

January 15th, 2004

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To: Chief Counsel
United States House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
H-405 US Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Sir or Madam:

According to the website of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, it is “important to have an effective oversight process to ensure that intelligence resources are not misused and that intelligence activities are conducted lawfully.” For the past eighteen months (and counting) I have been locked into a mess with some CIA officials that entailed serious misuse of intelligence resources, plus intelligence activities that are far from lawful - actually, in outright violation of some criminal statutes. I think the good people at the CIA with whom I dealt neither care much about nor respect the prospect of your oversight, otherwise they would not have done a fraction of what they have done, or gone about it in as cavalier or blatant a manner.

I had applied for a job with the CIA’s Directorate of Operations shortly after 9/11, and somewhere along the line Agency officials got carried away with the Directorate of Operation’s peculiar versions of hazing and humor, made bad assumptions about what they could and could not get me to do, and things went terribly wrong - and then got worse when some officials, faced with the prospect of embarrassment and accountability, tried the cover up route. Over the past year and a half, I had interactions with the Agency that involved serious, and ongoing, illegalities and civil rights violations by government officials (described in the attached documents) that have spun out of

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control. Things had been messy for some time, but recently they have gotten messier, and I believe they will get worse.

Right now, as you are reading this, I am faced with a group of officials who thought they could coerce and intimidate me, only to end up with serious CYA concerns they had not contemplated when they took me for an easy mark and chose to trespass upon my rights¹ - CYA concerns including a potential obstruction of justice mess. You would not *believe* the amount of effort and resources, taxpayer-funded of course, that intelligence officials faced with embarrassment and the prospect of accountability for malfeasance are willing to pour into a CYA effort.

I had applied for a job with the CIA's Directorate of Operations after 9/11 and was offered one. I subsequently had second thoughts, and the good folk at the CIA got carried away in trying to convince me otherwise. They went about things in a counterproductive way: coercion, dirty tricks, interference with my life and livelihood, playing God, and just about all of those things that come to mind when people think of CIA officials behaving badly². Basically, just about every no-no that CIA officials are supposed to avoid - at least inside the US. Invasion of privacy, domestic spying on a US citizen, coercion, manipulation, dirty tricks, civil rights violations, civil and criminal fraud,

¹ From what I understand, CIA officials historically reserved the more dubious tactics for those whom they viewed as less worthy than themselves - foreigners, minorities, etc. Basically, "marginal people" whom CIA recruiters viewed as powerless and thus "easy marks," least likely to seek revenge or secure redress if they were wronged. Being a first generation American from a minority ethnic group, CIA officials apparently thought they saw "easy mark" stamped on my forehead.

² It was almost like a hazing ritual or practical joke - and with all the resources of the Agency's Directorate of Operations to draw upon, the good people of the CIA got too elaborate, too cute, and got carried away. I did not think it was funny, and by the time they realized just how unfunny I thought it was, things had gone wrong in a major way. Then the good people at the CIA tried to contain the damage, and once again, got too elaborate, got too cute, got carried away, and things got worse.

behavior modification on an unwilling and unwitting target that went awry³, as well as hypnosis and hypnosis attempts by lay and non-professional operatives on a non-voluntary subject that, considering you are reading this, were not as effective as had been hoped. You name it, Agency operatives did it during the course of this ill-starred recruitment attempt. There was even personal corruption on the part of some officials who took advantage of their roles in the recruitment process to personally profit, in the form of direct pecuniary gain, from the target of their recruitment effort⁴.

I do not pretend to be an expert on the National Security Act or the CIA's charter, but I doubt that Congress ever enacted legislation that authorized the good people at the CIA to go about doing those kinds of iffy things inside the US. I also doubt that Congress ever enacted legislation that authorized the good people at the CIA to go about doing the kinds of things they did in trying to cover things up - to the contrary, Congress actually criminalized some of the things the good people at the CIA resorted to in trying cover things up or otherwise intimidate and coerce me into silence.

Anyhow, as a result of those iffy activities, some Agency officials found themselves looking at an embarrassing situation. In trying to cover it up, some genius in the CIA came up with a harebrained scheme that employed the same counterproductive methods that had caused things to go wrong in the first place. Among other things, it involved fixed and scripted cases in multiple courts and the criminal obstruction of justice that goes with that. Again, things did not pan out the way the good people at the CIA had hoped, and, like the cliché about a coverup worse than the crime, it made

³ Jocularly referred to as “mind fucking” within the Directorate of Operations. At the time, I did not know as much about that aspect of things as I would later find out. Until recently, I had been acting on the assumption that the abuses to date were along the lines of quasi hazing by low level operatives improperly supervised and lacking professional discipline, who got carried away and went too far. Turns out that there was more to it than just that.

