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Contact: Jamal Ware
(202) 225-4121

Hoekstra Statement on Cunningham Inquiry

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, issued the following statement on the committee's inquiry into former-U.S. Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham:

"Today the committee's Ranking Member, Jane Harman, unilaterally and without the consent and authority of the full committee, released an interim, internal report by the committee's independent counsel into the actions of former Congressman Randy "Duke" Cunningham.

"Cunningham's actions to enrich himself as a Member of Congress are reprehensible, but it is reassuring that the committee's independent counsel has found no instances of wrongdoing on the part of other committee Members or the committee's staff.

"That said, the unilateral decision by Harman to break our bipartisan, written agreement to review the Cunningham matter by releasing an incomplete, internal committee document that has not been reviewed by the other committee Members is disturbing and beyond the pale.

"Cunningham has reached out to the committee and offered his testimony, a possibility the independent counsel is still reviewing. Until a final determination has been reached on securing Cunningham's testimony and the full committee can review the independent counsel's final report, this inquiry cannot be considered complete.

"As I did previously during the Teamsters investigation, and consistent with the opinion of the D.C. bar that it is unethical to subpoena a witness before Congress who intends to plead the Fifth, I will not issue a subpoena solely for the theatrics of having Cunningham appear and take the Fifth.

"Harman's blatant disregard for the bipartisan agreement, the responsibilities and prerogatives of her fellow committee Members, and her willingness to ignore her own previous statements that the review be thorough and without timeframe underscores her personal decision to politicize the committee and this critical inquiry."

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