For the Committee:

1) "White Paper" on press guidance (OPA; OGC; DI; NE)
   **We've already spoken to OPA who will be coordinating with the WH as well**

2) Paper on motivations for Green on Blue violence (OSA)

3) Contact State Legal Affairs for questions on document destruction at consulate (OCA)

For DCIA:

1) Cable(s) to _______ warning of protests linked to the film and response (NE)

2) Cable(s) to stations on 9/11 security (DS; NCS)

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

Please send DCIA responses to ODCIA.

Thank you!

Office of Congressional Affairs,
Secure: _______
Open: _______

Classification: TOP-SECRET//NOFORN
Good point that it could be interpreted this way -- perhaps better stated that we know they participated in the protests. We do not know who was responsible for the deaths.
Good question - I'll defer to [redacted] cc'd given the CT angle.

(Added in OGC and OPA as well as FY1).

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

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL  Classified By: 2...  09/14/2012 02:52:57 PM
From: NCS
To: CTC
Cc: CTA
Date: 09/14/2012 02:52 PM
Subject: Re: Looping ODNCS -- Re: Fw: FLASH coordination -- white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL  Classified By: 2...  09/14/2012 02:39:49 PM
From: NCS
To: CTC
Cc: CTA
Date: 09/14/2012 02:39 PM
Subject: Looping ODNCS -- Re: Fw: FLASH coordination -- white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL —
NE coords on the below paper, to include the earlier edits.

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

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

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

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

Thanks

- We believe based on currently available information that the attacks in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated.
- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa'ida participated in the attack.
- Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- The widespread availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- We are working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
To:  
Date: 09/14/2012 02:27 PM  
Subject: Fw: FLASH coordination – white paper for HPSCI

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Sorry, sent to the wrong [ ].

CIA STA  
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis  
secure:  
open:  

------- Forwarded by CIA CTA on 09/14/2012 02:27 PM -------

From:  
To:  
Date: 09/14/2012 12:49 PM  
Subject: Fw: FLASH coordination – white paper for HPSCI

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

I didn’t ask NE/INT. Just CTC/INT.

Please see the one suggested addition from OGC.

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

CIA CTA  
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis  
secure:  
open:  

------- Forwarded by CIA CTA on 09/14/2012 12:47 PM -------

From:  
To:  
Cc: CTC, OCE, XE  

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

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

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

Thanks

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

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

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

• Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.

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

CONFIDENTIAL

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

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
Tommy:

Echoing my voicemail to you:

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

Thanks,

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

The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa’ida participated in the attack.

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

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

Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the Juné attack against the British Ambassador’s convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.

We are working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: HPSCI talking points for review.

Colleagues:

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

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP:

Thanks very much,

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012

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

- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa’ida participated in the attack.

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

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

- Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador’s convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.

- We are working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
Colleagues:

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

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

Thanks,

---

Colleagues:

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

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

Thanks very much,

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012

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

- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa'ida participated in the attack.
Folks, I know there is a hurry to get this out, but we need to hold it long enough to ascertain whether providing it conflicts with express instructions from NSS/DOJ/FBI that, in light of the criminal investigation, we are not to generate statements with assessments as to who did this, etc. -- even internally, not to mention for public release. I am copying <name> for whom may be more familiar with those instructions and the tasking arising from the HPSCI coffee.

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

All content within this email, including attachments and email threads, carry the controls even when not specified in the classification line unless otherwise noted.
HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media

14 September 2012

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

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

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

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

The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
is there an updated version of this I can circulate internally?

Colleagues:

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

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

Thanks,


Colleagues:

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

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

Thanks very much,

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012
From: [mailto:Thomas_E._Vieor@who.ep.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 4:57 PM
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
Cc: 
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Is there an updated version of this I can circulate internally?

From: 
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:27 PM
To: Vieor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
Cc: 
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

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

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

Thanks,

From: 
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM
To: Vieor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
Cc: 
Subject: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

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

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.
Should we include Shawn Turner on the coord for the points?

Colleagues:

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

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

Thanks,

Colleagues:

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

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

Thanks very much,

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media
14 September 2012
Thanks for the reminder. Yes, I told him we would.

