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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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The Honorable Barack H. Obama
The President
The White House
Washington DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Last month, the *Washington Examiner* reported that State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf stated, “the U.S. has devoted \$400 million to assist the government of Libya in ‘securing and disabling stockpiles of at-risk conventional weapons and ammunition.’” I think most everyone would agree that \$400 million is a sizable amount of money. In fact, it’s a significant increase above previously-reported funding levels for weapons collection efforts in Libya.

Speaking at the Stimson Center in February 2012 (seven months before the attack on the U.S. facilities in Benghazi) former assistant secretary for political-military affairs Andrew Shapiro stated, “In response to the crisis, the United States – as Secretary Clinton announced in Tripoli in November – has committed to providing \$40 million dollars to assist Libya’s efforts to secure and recover its weapons stockpiles.” How did spending on this weapons collection program increase ten-fold between early 2012 and last month, and where has that money been going?

As a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee who serves on the subcommittee that funds the State Department and other foreign assistance programs, I have a particular interest in and responsibility to conduct oversight of the department’s appropriations. I would appreciate your assistance in answering the following questions:

1. What is the total amount of appropriated funding spent on weapons collection, transfer and destruction since 2011? Under what authority was this funding used?
2. Did the State Department and/or the CIA award contracts to any U.S. or foreign contractor for assistance with the collection, storage, transportation or removal of the collected weapons? If so, what are the names of the contractor(s) and what is the total value of the contract?
3. Did the U.S. work with any foreign governments or agencies in collecting and disposing of these weapons? If so, which foreign governments or agencies were involved and what was their role in the collections process?

4. Were the collected weapons ever held or stored at either the U.S. consulate or CIA annex in Benghazi during the collection process?
5. Did the collected weapons remain in warehouses in Libya or were they transferred to the U.S. or another country for disposal? If so, whose custody were the weapons ultimately transferred to for storage or destruction?
6. How does the State Department confirm the destruction of these collected weapons? Is a certification provided to the department?
7. Most importantly, at any point in time were any of these collected weapons transferred to Syria and/or ever obtained by opposition fighters, including jihadist fighters?

I look forward to your prompt response to these questions.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress

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