

# Partisan Special Event Assessment of January 3, 2021

Leo Goldstein<sup>1</sup>

4/6/2023<sup>2</sup>

The [Special Event Assessment of January 3, 2021](#) (the “Assessment”)<sup>3</sup> has been widely considered as a warning about potential violence by pro-Trump groups on January 6. But this assessment is profoundly partisan and looks like a Democratic party rather than a USCP assessment. Even more unusual, the Assessment was not distributed. [HSGA Report](#)<sup>4</sup> names not a single person who received this Assessment. Further, the putative warning about the alleged planning by pro-Trump groups was tucked at or near the end and not reflected in summary (Bottom Line Up Front).

## Partisanship

From Event Summary

*“If neither candidate achieves required 270 vote minimum, the House then decides the election in accordance with the 12<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the Constitution. Each state would get one vote with a minimum of 26 votes deciding the winner.”* This situation meant **re-election of President Donald Trump**, because 27 states had fully Republican House delegations, and three states had mixed delegations.

*“In the absence of a majority, the House selects the President, and the Senate selects the Vice President”* – This is a grossly incorrect interpretation of the law, but it might reflect [Democrats’ fears](#).<sup>5</sup> Republicans had a majority of 53:47 in Senate, and the Senate would likely elect Trump as the Vice President. The Vice President is also the President of the Senate. This outcome was also unacceptable for Democrats, especially considering Biden’s mental state.

*“Analyst Comment: **Several representatives plan to challenge the Electoral College votes when Congress officially certifies Joe Biden’s victory on January 6, 2021 ...**”* – this line is straight from the Democratic propaganda. The purpose of the Joint Session is to determine which slates of votes are correct and to determine the winner of the election. The USCP’s role was to protect this process, not to pre-determine the outcome. The analyst who wrote that must be found and, if possible, interviewed about this assessment.

From IICD Overall Analysis

*“Supporters of the current president see January 6, 2021, as **the last opportunity to overturn results of the presidential election.**”* – This is from the Democratic party propaganda. There were no presidential election results at that time because neither side had conceded. The election results were to be

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<sup>1</sup> [contact@defyccc.com](mailto:contact@defyccc.com)

<sup>2</sup> Updated multiple times since the original version of 3/20/2023.

<sup>3</sup> <https://context-cdn.washingtonpost.com/notes/prod/default/documents/7297e02f-a2e0-4890-b2df-eeadcc920d50/note/ca3b675f-7f49-4662-821a-b41d00d0c251>.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.rules.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Jan%206%20HSGAC%20Rules%20Report.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://defyccc.com/not-trump-but-dems-were-interested-in-violent-disruption-of-j6-joint-session2/>

determined in the joint session, and it was the best (and only) opportunity for President Trump to clutch the victory. Notice the non-capital first letter about the President of the United States.

*“This sense of desperation and disappointment may lead to more of an incentive to become violent.”* – This contradicts the previous assessment in the same document. Also, some Trump supporters would feel desperation and disappointment only after the joint session declared Biden-Harris the winner. Then those with a propensity for violence would have two weeks (until January 20) to engage in it, following the analyst’s logic.

The remaining few sentences of this analysis contain more factually wrong or misleading statements.

### Distribution Mystery

HSAG Report includes a lot of evidence that nobody in the USCP leadership saw or was briefed on the Assessment. Additionally, no other documents reflected the alleged warnings from this assessment. There are no notes of sharing this assessment. The only person who claimed to share it was Yogananda Pittman, but after some back and forth, she started to claim, without evidence, that it was shared verbally.

Further, the assessment seems not shareable because of the partisan language on p. 13 and, possibly, p. 1.

One could even suspect that there were two versions of this Assessment: the first version, similar to assessments from prior and consecutive days, was shared with the USCP and other law enforcement agencies, and its modification with the putative warning about Trump supporting groups, created on or after Jan 6 and replacing the first version.


### Screenshots of the Assessment

Notice that only two pages are available to the author but are likely the most important ones.

## *Special Event Assessment*

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Releasable Only To: P8B, COP, ACOF, USCPB



**Special Event Assessment**

Intelligence and Interagency Coordination Division

21-A-0468 v.3

January 3, 2020

### **Joint Session of Congress – Electoral College Vote Certification**

#### **Bottom Line Up Front:**

- On Wednesday, January 6, 2021, the 117<sup>th</sup> United States Congress will gather for a joint session in the chamber of the House of Representatives to certify the counting of the electoral votes.
- There are some representatives and senators who plan to challenge the votes during this session, which will allow the objection to move forward.<sup>1 2</sup>
- The Intelligence and Interagency Coordination Division is currently tracking several protests slated to take place on Capitol grounds and elsewhere in Washington, DC, on January 5, 2021, and January 6, 2021, and some protesters have indicated they plan to be armed. There is also indication that white supremacist groups may be attending the protests.<sup>3</sup>
- Detailed information concerning potential counter-protest activity is limited.

#### **Event Summary:**

On Wednesday, January 6, 2021, the 117<sup>th</sup> United States Congress will gather for a joint session in the chamber of the House of Representatives to certify the counting of the electoral votes. The President of the Senate, Vice President of the United States (VPOTUS) Michael Pence, is the presiding officer. If a senator and a representative jointly submit an objection, each would retire to its chamber to consider it. The President and Vice President must achieve a majority of electoral votes (i.e., at least 270 votes) to be elected. In the absence of a majority, the House selects the President, and the Senate selects the Vice President.<sup>4</sup> If neither candidate achieves the required 270 vote minimum, the House then decides the election in accordance with the 12th Amendment of the Constitution. Each state would get one vote with a minimum of 26 votes deciding the winner.

