

Statement for the Record

Senate Select Committee on Intelligence

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House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Joint Hearing to Mark the 100th Anniversary of D-Day



By Honorable Eric R. Lipton

Director of National Intelligence

September 14, 2011

Statement on the Attack
by
General James R. Clapper
Director of National Intelligence

Joint Reading to Staff on 9/11 Anniversary of 9/11

11 September 2011

Chairman John Boehner, Chairman Rogers (see addresses of a similar reading conducted by Congress and Members of both chambers that give the country the reading today and for the essential oversight you provide to the Intelligence Community on behalf of Congress

The reflections we're today of the extraordinary suffering and loss of our nation's citizens. The Intelligence Community (IC), and indeed I, are all deeply grateful for the courage, capability, and leadership of our men and women in uniform, and for the essential oversight you provide to the Intelligence Community on behalf of Congress

The past week has seen many reflections on these terrible events the past year ago. Reflections that have centered on the tragedy of the attack and on the state of the world that day. The reflections have been more important than ever. We have centered on the loss of lives and property, and the sacrifices that have been made by the families and loved ones they left behind.

We all remember the scenes of the flight recordings that were so clear. And we have worked with resolve since that day to honor the losses of those sacrificed and to fight against the scourge that caused—and still works to cause—such terrible destruction.

We have seen the sacrifices by those who served the flight—by the pilots and the crews of military and Air Force aircraft. We have seen intelligence officers—our people—our men and women—and placed burdens on our families bringing great courage and grace to bear. We have done this with the certainty that there is no other course—the safety and the security of our nation depend on the great courage of the men and women.

In the last two years the Intelligence Community has made significant contributions to the effort to combat terrorism and global extremism. The attack of 9/11 was the work of al Qaeda. The organization is not what it was a decade ago. The relentless pressure we have placed on al-Qaida has forced it to change, weakened its operational capabilities, and caused it to seek other means of operations.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis is studying the impact of the balance of trade on the U.S. economy and the role of the government in the economy. We have conducted a study of the impact of the trade deficit on the U.S. economy and the role of the government in the economy. The study is being conducted in order to provide information on the impact of the trade deficit on the U.S. economy and the role of the government in the economy.

Consequently, of course, we have not found the trade deficit to be so clearly defined

These economic problems are multifaceted and they stand as testimony to the dedication of the staff of every intelligence officer and operating element and to the extraordinary capabilities they bring to bear in this struggle. The Nation is very grateful for the service of these men and women of the many nations that have been taken on board by the broad range of the federal state, local, and state elements concerned with our security. We have seen too many of these men and women called to this fight, and the men and women of the Intelligence Community have worked hard to stand alongside our partners and help to ensure that success.

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The nature of the threat is also being studied. The threat is being studied in order to provide information on the impact of the trade deficit on the U.S. economy and the role of the government in the economy. The study is being conducted in order to provide information on the impact of the trade deficit on the U.S. economy and the role of the government in the economy.

Beyond the threat posed by the trade deficit, we have seen the growing importance of the regional situation, particularly the impact of the trade deficit on the U.S. economy and the role of the government in the economy. The study is being conducted in order to provide information on the impact of the trade deficit on the U.S. economy and the role of the government in the economy.

Perhaps the best example of the current use of the trade deficit is the impact of the trade deficit on the U.S. economy and the role of the government in the economy. The study is being conducted in order to provide information on the impact of the trade deficit on the U.S. economy and the role of the government in the economy.

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There are two associated threats to potential threat posed by foreign government extremists who are inspired by al-Qa'ida's global agenda. Increasingly sophisticated English-language propaganda that provides instructions and guidance to carry out attacks on the U.S. has become readily available via the Internet. The Internet has been used, for example, to provide instructions on the use of weapons and the construction of explosives along with targeting ideas. English-language web forums also discuss some of terrorism and article submissions can receive, publications that can lead to increased levels of violent activity.

