

Insert Report Number  
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# Inspector General

United States  
Department of Defense



## Release of Department of Defense Information to the Media

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The Department of Defense Office of the Deputy Inspector General for Intelligence and Special Program Assessments prepared this report. If you have questions, please contact the signer of the report.



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### Acronyms and Abbreviations

ASD(PA)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
CoS	Chief of Staff
DoDD	Department of Defense Directive
DoDI	Department of Defense Instruction
EOP	Executive Office of the President
OASD(PA)	Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs
ODIG-ISPA	Office of the Deputy Inspector General for Intelligence and Special Program Assessments
OUSD(I)	Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence
OSR	Office of Security Review
PAO	Public Affairs Officer
TTPs	Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures
UBL	Usama bin Laden
U.S.C.	United States Code
USD(I)	Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence
USSOCOM	United States Special Operations Command

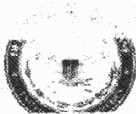
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cc:

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Senate Select Committee on Intelligence  
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
House Committee on Armed Services  
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence  
House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform  
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Commander, United States Special Operations Command  
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Oversight

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INSPECTOR GENERAL  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
1215 QUINCY CENTER DRIVE  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22304-1500

The Honorable Peter T. King  
Chairman  
Committee on Homeland Security  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This memorandum report is in response to your letter dated August 9, 2011 addressed to the DoD Inspector General expressing "concern regarding ongoing leaks of classified information regarding sensitive military operations."

Specifically, your letter expressed concern that makers of a film about the operation leading to the death of Usama bin Laden received "top-level access to the most classified mission in history." The Office of the Deputy Inspector General for Intelligence and Special Program Assessments (ODIG - ISPA) conducted an inquiry of the concerns addressed in your letter. The results are provided herein.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me directly at (703) 882- 4860.

Sincerely,

James Ives  
Acting Deputy Inspector General  
for Intelligence and Special  
Program Assessments

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## Introduction

### Background

#### *Congressional Request*

On August 9, 2011, Representative Peter King, the Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security, wrote a letter to both the DoD and Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Inspectors General on his concerns over "leaks of classified information regarding sensitive military operations." Representative King specifically identified an August 6, 2011, *New York Times* column claiming that movie producer Ms. Kathryn Bigelow and screenwriter Mr. Mark Boal ("Hollywood executives") had received "top-level access to the most classified mission in history," referencing the operation to kill Usama bin Laden (UBL).

Representative King requested that the DoD and CIA Inspectors General conduct an inquiry on the circumstances surrounding the release of information related to the UBL operation and respond to the following questions:<sup>1</sup>

- "What consultations, if any, occurred between members of the Executive Office of the President, and Department of Defense and/or CIA officials, regarding the advisability of providing Hollywood executives with access to covert military operators and clandestine CIA officers to discuss the UBL raid?"
- "Will a copy of this film be submitted to the military and CIA for pre-publication review, to determine if special operations tactics, techniques and procedures, or Agency intelligence sources and methods, would be revealed by its release?"
- "How was the attendance of filmmakers at a meeting with special operators and Agency officers at CIA Headquarters balanced against those officers' duties to maintain their covers? How will cover concerns be addressed going forward?"
- "What steps did the Administration take to ensure that no special operations tactics, techniques, and procedures were compromised during those meetings?"

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<sup>1</sup> This project did not address Representative King's fifth question as it pertained to the CIA: "To the extent possible to determine, how many human intelligence sources and how many Agency intelligence methods have been compromised due to leaks about the May 1<sup>st</sup> raid? What effects have these compromises had on the CIA's collection capabilities? Will Agency participation in a film about the bin Laden raid add to or exacerbate the effects of these compromises?"

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### ***Hollywood Executive Interest in bin Laden Takedown***

The White House announced on May 1, 2011, that the United States conducted an operation that killed UBL, the leader of al Qaeda ("bin Laden raid"). In the early morning hours of May 2, 2011, senior administration officials held a press briefing about the operation. The Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (USD(I)), Dr. Michael Vickers, told us that the White House and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) developed talking points for the public on the night of the operation to guide initial public revelations about the raid. USD(I) Vickers also told us a "hemorrhage of leaks" began after the initial press briefing.

