

ABC's *Good Morning America*

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7:00:21 a.m. [TEASE]

56 seconds

MICHAEL STRAHAN: On this Friday morning, powerful testimony at the primetime hearing as the January 6th committee makes its case. Carnage at the capitol.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: High-Stakes Primetime Hearing; Carnage at the Capitol]

CAROLINA EDWARDS: I was slipping and people's blood — it was carnage. It was chaos.

STRAHAN: Never before seen video and testimony from Trump's inner circle including his daughter Ivanka, used to argue it was former President Trump and his false claim of a stolen election that provoked the mob.

CONGRESSMAN BENNIE THOMPSON (D-MS): January 6th was the culmination of an attempted coup.

STRAHAN: Capitol Police officer Caroline Edwards delivering a chilling account of the riot.

EDWARDS: What I saw was a war scene.

STRAHAN: The reaction as the lead witness whose video of the attack was at the center of the hearing, joins us first on *GMA*.

(...)

7:03:10 a.m.

7 minutes and 21 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking Overnight; High-Stakes Primetime Hearings; Jan. 6th Committee Presents Testimony & New Video of Capitol Attack]

JOHNSON: We do want to get right to last night's high-stakes primetime hearing on the January 6th attack on the Capitol with emotional testimony from a Capitol Police officer and graphic video of the violence and chaos, much of it never seen by the public before.

AMY ROBACH: The filmmaker behind some of that video, a lead witness testifying last night, and this morning we are speaking to him in a *GMA* exclusive about what he saw that day.

STRAHAN: But first congressional correspondent Rachel Scott has all the details on the hearing. Good morning, Rachel.

RACHEL SCOTT: Michael, good morning. For the first time, the January 6th Select Committee

laying out some of the evidence it has been collecting for nearly a year using dramatic new video and the words of Trump's most inner circle to show just how desperate the former President was to cling to power.

[CROWD SCREAMING]

SCOTT: This morning, new details uncovered by the House Committee investigating the January 6th insurrection —

[CROWD SCREAMING]

SCOTT: — using never before seen video and testimony from Trump's inner circle.

[BILL BARR]

SCOTT: The committee insisting it was Trump's repeated false claims of a stolen election that provoked the mob, playing this graphic 12-minute video of the attack.

[DONALD TRUMP]

SCOTT: Then the testimony of Capitol Police officer Caroline Edwards.

[EDWARDS]

SCOTT: And the moments rioters toppled the barricades knocking Edwards to the ground. After regaining consciousness she got back up, helping over officers hold the line.

[EDWARDS]

SCOTT: Documentary filmmaker Nick Quested testified too, embedded with the Proud Boys as they and others stormed the Capitol.

[NICK QUESTED]

SCOTT: The committee showing evidence that Trump's closest advisers knew he was peddling lies from his own attorney general —

[BARR]

SCOTT: — to his campaign staff and even his own daughter Ivanka Trump.

[IVANKA TRUMP]

SCOTT: Still, the former President urged aides to find evidence that didn't exist.

[ALEX CANNON DEPOSITION]

SCOTT: Chairman Bennie Thompson said Trump made one last stand calling his supporters to Washington —

[THOMPSON]

SCOTT: — playing video of charged rioters.

[CHARGED RIOTERS]

SCOTT: When the mob chanted to hang his own Vice President, Republican Congresswoman Liz Cheney said one witness said Trump agreed.

[CHENEY]

SCOTT: Cheney delivering this warning to fellow Republicans.

[CHENEY]

SCOTT: Cheney says that multiple Republicans, including Congressman Scott Perry, asked Trump for a presidential pardon for their efforts to try and overturn the 2020 election. Perry's office is denying that claim this morning, calling it ludicrous. Well, as for the former President, he released a statement blasting the hearing and the committee, still pushing false claims about an election he lost, guys.

ROBACH: All right, Rachel, thanks so much. We're going to bring in our chief Washington correspondent Jon Karl and our chief legal analyst Dan Abrams for more on this. Jon, we'll start with you. This was an 11-month investigation, so much buildup to this hearing. What struck you the most?

JONATHAN KARL: There was significant new material, Amy, but I think what struck — what the most important thing is the way the committee tied the horror of that day to Donald Trump and perhaps the single most important moment for me that struck out when you saw one of the rioters, in footage we've never seen before, reading Donald Trump's tweet through a bull horn, the one where he said Mike Pence didn't have the courage and you see how that reading of the tweet led directly to the rioters chanting, "hang Mike Pence" going in search of Mike Pence and then you hear the testimony or the summary of the testimony that Donald Trump was heard in the White House saying that the rioters had the right idea and that Pence deserved it. Really powerful. I'd say one other thing, Amy. Liz Cheney, Liz Cheney did this calmly, without vitriol, without excess emotion, this is her moment. She has treated this like the cause of her life and has issued a challenge to Republicans, when — when she went out and said that there will come a day when Donald Trump is gone, but your dishonor will remain. That was her message to Republicans defending what she called the indefensible.

JOHNSON: And Dan, let's bring you in on this. We heard words like attempted coup, conspiracy, coordination. You pointed out before this is not a legal proceeding. But the committee did lay out references to possible crimes, including what a judge said about Trump's actions. How does that factor into all of this?

