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that quote “There was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi.” End quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks after which he stated quote “Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn’t have done more than we did.” End quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Chairman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives, but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.⁹⁸

⁹⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 13, 2015).

10. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down. And this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attacks that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, concluded a review of the attacks after which he stated, Given where the troops were, how quickly that things all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn’t have done more than we did. Do you have any evidence to contradict Chairman McKeon’s conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No, sir.⁹⁹

⁹⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Aug. 21, 2015).

⁹⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 13, 2015).

11. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the winter and spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi. Do you any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, “Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn’t have done more than we did.” Do you have any evidence to contradict Chairman McKeon’s conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.¹⁰⁰

¹⁰⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 9, 2015).

12. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the winter of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton attempted to block military action on the night of the attacks. One congressman speculated that, quote, “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down, end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi.” Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to, quote, “stand down” on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at MC [Embassy] Tripoli on the night of the attacks, who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi, were ordered by their superiors to, quote, “stand down,” meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to, quote, “remain in place” to Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. The Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that, quote, “there was no stand-down order” issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It’s been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attacks that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard Buck McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, “given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn’t have done more than we did,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

Q: And do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives, but that Pentagon leadership essentially decided not to deploy?

A: No.¹⁰¹

¹⁰¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Mar. 12, 2015).

13. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the fall and winter of 2011-2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down,” end quote. And this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to, quote, to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: I have no information on that.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: I have no information on that.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to, quote, stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to, quote, remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that, quote, “there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” end quote?

A: I don’t have any information on that.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, “given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn’t have done more than we did,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: I don’t have any information on that.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not the [to] deploy?

A: I don’t have any information on that.¹⁰²

¹⁰² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 3, 2015).

14. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the fall and winter of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It's been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, "Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down," end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to, quote, "stand down" on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to, quote, "stand down," meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to, quote, "remain in place," end quote, in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance at their current location. The Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, "There was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi," end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that, quote, "There was no stand down-order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi," end quote?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard "Buck" McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, "Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did," end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.¹⁰³

¹⁰³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 24, 2015).

15. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the fall of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It's been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, "Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down," end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel of Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to, quote, "stand down," meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that these four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, "there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi." Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It's been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard "Buck" McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, "Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did," end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (May 21, 2015).

16. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman speculated that, quote, “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down,” close quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order – any kind of order – to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has further been alleged that a team of four military personnel in Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to, quote, “stand down,” close quote, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were ordered to, quote, “remain in place,” close quote, in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “There was no stand-down order issued to the U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It has been further alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks after which he stated, quote, “Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did,” close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.¹⁰⁵

¹⁰⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 26, 2015).

17. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It's been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, "Secretary Clinton told Leon [Panetta] to stand down," end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not seconding more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to, quote, "stand down" on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: I can't speak to any orders Secretary Clinton has mentioned or given in any regard, relation to anything.

Q: So no evidence or information then?

A: No evidence or information to that or any other anything.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane of Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered, quote, "to remain in place," end quote, in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, "There was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi," close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that, quote, "there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi"?

A: No.

Q: The last one. It's been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard Buck McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, "Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did," end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: I mean, no.

Q: Okay. Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: I have no information related to Pentagon capabilities or what their leadership as

discussing.¹⁰⁶

18. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: So the first is, it's been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, "Secretary Clinton told Leon" – Leon Panetta – "to stand down," close quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Agent [REDACTED], do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to, quote, "stand down," close quote. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to, quote, "remain in place," close quote, in Tripoli in order to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, "there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the flight in Benghazi," close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that, quote, "there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi," close quote?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard Buck McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, "Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did," close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to

¹⁰⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 19, 2015).

them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.¹⁰⁷

19. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: So the first allegation relates to whether Secretary Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Mr. [REDACTED], do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: I have no idea –

Q: Okay. That's fine.

A: – because I wasn't at the Department anymore.

Q: Okay.

Q: Understood. But do you have any evidence that that occurred?

A: No. No.

Q: We'll turn to the next allegation, which relates to a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, "there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join in the fight in Benghazi," close quote. Do you have any evidence that the House Armed Services Committee's conclusion that there was no stand-down order is accurate?

A: I have no knowledge of that.

Q: The first rescue team was sent from Tripoli to Benghazi within 45 minutes of receiving notice of the initial attack at the State Department facility in Benghazi. Some have questioned, however, whether a second team of four military personnel should have also been sent. Some have alleged that those four military personnel were ordered to stand down. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were ordered to, quote, "remain in place," close quote, in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance there. Do you have any evidence that military officials who told Congress that the individuals were ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance were incorrect or misrepresenting the facts?

A: I have no knowledge of that DOD activity.

Q: Okay. Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon in fact ordered the four

¹⁰⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 12, 2015).

military personnel in Tripoli to stand down rather than remain in place to provide security and medical assistance in Tripoli on the night of the attacks?

A: I have no knowledge on the DOD activity.¹⁰⁸

20. Libya Post Management Officer

The Post Management Officer for Libya from 2011 through June 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One congressman has speculated that "Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down." This resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to "stand down" on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of that attacks were considering flying on a second plane to Benghazi were ordered by the superiors to stand down, meaning see-saw operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff reported issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, "There was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi." Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that, quote, "there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi," closed quote.

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attacks that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard "Buck" McKeon, the former chairman of House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks after which he stated, quote, "Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did," closed quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

¹⁰⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 10, 2015).

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives, but the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.¹⁰⁹

21. Near Eastern Affairs Communications Officer

A Communications Officer for the State Department Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs from the fall of 2008 to the present had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down,” end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to, quote, “stand down,” end quote, on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to, quote, “stand down,” meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “There was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personal in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks after which he stated, and I quote, “Given where the troops were, how quickly this thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Chairman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

¹⁰⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Libya Post Management Officer (July 23, 2015).

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives, but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.¹¹⁰

22. U.S. Ambassador to Libya

The U.S. Ambassador to Libya from December 2008 until May 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down,” end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considered flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “there was no standdown ordered issued to U.S. Military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no standdown order issued to U.S. Military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chair of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, “Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did.” Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

¹¹⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Near Eastern Affairs Communications Officer (July 29, 2015).

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decide [decided] not to deploy?

A: No.¹¹¹

23. U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN

The U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations from July 2010 until July 2013 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One congressman has speculated that, quote, “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down,” end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: I have no evidence.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: I do not have any evidence.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: I do not.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” P. McKeon, the former Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks after which he stated, quote, “Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Chairman McKeon's conclusion?

A: I do not.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to

¹¹¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Ambassador (July 31, 2015).

them on the night of the attack that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: I do not.¹¹²

24. U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya

The U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya from 2009 until June 15, 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, “Secretary Clinton told Leon to quote “stand down.” Close quote. And this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to “stand down” on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that, Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks were considering flying on a second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to quote “stand down.” Close quote. Meaning cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to quote “remain in place” close quote in Tripoli to provide security, medical assistance in their current location. Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that quote “there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi.” Close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no -- let me start over. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that quote “there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi”? Close quote.

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However former Republican Congressman Howard ‘Buck’ McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee conducted a review of the attacks after which he stated, quote “given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened and how quickly it all dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did.” Close quote. Do you have any evidence do contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

¹¹² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Aug. 11, 2015).

- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives, but the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?
- A: No.¹¹³

25. Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations

The Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations from July 2011 until September 2014 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down,” end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?
- A: No.

- Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “There was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the Republican House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?
- A: No.
- Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, “Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn’t have done more than we did,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Chairman McKeon’s conclusion?
- A: No.

¹¹³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya (Aug. 12, 2015).

- Q: Do you have any evidence of that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives, but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?
- A: No.¹¹⁴

26. Contracting Officer, Office of Acquisitions

A Contracting Officer in the State Department Office of Acquisitions starting in May of 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down,” end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?
- A: No.

- Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?
- A: No.
- Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, “Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Chairman McKeon's conclusion?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to

¹¹⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of the Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Aug. 25, 2015).

them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

A: No.¹¹⁵

27. Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management

The Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management who served from spring of 2008 until November of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attack. One Congressman has speculated that Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attack?

A: I do not.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attack?

A: I do not.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, "There was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi," unquote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard "Buck" McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, "Given where the troops were, how quickly the things all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did," unquote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to

¹¹⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Office of Acquisitions Contracting Officer (Aug. 27, 2015).

them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives, but that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?
A: No.¹¹⁶

28. Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division

The Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division from fall of 2014 to the present had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attack. One Congressman has speculated that Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attack who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi? Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: And finally, it has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard Buck McKeon, former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attack after which he stated, "given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did." Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attack that could have saved lives, but that the Pentagon

¹¹⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management (June 30, 2015).

A: leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?
No.¹¹⁷

29. Spokesperson for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs

The spokesperson in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs from 2011 through 2013 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, “Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down,” end quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks who were considering flying on the second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to remain in place in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that there was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, “Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Chairman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives that the Pentagon leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?

¹¹⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division (June 30, 2015).

A: No.¹¹⁸

30. Speechwriter for Secretary Clinton

A speechwriter for Secretary Clinton had the following exchange:

Q: First, it has been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to stand down, and this resulted in the defense department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: I do not.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: I do not.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks were considering flying on second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to stand down, meaning cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were ordered to, quote, “remain in place,” close quote, in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, “there was no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of House Armed Services Committee that there was, quote, “no stand down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi,” close quote?

A: I do not.

Q: Almost there.

A: Okay.

Q: It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attack that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard "Buck" McKeon, former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee conducted a review of the attacks after which he stated, quote, “given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did” close quote. Do you any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: I don't.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives but that Pentagon

¹¹⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of the Spokesperson for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (Oct. 9, 2015).

A: leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?
I don't.¹¹⁹

31. Speechwriter for Secretary Clinton

A speechwriter for Secretary Clinton had the following exchange:

Q: First, it's been alleged that Secretary of State Clinton intentionally blocked military action on the night of the attacks. One Congressman has speculated that, quote, "Secretary Clinton told Leon Panetta to 'stand down,'" closed quote, and this resulted in the Defense Department not sending more assets to help in Benghazi. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton ordered Secretary of Defense Panetta to stand down on the night of the attacks?

A: I do not.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton issued any kind of order to Secretary of Defense Panetta on the night of the attacks?

A: No. I don't.

Q: It has been alleged that a team of four military personnel at Embassy Tripoli on the night of the attacks were considering flying on a second plane to Benghazi were ordered by their superiors to, quote, "stand down," close quote, meaning to cease all operations. Military officials have stated that those four individuals were instead ordered to, quote, "remain in place," closed quote, in Tripoli to provide security and medical assistance in their current location. A Republican staff report issued by the House Armed Services Committee found that, quote, "There was no stand-down order issued to the U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi," closed quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the conclusion of the House Armed Services Committee that, quote, "There was no stand-down order issued to U.S. military personnel in Tripoli who sought to join the fight in Benghazi," closed quote?

A: No.

Q: Last one. It has been alleged that the military failed to deploy assets on the night of the attacks that would have saved lives. However, former Republican Congressman Howard "Buck" McKeon, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, conducted a review of the attacks, after which he stated, quote, "Given where the troops were, how quickly the thing all happened, and how quickly it dissipated, we probably couldn't have done more than we did," closed quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict Congressman McKeon's conclusion?

A: No. I do not.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the Pentagon had military assets available to them on the night of the attacks that could have saved lives, but the Pentagon

¹¹⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Secretary Clinton Speechwriter A (Oct. 9, 2015).

A: leadership intentionally decided not to deploy?
No.¹²⁰

¹²⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Secretary Clinton Speechwriter B (Oct. 9, 2015).

B. No evidence that Secretary Clinton personally approved or ordered a reduction of security in Benghazi prior to the attacks.

None of the 54 individuals interviewed by the Select Committee identified any evidence to support this Republican claim against Secretary Clinton.

