From: **Sidney, Arthur** <Arthur.Sidney2@mail.house.gov>
Date: Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 4:42 PM
Subject: FW: Letter to Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis
To: Steven.Anthony@dodig.mil <Steven.Anthony@dodig.mil>, lynn.carlson@dodig.mil <lynn.carlson@dodig.mil>, michele.abell@dodig.mil <michele.abell@dodig.mil>, Patrick.Gookin@dodig.mil <Patrick.Gookin@dodig.mil>
Cc: Martin Edwin Andersen

Dear Department of Defense:
Below is an email letter that was transmitted to your office in Nov/Dec 2017, the office has not received a response. At the request of the Member, Congressman Henry C. “Hank” Johnson, Jr., I am forwarding this information again for a response. Please provide a response to this inquiry as soon as possible. Thank you.

Arthur D. Sidney

PS. The attachments were removed from the letter for ease of transmittal.

The Honorable James N. Mattis
Secretary of Defense
1100 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Secretary of Defense Mattis,

I am writing you today concerning my protected disclosures before the Inspectors General of the Department of Defense and the Intelligence Community and their relevance to the critical debate generated by Representative Henry Johnson's "Berta Caceres Human Rights Act" (HR 1299). It is my hope that you will immediately require U.S. Southern Command to provide a full accounting of what is being done to bring those guilty of gross malfeasance to justice. Not only is this a necessary first step in healing the still-raw wounds created by the illegal 2009 military coup in Tegucigalpa; it also is key to ensuring a real commitment to American values by our military working in Latin America.

I believe that my primary disclosures--some of which are found in classified form in my Congressional Disclosure #1703 now before the House and Senate Intelligence Committees--underscore the importance of ensuring respect for human rights and the rule of law at U.S. Southern Command **before** it provides aid to the Honduran government.

Beyond Southern Command support for the illegal coup, my public disclosures include the hiring, promotion and protection of alleged torturers and former members of international terrorist organizations; gross problems regarding the protection of classified information and security clearances; racism; sexism; homophobia, and common corruption. (Please see links below.)
Specifically, I believe that, nine years after the first whistleblower disclosures were sent (2009) to the Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General (DoD OIG), virtually nothing has been done to investigate underlying disclosures of violations of rule, regulation and law, with those guilty of wrongdoing either given golden parachutes or are still working for the Department of Defense; this while national security whistleblowers have been slandered, libeled and worse by some of those still publicly supported by Southern Command.

* What is the public message about how the rule of law in Latin America depends on an end to impunity, when the much ballyhooed U.S. example includes civilian control of the military, in this case U.S. Southern Command?

* What is the respect for the fight against public corruption, which is a fight for human rights and key to reform in Latin America and the Caribbean, when the DoD OIG's role appears in the documents (at least until very recently), more that of a cover up of the Southern Command scandal than that a real investigative agency?

It should be emphasized from the outset that key elements of my disclosures have already been verified and/or endorsed by among others, senior CIA and State Department officials as well as by senior Members of Congress (For example: “The Department of Defense should know better than to invite in and continue to employ a foreign military officer for a position of authority at a prestigious U.S. institution even after he was credibly implicated in serious crimes,” Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., told McClatchy. “We criticize other countries for failing to hold accountable officers who violate the law. Yet, in this case, we reward him in our own country? It sends a terrible message.” More here: http://hrld.us/1ZpMKDA).

In addition, the disclosures have received attention in major media outlets. In the case of the illegal military coup in Honduras and unpunished Southern Command officials' complicity, please see the recent investigative report in The Intercept @ http://bit.ly/2xChiZZ.

That about the related case of the senior National Security Council (NSC) adviser on Latin America, dismissed for cause, by President Donald Trump was published in The Miami Herald @ http://hrld.us/2pGSQSy.

The case concerning the knowing employment of a former senior aide to the Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet--a Southern Command professor who once belonged to Pinochet's DINA state terrorist organization that killed two people less than a mile from the White House--was dealt with at length by McClatchyDC @ http://bit.ly/1L5toMy and http://hrld.us/1ZpMKDA.

I should also point out that I was the first national security whistleblower to receive the U.S. Office of Special Counsel's "Public Servant Award" for my work at the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. More recently I served as an expert witness in the Italian government's case against Pinochet and his notorious international death squad Operation Condor. (Please see attached.)

