The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-1000

17 March 2005

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing with respect to a supposed Department of Defense document that I received from Washington Times reporter Bill Gertz (enclosed). The supposed DIA cable from September 2003 claims that I received a “monthly stipend” from the Iraqi government from 1994 to 1998 to “report on UNSCOM activities” and that I traveled to Baghdad in February and November of 1998 to meet with high-level officials.

Needless to say, none of the allegations contained in the supposed intelligence report are true.

I understand that the Defense Department has determined that the document is a forgery. Nonetheless, I am extremely concerned that someone familiar with Defense Department classified reporting has forged this document and given it to the press in the hope that it would be reported as genuine. Such an action raises deeply troubling questions about the integrity of the Department’s processes and raises the possibility of an organized effort to intimidate me as a journalist.

I am writing to respectfully request that you order an investigation to determine if anyone at the Department fabricated this “cable.” I also request that I be informed of the results of any investigation regarding this cable and that, if the Department’s records contain any suggestion that I was an agent of Iraq or took any money or anything of value from the Iraqi government under Saddam Hussein, such references be expunged.

Thank you very much for your attention to this very serious matter. I can be reached via Email at warkin@igc.org or via telephone at 802-457-3426. My attorney, Jeffrey Smith, can be reached at Jeffrey_Smith@aporter.com or via phone at 202-942-5115.

Sincerely,

William Arkin
ENVELOPE CDSN = LGX855 MCN = 03107/02896 TOR = 031070142
RTTCZYUW RUEKJCS0771 1070142-SSSS--RUEALGX
ZNY SSSS

SPECAT PROCTOR CANULAR
HEADER R 170142Z NOV 04
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUENAAA/JCS WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CIFA WASHINGTON DC
RUEKCCG/USDP-CCC WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUETIAQ/MPC FTGEORGE GMEADE MD
USAO/SPG INSOC ALEX VA
RUEOFIA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC/J2/
RUCJAAA/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL/SOJ2/
R 160504Z SEP 03
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TO DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL/J2/
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP-ISA/
RHEHAAA/WHITEHOUSE
BT
SPECAT PROCTOR CANULAR
TAREX, RODCA AND STO CONTROLS
QQQQ
SECTION 001 OF 002

SERIAL: (U) IIR 6 072 0099 03

/******* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE **********/
BODY PASS: (U) ISG FOR DIA/JITF-CT/; JCS FOR STO/J39;
DIA PASS TO AIG 3181
WHITEHOUS FOR NSC

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED
INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED. INVOLVES US CITIZEN

WARNING NOTICE: SENSITIVE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
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COUNTRY: (U) IRAQ (IZ).

SUBJECT: (S/OU) IIR 6 072 0099 03// ARKIN WILLIAM

DOI: (U) 030524/031107.

REQS: (U) T-8C2-2650-01-03; INITIATIVE; G-ISG-433-03.

SUMMARY: (S/OU) PRELIMINARY DOCEX OF IIS/SSO
ARCHIVAL PAY RECORDS
IDENTIFIES US CITIZEN WILLIAM ARKIN. EXPLOITATION OF
SOURCE
NUMBER 8230 CONFIRMS ARKIN PROVIDED IRAQI GOVERNMENT
AT HIGHEST
LEVELS WITH INFORMATION ABOUT UNSCOM PLANS AND USG
INTELLIGENCE
ACTIVITIES RE IRAQ.

TEXT: 1. (S/OU) THIS IIR IS BEING RETRANSMITTED AT
WASHINGTON
CUSTOMER REQUEST.

2. (S/OU) PRELIMINARY REPORTING DURING THE PERIOD 24
MAR-22 APR
INDICATES POSSIBLE US CITIZEN WILLIAM ARKIN RECEIVED
MONTHLY STIPEND FOR PERIOD 1994-1998 TO REPORT ON
QUOTE
UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMISSION ACTIVITIES UNQUOTE.
ENTRY IN SSO LEDGER CAPTURED IN BAGHDAD, NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

3. (S/RODCA/OU) CIA EXPLOITATION OF SOURCE 8230 FROM
OFFICE OF
PRESIDENT SH CONFIRMS ARKIN TRAVELED TO BAGHDAD
FEBRUARY 1998
AND NOVEMBER 1998 TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT UNSCOM
PLANS AND
TO DISCUSS DESERT FOX TARGETING.

//GEOCOORD: IRAQ

COMMENTS: 1. (S/OU) WASHINGTON CUSTOMER REQUESTED CONFIRMATION AND
RECHECK OF INFORMATION. ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS DCS TO DIA
IAW PROCTOR CANULAR PROCEDURES, CI PROCEDURE 7-04.
CIFA REPORT
ON ARKIN CLEARANCE AND AFOSI INVESTIGATION TRANSMITTED
UNDER
SEPARATE COVER.

2. THIS IIR IS A RETRANSMISSION; ORIGINAL DTG OF IIR
IS 24 MAY 03.

//IPSP: (U) DOCEX 2650//
//COMSOBJ: (U) 211//
ADMIN PROJ: (U) 3908
INSTR: (U) US NO.
PREP: (U) ISG/DIA/CIA JTF7 TAREX AND FUSION CELL
ACQ: (U) BAGHDAD, IZ (030409)
DISSEM: (U) FIELD: NONE.
WARNING: (S/OU) REPORT CLASSIFIED SENSITIVE SPECAT.
INVOLVES US
CITIZEN
SPECAT PROCTOR CANULAR