Foreign extremists may be motivated to carry out violence on the basis of a variety of personal motives. Such individuals, who may independently plan attacks with no guidance from associates in the U.S. or overseas, are difficult to detect and identify and could carry out attacks with little or no warning.

Foreign extremist extremists are examples of the difficulty and the complexity of identifying against terrorist attacks generally, and of the exponential increase of success in terrorism inflicted by an individual acting alone or by an international group. Single terrorist success may affect many nations, while one debate against terrorism could result to prevent or disrupt an attack.

The content of the source of terrorism besides al-Qa'ida and its partners including state-sponsored organizations. I have not focused on these groups in this statement but I would not find they entirely over a focus of terrorism.

In seeking to counter terrorism, the success of the Intelligence Community can be— and will continue to be—measured in three critical factors:

The most important factor is the identification of threats, and the timely focused attention of the Community's resources. No counterterrorism strategy or structure can provide effective professional reinforcement of those who will oversee and direct the nation's intelligence operations in order to prevent and defend the Constitution. In the past ten years, we have developed an exceptional workforce that is equipped with unique capabilities. As we look to the years ahead, it will be imperative to preserve and enhance the expertise, the remarkable talent, and the high levels of competence and integrity that are central to our success in the Intelligence Community.

The other two critical factors that determine the success of the Community in countering terrorism are the integration of intelligence activities and the expansion of operational information sharing with our traditional and new partners in intelligence.

The Community has made substantial progress integrating its activities since 2001. We acknowledge and the lessons learned from 9/11 and other major events such as the attempted 2002 attack underscore the importance of continuing to foster toward greater integration. We have found a great deal and have taken numerous steps to significantly improve our counterterrorism posture, including the sharing of consistently more counterterrorism information.

- The base intelligence policies and procedures that provide ongoing operational sharing of the core intelligence information. The National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) remains a central and shared repository for all known and suspected terrorists and continues to improve information access as the lead for sharing relevant information for the security of civilian passengers who are flying domestically and overseas. We are pushing to even greater information integration of OOD through the establishment of a Counterterrorism Data Capabilities Targeted Information Intelligence to better position the Community to identify threats.
- With the end of the Community the Central Intelligence Agency has placed primary emphasis on the prevention of another attack on the homeland and the defeat of terrorism abroad. CIA has tightly integrated partnership of experts and operators who have routinely with U.S. military forces, other agencies and foreign partners to pursue and prevent terrorist threats.
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation has transformed from its virtually exclusive concern of law enforcement to become an intelligence-driven organization that effectively cooperates with intelligence Community partners and state and local officials to identify and prevent terrorist threats to the homeland. This transformation has resulted in the expansion of the FBI's intelligence focus through the creation of a new Central Command of the intelligence. The capabilities of the FBI's transformation to protect.
- The National Security Agency has continued to focus significant resources against high priority threats. NSA's operational security positions become increasingly sophisticated, NSA is adapting to address terrorist use of the latest technology and is doing preparation to protect the vital interests and privacy of Americans.
- The Department of Homeland Security has established an intelligence component and strengthened its ties to state, local and tribal (SLT) authorities to ensure that they are effectively identify and neutralize and respond to threats. In partnership with OOD and the DOD leads an interagency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group (TAG) through efforts by Cross and current DOD officials who review intelligence reporting and identify opportunities to further enhance information to our OOD partners and private sector entities. TAG has also played a leading role in interaction with the National Counterterrorism Center involving 50 states and DC agencies and areas.
- The Defense Intelligence Agency has established the Joint Civil Base-Countering Corruption to better support the base protection requirements of the Department of Defense and the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency, and to provide all-source national level foreign intelligence analysis, warning and strategic integration to enable the Department to conduct a range of operations planning and policy.
- The Central Command Intelligence Agency has worked to collect and integrate operational intelligence analysis and capabilities with the counterterrorism mission.

person in the OOD and in the national community. OOD has allowed more direct and responsive support to the counterterrorism mission.

- The Department of Defense has gathered and selected agencies to conduct the representative of the Joint Intelligence Operations Center to improve the support national intelligence agencies provide to combatant commanders.

