Description of document: Office of The Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) records provided to Senator Charles E. Grassley and Senator Tom Coburn concerning the independence of the Inspector General necessary to promote efficiency and prevent fraud, waste and abuse in agency programs, in response to the Senators' inquiry, 2011-2012

Requested: 17-April-2012

Released date: 07-June-2013

Posted date: 30-September-2013

Source of document: FOIA Request
Chief, Information and Data Management Group
Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20511
Fax: (703) 874-8910
Email: dni-foia@dni.gov

Note: This is one of several files on the same subject for various agencies available on governmentattic.org. See: http://www.governmentattic.org/6docs/GrassleyCoburn.htm

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Reference: DF-2012-00080

This is in response to your letter, dated 17 April 2012, received in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence on 23 May 2012. Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), you are requesting "each and every biannual response/report to Senators Grassley and Coburn, in addition to, the original response from your agency to the April 8, 2010 letter from the Senators." We have assigned your request the reference number above. Please use this number when corresponding so that we can identify it easily.

Your request was processed in accordance with the FOIA, 5 U.S.C § 552, as amended. The ODNI found two documents responsive to your request. Upon review, it has been determined that the material may be released in segregable form with information removed pursuant to the FOIA exemption (b)(3), which applies to information exempt from disclosure by statute. The relevant withholding statute is the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 U.S.C. § 403g, as amended, which protects, among other things, the names of CIA and ODNI personnel.

You have the right to appeal this determination within 45 days of the date of this letter to:

Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Information Management Office
Washington, DC 20511

Should you decide to do this, please explain the basis of your appeal. If you have any questions, please call the Requester Service Center at (703) 874-8500.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Jennifer Hudson
Chief, Information and Data Management Group

Enclosure (6 pages)
2 March 2011

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tom Coburn  
Ranking Member  
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations  
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ranking Member Grassley and Ranking Member Coburn:

(U) This letter responds to your April 8, 2010 letter seeking biannual updates on all closed investigations, evaluations, and audits conducted by our office that were not disclosed to the public.

(U) As noted in my initial response dated June 15, 2010, the majority of OIG projects are classified due to the sensitive nature of Office of Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) programs and activities we review. We provide all final reports of audits, inspections, evaluations, and reviews to the intelligence oversight committees. Consistent with the general practice in the Inspector General community, we do not routinely provide reports of investigations to the committees, but rather notify them of significant investigative reports and offer briefings of those matters. In addition, we summarize significant investigations, including those of senior officials, in our semiannual reports to the intelligence oversight committees.

(U//FOUO) Since my initial response of June 15, 2010, the OIG has produced two non-public semiannual reports covering the period January 1 to December 31, 2010. Both reports are classified and were delivered to the intelligence oversight and appropriations committees. In addition, based upon the recommendation of my Assistant Inspector General for Inspections and my Deputy, the OIG administratively closed an inspection that was initiated in 2007 relating to advanced geospatial intelligence. I was advised after I arrived at the OIG that a draft report had been circulated to IC elements in 2008, and that some IC elements agreed with certain draft report recommendations, while other IC elements objected to certain draft report recommendations. I was also advised that due to questions raised regarding the methodology employed during the review and aspects of the findings, content, and recommendations when the
UNCLASSIFIED//FOOU

report was presented to then DNI McConnell, my predecessor determined not to issue a final report. My Assistant Inspector General for Inspections recently reviewed the matter and concluded that under Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) quality standards for inspection relating to relevance, accuracy, and timeliness, it is no longer either feasible or practicable to assess the accuracy of the draft report in a timely manner.

(U) If you have any questions, please contact me or my deputy, ________________________________ (b)(3) (b)(3) at ________________________________

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Roslyn A. Mazer

cc: See Distribution List
Distribution List:

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
The Honorable Saxby Chambliss
The Honorable Carl Levin
15 June 2010

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tom Coburn
Ranking Member
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ranking Members Grassley and Coburn:

Thank you for your 8 April 2010 letter and your continued dedication to the role of independent Inspectors General. The independence of Inspectors General is critical to conducting meaningful audits, evaluations, investigations, and other management reviews. I will address the requests in your letter as they pertain to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) since the beginning of my tenure as the ODNI Inspector General in April 2009.

1. Cooperation from ODNI Management

During my tenure, I have not experienced an instance when the ODNI management team has resisted or objected to the OIG’s activities. The ODNI leadership has been cooperative in participating in OIG audits, evaluations, investigations, and reviews and in providing input into the ODNI biannual Work Plan.

2. Biannual Report on Closed Matters not Disclosed to Public

Our reports generally are not disclosed to the public because of the classified nature of our work. We provide all final reports of audits, inspections, evaluations, and reviews to the intelligence oversight committees. Consistent with the general practice in the IG community, we do not routinely provide reports of investigations to the committees, but rather notify them of significant investigative reports and offer briefings of those matters. In addition, we summarize significant investigations, including those of senior officials, in our semiannual reports to Congress.
The OIG has produced two semiannual reports covering the period 1 January to 31 December 2009. Both reports are classified and were delivered to the intelligence oversight and appropriations committees. We are in the process of preparing the semiannual report for the period 1 Jan to 30 June 2010. Upon concurrence of the A/DNI, that report will be sent to Congress this summer.

3. Communications with Congress

Pursuant to ODNI policy, all congressional communications are transmitted through the ODNI's Office of Legislative Affairs (OLA). Therefore, the OIG coordinates all congressional interactions through OLA.

Statutory IGs have direct reporting lines to Congress under the Inspector General Act of 1978. However, the ODNI IG is appointed by the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) and reports solely to the DNI. The Fiscal Year 2010 Intelligence Authorization bill (S. 1494), pending in Congress, would create a Presidentially-appointed, Senate-confirmed Inspector General for the Intelligence Community and would establish a dual reporting requirement to Congress and the agency head, similar to that of other statutory IGs.

4. Unimplemented ODNI OIG Recommendations

Beginning in early 2009, ODNI management and the OIG instituted a review process that tracks the implementation of all outstanding OIG recommendations. This process has resulted in over 94% of OIG recommendations in reports issued since 2007 being closed or substantially closed. We plan to provide the House Committee on Government Oversight and Reform a list of pending unclassified unimplemented recommendations after we complete our semiannual report in July and will coordinate with the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence in providing you a copy of our report.

I hope that this information is useful for your review. If you have any further questions, please contact me or Deputy Inspector General in my office at (b)(3)

Sincerely,

Roslyn M. Mazer

cc: See Distribution List
Distribution:

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
The Honorable Christopher S. Bond
The Honorable Silvestre Reyes
The Honorable Peter Hoekstra