1. State Department Chief of Staff

The State Department Chief of Staff from 2009 until February 1, 2013 had the following exchange:

- Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?
A: No.
Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?
A: No.¹²¹

2. U.S. Ambassador to Libya

The U.S. Ambassador to Libya from December 2008 until May 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?
A: No.
Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?
A: No.¹²²

3. U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya

The U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya from 2009 until June 15, 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post fact checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable

¹²¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of State Department Chief of Staff (Sept. 3, 2015).

¹²² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Ambassador (July 31, 2015).

denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹²³

4. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post fact-checker evaluated this claim and gave it Four Pinocchio's, its highest award for false claims. Nonetheless, this allegation has persisted. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No, ma'am.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No, ma'am.¹²⁴

5. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the summer and fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It's also been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources in Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹²⁵

¹²³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya (Aug. 12, 2015).

¹²⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (May 8, 2015).

¹²⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 15, 2015).

6. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the summer and fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: None.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: None.¹²⁶

7. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post fact checker evaluated this claim and give it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: Sorry, sir. I got thrown over the Pinocchios.

[Agency Counsel] Do you want him to repeat the allegation?

[Witness] I'm sorry. I just -- I got lost in that.

[Staff Counsel]

Q: The Pinocchios are confusing, yeah. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No, sir.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No, sir.¹²⁷

8. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring and summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable

¹²⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 26, 2015).

¹²⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (May 19, 2015).

denying security to Libya. The Washington Post fact checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios. That is the highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No, ma'am.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instructions on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No, ma'am.¹²⁸

9. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the spring and summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹²⁹

10. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it "Four Pinocchio's," its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: I don't know.

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qaddafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in Spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qaddafi to his own people in order to garner support

¹²⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Mar. 24, 2015).

¹²⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 13, 2015).

for military operations in Libya in Spring 2011?

A: I don't know, I don't know, I guess to all of them. I don't have any evidence, no. And I don't know of anything.

Q: I am just going to go back. And I understand that, but we just have to go through the entire script. So I am going to ask you the question that I asked just a couple minutes ago, just to make sure we have it clear for the record, on whether or not you have evidence with respect to this particular allegation.

A: Okay.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹³⁰

11. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post fact checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence in Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹³¹

12. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the winter and spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April of 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹³²

¹³⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Aug. 21, 2015).

¹³¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 13, 2015).

13. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the winter of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post fact checker evaluated this claim and gave it, quote, “four Pinocchios,” end quote, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹³³

14. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the fall and winter of 2011-2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it, quote, “Four Pinocchios,” end quote, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: I don’t have any information on that.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on the day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: Could you repeat that, please?

Q: Sure. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: I don’t have any information on that.¹³⁴

15. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the fall and winter of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it, quote, “four Pinocchios,” end quote, its highest award for

¹³² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 9, 2015).

¹³³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Mar. 12, 2015).

¹³⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 3, 2015).

false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹³⁵

16. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the fall of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It's been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it, quote, "Four Pinocchios," it's highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: Not that I know of, no.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹³⁶

17. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹³⁷

¹³⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 24, 2015).

¹³⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (May 21, 2015).

¹³⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 26, 2015).

18. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it, quote, “four Pinocchios,” its highest award for false claims. Again, do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?
- A: I have no recollection of anything Secretary Clinton -- nothing. No.
- Q: No, okay. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?
- A: No.¹³⁸

19. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who also served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

- Q: Okay. Were you ever asked or ordered not to provide information to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Were you ever asked or ordered to conceal or destroy information for the ARB?
- A: No.

- Q: It’s also been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?
- A: No.¹³⁹

¹³⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 19, 2015).

¹³⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 12, 2015).

20. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

- Q: We'll move now to the next allegation, and this relates to the Secretary's personal involvement in security decisions related to Libya. Some have alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to the post in Benghazi. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for these claims. And, Mr. [REDACTED], do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?
- A: I have no knowledge of that.
- Q: So you have no evidence. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?
- A: I have no evidence of that.¹⁴⁰

21. Libya Post Management Officer

The Post Management Officer for Libya from 2011 through June 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable to denying security to Libya. The Washington Post fact checker evaluated this claim and gave four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally assigned in April of 2012 a cable denying security resources to Libya?
- A: I have no evidence that she personally signed a cable in April of 2012.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?
- A: No.¹⁴¹

22. Near Eastern Affairs Communications Officer

A Communications Officer for the State Department Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs from the fall of 2008 to the present had the following exchange:

- Q: It is has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012

¹⁴⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 10, 2015).

¹⁴¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Libya Post Management Officer (July 23, 2015).

cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹⁴²

23. U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN

The U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations from July 2010 until July 2014 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it Four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: I do not.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: I do not.¹⁴³

24. Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations

The Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations from July 2011 until September 2014 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post fact checker evaluated this claim and gave it, quote, “Four Pinocchios,” its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹⁴⁴

¹⁴² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Near Eastern Affairs Communications Officer (July 29, 2015).

¹⁴³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Aug. 11, 2015).

¹⁴⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of the Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Aug. 25, 2015).

25. Diplomatic Security Command Center Senior Watch Officer

A Senior Watch Officer in the Diplomatic Security Command Center from 2011 to 2013 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹⁴⁵

26. Contracting Officer, Office of Acquisitions

A Contracting Officer in the State Department Office of Acquisitions starting in May of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: No.¹⁴⁶

27. Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management

The Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management who served from spring of 2008 until November of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post fact checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No.

¹⁴⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of DS Command Center Senior Watch Officer (Aug. 19, 2015).

¹⁴⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Office of Acquisitions Contracting Officer (Aug. 27, 2015).

- Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?
A: No.¹⁴⁷

28. Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division

The Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division from fall of 2014 to the present had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it “4 Pinocchios,” its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?
A: No.
Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?
A: No.¹⁴⁸

29. Spokesperson for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs

The spokesperson in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs from 2011 through 2013 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security in Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?
A: No.
Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?
A: No.¹⁴⁹

30. Speechwriter for Secretary Clinton

A speechwriter for Secretary Clinton had the following exchange:

- Q: Next. It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012

¹⁴⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management (June 30, 2015).

¹⁴⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division (June 30, 2015).