The day after the bin Laden raid, Ms. Bigelow and Mr. Boal contacted DoD officials about a movie they were producing on tracking UBL. The Hollywood executives explained to DoD officials they were already in production on another film that ended with Tora Bora, where UBL escaped from U.S. forces. The Hollywood executives explained that after the UBL take-down, they decided to scrap their original project and create a more drawn-out script examining the hunt that lasted about a decade and ended with UBL's killing. The Hollywood executives sought additional information from the Department about the UBL raid.

### **Scope**

This initial report responds to specific questions posed by the Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security to the DoD Inspector General in a letter dated August 19, 2011. This report is limited in scope to analyzing documentation from relevant Department components and interviews from Department personnel. We plan to conduct a further review to address additional issues raised during the course of this inquiry. A separate report will provide the results. This initial review did not include an interview with the Honorable Leon E. Panetta, Secretary of Defense.

### **INQUIRY RESULTS**

**Question 1: "What consultations, if any, occurred between members of the Executive Office of the President and the Department of Defense ... regarding the advisability of providing Hollywood executives with access to covert military operators ... to discuss the UBL raid?"**

#### ***Summary:***

We found no consultations between members of the Executive Office of the President (EOP) and the DoD regarding the advisability of providing Ms. Bigelow and Mr. Boal with access to military special operators. The EOP, however, did communicate with the

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DoD regarding providing the Hollywood executives interviews with USD(I) Vickers. We further found communications among DoD officials about the advisability of providing access to military special operators and overall DoD support for the proposed film. Moreover, we found specific DoD communications in which a special operations planner was identified to meet with the Hollywood executives and that U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) leadership did not want the Special Operations Planner identified by name. Additionally, on August 17, 2011, the Special Operations Planner was informed that the meeting with the Hollywood Executives was put on hold, "to let the dust settle a little."

*Discussion:*

The following is a summary of documentation and testimony concerning the interactions between DoD officials and the Hollywood executives:

On May 2, 2011, the day following the UBL raid, Mr. Boal e-mailed Mr. Geoff Morrell, then Pentagon Press Secretary, requesting contact information for the USSOCOM public affairs officer (PAO). A representative from the Glover Park Group<sup>2</sup> of Washington D.C. was also courtesy copied on the message.

On May 3, 2011, Ms. Bigelow contacted an individual from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (OASD(PA)) about the Wounded Warrior Project.<sup>3</sup> Ms. Bigelow also mentioned that she was traveling to D.C. in late May and suggested they meet for coffee.

On May 23, 2011, Mr. Boal e-mailed Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (ASD(PA)) Douglas Wilson and Mr. Morrell to thank them for a meeting on May 19, 2011. In this e-mail, Boal wrote that the U.S. government officials at the meeting thought the Hollywood executives should speak with USD(I) Vickers and RADM Moynihan, former Department of the Navy's Chief of Information, and to contact the USSOCOM PAO. Further, Mr. Boal confirmed that ASD(PA) Wilson offered to call "Eric Olson to check on his willingness to talk after he leaves the military, and also introduce [Boal] to Mark Ambinder and Kim Dozier." In a following e-mail on May 25, 2011, ASD(PA) Wilson confirmed he would [contact] Kim [Dozier] and Marc [Ambinder], but that he was going to hold off connecting Mr. Boal with USD(I) Vickers and ADM Olson, former Commander of USSOCOM.

On June 5, 2011, Mr. Boal e-mailed Mr. Morrell that he had dinner with General Peter W. Chiarelli, former U.S. Army Vice Chief of Staff, who suggested that he meet USD(I) Vickers. Mr. Boal sent a more formal e-mail to Mr. Morrell later that

<sup>2</sup> On its website, Glover Park Group states: "GPG was built to help organizations navigate shifting landscapes. We combine substantive understanding of complex issues with disciplined execution of crisp influence campaigns that shape the way critical audiences view our clients and their goals."

<sup>3</sup> The Wounded Warrior Project was established to raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members

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evening requesting an interview with USD(I) Vickers to explain the movie project's scope. This meeting between USD(I) Vickers and Mr. Boal occurred on June 9, 2011, in the USD(I)'s office.