⁴ One of the more repugnant aspects of what took place. Almost as bad as if my drill sergeant in basic training, no longer satisfied with the sadistic thrills that are among the job's perks, had taken advantage of his position to shake the recruits down for a cut of their paychecks.

things far worse.

How things went wrong would almost be comical were it not for the fact that they describe a course of official corruption that is outright criminal. Worse, it was made clear to me that the course of criminal corruption, abuses, and violation of my rights will continue, and that the good people at the CIA will continue to mess with my life and livelihood - unless I agree to a quid pro quo that entails keeping my trap shut and otherwise giving up on the attempt to blow the whistle or vindicate my legal and constitutional rights. Especially now that the downside for some Agency officials is no longer limited to embarrassment over a recruitment attempt gone sour, but entails the prospect of a criminal obstruction of justice mess.

I have no intention of giving in to that kind of extortion: I think my constitutional and legal rights exist by right, as does the right to vindicate them and seek redress when they are violated. Those rights do not exist by the grace of some government officials faced with the prospect of embarrassment, scandal, or, now that there are criminal obstruction of justice issues, worse.

Nonetheless, as things stand right now, there is some CIA manager fixated on CYA and worried about the adverse consequences of a recruitment gone sour and a harebrained coverup scheme that went one worse, who, in trying to coverup a coverup is deliberately setting the stage and praying for something to go horribly wrong in the hope that might get him or her off the hook⁵. I

⁵ Until recently, there were few if any intimations of violence or threats thereof during the course of the CIA's interactions with me. The prospect of a criminal obstruction of justice mess changed that: last week, I dropped the enclosed letter to FBI Director Mueller (with similar copies saying more or less the same thing to other DOJ officials) in the mail. My mail and other communications have been monitored and often intercepted ever since I first applied to join the CIA - one of those things that went without saying as incident to the security clearance process. I withdrew my application a year and a half ago, but my communications continue to be monitored and sometimes intercepted (the focus shifted from security clearance to CYA), so I do not know whether those letters reached their intended recipients. What I do know is that in the brief span

had gotten used to quasi-discrete shadowy Agency operatives following me all over the place ever since I applied to the CIA - I took it as one of those things that went without saying as part of the security clearance process. Its continuation after I withdrew my application was problematic, but of late, ever since it became apparent that I planned on blowing the whistle on a mess that had grown from its relatively humble beginnings to encompass, among other things, criminal obstruction of justice issues, discreteness flew out the window. Now, I have so much surveillance and so many "tails" or whatever the intelligence service jargon is for operatives who follow people around, shadowing, surrounding, and trailing behind me that you would think I was bin Laden's love child⁶. The price for ridding myself of such intrusive tactics, regaining my privacy and otherwise recapturing control over my life livelihood, as was made clear to me more than once, is to refrain from attempting to blow the whistle and otherwise agree to keep my trap shut about the shennanigans the good people at the CIA had gotten up to - particularly the ones dealing with case fixing and obstruction of justice.

This kind of public corruption is not supposed to happen here - or anywhere for that matter, but especially not here, in America, where there is a Constitution, Bill of Rights, civil rights, concepts such as limited and accountable government, etc. I mean, subtle and low key corruption, maybe, but this type of out and out quid pro quo extortion is... somehow un-American. At least un-twenty-first-century-American. You read about that kind of thing in places where they know not the rule of law and government accountability and where there are no watchdogs to monitor and remedy

since I dropped those letters off at the post office, there were two instances in which strangers made threatening gestures as if to run me over with their vehicles while I was walking. A crude message or warning as counterproductive as anything else the good people at the CIA have attempted - I have no intention of allowing anyone to intimidate me.

⁶ Aside from the need to find out just who I might communicate the obstruction-of-justice business to, such tactics are also intended to act as stressors, "mind fuck" as Agency operatives jocularly refer to it, and hopefully get a target subjected to such methods over a prolonged period to lose it, flip out, etc. Those methods did not pan out too well for the good people of the CIA when they tried them before.

those kinds of abuses - but not here. Yet, that is precisely what I have been dealing with for the past year and a half, day in and day out, with no end in sight - unless I agree to a quid pro quo that no one has a right to demand of me, or of anybody else for that matter.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely;

-Khalid Elhassan-