

with the implementation of these FISA authorities became public. We believe it is important for your office to begin this review without further delay.

Please proceed to administratively perform reviews of the implementation of Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act and Section 702 of FISA, and submit the reports no later than December 31, 2014. Thank you in advance for your efforts to ensure a full accounting of the implementation of these surveillance authorities across the Intelligence Community.

Sincerely,

Patrick Leahy, Charles Schumer, Sheldon Whitehouse, Christopher Coons, Richard Blumenthal, Chuck Grassley, Ted Cruz, Michael S. Lee, Jeff Flake.

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

Washington, DC, November 5, 2013.

Memorandum for: See distribution.

Subject: IC IG Review of Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act and Section 702 of FISA Authorities.

Thank you for your 23 September 2013 letter requesting that my office review the Intelligence Community's (IC) use of Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act authorities and Section 702 of FISA authorities.

At present, we are not resourced to conduct the requested review within the requested timeframe. As you stated in your letter, several IC inspectors general have oversight of the IC's use of foreign electronic surveillance authorities. While my office has the jurisdiction to conduct an IC-wide review of all IC elements using these authorities, such a review will implicate ongoing oversight efforts. Therefore, I have been conferring with several IC Inspectors General Forum members in order to consider how such a review might be accomplished given the potential impact to IG resources and ongoing projects. As my IG colleagues and I confer regarding the possibility of conducting a joint review of the requested topic, I will keep you and the committee staff informed.

Again, I thank you for your continued support of the IG community. If you have any questions regarding this subject, please contact me or my Legislative Counsel, Melissa Wright, at 571-204-8149.

Sincerely,

I. CHARLES McCULLOUGH, III,  
Inspector General of the Intelligence Community.

#### FEDERAL FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss a topic not debated nearly enough here on the Senate floor—making the Federal Government more accountable and transparent.

Today, the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, under the leadership of Chairman CARPER and Ranking Member COBURN, passed important legislation that will expand Federal financial transparency and accountability in many important ways.

I sponsored this legislation—the Digital Accountability and Transparency, or DATA, Act—because it will significantly reform the way agencies report Federal spending, and for the first time provide checkbook-type spending data from across the Federal Government.

The Federal Government spends more than \$3.7 trillion each year, with

more than \$1 trillion being distributed as awards. However, the public cannot clearly track where this money goes. We currently have a Web site—USASpending.gov—that is supposed to show taxpayers and policymakers where the money goes, but it is not accurate.

Most States already have an online portal so that taxpayers can track where their dollars are spent, and it is long past time for the Federal Government to move into the 21st century and adopt a similar system.

At a recent hearing of the Budget Committee Task Force on Government Performance that I chair, it was reported that over \$900 billion of direct assistance data on USASpending.gov was misreported in 2011 alone.

No wonder the public has such little confidence in government—we can't even tell them where their tax money goes.

It seems to me that the data collected by the budget shops, the accountants, the procurement offices, and grant makers all needs to be combined, reconciled, and then presented in a relevant and transparent way.

These various systems should be able to work together based on financial standards so that policymakers and the public can track the full cycle of Federal spending clearly.

The DATA Act will help us move in that direction by making four specific improvements that I want to highlight today.

First, it creates transparency for all Federal funds. DATA will expand USASpending.gov to include spending data for all Federal funds by appropriation, Federal agency, program, function, and maintain the current reporting for Federal awards like contracts, grants, and loans. This is important because there is currently no place online to find and compare all government spending.

This expansion of USASpending.gov will allow policymakers and taxpayers to track Federal funds more clearly and to more easily link spending to budget priorities.

Second, the DATA Act sets government-wide financial data standards. Currently there are no consistent standards for reporting financial data to USASpending.gov, and it makes much of the data confusing and unreliable—especially if you want to compile and compare spending from multiple Federal agencies.

DATA tasks the Department of Treasury with establishing consistent financial data standards for the Federal agencies to support the USASpending.gov website.

Third, the DATA Act will actually reduce recipient reporting requirements. I have long been concerned about the compliance costs for the recipients of Federal funds. It appears that all the overlapping systems are frustrating and also create additional waste—especially for State and local governments.

For example, many universities file similar financial reports, multiple times, to multiple agencies on an annual, quarterly and monthly basis. If all this reporting redundancy were streamlined, we could direct more money to programs and less to administrative costs.

This legislation requires the Office of Management and Budget to review the existing Federal award recipient financial reporting to reduce compliance costs based on the new financial data standards.