On June 9, 2011, an OASD(PA) desk officer, who attended the meeting between USD(I) Vickers and Mr. Boal, wrote a summary of the meeting. This summary was distributed on June 9, 2011, to individuals in the EOP,<sup>4</sup> the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), CIA, USSOCOM, and OASD(PA). The theme of the meeting was for Mr. Boal to provide a background on his movie project and to gauge support for the film.

Also on June 9, 2011, Mr. Boal initiated an e-mail conversation with ASD(PA) Wilson thanking ASD(PA) Wilson for setting up the meeting with USD(I) Vickers, and told ASD(PA) Wilson that he "was hoping to take [ASD(PA) Wilson] to a real LA lunch." ASD(PA) Wilson responded, "I will be out there soon enough, you can run but you can't hide on this offer."

ADM William H. McRaven, current USSOCOM Commander, told us USD(I) Vickers contacted him on June 10, 2011. USD(I) Vickers told ADM McRaven that DoD may be interested in supporting the UBL movie. ADM McRaven told USD(I) Vickers that due to his impending assignment as Commander, USSOCOM, he did not want to support the project; however, if DoD offered formal support for the project, he may be willing to provide a Special Operations Planner, who was involved in the UBL raid operation.

On June 14, 2011, Mr. Boal e-mailed the OASD(PA) desk officer concerning a possible future meeting with USD(I) Vickers. Mr. Boal mentioned that he was also talking to the White House, but he did not identify with whom he spoke.

On June 14, 2011, ASD(PA) Wilson also e-mailed Mr. Boal and stated, "If you have any problems with [the OASD(PA) director] on any of this, come to me." ASD(PA) Wilson also told the OASD(PA) desk officer he approved a second meeting between USD(I) Vickers and Mr. Boal, but he would get additional guidance from the White House. On June 15, 2011, ASD(PA) Wilson e-mailed Mr. Boal asking for a date when Mr. Boal would be in Washington, D.C., because he personally wanted to take Mr. Boal to the White House. In response, Mr. Boal informed ASD(PA) Wilson he would be in Washington, D.C. June 20 - 21, and June 27 - July 1.

On June 15, 2011, ASD(PA) Wilson, a member of the White House National Security Staff and the White House Deputy Press Secretary exchanged multiple e-mails, in which ASD(PA) Wilson coordinated to have Mr. Boal visit the White House. ASD(PA) Wilson followed with an e-mail to Mr. Boal writing, "I want to take you to the White House" and "we'll have to do this during the June 27 time slot, I'll set it up."

<sup>4</sup> According to the OASD(PA) desk officer, the White House National Security Staff always provides guidance on projects involving interagency coordination; thus, this meeting summary was distributed to those individuals for interagency coordination.

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On June 20, 2011, Mr. Boal called the OASD(PA) Director of Entertainment Media. The next day, the OASD (PA) Director of Entertainment Media wrote an e-mail identifying that Mr. Boal, hoped to "interview SEALs, and whether SOCOM/ would be amenable to this kind of research remains to be seen."

On June 21, 2011, the DoD Director of Entertainment Media relayed a conversation he had with Mr. Boal in an e-mail, dated June 21, 2011, to ASD(PA) Wilson:

"Well, we had a good conversation – about the script, the research, and some logistical and geographical considerations, and you know that we tend to withhold judgment until reading a shooting script and attempting negotiations. But with all the special forces – oriented projects there's a problem persuading the community to provide enough information and production support to convey our version of events with some realism, while avoiding disclosure of things we don't want out there. . . . Usually, SOCOM's response is, 'We're not going to get involved at all.'"

On June 22, 2011, internal OASD(PA) communications disclosed a meeting at the White House between ASD(PA) Wilson and the White House Deputy Press Secretary. The communications noted, "We've got the green light to proceed" and "the White House does want to engage with Mark [Boal] but it probably won't be for a few more weeks." ASD(PA) Wilson told us he communicated with the White House to request guidance on dealing with Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow.

On June 26, 2011, ASD(PA) Wilson responded to an e-mail from the White House Deputy Press Secretary requesting, "[A] moment to connect tomorrow on Boal?"

On June 27, 2011, a member of the National Security Staff e-mailed an OUSD(I) representative writing that OUSD(I) should be hearing from Mr. Boal to request time with USD(I) Vickers for an interview/backgrounder. The National Security staffer wrote she was not exactly sure how that request was conveyed to her office.

