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Activities and Summary Report of the House Select Committee on the Events Surrounding the 2012 Terrorist Attack in Benghazi: 113th Congress

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Union Calendar No. 561

113TH CONGRESS }
2d Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

{ REPORT
113-730

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES
OF THE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE EVENTS
SURROUNDING THE 2012 TERRORIST
ATTACK IN BENGHAZI
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
DURING THE
ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS



JANUARY 2, 2015.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on
the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SELECT COMMITTEE ON BENGHAZI,
Washington, DC, January 2, 2015.

Hon. KAREN HAAS,
Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MRS. HAAS: Pursuant to clause 1(d) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I am transmitting the annual report of the activity of the Select Committee on the Events Surrounding the 2012 Terrorist Attack in Benghazi.

Sincerely,

TREY GOWDY,
Chairman.

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Mr. GOWDY, from the Committee on Benghazi,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

ORGANIZATION

The House created the Select Committee on the Events Surrounding the 2012 Terrorist Attack in Benghazi in H. Res. 567, adopted on May 8, 2014.

The resolution authorized and directed the Select Committee to conduct a full and complete investigation and study and issue a final report of its findings to the House with respect to the following matters:

(1) all policies, decisions, and activities that contributed to the attacks on United States facilities in Benghazi, Libya, on September 11, 2012, as well as those that affected the ability of the United States to prepare for the attacks;

(2) all policies, decisions, and activities to respond to and repel the attacks on United States facilities in Benghazi, Libya, on September 11, 2012, including efforts to rescue United States personnel;

(3) internal and public executive branch communications about the attacks on United States facilities in Benghazi, Libya, on September 11, 2012;

(4) accountability for policies and decisions related to the security of facilities in Benghazi, Libya, and the response to the attacks, including individuals and entities responsible for those policies and decisions;

(5) executive branch authorities' efforts to identify and bring to justice the perpetrators of the attacks on U.S. facilities in Benghazi, Libya, on September 11, 2012;

(6) executive branch activities and efforts to comply with Congressional inquiries into the attacks on United States facilities in Benghazi, Libya, on September 11, 2012;

(7) recommendations for improving executive branch cooperation and compliance with congressional oversight and investigations;

(8) information related to lessons learned from the attacks and executive branch activities and efforts to protect United States facilities and personnel abroad; and

(9) any other relevant issues relating to the attacks, the response to the attacks, or the investigation by the House of Representatives into the attacks.

LEGISLATIVE AND OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES

The Select Committee has no legislative jurisdiction or general oversight jurisdiction. Rather, the Select Committee's investigative and oversight activities are directed to the specific matters charged to it by the House under H. Res. 567.

Consistent with the direction of the House, during the 113th Congress the Select Committee has organized and conducted review of documents and other records transmitted to it by the Committees of the House pursuant to Section 5(a) of H. Res. 567. The Select Committee has also made further document requests to the Executive Branch, and staff has met on an ongoing basis with Executive Branch officials regarding the status of document production and conducted other investigative activities.

In addition, Members of the Select Committee met privately with family members of the fallen, received briefings related to ongoing criminal investigation, viewed video relating to the Benghazi attacks, and met with Executive Branch officials regarding benefits issues relating to the fallen and their family members.

As part of its oversight and investigative activities, the Committee has also held two public hearings relating to the security of U.S. diplomatic facilities abroad on September 17, 2014, and December 10, 2014. The hearings generally reviewed the status of implementation of State Department Accountability Review Board recommendations, as well as of other efforts to secure U.S. installations overseas.

OVERSIGHT PLAN AND ACTIONS TAKEN

As the Select Committee is not a standing Committee of the House and has no general oversight jurisdiction, clause 2(d) of House Rule X is not applicable.

HEARINGS HELD PURSUANT TO CLAUSES 2(n), (o), OR (p) OF HOUSE RULE XI

As the Select Committee has no legislative jurisdiction, it authorizes no programs applicable under clauses 2(n), (o), or (p) of House Rule XI.