OBAMA SPIED ON AMERICANS WHO APPLIED FOR DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FUNDS HE PROMISED TO HIS FRIENDS

An award-winning national security correspondent for CIRCA News believes Congress needs to launch an investigation into Obama-era unmasking and warrantless surveillance of Americans, according to an exclusive interview with The Daily Caller News Foundation.

<u>Sara A. Carter</u>, of the Sinclair Broadcasting Group, has been an overseas war correspondent for the bulk of her professional life and grew up in the Middle East.

She was one of the first reporters to reveal Obama administration political espionage, and unprecedented unmasking and surveillance of Americans by using the national security apparatus. The Obama administration loosened the privacy protections for innocent Americans in 2011 – including accessing information from priests, attorney/client relationships, and doctors, she said.

The Obama administration scoured Americans' private conversations "at an exponential rate," she said. From 2011 to January 2017, the unmasking increased over 300 percent. She <u>also revealed</u> the Obama administration was accessing emails at a rate of one out of every 20 Americans, an incredible 5 percent of citizens.

With reauthorization of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) reauthorization before Congress, Carter believes Congress needs a full investigation into the <u>unmasking</u> that she has <u>revealed</u>.

She believes Congress should subpoena Obama officials Susan Rice, Samantha Power and John Brennan as well as understand who was unmasked, why and what they were looking for, as she does not think it was national security related.

There was early evidence of the Obama administration using government national security tools to accomplish their political goals. Journalist <u>Lee Smith wrote</u> in April about the Obama team unmasking what their political opponents on the Iran deal were doing and saying. He said, they "have exposed themselves to risk, by creating a potential criminal trail that may expose systematic abuse of foreign-intelligence collection."

She sees no evidence, however, of "fire" from Russian collusion by President Donald Trump as the Democrats have alleged, but admitted there was some "smoke" because of Donald J. Trump Jr.'s meeting.

Interestingly, Carter did say "there is evidence of money changing hands with Hillary Clinton's team and the Russians," in the July interview with TheDCNF. She believes the Clinton Foundation investigation is on-going, and, based on her contacts, she doesn't think it is completely closed.