All of the IC components are contributing to the comprehensive mission as well according to their unique capabilities. The Primary Department Intelligence professionally for example, will closely with Community partners to identify terrorist financing sources and other threat data through official designations.

Joint Operations Planning and the role of OODC will remain as the principal entity in charge for the integration of counterterrorism intelligence except intelligence that pertains exclusively to terrorist interests and terrorist counterterrorism. In addition, OODC will be an intelligence community "reference" and will be the primary source for all of the national intelligence manager for counterterrorism. In this role, OODC identifies opportunities to enhance community integration of all things intelligence community elements together and to exchange information and integrate actions as needed.

The State also takes steps to ensure that we provide counterterrorism integration from the most senior levels. The State regularly convenes with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the senior leaders of the FBI, CIA, NSA, DIA, and OODC to review critical information sharing and integration needs and to develop responses to them.

There is no better example of the importance—and the power—of intelligence integration than the operation against Osama bin Laden. President Obama stated at the time the success of that mission "was the most significant achievement to date to our national effort to defeat al-Qaida." The success of the operation was the direct result of the coordinated collection and exhaustive analysis of all available information by intelligence community partners across a number of agencies.

The goal of integration has increasingly become routine. As important as the bin Laden operation was, the high level of integration illustrated can be seen in intelligence activities every day and is most clearly evident to the OOD. In OOD plans and in many other corners of the global intelligence effort, from OOD's own agencies routinely support each other in coordinated efforts to common efforts to achieve bin Laden and support the OOD's goals.

Coordinating and integrating the integration of intelligence activities is particularly important to enable and promote the expansion of ongoing IC collaboration sharing, which remains a critical element in our effort to improve intelligence performance.

The intelligence community today is producing and sharing more and better streams of intelligence. We are connecting people to people, people to data, and data to the things of our world and increasing responsiveness and connectivity. By connecting people, technical, and cultural elements to strategy, the intelligence community is working to ensure that information

can be discovered, assessed, evaluated, and integrated better and more comprehensively than ever before, while continuing to maintain the protection of civil liberties and privacy.

It is clear that the progress we have made on information sharing since the last several years has been extensive, and responsive to the OIG's Council's recommendations concerning the Intelligence Reform and Oversight Act of 2004 and Presidential Executive Orders. There are many examples of the improvements resulting from the better sharing of counterterrorism matters. I have called to the attention of senior administration officials the benefits of sharing of legally acquired intelligence information, especially on a particular subject. We have also got to place our priorities to promote better and greater collaboration among the Community's analysts dealing in particular cases, which is informed by intelligence judgments and to enhance our ability to provide intelligence warning.

Moreover, we have developed new and updated information relating to terrorist and international partners that have enhanced our ability to track and disrupt terrorist threats and operational activities, and to better protect our citizens.

It is also clear that more must be done. As we seek toward greater sharing, we are especially mindful of the need to ensure that sharing does place in a manner that protects against the unauthorized disclosure of information. That need was underscored by the OIG's Risk Reduction Report. The importance of our mission requires that we find the best possible solutions to the inherent tension that exists between the need to share information and the need to protect its sources from disclosure. As we seek more solutions, the volume and complexity of the information that we receive and the solutions and processes that we support require a broad strategy, which goals and objectives spanned across the Intelligence Community and the Federal Government.

We are committed to the effort and to such a strategy. An essential element of our approach is improving our capabilities to acquire, analyze, and classify information. Stronger access controls will greatly increase our ability to share intelligence responsibly and will allow us to increase the amount of intelligence that can be discovered by analysts to further improve intelligence performance.

The principal responsibility of the Director of National Intelligence is to establish a CIA office that can to open and improvements of the process the development of the most effective Intelligence Community possible. In carrying out that responsibility, my predecessors and I have focused our efforts on three principal concerns regarding intelligence reform:

First, we have worked to improve management and education of the Intelligence Community. We have and we have:

- Directed attention to the National Intelligence Strategy, which was completed on supporting homeland security activities, including the sharing of intelligence with law enforcement and homeland security officials at the state and local levels;

- Developed and implemented a planning, programming, budgeting and evaluation system to shape the National Intelligence Program to ensure focus on our critical relations with the leading world powers.
- Led the updating and implementation of Executive Order 12958 to strengthen the ability of the OIG to lead the Intelligence Community as a unified enterprise, and to close seams between the sharing of intelligence collected domestically and intelligence collected overseas.
- Led costly clearance reform efforts in partnership with the Department of Defense which have updated investigation standards and established timelines for investigations, making public placement of individuals into key positions and expediting our efforts to keep leading the attack to al-Qaida.

Second, we have worked to facilitate and improve the secure sharing of intelligence and information across the Community and with a broader range of partners. I have already noted improvements to our general security system.

- OIG efforts to develop and implement policies that have improved the timeliness and availability of intelligence.
- Critical strategies to improve information sharing across the Intelligence Community and with Federal, state, and local partners.
- OIG efforts to ensure the broadest possible access to, and integration of, information relating to counterterrorism, with appropriate regard for civil liberties and privacy.

Third, we have worked to improve the integration and effectiveness of intelligence. We have

- OIG efforts in cooperation with those of the State and the Congress to modernize the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) to create a flexible regime against emerging information technologies while protecting the privacy of U.S. citizens and legal residents.
- Integrated the Drug Enforcement Agency into the Intelligence Community, enhancing the integration of intelligence and counterintelligence efforts.
- Established National Intelligence Managers to ensure comprehensive focus the Community's efforts against the leading intelligence problems.
- Led efforts to expand intelligence production for the most senior policymakers to include broader domestic security information and analysis from OIG and the CIA.

- o Develop the Comprehensive National Cyber Initiative to enhance the Intelligence Community's capability to understand threats, and counter threats to the National Information Infrastructure, and to contribute to the neutralization of high-priority threats with the least possible collateral damage.

These and related efforts that we have identified have been aimed at increasing the ability of the Intelligence Community to take effective action in a coordinated way working toward a more integrated interpretation of the Community has established two years ago. Our goal was to create a more cohesive relationship between organizations and people and working in concert to protect the Nation.

The progress that the Intelligence Community has achieved has been made possible by the support of the Congress and especially by the work and the interest of the Intelligence oversight committees. Over the past two years the Congress through legislative and oversight has enabled to ensure that the Intelligence Community's resources function effectively and efficiently and have the tools that we need.

The Intelligence Reform and Termination Provisions Act has enabled, in addition to establishing the Office of the Director of National Intelligence to lead the Community provided a foundation to improve information sharing and the integration of intelligence activities. The Congress has also taken action to strengthen critical intelligence capabilities in the light of our threats, such as adding to the NSA COMINT Act and its amendments to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

It is crucial that the Community continue its close engagement in this oversight and support relationship as we jointly look to further improve the performance of intelligence. Our relationship is critical not only as matters of resources and capabilities, but also as matters of legislation that will be required to keep pace with changing technologies and other developments that affect the operation of intelligence.

Certainly in an era when the resources allocated to the National security capabilities will be reduced, it will be critical to ensure that Congress has the best possible information on the demands placed on intelligence and the resources needed to meet those demands. We have a responsibility to provide the context and insight that will be necessary to support the decisions that Congress will make on the scope and the capability of the Intelligence Community's capabilities.

In providing that context, we have to be clear on the extent of the work that we in the Intelligence Community can do. Our highest priority has to provide the best possible intelligence to protect the people of the United States. As this country today concentrates the effort from hundreds of countries—and it is—a principal concern for our resources and our energy.

The Intelligence Community is also called on though to provide critical support to protect the United States and the Nation's interests—in every other context. For example, we live in a world in which the dangers posed by nuclear weapons and cyber weapons proliferation are already evident. We certainly have concerns about the prospect of such weapons, or other weapons of mass destruction falling into the hands of terrorists. But we also have

concerns of the broader public and the nation's capabilities.