Mr. Jeremy Bash, Chief of Staff to the Secretary of Defense, told us that he met with Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow in early July 2011, shortly after his arrival at his new position at the Pentagon.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Bash described this meeting as unremarkable and that Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow explained the premise of their movie.

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<sup>5</sup>Mr. Bash had also met Mr. Boal at his previous position as Chief of Staff to the Director of CIA.

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On July 7, 2011, Mr. Boal e-mailed the OASD(PA) desk officer to arrange the July 15 interview with USD(I) Vickers. On July 13, 2011, a Glover Park Group representative contacted the OASD(PA) desk officer to arrange Pentagon access for Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow.

On July 12, 2011, Mr. Boal e-mailed ASD(PA) Wilson to arrange a meeting on July 19, 2011, to update ASD(PA) Wilson about the progress of the movie project. This meeting was arranged for the restaurant "RIS" at 23<sup>rd</sup> and L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. ASD(PA) Wilson replied that he spoke with Mr. Bash about "working to unclog the SOCOM pathway for [Mr. Boal]." ASD(PA) Wilson responded in a similar fashion to Ms. Bigelow on July 13, 2011, after she thanked him for arranging to meet them on July 19, 2011. ASD(PA) Wilson wrote that he "talked to Jeremy [Bash] and [USD(I)] Mike Vickers and we want to make the path easier for you here with the SOCOM folks." ASD(PA) Wilson confirmed that Mr. Boal met with Mr. Bash and "complained that SOCOM wasn't being as forthcoming as they wanted," so Mr. Boal asked Mr. Bash if Mr. Bash could help with SOCOM. ASD(PA) Wilson wrote that he called the USSOCOM PAO and mentioned "[Secretary] Panetta and [Special Assistant to the Secretary] Bash, you know, are fully supportive of this, I just wanted you to know that."

On July 14, 2011, USD(I) Vickers e-mailed ADM Olson, writing that ASD(PA) Wilson had told him that "Secretary Panetta wants the Department to cooperate fully with the makers of the UBL movie," and that he [USD(I) Vickers] had "to meet with the producer and director tomorrow and want[s] to know what [to] (sic) say." USD(I) Vickers also requested an answer about USSOCOM support to the UBL movie project. ADM Olson responded that USD(I) Vickers could use the identified Special Operations Planner on background to ensure accuracy and provide context to the movie project. Additionally, ADM Olson wrote, "My (our) hope and intent is that [the Special Operations Planner] not be identified by name as having participated in any way."

On July 15, 2011, USD(I) Vickers and two OASD(PA) representatives met in the Pentagon with Ms. Bigelow and Mr. Boal.<sup>6</sup> The OASD(PA) desk officer recorded and transcribed this interview in order to "protect the boss" and for follow-up with the media. During the interview, USD(I) Vickers provided the name of the Special Operations Planner to Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow.

On July 16, 2011, Mr. Boal e-mailed the OASD(PA) desk officer to obtain access to the Special Operations Planner. Additionally on July 16, 2011, USD(I) Vickers and ASD(PA) Wilson had an e-mail conversation in which ASD(PA) Wilson wrote, "Very many thanks for this" in response to USD(I) Vickers e-mail:

"Had a very good meeting with Mark Boal and Kathryn Bigelow last night re: UBL movie. Think they came away

<sup>6</sup> For detailed discussion of this interview, see response to question 3.

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very happy. Putting them in touch with VADM M's key planner, which should complete for now their requests of DoD."

On July 20, 2011, ASD(PA) Wilson e-mailed Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow to apologize for leaving their meeting abruptly the night before and thanked them for their hospitality. Additionally, ASD(PA) Wilson wrote that Mr. George Little, Pentagon Press Secretary, "will facilitate your visit to the Virginia facility we discussed." Mr. Little told us he thought the Virginia facility was a location of a DoD unit. We contacted that facility and confirmed neither Mr. Boal nor Ms. Bigelow visited the facility.

In a separate e-mail on July 20, 2011, Mr. Boal thanked Mr. Little "for pulling for [him and Ms. Bigelow] at the agency. It made all the difference." Mr. Little responded by telling Mr. Boal that both DoD and CIA "are excited about the project. It's been a real pleasure to help facilitate things." As a postscript, Mr. Little wrote, "I want you to note how good I've been about not mentioning the premiere tickets. :-)" In an interview, Mr. Little told us this postscript comment was meant to be a joke and that Mr. Boal or Ms. Bigelow said that Mr. Little should go to the premier and Mr. Little probably joked and said he would like to attend.