¹⁴⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of the Spokesperson for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (Oct. 9, 2015).

cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated this claim and gave it Four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: I do not.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources in Benghazi?

A: I do not.¹⁵⁰

31. Speechwriter for Secretary Clinton

A speechwriter for Secretary Clinton had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security to Libya. The Washington Post Fact Checker evaluated the claim and gave it Four Pinocchios, its highest award for false claims. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton personally signed an April 2012 cable denying security resources to Libya?

A: No, I don't.

Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton was personally involved in providing specific instruction on day-to-day security resources at Benghazi?

A: No, I don't.¹⁵¹

¹⁵⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Secretary Clinton Speechwriter A (Oct. 9, 2015).

¹⁵¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Secretary Clinton Speechwriter B (Oct. 9, 2015).

C. No evidence that Secretary Clinton pressed the United States into supporting the United Nations campaign in Libya under false pretenses.

None of the 54 individuals interviewed by the Select Committee identified any evidence to support this Republican claim against Secretary Clinton.

1. U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN

The U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations from July 2010 until July 2014 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risks posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risks posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: I do not.¹⁵²

Q: What was your sense, based on the information you had at the time, of the risk Colonel Qadhafi posed to the Libyan civilian population? If you can just unpack that a little bit as to what information did you have?

A: My perception was that he was going after them very, very -- you know, with a very, very heavy hand. We were getting reports of some of the murders, the killings. He was calling them cockroaches and rats and so forth. And we were getting -- we had some reports from the region about what was happening internally, reports from Libyans themselves about what was happening, and it seemed very, very dire, my perception.

Q: We've heard the situation in Libya at the time you described as a potential human catastrophe.

A: Uh-huh, potential genocide.

Q: Potential genocide?

A: Uh-huh.

Q: Did you share that concern? I mean, was this a fairly common-held perception at the time within the U.N. for yourself personally?

A: It was certainly my perception that we were on the brink of thousands of thousands being murdered. Thousands.¹⁵³

¹⁵² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Aug. 11, 2015).

¹⁵³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Aug. 11, 2015).

2. U.S. Ambassador to Libya

The U.S. Ambassador to Libya from December 2008 until May 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁵⁴

3. U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya

The U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya from 2009 until June 15, 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support from military operations in Libya in spring of 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support from military operation in Libya in spring of 2011?

A: No.¹⁵⁵

Q: The term “genocide” has been used to describe what possibly could have happened had Qadhafi moved on Benghazi I believe in the February-March 2011 timeframe. Is that something that you were tracking at all, back in Washington, back at Main State?

A: In anticipation of what he was going to do?

Q: Yes.

A: Certainly, I was watching the military situation on the ground, yes.

Q: Okay. And was that a concern that you had, what might happen if Qadhafi moved on Benghazi?

A: I was concerned that a lot of people would die, yes. He was a rather ruthless character.¹⁵⁶

¹⁵⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Ambassador (July 31, 2015).

¹⁵⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya (Aug. 12, 2015).

¹⁵⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya (Aug. 12, 2015).

4. State Department Chief of Staff

The State Department Chief of Staff from 2009 until February 1, 2013 had the following exchange:

- Q: Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risks posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support from military operations in Libya in the spring of 2011?
- A: No.¹⁵⁷

5. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has further been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in the spring of 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring of 2011?
- A: No.¹⁵⁸

6. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

- Q: It's been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for the military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to some people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?
- A: No.¹⁵⁹

¹⁵⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of State Department Chief of Staff (Sept. 3, 2015).

¹⁵⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 26, 2015).

¹⁵⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 19, 2015).

7. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who also served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It has also been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring of 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in 2011?

A: No.¹⁶⁰

8. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: We'll turn to the next allegation, and this relates to Secretary Clinton's role in the March 2011 run-up to U.S. military operations in Libya, then called Operation Odyssey Dawn, which was pursuant to a United Nations Security Council resolution, as well as the follow-on mission led by NATO called Operation Unified Protector. Recently, the Washington Times has raised an allegation that, quote, "U.S. intelligence did not support the story that Mrs. Clinton used to sell the war in Libya, namely that there was an imminent danger of genocide to be carried out by the Qadhafi regime," close quote. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in the spring of 2011?

A: I have no idea.

Q: So you have no evidence?

A: I have no knowledge of it.

Q: Okay. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton intentionally exaggerated the risk that Muammar Qadhafi, the longtime Libyan dictator, presented to his own people so that she could justify military intervention in Libya?

A: I have no knowledge of that.¹⁶¹

9. Libya Post Management Officer

The Post Management Officer for Libya from 2011 through June 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton has misrepresented or fabricated

¹⁶⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 12, 2015).

¹⁶¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 10, 2015).

intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner the course of military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support from military operations in Libya in spring of 2011?

A: No.¹⁶²

10. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No, ma'am. I was a student in Cairo, Egypt.¹⁶³

11. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the summer and fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁶⁴

12. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the summer and fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner

¹⁶² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Libya Post Management Officer (July 23, 2015).

¹⁶³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (May 8, 2015).

¹⁶⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 15, 2015).

support for military operations in Libya in the spring of 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: None.¹⁶⁵

13. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risks posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risks posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No, sir.¹⁶⁶

14. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring and summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in the spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No, ma'am.¹⁶⁷

15. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the spring and summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any

¹⁶⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 26, 2015).

¹⁶⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (May 19, 2015).

¹⁶⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Mar. 24, 2015).

evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁶⁸

16. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qaddafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in Spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qaddafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in Spring 2011?

A: I don't know, I don't know, I guess to all of them. I don't have any evidence, no. And I don't know of anything.¹⁶⁹

17. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risks posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risks posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁷⁰

18. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the winter and spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any

¹⁶⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 13, 2015).

¹⁶⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Aug. 21, 2015).

¹⁷⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 13, 2015).

evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁷¹

19. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the winter of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risks posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in the spring of 2011?

A: No.¹⁷²

20. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the fall and winter of 2011-2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: I don't have any information on that.¹⁷³

21. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the fall and winter of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the

¹⁷¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 9, 2015).

