

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

THE SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE  
REMAINING QUESTIONS SURROUNDING JANUARY 6, 2021

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March 12, 2026

The Honorable Platte Moring  
Inspector General  
Department of Defense  
4800 Mark Center Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22350

Dear Inspector General Moring:

The Select Subcommittee to Investigate the Remaining Questions Surrounding January 6, 2021 (“Select Subcommittee”) is conducting oversight of the events that occurred at the Capitol and the response and subsequent investigation. Last Congress, the House Administration Subcommittee on Oversight successfully highlighted security failures that the House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol (“January 6th Select Committee”) failed to investigate.<sup>1</sup> This Congress, the Select Subcommittee has continued its oversight of the federal agencies that responded to the events of January 6, ensuring that the unresolved questions are answered, that federal agencies are faithfully serving the American people, and that the United States Capitol Complex is secure. Accordingly, based on information obtained by the Select Subcommittee, we write to request that you re-examine the factors that caused the delayed Department of Defense (DoD) response to the events at the Capitol on January 6, 2021.

A large component of the security apparatus for January 6 included the DoD, specifically the District of Columbia National Guard’s (DCNG) response to the civil unrest and its aftermath at the Capitol. On November 16, 2021, the Department of Defense Office of Inspector General (DoD OIG) published a report titled, *Review of the DoD’s Role, Responsibilities, and Actions to Prepare for and Respond to the Protest and its Aftermath at the U.S. Capitol Campus on January 6, 2021*.<sup>2</sup> This report was the final product of the DoD OIG’s review of the events on January 6, 2021, examining how the DoD responded to requests for support on that day. While the Select

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<sup>1</sup> COMM. ON HOUSE ADMIN., SUBCOMM. ON OVERSIGHT, *Interim Report: On the Failures and Politicization of the January 6th Select Committee*, 118th Cong. (Dec. 17, 2024)

<sup>2</sup> U.S. DEP’T OF DEF. INSPECTOR GEN., *Review of the Department of Defense’s Role, Responsibilities, and Actions to Prepare for and Respond to the Protest and its Aftermath at the U.S. Capitol Campus on January 6, 2021*, DODIG-2022-039 (Nov. 16, 2021).

Subcommittee appreciates the DoD OIG's review of DoD's records and materials, there are concerns that the report did not accurately assess the DoD's actions that day.

On October 30, 2025, we sent a letter to the Department of War, requesting documents related to January 6, 2021.<sup>3</sup> On December 19, 2025, the Department of War produced over ten thousand pages of documents responsive to our inquiry.<sup>4</sup> After a thorough examination of this material, as well as other relevant information, it is apparent that the DoD's severe restrictions on the use of the DCNG led to a delayed deployment of the DCNG to the Capitol on January 6.<sup>5</sup> In particular, information from firsthand witnesses indicates that senior Department of War officials took deliberate steps to restrict the DCNG's civil disturbance capabilities in the days prior to January 6, 2021.<sup>6</sup> These restrictions resulted in command paralysis by Pentagon leadership, who traveled to Metropolitan Police Headquarters (MPD), at the height of violence and chaos at the Capitol, to draft a "concept of operations" (CONOP).<sup>7</sup> To this day, neither the DoD nor the DoD IG has produced any tangible evidence for the existence of this CONOP. The Select Subcommittee also possesses evidence that immediate and dire requests for activation of the DCNG were received and acknowledged at the highest levels of DoD leadership many hours before they granted DCNG deployment authorization.<sup>8</sup> However, the DoD OIG November 2021 report failed to evaluate this delay.<sup>9</sup>

The DoD OIG, under the leadership of your predecessor, did not adequately examine the causes or extent of the delay in its November 2021 report. The DoD OIG has acknowledged inconsistencies in witness testimony about communication in the chain of command for the DCNG authorization order.<sup>10</sup> For example, the DoD IG report suggested that former Secretary of the Army Ryan McCarthy was in constant communication with DCNG Commanding General William Walker on January 6, 2021. Specifically, the report stated that Secretary McCarthy "called MG Walker at approximately 3:05pm" and again "at approximately 4:35pm" on January 6, 2021.<sup>11</sup> However, Walker's testimony to the OIG did not confirm this timeline as presented in the report, and according to McCarthy's testimony, he did not place the phone calls, instead "it

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<sup>3</sup> Letter from Barry Loudermilk, Chairman, Select Subcomm. To Investigate the Remaining Questions Surrounding Jan. 6, 2021, to Peter B. Hegseth, Sec'y, Department of War (Oct. 30, 2025).

