

**Citizens' Commission on Benghazi  
Executive Summary & Key Findings  
For Rep. Trey Gowdy & the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee on Benghazi  
20 May 2014**

**Executive Summary**

The Citizens' Commission on Benghazi (CCB) formed in 2013 under the leadership of Roger Aronoff, editor of Accuracy in Media (AIM), a media watchdog group. We were concerned that the various official U.S. government (USG) investigations – whether the State Department's Accountability Review Board (ARB) or the several congressional committee efforts – were not pursuing the evidence as aggressively or in as organized a manner as necessary to get to the bottom of U.S. failures in Benghazi. We at the CCB believe those senior USG officials who were derelict in their professional responsibilities, who provided duplicitous testimony to Congress, and who deliberately lied to the American public must be held to account by name and face the full weight of legal consequences for their behavior.

In the months since our first press conference in September 2013, at which Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA) spoke strongly for the formation of a congressional Select Committee to coordinate and unify the investigation, we have pursued an independent citizens' investigation of what happened regarding Benghazi and Libya in the time before, during, and after the attacks of 11 September 2012. We are convinced that a comprehensive approach is the only way to understand why certain decisions were taken and not taken that might have resulted in lives saved and injuries avoided on the night of the attacks itself. Additionally, a number of individuals have approached the CCB with information related to events in Libya that has not been made public by any other investigation to date. Some of these contacts have stated their readiness to be introduced to the Select Committee to provide their evidence in person, and the CCB is prepared to effect such introductions as convenient and desired.

The CCB's findings fall into several general topic categories: 1) official USG involvement in providing material support to known terrorists affiliated with the Libyan al-Qa'eda and Muslim Brotherhood; 2) USG refusal to respond to Libyan dictator Muammar Qaddafi's request for talks about abdication and exile; 3) USG failure to prepare adequately for the likelihood of terror attack against our Benghazi mission by al-Qa'eda-linked militias despite plentiful advance indicators and warning; 4) White House and administration failure to direct an urgent military response to the 11 September 2012 attack on the sovereign territory of our diplomatic mission or even attempt to come to the aid of besieged American defenders at our Benghazi mission; and 5) a White House-directed campaign of deliberate deception to blame protests about a YouTube video for the Benghazi attacks.

Details of our Key Findings and Sources follow. An extensive Timeline of Events and CCB member biographic summaries are provided separately.

**Exhibit 2**

## Key Findings

- **Finding:** Senior levels of the Obama administration and U.S. Intelligence Community organized a “Zero Footprint” campaign of material support to known affiliates of Libyan al-Qa’eda militias, including direct facilitation of the delivery of weapons to them.
  - Source: American citizen FBI Confidential Informant with direct access
  - Source: Retired USN Rear Admiral businessman with direct access
  - Source: American citizen arms dealer with direct access, currently under sealed indictment by the Department of Justice
  - Source: Forensic investigation on shell casings, mortar fragments, and any weapons or weapons parts recovered from the Special Mission Compound and CIA Annex (subject of CCB FOIA request)
  
- **Finding:** Muammar Qaddafi sought a 72-hr. white flag of truce in March 2011 to discuss abdication and exile. His officials were in direct telephonic communication with AFRICOM headquarters in Stuttgart, Germany, but Gen. Carter Ham was forced to cut off these discussions on orders from the highest levels of the Obama administration.
  - Source: Retired USN Rear Admiral who was directly involved in the telephonic communications between Stuttgart, Germany and Tripoli, Libya
  
- **Finding:** Senior members of the U.S. administration in the Department of Defense, Department of State, and Intelligence Community knew that al-Qa’eda-affiliated militias in Benghazi repeatedly attacked Western facilities and targets (including our own) through 2012. Al-Qa’eda often marks key dates like 9/11 with more attacks and Ayman al-Zawahiri issued an explicit 10 September 2012 video call to attack Americans in Libya. And yet, the Dept. of State had refused repeated AMEMB Tripoli requests to provide adequate security to our Benghazi mission, methodically stripped away security that had been assigned there previously, and allowed Ambassador Stevens to visit Benghazi on 11 September without adequate security.
  - Source: Active duty Special Forces commander of the Libyan Site Security Team
  - Source: Congressional testimony, congressional investigation committee reports, and the open source record
  
- **Finding:** Even though the White House, Intelligence Community, Pentagon and all major combatant commands knew within minutes that the 11 September 2012 attack on our Benghazi mission was a military-style terrorist assault, there was no military response or even an attempted response. U.S. military assets were available both in-country and in multiple locations around the Western Mediterranean and undoubtedly had sprung to the highest level of readiness immediately upon receipt of the attack reports. Yet, over the 7+-hr. duration of the attack, no order was given for a U.S. military response.