¹⁷² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Mar. 12, 2015).

¹⁷³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 3, 2015).

risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁷⁴

22. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the fall of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁷⁵

23. Near Eastern Affairs Communications Officer

A Communications Officer for the State Department Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs from the fall of 2008 to the present had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risks posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people, nor to garnish support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁷⁶

24. Diplomatic Security Command Center Senior Watch Officer

A Senior Watch Officer in the Diplomatic Security Command Center from 2011 to 2013 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in the spring of 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the

¹⁷⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 24, 2015).

¹⁷⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (May 21, 2015).

¹⁷⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Near Eastern Affairs Communications Officer (July 29, 2015).

risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring of 2011?

A: No.¹⁷⁷

25. Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations

The Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations from July 2011 until September 2014 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risks posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary of State Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risks posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁷⁸

26. Contracting Officer, Office of Acquisitions

A Contracting Officer in the State Department Office of Acquisitions starting in May of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁷⁹

27. Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management

The Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management who served from spring of 2008 until November of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the

¹⁷⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of DS Command Center Senior Watch Officer (Aug. 19, 2015).

¹⁷⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of the Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Aug. 25, 2015).

¹⁷⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Office of Acquisitions Contracting Officer (Aug. 27, 2015).

risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁸⁰

28. Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division

The Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division from fall of 2014 to the present had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011?

A: No.¹⁸¹

29. Spokesperson for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs

The spokesperson in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs from 2011 through 2013 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring of 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Colonel Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in the spring of 2011?

A: No.¹⁸²

30. Speechwriter for Secretary Clinton

A speechwriter for Secretary Clinton had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military

¹⁸⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management (June 30, 2015).

¹⁸¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division (June 30, 2015).

¹⁸² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of the Spokesperson for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (Oct. 9, 2015).

operations in Libya in spring 2011?
A: I do not.¹⁸³

31. Speechwriter for Secretary Clinton

A speechwriter for Secretary Clinton had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in spring 2011. Do you have any evidence that Secretary Clinton misrepresented or fabricated intelligence on the risk posed by Qadhafi to his own people in order to garner support for military operations in Libya in the spring of 2011?
A: No, I don't. And I hadn't heard that one.¹⁸⁴

¹⁸³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Secretary Clinton Speechwriter A (Oct. 9, 2015).

¹⁸⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Secretary Clinton Speechwriter B (Oct. 9, 2015).

D. No evidence that Secretary Clinton or her aides oversaw an operation at the State Department to destroy or scrub embarrassing documents.

None of the 54 individuals that were interviewed by the Select Committee identified any evidence to support this Republican claim against Secretary Clinton.

1. State Department Chief of Staff

The State Department Chief of Staff Cheryl Mills, who was specifically identified by Mr. Maxwell as having had some part in this alleged activity, fully denied all of Mr. Maxwell's charges. She explained that she had not had any interaction with Mr. Maxwell about documents, and further explained that it would have been impossible for someone in the document review process to have removed or scrubbed a document from the production to the ARB or Congress because the A Bureau kept a separate, complete copy of the documents. She had the following exchange:

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: I don't.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: I don't.

Q: Let me ask you this question for documents provided to Congress: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: I do not.¹⁸⁵

Q: There have been reports out there that an individual by the name of Ray Maxwell, at some point between September and December 2012, was in a room in the State Department where Benghazi documents were being assembled or reviewed or stored or something like that and that you had an encounter with him. Did that occur?

A: No.

Q: None of that is true?

A: Correct.

Q: You never had an encounter with Ray Maxwell?

A: Not of the kind he described –

Q: Okay.

¹⁸⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of State Department Chief of Staff (Sept. 3, 2015).

A: -- or any kind around Benghazi.

Q: Was it regarding -- did you encounter him regarding documents for some other subject?

A: No.¹⁸⁶

Q: In a broad-brush kind of way, in your role, whether it be, you know, helping to collect or helping to review, did you in any way, yourself, remove any document that was relevant to or related to the attacks in Benghazi and destroy that or prevent it from getting to the Accountability Review Board or Congress or to the Secretary or whoever had asked you for the information?

A: I did not.¹⁸⁷

Q: And, you know, setting aside this particular instance and whether there was a basement review process going on, did you ever give anyone any instruction that they should pull out anything that might put anybody in the NEA front office or the seventh floor in a bad light?

A: I did not.

Q: Did you ever instruct anyone to pull out documents that might put Secretary Clinton -- paint her in a bad light?

A: I did not.

Q: Did you instruct anyone to in any way kind of remove or destroy or scrub documents that might not reveal the full and complete story about what happened in Benghazi?

A: I did not.

Q: Did anyone ever come to you -- you were kind of the point person for the Department on making a lot of these wheels go around. Did anyone come to you at the time or any time after and express concern to you internally that there had been efforts, that there had been orders to flag, remove, scrub, destroy documents that might look damaging to the State Department?

A: No, they did not. And the A Bureau keeps a copy of everything, so they are the repository that holds everything. So there are only then copies made for review. So, no, that didn't happen, and the complete repository always stayed with the A Bureau. It never left.

Q: So if anyone were going to propose or think about doing this, it's a pretty high-risk gambit, because ultimately the A Bureau is going to have the master copy --

A: That's exactly right.

¹⁸⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of State Department Chief of Staff (Sept. 3, 2015).

¹⁸⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of State Department Chief of Staff (Sept. 3, 2015).

- Q: -- and if documents are scrubbed, there's going to be an evidentiary trail. Is that accurate?
A: Correct.¹⁸⁸

2. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: Okay. And at the time you were interviewed, were you able to be fully forthcoming with the ARB about your experience in Benghazi?
A: Yes, ma'am.
Q: Did you withhold any information about your experience at all?
A: No, ma'am.
Q: Were you ever instructed by anyone at the State Department not to be fully forthcoming with the Accountability Review Board?
A: No, ma'am.

- Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the Accountability Review Board?
A: No, ma'am.
Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else to -- at the State Department, to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
A: No, ma'am.
Q: Let me ask these questions for documents provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
A: No, ma'am.¹⁸⁹

3. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: There have been some allegations with regard to the ARB and the ARB process that it either wasn't thorough enough, or it wasn't independent enough, or that

¹⁸⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of State Department Chief of Staff (Sept. 3, 2015).

¹⁸⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (May 8, 2015).

individuals were asked not to share all of the information they had. Did anyone ever indicate to you that you should withhold information from the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Did anyone ever give you any instructions about what you should say to the ARB?

A: No.¹⁹⁰

4. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the summer and fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.¹⁹¹

5. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the summer and fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: There have been various accusations about the ARB, the process employed. I'd just like to ask you, were you ever asked or ordered not to provide information to the ARB?

A: Never.

Q: Were you ever asked or ordered to conceal or destroy information from the ARB?

A: Never. Quite to the contrary.

¹⁹⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Mar. 6, 2015).

¹⁹¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 15, 2015).

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: None.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: None.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: None.¹⁹²

6. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: Okay. And you felt as if you were fully forthcoming with the ARB?

A: Yes, I was.

Q: And you didn't withhold any information from the ARB?

A: None at all.

Q: And did you ever withhold any information from Congress in connection with this attack in Benghazi?

A: No.

Q: At any point, Agent [REDACTED], were you ever asked or ordered not to provide information to the ARB?

A: No, sir.

Q: And you were never asked or ordered not to provide information to Congress at any point. Is that right?

A: No, sir.

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No evidence, sir.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the

¹⁹² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 26, 2015).

- materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: Not that I'm aware of, sir.
- Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
- A: No, sir.¹⁹³

7. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring and summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No, ma'am.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No, ma'am.
- Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
- A: No, ma'am.¹⁹⁴

8. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the spring and summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: Were you ever asked or ordered not to provide information to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Were you ever asked or ordered to conceal or destroy information from the ARB?
- A: No.

¹⁹³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (May 19, 2015).

¹⁹⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Mar. 24, 2015).

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.¹⁹⁵

9. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: With respect to the ARB, were you ever asked or ordered not to provide information to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: And were you ever asked or ordered to conceal or destroy information from the ARB?

A: No.

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the accountability review board damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask you these questions also for the documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.¹⁹⁶

¹⁹⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 13, 2015).

10. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: And were you ever asked or ordered at any time not to provide information to the ARB?

A: No, sir.

Q: And were you ever asked or ordered to conceal or even destroy information from the ARB?

A: No, sir.

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.¹⁹⁷

11. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the winter and spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: So there are a couple of just very brief allegations that have been put out there with respect to the ARB that I want to ask you about –

A: Okay.

Q: – and just dispense with. Were you ever asked or ordered not to provide information to the ARB?

A: No.

¹⁹⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Aug. 21, 2015).

¹⁹⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 13, 2015).

Q: Were you ever asked or ordered to conceal or destroy information from the ARB?

A: No.

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that, in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.¹⁹⁸

12. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the winter of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: Were you ever asked or ordered to not provide information to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Were you ever asked or ordered to conceal or destroy information from the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or, quote, “scrubbed” damaging documents from materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

¹⁹⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 9, 2015).

- A: No.
Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or, quote, “scrubbed” damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
A: No.¹⁹⁹

13. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the fall and winter of 2011-2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: Were you ever asked or ordered to not provide information to the ARB?
A: No.
Q: Were you asked or ordered to conceal or destroy information from ARB?
A: No.

- Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or, quote-unquote, “scrubbed,” damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
A: I don’t have any information on that.
Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from materials that were provided to the ARB?
A: I don’t have any information on that.
Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
A: I don’t have information on that.²⁰⁰

14. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the fall and winter of 2011 had the following exchange:

- Q: Did anyone ask you or order you not to provide information to the ARB?
A: No.
Q: And were you ever asked or ordered to conceal or destroy information from the

¹⁹⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Mar. 12, 2015).

²⁰⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 3, 2015).

ARB?

A: No.

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or, quote, “scrubbed” damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or, quote, “scrubbed” damaging documents from the materials provided that were to Congress?

A: No.²⁰¹

15. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the fall of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: Now, I know after the September 11, 2012, attacks, as you were discussing earlier, there was an Accountability Review Board that was convened. I'm just going to ask you a couple of questions regarding that board. Were you ever asked or ordered to not provide information?

A: To not provide?

Q: To not provide information to the ARB.

A: No.

Q: Okay. Were you ever asked to conceal or destroy information from the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone

²⁰¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 24, 2015).

else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: And let me ask these questions as for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.²⁰²

16. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board that damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone in the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone in the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.²⁰³

17. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: Okay. A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from materials that were provided to ARB?

A: I was never asked and have not been – have no knowledge of anything along those lines.

²⁰² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (May 21, 2015).

²⁰³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 26, 2015).

Q: Okay. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.²⁰⁴

18. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who also served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that, in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed from that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.²⁰⁵

19. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: Were you ever asked or ordered not to provide information to the ARB?

A: No. I had no – I had no interaction at all with the ARB, no.

Q: Okay. Were you ever asked or ordered to conceal or destroy information from the ARB?

A: No.

²⁰⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 19, 2015).

²⁰⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 12, 2015).

- Q: The next allegation relates to the State Department's cooperation with the Accountability Review Board. According to a September 15, 2014, article entitled "Benghazi Bombshell: Clinton State Department Official Reveals Details of Alleged Document Review" that appeared on the Web site The Daily Signal, quote, "Hillary Clinton confidants were part of an operation to separate damaging documents before they were turned over to the Accountability Review Board," close quote. The article further reports that former State Department Deputy Assistant Secretary Ray Maxwell, quote, "couldn't help but wonder if the ARB, perhaps unknowingly, had received from his bureau a scrubbed set of documents with the most damaging material missing," close quote. Do you have any evidence that Hillary Clinton confidants, such as Cheryl Mills or Jake Sullivan, which are both named in the article, were part of an operation to remove or scrub damaging documents before they were turned over to the ARB?
- A: I have no knowledge. I wasn't there.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No knowledge. I wasn't there.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No knowledge. I wasn't there.
- Q: Okay. And then we will again ask these questions for documents provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
- A: No knowledge that any documents were altered.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
- A: No knowledge of that.²⁰⁶

20. Libya Post Management Officer

The Post Management Officer for Libya from 2011 through June 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: So I would like to ask, were you able to be fully forthcoming with the ARB?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Did you withhold any information about the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Were you ever under any pressure from anyone to withhold information from the ARB?