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking Overnight; Capitol Riot Hearings Begin; Lawmakers Press Case Against Ex-President Trump Over Capitol Attack]

DAN ABRAMS: Well, particularly Liz Cheney is trying to link the Proud Boys and the Oath Keepers with Donald Trump because they have been charged and we saw they have said they were inspired by Donald Trump. But this is what I'm going to be watching for moving forward is particularly it sounds like it will be on day six, the questions are going to be: Can they link Donald Trump directly to the Oath Keepers and the Proud Boys? Is there someone in his inner circle who was working with them? The committee has suggested that they may have evidence with that regard. That's going to be, from a legal perspective, a critical question.

STRAHAN: And we heard what Jon said struck him as powerful. What moment struck you as powerful or moments?

ABRAMS: Yeah, it was the use of the people around Donald Trump. It was the Bill Barrs, the Ivanka Trump. It was talking about the White House counsel, et cetera, because then you don't have to listen to the words of the members of Congress themselves and I think that some of the opening statements were too long. I think that — that they lost some people there. I think they brought them back when they had the — the evidence, when they had the accounts from Donald Trump's inner circle.

ROBACH: Dan Abrams, Jon Karl, we want to thank you both. And we will hear from the lead witness at last night's hearings, filmmaker Nick quested whose footage and testimony were at the center of it all. That is coming up in our next hour.

(....)

7:30:47 a.m.
21 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Right Now; High-Stakes Primetime Hearing]

JOHNSON: ...including last night's high-stakes primetime hearing on the January 6th attack on the Capitol. Powerful testimony used to argue it was former President Trump and his false claims of a stolen election that provoked the mob. And coming up in our next hour, we're speaking to the lead witness, the filmmaker whose never-before-seen footage was at the center of that.

(....)

8:00:23 a.m. [TEASE]

30 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: High-Stakes Primetime Hearing; Carnage at the Capitol]

STRAHAN: Carnage at the Capitol.

EDWARDS: I was slipping in people's blood. It was carnage. It was chaos.

STRAHAN: Powerful testimony at the primetime hearing as the January 6th Committee makes its case. Never before seen video used to argue it was former President Trump and his false claims of a stolen election that provoked the mob. This morning, the lead witness behind that video of the attack joins us first on GMA.

(....)

8:02:26 a.m.

4 minutes and 13 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking Overnight; High-Stakes Primetime Hearings; Dramatic Testimony & New Video of Capitol Attack]

ROBACH:starting with the last night's extraordinary primetime hearing on the January 6th attack on the Capitol, featuring that dramatic video that had never been seen by the public shot by a documentary filmmaker, Nick Quested who testified before the panel about suddenly finding himself in the midst of that riot that shocked the country. I had a chance to speak with him earlier this morning. [TO QUESTED] So, Nick, you were working on a documentary about why Americans are so divided. I know you spent some time with the Proud Boys. You knew they were going to the January 6th rally. You went to go film it. But at what point did you realize that things were starting to get out of control?

NICK QUESTED: Well, we started — it was very difficult for us to actually understand when things got out of control until the barriers came down. It was very similar to Proud Boy rallies that we had filmed beforehand. There was marching down the Mall and then we walked past the capitol building. You know, we walked, you know, towards the Supreme Court which we can see from where we are standing here. So, it was really when the barriers came down that the game changed and it really felt like a rubicon had been crossed at that point and also the language changed, you know, the language before was more directed towards where's Antifa and then after the barriers came down the — the language seemed to be directed towards challenging the police, whereas they were challenging them to choose a side or respect their oath so the rubicon was those barriers.

ROBACH: I imagine you saw so many unthinkable things that day. Does anything stand out in particular?

QUESTED: I mean, it was just the amount of people and just the length of it. It was — we saw

so many things that were so troubling but it just was — there was — it felt like there were 60,000 peopling pouring on to the steps of the Capitol like water.

ROBACH: Were you ever concerned for your own personal safety? For you and for your crew?

QUESTED: I had no spatial — I had no awareness of where my crew was so, you know, I couldn't really worry for them. I mean, I had my camera broken and we got — we were — as in the crowd — the crowd was gassed. There were pepper balls all over the place. The bike racks were flying around. There was a huge flag that was pushed on top of the police from the crowd. It wasn't really I was worried for my safety because I'm very much in the moment just trying to document the event.

ROBACH: I understand a rioter went after you at one point. Can you tell me what happened?

QUESTED: Yeah, I was filming on the lower plaza and actually I had my back turned to him and he pulled my cameras as if he was trying to strip the basketball from my hand and it broke down and I approached him and then from behind me, there was another man shouting, leave him alone. The press need to be here. They're documenting history, so there were terrible elms of this crowd but there were some elms that were really just there to watch. It wasn't entirely filled with rioters.

ROBACH: I know you were there to document history and that is your job and that's the purpose of this documentary. But what were your personal reflections from that day?

QUESTED: It took me quite a long time to process the event itself because it went on for so long. It starts at 10 minutes before one and then it didn't really finish until after 6:00, so it was — it was very difficult to process. I had — you know, it was an adrenaline overload so I had — it took ages for me to basically control my body temperature and to, you know, sleep well, so it took a long time. The initial reflection was just trying to process — it was trying to process the event.

ROBACH: Well, Nick Quested, we certainly appreciate you and thank you for sharing your story with us.

QUESTED: Thank you so much for having me.

ROBACH: An adrenaline overload and, yet, he and his crew were able to stay focused despite —

JOHNSON: Yep.

STRAHAN: Yes.

ROBACH: — the chaos which is really incredible and we have the footage to describe that.

JOHNSON: The way he described it: Thousands of people pouring onto the Capitol like water.

ROBACH: Yeah.

JOHNSON: It's quite the visual. Thank you for that, Amy.