On July 23, 2011, the Special Operations Planner e-mailed the OUSD(I) representative. The Special Operations Planner wrote that he had spoken about the project with ADM McRaven.

Additionally on July 23, 2011, ASD(PA) Wilson and Mr. Little exchanged an e-mail, which included the following:

Mr. Little: "On the subject of movies, we're going to the premiere of the Boal / Bigelow movie next year. That'll probably be the next one I see in a theater!"

ASD(PA) Wilson: "We'll be hosting it :-)"

Mr. Little: "I hope they get Pacino to play [Secretary Panetta]. That's what he wants, no joke!"

ASD(PA) Wilson: "They will. Who's playing you?"

On August 17, 2011, the Special Operations Planner e-mailed the OASD(PA) desk officer and told the OASD(PA) desk officer that he had spoken to USD(I) Vickers. The Special Operations Planner wanted to meet with the OASD(PA) desk officer prior to meeting with the Hollywood executives. The OASD(PA) desk officer responded, "I think we have a little time." The OASD(PA) desk officer commented on open press

stories about the White House, DoD and CIA providing special access, as well as classified information to the Hollywood executives and he denied such special access occurred. The OASD(PA) desk officer also wrote, "We may want to let the dust settle a little." According to the Special Operations Planner, this was his last communication with the OASD(PA) representative. The Special Operations Planner never met with Ms. Bigelow or Mr. Boal.

This project did not identify communications between the EOP and DoD regarding access to military special operators by Hollywood executives. However, we found DoD communications in which a Special Operations Planner was identified by name to meet with the Hollywood executives on background to provide context and ensure accuracy for the movie production. We also discovered that USSOCOM leadership did not want the Special Operations Planner "identified by name as having participated in any way."

**Question 2: "Will a copy of this film be submitted to the military . . . for pre-publication review, to determine if special operations tactics, techniques and procedures . . . would be revealed by its release?"**

***Summary:***

We were told DoD officials do not expect Hollywood executives to provide a pre-publication review of the film. The Department has no requirement for non-government, entertainment-oriented motion picture, television, and video productions ("productions") to submit a script or film for review until the production has requested formal DoD support. Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow did not request formal DoD support for their film.

***Discussion***

DoD Instruction 5410.16, "DoD Assistance to Non-Government, Entertainment-Oriented Motion Picture, Television, and Video Productions," dated January 26, 1988, provides specified guidelines for entertainment-oriented productions regarding Department assistance when producing a film, book, or documentary. DoD Instruction 5230.29 "Security and Policy Review of DoD Information for Public Release," dated January 8, 2009, provides a security classification review process to ensure officially released information is not classified.

DoD Instruction 5410.16 states that the, "ASD(PA) is the sole authority for approving DoD assistance to non-Government motion picture, television, and video productions."

Before a producer officially submits a project to the OASD(PA) requesting support, DoD Components are authorized to assist non-Government producers or scriptwriters in their efforts to develop a script that might ultimately qualify for DoD assistance. Such activities could include guidance, suggestions, or access for technical research. DoD

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Components providing such assistance, however, are required to coordinate with and keep OASD(PA) informed of these projects' status.

ASD(PA) Wilson confirmed to us that his office is the focal point for interaction with the entertainment industry. He also told us that his office is "pretty open to just about anybody who wants to come and ask about research for a project."

ASD(PA) Wilson explained the difference between research and support:

"So people can and do come here to ask for assistance in their initial research phase of the project and, by and large, we're very open and helpful to them. Depending on what the topic is, it can involve -- can be limited to our office. It can -- more often, it's beyond our office, involving other offices, and sometimes it involves other agencies.

\* \* \*

There is a difference between the research phase and the actual support phase and I'll give you an example.

*The Hurt Locker*, which was directed by Katherine Bigelow, whom I know we're having this conversation with here, that preceded me being here, but she and her partner Mark Boal, came to the Department in the research phase of this movie and so they did that . . . but I believe they began initially in the support phase, as well. They -- they were going to support, but they reached a point in the script and in the filming where . . . the Department felt they could no longer support the film, you know, as an official Department entity, so they did not. So there is a difference between the two phases."

