

Sent: Fri, 26 Jul 2013 17:30:33 -0400
From: "Hayden, Caitlin" <caitlin_m_hayden@nss.eop.gov>
To: Cora Currier <cora.currier@propublica.org>
Cc: "Lucas, Laura" <laura_d_lucas@nss.eop.gov>, "Lucas, Laura" <"/o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=lucas, laura d.49e">
Subject: RE: Dasht-e-Leili massacre

I can say that the investigation was led by the U.S. intelligence community, but I don't have further details to provide you on the process itself. Thanks! -Caitlin

From: Cora Currier [mailto:Cora.Currier@propublica.org]
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2013 2:58 PM
To: Hayden, Caitlin
Cc: Lucas, Laura
Subject: RE: Dasht-e-Leili massacre

Caitlin,

Thanks for following up on this again. Can you tell me anything more about how the investigation proceeded?

Specifically:

Was it handled by National Security Staff, the Pentagon, or another agency? How long did it take? Did it cover earlier allegations that investigations had been discouraged by Bush administration officials, and the removal of evidence from graves in 2006-2009 period?

Finally, would the White House support a UNHCHR or UNAMA-led investigation into the incident?

Would appreciate any more detail.

Thank you,
Cora

From: Hayden, Caitlin [mailto:Caitlin_M_Hayden@nss.eop.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2013 10:51 AM
To: Cora Currier
Cc: Lucas, Laura
Subject: FW: Dasht-e-Leili massacre

Hi, Cora! Looping back on your question, I can now tell you that at the President's direction, the U.S. government has looked into the facts of the 2001 Dasht-e-Leili massacre and we have concluded that no American troops were involved in this incident.

For questions about the role of any Afghan citizens, we'd refer you to the Government of Afghanistan. As we have in other cases, including those documented in our annual human rights reports, we urge Afghanistan to work through its legal frameworks and the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission to uphold human rights principles. In addition, we have long said that the future of Afghanistan is up to Afghans, and we support an Afghan-led process of peace and reconciliation to help end decades of war.

Thanks! -Caitlin

From: Cora Currier [<mailto:Cora.Currier@propublica.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2013 10:41 AM
To: Lucas, Laura
Cc: Hayden, Caitlin
Subject: RE: from ProPublica

Hi Laura, Caitlin,

This has been bumped to this week. One follow-up: back in 2009, before the Afghan elections, Caitlin, you said on behalf of the U.S. embassy that "the United States maintains concerns about any leadership role for Mr. Dostum in today's Afghanistan."

Were those concerns borne out? Dostum retains a prominent political role in the North – has the U.S. position on him changed?

If this should be directed to the Embassy in Kabul – Caitlin, do you have a point person there you could direct me to?

Best,
Cora

From: Lucas, Laura [mailto:Laura_D_Lucas@nss.eop.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2013 6:34 PM
To: Cora Currier
Cc: Hayden, Caitlin
Subject: RE: from ProPublica

Hi Cora,

At the direction of the President, his national security team is continuing its work looking into the Dasht-e-leili massacre. I don't have any specific details to share at this time, but we can follow up with you once that work is complete.

Best, Laura

Laura Lucas
NSS Assistant Press Secretary
Office: 202-456-9277
LLucas@nss.eop.gov

From: Cora Currier [<mailto:Cora.Currier@propublica.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 5:02 PM
To: Lucas, Laura; Hayden, Caitlin
Subject: RE: from ProPublica

Hi Laura. Quick update –I'm now on a firm deadline for Friday morning. Appreciate your help. I

understand it might be hard to track folks down as there's been staff turnover.

Thanks again,
Cora

From: Lucas, Laura [mailto:Laura_D_Lucas@nss.eop.gov]
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 1:47 PM
To: Cora Currier; Hayden, Caitlin
Subject: RE: from ProPublica

Hi Cora, I don't have anything for you yet but haven't forgotten about you. I'll be back in touch. Best,
Laura

From: Cora Currier [<mailto:Cora.Currier@propublica.org>]
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 1:42 PM
To: Hayden, Caitlin
Cc: Lucas, Laura
Subject: RE: from ProPublica

Hi Caitlin, Laura,

Circling back on this. To clarify the "partial" comment – I mean that, if you don't have a statement for me yet, can we talk about what you know on this, to inform my reporting.
Thanks.

From: Hayden, Caitlin [mailto:Caitlin_M_Hayden@nss.eop.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 5:45 PM
To: Cora Currier
Cc: Lucas, Laura
Subject: RE: from ProPublica

[Partial isn't really our style, but we'll see what we can do!](#)

From: Cora Currier [<mailto:Cora.Currier@propublica.org>]
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 5:44 PM
To: Hayden, Caitlin
Cc: Lucas, Laura
Subject: RE: from ProPublica

Thanks, Caitlin, for getting back to me so quickly. Even something partial tomorrow would be great.

From: Hayden, Caitlin [mailto:Caitlin_M_Hayden@nss.eop.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 5:43 PM
To: Cora Currier
Cc: Lucas, Laura
Subject: RE: from ProPublica

[Hi, Cora! Have a lot on our plates and not sure we'll have something tomorrow, but we'll work on it.](#)
[Thanks! -Caitlin](#)

From: Cora Currier [<mailto:Cora.Currier@propublica.org>]

Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 5:20 PM
To: Hayden, Caitlin
Subject: from ProPublica

Hi Caitlin,

Question for you: back in '09, President Obama pledged to order a review of the alleged massacre of Taliban prisoners in Afghanistan in November, 2001. (Generally known as the Dasht-e-leili massacre.) He said so in response to a New York Times report that no investigation had been allowed to proceed under the Bush administration.

It seems that since then, nothing more about this has been released to the public. Did the President in fact order a national security council review of this? Was an official investigation launched? To what end?

Hoping to file by early next week – if you could get back to me tomorrow I'd appreciate it.

Thank you,
Cora

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