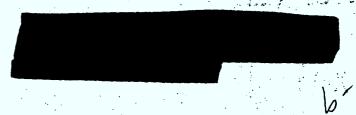
Congressman Matsui February 21, 1980 Page Two

FBI through budget cuts. I strongly urge you to support the FBI in its new efforts, and, if anything, support an increase in the FBI's budget for investigation of organized crime and corruption

Sincerely,



cc to the Honorable William Webster, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigations



WILLIAM K. STOVER

ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA
POLICE DEPARTMENT

3) 2100 15TH STREET, NORTH ARLINGTON, VIRGINA 22201 PHONE (703) 558-2222 Exec AD Inv. Exec AD Adm. Exec AD LES = Asst. Dir.: Adm. Servs. Crim. Inv. _ Ident. Intell. Laboratory _ Legal Coun. Plan. & Insp. Rec. Mant. . Tech. Servs. Training _ Public Affs. Off. Telephone Rm. Director's Sec'y .

FB1/D0J

February 21, 1980

Honorable William H. Webster
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Judge Webster:

Recently, I have read and heard many comments relative the recent ABSCAM Operation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

It appears that certain members of Congress are supportive of a House and Senate investigation of bribery allegations against eight congressmen. Again, public officials are trying to use their position of public trust for the purposes of discovering the evidence and to restrict the future investigative function of the Pederal Bureau of Investigation.

For many years, we have heard of the vast corruption that exists between organized labor, members of Congress, and organized crime figures. The recent investigation by your agency proves this point beyond a doubt.

Please accept my sincere appreciation for your outstanding performance, as well as members of your staff, and the men and women of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in their investigation of matters which are so vital to our survival as a nation.

Sinc - Cui

) William K. Stover

2) Chief of Police

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N3 Dear Chief-

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BUTSIDE SOURCE Missouri February 21, 1980 Hon. William H. Webster Director Federal Bureau of Investigation 20535 Washington_D.C. Response the Abseam Dear Judge: Stay after those politicians. I just wish that Rep. John Seiberling lived in my district; however, I will write my "two ("hen house") senators asking that they support your actions. I could have started this letter "Dear Director" but I feel that once a man has attained the title of "Judge," all other titles are of no consequence. Judge, I am a 25 year police officer with the City of Missouri and A can tell you all of the policemen and citizens in this are that I have talked to are behind you and your men one hundred percent. I also work with some of your special agents and I can tell you that their morale is much, much higher under your direction than under Hoover. If you will keep kicking the big boys' backsides, it will make the work of the municipal cops much easier and we can spend more time on preventive police work like we should be doing instead of this catch-up police work we have been doing for the last fifty years (as you know when we are playing catch-up the citizens are suffering) Well, Judge, I will be watching your progress with great expectation and just give me a holler if I can be of any help to you or your bureau. Respectfully,

63-17561-132 8

Exec. AD-lav. __ Exec. AD-Adm. Exec. AD-LES __ Asst. Dir.: __ Adm. Servs. Crim. Inv. __ Ident. ___ Intell. ___ Laboratory __ Legal Coun. __

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Exec. AD-Inv. Exec. AD-Adm. Exec. AD-LES_ Asst. Dir.: . Adm. Servs. Crim. inv. _ Ident. Laboratory Legal Coup. Washingtons Birthday Feb. 22, 1980 Plan & Insp. Red. lagnt. Tech. Servs. Mr. William Webster Training _ Public Affs. Off. Director of F.B.I. Telephone Rm. Washington D. C. Director's Soc'y __ Dear Mr. Webster, This is to let you know that I very much approve of Abscam, it is brilliant work inn plan, action, and completion, you deserve much praise. It is very difficult for me to understand, objections now being heard, that those who weakened by being tempted would not have done wrong, what nonsense, the proof is right there they did. How else can something like that be proven. I was a great admirer of Mr. Edgar Hoover, for many years, it does one good to know the F B I 's always graat concern for wrong doing is ever strong. Sincerely yours, New York. 63-17561

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Hooray for your stings,

Keep up the gare

ward !! "Huf sea"

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63-17561-136

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Dear Mr. William Webster / mornis sources I'd like to applaud you on your fanlastic sucess. It's about time those phony congressmen were caught and due to your outstanding work in the FBI, you really clobbered them. I don't think I've ever seen a more brilliant display of absolute skill. Now those shameful men are hopefully suffering a little and maybe everyone else will think twice before getting involved in Illegal affairs. I only wish I could personally have the great honor of shak. ing your hand. Most Sharely, 60 MAY 28 1980

Public Response le Dear Druter Abeter. Abstan You are receiving a good deal of Creticism from congress and the Neues media about your unustigation of White Cellar Crime. Het should nat be at all surpring considering That the investigation may buch influential deaple. Here you heardy from the anerege american who ?? believes that anyone running Park public office has a meraff obligation? There cuts cry ! entrapment are denying utet à consider à desic attribute à a suche Their Public There 140 will alung the territies zer trubes and Sheral Janvest. 41109 Can we not longe expert 22 1980 That are of the quadrations The ophie should be the ability to resist such temptation - of went gone hugonal that assumption,

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Your truly,

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Undated (postmarked 2/18/80)

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Director's Sec'y

Dear Director Webster-

You are receiving a good deal of criticism from Congress and the News Media about your investigation of white collar crime. That should not be at all surprising considering that the investigation may touch influential people. Have you heard from the average American who believes that anyone running for public office has a moral obligation? Those who cry "entrapment" are denying what I consider a basic attribute of a public official. Public office will always bring opportunities for bribes and special favors. Can we not longer expect that one of the qualifications for office should be the ability to resist such temptation? If we've gone beyond that assumption, then I believe there is no hope for representative government.

I say, keep up your work -- it has helped to restore my faith in at least a part of the government.

Yours truly,

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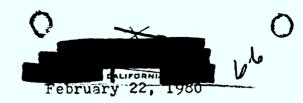




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The Honorable Benjamin R. Civiletti Attorney General United States Department of Justice Washington, D.C. 20535

Public

Mr. Civiletti: OUTSIDE SOURCE
Knowing that a lot of "static" is being developed by some members of the Congress regarding the so-called AFSCAM probe by the FBI, let me say that heartily approve of it. And I think the great majority of the American public is too.

We are cynical of the ineffectiveness of the Congress policing its own membership.

Attached is a copy of my letter of this date to Senator Cranston of California who appears to be one of your critics. I think the letter speaks for itself.

Sincerely,

cy: The Honorable William H. Webster
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20535

The Honorable William H. Webster Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Justice Washington, D.C. 20535

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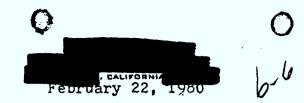
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The Honorable Alan Cranston Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cranston:

If the enclosed clipping from the editorial pages of the <u>San Francisco Sunday Examiner & Chronicle</u> of February 17, 1980 correctly expresses your view of the so-called ABSCAM investigation by the FEI, I am surprised and disappointed.

It seems to me that honest members of Congress, as I consider you to be, should support the efforts of the FBI to uncover lawbreakers, where ever they are.

In the other enclosed article from the <u>Oakland Tribune</u> of February 17, 1980, King Features Syndicate writer Nicholas Von Hoffman shows that the Congress is not effectively policing its own members when they go astray.

Some members of Congress do not appear to be bound by the laws which the Congress itself enacts. Or, perhaps they feel that if they are apprehended in some unlawful or disgraceful act their fellow members will rise to protect them. This seems to be the case.

The current subtle attacks upon the FBI by some members of Congress for daring to intrude upon their sanctuary fall in the latter category.

As elections approach, I realize that it is most embarrassing to all members of Congress to have some of their members revealed as having been involved in some unlawful or disgraceful act. However, the best way to avoid this is for the Congress itself to become more effective in policing itself.

This is the first letter that I have over written to you. However, events of misdeeds by various members of the Congress over the past several years, culminating in this latest episode, have impelled me to do so.

It is George Washington's birthday as I write. I wonder what the Father of Our Country would say if he could witness the present scene in the Congress?

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S.F. SUNDAY FXAMINER & CHRONICLE FEB. 17, 1980

Lawmakers offended by the FBI

THE "ABSCAM" investigation, in which some congressmen may have been caught grabbing for bribe money, has hit Washington like a ton of bricks. Some of the variegated responses are noteworthy — especially the reactions of two members of Congress from California.

Obviously, many members are furious at the FBI, but very few are proposing, out loud, to crack down on it. Among those few, though, is Rep. Don Edwards, D-Hayward, who chairs a House subcommittee with considerable jurisdiction over the agency. And Sen. Alan Cranston is quite critical of the FBI.

The latter says that the FBI improperly dangled temptation before some of the lawmakers and that it should focus on known criminal activities instead of bearing in upon public officials in this way. The FBI, Cranston says, was not created to "test the integrity of members of Congress..."

From what we know of how the investigation came out, however, we must say that somebody needs to test the integrity of at least some of the

members. The FBI is the federal agency created to ferret out crime under federal law. Should it draw back if it sees some threads leading up to Capitol Hill?

Rep. Edwards says that reins are needed to prevent the FBI from undertaking some types of "sting" operations in which people are nabbed for accepting payoffs or committing other crimes. "We don't want them to use any entrapment or enticement in these operations," said the California legislator. He indicated that his subcommittee might put a brake on such things in a new charter it's drawing up to regulate the FBL

Rather than reining in the FBI very much, we think that the House would do well to put a rein on Rep. Edwards, if he goes very far with his notion of imposing further investigative restrictions. The people are interested in seeing criminals caught, and are not offended by the fact that the G-men have intruded into some of the richer and more imperious precincts in that assignment.

OAKLAND TRIBUNE 2/17/80

Congressional bribes

Both parties score high in corruption

By Nicholas Von Hoffman

There are only 535 members of Congress—senators and representatives both. In no other office of the same size does such a high percentage of the employees so regularly disgrace themelves and dishonor the organization they work for

A search of the records going back six years shows in that time responsible allegations of serious rime were made against 51 members of Congress. Thirty-one Democrats were accused of theft, receipt of illegal campaign contributions from foreign powers, bribery, kickbacks, etc.

