

United States Senate

November 24, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

General Daniel Hokanson
Chief of the National Guard Bureau
1636 Defense Pentagon (1E169)
Washington, DC 20301

Dear General Hokanson:

I write you to follow up on our recent phone conversation regarding the use of low-flying military helicopters over large groups of people in Washington, D.C. on June 1, 2020. Shortly after the incident, you and I had a productive conversation where I expressed my deep concern and reiterated my desire to get answers to a number of questions, including who approved the orders for the helicopters to fly and why.

Several months have passed since then, and while I am pleased that a number of investigations into the incident have been initiated—including one by the Department of the Army—I remain frustrated that I have yet to see some basic information and documentation that is critical to inform congressional oversight. That is why I am requesting additional documentation from the National Guard Bureau, as discussed on our most recent phone call on November 17.

I request that you provide the following no later than December 10, 2020:

1. The mission briefing sheets for all National Guard aircraft flown in the D.C. Metropolitan Flight Restricted Zone (DC FRZ) on June 1, 2020.
2. The risk assessment forms for all National Guard flights flown in the DC FRZ on June 1, 2020.
3. The post-flight after actions reports (AAR) for all National Guard flights flown in the DC FRZ on June 1, 2020.
4. The aircrew training records showing pilots and aircrew were properly trained and signed off by a military flight instructor to fly the tactical “persistent pressure” maneuver reported in the media.
5. A copy of the parent unit’s flight training program to verify unit training and proficiency of the “persistent pressure” maneuver.
6. The military flight manual detailing the procedures to execute the “persistent pressure” maneuver as well as guidance for its tactical usage.
7. Any information included in questions 4-6 for additional military aerial tactics used to support military flight operations flown in the DC FRZ on June 1, 2020.

Letter to General Hokanson
November 24, 2020
Page 2 of 2

I appreciate the National Guard Bureau's support in appropriately addressing this deeply concerning incident. If you are unable to provide me this information by December 10, 2020, I request an interim update outlining the cause of the delays. Thank you in advance for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tammy Duckworth". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator