

*ABC's World News Tonight with David Muir*

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6:31:32 p.m. [TEASE]

12 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Dr. Fauci Describes Death Threats]

DAVID MUIR: Here in the U.S. tonight, the heated testimony on the hill. Dr. Anthony Fauci defending his handling of the Covid pandemic. And Fauci turning deeply emotional when revealing the death threats against his family.

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6:44:35 p.m.

1 minute and 38 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Fiery Dr. Fauci Hearing]

DAVID MUIR: Back here in the U.S. tonight, and to the fireworks on Capitol Hill. Dr. Anthony Fauci facing hostile questioning about the pandemic, and Fauci today growing deeply emotional while revealing the threats against his family. Here's ABC's Elizabeth Schulze.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; Fiery Dr. Fauci Hearing; Testified Before House Panel on Origins of COVID-19]

ELIZABETH SCHULZE: Tonight, in a contentious hearing on Capitol Hill, Dr. Anthony Fauci choking up as he described death threats against his family.

DR. ANTHONY FAUCI: It is much more troublesome, because they've involved my wife and my three daughters.

CONGRESSWOMAN DEBBIE DINGELL (D-MI): At this moment, how do you feel?

FAUCI: Terrible.

SCHULZE: During the nearly four-hour hearing, Fauci defending his record as the face of the nation's pandemic response, facing hostile questions over policies like social distancing and masks.

CONGRESSMAN BRAD WENSTRUP (R-OH): When you and your agency made mistakes, Dr. Fauci, what happened? We all need to be held accountable. Sometimes it's as simple as saying, we were wrong.

SCHULZE: But Fauci defiant, rejecting unfounded GOP accusations he helped fund research that caused the COVID pandemic and covered up a theory the virus may have originated in a lab

in China.

FAUCI: None of us could know everything that's going on in China or in Wuhan or what have you, and that's the reason why I say today, and I've said it to TI, I keep an open mind as to what the origin is.

SCHULZE: David, House Democrats investigating the pandemic say they've gone through hundreds of thousands of documents over the past 15 months. None of them provided evidence showing that Fauci covered up the so-called "lab leak theory," David.

MUIR: Elizabeth Schulze up on the Hill for us. Elizabeth, thank you.