Twenty Republicans were accused of the same crimes. Since there are about that ratio of Democrats to Republicans in Congress the statesmen of both parties seem to have the same greasy palm index.

In compiling this list, names like Pennsylvania's former Republican Sen. Hugh Scott were left off. Shortly before he retired, gravely compromising accusations were made concerning certain moneys he is alleged to have received.

Nor does this congressional crime count include somebody like Wayne Hays, the Ohio representative who resigned after he was accused of putting a blonde on his congressional office payeroll, or Wilbur Mills, the alcoholic Arkansas Democrat, who ranoff after a bubble dancer.

Also excluded from the count is J. Herbert Burke, the Florida Republican who pleaded guilty to creating a scene in a nudie bar. Likewise treated as non-serious, and therefore not counted, is the admission in February 1976, by 18 members of Congress, including the chairmen of both the House and the Senate othics committees, tra-la, that they had been taking gratuities from defense manufacturers in the form of free hunting trips.

'A sting will only net the greediest and stupidest officeholders.'

On the basis of a few off the record discussions with honest lobbyists who have to make it their business to understand and outwit the prevailing patterns of dishonesty, it appears that a sting operation such as the one mounted by the FBI will only net the greediest and the stupidest office holders. This investigation, which has focused an accusatory spotlight on seven Democratic and one Republican member of Congress, wasn't designed to catch crooked politicians but gangsters. The FBI were like fishermen who cast their nets to get tuna and inadvertently capture porpoises or is it barracu-

In any event, the wise people in Washington say the big money drops don't happen as they did in the sting operation, during which it is being reported that one member of Congress and his associate were videotaped literally wrestling over who was going to get to carry the attache cases full of dough. The smoother operators don't take it in cash and don't take it in Washington. The drop is made in another part of the country and not to the congressperson nor any member of his staff, but to someone with not formal connection, perhaps no known connection with the elected official.

Every time a scandal like this hits, acquaintances of the accused shake their heads and say, "I don't understand how so and so could be so dumb. Why take a chance like that?"

Crooked politicians probably aren't taking much of a chance. Of the 24 pols seriously implicated in the Korean bribery scandal, only one ever went to jail. He made the mistake of pleading guilty and has publicly kicked himself since then, saying if he had fought the charges he'd probably never have had to pull a day of time. With the help of friends in strategic places, by delay and procrastination, or by making some staff member take the fall in his place, even the dumbest and hungriest can lumber off with fat pieces of meat draped over their teeth.

Nor he dishonesty quotient among members of Congress likely to drop. There is no ongoing program policing them. Exposure, as in the sting sensation is invariably accidental. Because of the constitutional separation of powers, it is legally much harder to whomp on a congressional crook than an ordinary soldier in life's various mafias.

Congress is supposed to police itself, but pride for one's office seldom supersedes the profits of one's pals. Some day the ethics committee may find itself with a quorum, but don't count on it.

Nicholas Von Hoffman writes for the King Features Syndicate.

Exec. AD-Adm Exec. AD-LES. Asst. Dir.: oursids spurge Publie Res pouse Re. 2/23/80 Legal Coun. Rec. Mgnt. Training Public Affs. Off. Telephone Rm. Dear- Sir: Director's Sec'y I approve of the FBI Seans now going on & there should be more. It is about time the people are given some consideration by our government & That southody in touching the untouchables. you people are the only owner that can for un. Thanks 100 Ng

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Mr. William Webster,

Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Sir:

lic Response Re: Absoum

CONGRATULATIONS! The F.B.I. is doing a wonderful job in bringing criminals to justice in Washington, D. C., New Jersey and Florida. If those influence peddlers on Goat Hill known as Congressmen and Senators take as much as a ten cent tip, NAIL 'EM!

I have written my Senators and told them to get off the back of the F.B.I. and let them do the job that Senators and Congressmen on the Ethics Committee won't do.

You have my backing. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

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Feb. 24, 1980. Dear Director Webster: OFUDIO Response Re' abscary
Please accept my congraturations to you and your department on the excellent job done during the recent "Sting" activities. It is the greatest accomplishment since the apprehending and disposing of John Villinger! Keep up the good work! With Congress involved the problems and pressures will be great so thought this slight expression of appreciation would be welcome. (III)

I recently retired afterbeing with a moor Corporation for 38 years and have had time to book around a little bit. Was very pleased with many things but most of all with your fine department Sincerely,

2/25/80

I have no doubt that congressmen are guilty of accepting bribes and that infiltration by under-cover agents is a vital means of detection in certain types of crime. Indeed, the "sting" is embodied in American law under a 1973 U.S.

Supreme Court decision.

However, I do not fully understand the ABSCAM. Isn't it true that the FBI went beyond the point of simply participating in ongoing criminal activity? Why was there an extensive leakage of the facts of the case to the press even before certain congression were told they were under investigation?

I deeply respect the FBI's determination to tackle organized crime and political corruption. I understand that these are cases in which evidence is hard to obtain and cases that will stand up in court are hard to build.

I would very much appreciate it if you could explain your position on ABSCAM. Your immediate response will be highly regarded.

Please write to:

Uck 4/3/80 NB: Lnb

Sincerely,

Florida

HAVE A GOOD DAY 1980

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STEWART SECURITY SERVICES

Crystal House I, Apt. 202 1900 South Eads Arlington, Virginia 22202

W. Donald Stewart, President

(703) 979-6540 Security Consultant - Investigations

Feb 25, 1980

Judge William Webster Director, F.B.1. 9th & Pa. ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20535

Washington, D.C. 20535
Abschin
Sear Judge Webster

Attached piece on Abscom is for your interest. I believe that the White House has sangl sand bagged you and A.S. Ciriletti for Political purposes of their own. I wanted my support the

My peace has been widely dissemin to ated to the press; While House; A.G.; and several members of long. & the Senate,

Sincerely, Monald Stewart

NB: lmb NB: lmb 63-17561-146 5 TEB 20 100

STEWART SECURITY SERVICES.

Crystal House I, Apt. 202 1900 South Eads Arlington, Virginia 22202

W. Donald Stewart, President

(703) 979-6540 Security Consultant - Investigations

February 25, 1980

Operation Abscam - A White House Leak?

I'm an old retired Pentagon "leak chaser" with a batting average of 85% cases solves of 222 handled between August 1965 until December 1972. At that time I was the Chief of the Investigations Division, Office of the Secretary of Defense. Now, I feel obliged to comment on the recent well-publicized Arab Scam (Abscam) leak.

Let me bluntly state I think that the two ongoing investigations to solve the leak to the press are being conducted at the wrong end of Pennsylvania Avenue. I firmly believe the White House is responsible for the leak.

My Interest

To demonstrate my reasoning for believing the White House is responsible for the leak to the press, I'm going to assign this case to myself for investigation. First, allow me to advise what my interest is in this matter. It is purely selfish because as a taxpayer I feel I'm being unnecessarily ripped-off with the expense of two investigations as a result of Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti and Democratic Members of the House of Representatives each having their feathers ruffled due to the great public embarrassment associated with the leak that involved six Democratic House Members and one Democratic Senator. One Republican House Member was also snared. Accordingly, Mr. Civiletti has conscripted the services of Mr. Richard Blumenthal, a U. S. Attorney from Connecticut, to personally lead an investigation within the Department of Justice to determine if the leak was in-house. Congressman Charles Bennett (D-Florida), Chairman of the House Ethics Committee, not to be outdone, has hired Washington, DC Attorney Mr. E. Barrett Prettyman, Jr., along with his prestigious law firm of Hogan and Hartson to investigate the potential bribery charges against the named Abscam House Members. Can you imagine what their astronomical cost will be to the taxpayer? Whatever happened to due process of law such as a Grand Jury hearing? Maybe there won't be eight indictments. Actually, Mr. Prettyman's main role has to be trying to solve the Abscam leak to help reduce the pressure on the House Members involved.

63-17561 146

The Leak - A Non-criminal Violation

I'm not a lawyer, but I am very familiar with Title 18, Section 793, <u>U. S. Code</u>, which relates to Unauthorized Disclosures of Classified Defense Information. When we speak of a "leak," the U. S. public has become conditioned to thinking of it in the terms of the disclosure of Top Secret, Secret, or Confidential data which would be prejudiced to the best interests of our National Defense. The Abscam leak is not a classified disclosure. It is simply an Administrative impropriety on someone's part which I can't believe would even carry a one-day jail term. Mr. Civiletti only threatened to fire the culprit if he was a Justice Department employee.

I really have to laugh at this point as I've personally conducted investigations of some of the most earthshaking classified leaks we've had during my time at the Defense Department and have been hamstrung by the investigative methods I was permitted to use. Yet, because of the embarrassment to the parties involved, Mr. Blumenthal speaks of rolling out some big weapons - mind you, for an Administrative leak - such as the polygraph; subpoena power to even possibly call members of the press; in-house wiretaps; and, of course, the taking of sworn statements from suspects. It has yet to be determined just what authority Mr. Prettyman will have. You can bet Government employee morale will be lower after their respective inquisitions.

Mr. Civiletti could discreetly have requested his in-house police force - the Office of Professional Responsibility - to conduct the inquiry for the suspected leaker. Why didn't he?

Motivation

Okay, and now to work. Throughout my "leak-chasing" years, I developed several categories in which a leak case would normally fall, i.e., Political, Retaliatory, Conscience, Military Budget, Contrived, etc. Once the category is identified, then pursuing the leaker is easier. The Abscam leak had me puzzled for some time because I couldn't fit it into a particular category. Finally, I realized it had to be Political and the following is the manner in which it was so deduced.

