

(b)(3)

(b)(3), (b)(6)

**From:** Amanda J. Schoch-DNI-  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 11, 2021 5:19 PM  
**To:** (b)(3), (b)(6)  
 DNI\_MI\_NIC\_CORONAVIRUS  
**Cc:** Morgan Muir-DNI-; (b)(3), (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: Washington Examiner:Trump spy chief calls WHO dismissal of Wuhan lab leak hypothesis 'disingenuous'  
**Signed By:** (b)(3)

Classification: ~~TOP SECRET~~ / (b)(3) / ~~NOFORN~~ / (b)(3)

(b)(3)

Thanks! This is all very helpful. (b)(3), (b)(5), (b)(6)

Let me know if anyone feels strongly otherwise. Appreciate having what we had cleared on hand for if/when we need it. (b)(3), (b)(6) would discuss with the FO before responding.

The IC does not know exactly where, when, or how the COVID-19 virus—known as SARS-COV-2—was transmitted initially to humans. We have not determined whether the outbreak began through contact with infected animals or if it was the result of an accident at a laboratory in Wuhan.

The virus could have emerged naturally from human contact with infected animals, spreading in a consistent pattern with a natural epidemic. Alternatively, a laboratory accident could resemble a natural outbreak if the initial exposure included only a few individuals and was compounded by asymptomatic infection. Scientists in China have researched animal-derived coronaviruses under conditions that increased the risk for accidental and potentially unwitting exposure.

Sincerely,  
Amanda

**Amanda Schoch**  
ADNI for Strategic Communications  
ODNI Strategic Communications

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(b)(3)

**From:** (b)(3), (b)(6)

**Sent:** Thursday, February 11, 2021 3:50 PM

**To:** (b)(3), (b)(6)

DNI\_MI\_NIC\_CORONAVIRUS (b)(3) Amanda J. Schoch-DNI-  
(b)(3)

**Cc:** Morgan Muir-DNI- (b)(3), (b)(6)

**Subject:** RE: Washington Examiner:Trump spy chief calls WHO dismissal of Wuhan lab leak hypothesis 'disingenuous'

Classification: ~~TOP SECRET~~/ (b)(3) / ~~NOFORN~~/ (b)(3)

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(b)(3)

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached (b)(1), (b)(3)

I'm also attaching (b)(3)

(b)(1), (b)(3)

Let me know if you have any questions—thank you,

(b)(3), (b)(6)  
Deputy NIO (b)(3)  
National Intelligence Council  
(b)(3), (b)(6)

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(b)(3)

(b)(3), (b)(6)

**From:** (b)(3), (b)(6)

**Sent:** Thursday, February 11, 2021 3:34 PM

**To:** (b)(3), (b)(6) DNI\_MI\_NIC\_CORONAVIRUS

(b)(3) Amanda J. Schoch-DNI- (b)(3)  
**Cc:** Morgan Muir-DNI- (b)(3), (b)(6)

**Subject:** RE: Washington Examiner:Trump spy chief calls WHO dismissal of Wuhan lab leak hypothesis 'disingenuous'

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

(b)(3), (b)(6)

(b)(3), (b)(5), (b)(6)

is going to forward you (b)(3)

which has useful context.

We could re-use the IC's unclassified assessment – which did appear in the text of Pompeo's statement – below if commentary is necessary:

The IC does not know exactly where, when, or how the COVID-19 virus—known as SARS-COV-2—was transmitted initially to humans. We have not determined whether the outbreak began through contact with infected animals or if it was the result of an accident at a laboratory in Wuhan.

The virus could have emerged naturally from human contact with infected animals, spreading in a consistent pattern with a natural epidemic. Alternatively, a laboratory accident could resemble a natural outbreak if the initial exposure included only a few individuals and was compounded by asymptomatic infection. Scientists in China have researched animal-derived coronaviruses under conditions that increased the risk for accidental and potentially unwitting exposure.

Let us know if we need to prepare more robust TPs.

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(b)(6)

(b)(3), (b)(6)

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(b)(3)

Acting NIO (b)(3)

National Intelligence Council

(b)(3), (b)(6)

**From:** (b)(3), (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 11, 2021 3:06 PM  
**To:** DNI\_MI\_NIC\_CORONAVIRUS (b)(3) Amanda J. Schoch-DNI- (b)(3)  
**Cc:** Morgan Muir-DNI- (b)(3), (b)(6)  
**Subject:** FW: Washington Examiner:Trump spy chief calls WHO dismissal of Wuhan lab leak hypothesis 'disingenuous'

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~  
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(b)(5)

do you need (b)(5) Amanda, (b)(5)  
just in case you need it?

(b)(3), (b)(6)

**From:** Amanda J Schoch (b)(3)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 11, 2021 2:21 PM  
**To:** (b)(3), (b)(6) Morgan Muir (b)(3), (b)(6)  
**Cc:** DNI-Media (b)(3)  
**Subject:** (b)(3) Washington Examiner:Trump spy chief calls WHO dismissal of Wuhan lab leak hypothesis 'disingenuous'

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED  
(b)(3) - Technical Data Related to Computer Networks; No Email Content







