

Jim Inhofe mulls 'I-word' after Benghazi

By **KEVIN ROBILLARD** | 5/10/13 5:29 PM EDT

Sen. **Jim Inhofe** (<http://www.politico.com/tag/jim-ihofe>) (R-Okla.) said the fatal attacks on American diplomats in Benghazi could lead to President Barack Obama's impeachment during a radio interview Friday.

"People may be starting to use the I-word before too long," Inhofe said **during a discussion** (<http://www.talk2rusty.com/050913-Rusty-Humphries-Jim-Inhofe>) of Benghazi on "The Rusty Humphries Show."

"I-word meaning 'impeachment?'" Humphries asked.

"Yeah," Inhofe said.

Humphries pointed out it was unlikely the Senate would vote to convict Obama even if the GOP-controlled House voted to impeach.

(Also on POLITICO: **Collins: No impeachment over Benghazi** (<http://www.politico.com/blogs/politico-live/2013/05/collins-no-impeachment-over-benghazi-163754.html>))

"I understand that," he said. "I'm not talking about it now. This is something that could last until after the 2014 elections. This is not a short story. ... This is clearly an orchestrated cover-up."

Republicans have been musing, with varying degrees of seriousness, about impeaching Obama almost since his first day in office. Most recently, Reps. **Steve Stockman** (<http://www.politico.com/blogs/on-congress/2013/01/rep-stockman-threatens-obama-impeachment-over-guns-154141.html>) (R-Texas) and **Trey Radel** (<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/01/obama-impeachment-considered-by-trey-radel-86279.html>) (R-Fla.) suggested impeaching the president over his use of executive actions to advance gun control.

Inhofe zeroed in on U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice's appearance on the Sunday political talk shows following the attack as the impetus for the scandal. During those appearances, Rice acknowledged the presence of "extremists" at the diplomatic compound in Libya, but fingered a poorly made and offensive viral video as the root of the violence.

"They knew that it was a cover-up at that time, the time that it happened," Inhofe said. "To send Susan Rice out to lie to the American people is one thing that's going to go down in history, that's never going to be forgotten."

Four Americans, including Ambassador Chris Stevens, died in the attack. Republicans have spent the past week building up Benghazi as a scandal after the issue faded from the scene in recent months. The House Oversight Committee held a emotional and lengthy hearing on Wednesday and documents outlining the development of Rice's talking points were leaked to ABC (http://www.politico.com/story/2013/05/report-terror-references-removed-from-benghazi-talking-points-91180.html?hp=t3_3) on Friday morning.

(**WATCH: Hicks recounts Chris Stevens phone call** (<http://www.politico.com/multimedia/video/2013/05/gregory-hicks-recounts-chris-stevens-phone-call.html>))

Like other Republicans in recent days, Inhofe has taken direct aim at then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, claiming her famous clash (<http://www.politico.com/multimedia/video/2013/01/clinton-gets-angry-with-johnson-during-benghazi-hearing.html>) with Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.) at hearing in January was essentially staged by the former First Lady.

“I think that she has gotten by with that sort of forceful attitude,” he said. “It’s something you’re not really accustomed to or hear from women as much as you do men. And she came out so forcefully, and you could tell that it was orchestrated at the time that she said it.”

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