According to the DoD Director of Entertainment Media, DoD's involvement with productions during the research phase and the development phase of any filmmaking production, does not necessarily mean it is involved in any classification review of a script. DoD Instruction 5410.16 states, "Government assistance may be provided to an entertainment-oriented motion picture, television, or video production when cooperation of the producers with the Government results in benefitting the Department of Defense or when this would be in the best national interest, based on consideration of the following factors:

- The production must be authentic in its portrayal of actual persons, places, military operations, and historical events. Fictional portrayals must depict a feasible interpretation of military life, operations, and policies.

- The production is of informational value and considered to be in the best interest of public understanding of the U.S. Armed Forces and DoD.
- The production may provide services to the general public relating to, or enhancing, the U.S. Armed Forces recruiting and retention programs.
- The production should not appear to condone or endorse activities by private citizens or organizations when such activities are contrary to U.S. Government policy."

Additionally, DoD Instruction 5410.16 requires a production request for formal DoD support to include copies of the script for ASD(PA) review and approval. Upon post-production, the production company must arrange for an official DoD screening in Washington, D.C., before delivery of the production for general public release. Preferably, this review should be before composite printing to help with any needed changes.

DoD Instruction 5230.29 provides that the Washington Headquarters Services, Office of Security Review (OSR) will review DoD information prior to public release. This can include reviews of production scripts for a classification determination prior to movie production.

An official within OASD(PA) stated that none of the information released by the DoD to productions has ever been submitted to OSR for a classification review. Government officials at OASD(PA) assume the information provided by the DoD to productions is not classified. Officials within OASD(PA) indicated they rely on the DoD personnel providing information to productions to know whether information is classified or not. As a result, OASD(PA) never found the need to submit any previous movie scripts to OSR for a classification review.

Of note, both the Director of Entertainment Media and ASD(PA) Wilson were in communications with Mr. Boal during the month of October 2011, discussing the possible review of the script. During his interviews, the Director of Entertainment Media told us he was never provided a script for review.

**Question 3: "How was the attendance of filmmakers at a meeting with special operators and Agency officers at CIA Headquarters balanced against those officers' duties to maintain their covers? How will cover concerns be addressed going forward?"**

#### *Summary*

We were told no DoD special operators were in cover status at a CIA Headquarters awards ceremony on June 24, 2011, that recognized the efforts to track UBL and the raid against UBL's compound. This was the only event we identified in which DoD special operators were present at the same time as one of the filmmakers. We found no precautionary measures were taken to protect special operators from being identified by the Hollywood executive at this event.

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### *Discussion*

According to DoD Directive S-5105.61, "DoD Cover and Cover Support Activities," dated May 6, 2010, cover is a protective guise used by a person, organization, or installation to conceal true affiliation with clandestine or other sensitive activities. DoD cover may be used to protect the Department of Defense, its intelligence sources and methods, and its clandestine tactics, techniques, and procedures from exposure to the enemy and overt association with sensitive activities.

We identified two incidents where Hollywood executives were given names of special operators associated with the operation and/or planning of the raid against UBL. The first incident was during an interview involving USD(I) Vickers, Mr. Boal, and Ms. Bigelow and the second was at a CIA Headquarters Awards Ceremony attended by Mr. Boal. None of the named special operators were in a cover status. Nonetheless, ADM McRaven informed us he was concerned about the possible release of the special operators' identities.

#### *Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Interview*

On July 15, 2011, Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow interviewed USD(I) Vickers. The day before, USD(I) Vickers initiated an e-mail conversation with ADM Olson regarding the interview, in which ADM McRaven was courtesy copied. Within this e-mail ADM Olson informs USD(I) Vickers he can use the identified Special Operations Planner on background to ensure accuracy and provide context to the movie project. Additionally, ADM Olson wrote, "My (our) hope and intent is that [the Special Operations Planner] not be identified by name as having participated in any way." During the interview by Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow, USD(I) Vickers stated, "A guy named [the Special Operations Planner]. And so, he basically can probably give you everything you would want or would get from ADM Olson or ADM McRaven."

