

THE BENGHAZI BETRAYAL

by James “Mac” McCarty

KEY LIES OF BENGHAZI



Susan Rice, Then U.S. Ambassador to the U.N.

As Americans long suspected, and as *The Benghazi Betrayal* establishes beyond all doubt, the United States government lies to its citizens about Benghazi. Repeatedly. The lies are not about minor details. They involve key issues surrounding the tragedy.

We summarize here only some of the most significant and memorable intentional falsehoods our government tells us about the Benghazi saga. Each of these is discussed in the book, but we collect them here to facilitate the reader's use at the next sports bar event or cocktail party.

TOP BENGHAZI DECEPTIONS:

SPEAKER:	POSITION:	STATEMENT:	DATE:	CHAPTER(S):
Benghazi Accountability Review Board	Advisory Board to the State Dept.	“The Board found no evidence of any undue delays in decision making . . . from Washington or from the military combatant commanders.”	12/19/12	109
		“The Board members believe every possible effort was made to rescue and recover Ambassador Stevens and Sean Smith.”	12/19/12	109
		“The interagency response was timely and appropriate, but there simply was not enough time for armed U.S. military assets to have made a difference.”	12/19/12	109
		“ . . . [T]he safe evacuation of all U.S. Government personnel from Benghazi 12 hours after the initial attack and subsequently to Ramstein Air Force Base was the result of exceptional U.S. Government coordination and military response and helped save the lives of two severely wounded Americans. . . .”	12/19/12	109

SPEAKER:	POSITION:	STATEMENT:	DATE:	CHAPTER(S):
		...[T]he Board did not find <i>that any individual U.S. Government employee</i> engaged in misconduct or willfully ignored his or her responsibilities, and, therefore did not find reasonable cause to believe that an individual breached his or her duty so as to be the subject of a recommendation for disciplinary action.”	12/19/12	109
Jay Carney	White House Press Secretary	“... I think it [the FBI investigation] encompasses everything that happened. I’m sure that they [the FBI] will look at everything that happened there [in Benghazi]. . . . I think the FBI is leading an investigation that will encompass all of the information available to the White House and to the intelligence community and to the broader diplomatic community. . . .”	9/19/12	105
		... [A]ccording to the best information we have now, we believe it was an <i>opportunistic attack</i> on our mission in Benghazi. It appears that some well-armed militants <i>seized on the opportunity</i> as the events unfolded that evening. We do not have any specific intelligence that there was <i>significant advanced planning or coordination</i> for this attack.	9/20/12	96
		“... The White House and State Department have made clear that the single adjustment that was made to those Talking Points by either of these two institutions were [sic] changing the word ‘consulate’ to ‘diplomatic facility’ because ‘consulate’ was inaccurate.”	11/28/12	94
		“... [D]ay-to-day questions about security <i>rarely</i> rose to the top levels of the Department, and, as a result, there was inadequate leadership in regard to matters of security.”	2014	18

SPEAKER:	POSITION:	STATEMENT:	DATE:	CHAPTER(S):
Hillary Clinton	Secretary of State	“None of the intelligence officials working on that request [from congressmen for information they could use in making public statements about Benghazi] had any idea the talking points would be used two days later by Susan [Rice].”	2014	94
		When asking who is lying about what she told the Benghazi victims’ families as the Transfer of Remains Ceremony: “Not me, that’s all I can tell you.”	Possibly 3/10/16	98
		“The extensive public record now makes clear that Susan [Rice] was using information that originated with and was approved by the CIA. . . . It was written by intelligence officials” for use by congressmen who had asked what they could say publicly about Benghazi.	2014	103
General Martin Dempsey	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff	Had four special ops personnel in Tripoli been permitted to go to Benghazi on the morning of Sept. 12 to aid the Americans, “they would have simply passed each other in the air.”	6/12/13	80
		“Our military was appropriately responsive. We acted quickly once notified of the attacks on the Temporary Mission Facility. . . . We did what our posture and capabilities allowed.”	2/7/13	99
		To Senate Armed Services Committee Hearing: Once military forces began moving, “. . . [N]othing stopped us, nothing slowed us.”	2/7/13	99
Patrick Kennedy	Under Secretary of State for Management	The Defense Department Site Security Team (SST) was based in Tripoli and “provided security to Tripoli, not Benghazi. . . . On a small number of occasions, a couple of SST members would travel to Benghazi for very specific reasons, but they were not part of the long-term security presence in Benghazi.”	10/10/12	17

SPEAKER:	POSITION:	STATEMENT:	DATE:	CHAPTER(S):
Charlene Lamb	Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Programs, Bureau of Diplomatic Security	“We had the correct number of [security] assets in Benghazi at the time of 9/11 for what had been agreed upon.”	10/10/12	19
		“In addition, stationed nearby at the embassy [sic] annex was a well-trained U.S. quick reaction security team.”	10/10/12	30
		“A large number of <i>Libyan government</i> security officers . . . arrived in more than 50 vehicles and escorted the remaining Americans to the airport.”	10/10/12	82
		Because Lt. Col. Wood’s team was based in Tripoli, and spent most of its time there, “It [the Libya SST] would not have made any difference in Benghazi.”	10/10/12	17
George Little	Pentagon Press Secretary	“The U.S. military responded quickly to notifications of the attack on the Benghazi consulate [sic].”	5/8/13	60
Barack H.	President	“. . . And the suggestion that anybody in [sic] my team, whether the Secretary of State, our U.N. ambassador, anybody on my team would play politics or mislead when we’ve lost four of our own, governor, is offensive. That’s not what we do. That’s not what I do as president, that’s not what I do as Commander in Chief.”	10/16/12	107
		“. . . [W]e did everything we could to secure those Americans who were still in harm’s way.”	10/22/12	65, 107