- Source: Congressional testimony, voluminous congressional committee investigations reports, the open source record
- Source: Active duty Special Forces LTC commander of the Libyan Site Security Team
- Source: Confidential source on the presence of several dozen U.S. Special Operations Command troops in/near Tripoli the night of 11 Sep 2012
- **Finding:** The White House directed a campaign of deliberate deception to blame protests on the “Innocence of Muslims” YouTube video for the Benghazi attacks.
  - Source: Judicial Watch emails
  - Sources: Currently-serving FBI agents with direct access to White House directives to the FBI on aligning FBI intelligence reporting with the White House narrative about the YouTube video
  - Source: U.S. citizen with access to information that the National Security Agency (NSA) took possession of a cell phone dropped by an attacker at the CIA Annex and exploited its contents to discover extensive details about the Ansar al-Shariah and other al-Qa’eda network in Benghazi that was responsible for the attacks on our mission
  - Source: A comprehensive CCB report on the elements and sequence of the post-Benghazi attack cover-up
- **Finding:** Sensitive materials (likely communication and cryptographic equipment and possibly documents) were removed from the CIA Annex in Benghazi on 12 September 2012 by Libyans. Consequences may include the killing of a number of Libyans connected to the FBI investigation on Benghazi.
  - Source: Thomas Joscelyn, writing in the *Weekly Standard* on 7 January 2014 and citing “two U.S. intelligence officials,” reported that sensitive material was personally couriered to Pakistan (al-Qa’eda) by Faraj al-Chalabi, a known jihadi
  - Source: The *Wall Street Journal* reported on 1 November 2012 that the CIA tasked “local Libyan agents” to “destroy” sensitive materials at the Annex on 12 September 2012
  - Source: According to the 15 January 2014 report of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, former FBI Director Robert Mueller testified on 16 May 2013 before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science that “as many as 15 individuals supporting the investigation or otherwise helpful to the United States” had been killed in Benghazi since the September 2012 attack.

Questions for the Select Committee on Benghazi  
Citizens' Commission on Benghazi  
May 20, 2014

- 1) Why did the U.S. keep the diplomatic mission open after two attacks earlier in 2012 against the U.S. mission? Why was the U.S. flag the last one flying in Benghazi after the British and the Red Cross had left?
- 2) Why was Ambassador Stevens' August 16, 2012, request for additional security, in a cable to the U.S. State Department, denied? This cable followed an August 15 "emergency meeting" in Benghazi where diplomatic staff learned that there were 10 jihadist militias and Al Qaeda training camps in the city.
- 3) Why were military assets not brought to bear during the seven or more hours that this attack lasted, both in the Special Mission Compound and the CIA Annex approximately one mile away, especially given that military commanders did not know when the attacks would end?
- 4) Were any troops or security personnel ordered to not leave Tripoli, Libya that night to go to Benghazi to participate in any rescue efforts, and if so, why?
- 5) Where exactly was President Obama that night? With whom did he communicate about the events in Benghazi and what were his orders? Did he communicate with any of our allies with a presence in or near Benghazi and request assistance?
- 6) Does the failure to bring military assets to bear in a way that might have saved some of those lives constitute a dereliction of duty?
- 7) What was the origin of the story that the attack in Benghazi was sparked by a spontaneous demonstration related to a video about Muhammad on YouTube, and which had actually sparked demonstrations in Egypt and other countries in the region?
- 8) Did the various statements from the administration reflect a belief that this was a spontaneous demonstration that got out of hand, or a deliberate, planned terrorist attack with al-Qaeda involvement?
- 9) Why does the military maintain that they called it a terrorist attack from September 11 onward, yet the administration publicly called it a spontaneous demonstration at the same time?
- 10) Who prepared then-UN Ambassador Susan Rice's original talking points, and who directed the changes to those talking points, which served to

eliminate the fact that this was an al-Qaeda event, before her five Sunday talk-show appearances on the Sunday after the September 11th attack?

