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December 12, 2016

The Honorable James Clapper
Director of National Intelligence
Washington, DC 20511

Dear Director Clapper:

Media articles published over the last several days have highlighted supposed analytic disagreements within the Intelligence Community (IC) over alleged Russian cyber activities relating to the recent U.S. Presidential election. Such articles have stated, among other claims, that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) have developed conflicting intelligence assessments and delivered to Congress “divergent messages” regarding the Russian government’s alleged cyber attacks connected to the election. The claims in these articles also appear to conflict with recent IC statements to the public and to this Committee characterizing alleged Russian activities.

Over the past several months, the Committee has received multiple briefings and assessments from the IC on the alleged Russian activities and cyber threats. On November 17, 2016, you told the Committee during an open hearing that the IC lacked strong evidence connecting Russian government cyber-attacks and WikiLeaks disclosures, testifying that “as far as the WikiLeaks connection, the evidence there is not as strong, and we don't have good insight into the sequencing of the releases or when the data may have been provided.” According to new press reports, this is no longer the CIA’s position.

In light of the Committee’s robust oversight efforts on these issues, I was dismayed that we did not learn earlier, from you directly, about the reported conflicting assessments and the CIA’s reported revision of information previously conveyed to this Committee. The Committee therefore has an urgent need to accurately understand the current IC assessment of alleged Russian cyber-activities relating to the election, and any disagreements among IC components.

I therefore request that you, no later than December 16, 2016:

- Brief the Committee, with participation by the CIA and FBI, on the current assessment of the IC on the alleged Russian involvement in cyber activities related to the U.S. Presidential election;

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- Brief the Committee on the status and plans for the Presidentially-directed review of Russian involvement in cyber activities related to the U.S. Presidential election; and
- Provide to the Committee a coordinated, written, IC assessment, with participation from the CIA, FBI, and the broader IC, on the alleged Russian involvement in cyber activities related to the U.S. Presidential election.

Furthermore, I am deeply concerned that these press reports may contain unauthorized disclosures of both classified IC information and the contents of closed intelligence committee proceedings. Additionally, if true, reports of conflicting IC assessments call into question the effectiveness of the IC's analytic coordination process regarding this crucial issue. Therefore, I also request that, no later than January 13, 2017:

- Your Office of Analytic Integrity and Standards completes—and provides to the Committee—an analytic and tradecraft review of any IC assessments related to alleged Russian involvement in cyber activities related to the U.S. Presidential election; and
- You provide the Committee with a written assessment of whether any classified information was disclosed in recent media articles related to Russian involvement in cyber activities related to the U.S. Presidential election.

I am sending copies of this letter to CIA Director Brennan, FBI Director Comey, and Defense Intelligence Agency Director Stewart for their awareness. Thank you for your timely attention to these important matters.

Sincerely,



Devin Nunes
Chairman

Copies to:

The Honorable John Brennan
The Honorable James Comey
LtGen Vincent Stewart