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

Colleagues:

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

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

Thanks,

Colleagues:

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

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

Thanks very much,
Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thanks,

Chief, Media Relations
Thanks. Will vet here now.

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FYI.

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

White House is reviewing and DNI is aware.

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thanks,

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs
Colleagues:

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

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

Thanks,

---

From: CIC 123
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:20 PM
To: CIC 123
Cc: CIC 123
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

FYI.

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

White House is reviewing and DNI is aware.

---

From: CIC 123
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM
To: Vieter, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; ____________
Cc: ____________
Subject: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

HPSCI requested these talking points from the DCIA this morning.

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

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

Thanks,

---

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

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

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

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

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

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

- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
I've been very careful not to say we issued a warning. Any concerns with adjusting the first highlighted line to say:

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

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

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

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

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

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

Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's
From: Shawn S Turner
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:43 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

---

From: Shawn S Turner
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

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

---

From: Shawn S Turner
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to State.

---

From: Victor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Victor@gov]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

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

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available
From: Vior, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vior@]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM
To: shawn.s.turner@; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; nulandvj
Cc: US
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI.Talking Points for Review

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

From:
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM
To: Shawn.Turner@; Vior, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
Cc: State Pa
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI.Talking Points for Review

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

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

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

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

From: US
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM
To: Vior, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
Cc: Shawn S Turner
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI.Talking Points for Review

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

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

I know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits. One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are full coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.
John's edits are below. Mostly in bold 2.

I like the edit Shawn sent around.

[Redacted]

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

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

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

- The investigation is ongoing as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. We do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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

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

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

- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
From: Viitor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas_F_Victor@]

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:53 PM

To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Shawn S Turner

Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Excellent. Will implement.

Thanks, Tommy

From: Viitor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas_F_Victor@]

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:52 PM

To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Shawn S Turner

Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

I like the edit Shawn sent around.

From: Viitor, Tommy

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM

To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Shawn Turner

Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

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

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

- The investigation is ongoing as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. We do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

- Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
Are these for open or closed hearing? If open, the line about “knowing” there were extremists among the demonstrators will come back to us at podium – how do we know, who were they, etc... So I’ll need answers to those if we deploy that line, tx.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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

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

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

- On 10 September we notified Embassy Cairo of social-media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.
we are taking a look and I will respond back.

Colleagues:

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

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

Thanks,

Colleagues:

FYI.

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

White House is reviewing and DNI is aware.

Chief, Media Relations.
CIA Office of Public Affairs
From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:nulandvy]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM
To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Shawn Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSNPass
Cc: NSNPass
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

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

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM
To: Shawn Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSNPass
Cc: Nuland, Victoria J.; NSNPass
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

From: Shawn Turner
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM
To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSNPass
Cc: Nulandvy; NSNPass
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

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

I have been very careful not to say we issued a warning. Any concerns with adjusting the first highlighted line to say:
From: Nuland, Victoria J [nulandv]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Shawn S Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S
Cc: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

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

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

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM
To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Shawn Turner; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:51 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

In coordination with CTD, we have some concerns:

1. The accuracy of the sentence of the first bullet point which states "On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy." And who is the "we" that is referenced?

2. We recommend editing the last sentence in the second bullet point to "That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations."

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

From: [Redacted]
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Sent: Fri Sep 14 19:17:51 2012
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

We are taking a look and I will respond back.

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

Colleagues:

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

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

Thanks,

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

Colleagues:
On that very issue, Toria, we are waiting to hear back from the Bureau.

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

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

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

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here:

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

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

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

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

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.
We will use these too

----Original Message----
From: Nuland, Victoria J [nulandvi@]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:55 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Vietor, Tommy; Sullivan, Jacob J; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; STATE PA
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

>From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas_F_Vietor@]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:43 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Rhodes, Benjamin J. <Benjamin_J_Rhodes@> ; STATE PA ; Nuland, Victoria J
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

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

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

From: Adams, David S
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:39 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; CIA OPA ; Shawn.Turner@; STATE PA ; Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I'm with Toria. The last bullet especially will read to members like we had been repeatedly warned.
From: Nuland, Victoria J  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM  
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary;  
      Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS, WH PRESS  
      Sullivan, Jacob J.;  
      Adams, David S  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

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

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

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

---

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

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

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

---

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM  
To: Shawn Turner@WH PRESS  
      Nuland, Victoria J.; STATE PA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review
FYI, Brennan will have edits. I'm waiting for those.