- 11) Who and what motivated Susan Rice to appear on the five Sunday talk shows?
- 12) Why do Administration officials continue to insist that they received no contradictory reports regarding a protest in Benghazi when numerous reports have shown that a) there was no protest, and b) that officials learned well before Susan Rice's Sunday appearances that there was no protest?
- 13) Why did the intelligence community's reports outweigh testimony from those on the ground?
- 14) Where were Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta and Chairman of the JCS General Martin Dempsey during the crisis and what inputs, recommendations and decisions did they make?
- 15) Why was President Obama not in the Situation Room that night, as Tommy Vietor has recalled?
- 16) Where were the National Security Advisor, Tom Donilon, and his Deputies, Denis McDonough and John Brennan; and where was Valerie Jarrett during the attacks and more importantly, what inputs and recommendations (if any) did any of them make to Obama?
- 17) Who made the decision not to deploy the joint/interagency Foreign Emergency Support Team (FEST) and why?
- 18) Why are so many agencies now requiring that their personnel who were involved in or have access to information regarding the events that took place in Benghazi to sign non-disclosure agreements?
- 19) Why weren't U.S. Air Force fighter jets scrambled from land bases, such as F-16's based in Aviano, Italy, which is just over 1000 miles and less than 2 hours away? When, and by whom, was the decision made to not employ the air assets?
- 20) What specifically was the relationship between Official U.S. Envoy and later Ambassador Christopher Stevens with the known al-Qa'eda and Muslim Brotherhood figures, groups, and militias who led the 2011 revolution against Muammar Qaddafi?
- 21) Who made the decision to allow ships full of weapons from Qatar to pass through the NATO blockade in 2011 to be delivered to Libyan Muslim Brotherhood and/or al-Qa'eda rebels?

- 22) What exactly was the involvement of the CIA Base of Operations and Special Mission Compound in Benghazi in the outward shipment of weapons during 2012 from Libya destined for the Syrian rebels? With whom were those operations coordinated?
- 23) Why were DSS agents assigned to the SMC in Benghazi ordered to keep their gear and weapons in a separate building location from where they were posted on the night of 11 September 2012?

**Benghazi: A Timeline**  
**The Citizens' Commission on Benghazi**  
**May 2014**

**Jihadis Out of Afghanistan**

- 1989: Afghan War Ended
- Libyan Fighters Return Home
- Early 1990s: Libyan Islamic Fighting Group established
- 1990-1995: Qaddafi Defeated LIFG
- Key LIFG Leadership Moved to Sudan w/Usama Bin Laden (UBL)
- 1993 Lockerbie bombing wrongly blamed on Qaddafi
- 1995: Assassination attempt vs Egyptian President Mubarak
- 1995: LIFG assassination attempt vs Qaddafi w/MI6 support

**Enter Blue Mountain Security Solutions Ltd.**

- 26 Feb 1999: Blue Mt. Security Solutions Limited incorporated; located in Carmarthenshire, Wales, UK
- Previously known as: Pilgrim Elite Training Ltd. (13 April 2000); Pilgrim Elite Training (10 April 2008)

**MI 6 & LIFG**

- 1995: Abu Anas al-Libi, other LIFG flee Sudan for UK; UBL returned to Afghanistan
- 1995-2000: LIFG live in UK safehaven
- 2000: Discovery of the Manchester Document
- 2000: LIFG members fled UK back to Afghanistan

**9/11 Attacks & Aftermath**

- September 11, 2001
- Post 9/11: some LIFG picked up, detained
- 2002 (?): Abu Sufian bin Qumu captured, sent to GITMO
- 2004: Abu Anas al-Libi & Abdelhakim Belhadj captured
- Mid-2000s: GITMO detainees released to home countries

- 2005: Qaddafi pressured by US Emb Tripoli & son Seif to begin “reconciliation process”
- 2005: LIFG/Muslim Brotherhood (MB) cleric Ali Mohammad Al-Sallabi is key mediator
- 2008: Christopher Stevens appointed DCM Tripoli, Libya
- 2008-10: Key LIFG leadership released from Libyan prisons
- 2008: Abdelhakim Belhadj released from jail
- Abu Sufian bin Qumu returns to Derna

### **Islamic Uprising Begins**

- 15 Feb 2011: Mubarak fell, MB took power
- 17 Feb 2011: Libyan revolt began
- 21 Feb 2011: Yousef al-Qaradawi *fatwa* to kill Qaddafi
- 25 Feb 2011: USEMB Tripoli Econ Counselor John Godfrey email/phone SJ re: exile for Qaddafi
- Last week Feb 2011: SJ contacted Imad Saiss, Q’s financier, Gen. Yousef Orbri, Security Chief, & Chief of Staff

### **Enter Marc Turi**

- Last week Feb 2011: Marc Turi rec’d expression of interest to supply Libyan rebels from – [Unknown]
- Late Feb 2011: Gen. Fatah Younis defected to rebels
- Early Mar 2011: MT began to work DoS, USEMB Tripoli contacted to offer munitions for Libyan rebels
- 12 Mar 2011: Michael Kostiw, Staff Director, Senate Armed Services Committee & Sen. John McCain’s staff, contacted David Manners
- Kostiw told DM, MT Sen. McCain wanted personal cell phone #s for Gen. Younis, Falah Saloma, Xenois. MT gave them to him
- 12 Mar 2011: MT 1<sup>st</sup> application to DoS for license to broker weapons to Libyan rebels (#2 request to correct error)

### **U.S. Throws in with Al-Qa’eda & Muslim Brotherhood**

- 14 Mar 2011: SecState Hillary Clinton met w/Mahmoud Jibril in Paris
- 15 Mar 2011: Mustafa Jalil flew out of Libya w/120 rebel leaders

- 16 March 2011: French President ordered his fighter jets to bomb Gaddafi's convoys in advance of UN resolution
- 17 Mar 2011: UNSC Resolution 1973 for "No Fly Zone" to protect civilians
- 18 Mar 2011: SecState Hillary Clinton in London announced USG support to TNC rebels, Mustafa Jalil
- 18 Mar 2011: Christopher Stevens, in London w/SecState Clinton, named USG Liaison to Libyan rebels
- 19 Mar 2011: US-NATO bombing began--'Operation Freedom Falcon' under AFRICOM Gen. Ham
- US Navy fired 220 Tomahawk missiles vs Qaddafi forces over course of conflict

### **Truce Talks**

- 20 Mar 2011: SJ, Adm. Chuck Kubic begin email, telephone contact between Tripoli & AFRICOM Stuttgart re: white flag of truce
- 20-21 Mar 2011: Qaddafi expressed interest in truce, possible abdication & exile; pulled forces back as sign of 'good faith'
- Adm. CK called LTC Brian Linvill, former Tripoli Emb. MILATT office, now w/AFRICOM Stuttgart
- Maj. Mark Colbursum, USEMB Rabat also in contact loop
- 21 Mar 2011: SJ, LTC Linvill, Imad Saiss: 'Gen. Ham has no green light'
- Qaddafi office called LTC Linvill, promised military pull-back fm cities
- 21 Mar 2011 (?): Gen. Ham on U.S. TV noted Q pullback
- 21-22 Mar 2011: Talks ended because Gen. Ham gets no permission to proceed
- Late Mar 2011: Responsibility for U.S. military support to Libyan rebels transferred from AFRICOM to EUCOM/NATO
- 'Operation *United Protector*'??
- 24 Mar 2011: *Qaddafi provided 'intelligence report' on rebel opposition to U.S. intelligence & WH??*

### **Marc Turi Stymied, But Weapons Flow Anyway**

- 28 Mar 2011: Qatar recognized Libyan rebels--Transitional National Council (TNC)

- 29 Mar 2011: MT submitted request #3 & #4 to DoS--to supply weapons to Qatar
- Switch to Qatar MT's own idea--no one else suggested it
- Warehouse Distribution Agreement
- **29 March 2011: Pres. Obama signed Presidential Finding for covert ops support to Libyan rebels**
- 30 Mar 2011: NYT, "fierce debate on arming Libyan rebels"
- 31 Mar 2011: NATO took control of all military ops in Libya; all ships subject to inspection
- 1<sup>st</sup> week Apr 2011: MT submitted docs to Asst. Scty. State Don Yamomoto to help expedite process
- 6 Apr 2011: MT emailed CS re: earlier 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> (corrected) request to supply rebels
- Early April 2011: MT sought contacts in Qatar MD but 'unsuccessful'
- 22 Apr 2011: Sen. John McCain visited Benghazi rebels together w/Chris Stevens--called them "my heroes"
- 5 May 2011: DoS approved MT's request to supply weapons to Qatar as end user
- 13 Jun 2011: MT request to DoS to broker weapons/ammo to UAE end user
- 15 July 2011: USG formally recognized TNC
- 28 July 2011: *Gen. Younis killed by Abu Khattala on orders of Mustafa Jalil after finding out MB-Jalil weapons sale to Qaddafi ????*

#### **DoD/DHS Come After Marc Turi**

- 26 Jul 2011: DoD/DHS **raided MT** home, Scottsdale, AZ
- 27 July 2011: MT made 3<sup>rd</sup> application for license to supply weapons to Libyan TNC

#### **Curt Weldon's Libya Trip**

- 4-6 Aug 2011: Former Rep. Curt Weldon (R-PA) visited Tripoli--'private mission' to ask Qaddafi step aside--Q wouldn't see him--too late
- [Curt.Weldon@yahoo.com](mailto:Curt.Weldon@yahoo.com)--Jenkins Hill Int'l.--1 (484) 340-9944
- After war, CW contacted MT for his Libya & UAE contacts

- Trip paid for by 2 TX oil lobbyists: Houston attorney Brian Ettinger (former aide to then-Sen. Joe Biden) & **former Bush aide Steve Payne, both of Worldwide Strategic Energy????**

### **Marc Turi Still Trying Through Channels**

- Late Aug 2011: 3<sup>rd</sup> application for weapons to Libyan TNC denied
- Aug 2011: all MT seized equipment ret'd in Starbucks parking lot
- 21 Sep 2011: Broker request to DoS for UAE denied
- 20 Oct 2011: Qaddafi killed
- Oct 2011: TNC took command
- 1 Nov 2011: Black flag of Islamic jihad spotted flying over Benghazi courthouse
- Nov 2011: Abdelhakim Belhadj led Libyan delegation to meet Syrian Free Army (SFA) & offer fighters, weapons

