

James Madison Project v. CIA, Civil Action No. 08-0708 (D.D.C.)(JR)

EXHIBIT “2”

February 2, 2008

C.I.A. Tells of Changes for Its Internal Inquiries

By [MARK MAZZETTI](#)

[WASHINGTON](#) — After an internal inquiry that put his office under unusual scrutiny, the inspector general of the [Central Intelligence Agency](#) has agreed to a series of changes in the way the office conducts its investigations of the agency's practices, the C.I.A. director confirmed on Thursday in a message to agency employees.

Among the changes announced by the director, Gen. [Michael V. Hayden](#), were new procedures to allow agency officers to lodge complaints against the inspector general's office, which is an independent auditor over the agency's internal affairs.

General Hayden said the changes were intended to "heighten the efficiency, assure the quality and increase the transparency of the investigative process."

The internal inquiry, unusual in its focus on investigators who usually ask the hard questions rather than answering them, had created anxiety among some inside the office of the inspector general, John L. Helgerson, and drew criticism from lawmakers who said the review was inappropriate and could have a chilling effect on inquiries into questionable conduct by the agency.

Started in April, the review was led by Robert L. Deitz, a close aide to General Hayden.

It was begun after complaints from C.I.A. officers that Mr. Helgerson's office had not been an impartial judge of agency operations and had begun crusading against controversial agency programs.

Some complained that inspector general investigations were unnecessarily long and resulted in huge legal bills for agency employees whose work was under review.

As an example, they cite an investigation into the shooting down of a missionary plane in 2001 by Peruvian troops advised by C.I.A. officers. The investigation has lasted nearly seven years and remains incomplete.

In his message to agency employees, General Hayden said the inspector general's office would now have an ombudsman to hear complaints from C.I.A. officers and to ensure the fairness of internal agency investigations.

He also said that the inspector general's office was installing new equipment to allow investigators to record interviews and create a more permanent record of investigations. In addition, a new position of quality control officer is being established inside the office to attest, as General Hayden put it, "that reports include all exculpatory and relevant mitigating information."

A C.I.A. spokesman said Mr. Helgerson supported the steps General Hayden outlined.

Senator [Ron Wyden](#) of Oregon, a Democratic member of the Intelligence Committee, did not challenge any of the conclusions laid out by General Hayden but said the inquiry “should never have happened and can’t be allowed to happen again.”

“I’m all for the inspector general taking steps that help C.I.A. employees understand his processes, but that can be done without an approach that can threaten the inspector general’s independence,” Mr. Wyden said.

Congress created the position of C.I.A. inspector general in 1989, in part to prevent a repeat of the sort of agency misdeeds revealed during the Iran-contra affair. The position is appointed by the president and reports both to Congress and the C.I.A. director.

The inspector general has investigated some of the C.I.A.’s most secret operations since the Sept. 11 attacks, including the program of detaining and interrogating top Qaeda suspects in secret overseas prisons.

A report by Mr. Helgerson’s office completed in April 2004 concluded that some C.I.A.-approved interrogation methods appeared to constitute cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, as defined by the international Convention Against Torture.

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