

From: Mazzetti, Mark [redacted]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 9:31 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: Caitlin_M_Hayden [redacted]
Subject: [AIN] Re: CIA vaccinations

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(b)(3)
(b)(3)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

[Large redacted area]

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thanks all

On Mon, May 19, 2014 at 9:30 PM, [redacted] wrote:
Mark,

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From our end, you can use the below on the record from me:

- CIA Director Brennan established this policy in August 2013 after carefully considering a variety of views, including those from outside the Agency. He took seriously the concerns raised by the public health community, examined them closely, and took decisive action.
- There are many obstacles that can stand in the way of successful vaccination programs abroad. These obstacles run the gamut from myths that vaccinations cause sterility or HIV, to long-standing extremist claims that foreign vaccination programs are spy operations run by Western governments. While the CIA can do little about the former, the Director felt he could do something important to dispel the latter and he acted.
- It is important to note that militant groups have a long history of attacking humanitarian aid workers in Pakistan and those attacks began years before the raid against the bin Laden compound and years before any press reports claiming a CIA-sponsored vaccination program.
- CIA has great respect for the vital work that vaccination workers perform around the globe, often under very dangerous conditions. By publicizing this policy, our objective is to dispel one canard that militant groups have used as justification for cowardly attacks against vaccination providers.

I hope this is helpful.

[redacted]

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CIA Spokesperson

From: Hayden, Caitlin [mailto:]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 09:28 PM
To:
Cc:
Subject: Re: CIA vaccinations

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+CIA

On record: I can confirm that Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism Lisa Monaco has sent a letter to the Deans of twelve schools of public health. The letter makes clear that as CIA policy, established by Director Brennan in August 2013, the CIA will make no operational use of vaccination programs, which includes vaccination workers. Similarly, the Agency will not seek to obtain or exploit DNA or other genetic material acquired through such programs. This policy applies worldwide, and to US persons and non-US persons alike. As her letter says, the Administration fully supports this policy, which demonstrates our support for global health and our continued commitment to the global eradication of polio. Beyond that, I refer any questions you have to the CIA.

Off record: Here's the letter, but would appreciate your not attributing to me.

From: Mazzetti, Mark []
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 09:23 PM
To: Hayden, Caitlin
Subject: CIA vaccinations

(b)(6)

Hey Cailin-
Hope all is well. Following up on Yahoo story about CIA vaccinations. Do you have letters you could send?
Thanks
Mark

--
National Security Correspondent
The New York Times
Work: 202-862-0303

[Redacted]

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National Security Correspondent
The New York Times
Work: 202-862-0303

[Redacted]

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