Concerning the tragic situation that continues to haunt the peoples of Honduras generally, and the case of the murder indigenous environmental rights activist Berta Caseres specifically, I can show that I have long been active in the fight for human rights (including specifically the rights of Native peoples) and environmental protection. Working for the late Senator Alan Cranston, I was the staff author of the "Cranston Amendment" that for nearly a quarter of a century has required the State Department to include the rights of indigenous peoples in his annual human rights country reports.
On the Senator's behalf I also organized an indigenous peoples Congressional staff working group, bringing together environmentalists as well as Hill human rights activists to fight for recognition of Native peoples' rights.

More recently, I led efforts to ensure that the rights of indigenous peoples and those of the LGBT community were included in Freedom House's annual political rights and civil liberties country reports. While working for Southern Command as a national security professor, on my own time I wrote a book on the indigenous peoples of the Western Hemisphere, *Peoples of the Earth*, with a forward by President Carter's senior Latin American NSC advisor Robert Pastor. (I am also enclosing two of the articles that I wrote for the Joint Force Quarterly for your review.)

For all these reasons and more, I respectfully ask that U.S. support for the Honduran military be put under a microscope. Two of those highlighted in my protected whistleblower disclosures previously held senior positions at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC), with one—a proponent at CHDS for the use of death squads in Mexico—a former instructor at the notorious School of the Americas (please see attachments, below; one from Government Accountability Project lawyer Tom Devine, the other my contemporaneous "Memo to File" on a very uncomfortable conversation with the SOA maven, former CHDS Acting Director Ken LaPlante, a former School of the Americas instructor).

I need point out, Sir, that, in addition to CHDS' unpunished support for the illegal 2009 military coup, two of those publicly linked to the murder of indigenous leader and Goldman Environmental Prize winner Berta Cáceres were trained at WHINSEC. Thus now more than ever an unwavering commitment to bring both perpetrators of violence and their lawless patrons to justice is required.

Yet to date, my fellow whistleblower at CHDS, the Oxford-educated Professor James Zackrison, was only interviewed (by phone) by the DoD OIG last month, almost exactly nine years after filing his protected disclosures (which I helped edit before he submitted them). Since that time, several of my own requests for investigation, including those sponsored by House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer and then Senate Armed Services Committee Chair Carl Levin, were spurned by a "government watchdog"--the DoD OIG--that has appeared (again, at least until recently) more interested in savaging the rights of truth tellers and American taxpayers than in restoring the primacy of the rule of law at Southern Command.

For that reason and the others mentioned above--centered on current efforts by you meant to assist in the strengthening of the rule of law and human rights within the context of fighting international terrorism--I respectfully ask that your exercise your leadership, which remains key in ensuring authentic American values and the hopes that they generate are based in fact, not merely putinesque rhetoric.

Mr. Secretary, I specifically ask that I be immediately returned to federal service until that time when I can retire with a full pension, receive back pay (including unrealized benefits) from the time that I was illegally forced out of government service, and that I receive public recognition from your Office of my efforts as an already decorated national security whistleblower in support for the public values of honesty, inclusion and respect for human rights, most eloquently demanded by U.S. Air Force Academy superintendent Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria (goo.gl/z6zdov).
As you know, the concept of "brotherhood" was perhaps best defined by Navy SEAL educator Brian "Iron Ed" Hiner, who called it a "full commitment and promise from each team member to look after each other and to put the well-being of others before themselves." Those who remain loyal to its public mission and respect for the law at Southern Command await your response.

Very Respectfully,

Martin Edwin Andersen

Attachments removed for ease of transmittal:

Senate Armed Services Committee Chair Carl Levin filed the #SASC's request for the #DoD_JG to investigate almost exactly six years after the first known protected disclosures were filed, then promptly ignored. #SchoolOfTheAmericas
#BetterCallSaul

Fortunately, even as #NDU and #CHDS sought to hide wrongdoing from public view, #Congress still has an important role in play in oversight of the #Pentagon and, in particular, #SouthernCommand ...

Memorandum
TO: Ken LaFlame
FROM: Michael Anderson
DATE: February 20, 2008

Attached please find two more articles in which Jaime Garcia Cousothas is mentioned in connection with human rights issues in Chile. The June 27, 2007 article, "Ministro Madrid ordena interrogar a Fernandez Larrea en Estados Unidos" is of particular interest as it is about the gross violations of human rights.
This morning, in a conversation with my boss, Ken LaPante, and CHDS operations chief XXXXXXXXX, the talk turned to the case of the retired Mexican general and two others who were kidnapped, tortured and killed in Cancun. XXXXXXXXX approvingly mentioned how bad the repression was going to get in Mexico, suggesting that the military was going to go out and make bloody reprisals for the crime against a popular military figure.

