

Congress of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20515

August 31, 2021

The Honorable Antony Blinken
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

The Honorable Lloyd Austin
Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
1400 Defense Boulevard
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretary Blinken and Secretary Austin,

Now that the United States combat mission in Afghanistan has ended, Congress must begin our Constitutional duty of reviewing what occurred following the fall of Kabul to the Taliban, and the ensuing evacuation of American citizen, legal permanent residents, human rights defenders, and, of course, our Afghan allies. While I commend the administration for saving thousands of lives, I believe more could have been done to prevent the tragic loss of life on August 26, 2021 as well as what will unfold in the coming weeks as the Taliban, ISIS-K, and al-Qaeda seek their retribution on those who helped the United States.

For these reasons, we request written responses to the following questions no later than September 8, 2021.

1. How many American citizens, citizens of third countries, legal permanent residents, Afghans with issued SIVs, Afghans with pending SIV applications, individuals with pending P1s, pending P2s, and humanitarian parole/significant public benefit parole applications were evacuated from Afghanistan to date?
 - a. Please provide a breakdown of the “Type of Individual,” i.e. specify how many evacuees fit into each of the previously listed categories. Please include a breakdown of total evacuations by week as well.
 - b. Please provide a breakdown of how many of each were evacuated on flights provided at no cost by the U.S. government.
2. How many American citizens, citizens of third countries, legal permanent residents, Afghans with issued SIVs, Afghans with pending SIV applications, individuals with pending P1s, pending P2s, and humanitarian parole/significant public benefit parole applications requested assistance?
3. How many American citizens, citizens of third countries, legal permanent residents, Afghans with issued SIVs, Afghans with pending SIV applications, individuals with pending P1s, pending P2s, and humanitarian parole/significant public benefit parole applications were left behind?
4. How many SIVs are currently pending approval of the Chief of Mission (COM)?
5. After April 14, 2021, how many SIVs were denied COM approval based on not meeting the two-year required service?
6. How many citizens of third countries, Afghans with issued SIVs, Afghans with pending SIV applications, individuals with pending P1s, pending P2s, and humanitarian parole/significant public benefit parole applications were issued visas or airport entry documents, but were unable to get through Taliban checkpoints?
7. How many family dependents of legal permanent residents were left behind?

8. It has been reported that US officials provided the Taliban with a list of the names of Americans and Afghan allies who were approved for travel. Of the names on this list, how many remain in Afghanistan?
9. How many Afghan nationals have been evacuated by the Department of Defense? How many Afghan nationals have been evacuated through other means in coordination with the Department of Defense? How many Afghan nationals have been transferred to the United States? How many Afghan nationals remain in processing at locations operated by or in coordination with the United States in third countries? How many Afghan nationals evacuated by or in coordination with the Department of Defense have been returned to Afghanistan?

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adam Kinzinger', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress