

CIA OPA

From: Vietor, Tommy [Thomas F. Vietor] [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM
To: CIA OPA; Shawn S Turner; CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
NSS PRESS, WH PRESS; nulandvj; STATE PA
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review.

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

From: CIA OPA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM
To: Shawn Turner; CIA OPA; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
WH PRESS; nulandvj; STATE PA
Cc: CIA OCA
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 OPA; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
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 OPA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM
To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
Cc: CIA OPA; Shawn S Turner
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

CIA OPA

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

CIA OPA 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.

[CIA OPA]

From: Vietor, Tommy [Thomas F. Vietor [redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:52 PM
To: [CIA OPA] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS
[CIA OPA] WHP PRESS
[CIA OCA] Shawn S Turner
Cc:
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: Vietor, Tommy
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM
To: [CIA OPA] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS, WHP PRESS
Cc: [CIA OCA] Shawn Turner [redacted]
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review.

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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 on-going 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.

CIA OPA

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Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:53 PM
To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
CIA OPA; WH PRESS
Cc: Shawn S Turner
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Excellent. Will implement.

Thanks, Tommy

CIA OPA

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas_F_Vietor@CIA] CIA OPA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:52 PM
To: CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS
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CIA OPA

From: Nuland, Victoria J [nulandvj] [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM
To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; CIA OPA Shawn S Turner; CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA
Cc: CIA OPA
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.

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From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas_F_Vietor@redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM
To: CIA OPA Shawn.Turner [redacted] CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
WH PRESS Nuland, Victoria J; STATE PA
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM
To: Shawn.Turner [redacted] CIA OPA Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS
WH PRESS, CIA OCA nulandvj [redacted] STATE PA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM
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From: CIA OPA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM
To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS

CIA OPA

From: [redacted] FBI PRESS
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:18 PM
To: [redacted] FBI PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

CIA OPA we are taking a look and I will respond back.

From: CIA OPA
To: CIA OPA, FBI PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
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,

CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:20 PM
To: FBI PRESS
Cc: CIA OCA
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.

CIA OPA

Chief, Media Relations
CIA Office of Public Affairs

From: CIA OPA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM
To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NISS PRESS, WH PRESS

CIA OPA

From: [redacted] CIA OPA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:29 PM
To: [redacted] FO, CIA OCA
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:nulandvj@state.gov] [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM
To: NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [redacted] CIA OPA Shawn S Turner; [redacted] CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS
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Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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[redacted] WH PRESS Nuland, Victoria J; [redacted] STATE PA
Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA
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[redacted] WH PRESS nulandvj [redacted] STATE PA
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CIA OPA

From: Nuland, Victoria J [nulandv]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; CIA OPA Shawn S Turner; CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I just had a convo with CIA OPA 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

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CIA
OPA

From: [redacted] FBI PASS
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:51 PM
To: CIA OPA FBI PASS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

CIA
OPA 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.

CIA
OPA

From: FBI PASS
To: CIA OPA FBI PASS
Cc: CIA OCA
Sent: Fri Sep 14 19:17:51 2012
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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OPA - we are taking a look and I will respond back.

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To: CIA OPA FBI PASS
Cc: CIA OCA
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To: FBI PASS
Cc: CIA OCA
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

CIA OPA

From: [CIA OPA]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:52 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary: Shawn S Turner; [CIA OPA] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Meehan, Bernadette; [NSS PRESS, WHPRESS, STATE PA]
Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S; [FBI PRESS]
Cc: [FBI PRESS, CIA OCA]
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:nulandv] [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [CIA OPA] Shawn S Turner; [CIA OPA] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [NSS PRESS, WHPRESS, STATE PA] Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S
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Cc: [CIA OCA]
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

CIA OPA

From: Adams, David S [AdamsDS; [redacted]]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:39 PM
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [CIA OPA] Shawn S Turner;
[CIA OPA] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] [CIA OPA]
[redacted] [CIA OPA] Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: [CIA OPA]
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I'm with Toria. The last bullet especially will read to members like we had been repeatedly warned.

From: Nuland, Victoria J
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Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] [CIA OPA] Sullivan, Jacob J;
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