### **Aegis Defense Services**

- Nov 2011-Dec 2012: **Kristi M. Rogers founded/led Aegis Defense Services LLC**; registered Delaware, hqs. in Arlington, VA
- Aegis won **5-yr., \$10b contract under DoS Worldwide Protective Services (WPS) program**
- Sources: <http://www.manatt.com/KristiRogers.aspx> & [www.linkedin.com/pub/kristi-rogers/4/658/aa3](http://www.linkedin.com/pub/kristi-rogers/4/658/aa3)
- Nov 2011: *Blue Mt. 'joined forces' w/ 'local outfit'—Eclipse Group, Dewey Clarridge ??????*
- Dec 2011: *Blue Mt. security firm rec'd a 'no-objection certificate' from new Libyan govt. ??*
- “Already had been working w/Western companies in Libya ‘for several months’”
- Source: [http://www.upi.com/Business\\_News/Security-Industry/2011/12/09/Security-firms-hustle-in-lawless-Libya/UPI-75871323450621](http://www.upi.com/Business_News/Security-Industry/2011/12/09/Security-firms-hustle-in-lawless-Libya/UPI-75871323450621)

### **Benghazi Security Deteriorates**

- Jan 2012: ***SJ????*** joined UAE delegation to Tripoli to collect \$1 billion for weapons delivered
- Jan 2012: SJ learned from Mazen Ramadan re: weapons diversion, MB pocketing money, July 2011 execution of ***Gen. Younis***
- March 2012: DoS contract for local guard services, Benghazi took effect
- **28 Mar 2012: U.S. Amb. Cretz sent cable to SecState Clinton requesting additional security assets**
- **6 Apr 2012: IED thrown over SMC wall**
- **19 Apr 2012: DoS cable to Amb. Cretz signed by SecState Clinton refused request for more security**
- **3 May 2012: DoS signed security contract w/Blue Mountain for \$783,284**
- **3 May 2012: DoS turned down request from Amb. security team for DC-3 airplane**
- **Sometime in 2012: Blue Mt. sub-contracted Amb. Compound security to 17 February Martyrs Brigade**
- **May 2012: CK & SJ visited Benghazi**
- **22 May 2012: International Red Cross hit by 2 RPGs**
- **22 May 2012: J. Christopher Stevens appointed Ambassador to Libya**
- **1 June 2012: Car bomb exploded outside hotel where UK Amb staying**
- **6 Jun 2012: IED blew hole in SMC outer perimeter wall**
- **7 Jun 2012: Stevens presented credentials in Tripoli**
- **7 Jun 2012: Amb. Stevens requested keep 2 mobile security teams for personal protection, but DoS refused request**
- **10 Jun 2012: UK Amb convoy hit by RPG attack**
- **10 Jun 2012: AQ staged open rally in Benghazi**
- **15 Jun 2012: DoS official Charlene Lamb told RSO Nordstrom Site Security Team (SST) contract would not be renewed**
- **17 Jun 2012: UK closed its Benghazi consulate**
- **17 Jun 2012: International Red Cross closed Benghazi office**
- **19 Jun 2012: Tunisian consulate stormed by Ansar al-Shariah**
- **22 Jun 2012: Amb. Stevens warned ‘extremist groups’ operating openly in Benghazi, and in Libya as a whole**

### **Blind Sheikh Release Campaign & a YouTube Video**

- **21 Jun 2012: Hani Nour Eldin, Gama'at al-Islamiyya official/Egyptian MP, met in WDC w/NSC Denis McDonough to request release of Blind Sheikh**
- **29 Jun 2012: Morsi pledged to work for release of Blind Sheikh**
- **2 Jul 2012: "Innocence of Muslims" 14 min. trailer posted to YouTube by Sam Bacile**
- **Intent: arouse anti-Islam protests by 11 Sep 2012**

### **Benghazi Methodically Stripped of Security**

- 6 Jul 2012: DoS official Lamb demanded Tripoli not make formal request for SST extension or MSD security team
- 9 Jul 2012: USEMB Tripoli requested cont'd security support for 60 days, but rec'd no reply from DoS
- 21 Jul 2012: RSO Nordstrom warned DoS risk to U.S. officials in Libya is "HIGH"
- 2 Aug 2012: Amb Stevens requested 11 additional personal security bodyguards--turned down
- 5 Aug 2012: DoS ordered removal of Amb. Stevens' 16-man SST
- 8 Aug 2012: 11 of 16 members of SST departed Libya
- 15 Aug 2012: USEMB Tripoli emergency meeting on security
- 16 Aug 2012: Amb. Stevens/RSO sent cable to DoS, said SMC could not withstand coordinated assault
- Late Aug 2012: DoS withdrew 16-man Site Security Team under LTC Andrew Wood over Embassy & LTC Wood objections
- AFRICOM offered additional security, but Stevens turned it down as DoS had refused all his requests