<sup>4</sup> Email from Brendan M. O'Toole, Deputy Assistant Sec'y of War for House Affairs, Off. of the Assistant Sec'y of War for Legislative Affairs, to Select Subcomm. Staff (Dec. 19, 2025).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> See Memorandum from Christopher Miller, Acting Secretary of Defense, to Ryan McCarthy, Secretary of the Army (Jan. 4, 2021) (on file with the Subcommittee); Memorandum from Ryan McCarthy, Secretary of the Army, to William Walker, Major General, D.C. National Guard (Jan. 5, 2021) (on file with the Subcommittee).

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Dep't of Def. Inspector Gen., Transcribed Interview of Ryan McCarthy at 57 (Mar. 18, 2021).

<sup>8</sup> Memorandum for the Record, Record of Events and Activities of the Office of the Secretary of Defense and Acting Secretary Miller Related to the Civil Disturbance and Efforts to Support Law Enforcement Response on 06 and 07 January 2021 (on file with the Select Subcommittee).

<sup>9</sup> U.S. DEP'T OF DEF. INSPECTOR GEN., Review of the Department of Defense's Role, Responsibilities, and Actions to Prepare for and Respond to the Protest and its Aftermath at the U.S. Capitol Campus on January 6, 2021, DODIG-2022-039 (Nov. 16, 2021).

<sup>10</sup> Narrative Responses from Dep't of Def. Inspector Gen. (Jul. 18, 2024) (on file with the Select Subcommittee).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. DEP'T OF DEF. INSPECTOR GEN., Review of the Department of Defense's Role, Responsibilities, and Actions to Prepare for and Respond to the Protest and its Aftermath at the U.S. Capitol Campus on January 6, 2021, DODIG-2022-039 at 56, 59 (Nov. 16, 2021).

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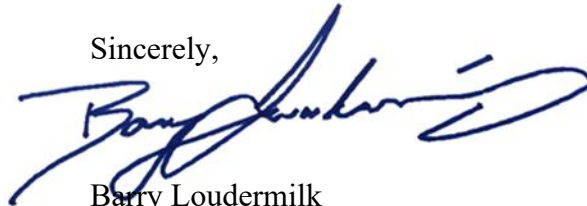
was one of my [Secretary McCarthy's] immediate staff" who made the alleged phone calls.<sup>12</sup> The inconsistencies in these key facts calls into question the soundness of the DoD OIG's November 2021 report.

In light of this information, the Select Subcommittee respectfully requests that the DoD OIG re-examine its investigation and issue a corrected report that adequately addresses all inaccuracies and omissions. Please provide a written response memorializing your office's plan to address these deficiencies no later than March 26, 2026.

H. Res. 605 authorizes the Select Subcommittee "to conduct a full and complete investigation and study and issue a final report of the events surrounding January 6, 2021 regarding matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary under clause 1(l) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives."<sup>13</sup> Pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on the Judiciary has legislative and oversight jurisdiction over federal law enforcement and criminal law.<sup>14</sup> If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Select Subcommittee staff at (202) 225-6909.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Barry Loudermilk

Chairman

Select Subcommittee to Investigate the Remaining  
Questions Surrounding January 6, 2021

cc: The Honorable Eric Swalwell, Ranking Member, Select Subcommittee to Investigate the Remaining Questions Surrounding January 6, 2021

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<sup>12</sup> *Examining the January 6 Attack on the U.S. Capitol, Part II*: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Homeland Sec. & Gov't Affs., 117th Cong. 3–4 (Mar. 3, 2021) (statement of Maj. Gen. William J. Walker), U.S. Dep't of Def. Inspector Gen., Transcribed Interview of William J. Walker (Feb. 16, 2021), U.S. Dep't of Def. Inspector Ge., Transcribed Interview of Ryan McCarthy at 56 (Mar. 18, 2021).

<sup>13</sup> H. Res. 605, 119th Cong., § 1(a)(1) (2025).

<sup>14</sup> Rules of the House of Representatives, R. X, cl. 1(1)(2) (2025).