First, looking for motivation of the parties involved caused me after examination to eliminate them one at a time. FBI Director William Webster, he's relatively new on the job; has an impeccable reputation and could gain nothing but criticism from the leak. Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti, the man who knowingly would end up with the most egg on his face, certainly would have no reason to cause the leak. Then, as in any mystery, there are the butlers - Mr. Neil Welch, who is the Assistant Director of the New York FBI Office, became a well-known white collar crime fighter while Special Agent in Charge of the Philadelphia Office. Mr. Welch headed the FBI drive in the Abscam case; and Mr. Thomas Puccio, the Brooklyn Federal Prosecutor in charge of the overall Abscam investigation. Conceivably, each of these two men, if angered by

high-level interference could have "spilled the beans," but naturally each would realize that attention would be immediately focused upon him and each would undergo microscopic scrutiny. Further, if either leaked Abscam, he would have chosen one reporter and been that reporter's today's "Deep Throat," but that is not how the Abscam leak occurred. Thus, both Mr. Welch and Mr. Puccio are eliminated.

My next thought was who else was on the distribution list for this closely held data. Suddenly, I realized that the White House had to know. It would be unthinkable for Mr. Civiletti not to inform President Carter since so many distinguished Members of Capitol Hill were involved, particularly seven Democrats.

The Nature of the Leak

Let's examine the nature of the leak. Normally, the type of disclosure with which I was associated was that of someone in Government providing Columnist Jack Anderson, George Wilson of The Washington Post, Neil Sheehan or William Beecher, then of The New York Times, or some other well-known reporter classified data. This was always a "one-on-one" situation. The reporter wouldn't tell and, if the leaker kept quiet, he could only be convicted on circumstantial evidence at best. The Abscam leak could better be described as an "explosion." Although Tony Marro of Newsday gets credit for being first in print on February 3rd, he was being raced to the wire by The Washington Post and The New York Times. Yet, at 6:30 P.M. on February 2nd, NBC News released sketchy details of the Abscam case and on February 3rd was already enroute to set up its television cameras on the FBI Abscam House in Washington, DC.

The Abscam "explosion" is reminiscent to me of the Nixon White House days when that administration was trying to get SALT I approved and released "shotgun" leaks to promote the cause to a half dozen news reporters. The Abscam "explosion" was too well orchestrated to have been done by any one person not having free access to many media representatives.

Yes, the White House Press Secretary would have the capability of orchestrating such a leak. It, of course, is not beyond the mentality of Press Secretary Jody Powell. After all, he once tried to embarrass Senator Percy by inadvertently leaking "on the record" to a reporter who identified him as the source. Mr. Powell's purpose allegedly was to disrupt the Bert Lance inquiry being conducted then.

Do I think Jody Powell leaked the Abscam to the media? My answer is "Yes." Was it his idea? My answer is "No." I've heard the White House has denied any involvement. We must remember Mr. Civiletti is the Attorney General because the White House nominated him; therefore, it would be unthinkable to me to believe that when seven Democrats are caught in a criminal-type trap that Mr. Civiletti or an aide would not advise the President - particularly in an election year.

Now, without the support of the Democratic Congress, how could the President ever hope to get any legislation passed? Accordingly, prior to February 3rd, the score was 7-to-1 in favor of the Republicans; therefore, something had to be done quickly to terminate this ongoing Political embarrassment. The only way was to "blow Abscam out of the water." Jody Powell has the freedom of motion to deal with the news and television reporters without attracting any undue attention. His office had the capability of creating the Abscam "explosion," covertly more than any other Federal office because the media "hangs around" there.

To pursue the leak a little further, news accounts reflect that Mr. Marro, The Washington Post and The New York Times reporter, after getting the story, rapidly descended upon Mr. Welch and Mr. Puccio for confirmation of details. This was an old routine with former The New York Times reporter Bill Beecher. He would get the hard cold facts from the Nixon White House and then chase around the Defense Department confirming and enlarging his story and throwing out a smoke screen as to his source. Ironically, none of the above newspaper representatives went to the White House.

Solution

If Mr. Civiletti and the House Ethics Committee would each lay down their weapons for a moment and ask Jody Powell and any other White House staffer who had knowledge of the Abscam to volunteer for a polygraph examination, I sincerely believe that this poor taxpayer could be saved a lot of money.

I rest my case.

By W. DONALD STEWART

Addendum:

W. Donald Stewart served as an FBI Agent from July 1951 until August 1965, the last nine years as an Espionage Supervisor at FBI Headquarters. From August 1965 until December 1972, he served as Chief of the Investigations Division, Office of the Secretary of Defense; and from December 1972 until he retired on June 30, 1975, as Inspector General of the Defense Investigative Service. Since his retirement, he has become President of Stewart Security Services which offers consultant security services and private investigations.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARAB AMERICANS

1825 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 211, Washington, D.C. 20009 202-797-7757

February 27, 1980

NITSIDE SOURCE

Mr. William H. Webster Director Federal Bureau of Investigation 9th and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20535 🔿

Dear Mr. Webster:

PUBLIC Response Re ABSCON Violet Asha, Maryland Bill Agssey, lowa

Thank you for your letter of February 22 agreeing to a meeting with an NAAA group to discuss Arab-American concerns about the FBI in the wake of ABSCAM. The time that has been arranged through Ms. Devine is 2:30 P.M. on Thursday, March 6 at your office.

The NAAA group will be made up of the following: Mrs. Joanne McKenna, NAAA President; Mr. Jean AbiNader, NAAA Executive Director; Mr. Cherif Sedky, NAAA Board Member and local attorney Mr. Richard Shadyac, past NAAA President and local attorney; and Dr. James Zogby, NAAA Board Member and Coordinator of t Palestine Human Rights Campaign.

We appreciate the opportunity for a useful exchange of views.

Sincerely.

John PA Richardson Director of Public Affairs

63-17561

11 MAY 20 1980

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6 4 JUN 24 1980

STON ASSENS Exec. AD-LES Asst. Dir.: Adm. Servi Crim. Inv. ident. Intell. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) says the Laboratory FEI was not created to "test the integrity of members of Congress" and Legal Coun. Plan & Insp. should focus upon known criminal ac-Rec. Mgnt. tivity rather than tempting officials to Tech. Servs. commit crimes. Training Referring to the FBI "Abscam" Public Affs. 011. bribery investigation that has impli-Telephone Rm. cated eight members of Congress and Director's Sec'y other public officials, Cranston said: "It is not appropriate for the FBI to , lead people into temptation." Cranston, who Wednesday kicked off his reelection campaign with news conferences in three cities, said he did not have all the details of the probe and could not conclude that it was inappropriate. However, he said, it appeared to him that one of those contacted in the OUTSIDE SOURCE undercover investigation, Rep. Larry Pressler, (R-S.D.) "was simply tested with temptation dangled in his face." "That is not an appropriate way for the FBI to behave." he said. "I think the FBI has more appropriate ways to spend its time. The FBI was not set up to test the integrity of members of Congress or citizens in general. KELPONSE RE ARSCAM Ben. Cranston, My God! Has our Congress become such a body of men (?) that they to be protected against "temptation". [was raised to believe that Congress was a body of men to respect, that they should set a standard for others to follow...now you come out in statements which question The FBI is doing a job which needs the support of everyone, "test the integrity of nembers of Congress". And, anyone who would not support this important effort should be in question himself.

cc: FBI

Washington, D.C.

they be tested:

CUTSIDE SOURCE Public RESPONSE RE ABSCAN a biet part four gout. and letting us know to office 66AUG BON MORNING 3

Exec. AD-Adm. Exec. A.D.LES. on the Burlau's recent sixcesses giaft and Comption in go The people have long needed another Im sure you have the backing of Every DE 14 63 - 1259K

28 FEB 1980

DIRECTOR,

FECERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON D.C.

RAPE Reprise Re

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR THE RECENT ABSCAM CYLRATION EXECUTED BY THE FBI.

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DEAR SIR!

THIS LETTER IS WRITTEN TO LET YOU KNOW THAT HYSELF AND AN OVERWHELMING MAJCRITY OF CITIZENS APPROVE OF YOUR OCCASIONAL EFFORTS TO CHECK THE INTEGRETY OF OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS. I REFER TO THE RECENT FBI PROBE-OPERATION WHEREIN (ALLEGEDLY) EIGHT OF OUR CONGRESSMEN ACCEPTED BRIBES OFFICIAL AGENT WAS POSING AS SOMEONE SEEKING SPECIAL FAVORS FROM CONGRESS. IT IS SORROWFUL THAT HUMAN NATURE FOSTERS WEAKNESS IN OUR OFFICIALS AND IT IS BASICALLY UNDESTRABLE TO HAVE COVERT ACTION DIFFCTED AT CURSELVES RATHER THAN AT OUR EXTERNAL ENEMIES ---- BUT A CERTAIN AMOUNT EVIDENTLY SEEMS TO BE NECESSARY.

OF CCURSE, CRIES OF UNFAIR ENTRAPMENT WILL BE HEARD FROM THE HILL IN DEFENSE OF THESE REPRESENTATIVES; HOWEVER, ENTHAPMENT IS GREATLY OVERSHADOWED AS AN ISSUE IN THIS CASE. THE PHEVAILING ISSUES ARE HONOSTY, TRUST, HONOR AND GOOD JUDGEMENT ON THE PART OF OUR LEGISLATURS. THAT SUCH ELECTED OFFICIALS WOULD RISK LOSING THEIR POSITIONS ---POSITIONS OBTAINED THROUGH GREAT IF HAT AND COST----FOR TAINTED MONEY PRESENTS A MYSTERY TO ALL, AND THE ACT PHENT A PERSONAL AFFRONT TO ME AND MY FAMILY. SUCH POOR JUDGEMENT AND WEAK ESTATED PERSONAL DECISIONS INDICATE THAT POOK JUDGEMENT MAY ALSO BE EXERCISED BY THESE MEN ON MAITERS THAT AFFECT ME AND MY COUNTRY.

MOST OF 'LS PEALIZE THAT MEMBERS OF CONGRESS (HOUSE AND SENATE) ARE OUTEN TEMPTED AND TRIED BY MANY FACTIONS IN OUR SOCIETY. IT IS EVIDENT THAT OCCASIONAL FET PROBES WILL HELP OUR CONGRESS OVERCOME TEMPTATION, SURCE REPRESENTATIVES WILL WONDER IF AN OFFERED BRIBE OR PROPUSED SCHEME IS THE REAL THING OF JUST A BAITED PROBE. IF THE BAIT IS TAKEN, OUR RESULTS WILL PROVIDE A WARNING FOR OTHERS. TO ME, IT SEEMS UNBELLEVABLE WAT THE RELENTANCE PAINFUL EPISODES OF WATERGATE AND KOREAGATE HAVE NOT INSTILLED ENOUGH CAUTION AND RESTRAINT ON SUCH MATTERS IN WASHINGTON.

