

SEVEN DEMOCRATS WRITE OBAMA ASKING HIM TO DECLASSIFY MORE INFORMATION ON RUSSIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE ELECTION

Ron Wyden, five other Democrats, and Dem caucusing Independent Angus King just wrote Obama a cryptic letter. The entire body of the letter reads:

We believe there is additional information concerning the Russian Government and the U.S. election that should be declassified and released to the public. We are conveying specifics through classified channels.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Aside from the fact that this suggests (as Wyden's cryptic letters always do) there is something meaty that we really ought to know, I find the list of signers rather curious. In addition to Wyden, the following Senators signed the letter:

- Jack Reed
- Mark Warner
- Barb Mikulski
- Martin Heinrich
- Angus King
- Mazie Hirono

That is, every Democratic SSCI member *except* current Chair Dianne Feinstein, plus Senate Armed Services Chair Jack Reed, signed the letter. So every Democrat except DiFi and Majority Leader Harry Reid signed the

letter, suggesting it is something that got briefed to the full Senate Intelligence Committee as well as the Ranking Members of SASC (the latter of which suggests NSA or CYBERCOM may be involved).

I'm as interested in the fact that DiFi and Reid didn't sign as that the others did sign. It can't be that Reid is retiring and DiFi is heading to SJC (it's still unclear whether she'll remain on SSCI or not). After all, Mikulski is retiring as well.

Plus, Harry Reid wrote a far more explicit letter last month to Jim Comey – apparently following up on a non-public letter sent months earlier – alluding to direct coordination between Trump and Russia.

In my communications with you and other top officials in the national security community, it has become clear that you possess explosive information about close ties and coordination between Donald Trump, his top advisors, and the Russian government – a foreign interest openly hostile to the United States, which Trump praises at every opportunity. The public has a right to know this information. I wrote to you months ago calling for this information to be released to the public. There is no danger to American interests from releasing it. And yet, you continue to resist calls to inform the public of this critical information.

Finally, what to make of the fact that not even John McCain signed onto this letter? Reid's inclusion makes it clear that McCain, too, must have been briefed. He has been outspoken about Trump's moves to cozy up to Putin. If he has seen – and objects to – such coordination, why not sign onto this letter and give it the patina of bipartisanship?