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BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday, July 24, 2014

U.S. House of Representatives,  
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence,  
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:10 a.m., in Room HVC-304, the Capitol, the Honorable Michael Conaway presiding.

Present: Representatives Conaway, LoBiondo, Nunes, Westmoreland, Bachmann, Heck, Pompeo, Ruppertsberger, Thompson, Schiff, Himes, and Sewell.

Staff Present: Katie Wheelbarger, Deputy Staff Director; Michael Ellis, Senior Counsel; Thomas Corcoran, Senior Policy Advisor; Andy Keiser, Senior Policy Advisor; Ashley Lowry, Chief Clerk; Bryan Smith, Budget Director; Nathan Hauser, Professional Staff Member; Sarah Geffroy, Chief Counsel; Brooke Eisele, Professional Staff Member; Geof Kahn, Professional Staff Member; Shannon Stuart, Professional Staff Member; Kristin Jepson, Director of Security; Heather Molino, Minority Staff Director; Michael Bahar, Minority General Counsel; Janet Fisher, Minority Counsel; Bob Minehart, Minority Policy Advisor; Carly Blake, Minority Professional Staff Member; Linda Cohen, Minority Professional Staff Member; and Amanda Rogers-Thorpe, Minority Professional Staff Member.

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1 Staff Member; Linda Cohen, Minority Professional Staff Member;  
and Amanda Rogers-Thorpe, Minority Professional Staff Member.

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1           MR. CONAWAY: The committee has come to order. We have  
2 six member requests for access to classified information and a  
3 committee report to consider today. We will first address the  
4 request to view the 28 pages en bloc followed by a request to  
5 review the IRTF-2 report en bloc, and we will finish with a  
6 T&T report. I will remind members that we are currently in  
7 open session. We are in open session. It is my intent to  
8 remain in open session during the consideration of the access  
9 requests and to move to a closed session to consider the draft  
10 report.

11           The committee will now consider requests pursuant to  
12 Committee Rule 14 whether to grant requests to Representatives  
13 Barr, Broun, Joseph Kennedy, Mulvaney, and Valadao to access  
14 classified portions of the Joint Inquiry Into the Intelligence  
15 Activities Before and After Terrorist Attacks of September  
16 2001. As members recall, the committee has voted several  
17 times in the past to grant access to other members to the  
18 "28 pages" as we have come to refer to them in unclassified  
19 settings of the joint inquiry. As such, and taking into  
20 account the same considerations of under committee rules, I  
21 intend to vote in favor of granting access to the 28 pages  
22 consistent with the committee rules.

23           I will now yield to the ranking member for any requests  
24 he may wish to make on this request and then will recognize  
25 our members who wish to be heard on the subject. Dutch.

1 MR. RUPPERSBERGER: Okay, thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
2 Representatives Joseph Kennedy, Andy Barr, David Valadao, Paul  
3 Broun, and Mick Mulvaney have requested the classified 28  
4 pages of the Joint Inquiry Into Intelligence Activities Before  
5 and After Terrorist Attacks of September 2001, which is part  
6 of the 9/11 Commission Report. It is important we provide  
7 Members with transparency and access to information critical  
8 to our national security as long as it does not compromise  
9 sources and methods or our committee's ability to conduct full  
10 oversight of the Intelligence Community. Given that the  
11 committee has granted this request for other Members multiple  
12 times in the past year, I, along with the chairman, recommend  
13 that these requests be granted. Thank you.

14 MR. CONAWAY: Thank you. Dutch yields back. Do any  
15 other members wish to be heard on this subject or on the  
16 requests? Seeing none, the chair moves that the committee  
17 grant access consistent with the rules of this committee for  
18 Representatives Barr, Broun, Joseph Kennedy, Mulvaney, and  
19 Valadao to the 28 pages of the Joint Inquiry Into Intelligence  
20 Activities Before and After the Terrorist Attacks of September  
21 11. Without objection, the previous question is ordered, and  
22 the clerk will call the roll.

23 THE CLERK: Mr. Conaway?

24 MR. CONAWAY: Aye.

25 THE CLERK: Mr. LoBiondo?

1 MR. LoBIONDO: Aye.

2 THE CLERK: Mr. Nunes?

3 MR. NUNES: Aye.

4 THE CLERK: Mr. Westmoreland?

5 MR. WESTMORELAND: Aye.

6 THE CLERK: Mrs. Bachmann?

7 MRS. BACHMANN: Aye.

8 THE CLERK: Mr. Heck?

9 MR. HECK: Aye.

10 THE CLERK: Mr. Pompeo?

11 MR. POMPEO: Aye.

12 THE CLERK: Mr. Ruppertsberger?

13 MR. RUPPERSBERGER: Aye.

14 THE CLERK: Mr. Thompson?

15 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

16 THE CLERK: Mr. Schiff?

17 MR. SCHIFF: Aye.

18 THE CLERK: Mr. Himes?

19 MR. HIMES: Aye.

20 THE CLERK: Ms. Sewell?

21 MS. SEWELL: Aye.

22 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, there are 12 ayes and zero

23 noes.

