

ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

Majority (202) 225-5051
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March 26, 2007

General Michael V. Hayden
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear General Hayden:

The Committee held a hearing on March 16, 2007, that examined disclosures by White House officials of the classified employment status of CIA officer Valerie Plame Wilson. I appreciate your assistance in ensuring that the Committee could conduct this hearing in public while protecting information regarding the details of Ms. Wilson's covert activities.

I am writing now to request specific documents that may bear on the accuracy of information previously provided to Congress regarding Ms. Wilson.

In July 2004, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence issued an unclassified report on prewar intelligence that discussed a trip to Niger by Ambassador Joe Wilson, Ms. Wilson's husband.¹ The Senate Report asserted that "interviews and documents provided to the Committee indicate that [Ambassador Wilson's] wife, a CPD [Counter-Proliferation Division] employee, suggested his name for the trip."² More specifically, the report stated that a CIA official — referred to as the "CPD reports officer" — claimed that Ms. Wilson "offered up [Ambassador Wilson's] name" for the assignment.³ In an "Additional Views" section of the Senate Report, three Republican Senators concluded further that: "The plan to send the former ambassador to Niger was suggested by the former ambassador's wife, a CIA employee."⁴

In her testimony before our Committee, Ms. Wilson provided a first hand account of these events that contradicts the findings of the Senate Report. Regarding the manner in which

¹ Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, *Report on the U.S. Intelligence Community's Prewar Intelligence Assessments on Iraq*, 108th Cong. (2004) (S. Rept. 108-301).

² *Id.* at 39.

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.* at 443 (Additional Views of Chairman Pat Roberts, joined by Senator Christopher S. Bond and Senator Orrin G. Hatch).

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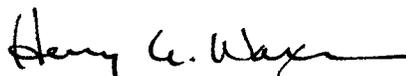
her husband was chosen for the trip, Ms. Wilson testified: "I did not recommend him. I did not suggest him. There was no nepotism involved. I didn't have the authority."⁵ Ms. Wilson further testified that the idea of sending Ambassador Wilson to Niger was suggested by a CIA colleague who was familiar with Ambassador Wilson's experience and credentials. According to Ms. Wilson's testimony, Ms. Wilson's supervisor, after learning of this suggestion, asked Ms. Wilson to invite Ambassador Wilson to a meeting at CIA headquarters to discuss a possible assignment.

Ms. Wilson also testified that certain information provided to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence by the CPD reports officer was "twisted and distorted" in order to support the inaccurate claim that Ms. Wilson had suggested Ambassador Wilson for the Niger mission.⁶ Ms. Wilson testified that after the Senate report was issued, she spoke personally with the CPD reports officer it referenced. According to Ms. Wilson, the CPD reports officer was extremely upset that his statements to the Committee had been distorted, and he wanted to correct the record. Ms. Wilson testified that the CPD reports officer drafted a memo to this effect, but he was not allowed to send it. The officer also requested that he be re-interviewed by the Committee, but this request was also denied, according to Ms. Wilson.

Ms. Wilson's testimony raises concerns about the accuracy of the Senate Report and the actions of the CIA in providing information to the Senate Committee. To help the Committee understand these issues, I request that you provide to the Committee copies of the CPD reports officer's memorandum and any other records containing information concerning Ms. Wilson's role in Ambassador Wilson's February 2002 trip to Niger. I also request copies of all other documents relating to any efforts to correct inaccurate information included in the Senate Report regarding Ambassador Wilson's mission to Niger.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact David Rapallo of the Committee staff at (202) 225-5420.

Sincerely,


Henry A. Waxman
Chairman

cc: Tom Davis
Ranking Minority Member

⁵ House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Testimony of Valerie Plame Wilson, *Hearing on White House Procedures for Safeguarding Classified Information*, 110th Cong. (Mar. 16, 2007).

⁶ *Id.*