### **Competing Narratives: Blind Sheikh & 'Innocence of Muslims'**

- **2 Aug 2012: Egypt made formal request that U.S. release Blind Sheikh**
- **30 Aug 2012: Gama'at al-Islamiyya called for 11 Sep 2012 protests at USEMB Cairo**

- **4 Sep 2012: Film producer phoned al-Youm al Sabaa (7<sup>th</sup> Day) WDC Coptic daily; emailed copy of film trailer**
- **6 Sep 2012: Gamel Girgis wrote 3-para article, called film ‘shocking’**
- **8 Sep 2012: Gama’at al-Islamiyya & EIJ joint statement threatening burn USEMB Cairo unless Blind Sheikh released**
- **8 Sep 2012: Libyan officials met w/Amb. compound reps—said unable to control militias**
- **9 Sep 2012: Arabic-language forum posted statement inciting Egyptians target USEMB Cairo re: Blind Sheikh release**
- **9 Sep 2012: Egyptian TV host aired clip of film, invited outrage**
- **9 Sep 2012: Al-Azhar Mufti condemned clip for ‘insulting the prophet’**
- **9 Sep 2012: Facebook pages appeared, calling for 9/11 protests; callers to USEMB Cairo (still clueless re: video)**
- **10 Sep 2012: Ayman al-Zawahiri videotape called for Libyan revenge for June 2012 CIA drone killing of Abu Yahiya al-Libi in Afghan-Pakistan region**

#### **10 September 2012**

- **10 Sep 2012: Amb. Chris Stevens traveled from Tripoli to Benghazi, along with Sean Smith and 5 DSS officers**

#### **11 September 2012**

- 11 Sep 2012: Amb. Stevens warned DoS via cable re: deteriorating security situation in Benghazi
- 11 Sep 2012: CNN Nic Robertson outside USEMB Cairo interviewing protesters, Mohamed al-Zawahiri re: Blind Sheikh
- 11 Sep 2012, later: CNN began to push film narrative
- 11 Sep 2012 (0643): Sean Smith saw uniformed Libyan police in bldg. across street taking photos of compound
- *(12:54:09 PM) vile\_rat: assuming we don't die tonight. We saw one of our 'police' that guard the compound taking pictures*
- 11 Sep 2012: Anti-film protests broke out in Cairo, other places
- 11 Sep 2012: Cairo Emb perimeter breached, US flag torn down/burned; black jihad flag raised in its place

- 11 Sep 2012: Cairo Emb tweeted apologies for film
- 11 Sep 2012 (1930-2030): Turkish Consul General Akin dinner mtng w/Amb. Stevens
- 11 Sep 2012 (NLT 2000): Ansar al-Shariah forces set up cordon
- **11 Sep 2012 (NLT 2000): Neighbors told AP they could not move in or out of neighborhood after this time**
- 11 Sep 2012 (ca 2000?): ***Brits dropped off equipment at Amb. compound***
- 11 Sep 2012 (ca 2030): Turkish ConGen departed SMC, left neighborhood, no problem, no warning to Amb. Stevens
- 11 Sep 2012 (ca 2100): Amb. Stevens & Sean Smith retire for evening
- 11 Sep 2012 (2140): attackers w/rifles, RPGs stormed Amb. Compound
- 11 Sep 2012 (2140): Amb. Stevens phoned DCM Greg Hicks at USEMB Tripoli to tell him “We’re being attacked”
- 11 Sep 2012 (1600 EST/2200 LT): Unarmed Predator drone diverted from Derna mission by RADM Landolt (AFRICOM J-3, Director of Operations)
- **11 Sep 2012 (4:22 p.m. 1622 Washington time EST): SecDef Panetta, Chm JCS Gen. Dempsey, AFRICOM CMDR Ham informed of attack**
- **11 Sep 2012 (10:30 p.m. Benghazi time 2330 LT): Glenn Doherty, 2 members SST, 2 USMC departed Tripoli in leased C-130**
- 11 Sep 2012 (1654 p.m. EST): DoS email said firing at SMC stopped
- 11 Sep 2012 (1700 p.m. EST): Panetta, Dempsey met BHO, VP Biden at WH
- 11 Sep 2012: Pentagon, combatant commands all learned of “terrorist attack”
- 11 Sep 2012 (1700 p.m. EST / 2300 p.m. LT): Drone arrives overhead Benghazi–video coverage from this point onward
- 11 Sep 2012 (1700 p.m. EST/2300 p.m. LT): SMC abandoned
- 11 Sep 2012 (1740 p.m. EST): UnderSecState Patrick Kennedy refused request sent FEST to Libya
- 11 Sep 2012 (1807 p.m. EST): DoS Ops Center email to WH, Pentagon, FBI re: Ansar al-Shariah claim of credit on FB, Twitter
- 11 Sep 2012 (1900-2000 p.m. EST): Pres. Obama spoke w/Israeli PM Netanyahu about a political issue