24 MR. CONAWAY: Thank you. The ayes have it and the motion

25 is carried.

1           The committee will now consider pursuant to Committee  
2 Rule 14 whether to grant a request from Representative Jeff  
3 Duncan to access the Department of Defense's Information  
4 Review of Task Force 2 or IRTF-2's Initial Assessment of the  
5 Impact of the Department of Defense of the Compromise of  
6 Classified Files By Former NSA Contractor. As members recall,  
7 we voted to permit access to this report for more than 100  
8 Members in recent months. Taking into account the same  
9 considerations as we did then and considering the same factors  
10 required by Committee Rule 14(f), I continue to believe that  
11 it is important for Members to read the assessment which  
12 concerns one of the greatest compromises of our secrets in our  
13 country's history.

14           I will now yield to the ranking member for any comments  
15 he will make and then recognize other members who wish to be  
16 heard on the matter. Dutch.

17           MR. RUPPERSBERGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
18 Representative Jeff Duncan has requested permission to review  
19 Department of Defense's Information Review Task Force 2's  
20 classified report. The committee has granted the request for  
21 over 100 Members to review the DOD's IRTF-2 classified report,  
22 which compiles the Defense Intelligence Agency's initial  
23 assessment of the potential impact that Snowden's compromise  
24 of classified files may have on the Department of Defense. I  
25 agree that Members have an interest in knowing about the

1 impact these disclosures have had and may have on the  
2 Department of Defense as well as critical intelligence  
3 programs. In this case, I believe we can grant the request  
4 without compromising sources or methods. I recommend that  
5 Mr. Duncan's request be granted. Thank you and I yield back.

6 MR. CONAWAY: Thank you, Dutch. Do any members wish to  
7 be heard on the subject? Seeing none, the chair moves that  
8 under Rule 14 that the committee approve the pending request  
9 from Mr. Jeff Duncan to access the IRTF-2 damage assessment.  
10 Without objection, the previous question is ordered and the  
11 clerk will call the roll please.

12 THE CLERK: Mr. Conaway?

13 MR. CONAWAY: Aye.

14 THE CLERK: Mr. LoBiondo?

15 MR. LoBIONDO: Aye.

16 THE CLERK: Mr. Nunes?

17 MR. NUNES: Aye.

18 THE CLERK: Mr. Westmoreland?

19 MR. WESTMORELAND: Aye.

20 THE CLERK: Mrs. Bachmann?

21 MRS. BACHMANN: Aye.

22 THE CLERK: Mr. Heck?

23 MR. HECK: Aye.

24 THE CLERK: Mr. Pompeo?

25 MR. POMPEO: Aye.

1 THE CLERK: Mr. Ruppertsberger?

2 MR. RUPPERSBERGER: Aye.

3 THE CLERK: Mr. Thompson?

4 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

5 THE CLERK: Mr. Schiff?

6 MR. SCHIFF: Aye.

7 THE CLERK: Mr. Himes?

8 MR. HIMES: Aye.

9 THE CLERK: Ms. Sewell?

10 MS. SEWELL: Aye.

11 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, there are 12 ayes and zero  
12 noes.

13 MR. CONAWAY: The ayes have it and the motion is carried.  
14 The committee will now consider a report entitled Performance  
15 Audit of Intelligence Major Systems Acquisitions. At this  
16 time I will recognize the ranking member for a motion.

17 MR. RUPPERSBERGER: Pursuant to Rule 11, clause 2(g)2(a)  
18 I move the hearing be closed because disclosure of testimony,  
19 evidence or other matters being considered would endanger  
20 national security.

21 MR. CONAWAY: The clerk will call the roll.

22 THE CLERK: Mr. Conaway?

23 MR. CONAWAY: Aye.

24 THE CLERK: Mr. LoBiondo?

25 MR. LoBIONDO: Aye.

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1 THE CLERK: Mr. Nunes?

2 MR. NUNES: Aye.

3 THE CLERK: Mr. Westmoreland?

4 MR. WESTMORELAND: Aye.

5 THE CLERK: Mrs. Bachmann?

6 MRS. BACHMANN: Aye.

7 THE CLERK: Mr. Heck?

8 MR. HECK: Aye.

9 THE CLERK: Mr. Pompeo?

10 MR. POMPEO: Aye.

11 THE CLERK: Mr. Ruppertsberger?

12 MR. RUPPERSBERGER: Aye.

13 THE CLERK: Mr. Thompson?

14 MR. THOMPSON: Aye.

15 THE CLERK: Ms. Schakowsky?

16 Sorry. Mr. Schiff?

17 MR. SCHIFF: Aye.

18 THE CLERK: Mr. Himes?

19 MR. HIMES: Aye.

20 THE CLERK: Ms. Sewell?

21 MS. SEWELL: Aye.

22 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, there are 12 ayes and zero  
23 noes.

24 MR. CONAWAY: The ayes have it, the motion is agreed to,  
25 and the committee is now in closed session.

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[Whereupon, the committee proceeded into closed session.]