During the interview with Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow, USD(I) Vickers told them, "Well the basic idea is they'll make a guy available who was involved from the beginning as a planner; a ... Operator and Commander." At this point USD(I) Vickers had given Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow the name of the Special Operations Planner.

This individual's name as associated with the operation is "For Official Use Only, not for public release," protected under 5 U.S.C. Section 552a, the Privacy Act, and 10 U.S.C. Section 130b, Personnel in Overseas, Sensitive, or Routinely Deployable Units: Non-disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information. Further, ADM McRaven and the former Chief of Staff at USSOCOM told us that the protection of the names associated to this mission was a top aspect of the UBL raid they wanted to protect from public disclosure.

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### *CIA Headquarters Awards Ceremony*

On June 24, 2011, the CIA held an awards ceremony in a tent located on the grounds of the CIA Headquarters. Two to four days prior to this awards ceremony, a CIA PAO contacted a DoD PAO to notify the DoD PAO that one of the Hollywood executives may attend the event. According to the DoD PAO, the CIA PAO attempted to prevent that from happening. The DoD PAO did not inform his Chain of Command or the special operators who were going to attend this ceremony about the possibility that a Hollywood executive might also attend. The DoD PAO said he did not forward this information because he hoped that the CIA PAO would be able to ensure the Hollywood executive would be refused access. The DoD PAO's current Deputy Commanding General told us he knew of these DoD PAO actions and did not fault the DoD PAO for not getting the information to the command group.

According to the DoD PAO, the day of the event, the CIA PAO contacted the DoD PAO to state that efforts failed and the "Chief of Staff" directed that the Hollywood executive be given access to the event. Prior to the ceremony, the DoD PAO was unable to communicate with any of the DoD personnel attending the ceremony. The CIA Chief of Staff, at that time, is now the Secretary of Defense's Chief of Staff. The Secretary of Defense's Chief of Staff told us that the attendance authorization of a Hollywood executive at the event was part of the discussions between the Hollywood executives and the CIA PAO, and that he [Mr. Bash] was not involved.

According to the Deputy Commanding General of the relevant combatant command, the special operators believed the ceremony would be a small event with few personnel. The then Director of CIA's Chief of Staff described it to us as "a huge enormous crowd, I mean they built a tent and it was not a sensitive, I would say it was not a highly sensitive event. It was pretty much a cattle call for a lot of folks and for around the community and obviously not open to the public per se." The special operators were all in uniform with name tapes and directed to reserved seats in the front row. This event was also broadcast on CIA's closed circuit television and is currently accessible on the CIA's classified network. The prepared remarks given by the Director of the CIA were labeled SECRET//NOFORN.

During this awards ceremony, Director Panetta specifically recognized the unit that conducted the raid and identified the ground commander by name. Director Panetta also provided DoD information, identified by relevant Original Classification Authorities as TOP SECRET//SI//REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, GBR, NZL, as well as, SECRET//ACCM. According to the DoD Office of Security Review, the individual's name is protected from public release under 5 U.S.C. Section 552a and 10 U.S.C. Section 130b.

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The ceremony concluded with a short reception at which ADM McRaven was directly introduced to an individual identified as the maker of the "Hurt Locker." ADM McRaven and DoD special operators present were all "universally ... surprised and shocked" that a Hollywood executive attended this CIA Headquarter's awards ceremony.

According to ADM McRaven, the DoD provided the operators and their families an inordinate level of security. ADM McRaven held a meeting with families to discuss force protection measures and tell the families that additional protective monitoring will be provided, and to call security personnel if they sensed anything. ADM McRaven also directed that the names and photographs associated with the raid not be released. This effort included purging the combatant command's systems of all records related to the operation and providing these records to another Government Agency.