- 11 Sep 2012, ca 2000 **p.m.** EST: DCM Greg Hicks spoke by phone w/SecState Clinton & advisors
- Hicks told them it was a terrorist attack, video was a “non-event” in Libya
- 11 Sep 2012, ca 2200 **p.m.** EST: SecState Clinton on phone w/BHO

11 Sep 2012, shortly after 2200 **p.m.** EST: DoS press release blamed video for Benghazi attack

## **12 September 2012**

- 12 Sep 2012 (0100 LT): Amb. Stevens’ body found at SMC by Libyan casuals/looters, taken to hospital
- 12 Sep 2012 (ca. midnight LT): Five members LTC Andy Wood’s Site Security Team at Base 27 outside Tripoli learn of attack
- 12 Sep 2012 (early hours): Two of the five (SF Glenn Doherty, one Marine) join 3 others from Tripoli Embassy, leased C-130 plane, flew to Benghazi
- 12 Sep 2012 (0130): Tripoli rescue crew arrived Benghazi airport, where they are held up pending transportation for 3 hours by members of Libya Shield
- 12 Sep 2012 (0430): Tripoli rescue crew arrived CIA Annex and joined fight
- 12 Sep 2012 (0500): Final Ansar al-Shariah attack w/mortar; Ty Woods, Glenn Doherty killed on the roof; others gravely injured
- 12 Sep 2012 (0615): 31 survivors, 3 bodies, depart Annex for Benghazi airport

## **The Day After: Cover-Up Begins**

- 12 Sep 2012 (0605): DoD prepared C-17 for Libya
- 12 Sep 2012 (1415): C-17 departed Germany
- 12 Sep 2012 (1917): C-17 departed Tripoli en route Germany w/Benghazi survivors/wounded
- 12 Sep 2012 (2319): C-17 arrived Ramstein Airbase, Germany
  
- 12 Sep 2012: Attacker cell phone found on Annex compound
- 12 Sep 2012: CIA sent local Libyan agents to remove sensitive materials
- Faraj al-Chalabi flew from Libya to Pakistan to meet w/AQ

- 12 Sep 2012: Pres. Obama in Rose Garden: ‘no act of terror...’
- 12 Sep 2012: Fleet Antiterrorism Support Team (FAST) based in Rota, Spain arrived Tripoli, Libya—ca. 50 Marines “trained in crisis response operations”—after being forced to deplane, change out of uniforms
- 13 Sep 2012: Pres. Obama phoned Morsi re: protests, need to protect USEMB Cairo
- 13 Sep 2012: VTC—Morell told Libya Chief Of Station (COS)/Chief of Base demonstration preceded attack—burden of proof on COS
- 14 Sep 2012: Jay Carney “protests were in reaction to a video”
- 14 Sep 2012: CNN found Amb. Stevens’ journal on floor of compound
- 14 Sep 2012: Ty Woods’ funeral—SecState Clinton tells father “we’re going to arrest & prosecute” the man who made the video
- 14 Sep 2012: POTUS notified Congress re: FAST deployment to Libya as per War Powers Act
- FAST = Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team
- 14 Sep 2012: Ben Rhodes Email outlining cover-up points on video
- 15 Sep 2012: Mike Morrell, Chief CTC/CIA, rec’d email from COS Tripoli—no demonstrations
- 15 Sep 2012: Deputies Committee Mtng; McDonough/NSC, DoS wanted changes in talking points
- 15 Sep 2012: Morrell edited talking points for Amb. Susan Rice, took out ‘AQ’, ‘terror attack,’ left in ‘demonstration’
- 15-17 Sep 2012: FBI interviewed survivors—all called it ‘terrorist attack’
- 16 Sep 2012: Libyan Pres. Mohamed Magariaf told Bob Schieffer, ‘Face the Nation’: “...no doubt...preplanned...pre-meditated months ago...”
- 16 Sep 2012: Amb. Susan Rice lied to the nation on 5 Sunday talk shows re: film as cause of Benghazi attack
- 17 Sep 2012: Tariq Ramadan condemned/blamed film for Benghazi at American Muslim website
- 17 Sep 2012: Ahmed Rehab, ExecDir CAIR-Chicago on local radio re film, blamed film for anti-American protests
- 18 Sep 2012: CIA, FBI reviewed CCTV video from Ambassador’s compound—no protests

