Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

November 28, 2017

Mr. Robert "Bud" McFarlane Co-Founder and Director IP3/Iron Bridge Group

Dear Mr. McFarlane:

We are writing in light of a troubling new report today from the *Wall Street Journal* that you communicated directly with Lt. General Michael Flynn, just days after he became President Trump's National Security Advisor, regarding your proposal to build nuclear reactors throughout the Middle East.

According to this report, you personally emailed General Flynn various documents, including a draft memo directing cabinet agencies to implement the plan:

Days later, another of the project's backers, Robert "Bud" McFarlane, a national security adviser to President Reagan, emailed documents to Mr. Flynn. One was an appeal to Mr. Trump saying the nuclear plan would boost American industry, generate American jobs and leverage the private sector to reshape the Middle East. The appeal said the retired military officers involved were known and respected by Mr. Trump. They included Gen. Jack Keane, former Army vice chief of staff, Rear Adm. Michael Hewitt and Gen. Keith Alexander, former head of the National Security Agency. Mr. McFarlane included a draft of a memo about the project Mr. Trump could send to cabinet heads.¹

The article also stated that General Flynn conveyed your proposal forward with instructions to implement it:

Mr. Flynn forwarded Mr. McFarlane's email to his staff with an instruction: Prepare a package for the president. Mr. Harvey told his staff to put the contents of the draft memo into an official "cabinet memo" from the president.²

In addition, the article reported that you attended a subsequent meeting with then-White House staffer Derek Harvey to discuss this project:

 2 Id.

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¹ Mike Flynn's Promotion of Nuclear-Plant Project Went Deep Into the White House, Wall Street Journal (Nov. 28, 2017).

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NSC lawyers soon directed the council members to stop working on the project because of Mr. Flynn's prior work as an adviser. They told Mr. Flynn not to attend a planned follow-up meeting with Mr. McFarlane, which Mr. Harvey attended instead.³

As you know, we have requested multiple times that you and your organization produce to Congress all of your communications with General Flynn, but you have repeatedly refused. Given today's report, we request that you produce, by December 12, 2017, all documents previously requested in our letters of June 19, 2017, September 12, 2017, and September 15, 2017. In addition, we request that you produce:

- 1. all documents referenced in the *Wall Street Journal* article in your custody or control, including the "appeal to Mr. Trump saying the nuclear plan would boost American industry, generate American jobs and leverage the private sector to reshape the Middle East" and the "a draft of a memo about the project Mr. Trump could send to cabinet heads";
- 2. all documents and communications in your custody or control between you and General Flynn; and
- 3. all documents and communications in your custody or control relating to meetings with the Trump transition team or Trump Administration regarding a proposed plan for nuclear power plants in the Middle East, including emails, slide decks and presentations, calendar invites, and memoranda.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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Elijah E. Cummings Ranking Member Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

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Eliot L. Engel Ranking Member Committee on Foreign Affairs

cc: The Honorable Trey Gowdy Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

> The Honorable Ed Royce Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs

³ Id.