I UNCERSTAND THE RAMIFICATIONS OF SECRET POLICE ACTION AS DESCRIBED BY ALEXANDER SCHLZENITSYN IN HIS EXCELLENT BOOKS (E.G., GULAG ARCHAPELAGO); HOWEVER, I FEEL THAT THE NATURE OF OUR SOCIETY WILL PERMIT SUCH AS THE ABSCAM OPERATION WITHOUT UNDESIRABLE RESULTS. A TRULY HONEST MAN CANNOT BE SHAKEN BY SUCH TEMPTATIONS AS THOSE PRESENTED BY THE FBI.

KEEF UP THE GCCD WORK!!! OPPOSING ARGUMENTS BY NICK THIMMESCH (NATIONAL SYNCICATE WRITER, NEWS VIRGINIAN NEWSPAPER, WAYNESBORO. 16FEB80). ARE SHALLOW

AND INEFFECTIVE.

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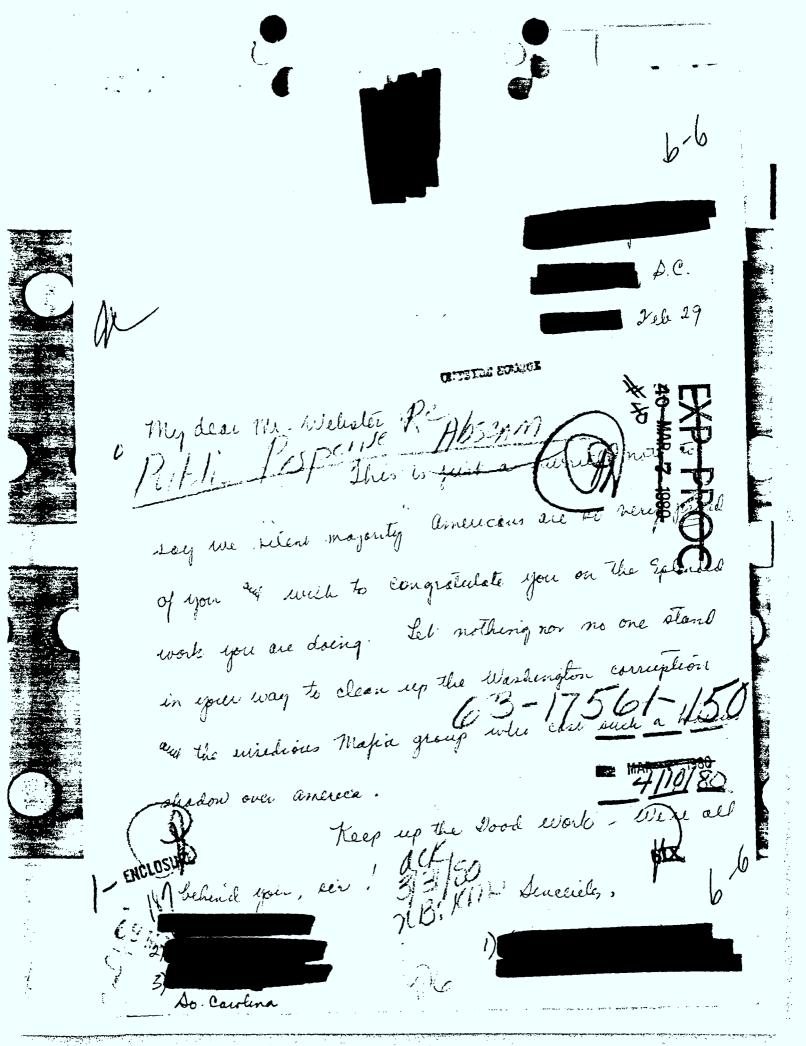
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COPY TO: THE HONORABLE CALDWELL BUTLER.

THE HONORABLE KENNETH ROBINSON.

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FBI Chief Kept



William Webster

WASHINGTON (AP) - FBI DIrector William H. Webster personally reviewed and sometimes altered the bureau's tactics in the Abscam investigation before each meeting between undercover agents and members of Congress.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Webster described late last week some of the precautions taken to insure that the 16-month undercover investigation of political corruption produced cases that would stand up in court.

"I was briefed in advance of every interview of a congessional figure," the FBI director said. "I might get information about the case several times a day, and several days might intervene between the next event. But I was briefed in time to modify any important step that I did not consider to be appropriate."

And, he said, "I interposed some additional requirements to eliminate ambiguity of purpose" before some of the contacts with the seven congressmen and one senator now implicated in the case. On all these steps, Webster said, he consulted

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THELOSURE

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CONTRACTOR ECONOR

Rublic Response PA bscam

Sir: Congratulations on your recent Arab investigation. Keep up the good work. It is a shame that our legislators have fallen to such a low level of esteem. It is very discouraging...there is just no one that the citizens can look up to in the Congress or The White House. We are in a sad state of moral decay in this nation. I hope that you have other similar programs planned. All it seems that is needed, is a few million bucks and you can buy anything or anybody in Washington. I hope that these culprits are never permitted to "investigate" themselves. Your fine work will be for nothing!

A disgusted citizen.

Pa

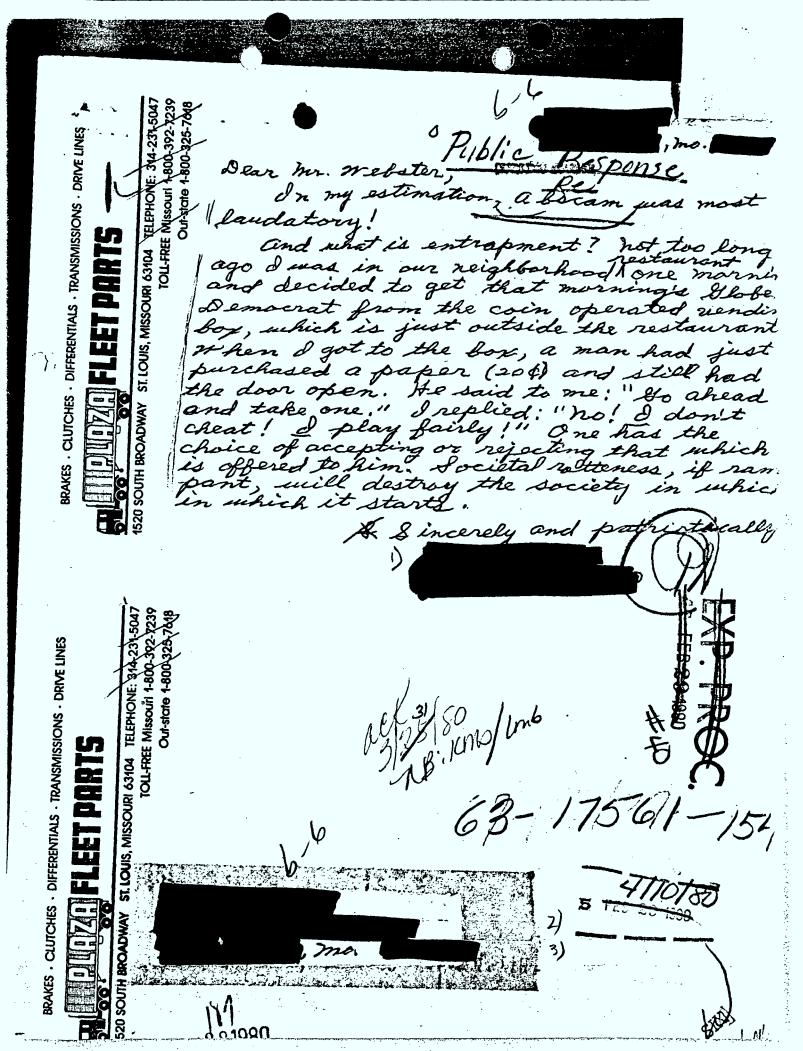
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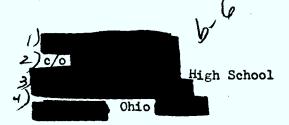
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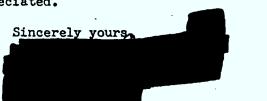
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Federal Bureau of Investigation 9th St. and Pennsylvania Ave. N.W Washington, D.C 20535

To whomever it may concern,

Recently, a "sting" operation executed by the F.B.I was made public. I am referring to the undercover operation "Abscam" that has placed suspicion on the honesty of several congressmen and one senator.

I am very impressed by the way "Abscam" was carried out and by its results, and I would appreciate answers to some of my questions about these "sting" operations. To what extent are E.B.I funds and personell used for these types of operations? Is there a particular person or office in the F.B.I responsible for them? When did the F.B.I first start using these "sting"operations and for what reasons? What are some other recent operations (I am especially interested in the one centered in Toledo. Ohio that dealt with car thefts)? Your reply to my letter will be greatly appreciated.



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February 29, 1980

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Mr. William Webster
Director of F.B.I.
J. Edgar Hoover Building
Washington, D.C. 20535

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Pullic RestONSC Relabsoni

Dear Sir:

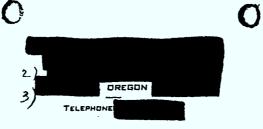
First of all, let me thank you for the Department's investigation of Abscam.

For the average American I believe this will create a greater faith in our government, knowing that no one is above the law. Those who are casting derogatory remarks about your efforts to investigate are the same people who would be first to yell if you were not doing what you think is right for the protection of our American heritage.

It is my honest belief that the larger percentage of Americans would be backing your investigation. In my opinion we could get thousands of names on a petition to back you and your department's efforts to be without government interference.

May 1980 be your greatest year. Thanks again.

/gf



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March 2, 1980

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Public Affs. Off. Telephone Rm.