---

From: [CIA 오피스](mailto:CIA 오피스@WH PRESS)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM
To: Shawn Turner@CIA 오피스; Vicero, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
Cc: CIA 오피스
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

---

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

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

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

---

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

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

---

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

---

From: CIA OPA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM
To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS, WH PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA; Shawn_Turner@
Subject: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thanks,

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs
Here's where we stand as of this hour.

Everyone has submitted coordination comments.

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

--------

Toria:

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

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

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

Thanks,

--------

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**

**14 September 2012**

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

- The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
Just a question- but separate from the FBI concerns, has DOJ, provided input? They will have to deal with the prosecution and related legal matters surrounding the federal investigation.

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

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

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

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

Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here
These don’t resolve all my issues or those of my building leadership. They are consulting w NSS.

From: Nuland, Victoria J [nulandy]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:24 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J
Cc: 
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI taking points

Toria:

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

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

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

Thanks,

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

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

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

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

- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador’s convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
These don't resolve all my issues or those of my building leadership. They are consulting w NSS.

Toria:

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

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

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

Thanks,

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

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

- The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.

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

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

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs
I spoke with Tommy. We'll work through this in the morning and get comments back.

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

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

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

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

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

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

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

On that very issue, Toria, we are waiting to hear back from the Bureau.
Talked to Tommy - we can make edits.

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

Fysa

From: Nuland, Victoria J
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:23 PM
To: CIA OPA
Cc: STATE PA
Subj: Re: Revised HPSI taking points

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

From
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:58 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J
Cc: STATE PA
Subj: Revised HPSI taking points

Toria:

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

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

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

Thanks,

CIA OPA

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

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

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

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

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

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

CIA OPA
Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs
Sorry to be late to this discussion. We need to resolve this in a way that respects all of the relevant equities, particularly the investigation.

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

We can take this up tomorrow morning at deputies.

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

Just a question- but separate from the FBI concerns, has DOJ provided input? They will have to deal with the the prosecution and related legal matters surrounding the federal investigation.
From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin_J_Rhodes]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:36 PM
To: Vierot, Tommy; FBI Press; CIA OPA; NulandVi; Shawn S. Turner; CIA OPA; State PA; SullivanJ; "AdamsDS"
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks, Ben. Looping in CIA FO

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin_J_Rhodes]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:34 PM
To: Vierot, Tommy; FBI Press; CIA OPA; NulandVi; Shawn S. Turner; CIA OPA; State PA; SullivanJ; "AdamsDS"
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

All-

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

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

We can take this up tomorrow morning at deputies.

From: Vierot, Tommy
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:26 PM
To: FBI Press; CIA OPA; NulandVi; Shawn, Turner; "Shawn, Turner"; CIA OPA; State PA; SullivanJ; "AdamsDS"; FBI Press; CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

--- Original Message ---
From: FBI Press
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:19 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: CIA OPA; nulandVj; Vierot, Tommy; Shawn, Turner; CIA OPA

56
Thanks Fyi FBI says AQ(not AQIM) was involved and they are pursuing that theory.

So we are not ahead of law enforcement now.

So are cleared to send to congress?

Here's where we stand as of this hour.

Everyone has submitted coordination comments.

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

Toria:

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

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

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

Thanks,

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

The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US
Including DOJ on the e-mail and Dean Boyd.

---

From: CIA OPA
To: Benjamin J. Rhodes <Benjamin_J_Rhodes>
     <Thomas_F_Viefor
     <Shawn_Turner>
     <NulandVI>

Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

---

Thanks, Ben. Looping in CIA FO

---

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin_J_Rhodes]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:34 PM
To: VIEtor, Tommy

Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

---

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

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

We can take this up tomorrow morning at deputies.
Here's a draft note to the DIRECTOR.

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

Additionally, Eric Schmitt of the NYT contacted us to let us know that he had spoken with Rep. Ruppersberger, who had given him a readout of your session.
From:  
To:  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI taking points

Nope

From: OCA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:43 PM  
To: CIA OPA / OCA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI taking points

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

So we are not ahead of law enforcement now.

So are cleared to send to congress?

From: CIA OCA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:14 PM  
To: CIA OPA / OCA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI taking points

Here's where we stand as of this hour.

Everyone has submitted coordination comments.

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

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:59 PM  
To: State PA / CIA OPA / OCA  
Cc:  
Subject: Revised HPSCI taking points

Toria:

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

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

Here's the latest version of the points. Please let us know your thoughts ASAP.
—attached below is the latest version of the HPSCI talkers. I will send you another email chain with Ben Rhodes’ comment. Cheers

From: CIA OPA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:53 PM
To: OCA CIA OPA/ OCA
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI taking points

Nope

From: OCA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:43 PM
To: CIA OPA/CIA OCA
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI taking points

CIA OPA

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

so we are not ahead of law enforcement now.

So are cleared to send to congress?

From: CIA OPA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:14 PM
To: CIA OCA OCA
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI taking points

CIA OPA

Here’s where we stand as of this hour.

Everyone has submitted coordination comments.

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

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

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

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

Thanks,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Robert Cardillo
Alex Pires
Matt Olsen
Jake Sullivan
Mark Guilbeau
Lisa Monaco

63
UNCLASSIFIED

From: CIA OTA
To: CIA DG C

Subject: Fw: DDCIA tasking – IMMEDIATE – by 1100 today – coord on TPs for HPSCI

Date: 11/21/2012 01:47 PM

This message is digitally signed.

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*=*

CIA OTA
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis

Just to complete the loop.

--- Forwarded by CIA OTA on 11/21/2012 01:45 PM ---

From: CIA OTA
To: CIA DI, NE

Date: 09/15/2012 09:49 AM

Subject: Re: Fw: DDCIA tasking – IMMEDIATE – by 1100 today (9/15) – coord on TPs for HPSCI

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

*****************************************************************************

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

*****************************************************************************

CIA OTA
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis

---

DI
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

09/15/2012 09:47:46 AM

From:
To:

Date: 09/15/2012 09:47 AM

Subject: Fw: DDCIA tasking – IMMEDIATE – by 1100 today (9/15) – coord on TPs for HPSCI

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

*****************************************************************************

Hi,

Please let us know if you have any comments by 10:30.

Thanks!

*****************************************************************************

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

From: DDCIA FO
To: NCS, NCS
Cc: CIA, FO

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

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

Thanks,

DDCIA-FO

HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media

14 September 2012

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

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

- The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
Michael -- TPs sent to Ruppersberger from ODNI leg.

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 10:51 AM
To: Nicholas J Rasmussen; Matthew G. Olsen
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Unclassified Talking Points

Sirs: Here is what we sent Heather Molino (Ruppersberger)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

-----Original Message-----
From: michaejm          [mailto:michaejm]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert.Cardillo; alanri; matt.olsen; sullivanji; mark.giuliano; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; joingli; lisa.monaco
Cc: CTA OCA/OPA
Subject: CTAFO

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

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

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

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

-Matt

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

----Original Message----
From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin.J.Rhodes]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM
To: MICHAEL; Robert Cardillo; Alan R. Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; Sullivan; giulianodj; jcingli
Cc: USA OCA/ODA CIA FO
Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

----Original Message----
From: michaeljm@ucia.gov [mailto:michaelj]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert Cardillo; alanrp; matt.olsen; sullivan; giulianodj; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; jcingli; lisa.monaco
Cc: CIA OCA/ODA CIA FO
Subject:

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

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

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

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

---Original Message---
From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin_J._Rhodes]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM
To: MICHAEL; Robert Cardillo; Alan R. Pinto; Matthew G. Olsen;
sullivnnj                     mark.giuliancl                     jcingl
liss_monaco       
Cc: CIA OCA/OPA        CIA FO
Subject: RS:

This is good by me.