Finally, the DATA Act will improve data quality. The inspectors general at each agency will be required to provide reports on the quality and accuracy of the financial data provided to USASpending.gov. Then GAO will then create a government-wide assessment on data quality and accuracy based on the inspectors generals' findings.

Being able to follow the money is critically important to running our government in a more efficient way and getting the best value for the taxpayer. The DATA Act will help us take steps in that direction, and that is why passing it is so important.

I want to close today by saying thanks again to my colleagues for passing the DATA Act out of committee. I am also pleased to be working with my friend, Republican ROB PORTMAN of Ohio, as my Senate cosponsor of the DATA Act. We will continue working to make sure this important bipartisan legislation becomes law this year.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN EDWARD KLEIN

● Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor U.S. Army CPT Edward "Flip" Klein, an Arkansas soldier who fought for his country on the battlefield and is fighting to recover from injuries he sustained in Afghanistan.

On October 22, 2012, while out on patrol near Kandahar, Captain Klein, a 2006 West Point graduate, was severely wounded, losing both of his legs, his right arm, and severely damaging his left hand. Captain Klein credits much of his recovery success to his wife Jessica who he calls his "rock." His determination is an inspiration to everyone who meets him. Albert Carey Caswell wrote this poem, "The Battle, After the Fight," in honor of Captain Klein and his family:

And on that morning . . .  
When we awake . . .  
As we so see what this war would take . . .  
As all of our hearts so begin to break!  
Will we be ready,  
for this new battle that which before us now  
awaits?  
All in our strength,  
and faith!  
The . . .  
The Battle,  
After The Fight!  
From out of the darkness,  
into the light!

Those brave hearts,  
 who bring their light!  
 Who evil must fight!  
 After That Battle,  
 But Begins The Fight!  
 When,  
 hearts of honor so chose to ignite!  
 When,  
 death stands so all in sight!  
 All out on that edge,  
 after The Battle But Begins The Fight!  
 All in what . . .  
 within ones chest ignites!  
 While,  
 so close to death!  
 All in this most divine sight!  
 When,  
 heroic hearts of valor so reach to new  
 heights!  
 To Fight!  
 After That Battle!  
 But So Comes The Fight!  
 Moving forth,  
 throughout all of this darkness as coura-  
 geously onward they stride!  
 While against all odds,  
 to a place where only the most magnificent  
 of all hearts of honor reside!  
 After The Battle!  
 With but tears in their eyes!  
 As their families so cry!  
 Asking our Lord up above,  
 for the strength to supply!  
 After That Battle!  
 As somehow!  
 As someday!  
 So very deep down inside,  
 as onward they fight!  
 How Brilliant! How Brilliant!  
 How Brilliant they shine!  
 So surely these are America's brightest of all  
 lights!  
 After The Battle!  
 Now Into The Fight!  
 Hooo . . . aaah!  
 As Captain Klein,  
 your most magnificent of all hearts would  
 ignite!  
 For you are a warrior whose heart burns  
 bright!  
 As man who is Army Strong!  
 Who all for his Country Tis Thee,  
 his fine heart beats loud and so long!  
 After That Battle Flip,  
 As So Began Your Most Courageous of All  
 Fights!  
 As one of the few,  
 who to West Point so belongs!  
 As you Flip,  
 so earned that most honored of all rights!  
 The kind of man,  
 that MacArthur or Mahollen would so sing of  
 both day and night!  
 Both day and night!  
 And General Petraeus,  
 would give a big Hooo . . . aah so all on  
 sight!  
 Because After The Battle!  
 But So Brings The Fight!  
 The kind which so bring tears to The Angel's  
 eyes on this night!  
 As it was while out on patrol,  
 when death to you so spoke!  
 With you Captain Klein lying there so close  
 to death . . .  
 As all in that moment,  
 to yourself you so made a pledge!  
 To live on,  
 while your heart of valor would crest!  
 As they so gave you last rites!  
 As from you but so came a most magnificent  
 sight!  
 After That Battle,  
 as your fine heart so chose to fight!  
 As so came your light!  
 As You Edward So Chose To Stand and To  
 Fight!  
 With All of Your Might!

