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July 11, 1995

Hon. John M. Deutsch  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Director Deutsch:

I am writing to seek your agency's help in verifying or laying to rest various allegations of money laundering in Arkansas in the late 1980s. For that purpose, I would request a briefing from the CIA's Inspector General on Friday, July 14 before 1:00 p.m.; if that is not possible, Monday, July 17, would also be a convenient day.

The reports I have in mind have appeared in the general press and, sometimes in sensational form, in more narrow-gauged outlets, including the Internet. They speak of secret foreign bank accounts held by prominent people in Arkansas, special software to monitor bank transfers, an Arkansas-centered network of banks formed to launder money, and similar tales. I would like to determine whether there is any substance at all to these stories.

Specifically, I would like your Inspector General to tell me whether the Agency:

- (1) knows of any secret bank accounts held by U.S. citizens domiciled in Arkansas at any time between 1988 and now;
- (2) is aware, directly or indirectly, of any efforts by computer hackers, U.S.-government related or otherwise, to penetrate banks for the purpose of monitoring accounts and transactions;
- (3) knows of or has participated, directly or indirectly, in efforts to sell software--notably versions of a program in use at the Justice Department called PROMIS--or clandestinely produced devices to foreign banks for the purpose of collecting economic intelligence and information of illicit money transfers;

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(4) is cognizant of any attempts by Systematics Inc, an Arkansas-based electronic data processor that is now a division of All-tell, to monitor or engage in the laundering of drug money or proceeds of other illegal activities, notably those conducted through Mena, Ark.;

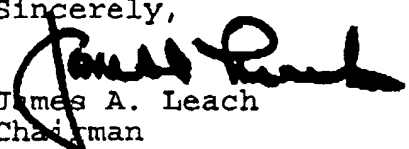
(5) can provide information about Charles Hayes, a businessman in Nancy, Kentucky, who claims to have been a CIA operative in Latin and Central America, among other places;

(6) knew of or was involved in, directly or indirectly, any covert activities by the U.S. government or any private parties (the so-called "private benefactors") in or around Mena, Arkansas, in the late 1980s;

(7) had any contractual or other relationship with the late Adler Barriman "Barry" Seal in the 1980s or knew about his activities in connection with MENA.

I would appreciate your help in shedding light on these matters.

Sincerely,

  
James A. Leach  
Chairman