Director's Sec'y

Mr. William Webster Director, Federal

Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C.

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D.Ll'a Pespen

Dear Mr. Webster,

I would like to express my support and approval for your recent sting operations, such as 'Abscam' and 'Brilab.' The unwillingness of our law enforcement agencies to seriously tackle political and white-collar corruption has concerned me greatly. It's pretty well acknowledged that without the cover of political protection, big money crime simply cannot flourish If this country can't get a Congress of predominantly honest and principled men and women, we have no future. I hope your prosecutions are pursued vigorously.

cc: Sen. M. Hatfield
Sen. B. Packwood

Rep. L. Aucoin

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Yours truly,

68 MAY 281980

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my O March 3, 1980 Mr William H. Welister Director, Jederal Gureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C. Public Affs. Off. Telephone Rm. Dear Sie, Public Response Re Abscam; after reading the article "The new of FBI Swings Into action" in the Yel 18 issue of U.S. news World Keport I feel a big IHANK YOU er in order. I believe a large majority of the people of there great United States are behind you and believe you are definitely doing a super O Enclosed is an orticle from the Heron, South Dahala "Daily Plaineman. Best wishes to you & all members of your 27 fine Organization. Devicely yours,

Herry S.O. Darly Plananens
Neb 122, 1980

Good luck, FBI

Abscam, the Federal Bureau of Investigation probe into organized crime that linked eight members of Congress to wrongdoing, got a lot of attention. Partly because some of the information was improperly leaked before testimony was completed and partly because public figures were involved, the FBI, in the eyes of some commentators seemed more at fault than the wrongdoers.

Abscam is only one of some 50 operations undertaken by the bureau in an effort to disrupt the criminal conspiracy that has operated in this country since the early 1930s.

Brilab, short for briberylabor, an investigation aimed at exposing a connection between organized crime and organized labor, might become the biggest single anti-mob operation of them all. This one has reportedly uncovered a massive nationwide conspiracy to divide the country into new regional crime empires.

Miporn, a 2½-year operation, came to light on Feb. 14 with the indictment of 54 persons on charges of pornographic trafficking and film pirating. That investigation involved 400 FBI agents in 10 states. It was financed partly by the motion picture industry because that was the industry losing money to the film pirates.

Whether or not the bureau has some sort of rule regarding catch names for its investigations—they all seem to end up as six-letter words—we can expect to hear of more of these special probes. And as the names of public figures are revealed, there will be serious and concentrated efforts in discredit these investigations and the FBI.

Back in the early days of J. Edgar Hoover, bank robbers and gangsters were common largets for FBI operations.

They were popular. Everyone understood that it was wrong to rob a bank or murder another thug. That is undoubtedly why the FBI liked to go after such targets.

But over the decades organized crime has found it profitable to engage in legitimate business, partly to gain an image of respectability and partly as a means of laundering revenue derived from illegal sources.

As the scope of Mafia-controlled operations has increased, the huge sums of money used to buy congressmen, judges, police officers, prosecutors and other public officials has also increased. In some of the white-collar crimes that the FBI is digging into, the demarcation line between right and wrong is not always clear, The percentage of con-gressmen reported to have taken the Abscam bait testifies to the inability of far too many public officials to discern be tween right and wrong when a payoff is involved,

The FBI was well along in its investigations before the crime world was fully alerted to its goals. From this point on the bureau will be the target of organized crime, speaking through the persons of supposedly respectable public officials. Organized crime can and will spend mountains of money trying to discredit the investigations. Much of that money will be used to bribe, or attempt to bribe, those who will be witnesses and the public figures involved in the prosecution.

The Justice Department and the FBI deserve a lot of credit for the work that has been coorted so far. The least the public can do is afford the bureau the same support that it enjoyed back in the earlier days of the more spectacular, but less dangerous, bank robbers.

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OUTSIDE SOURCE

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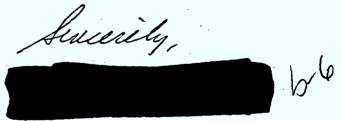
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-68 MAY 281980-

March 4, 1980 Dear Director Welster, I have swritten summerous longuessmen and Senators to tell them I believe the FBI should have laste (Regicke to teach down and prosecute constin The spectacle of the highest elected to 17561-164 body in greenment defending the hube takers while loudemning the 4110/80 set of bute-giring is "entrafment" was most distressing. Is this the Men Moral lode of longress? 68 MAY 281980 (over)

I believe to government Duployer has a paired trust to perform in & Manner which will reflect audit upon this country - not shame. and these recent revelations (including aboun) are the showe of the Mation. Still, they must be exposed. and then me must instell the Jean of esposure by adequate punishment. Succeely,



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March 4, 1980

J. Serberling, Democrate Representative, Ohio

Dear Sir:

CUISIDE SOURGE

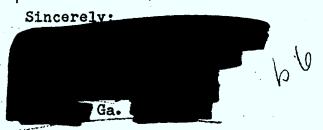
It alarms and concerns me, that you choose to limit the FBI in their "sting" map operation! It certainly says something for you people too, when you attack FBI Director Webster for doing his job, and a damn good one I might add! What is the matter, the heat to close for comfort??

"And Justice for All?" What a laugh, it is ok to catch the everyday criminal, BUT when the criminal is a congressman and (or) a senator, then there is a different set of rules to play by, is that what you are saying?? Different rules for the leaders of our country.... these are the very people who should set examples, and be ethical and honest, incompetants SHOULD be weeded out!!

What do you take us for, we the people are not dummies...when you attack the FBI for doing their job, is that a sad day? I say that it is...

No one made those congressmen take bribes. It just goes to show that if it had not been the FBI, then it would have been and probably has been, someone else. The only difference being that we, the people, would never have known about it! Leave the FBI alone and let them do their job...and they should start at the top, what better place to begin? When you try to censure the FBI, then you are telling us that you know that this type behavior is taking place and you, by trying to keep it under wrapes, are condoning it!

It is long past the time that someone addressed themselves to $^{\prime\prime}$ this particular problem....



FBI Director William Webster (by all means, keep up the good work!

Mr. Jack Anderson Washington Post

New Jersey

March 4, 1980

Exec. AD-Inv.

Exec. AD-Adm.

Exec. AD-LES

Asst. Dir.:

Adm. Servs.

Crim. Inv.

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Dear Director Webster;

I have written numerous Congressmen and Senators to tell them I believe the FBI should have carte-blanche to track down and prosecute corruption in every area.

The spectacle of the highest elected body in government defending the bribe takers while condemning the act of bribe-giving as "entrapment" was most distressing. Is this the new "moral code" of Congress?

I believe the government employee has a sacred trust to perform in a manner which will reflect credit upon this country -- not shame. And these recent revelations (including Abscam) are the shame of the nation. Still, they must be exposed.

And then we must instill the <u>fear</u> of <u>exposure</u> by adequate punishment.

Sincerely,

/s/

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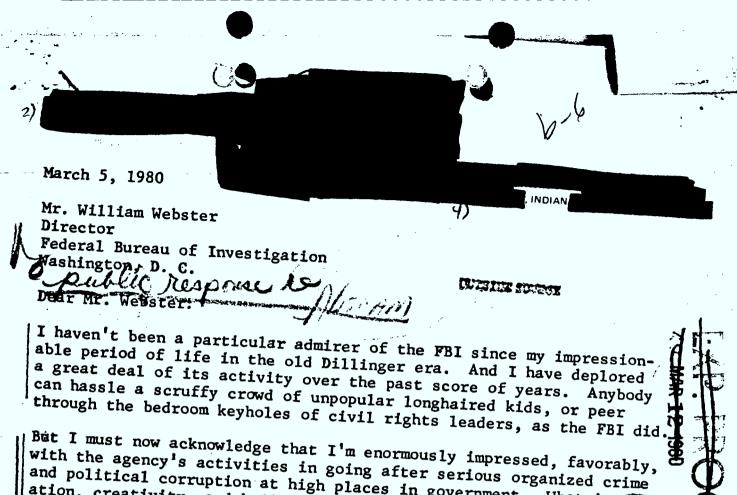
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and political corruption at high places in government. What imagination, creativity, and brilliant panache and just plain guts the has shown in these recent pursuits. Congratulations!

Of course, you're now stepping on some sly and crafty toes below ing to individuals in a position to dodge, duck, camouflage. and bite back. And already some of the Members of Congress are publicly talking about the most meaningful response they can make--going after your

Well, I hope and pray the FBI won't be intimidated, and that it intends to continue with its sting operations, with all meticulous regard for the Constitutional rights of those caught up in the web.

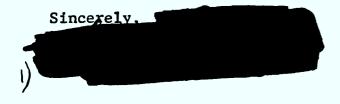
I think the public knows our country has serious problems of political corruption in Government, notably in the Congress and some of the Administrative agencies. But there is no way that ordinary citizens or public groups can unmask such activities, nor see to it that appropriate justice is meted out. I think the FBI may be just about the only institution with a real capability in this area. It is laughable to suggest that the "ethics" committees of the Congress would adequately police their members. They are past masters at the art of 'wristslapping" and tail-covering. It is no wonder at all that the Congress enjoys one of the lowest confidence ratings of any American institution.

It has been said that the recent revelations may further reduce public faith in the Congress. If corruption in the Congress is all that rampant, then we'd all better get cracking to change those conditions. But frankly, I think your actions will produce a constructive result. If you can help weed out corrupt Government officials, and help provide some of them with the extended hospitality of Federal correctional institutions, public confidence is likely to rise.

Of course, I would agree with some who have said injustices may result from premature disclosure of evidence, as apparently happened when details of the Congressional sting operation were first publicly reported. But one press account had it that the leaks occurred because of concern on the part of some FBI agents who feared the evidence and cases might be covered up at higher agency or Department levels. That, of course, would be inconceivably contemptible, and could even smack of possible future extortionate attempts.

I choose to dismiss that possibility, and to believe that the FBI, under your direction, now entertains nothing but earnest intent, and that the agency and the Justice Department fully intend to prosecute the present cases, as well as to continue rooting out others who would consciously betray the trust and responsibilities given them by their countrymen.