²⁰⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 10, 2015).

A: No.

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.²⁰⁷

21. Near Eastern Affairs Communications Officer

A Communications Officer for the State Department Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs from the fall of 2008 to the present had the following exchange:

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.²⁰⁸

²⁰⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Libya Post Management Officer (July 23, 2015).

²⁰⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Near Eastern Affairs Communications Officer (July 29, 2015).

22. U.S. Ambassador to Libya

The U.S. Ambassador to Libya from December 2008 until May 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: And did you feel that you could be fully forthcoming with the ARB about your experience in Libya?

A: Yes.

Q: Did you withhold any information from what you conveyed to the ARB about your time there?

A: Not to my recollection.

Q: And were you under pressure from anyone?

A: No.

Q: To --

[Agency Counsel]: Let her finish.

[Witness] I'm sorry.

[Staff Counsel]:

Q: Were you under pressure from anyone to withhold information or convey facts in any particular way when you spoke with the ARB?

A: No.

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.²⁰⁹

23. U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN

The U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations from July 2010 until July 2013 had the following exchange:

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have

²⁰⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Ambassador (July 31, 2015).

been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: I do not.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: I do not. Sorry.

Q: Let me ask these questions for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: I do not.²¹⁰

24. U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya

The U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya from 2009 until June 15, 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: And your participation in that. I'd just like to ask a couple of questions about your participation with the ARB. Just first did you withhold any information from the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Okay. Were you ever under any pressure from anyone to withhold information from the ARB?

A: No.

Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing document to the Accountability Review Board damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone of the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask you these questions also for documents provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone in the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.²¹¹

²¹⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Aug. 11, 2015).

25. Diplomatic Security Command Center Senior Watch Officer

A Senior Watch Officer in the Diplomatic Security Command Center from 2011 to 2013 had the following exchange:

- Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone in the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from materials that were provided to Congress?
- A: No.²¹²

26. Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations

The Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations from July 2011 until September 2014 had the following exchange:

- Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
- A: No.²¹³

²¹¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Chief of Mission in Libya (Aug. 12, 2015).

²¹² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of DS Command Center Senior Watch Officer (Aug. 19, 2015).

²¹³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of the Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Aug. 25, 2015).

27. Contracting Officer, Office of Acquisitions

A Contracting Officer in the State Department Office of Acquisitions starting in May of 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
- A: No.²¹⁴

28. Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management

The Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management who served from spring of 2008 until November of 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Let me ask you these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
- A: No.²¹⁵

²¹⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Office of Acquisitions Contracting Officer (Aug. 27, 2015).

²¹⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management (June 30, 2015).

29. Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division

The Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division from fall of 2014 to the present had the following exchange:

- Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No.
- Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
- A: No.²¹⁶

30. Spokesperson for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs

The spokesperson in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs from 2011 through 2013 had the following exchange:

- Q: A concern has been raised by one individual that, in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the Accountability Review Board?
- A: No, I do not.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?
- A: No, I do not.
- Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?
- A: No, I do not.²¹⁷

²¹⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division (June 30, 2015).

²¹⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of the Spokesperson for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (Oct. 9, 2015).

31. Speechwriter for Secretary Clinton

A speechwriter for Secretary Clinton had the following exchange:

Q: Concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: I don't.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed to anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging documents from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: I don't.

Q: Let me ask these questions also for documents provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: I do not.²¹⁸

32. Speechwriter for Secretary Clinton

A speechwriter for Secretary Clinton had the following exchange:

Q: Concern has been raised by one individual that in the course of producing documents to the Accountability Review Board, damaging documents may have been removed or scrubbed out of that production. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials or provided to the ARB?

A: No. I don't.

Q: Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department directed to anyone else at the State Department to remove or scrub damaging document from the materials that were provided to the ARB?

A: No.

Q: Let me ask you questions also for documents that were provided to Congress. Do you have any evidence that anyone at the State Department removed or scrubbed damaging documents from the materials that were provided to Congress?

A: No.²¹⁹

²¹⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Secretary Clinton Speechwriter A (Oct. 9, 2015).

²¹⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Secretary Clinton Speechwriter B (Oct. 9, 2015).

E. No evidence that Secretary Clinton or any other U.S. official directed or authorized the U.S. Mission in Benghazi to transfer weapons from Libya to another country.

None of the 54 individuals interviewed by the Select Committee identified any evidence to support this Republican claim against Secretary Clinton.

1. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or they are countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria and that they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No, ma’am.

Q: Do you have any evidence that U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No, ma’am.²²⁰

2. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the summer and fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has also been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” close quote, and they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²²¹

²²⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (May 8, 2015).

²²¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 15, 2015).

3. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the summer and fall of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found, quote, “The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” close quote, and they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: None.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: None.²²²

4. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria and that they found no support for this allegation. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: I don’t know anything about that, sir.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: I don't have any information about that either, sir.²²³

5. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring and summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria and that they found no support

²²² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 26, 2015).

²²³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (May 19, 2015).

for this allegation. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No, ma'am.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No, ma'am.²²⁴

6. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the spring and summer of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, "The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria," end quote, and they found, quote, "no support for this allegation." Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapon transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²²⁵

7. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that quote "The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria" end quote and that they found quote "no support for this allegation." End quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²²⁶

²²⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Mar. 24, 2015).

²²⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 13, 2015).

²²⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Aug. 21, 2015).

8. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria and that they found no support for this allegation. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²²⁷

9. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the winter and spring of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria, and they found no support for this allegation. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²²⁸

10. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the winter of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the

²²⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 13, 2015).

²²⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Apr. 9, 2015).