---Original Message---
From: michaelj [mailto:michaelj]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert Cardillo; alanrp; matt.olsen; sullivnnj; mark.giuliancl; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; jcingl; liss_monaco
Cc: CIA OCA/OPA
Subject:

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

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

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.
--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
One edit for accuracy:

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

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

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

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

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

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

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
This looks good. Two small edits:

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

----Original Message----
From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin_J._Rhodes]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM
To: 'michaelj' ; Robert.Cardillo
matt.olsen; Sullivan, Jacob J; mark.giulian
jcini
Cc: | CIA PO | CIA DPA | FO

Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

----Original Message----
From: michaelj [mailto:michaeljm]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert.Cardillo; alanr; matt.olsen; mark.giulian; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;
jcini
Cc: | CIA PO | CIA DPA | FO
Subject:

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

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

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

The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
Michael - DOJ and FBI are ok with these. thanks

---Original Message---
From: michaelj
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert_Cardillo alanr mark_giuliani
cc: Monaco, Lisa (NSD)

Subject: LEA OCA, LEA OPA, FO, CIA FO

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

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

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

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
NSA concurs with the content and cast of the bullets. Thanks for the chance to review.

Chris Inglis

---Original---
From: michaeljm [mailto:michaeljm]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert.Cardiil [mailto: alanrp; matt.olsen; sullivanj; mark.giulianoc; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; jcingli; lisa.monaco;]
Cc: CIA FO
Subject:  

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

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

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

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

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

Wr

----- Original Message ----- 
From: MICHAELM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj'; 'mark.giuliani'; 'mark.giuliani'; 'Benjamin J. Rhodes'; 'Benjamin J. Rhodes'; 'jingli'; 'jingli'; 'lisa.mohareb'; 'lisa.mohareb'; 'CIA OCA'; 'CIA ORA'; 'FO'; 'CIA FD'; 'CIA FO';
Cc: CIA OCA; CIA ORA; FO; CIA FD

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

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

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

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.
Before going to the committees, may I please ask you to send these to the Director? He needs to know in advance what is going to the Hill in his name, even if it going with the force of full interagency coordination.

Cheers, 

--- Original Message ---
From: MICHAELM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:02 PM
To: MICHAELM
Cc: CIA DPA, FO, CIA FO
Subject: Re:

Michael,

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

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

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

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

-The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.
Here's where we are with the tweaks after tweaks from Ben and Jake:

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

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

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

-----Original Message-----
From: [CIA OPA]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM
To: MICHAELM
Cc: CIA OPA, FO, CIA FO
Subject: Re:

Michael,

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

Vf
OCA

----- Original Message -----
From: MICHAELM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj'
<sullivanj>;
'mark.giuliano'
<mark.giuliano>;
Benjamin J. Rhodes
'Benjamin J. Rhodes'
<cingli>
<cingli>
'lisa.monaco'
lisa.monaco
Cc: CIA OCA, CIA OPA, FO, CIA FO
Subject:

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

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

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

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

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

----- Original Message -----  
From: CJA OPA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM  
To: CJA MICHAJM  
Cc: CJA FO CJA FO  
Subject: RE:

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

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

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

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
----- Original Message ----- 
From: CIA
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM
To: MICHAELM
Cc: CIA OPA, CIA FO, CIA FO
Subject: Re:

Michael,

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

V/c

----- Original Message ----- 
From: MICHAELM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj1'; mark.giuliano; 'Benjamin J. Rhodes' <Benjamin_J_Rhodes@state.gov>; 'jcingi1'; lisa.monaco; lina_monaco
Cc: CIA OCA, CIA OPA, CIA FO
Subject: 

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

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

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

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
This is to confirm in writing: I just spoke with Alan on the phone. Allen said he concurred with the TPs.

-----Original Message-----
From: MICHAELJM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:19 PM
To: CIAOPA; CIAOLA
Cc: CIA FO
Subject: Re:

Thanks. I will bug Robert and Alan.

-----Original Message-----
From: CIAOPA
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM
To: CIAOCG; MICHAELJM
Cc: CIA FO; CIA FO
Subject: Re:

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

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

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

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

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

W/r

--- Original Message ---
From: MICHAELJM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM
To: MICHAELJM
Cc: CIA DF, CIA FO
Subject: Re:

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

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

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

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

---- Original Message ----
From: MICHAJM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:37 PM
To: OPA, CIA OCA
Cc: CIA FO, CIA FO
Subject: Re:

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

---- Original Message ----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM
To: [Redacted], MICHAJM
Cc: CIA FO, CIA PO
Subject: RE:

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

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

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

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

----Original Message----
From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM
To: [redacted]
CC: [redacted]
Subject: Re:

