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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

HVC-304, THE CAPITOL
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4121

DAMON NELSON
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September 22, 2016

The Honorable James R. Clapper
Director of National Intelligence
Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Washington, DC 20511

The Honorable John O. Brennan
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

The Honorable Marcel Lettre
Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence
5000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20511

Dear Director Clapper, Director Brennan, and Under Secretary Lettre,

I respectfully request your assistance regarding several outstanding matters related to the documents discovered during the May 2, 2011, raid on Usama bin Laden's compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan (the Abbottabad Documents).

As you are aware, Section 313 of the Intelligence Authorization Act (IAA) for Fiscal Year 2014 directed the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) to complete a declassification review of the Abbottabad documents within 120 days. The documents came from the information on over 100 thumb drives, hard drives, cell phones, paper files and other documents and materials that could fill a "small college library." Making the material widely available for public analysis will serve the public interest and help to demystify bin Laden and al-Qa'ida without compromising national security. Moreover, the public release can help provide insights into al-Qa'ida's operations, tradecraft, and its relationships with regional nation states, organizations and people.

Pursuant to the Fiscal Year 2014 IAA, the IC has briefed the Committee on two rounds of declassification reviews, which resulted in the declassification and release of 103 documents on May 20, 2015, and 113 documents on March 1, 2016, as well as the identification of 217 other publicly available items. The 216 documents released to date represent only a minuscule percentage of the documents deemed to have intelligence value and an exponentially smaller percentage of the total Abbottabad document collection. The anemic pace of the declassification review and release of the Abbottabad documents is an insufficient response to congressional direction.

The report accompanying the Committee-passed IAA for Fiscal Year 2016 directed CIA to provide the Committee with all intelligence reports based on the Abbottabad documents. To date, the Committee has received intelligence reports that CIA produced from May through June 2011. However, CIA has not yet provided additional reports that it produced *after* June 2011 based on the Abbottabad documents.

Separately, I understand that from 2011 to mid-2015 U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) worked extensively to exploit the Abbottabad documents. Following the conclusion of the initial interagency Abbottabad Task Force, which the CENTCOM Intelligence Directorate (J2) participated in, CENTCOM J2 exploited access to a limited number of the documents at the National Media Exploitation Center. In summer 2012, CENTCOM J2 briefed DNI Clapper, CIA, and Defense Intelligence Agency Director LTG Michael Flynn on their initial findings. After a suspension of access, the CENTCOM analysts regained limited access to the documents in mid-2013. In May 2013, the CENTCOM J2, Brigadier General Scott D. Berrier, provided the Committee with 42 Intelligence Information Papers produced from May to September 2012. CENTCOM continued its exploitation effort until at least the summer of 2015. Besides a very small number of Information Intelligence Reports (IIRs) that CENTCOM produced in May 2015, it appears that none of the information produced by this effort has been disseminated to the Intelligence Community in the form of intelligence reports or analytic products. The CENTCOM J2 Intelligence Information Papers and the small number of IIRs do not represent all the CENTCOM Abbottabad analysis from September 2012 onward.

To fulfill the Committee's oversight responsibilities with respect to this issue, I have enclosed a list of requests for information and documents. Please provide the requested materials no later than **October 11, 2016**. If necessary, the Committee will consider a compulsory process to obtain this information. I look forward to your prompt response to these matters. Please contact Derek Harvey at 202-225-4121 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Devin Nunes
Chairman

Enclosure

Enclosure: Requests for Abbottabad Information and Documents

1. DNI provide a status update for the declassification and release of Abbottabad documents of intelligence value and the unique files, including a justification for not declassifying what remains from the information found on over 100 thumb drives, hard drives, cell phones, paper files and other documents and materials that could fill “a small college library”;
2. DNI provide an unclassified description of the declassification process, rules, factors and any additional guidance applied to the review, as well as a description of the organizational participants, the dates reviews were conducted, and an estimate of the manpower and hours dedicated to the effort;
3. CIA provide all intelligence reports it produced since June 2011 based on the Abbottabad documents, as well as any assessments based primarily on the Abbottabad documents beyond the seven assessments CIA provided to the Committee on April 9, 2013;
4. USD(I) provide CENTCOM J2 Abbottabad-related products to include briefings, information papers, assessments, email analytic summaries distributed, draft or finished IIRs, and any other analysis produced for internal CENTCOM use or disseminated whether formally or informally;
5. USD(I) provide an update on the current status of CENTCOM J2 Abbottabad exploitation, including how many files were gisted and/or translated for analysis and how many intelligence products were produced by type, title/subject and dissemination status; and
6. USD(I) inform the Committee if the 42 J2 Intelligence Information Papers based on the Abbottabad analysis previously provided to the Committee were further disseminated to benefit the wider community, and if not, why not.