



Duncan Hunter  
U.S. House of Representatives  
50th District, California

February 3, 2014

General Martin E. Dempsey  
Chairman  
Joint Chiefs of Staff  
Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff  
9999 Joint Staff Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20318

Dear General Dempsey:

The attack in Benghazi, Libya, that led to the death of four Americans remains an issue of significant concern. As you know, the House Armed Services Committee recently declassified transcripts that indicate the Department of Defense confirmed the attacks on the U.S. consulate and annex were an act of terrorism.

Within the scope of these documents, you told the same House Committee last October that the U.S. cannot strike the Benghazi perpetrators under the Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF), as currently the case with other known terrorists. Therefore, you go on to state, that we do not have the “capability to simply find them and kill them either with a remotely-piloted aircraft or with an assault on the ground... they would have to be captured and we would, when asked, provide capture options to do that.”

I would like to know what office in the administration rendered this opinion on the AUMF pertaining to the Benghazi perpetrators. I also ask that you provide a summary of the opinion, unless you are able to provide the opinion in full.

Thanks in advance for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Duncan Hunter". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large loop at the beginning.

Duncan Hunter  
Member of Congress