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

V/r
OCA

---- Original Message ----
From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Robert Cambilile, Alan R. Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; sullivanj; <sullivanj>; mark.giuliani; <mark.giuliani>; 'Benjamin J. Rhodes' <Benjamin J. Rhodes>; jcingle; <jcingle>; lisa.monaco; <lisa.monaco>
CC: [redacted]
Subject:

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

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

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

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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

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

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

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

V/r,

OCIA

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

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

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
From: USUN
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 2:21 PM
To: USUN
Subject: Re: SBU/CLOSEHOLD: 0800 SVTS on Movie Protests/Violence

Please do--I have not reached out.

Best,
USUN

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

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

From: USUN
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 01:23 PM
To: Rice, Susan E (USUN); USUN; DiCarlo, Rosemary A (USUN);
Cc: USUN
Subject: SBU/CLOSEHOLD: 0800 SVTS on Movie Protests/Violence
Libya:
HPSCI request: Late this week, CIA Director Petraeus gave the HPSCI a “hots spots” briefing and was asked for unclassified talking points that its members could use about incident in Benghazi. (Apparently NCTC Director Matt Olson received a similar committee from a congressional committee.) The first draft apparently seemed unsuitable (based on conversations on the SVTS and afterwards) because they seemed to encourage the reader to infer incorrectly that the CIA had warned about a specific attack on our embassy. On the SVTS, Morell noted that these points were not good and he had taken a heavy editing hand to them. He noted that he would be happy to work with Jake Sullivan and Rhodes to develop appropriate talking points. McDonough, on Rhodes’s behalf, deferred to Sullivan. It was agreed that Jake would work closely with the intelligence community (within a small group) to finalize points on Saturday that could be shared with HPSCI. I spoke to Jake immediately after the SVTS and noted that you were doing the Sunday morning shows and would need to be aware of the final posture that these points took. He committed to ensure that we were updated in advance of the Sunday shows. I specifically mentioned USUP as the one coordinating your preparations for the shows and also strongly encouraged him to loop in USUP during the process.
No mention of the cable to Cairo, either? Frankly, I'd just as soon not use this, then...
NSS's call, to be sure; however, this is certainly not what Vice Chairman Ruppersberger was
hoping to get for unclas use. Regardless, thx for the great work -

-----Original Message-----
From: OCA
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:51 PM
To: DAVIDHP74
Cc: MICHAELM; OCA; FO; CIA- OPA; CIA- OCA
Subject: Hill Talking Points

Sir,

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

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

Yir,

OCA

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

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

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

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

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

Many thx.

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

----- Original Message -----  
From: Sullivan, Jacob J  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:26 AM  
To: 'Rhodes, Benjamin J.' <Benjamin J. Rhodes>; 'michaeljm'; Robert.Carillo@; alanrp@; matt.olson@; mark.giuliano@; jcingli@; lisa.monaco@  
Cc:  
Subject: RE:  

This looks good. Two small edits:

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

----- Original Message -----
From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin J. Rhodes@  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM  
To: michaeljm@; Robert.Carillo@; alanrp@; matt.olson@; mark.giuliano@; jcingli@; lisa.monaco@  
Cc:  
Subject: RE:  

This is good by me.

----- Original Message -----
From: michaeljm@  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert.Carillo@; alanrp@; matt.olson@; sullivanij@; mark.giuliano@; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; jcingli@; lisa.monaco@  
Cc:  
Subject:  

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

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

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.
The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.
The email has been sent to the Hill.

Michael,

----- Original Message ----- 
From: MICHAELM
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:37 PM
To: CIA OCA, CIA OPA
Cc: FO, CIA FO
Subject: Re:

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

----- Original Message ----- 
From: CIA OPA
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM
To: CIA OCA, MICHAELM
Cc: FO, CIA FO
Subject: RE:

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

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

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

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

----- Original Message ----- 
From: CIA OCA
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM
To: MICHAELM
Cc: CIA OPA, FO, CIA FO
Subject: Re:

Michael,
Yup

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

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

This looks good. Two small edits:
1. We call it "the US mission" or the "US diplomatic post" because it is not actually a Consulate.
2. There is a missing "of" in the third tic.

This is good by me.

100