

RELEASE IN
FULL

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2012 9:17 AM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I; Verma, Richard R
Subject: FW: HomelandSecurity, Intelligence: Dear Colleague: COSIGN: Letter Opposing Ambassador Susan Rice for Secretary of State

FYI

From: e-Dear Colleague
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2012 08:56 AM
To: E-DEARCOLL ISSUES G-Z 0000@ls2.house.gov <E-DEARCOLL ISSUES G-Z 0000@ls2.house.gov>
Subject: HomelandSecurity, Intelligence: Dear Colleague: COSIGN: Letter Opposing Ambassador Susan Rice for Secretary of State

COSIGN: Letter Opposing Ambassador Susan Rice for Secretary of State

From: The Honorable Jeff Duncan
Sent By: Rebecca.G.Ulrich@mail.house.gov
Date: 11/14/2012

November 14, 2012

Dear Colleague,

I would like to bring to your attention the letter below regarding reports that President Obama may be considering Ambassador Susan Rice to succeed Hillary Clinton as Secretary of State. I am very concerned about this possibility, and I intend to send the following letter to the president in opposition to any efforts to nominate Ambassador Rice for the position of Secretary of State. The deadline to sign is Friday, November 16th at noon.

November 16, 2012

President Barack Obama

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We, the undersigned, are deeply troubled by reports that you may be considering Ambassador Susan Rice to succeed Hillary Clinton as Secretary of State. Though Ambassador Rice has been our Representative to the U.N., we believe her misleading statements over the days and weeks following the attack on our embassy in Libya that led to the deaths of Ambassador Stevens and three other Americans caused irreparable damage to her credibility both at home and around the world.

In her interviews over that time, Ambassador Rice propagated a falsehood that the attacks were “spontaneous,” the outcome of a protest “spun out of control,” and the result of a YouTube video. Only on September 19 – eight days after the attack – did the American people learn from National Counterterrorism Director Matthew Olsen that the intelligence services considered the attack an act of terrorism and that al Qaeda may have played a role.

Ambassador Rice is widely viewed as having either willfully or incompetently misled the American public in the Benghazi matter. Her actions plausibly give U.S. allies (and rivals) abroad reason to question U.S. commitment and credibility when needed. Thus, we believe that making her the face of U.S. foreign policy in your second term would greatly undermine your desire to improve U.S. relations with the world and continue your trust with the American people.

As you know, there have been repeated Congressional requests for information on the events of September 11, 2012. Over the past month, our Senate colleagues have sent 13 separate letters to senior Administration officials, including to you. Many Members of the House of Representatives have also sent letters requesting answers. Our questions remain unanswered, and your Administration continues to deny Congress access to critical information necessary for effective oversight.

Recent reports of discrepancies between the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency’s public timelines of the events on September 11 only exacerbate the problem, and we believe these inconsistencies deserve closer examination.

In light of this troubling situation and the continued unanswered questions, we strongly oppose any efforts to nominate Ambassador Susan Rice for the position of Secretary of State.

Sincerely,

Members of Congress

CC: All U.S. Senators

Yours in Liberty,

Jeff Duncan (SC-03)

Member of Congress

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