- 18 Sep 2012: FBI arrived in Tripoli to investigate (but did not go to Benghazi)
- 18 Sep 2012: Jay Carney—"it was the video...precipitated some of the unrest in Benghazi"
- 19 Sep 2012: Jay Carney—"do not yet have indication that it was pre-planned"
- 19 Sep 2012: Matt Olson, NCTC to Senate Homeland Scty & Govt. Affair Chm. Sen. Joe Lieberman: "They were killed in the course of a terrorist attack on our embassy"
  
- 12-19 Sep 2012: NSA exploited attacker cell phone
- By 19 Sep 2012, NSA mapped entire Ansar al-Shariah attacker network, pre/during/post attack
- Sep 2012-present: NSA monitoring Libyan Ansar al-Shariah cell phone network

#### **OIC & U.S. Muslim Brotherhood Agenda: Restrict Free Speech**

- 20 Sep 2012: American Muslim website published US-MB statements vs film, free speech
- 20 Sep 2012: Pres. Obama in Univision TV interview blamed the video
- 20 Sep 2012: Jay Carney admitted terrorism
- 21 Sep 2012: SecState Clinton admitted terrorism, abandons video narrative
- 24 Sep 2012: Pres. Obama appeared on *The View* & blamed the video
- 25 Sep 2012: Pres. Obama UN speech cited film multiple times
- 25 Sep 2012: Pres. Obama bowed to Islamic Law on slander: "The future must not belong to those who slander the prophet of Islam"
- 25 Sep 2012: Pakistani PM Ali Zardari condemned freedom of expression
- 26 Sep 2012: Egyptian Pres. Morsi rejected free speech, implied speech causes violence
- 28 Sep 2012: Turkish FoMin Ahmet Davutoglu cited 'Islamophobia...can no longer be tolerated under guise of freedom of expression...'
- 29 Sep 2012: OIC SecGen Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu addressed Foreign Ministers at UN, blamed Benghazi on film, called to criminalize incitement to imminent violence based on religion or belief

### **Fall-Out Proceeds**

- Oct 2012: John Brennan visited Libya
- Oct 2012: CK & SJ visited Tripoli
- 4 Oct 2012: SecState Clinton established Accountability Review Board
- ARB instructed to avoid fixing blame for Benghazi failures
- 6 Nov 2012: Obama re-elected
- Nov 2012: Dir CTC/CIA Mike Morrell & Amb. Susan Rice in closed door mtng w/Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC)–Morrell blamed FBI for altering talking points
- Sen. Graham phoned FBI, which “went ballistic”–w/in 24 hrs., CIA admitted responsibility
- 20 Nov 2012: Gen. David Petraeus resigned as CIA Director as Paula Broadway scandal broke open
- Diane Feinstein, Chair Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, complained that FBI Petraeus probe not briefed to Congress

### **2013**

- 23 Jan 2013: SecState Clinton testified before Senate Foreign Relations Committee–“what difference does it make?”
- 1 Feb 2013: Hillary Clinton resigned as SecState; John Kerry sworn in
- Mar 2013: Faraj al-Chalabi returned to Libya from Pakistan; arrested
- June 2013: Faraj al-Chalabi released for ‘lack of evidence’ even though USG has evidence he was involved in Benghazi attack planning

### **Clinton Team Gathers**

- 2013: Beacon Global Strategies LLC founded in WDC by J. Michael Allen (former HPSCI staff director), Jeremy Bash, Philippe Reines, Andrew Shapiro
- Mike Morrell, former CIA CTC Director, joined firm in July 2013
- All principals have close ties to former SecState Hillary Clinton

- Source: [http://www.weeklystandard.com/print/articles/benghazi-cover-cont\\_782749.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/print/articles/benghazi-cover-cont_782749.html)
- 21 Jun 2013: Judicial Watch sued administration for Benghazi docs
- 26 Jun 2013: Gen. Carter Ham testified behind closed doors to closed session of House Armed Services Subcommittee on Oversight & Investigation
- Gen. Ham said he got phone call of “terrorist attack” & told Gen. Dempsey immediately
- Aug 2013: House Committee on Oversight & Govt. Reform requested Benghazi emails

## **2014**

- 4 Mar 2014: Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT), House Oversight Committee, sent letter to Atty. Gen. Holder asking why FBI investigation of Gen. David Petraeus remains open 18 mos. after initiated
- 2 Apr 2014: Mike Morell testified before HPSCI he removed “Islamic terror” attack to avoid “inflaming” Muslim world
- 18 Apr 2014: Federal court ordered administration to turn over Benghazi docs to Judicial Watch
- 2 May 2014: Speaker John Boehner announced vote to form Select Committee on Benghazi