

Citizens Commission on Benghazi Interim Report: How America Switched Sides in the War on Terror

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On April 22, the Citizens Commission on Benghazi issued an Interim Report in which they concluded:

The war in Libya was unnecessary, served no articulable U.S. national security objective, and led to preventable chaos region-wide.

The rebel forces were dominated by the Libyan Muslim Brotherhood and al-Qaeda. Muammar Qaddafi expressed his willingness to abdicate shortly after the beginning of the 2011 Libyan revolt, but the United States ignored his calls for a truce.

The U.S. failure to even consider Qaddafi's request for talks, and its determination to enter and pursue this war in support of al-Qaeda-linked rebels, presents the appearance of a policy intent upon empowering Islamic forces with no measurable benefit to U.S. national security.

Even more disturbingly, the United States facilitated the delivery of weapons and military support to al-Qaeda-linked rebels in Libya. The rebels made no secret of their al-Qaeda affiliation. And yet the White House and senior Congressional members deliberately and knowingly pursued a policy that provided material support to terrorist organizations in order to topple a ruler who had been working closely with the West actively to suppress al-Qaeda.

The CCB reiterated its call for a Select Committee to investigate Benghazi. The group also detailed the contents of 85 Freedom of Information Requests which they have filed to the State Department, FBI, CIA, and numerous branches of the U.S. military. Among the requests for notes, memoranda, and correspondence generated between January 2007 and Sept. 11, 2012 regarding meetings between Christopher Stevens or any other Tripoli Embassy official, and one or more of the following individuals: Ahmed Abu Khatta, Mustafa Abdul Jalil, Mahmoud Jibril, Wissam bin Hamid, Abdelhakim Belhadj, Ismael al-Sallabi, Ali al-Sallabi, Mohammad al-Sallabi, and Abu Sufian bin Qumu, all of whom, with the exception of Jibril, are members of the Muslim Brotherhood or the al-Qaeda affiliated Libyan Islamic Fighting Group, with whom Obama allied to overthrow Qaddafi.

They also ask for all records regarding Deputy National Security Adviser for Homeland Security and Counter-terrorism John Brennan's recommendations regarding the overthrow of Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi.

Members of the CCB include Roger Aronoff, Editor of Accuracy in Media, Captain

Larry Bailey (SEAL) USN Ret., Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth Benway, U.S. Army Special Forces (Retired), Col. Dick Brauer Jr., USAF (Ret.), Lt. Col. Dennis B. Haney, USAF (Ret.), B/Gen. Charles Jones, USAF (Ret.), Clare Lopez, former CIA officer; Admiral James Lyons (Ret.), General Thomas McInerney (Ret.), Col. Wayne Morris USMC (Ret.), Chet Nagle, John A. Shaw, Kevin Shipp, former CIA officer, Wayne Simmons, former CIA officer, General Paul Vallely (Ret.), former Congressman and Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Allen West. CCB Advisory Members include Steven Emerson, Executive Director, Investigative Project on Terrorism, Pete Hoekstra, Former Congressman, former chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence 2004-2007, Senior Fellow, Investigative Project on Terrorism.

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