Which to this day,  
 lives on brighter than bright!  
 TO SO REACH US!  
 TO SO TEACH US!  
 TO SO SPEAK TO US!  
 TO SO BESEECH US!  
 All in hearts born,  
 which now so warmly lives on which so  
 greets us!  
 After That Battle,  
 but so Came Your Most Heroic of All Fights!  
 Oh what a most beautiful,  
 most sacred of all sights!  
 From out of The Point,  
 a fine hero whose heart would anoint!  
 A world,  
 with its faith and its courage . . .  
 to so surely nourish to keep hope alive!  
 After That Battle!  
 As onward Captain you were so to stride!  
 With your fine wife Jessica all by your side!  
 As together you cried!  
 You cried!  
 As when you awoke and looked down . . .  
 All in what you found . . .  
 As your heart broke!  
 As The Real Captain America's heart spoke!  
 For you had miles to go!  
 And so many hearts to touch so,  
 all in this load!  
 All out in the distance which so means the  
 most!  
 For you have mountains to so climb!  
 And hilltops to so reach,  
 so all in your time!  
 And out of so many valleys to climb!  
 As you take that beach!  
 While watching you,  
 all of our hearts so break with feelings so  
 very deep!  
 After That Battle Which To All Of Us Teach!  
 All left in your most courageous of all  
 wakes,  
 that which so speaks!  
 As on ward you continued your climb,  
 no matter how steep!  
 After That Battle!  
 After That Fight!  
 What This World Must So Know On This  
 Very Night!  
 Teaching us all about life,  
 as there you would so courageously go!  
 While watching your fine heart all in leaps  
 and bounds grow!  
 While,  
 holding onto to your faith and not letting go!  
 After That Battle So!  
 All in your angelic glow!  
 As somehow the courage you found so!  
 For you live in a town without pity,  
 and oh how it shows!  
 No Flip,  
 you're not half the man you used to be!  
 For your sum,  
 for your whole . . .  
 has grown far much more greater see!  
 And I could climb to the highest of all moun-  
 taintops,  
 to the very top!  
 And still I would have to look up to you to  
 see!  
 Because After That Battle,  
 your heart would not so stop!  
 Because minutes,  
 are all that we so have!  
 Moments,  
 to make a difference to defeat all of that  
 bad!  
 Better to live for something,  
 than realize your life meant nothing at all!  
 Better to die for something,  
 than in the end wishing your life you could  
 recall!  
 Better to give up your strong legs and arm  
 while standing tall!  
 Than look back in such regret realizing,  
 all you ever did was crawl!  
 Yes arms and legs we need,

one and all!  
 But we can get by!  
 But without a heart,  
 we will so surely die!  
 For it's all what's found from deep down  
 within,  
 the reason why!  
 And up in Heaven you need not arms nor  
 even legs,  
 and Captain Klein that's where you're going  
 you can rely!  
 I'd much rather limp here on earth,  
 and run with our Lord up in Heaven for what  
 I gave because of my worth!  
 Where you lead Captain,  
 I will follow!  
 Because After That Battle!  
 As So Began Your Most Courageous Fight!  
 Bringing Such Warmth!  
 Bringing Such Light!  
 Breaking hearts,  
 to your left and to your right!  
 Bringing tears to all of your Brothers In  
 Arms,  
 who After The Battle So Saw Your Fight!  
 With this sacred bond,  
 and this blood which binds you both day and  
 night!  
 And After The Battle!  
 Will we so choose to run?  
 Or will we so choose to fight?  
 Will all of our hearts so ignite?  
 Will we so bring our light?  
 Or will we in the darkness reside?  
 Or will we move on,  
 and to like the sunlight shine so very bright?  
 All In That Battle,  
 After That Fight!•

#### COMMENDING THE GEORGIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

• Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 10th anniversary of the 165th Airlift Wing of the Georgia Air National Guard. Since 2003, the Georgia Air National Guard has played a vital role in fighting the war on terror, with over 80 percent of the wing's 900 airmen serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation New Dawn.

I could not be prouder that these brave men and women call Georgia their home. They protected our Nation during a critical time, and in doing so set the standard for service in the Georgia Air National Guard. As a unit, they have flown more than 11,363 hours and 7,441 combat sorties. They were the first C-130 unit to deploy and operate out of Iraq under the famous "Red Tail" designation of the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, and they were also the only squadron in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility tasked at 100 percent. The wing crew supported the rescue mission of SEAL Team 10 and 3rd Battalion of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment when they lost three members of their team, and their heroic actions became the subject of Marcus Luttrell's book, *Lone Survivor*.

It is only fitting we commend these courageous individuals of the 165th Airlift Wing of the Georgia Air National