#### *Moving Forward*

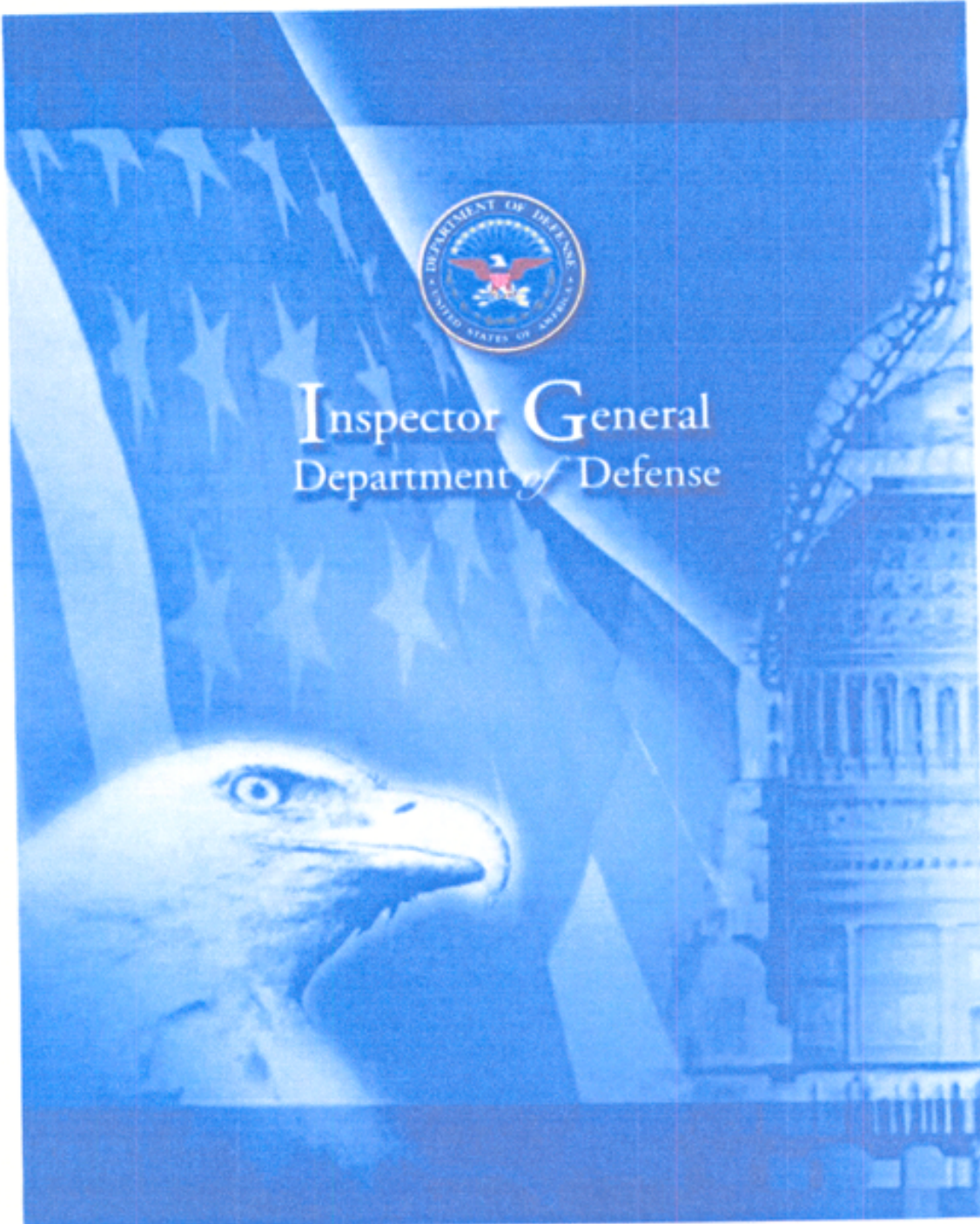
According to the relevant DoD PAO, the level of communication between the CIA PAO and him continues to be strong and they speak daily. The special operators whose names were provided to Mr. Boal and Ms. Bigelow by USD(I) Vickers and at the CIA headquarters ceremony were not on cover status.

#### **Question 4: "What steps did the Administration take to ensure that no special operations tactics, techniques, and procedures were compromised during those meetings?"**

We were told by ADM McRaven and his subordinates that special operators associated with the operation or planning of the UBL raid did not have concerns about tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) being compromised. Although one of the Hollywood Executives was present at the CIA Headquarters ceremony and one or both of the Hollywood Executives were present at the USD(I) Vickers' interviews about the UBL raid, we concluded, no classified or sensitive special operations TTPs were exposed at these events. This inquiry identified no actions taken to prevent the compromise of DoD special operations TTPs.



# Inspector General Department of Defense



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