Ken then said that what needed to be done was an "Argentine solution," no matter if innocent people were killed, referring to the Argentine "dirty war"—that unnamed people needed to be crushed. XXXXXXXXX nodded his head in approval.

These remarks go against CHDS's stated mission in support of human rights and democracy. If they were given a public airing, they would discredit the Center and its work. This is particularly so since Ken is an active participant in the public debate over the School of the Americas.

I did not address their remarks (on) ... the Argentine dirty war, in which torture, disappearance and clandestine murder were the norm. ...

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Dear Mr. Anderson,

I am writing you on behalf of Judge Giancarlo Capaldo, to ask for your help in an investigation concerning Operation Condor. Judge Capaldo is a prosecutor in Italy, unlike the US, prosecutors are magistrates, not attorneys of the Procura della Repubblica (Prosecutor's office) of Rome. In 1995, Judge Capaldo concluded the investigation. The case examined the disappearance of over a hundred people of Italian and Latino-American origins who disappeared in Latin America in the 1970s. All of them disappeared while they were abroad (the Italian passports disappeared in Argentina, and the Italian passports disappeared in Paraguay and Brazil) and we believe that they were victims of the Operation Condor.

I am asking you for your help in the investigation concerning the disappearance of witnesses in Latin America. European and US. Different scholars and NGOs have helped, including John Dinges, Fiona McMillan, the National Security Archive and the Institute for Policy Studies (Blanca Zanini). We are currently in the final stage of the investigation. Among other things, we are currently trying to complete our research for evidence in the US. You have been a pioneer in exposing Operation Condor. I understand the importance of your research on Operation Condor. If you have any information or documents, please forward them to the Italian Embassy in the US.

Thank you in advance for your help. Your contributions are always appreciated.

Sincerely,

Giulia Barrera

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Giulia Barrera
Via Montagne Russe 68
00166 Roma

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U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Maryland
Northern District

May 24, 2005

Mr. Edward Anderson
3979 Hartford Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Re: Request for Assistance from Italy

Dear Mr. Anderson:

I am an Assistant United States Attorney, and my duties include representing requests for legal assistance made by foreign countries. The government of the Italian Republic (hereafter the "government") inquired regarding the possibility of the United States cooperating in a request to provide legal assistance to the government in an investigation of alleged violations of international law.

The government of the Italian Republic is investigating allegations of torture and other violations of international law committed by its military personnel in the 1970s and 1980s. The investigation involves individuals who were allegedly subjected to torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment.

The government is requesting the United States to provide legal assistance to the Italian authorities in this investigation. The United States has a treaty obligation to cooperate in such matters.

I am writing to seek your assistance in this matter. I would appreciate it if you could provide any information or documentation that might be relevant to the investigation. Please feel free to contact me at any time to discuss this matter.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Truly yours,

[Signature]

Philip F. Lasky
Assistant United States Attorney
U.S. Instructed Latins On Executions, Torture
Manuals Used 1982-91, Pentagon Reveals

By Danya Priest
Washington Post Staff Writer

U.S. Army intelligence manuals used to train Latin American military officers at an Army school from 1982 to 1991 advocated executions, torture, blackmail and other forms of coercion against insurgents, Pentagon documents released yesterday show.

Used in courses at the U.S. Army's School of the Americas, the manual says that to recruit and control informants, counterintelligence agents could use "clear payment of bounties for enemy dead, beatings, false imprisonment, executions and the use of truth serum," according to a secret Defense Department summary of the manuals compiled during a 1992 investigation of the instructional material and also released yesterday.

A summary of the investigation and four pages of brief, translated excerpts from the seven Spanish-language manuals were released last night by the Defense Department, which recently has taken to making controversial information available in the evenings, after the deadlines of the prime-time network television news programs.

The Army School of the Americas, long located in Panama but moved in 1984 to Fort Benning, Ga., has trained nearly 60,000 military and police officers from Latin America and the United States since 1946.

Its graduates have included some of the region's most notorious human rights abusers, among them Roberto D'Aubuisson, the leader of El Salvador's right-wing death squads; El Salvadoran soldiers linked to the 1989 assassination of six Jesuit priests; Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, the deposed Panamanian strongman; six Peruvian officers linked to killings of students and a professor; and Col. Julio Roberto Almeyda, a Guatemalan officer implicated in the death of an American nanny keeping two Guatemalan children in Guatemala and in the death of a leftist guerrilla married to an American lawyer.

See MAIN, MTQ Col 4