I shall be checking the news media daily, in anticipation of the many indictments of Congressional and other Government figures which should issue as a result of your work. I wish you well in your efforts.



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c: The Hon. Benjamin Civiletti

03/05/80 mr. William Webster Hoover Bldg. Mashad. C. Spublic Filpense Abscamp Sir, I was impressed by you answers to the Congressment who were in my opinion (and many of my friends) browbeating you just because some of the Club members were caught with thier hands in the to Cheat (Sting) an honestman stell holds true. If they were not interested in the money, they should not have been 68 MAY 2 1918 lese remember for

Sin, that out here in Horsing Stiff land you and the FBI still have hard core supporters. Hang in there. Sincerely b-6

P.S. many Supporters

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Public Alfs. Off, Telephone Rm.

Director's Sec'y

03/05/80

Mr. William Webster Director, FBI Hoover Bldg., Washn. D.C.

Sir,

I was impressed by your answers to the Congressmen who were in my opinion (and many of my friends) browbeating you just because some of the Club members were caught with their hands in the till. The old saying, "You can't cheat (Sting) an honest man," still holds true. If they were not interested in the money, they should not have been there. Please remember Sir, that out here in Working Stiff land you and the FBI still have hard core supporters. Hang in there.

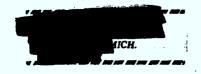
Sincerely



P.S. Many Supporters

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OUTSIDE SOURCE SULD Oben Mr. Webstrablic Response Re Abscarn, I had the opportunity to see portions of your testiniony on Abskam before Peter Rodinis committee on television last night. It was my impression that you were being attacked and that the integrity of the FBI pros seriously questioned by the kind of interrigition that took place. Was it the purpose to the Committee to elicit information regulating the methods used and the junposes served by your investigation? I seriously doubt That nothing more at this time. Formality would require that we address these Congressmon as "The Honorably" Muse so and so but the only little might were God

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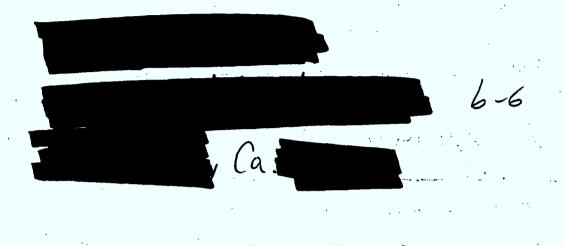
Trying to show that " there is honor among thieves" and they were determined to rescue those theres among them. I do not like the legal shackles that have been put upon the FBI and other Luw Enforcement agencies. Every conceivable right and protection is given to the criminal today. and to the innocent victim, more. You have done a superb job to build a case within such a restrictive framework of laws that well stand up in our Courts that are so severely biased in favor of "every possible right to be made available to the criminal". I think The Federal Exclusionary Evidence Rule, for example has operated to imperil the survival of

of our law-abiding society and provide unthinkable refuge to the criminals we all are menaced by.

I approve of the methods you have used in Abskam. This was the only realistic way to operate to get inside the criminal conspiracy. I think you have taken every possible procedure to protect your investigation from the tourit of entrapment and to meet the current requirements of the Courts.

You have my wholehearted approval

your methods, purposes and actions in conducting the abskam investigation. I believe you are a truly fine man to head the F.B.I. Congratulations on a good job, and I hope you continue to do these probing investigations.



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TRUE COPY



March 5, 1980

Dear Mr. Webster

I had the opportunity to see portions of your testimony on Abskam before Peter Rodino's committee on television last night.

It was my impression that you were being attacked and that the integrity of the FBI was seriously questioned by the kind of interrogation that took place. Was it the purpose of the Committee to elicit information regarding the methods used and the purposes served by your investigation? I seriously doubt that and I add that I believe they were entitled to nothing more at this time. Formality would require that we address these Congressman as "The Honorable" Mr so and so but the only impression I could get was that they were trying to show that "there is honor among thieves" and they were determined to rescue those thieves among them.

I do not like the legal shackles that have been put upon the FBI and other Law Enforcement Agencies. Every conceivable right and protection is given to the criminal today, and to the innocent victim, none. You have done a superb job to build a case within such a restrictive framework of laws that will stand up in our courts that are so severely biased in favor of "every possible right to be made available to the criminal." I think the Federal Exclusionary Evidence Rule, for example, has operated to imperil the survival of our law-abiding society and provide unthinkable refuge to the criminals we all are menaced by.

I approve of the methods you have used in Abskam. This was the only realistic way to operate to get inside the criminal conspiracy. I think you have taken every possible procedure to protect your investigation from the taint of entrapment and to meet the current requirements of the Courts.

You have my wholehearted approval of your methods, purposes and actions in conducting the Abskam investigation. believe you are a truly fine man to head the F.B.I. Congratulations on a good job, and I hope you continue to do these probing investigations.

COPY: dkg

Sincerely,

TRUE COPY

March 5,1980

Representative Peter Rodino House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Rodino:

This evening I watched some of the proceedings of the committee of which you are Chairman and which is currently looking into ABSCAM. I must admit I am not in the least surprised to find that most of what I heard seemed to be concerned with "entrapment" and "leaks".

First, I would like to address the so called problem regarding "leaks". This certainly isn't new and on many occasions "leaks" originate right in Congress itself. I'd say that the only reason for such a flap at this time is that the "leak" originated outside Congress!

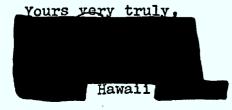
Next, let's look at "entrapment". You who are elected to offices in government, and in fact, all who are in government should and must be above any sort of dealings which have the slightest aroma of illegality. If you are smart enough to hold such lofty positions, you must be smart enough to keep clear of situations such as ABSCAN. In all my life I've never heard of anyone who is innocent yelling "entrapment". Entrapment to me means, "I've been caught and now I want a way out"! Am I far from wrong?

Some people ask why some politicians would even get involved with something such as ABSCAN in the first place. My thinking is that it's very simple. Why not? What could happen to them? In the past not much if anything happened to a member of Congress who's been caught "in the act".

This leads me to ask one question of you. In all your years in the government, how many Representatives or Senators who have been caught in illegal dealings have been punished. Oh, please don't tell me about reprimands and censures. My Mother did that and more to me for putting my hand in the cookie jar. I mean punished, such as losing their seat or actually going to jail. I would think you'd not have to think too much about this as no doubt the answer would be very, very short. One, maybe two? And how many deserve being "banished" at the very least?

If you wonder why the American people seem to be losing faith in our "leaders" I can tell you. When a guy steals from a gas station he's a criminal. When he steals from the government, if he's in Congress he gets a reprimand. Diggs, Richmond, Flynt and Sikes are a few names that come to mind offhand who have not been entirely ethical to say the least and what's happened to them.

So let's start talking about honesty, not "entrapment.



63-17541-

172

Exec. AD-Inv. Exec. AD-Agen Exec.>1D-LES March 6,1980 Asst. Dir.: Adm. Serva Crim Inv. Mr. William Webster, Director Ident. Federal Bureau of Investigation OUTSIDE SOURCE Intell. Washington, D.C. 20535 Laboratory Legal Coun. Plan & Insp. Dear Mr. Webster: Rec. Mgnt. Tech. Servs Training . Enclosed is a letter which I have sent to Chairman Rodino with Public Affs. Off. copies to other committee members. I thought you might find it Telephone Rm. of interest. Director's Sec'y I would like to go on record as being in full support of the F.B.I. in the ABSCAN case. While it would have been nice to see Congress get behind the F.B.I. I am not that naive to expect this support. Congress has never been hard on it's own members who have gone lastray. My hope is that the F.B.I. will remain a strong organization which in my opinion does an outstanding job. Very truly yours. */*6 Hawall

Dear Director Webster:

I applaud the direction and guidance given the FBI under your control. ABSCAM is an outstanding Sting. What future Stings do you plan? Do you think the FBI will falter when your term is up as director? Who instructs or proposes future Sting operations? Would the Bureau consider suggustions from the citizens or from the Exec Branch only? If so please note below:

- 1. investigate into the military services for drug and officer graft & corruption.
- 2. investigate diplomats in the US as spies or contacts
- 3. investigate Carter Administration in wake of foreign affair blunder
- as Afganistan, Cuba, UN vote etc.
- 4. investigate East Coast sydnicate rings and drug market
- 5. investigation of armed service judcial legal abuses to en
- 6. investigate with support from DoE, energy mismanagement within other_
- agencies. 7. the illegal alien traffic from Mexico to: Florida, Texas,
- California etc. 8. investigate into Civiletti for "unauthorized" news leaks on ABSCAM

which your bureau did a super job.

On the military aspect of future if any investigations, I

US Navy from Sept 1975- Stept 1979.

Brug traffic and dealing is quite prevalent within the Navy.

The Navy judicial system seems to have little effect on the trade. Morale is low, " mind games" & backstaboing occur daily between enlisted and officer ranks. I believe officers some, totally abuse thier positions in regards to enlisted treatment etc. With Carters stand on the Persian Sandroug to common equate tages . Salts massertages of his Gree Gulf, such an investigation should be warranted with support from comm consisted for the contract white sections of the contract of t members on the Judcial Comm. I believe an FBI undercover investigation Place of Indeference of modată occupat sonegular, to ocupatible que would reveal much to the public and press about the status at of the uppelace the Cartame from the eitheans or from the cast the particular Navy. Ive written my represenative on this issue, he is Rep Carlos incled ower sereig ta to Moorhead. If your going to "pull" big time investigations, why not check out the Navy. The tell told 1564 the granital

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' No stone should be left unturned".

We I mean I as an enlisted had no legal rights if prosecuted not even the Miranda writs. Is that legal? The Navy could be a "front" for using 🕮 😕 illegal aliens within its ranks via forged documents and mismangagement on the Navys part. Why hasnt the FBI, ATF and DEA combine operations and look the Navy over real good investigating flag officers to lowly recruits from boot camp.? Concealing a few agents as enlisted personnel. and officers using hidden mikes and mini TV cameras could reveal much color Locales for investigation: .1. San Diego naval sta, Corononado NAS, sa care Naval Sta Norfolk, Little Creek, ships: USS USS Belleau Wood LHA-3. Plus squadron commands and fleet commands 11 2 ...