SPEAKER:	POSITION:	STATEMENT:	DATE:	CHAPTER(S):
Obama		“Keep in mind, . . . these so-called talking points that were <i>prepared for</i> Susan Rice five, six days after the event occurred pretty much matched the assessments that I was receiving at that time in my presidential daily briefing.”	5/13/13	103
		The State Department Benghazi Accountability Review Board already has “investigated every element of this.”	5/13/13	112
Leon Panetta	Secretary of Defense	“[The] basic principle is that you don’t deploy forces into harm’s way without knowing what’s going on; without having some real-time information about what’s taking place. . . . And as a result of not having that kind of information, the commander who was on the ground in that area, Gen. Ham, Gen. Dempsey and I felt very strongly that we could not put forces at risk in that situation.”	10/25/12	99
		“It was really over before, you know, we had the opportunity to really know what was happening.”	10/25/12	99
		“The biggest problem that night, Senator, was that nobody knew really what was going on there.”	2/7/13	90
		“Despite the uncertainty at the time, the Department of Defense and the rest of the United States government spared no effort to do everything we could to try to save American lives. Before, during and after the attack, every request the Department of Defense received we did, we accomplished.”	2/7/13	99
		“Any suggestion that anyone, from the president on down, delayed, or was indifferent to the ambassador and his staff in Benghazi is simply false.”	2014	80

SPEAKER:	POSITION:	STATEMENT:	DATE:	CHAPTER(S):
Ben Rhodes	Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communications	“RE: PREP CALL with Susan: Saturday at 4:00 p.m. ET. . . . Goal”: “To understand that these protests are rooted in an Internet video, and not a broader failure of policy.”	9/14/12	97
		“The protests we’ve seen these last few days were sparked by a disgusting and reprehensible video. . . . We are not aware of any actionable intelligence indicating that an attack on the U.S. Mission in Benghazi was planned or imminent. The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate [sic] and subsequently its annex.”	9/14/12	97
Senate Intelligence Committee	Committee Report	. . . The Committee explored claims that there was a “stand down” order given to the security team at the Annex. . . [T]he Committee found no evidence of intentional delay or obstruction by the Chief of Base or any other party.”	1/14/14	35
		“Because all Americans were evacuated from Benghazi before the first FAST platoon could arrive, it was diverted to protect the U.S. Embassy in Tripoli and arrived at 8:56 p.m. Tripoli time, on September 12, 2012.”	1/14/14	87

SPEAKER:	POSITION:	STATEMENT:	DATE:	CHAPTER(S):
State Dept. Employee	Anonymous	“There was a Quick Reaction Force on standby in Tripoli to deploy if needed.”	~10/18/12	37
		“This Week” (ABC News): “First of all, we had a substantial security presence . . . with our personnel and the consulate [sic] in Benghazi. Tragically, two of the four Americans who were killed were <u>there</u> providing security. That was their function. And indeed, there were many other colleagues who were doing the same with them.”	9/16/12	103

SPEAKER:	POSITION:	STATEMENT:	DATE:	CHAPTER(S):
Susan Rice	U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations	“Face the Nation” (CBS News): “What our assessment is as of the present is in fact what it began spontaneously in Benghazi as a reaction to what had transpired some hours earlier in Cairo where . . . there was a violent protest outside of our Embassy sparked by this hateful video. But soon after that spontaneous protest began outside of our consulate [sic] in Benghazi, we believe that it looks like extremist elements, individuals, joined in that . . . effort with heavy weapons of the sort that are, unfortunately, readily now available in Libya post-revolution. And that it spun from there into something much, much more violent. . . . We do not . . . have information at present that leads us to conclude that this was premeditated or preplanned.”	9/16/12	103
		Sunday Television News Programs: “We’ve decimated al Qaeda.”	9/16/12	103
State Department	Press Release	“The SST [16-man Pentagon Site Security Team, comprised of Special Operations active-duty soldiers] was enlisted to support the re-opening of Embassy Tripoli, to help ensure we had the security necessary as our diplomatic presence grew. They were based in Tripoli and operated almost exclusively there. When their rotation in Libya ended, Diplomatic Security Special Agents were deployed and maintained a constant level of security capability. So their departure had no impact whatsoever on the total number of fully trained American security personnel in Libya generally, or in Benghazi specifically.”	10/8/12	17

SPEAKER:	POSITION:	STATEMENT:	DATE:	CHAPTER(S):
Unidentified Obama Administration Official	State Dept. or Defense Dept.	“With regard to Chris’s trip to Benghazi, as you know, he made regular and frequent trips to Benghazi so that he could check up on developments in the east. You know that he had been our representative – the Secretary’s representative and the President’s, to the Transitional National Council before the fall of Qadhafi and had spent a lot of time in Benghazi and built deep contacts there. So this was one of his regular visits that he made periodically.”	9/12/12	89
Unidentified Official	State Dept.	U.S. Libyan Embassy’s Regional Security Officer Eric Nordstrom “never specifically requested that the SST’s tour be extended past August [2012] . . .”	~ 10/8/12	17
Unnamed Spokesman	Director of National Intelligence	The “intelligence community” is solely responsible for “substantive” changes in the Talking Points.	Nov. 2012	94
Unidentified Officials	“Senior” Obama Administration Officials	“[N]one of Obama’s political advisers were involved in discussions around the original talking points, only national security staff officials.”	~ May 2013	94