



DU-4

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional) Panama/Noriega/Members of Congress			INSPECTOR GENERAL 88-0241	
FROM: <input type="text"/> Senate Division Office of Congressional Affairs		EXTENSION	NO. OCA-88-2603	
			DATE 1 Mar 88	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. Director of Congressional Affairs 7D 43 HQS	02 MAR 1988		JJA	<p>#3. I agree with JH penned in remarks re FBI response WB</p> <p>Draft letters to Senator Helms and SSCI Staff Director Holmes attached for your review. These letters are interim replies pending completion of various investigations.</p>
2.				
3. Director of Public Affairs Office 7D 00 HQS			WB	
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5. Inspector General 6E 08 HQS	08 MAR 1988		WJY	
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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

INSPECTOR GENERAL
88-0344

DRAFT

The Honorable Jesse Helms
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Helms:

The Director has asked me to respond to your letter concerning testimony that this Agency has furnished information to Panamanian officials about Members of Congress and their staffs.

Our ^{preliminary} investigation of these allegations indicates that they are not correct. However, because of the gravity of the charges the Director has asked all NFIB Agencies to review their holdings to be absolutely certain that none of them has provided information described in your letter or discussed at the Foreign Relations Committee hearings.

We will provide you with the information from our investigation as soon as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

John L. Helgerson
Director of Congressional Affairs

Do we want to say that FBI will
respond separately & directly?
Good idea. JLA

I have no problem with this draft as long as we (CIA)
can respond separately, if we so desire.

CLABORNE PA.
JOHN R. BIDER, JR. DELAWARE
J. S. BARBARA, MARYLAND
ALAN CRANSTON, CALIFORNIA
CHRISTOPHER J. BOND, CONNECTICUT
JOHN F. KERRY, MASSACHUSETTS
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LARRY PRESSLER, SOUTH DAKOTA
FRANK H. BRUNKOWSKI, ALASKA
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GERYLD B. CHRISTANSON, STAFF DIRECTOR
JAMES P. LUCER, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6226

February 17, 1988

The Honorable William Webster
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Director Webster:

As you know, the Committee on Foreign Relations received very significant sworn testimony last week that indicated that the CIA and the National Security Council have maintained, and/or furnished to certain Panamanian officials, information on certain Members of Congress and their staffs. Since you are charged with responsibility for all agencies under the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, I am writing to you to address these issues.

Inasmuch as Mr. Jose Blandon has appeared at the request of U.S. law enforcement agencies as a witness in major criminal procedures, his credibility appears to be high. Additionally, I have received similar reports coming from sources in other countries which parallel the sworn testimony with regard to the CIA furnishing similar information on other Senators.

I have no fear of correct information maintained on me; nonetheless, it is improper and illegal for the CIA to maintain such files. This is especially so inasmuch as the CIA has access to background check files, which include much uncorroborated data, for all security clearances.

Should a situation ever develop in which information, particularly unevaluated information, is transferred to another government, thereby interfering with the constitutional responsibility of Members of Congress and their staffs, it calls into question the integrity of our intelligence security institutions.

For these reasons, I submit the following questions, answers to which I hope can be provided in unclassified form. In answering these questions, please do not rely on files alone, since the information allegedly passed may have been passed back channel, without files being maintained. It is imperative that an internal investigation be conducted and

all employees in contact with Panamanian government or military officials be questioned.

Has any employee, contract employee, or agent of the CIA -- or any other entity associated with it, including other agencies under the National Security Act of 1947, as amended -- ever maintained information -- including biographies, reports of activities, summaries of political philosophy, or other information -- on Members of Congress or their staffs? If so, which persons, when, and under what circumstances?

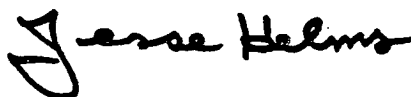
Has any employee, contract employee, or agent of the CIA -- or any other entity associated with it, including other agencies under the National Security Act of 1947, as amended -- ever furnished verbal or written information officially or unofficially on Members of Congress or their staffs to any official of a foreign government, and specifically to the government of Panama or the Panama Defense Forces under General Manuel Noriega? If so, which persons, when, and under what circumstances? (Interestingly, I understand that after the CIA publicly denied Blandon's testimony, an inquiry was made to CIA field offices and to NFIB agencies querying whether the denial was accurate. Please include a copy of this message and all responses.)

Because of your previous association with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, I would also ask the following questions, also to be answered in unclassified form to the maximum extent possible.

Did the FBI ever turn over to the CIA or other intelligence agencies any information on Members of Congress or their staffs?

Has the FBI ever initiated wiretaps or surveillance on me or members of my staff, with or without warrant? If so, when, for what reasons, and under what legal authority?

Sincerely,



JESSE HELMS

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