Communist agents portraying officers say in the submarine force nich gour bureau dai e acter foo. could get info on the new Trident FBM system or newer submarines. .800 July 1879- 820 2 31 8144 Key agents of the Communists could be aides to the JCS.

The selicy is delive the release within the Newy.

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I realize this may sound like a throwback to the e old McCarthy era of Incomplete distance abole. かしん ガン タケー関 作士 the early 1950s, but with the way Carter is running things and the chaos and confusion linked to it, I can easily someone or some group "implanting" themselves into a key position. Isnt that how you would react if taking on out the result of the former maintenance in the mode in the management of the contraction some mobsters- use or create chaos and move into position? I know I would. Id have a major news photographer tail along when an investigation links some big major key figure in the military. , this color which has been reconstruct given by: σ for some i , this is the ω becons If our tax dollars are being abused in the military, cant we at least find out? We common civilians cannot find out- we neither have the facilities or contacts, the FBI does. Heres more info on the Navy: 1. drug traffic: enlisted from E-1-3 or 4 most common, but dont overlook E-6 and above also in the control terms of the testing leads and and and 2. Navy is racial or personnel racial anti which could cause civil rights violations and also a large part of the drug trade from the little of minority enlisted. of the apple yould be over place . Those greet fool the 3. shipboard sanitation, administration management, safety. 4. enlisted moralo and equal justice on the in the course that all a community. These things exisit. The decay of the Navy and other military services at a time when Russia is gaining to gain the world is a true threat to our national security. What else could lit be less than woodly Got and Jew Ald Look at the abuse Marine Corp recruits get at thier boot camp? or the recruiting quotas of the services since the fall of Vietnam in 1975.

Are those areas worth investigating?

Problems do exisit which could hamper the investigations if done:

- 1. enlisted dissidents suppressed by superiors using threats to enlisted:
 this is quite common.
- 2. Navy administration mismanagement/ paperwork handling.
- 3. superiors order "losing" report chits or altering enlisted performance that the superiors dislike.

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Circlistrative and dates again electron.

4. peer pressure from enlisted onto enlisted.

Those 4 are that I see the only obstacles to any investigation.

Please feel free to copy this and show it to Rep Moorhead.

Im sure HE would like to comply or give his opinion on the topic.

Rep Moorhead has my list of grievences against the Navy, contact him for it. What can you lose? Other obsc obstacles could exisit that I didnt cover. If the FBI is the "watchdog", please watch the US Navy before it sinks due

Its Your Navy also. I would have a direct link to the members of the Judicial Comm. during this operation. Id contact for interviews:

to moral and legal decay aside leadership decay. Which have been it in the

- 1. retired enlisted personnel 2. recently discharged personnel. A state of the control of the co
- 3. Vietnam vets aside active duty personnel.

Our Navy is the only way to express American presence in the Mid East area, without it our presence and our oillines are cut due to Soviet naval forces.

មួន ស្រាប់ វត្តមាន ១០០០ ខេត្តមាន បន្ត មុខសុខ ខេត្តមានសម្បាប់ ឃុំ សែលី មានសេរ៉ាក់គី មានបន្ត ដែលថា

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The investigation should take years with major leads breaking to the press or the leads being mediaized after the investigation.

Targets of investigation:

- 1. CNO & staff officers and aide s 2. Sec of the Navy office agains with a fine
- 3. agencies within the Navy Dept for support of to 1950 the Off The Navy Dept for support of to 1950 the Off The Navy Dept for support of the 1950 the Office of the Navy Dept for support of the 1950 the Office of the Office of
- 4. fleet commands of mostation, a subject of manager of interface and a subject of the
- 5. squadron commands
- 6. shore base commands
- 7. ships
- 8. the Pentagon role within the Navy structure
- 9. naval legal-justice system and the primary of the while its whi
- 10. shipboard environment
- 11. overseas bases
- 12. enlisted morale, well being etc.
- 13. present Administration handling of the defense policy etc.
- 14. naval training, recruit training, education
- . The total of the second of the second paragraphs give the second of th
- 16. naval supply system: check into excess and waste within system.
- 17. Navy relations with civilian shipyards and support facilities.

The investigation should also be done in an historical "light" with interviews with WW2 and Korea era Navy vets to have a coorelation with todays enlisted mans comments etc. Each of the above has a bearing on where the Navy is today. Men not machines run those ships, when the men are abused mentally, sometimes physically constantly do you expect to have a full fledged force ready to sail. NO.

Iam willing to be interviewed on my life in the Navy just to get the ball lue inventization signil tage or to elto coton labor or calporolling. Just send me the questionairre forms etc. and Ill fill em out greet or the dead seine watter was to the days it is. and return them. The Navy still operates timeline wise in the 1950s, many ships in the Navy are from the 1950s and yet the Soviets buildup more new ships each year. Reasons for the investigation are as follows: 1. "beef up" the enlisted morale etc. within the Navy 2. slow drug traffic ... 3. streamline the naval administration process 4. protect the rights-fract. civil, legal of enlisted personnel from E-1-3 5. alw alert the public to the condtions within the Navy 6. save tax dollar waste of the Navy 7. settle long time enlisted grievences 8. re organize the Officer Corp. 9. stregthen enlistments and retension within the service of enlisted. 10. decommissioning of older ships at a more rapid rate than presently. instantives time speed . Oi The above 10 is what the FBI could uncover or "square away" within the Navy. Are the above 10 worth an investigation aside the threat to our aio tito maise place, sa Tan Berblade, oillines? What is then? With a team of lawyers who specialize in military Application of the contraction o law-civilian, criminal law, news personnel and teams of agents and massive and the contract the contract of the contract of the contract of use of active duty enlisted informants, the job can get done. つうひたきいっぱつ of the USS Belleau Another contact source for interview is . As $s \in \mathbb{N}$, the proof of the contract of the second Wood LHA-3 homeport San Diego. I know hell tell you guys an awlful lot $i \gamma$. Now, relations with civiling subgrade only eighter latinger, about condtions within the Navy. Reports of the investigation should go the invertigation should also be incented as aretoxical "little to the 1. major news media 2. CNO 3. House-Senate Armed Serivices the following: three views with Vad aga Morea era havy vets to have a Judrator with Comm. 4. House-Senate Judcial Comm. (legal aspects only) suders editered a grad overs efet it in it is a provent and a beering un 5. NATO hqs. I feel our allies have a right to know if we the US have the

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capability to defend them at sea. Do you agree?



minority. The Navy needs to be "purged" of abuses like ABSCAM did to Congress, it purged 6 greedy Congressmen to the surface for exposure. Should the Navy be different? If you can tarnish 6 Congressmen, why not about 80 admirals or captains along with some commanders?

So they wear a uniform big deal whats "rank".

Also if Watergate can tarnish Nixon and ABSCAM 6 Congressmen, imagine the effect within the Navy. Mind boggling.

Polls and questionairies should be given out to the populace discussing the military and or Navy for citizen feedback into this investigation.

1. DEA- drugs only and related issues 2. ATF- check on illegal weapons, liquor usage 3. your bureau 4. EFA: cover environmental aspects of ships an and shipyards and shore bases. I just want the citizens to be aware of the condtions within our government that need radical changes to survive into the 21st century and beyond. 1980 is the year for these massive. "overhauls". What counter arguments do you propose to NOT investigate the Navy? Whose loss would it be if not investigated?

With agents working in the central Pentagon records center aside key agents placed on ships as: division officers, staff officers, chief petty officers, first class petty officers one could find much about life in the Navy.

Ships to be investigated would be from: small patrol boats to the biggest.

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carriers aside submarines.

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Imagine the drug trade on a carrier like the Nimitz. , noise to the the Heres another angle for an investigation: shipboard security and other security and other security and other security. I believe with the decay in the Navy, that terrorists could board the was home. ship or a ship and hold the ship hostage while in a foreign port. See ---Consider say 14 of the crew on liberty status and the duty section on board, few men on the ship thus an easy take over. The problem is the controlled a term of the same I believe it can be done. If terrorists can seize the US Embassy in Iran or can gundown naval personnel in Puerto Rico, why not take over a naval vessel? Using the forged IDs, uniforms and concealed weapons I firmly it held mock security believe it can be done. On my ship the drills and the ship failed several times to stop the intruder; 19138894 Think about it. Is this nation willing to risk a take over of a naval man o war by 3rd world Communist backed terrorist group? Please share my ideas with others in your field. Bases and are area The investigation could find security "leaks" in the system that a terrorist group could use. A duty section on a ship only consists of about 100-200 personnel overall from all ship departments. Please note ideas below for other investigations: lu li uo si wiwaw saci eson, iyyka w

- 1. investigate UN diplomats as terrorist contacts or Com unist sympathizers.
- 2. investigate all Iranians in the US: . As Frie application applies no est
- 3. investigate Border Patrol system and find its flaws with illegal aliens.
- 4. investigate Hollywood film scandals in regards to illegal activities and consumer aftairs (movie prices etc.)
- 5. investigate into NASA and other industrial firms for sabotoge of the Space Shuttle by Soviet spies.



On the first page I mentioned to investigate Civiletti, my reason is HE is the head of the Justice Dept thus like any high official animons in " opened" to bribes, kickbacks and payoffs so I propose an investigation of him and his office. Besides the name Civiletti sounds Mafia. Is it any wonder our legal and justice system suck with some big whop Mafiaoso at the helm of the Justice Dept. Tell me if Im wrong, prove it too me. I feel anyone in such a position as Secretary of ---- and his or her key aides is just as open to bribe, s, kickbacks and payoffs. ABSCAM is my case in point. Back to drugs, Norfolk and San Diego are 2 real good hot spots for the drug market to the military market. Back to the Navy investigation, with interviews with vets from WW2, Korea and Vietnam it would give an overall view of the decay before and since in the military defense system. NO ONE in the system is Immune. No position should be sacrificed to investigate the system. NO ONE SHOULD BE ABOVE THE LAW. If so than justice is not equal. ABSCAM & Watergate are my cases in point. I cannot tolerate total stupidity and incompetence in the Navy aside in other agencies. The Navy prosectues and harras ses its enlisted personnel putting on unbelievebale pressures which force: UAs, desertions in the ranks. Check on the desertion records and those UA.) It would read quite High. Thank you for your time. Please reply. Are you going to investigate the system? The FBI would be the command group in this investigation.