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” end quote, and that they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²²⁹

11. Principal Officer

The Principal Officer who served in Benghazi in the fall and winter of 2011-2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels to or other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on intelligence found that, quote, “The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” end quote, and that they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to the contrary to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: I don’t have any information on that.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: I don’t have any information on that.²³⁰

12. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the fall and winter of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” end quote, and that they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

²²⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Mar. 12, 2015).

²³⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Principal Officer (Mar. 3, 2015).

A: No.²³¹

13. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the fall of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” end quote, and that they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²³²

14. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

Q: It has also been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” close quote, and they found that, quote, “no support for this allegation,” close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report findings that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²³³

²³¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 24, 2015).

²³² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (May 21, 2015).

²³³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 26, 2015).

15. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

- Q: It's been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, "The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria," end quote, and that they found, quote, "no support for this allegation," close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan support finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?
- A: No.²³⁴

16. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who also served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, "the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria," close quote, and that they found, quote, "no support for this allegation," close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?
- A: No.²³⁵

17. Diplomatic Security Agent

A diplomatic security agent who served in Benghazi in the spring of 2011 had the following exchange:

- Q: We'll turn to the next allegation, which relates to speculation about the illegal transfer of weapons from Libya to Syria. Some have questioned whether the U.S. mission in Benghazi was transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to any

²³⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 19, 2015).

²³⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 12, 2015).

other countries, including Turkey. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” close quote, and that, quote, “eyewitness testimony and thousands of pages of CIAs cables and emails that the committee reviewed provide no support for this allegation,” close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: I have no knowledge of any of that.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or any other country?

A: No knowledge of that.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. personnel in Benghazi were involved in the unlawful transfer of weapons to Syria, to Turkey, or to any other country?

A: I have no knowledge of that.²³⁶

18. Libya Post Management Officer

The Post Management Officer for Libya from 2011 through June 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels for other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria” closed quote, and that they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” closed quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapon transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²³⁷

19. Near Eastern Affairs Communications Officer

A Communications Officer for the State Department Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs from the fall of 2008 to the present had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” end quote, and they

²³⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Diplomatic Security Agent (Feb. 10, 2015).

²³⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Libya Post Management Officer (July 23, 2015).

found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²³⁸

20. U.S. Ambassador to Libya

The U.S. Ambassador to Libya from December 2008 until May 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. The bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria and that they found no support for this allegation.” Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²³⁹

21. U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN

The U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations from July 2010 until July 2013 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” end quote, and they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: I do not.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: I do not.²⁴⁰

²³⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Near Eastern Affairs Communications Officer (July 29, 2015).

²³⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Ambassador (July 31, 2015).

²⁴⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Aug. 11, 2015).

22. U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya

The U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya from 2009 until June 15, 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. Bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote “The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria.” Close quote and that they found quote “no support for this allegation.” Close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?
- A: No.²⁴¹

23. Diplomatic Security Command Center Senior Watch Officer

A Senior Watch Officer in the Diplomatic Security Command Center from 2011 to 2013 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select on Intelligence found that quote the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria and that they found quote no support for this allegation. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?
- A: No.²⁴²

24. Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations

The Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations from July 2011 until September 2014 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “The CIA

²⁴¹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya (Aug. 12, 2015).

²⁴² House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of DS Command Center Senior Watch Officer (Aug. 19, 2015).

was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” end quote, and they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfer from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²⁴³

25. Contracting Officer, Office of Acquisitions

A Contracting Officer in the State Department Office of Acquisitions starting in May of 2012 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” end quote, and they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²⁴⁴

26. State Department Chief of Staff

The State Department Chief of Staff from 2009 until February 1, 2013 had the following exchange:

Q: A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria and that they found no support for this allegation. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee’s bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: I do not have any such information.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: I do not.²⁴⁵

²⁴³ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of the Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Aug. 25, 2015).

²⁴⁴ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Office of Acquisitions Contracting Officer (Aug. 27, 2015).

²⁴⁵ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of State Department Chief of Staff (Sept. 3, 2015).

27. Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management

The Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management who served from spring of 2008 until November of 2012 had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria and that they found no support for this allegation. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?
- A: Could you just read that again? My mind wandered a little bit.
- Q: Sure. I won't take it personally.
- A: Okay.
- Q: Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?
- A: No.²⁴⁶

28. Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division

The Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division from fall of 2014 to the present had the following exchange:

- Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. Mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that "the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria" and they found no support for this allegation. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?
- A: No.²⁴⁷

²⁴⁶ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Executive Secretariat Director of Information Resources Management (June 30, 2015).

²⁴⁷ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Chief of the Records and Archives Management Division (June 30, 2015).

29. Spokesperson for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs

The spokesperson in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs from 2011 through 2013 had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” end quote, and they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” end quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any evidence that U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No.²⁴⁸

30. Speechwriter for Secretary Clinton

A speechwriter for Secretary Clinton had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “the CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syria,” close quote, and that they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” close quote. Do you have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: I do not.

Q: Do you have any evidence that U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or any other foreign country?

A: I do not.²⁴⁹

31. Speechwriter for Secretary Clinton

A speechwriter for Secretary Clinton had the following exchange:

Q: It has been alleged that the U.S. mission in Benghazi included transferring weapons to Syrian rebels or to other countries. A bipartisan report issued by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence found that, quote, “The CIA was not collecting and shipping arms from Libya to Syrian,” close quote, and that they found, quote, “no support for this allegation,” close quote. Do you

²⁴⁸ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of the Spokesperson for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (Oct. 9, 2015).

²⁴⁹ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Secretary Clinton Speechwriter A (Oct. 9, 2015).

have any evidence to contradict the House Intelligence Committee's bipartisan report finding that the CIA was not shipping arms from Libya to Syria?

A: No, I don't.

Q: Do you have any evidence that the U.S. facilities in Benghazi were being used to facilitate weapons transfers from Libya to Syria or to any other foreign country?

A: No. I don't.²⁵⁰

²⁵⁰ House Select Committee on Benghazi, Interview of Secretary Clinton Speechwriter B (Oct. 9, 2015).