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Subject: 1/6 Intelligence Failures

I have been purposely quiet for several days in order to calm myself, but know that I am filled with anger and frustration. Watching videos of Officers and friends that I served next to when I was in uniform being bullied, and watching posts that I've held being overrun, still makes me nauseous.

I am sending this email to all of the Division because I think many people feel the same way as I do. I am also including a few select people outside of my chain of command whom I've personally worked with in PSB and respect them as officers, as supervisors, and because you are all critical to USCP Intelligence Operations.

The purpose of this message is not to investigate blame, but to hopefully provide insight to help prevent another disaster.

I have been an intelligence professional for over 20 years. I have been a Supervisor, Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) of Intelligence Operations in combat zones where lives are in immediate danger. The biggest lesson I've learned, besides the importance of Accurate intelligence, is the necessity for conveying the importance of Intelligence information to the decision makers.

On more than one occasion, as a Senior Intelligence Sergeant in the Army, I had to be forceful with a naive Officer and demand he take the Intelligence seriously and take appropriate action. As a junior Capitol Police officer, I've confronted USCP Commanders with officer safety issues and demanded the issues be addressed. It is important to convey your assessment and convictions tactfully and respectfully, but also LOUDLY and unrelenting.

I can't help but think the situation might have been different in a non-pandemic operating environment. I would of personally been having frequent communication with USCP Officials, as casual conversation as we passed each other in the halls, and been able to convey the current climate on social media. Similarly, the entirety of intelligence dissemination would have been better in a face-to-face working environment. That being said, I think the continuity and quality of Intelligence production has been nothing short of amazing during the pandemic and with increased operational tempo.

We analysts have been reporting for weeks that Patriot groups are commenting on social media their intentions to storm the US Capitol with overwhelming numbers. I don't know what was occurring behind the scenes, but I hope that information was briefed with the veracity it deserved, and not just a one-time Event Assessment.

The notion that valid intelligence is trumped by optics or political decisions is unacceptable and puts lives in danger. This is a concept I've understood for a long time, and I know you are aware of this as well, and I hope it's meaning is now OBVIOUS to ALL Officials, Commanders, and Stakeholders. Unfortunately, I know USCP is frequently hamstrung by these factors. I sincerely hope USCP Commanders have the fortitude to stand-up and LOUDLY convey the need for effective security posture, despite any optics or career repercussions. A meek commander is a worthless black hole.

I also think, too often Analysts and Investigators are forced to put out small fires as they arise and not spending time thinking and making quality comprehensive assessments. Being overwhelmed with casework, makes Analysts and Investigators parsers of information, instead of allowing the time to produce actual analytic assessments.

I hope there is a non-partisan investigation to identify the failures on 1/6. Investigation after the 9/11 attacks identified an Intelligence failure of a "lack of imagination" by Intelligence Professionals. No one thought terrorists would hijack planes for the purpose of flying them into buildings. Likewise, I don't think anyone ever thought there would be dozens of organized protesters climbing the 20 foot walls on the West Front and breaking blast-resistant windows to gain access to the Capitol Building.

Please don't feel obligated to respond to this message, but I hope you take serious time to consider my insights, and be LOUD in future convictions, and let's prevent another 1/6!

Best,

Eric Hoar

US Capitol Police

Intelligence and Inter-agency Coordination Division