Sincerly

FS: examine the TIME magazine article on the Navy in the issue with the cover marked ATTACK ON THE NAVY. Consult the Navy Times paper for quotas on recruits into the Navy. Also Armed Forces Journal has an article on the Navy. Flus many newspaper articles on Marine Corp recruit abuses, recruitment quotas for military etc.

These publications are my support. But I look at it in the human sense. Lives wasted or being wasted in a system that proliferates the use of drugs and fighting is not an Honor to Serve.

Disgrace any officer you can without Honor.

Thier: cover ups, inaction or slow action also create tension in the Navy. Officers from O-1 to O-7. The Enlisted are the real backbone in the military, without them you can forget the Persian Gulf and stand by to give it to Russia.

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March 6, 1980

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Congressman Floyd Fithian U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: FBI Abscam Investigation

Dear Mr. Fithian,

Congress should immediately stop interfering with the FBI's Abscam investigation and suspend all federal salaries and monies being paid to those under investigation.

I am at a complete loss as to how the House Judiciary Subcommittee can feel that the FBI "sucked-in innocent congressmen." Those involved appear to be as innocent as Charles Manson.

Yours traly,

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CUTE ITE EXCESSE

cc: Senator Brich Bayh
Senator Richard Lugar
FBI Director William Webster
Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti

63-17561-176

William Webster, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
J. Edgar Hoover Building
Washington, D.C. 20535

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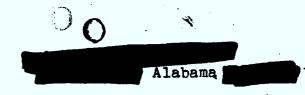
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March 7, 1980 Representative Peter W. Rodino, Jr. Chairman, House Judiciary Committee 970 Broad Street Newark, New Jersey Dear Mr. Rodino: It comes as no surprise, but is disgraceful nonetheless, that the House Judiciary Committee would now try to impose controls on the FBI's methods and/or targets of Investigation. I wonder whether this is prompted by a true concern for individuals' constitutional rights or by the fact that the results of some of these investigations are proving a little toembarrassing for some of our public "leaders". Only men and women of the strongest character, able to resist the many temptations which political power occasions, should be allowed to remain in positions through which the lives of so many are profoundly influenced. The sooner our elected officials understand that they are not above the law, the sooner they will start acting in this country's best interest instead of their own self-interest. My comment to the FBI: Keep up the good work! Sincerely, Mr. William Webster, Director of the FBI Paolables 2 3 1**380**

Exec AD Inv. Exec AD Adm. Exec AD LES Asst. Dir.: Adm. Servs. Crim. Inv. ... Ident. _ Alabama Intell. _ Laboratory . March 7, 1980 Legal Coun. . Plan. & Insp. Rec. Mgnt. . OUTSIDE SOURCE William H. Webster Tech. Servs. Director FBI Training_ Public Affs. Off. U.S. Dept of Justice Telephone Rm. Pennsylvania Av. at Director's Sec'y 9th St. N. W. Washington D. C. 20535 Dear Mr. Webster: Response Re Albscam Enclosed is a copy of a letter that we recently sent to Senator Adlai Stevenson. We want you to know that we completely endorse the Abscam Operation. We hope that the Attorney General will prosecute every dishonest official that he can find. We must get the criminals out of government. More power to the FBI. Respectfully MAR 19 1980 Ock 1/11/80 NB: Lmb ENCLOSUR

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February 11, 1980

6-6

Honorable? Adlai Stevenson Senate Office Building Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Stevenson:

We (my wife, friends and I) saw you on television and listened to your comments on the "Abscam Operation." It is apparent that you have a very strange and uncommon conception of what is proper conduct for a United States Congressman.

It is hardly conceivable that a man of your intelligence could believe a Congressman can commit a criminal or unethical act and be immune from investigation and prosecution. Bo you really believe that it is not "proper" that the FBI should step in to protect the interests of the citizens of this country, and the reputations of those members of Congress who are honest?

Doesn't it worry you a little that the Representative from MIchigan, despite his conviction for embezzlement, still sits in Congress and uses the word "Honorable" in front of his name? Was the cover-up of Watergate any less ethical than the cover-up of Chappaquiddick?

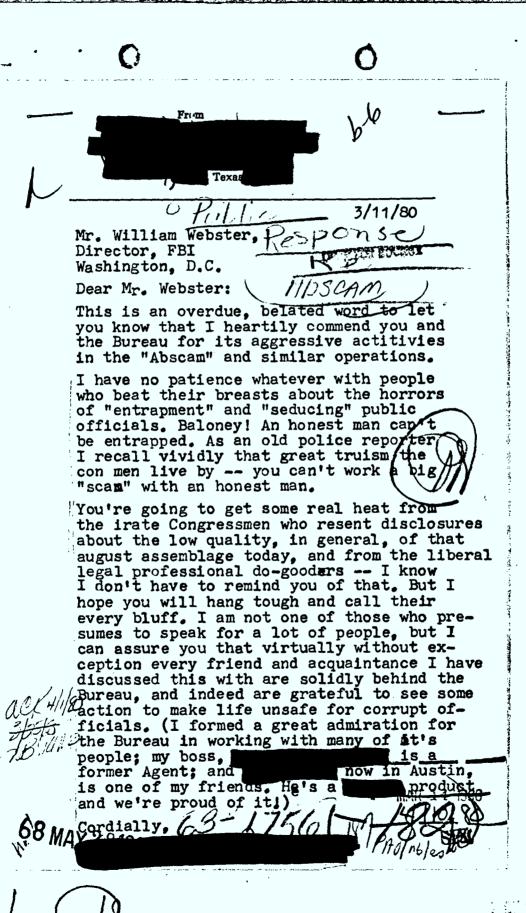
Come down off your high horse. After all, a U. S. Senator is only an elected representative of the people of his state. He is not a "Lord of the Manor" and he does not exercise the "Droit de Seigneur."

Honesty is the prime requirement in a Congressman. Otherwise the government becomes a farce.

Yours truly (no respectfully).

63-17561-180

Exec. AB-Inv. Exec. AD-Adm. Exec. AO-LES. Asst. Dir.: Adm. Servs. Crim. Inv. ldent. Intell. Laboratory Legai Coun. Plan & Insp. Rec. Mgnt. Tech. Servs. Training _ Public Affs. Off. Public Response Re: Abscam Go after 63-17561-DE-14 Maldher 2 66AUG7



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Director's Sec'y

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DA's New Effort:

Zeroing In on Integ

Dist. Atty. Henry Wade local governments. Dallas should have announced cre-O ation of his new public integ- have been well publicized, rity task force with a great fanfare. It deserves one. Instead, The News' Christi Harlan discovered the new section in the DA's specialized crime division through a memo issued by Wade.

The section will review problems dealing with corruption of public officials, bribery and election code violations.

increasing charges of corruption within in recent months.

school district's problems and both the city and county have had charges of corruption levied in their federal job-training programs. Also complaints about election irregularities have cropped up again.

As recent events have emphasized, there is an important role for Wade's new team. Maybe its very existence will help discourage The past year has seen an some of the unacceptable connumber of duct that Dallas has suffered

63-1156V-182

Public Kesponse he Cibscan lear Mr. Webster think you are do ung an aut stading for and its we are long fast due on getting to the Corruption of de Value, ongressment, etc. Kup up Sincerely 63-17561-

68 may 281980

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Exec. AD-Inv. Exec. AD-Adm. Exec. AD-LES. Asst. Dir.: Adm. Servs. Crim. Inv. Ident. Intell. _ Laboratory Legal Coun. Plan & lasp. Rec. Mgnt. Tech. Servs. Training . Public Affs. Off. Telephona Rm. Director's Sec'y

Dear Mr. Webster

I think you are doing an <u>outstanding</u> job and we are long past due on getting to the corruption of our police, Congressmen, etc. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,



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OUTSIDE SOURCE

March 12, 1980.

Exec. AD-Adm. Exec. AD-LES_ Asst. Dir.: Adm. Servs.

> Laboratory __ Legal Coun.__ Plan & Insp. Rec. Mgnt. __

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Public Affs. Off. Telephone Rm. Director's Sec'y

Mr. William Webster, Director Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D. C.

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Dear Mr. Webster

I would like to extend my congratulations to you and your organization on the success of your recent "Sting" operations. I believe such activities are necessary to protect the interests of the people and in this vain I believe that a thorough investigation of the relations between the major American oil companies and the elected and non elected officials of this country would either confirm or clear doubts from the minds of many of our citizens as to the integrity of some of our officials as it regards the subject of energy. Many people in this country feel that the oil companies exert an abnormal amount of influence over the makers and executors of policy in our federal government. A good clean, thorough investigation could clear up this situation if it exists.

Again, my congratulations and best wishes for continued success

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Dear Siral aresus Mar 13, 1980

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This confirmed the sensity of School insiste

Packets show the funts of labor the

Tall men against big-time crooks.

Pack up the good work!

Respectfully.

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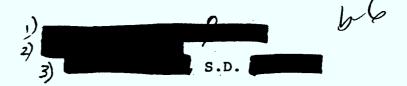
Exec. AD-Inv. Exec. AD-Adm. Exec. AD-LES_ Asst. Dir.: 👡 Adm. Servs. Crim. Inv. Ident. Intell. Laboratory Legal Coun. Plan & Insp. Rec. Mgnt. Tech. Serva. Training . Public Affs. Off. Telephone Rm. Director's Sec'y

Dear Sirs:

A word of encouragement from a citizen who cares about our great country. The <u>Disclosure</u> of Abscam case and other under cover_investigations insurance rackets show the fruits of labor the FBI men carry on against big-time crooks.

Keep up the good work!

Respectfully,



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