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One Hundred Seventeenth Congress

Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol

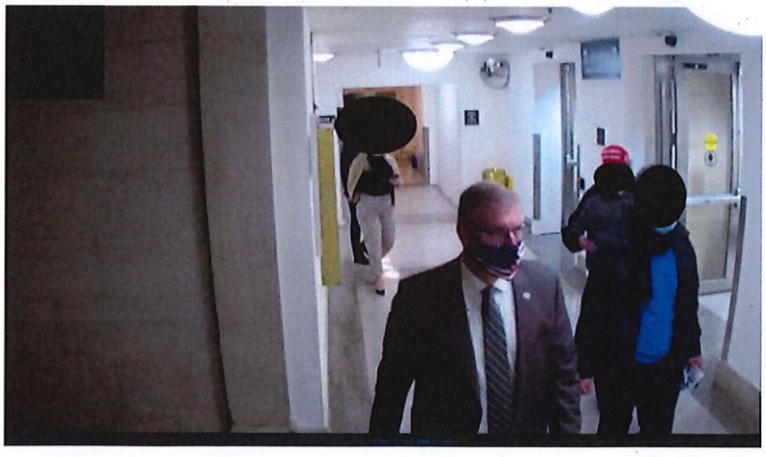
June 15, 2022

Representative Barry Loudermilk
United States House of Representatives
2133 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Loudermilk:

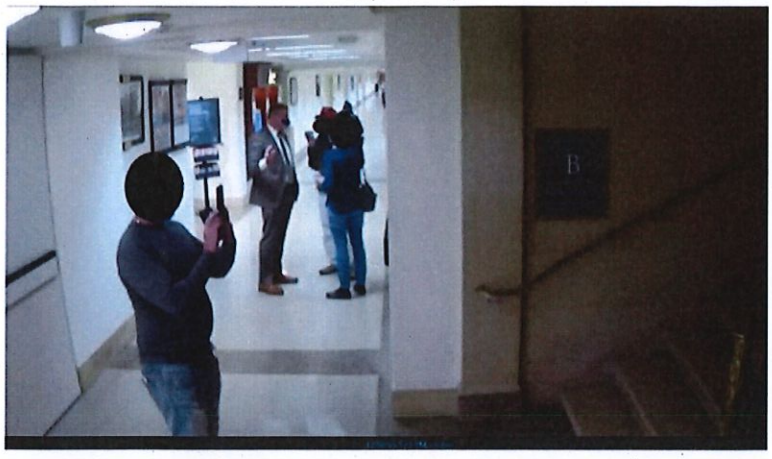
On May 19, 2022, the Select Committee invited you to meet with us about evidence of a tour you provided on January 5, 2021. Based on our review of surveillance video, social media activity, and witness accounts, we understand you led a tour group through parts of the Capitol complex on January 5, 2021. That group stayed for several hours, despite the complex being closed to the public on that day.

Surveillance footage shows a tour of approximately ten individuals led by you to areas in the Rayburn, Longworth, and Cannon House Office Buildings, as well as the entrances to tunnels leading to the U.S. Capitol. The below image shows you leading individuals on the tour:



Individuals on the tour photographed and recorded areas of the complex not typically of interest to tourists, including hallways, staircases, and security checkpoints.[1] For example, the below image shows an individual appearing to photograph a staircase in the basement of the Longworth House Office Building while you speak with others nearby:

[1] Materials on file with the Select Committee.



The below image shows members of the tour you led also taking photographs of the tunnel leading from the Rayburn House Office Building to the Capitol:

The behavior of these individuals during the January 5, 2021 tour raises concerns about their activity and intent while inside the Capitol complex.

The Select Committee has learned that some individuals you sponsored into the complex attended the rally at the Ellipse on the morning of January 6, 2021. According to video recordings from that day obtained by the Select Committee, the individual who appeared to photograph a staircase in the Longworth House Office Building filmed a companion with a flagpole appearing to have a sharpened end who spoke to the camera saying, "It's for a certain person," while making an aggressive jabbing motion. Later, these individuals joined the unpermitted march from the Ellipse to the U.S. Capitol. While standing near the Capitol grounds, the same individual made a video that contained detailed and disturbing threats against specific Members of Congress. For

example, as the individual filmed the march to the Capitol, he said, "There's no escape Pelosi, Schumer, Nadler. We're coming for you." As he looked up at the Capitol, he went on:

> They got it surrounded. It's all the way up there on the hill, and it's all the way around, and they're coming in, coming in like white on rice for Pelosi, Nadler, even you, AOC. We're coming to take you out and pull you out by your hairs. … When I get done with you, you're going to need a shine on top of that bald head.[2]

While we had hoped to show you the video evidence when you met with us, and since you have thus far declined, the Select Committee provides the video in question for your review, which is available at this link.

The foregoing information raises questions the Select Committee must answer. Public reporting and witness accounts indicate some individuals and groups engaged in efforts to gather information about the layout of the U.S. Capitol, as well as the House and Senate office buildings, in advance of January 6, 2021. For example, in the week following January 6, 2021, Members urged law enforcement leaders to investigate sightings of "outside groups in the complex" on January 5, 2021 that "appeared to be associated with the rally at the White House the following day."[3] The Select Committee's review of surveillance footage showing the above-described tour is consistent with those observations.[4]

We again ask you to meet with the Select Committee at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Bennie G. Thompson
Chairman

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[2] Materials on file with the Select Committee.

[3] Letter from Rep. Sherrill, et al., to Acting House Sergeant at Arms Timothy Blodgett, Acting Senate Sergeant at Arms Jennifer A. Hemmingway & Acting U.S. Capitol Police Chief Yogananda Pittman (January 13, 2021), available at https://sherrill.house.gov/sites/sherrill.house.gov/files/wysiwyg_uploaded/2020.01.13_Sherrill%20Letter%20to%20USCP%20and%20SAA.pdf.

[4] According to press reports, Republicans on the Committee on House Administration—of which you are a Member—reviewed security footage from days preceding January 6th and determined that "[t]here were no tours, no large groups, no one with MAGA hats on." Rebecca Beistch, GOP reps call for release of security footage amid allegations of 'reconnaissance tours', The Hill (Feb. 17, 2022), https://thehill.com/policy/national-security/594740-house-republicans-call-for-release-of-security-footage-amid. Contrary to that determination, and as shown in the above images, Select Committee staff observed on surveillance footage that visitors on the tour you appear to have led on January 5, 2021, included individuals wearing red "Make America Great Again" hats.