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

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

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November 19, 2016

The Honorable Ashton Carter
Secretary of Defense
Washington, DC 22202

The Honorable James Clapper
Director of National Intelligence
Washington, DC 20511

Dear Secretary Carter and Director Clapper:

A recent article in the *Washington Post* suggested that both of you recommended the removal of Admiral Mike Rogers from his positions as Director of the National Security Agency (NSA) and Commander of U.S. Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM).

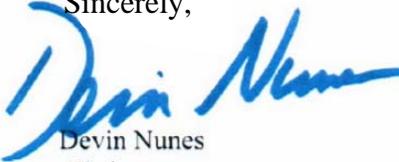
Since Admiral Rogers was appointed as NSA Director in April 2014, I have been consistently impressed with his leadership and accomplishments. His professionalism, expertise, and deckplate leadership have been remarkable during an extremely challenging period for NSA. I know other members of Congress hold him in similarly high esteem.

Given the Committee's constitutional responsibility to conduct oversight of the Intelligence Community (IC), I am asking you to provide a full explanation of the allegations contained in the *Post* article. I am also concerned that the article may contain unauthorized disclosures of classified information. Additionally, as the Committee noted in its report to accompany H.R. 5077, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, any decision to end the dual-hatting relationship between NSA and USCYBERCOM should prompt a further review of NSA's organization. Specifically, "the Committee believes that the organization of NSA should be examined to account for the evolution of its mission since its establishment, the current structure of the IC, and the fact that NSA is predominantly [National Intelligence Program]-funded." H. Rept. 114-573 at 18.

Accordingly, I will convene an open-session hearing at the earliest possible opportunity so the Committee may understand the veracity of the *Post* article and fully understand the impact of the proposed separation of NSA and USCYBERCOM on the IC. Please provide, no later than November 21, 2016, at 5:00pm, a list of dates and times you are available to appear before the Committee between now and the end of December 2016.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,


Devin Nunes
Chairman