

**Statement of September 11th Advocates
Regarding James Clapper and the Release of the 28 Pages
May 24, 2016**

In today's NY Times article, "Fearing a Last Minute Obstacle in a Push to Release 9/11 Findings," regarding the release of the 28 pages of the Joint Inquiry of Congress, former Senator Bob Graham states that the White House is potentially adding another layer of delay and obfuscation in the release of the 28 pages.

According to Graham, the DNI, James Clapper, has suggested that the 28 pages should be treated like the Senate Intelligence Committee's Torture Report. For that report, the actual damning evidence was hidden by the use of a cleaner, more publicly palatable "Executive Summary." Executive summaries are not meant to reveal facts or the truth—they are used to hide the facts and the truth. Thus, we find Clapper's suggestion unacceptable.

In addition, Clapper now schemes for a two-step process in the declassification of the 28 pages. First, Clapper wants President Obama to edit out any lingering sensitive Saudi information that might make the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia embarrassed or exposed in a court of law. Then, according to Clapper, this edited version gets kicked to Congress for their possible further edits and consideration. Only then, can Congress pass legislation that will enable the 28 pages to be released to the American public. The Obama review has so far lasted 2+ years; Clapper doesn't mention how much longer it will take.

Of course, Congress could remedy this delay by immediately passing HRes14 (*Urging the President to Release Information Regarding the September 11, 2001, Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States*). And we hope they do so.

Regarding the release of the 28 pages, we state the following:

1. President Obama should follow through on his February 2009 promise made to the 9/11 families and immediately release the full, un-redacted 28 pages of the Joint Inquiry of Congress.
2. We oppose the use of any "Executive Summary" for the 28 pages. Again, the 28 pages should be released in full.
3. We claim that the continued classification of the 28 pages violates EO 13526 Section 1.7 which states specifically, "In no case should information be classified, continued to be maintained as classified, or fail to be declassified in order to (1) conceal violations of law, inefficiency, or administrative error; (2) prevent embarrassment to a person, organization, or agency; (3) restrain competition; (4) prevent or delay the release of information that does not require protection in the interests of the national security."
4. The continued classification of the 28 pages by the Obama Administration is an outright obstruction of justice with regard to the 9/11 families attempt to hold the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia accountable in a court of law for their alleged role in the funding and operational support of the 9/11 hijackers.

The continued delay in the release of the 28 pages is unacceptable and we call upon our elected officials in the U.S. Congress to start thinking more creatively.

For example, we have noted that there are approximately 30 sentences per page of the 28 pages--or less than 840 sentences in total. In light of the privileges provided to our Members of Congress by Article I of the U.S. Constitution^[1], we would like to respectfully suggest that each Member of Congress (535 members) request access to read the 28 pages. We further request that each member read the 28 pages, and memorize at least 2 sentences a piece from the 28 pages. Finally, we suggest that with their Speech or Debate Clause privileges firmly in place, each Member thereafter read their particular 2 sentences from the 28 pages into the public Congressional Record.

With a concerted effort such as this, within a very short time, we believe the full text of the 28 pages will be part of the public record.

Moreover, and with an eye towards complete openness and transparency, we also call upon Congress to employ the same tactic with regard to the thirty blank, classified and redacted pages of Related Finding 20: *Issues Relating to Saudi Arabia* in the Office of Inspector General's Report on the CIA's Accountability Regarding Findings and Conclusions of the Report of the Joint Inquiry Into Intelligence Community Activities Before and After the Terrorist Attacks of September 11, 2001 (June 2005, p. 437-end). The time has come to put an end to this Administration's protection of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its role in the funding and operational support of the 9/11 hijackers.

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