- **Analyst Comment:** Several representatives plan to challenge the Electoral College votes when Congress officially certifies Joe Biden's victory on January 6, 2021, as long as a Senate Republican joins them in the long-shot effort.<sup>5 6</sup> Approximately twelve senators have indicated they will join the representatives in objecting to the Electoral College results;<sup>7</sup> however, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) has warned the Senate of taking such an action.<sup>8</sup>

- Pennsylvania Avenue, NW from 3rd Street, NW to 15th Street, NW
- Pennsylvania Avenue, NW from 17th Street, NW to 19th Street, NW
- Indiana Avenue from 3rd Street to 5th Street, NW
- 3rd Street from Independence Avenue, SW to D Street, NW
- 4th Street from Independence Avenue, SW to Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
- 4th Street from Indiana Avenue, NW to E Street, NW
- 5th Street from Indiana Avenue, NW to E Street, NW
- 6th Street from Constitution Avenue, NW to E Street, NW
- 7th Street from Independence Avenue, SW to E Street, NW
- 9th Street from Constitution Avenue, NW to E Street, NW
- 10th Street from Constitution Avenue, NW to L Street, NW
- 11th Street from Pennsylvania Avenue, NW to L Street, NW
- 12th Street from Constitution Avenue, NW to L Street, NW
- 13th Street from Pennsylvania Avenue, NW to L Street, NW
- 14th Street from Independence Avenue, SW to L Street, NW
- 15th Street from Independence Avenue, SW to L Street, NW
- 16th Street from H Street, NW to L Street, NW
- Vermont Avenue from H Street, NW to L Street, NW
- Connecticut Avenue from H Street, NW to L Street, NW
- 17th Street from Independence Avenue, SW to L Street, NW
- Madison Drive from 3rd Street, NW to 15th Street, NW
- Jefferson Drive from 3rd Street, SW to 15th Street, SW
- 12th Street Tunnel
- 9th Street Tunnel

**IICD Overall Analysis:**

Due to the tense political environment following the 2020 election, the threat of disruptive actions or violence cannot be ruled out. Supporters of the current president see January 6, 2021, as the last opportunity to overturn the results of the presidential election. This sense of desperation and disappointment may lead to more of an incentive to become violent. Unlike previous post-election protests, the targets of the pro-Trump supporters are not necessarily the counter-protesters as they were previously, but rather Congress itself is the target on the 6<sup>th</sup>. As outlined above, there has been a worrisome call for protesters to come to these events armed and there is the possibility that protesters may be inclined to become violent. Further, unlike the events on November 14, 2020, and December 12, 2020, there are several more protests scheduled on January 6, 2021, and the majority of them will be on Capitol grounds. The two protests expected to be the largest of the day—the Women for America First protest at the Ellipse and the Stop the Steal protest in Areas 8 and 9—may draw thousands of participants and both have been promoted by President Trump himself. The Stop the Steal protest in particular does not have a permit, but several high profile speakers, including Members of Congress are expected to speak at the event. This combined with Stop the Steal's propensity to attract white supremacists, militia members, and others who actively promote violence, may lead to a significantly dangerous situation for law enforcement and the general public alike.

Information Current as of 3 January 2021 @ 1500 hours

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## Evidence from the HSAG Report

HSAG Report cites the Assessment as INTELLIGENCE & INTERAGENCY COORDINATION DIV., U.S. CAPITOL POLICE, SPECIAL EVENT ASSESSMENT 21-A0468 V.3 2 (Jan. 3, 2021).

Quotes from HSAG Report, pp. 45-52:

*“In the days following the issuance of the January 3 Special Assessment, IICD issued three DIRs—none of which reflected the likelihood of violence described in the January 3 Special Assessment or more broadly known within IICD. In fact, the January 4, January 5, and January 6 DIRs assessed the probability of acts of civil disobedience from the planned protests across all of Washington, D.C. as ‘Remote’ to ‘Improbable.’”*

*“It is clear that IICD intelligence products, in particular the January 3 Special Assessment analysis ... were not incorporated in subsequent intelligence documents.”*

*“the warning in the January 3 Special Assessment that the January 6 event would not be similar to prior marches appears to have been lost on USCP leadership.”*

*“if one does not read the January 3 Special Assessment in its entirety, they could draw an inaccurate conclusion since the Bottom Line Up Front section is not consistent with the rest of the document.”*  
(internal quotation marks and brackets are omitted)

This might have happened if one person made changes in the Assessment maliciously and without others’ knowledge.

*“Similarly, during the February 23 hearing, Mr. Sund described the information possessed by IICD as ‘very similar to the previous assessments. It was just a little bit more detailed.’”*

*“Significantly, the January 3 Special Assessment does not appear to have informed other key decision makers’ perspectives”*

*“it is unclear who received the January 3 Special Assessment”*

*“The CDU Operational Plan, however, was not informed by the January 3 Special Assessment.”*

*“Not only was the January 3 Special Assessment not shared widely outside of USCP, it was also not briefed to rank-and-file officers...”*

*“Ms. Pittman also told the Committees that the January 3 Special Assessment was shared with members of the Capitol Police Board. The Architect of the Capitol, by contrast, told the Committees that he does not remember receiving the January 3 Special Assessment or being briefed on it. USCP confirmed that it does ‘not have any documentation that [the January 3 Special Assessment] was shared outside the Department in written form.’”*

*“A January 4 email memorializing notes from the call with law enforcement partners, however, does not include any discussion of the January 3 Special Assessment. No member of IICD is listed as participating in the call. Ms. Pittman acknowledged to the Committees that the January 3 Special Assessment was not disseminated to law enforcement partners prior to January 6, but she maintained it was discussed orally”*

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