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From: Ferguson, Thomas A CIV, OSD OUSDI

Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2011 2:33 PM

To: 'Long Letitia A NGA-D USA CIV'; 'Rowland Lloyd B Mr NGA-DD USA CIV'; Burgess Jr., LTG Ronald L.; 'david.shedd@dia.mil'; 'Bruce.Carlson@nro.mil'; Sapp, Betty, Ms. NRO; 'Kbalex2@nsa.gov'; 'Inglis, John C'

Cc: Vickers, Michael G HON OSD OUSDI; Gentile, Philip D COL OSD OUSDI; Mehal, Robert S CDR OSD PA; Smith, Heidi A CIV, OSD OUSDI

Subject: Recent Media Leaks

All,

While we are past the initial media blitz that followed the successful [REDACTED] operation, we are now seeing an increase in detailed requests in conjunction with books, documentaries, and film projects. These requests are being sent directly to the CSAs and are being sent simultaneously to multiple agencies. On behalf of Secretary Gates and Dr. Vickers, I request that you decline any direct requests for information regarding the UBL operation, current or previous CT operations, or any other operational issues related to CT activities.

Recently there have also been a number of sensitive items appearing in the press, which is quite troubling. We need your assistance in stopping such information from appearing in the news. Even the simplest of comments, taken out of context or as an accumulation of information, can be extremely damaging to OPSEC. The guidance from the Secretary Gates and Dr. Vickers has been very clear--such unauthorized releases are unacceptable.

Therefore, I ask before you engage with the news media, publishing or the entertainment industry, please ensure that all engagements/information requests are thoroughly coordinated with the Department of Defense Public Affairs Office. The OSD Public Affairs Officer for OUSD(I) is CDR Bob Mehal (703-697-4162 or robert.mehal@osd.mil). I also request that you remind your respective workforces and senior leadership of appropriate media engagement policies.

Tom Ferguson
PDUSD(I)

Wilson, Douglas HON OSD PA

From: Wilson, Douglas HON OSD PA
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2011 7:13 AM
To: 'Rhodes, Benjamin J.'
Cc: Smith, Jamie; (b)(3):U.S.C. 403g
Subject: UBL Film
Signed By: douglas.wilson@osd.mil

Need your guidance: Mark Boal, the Oscar-winning screenplay writer for "Hurt Locker", is teaming again with "Hurt Locker" director Kathryn Bigelow (the first woman to win an Academy Award for film direction) on "The Hunt for UBL". Both Boal and Bigelow are well-known to both Geoff and me. Both Geoff and I highly respect both of them. (FYI, Bigelow is actively assisting in Hollywood on "Joining Forces" and other military family issues.) SD Gates shares that admiration for their previous film efforts.

Boal has been working with us and with CIA (via George Little) for initial context briefings -- at DoD this have been provided by Mike Vickers, and at CIA by relevant officials with the full knowledge and full approval/support of Director Panetta.

I know that Jamie is keeping an informal list of press and film requests on this topic. Boal and Bigelow are pretty far along on their research, and will soon be engaging with the Pentagon's film liaison (who works for me).

Our overall engagement with Boal and Bigelow to date has been pretty general. But as this progresses, Mike Vickers and I (and I'm sure George as well) would welcome guidance regarding parameters, in particular those for Boal and Bigelow. My recommendation would be for us to link by phone sometime in the next couple of weeks with you and with John Brennan. Let me know your thoughts.

Thanks,

Doug

DoD:

This film project is only in the script development phase, and DoD is providing assistance with script research, which is something we commonly do for established filmmakers. Until there is a script to review, and a request for equipment or other DoD support, there is no formal agreement for DoD support. When people working on articles, books, documentaries or movies that involve the Department of Defense request assistance, we do our best to accommodate them to make sure the facts are correct. We do not discuss classified information.

CIA:

"As part of our public outreach, this Agency - like others in our government - has over the years engaged with writers, documentary filmmakers, movie and TV producers, and others in the entertainment industry. Our goal is an accurate portrayal of the men and women of the CIA, their vital mission, and the commitment to public service that defines them."

WH:

"These claims are ridiculous. When people working on articles, books, documentaries or movies that involve the President ask to speak to administration officials, we do our best to accommodate them to make sure the facts are correct. That's hardly a novel approach to the media. We do not discuss classified information. I'd hope that as we face a continued threat from terrorism, the House Committee on Homeland Security would have more important topics to discuss."

EXCERPTS FROM: THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS BRIEFING

For Immediate Release, August 10, 2011, 12:46 P.M. EDT

BY PRESS SECRETARY JAY CARNEY

ON OBL RAID MOVIE:

Q Peter King, the congressman, is calling for an investigation based on a report in Maureen Dowd's column today saying that Sony Pictures moviemakers doing the OBL raid movie have been given top-level access to the most clarified -- classified mission in history from an administration that's tried to throw more people in jail for leaking classified administration than the Bush administration. I think Mr. King is less involved, less concerned about the last part. But what's your response to that report -- both King's interest and also the inherent criticism that Maureen Dowd is --

MR. CARNEY: Well, I do have a response to that. First of all, the claims are ridiculous. When people, including you, in this room are working on articles, books, documentaries or movies that involve the President, ask to speak to administration officials, we do our best to accommodate them to make sure the facts are correct. That is hardly a novel approach to the media.

We do not discuss classified information. And I would hope that as we face a continued threat from terrorism, the House Committee on Homeland Security would have more important topics to discuss than a movie.

The information that this White House has provided about that mission has been focused on the President's role in -- there is no difference in the information that we've given to anybody who is working on this topic from what we gave to those of you in this room who worked on it in the days and weeks after the raid itself. In fact, the most specific information we've given from this White House about the actual raid I read to you from this podium. So it's simply false.
