

Wolf: Benghazi Question Of The Day #5

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WOLF: BENGHAZI QUESTION OF THE DAY #5

Washington, D.C. (July 22, 2013) – In today’s question(s) about what happened in Benghazi, Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA) asked:

Why was the CIA’s security team repeatedly ordered to “stand down” for more than 30 minutes after the attack began?

Where did the order to stop the team from responding originate? Was it directed by the CIA or someone else in Washington?

If the team had been allowed to respond immediately, could the lives of Ambassador Stevens and Sean Smith been saved?

Has anyone been held accountable for preventing the security team for so long?

Wolf last week **announced** his plan to raise questions about what happened in Benghazi during the weeks before Congress breaks for its August recess, noting that the House has just seven days of legislative business before the break. When it returns in September, the one-year anniversary will be two days away.

Wolf is the author of a resolution to create a select committee on Benghazi, H. Res. 36, which currently has 161 cosponsors – more than two-thirds of the majority party – as well as the support of family members of the victims, the *Wall Street Journal* editorial page, the Special Operations community and the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, which represents the Diplomatic Security agents who were at the consulate in Benghazi.

For a full list of endorsements, click [here](#).

For more on Wolf’s work on Benghazi, click [here](#).

The full text of Wolf’s remarks is below.

Mr. Speaker, Today I ask my fifth question about the terrorist attack in Benghazi that remains unanswered: Why was the CIA’s security team repeatedly ordered to “stand down” for more than 30 minutes after the attack began?

Where did the order to stop the team from responding originate - was it directed by the CIA or someone else in Washington?

If the team had been allowed to respond immediately, could the lives of Ambassador Stevens and Sean Smith been saved?

And has anyone been held accountable for obstructing the security team?

Last year news reports indicated that the CIA's security team in Benghazi was repeatedly ordered to "stand down," or not respond to the attack at the consulate by agency's chain of command.

Trusted sources have confirmed this report, saying that the security team was ready to respond within minutes after receiving the initial call for help, but the CIA repeatedly blocked their departure for more than 30 minutes. The team ultimately disobeyed orders, but by then it was too late to save Stevens and Smith.

Issues: [Benghazi Select Committee](#)

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