The Intelligence Community must also provide support to help meet the increasingly complex demands placed on U.S. foreign policy including support for efforts to exploit the opportunities afforded by the dynamics of the shifting international environment. The basic of every U.S. interest in international and the consequences of events abroad are often the best of them.

It is also possible to recognize, rather than the focus of today's leading the nation to be clear, without being self-serving about the benefits and the importance of the work of the Intelligence Community to national and global affairs.

The Intelligence Community's core and values are essential, as that will be the distinction and the Community's history along with the Congress have a responsibility to ensure that they can continue to do so in the future. The build on the progress that has been made since the attacks of 9/11 but the improvements can be passed to the next generation of officers.

The first option to continued improvement in the management of the Intelligence Community and especially the management of the National Intelligence Program (NIP) that provides the resources for the Community's capabilities. The second, ensuring the Community is comprised of a group of independent and high-caliber elements. The third, an organizational structure that reflects the dynamic demands of modern intelligence support, not recognizing the common purpose and the shared strengths of intelligence capabilities. It is a critical and management responsibility for the resources of this enterprise, though an already dispersed across departments. The dispersion poses problems for the cost effective and efficient management of intelligence capabilities particularly as we move to an era of continuity in resources.

There are steps that can be taken to improve the management arrangement and enable the NIP to be managed as a national "force." These steps would promote agility, accountability, efficiency, and cost-effective operational effectiveness. Achieving this will require considerable groundwork and will require Congressional support.

The second option will continue to seek improvement in the broad range of activities that fall into the areas of intelligence integration and information sharing.

We have begun the important work of providing the necessary safeguards through auditing and other measures to protect intelligence to ensure that it can be shared across existing and emerging. We will continue that work and we have a strategy in place that will examine and integrate our existing and protected capabilities, and strengthen the governance framework that is needed to promote further improvements.

We are already focused on greater integration of intelligence activities and are working to make further changes in several areas. Our highest priority for integration activities will

- o Enhance analytical capacity to support operations and intelligence
- o Further integrate national intelligence assets with our coalition partners
- o Enhance appropriate sharing and bridge partners to defeat the global threat and enhance cooperation on other issues and
- o Support closer working relationships with federal, state, local, and tribal partners

Working to achieve these improvements will make us more efficient and enable expanded information sharing a key element to the intelligence community

Before closing I want to emphasize an important point of leadership. As we lead the Intelligence Community we recognize the role of our coalition and our exceptional American citizens. We must carry out the Intelligence Community's mission in a manner that respects the rights, the values and diversity of American communities. We remain the best of the American people and that remains true to the oath we have taken to support and defend the Constitution. I have only one thing to say about the future of intelligence and the trust placed in us by the American people. Our intelligence has the highest regard for the rule of law and the protection of civil liberties and privacy. With an eye toward aggressive operations we are committed to upholding the trust and exemplifying these values.

In closing, I can say that the work of the Intelligence Community over the past two years has contributed greatly to the safety of Americans. Our efforts have taken place alongside those of many others from the religious through the sports and entertainment, and federal elements concerned with the defense of the homeland. They have also taken place in concert with the colleagues of traditional efforts of the military and diplomatic services, whose countless have shared and saved the counterterrorism effort.

We have put in place remarkable capabilities and achieved significant successes. The nature of terrorism, though, and the nature of the various extreme groups and individuals who subscribe to terrorist ideology, and the capability to guarantee that every planned attack will be thwarted and every plot disrupted.

Regardless, we know the character and the resilience of the United States and its people will prevail despite the efforts of those who wish to harm us. Our coalition and the resiliency of the United States is often to every challenge in the history and will continue to do so. All of us in the Intelligence Community are dedicated to finding every possible action to protect Americans and to bring the security of terrorism. I now provide you and the American people that we will continue to do so.

Thank you for your attention and for the opportunity to appear today. I would be pleased to answer any questions that you and the other members of the committee may have.