

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 25, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Obama:

We are writing to express our outrage at the operations revealed Wednesday in the Rolling Stone article, *Another Runaway General: Army Deploys Psy-Ops on U.S. Senators*. We ask that you suspend from duty Army Lt. Gen. William Caldwell, pending a full investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice as to whether any laws were broken by the alleged use of military psychological and information operations targeted not against the enemy, but against U.S. elected officials and civilians, as described in the article. If the actions are verified, we further recommend that you dismiss Lt. Gen. Caldwell for his disregard of the responsibilities of civilian elected officials, specifically Members of Congress and other high officials, and their duty to objectively weigh the costs and consequences of the war and U.S. military operations in Afghanistan.

We are deeply concerned that these allegations, like the activities that led to the dismissal of General Stanley McChrystal, reveal an attitude which views civilian authority and elected members of Congress as parties to be manipulated and subjugated to military priorities.

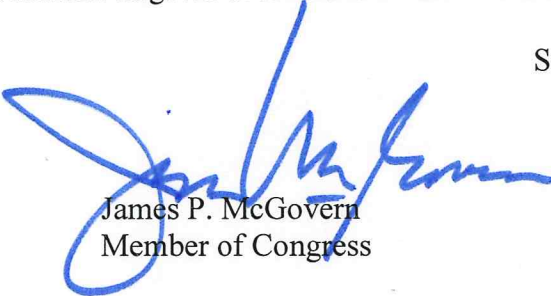
In particular, we ask you to investigate and clarify:

- 1) Were any U.S. laws violated when a U.S. military Information Operations (IO) unit used its personnel, training, funds and materials to design psychological operations (psy-ops) targeted at influencing visiting delegations of U.S. Senators and Members of Congress?
- 2) Did other military officers or administration officials participate in or sign off on carrying out military psy-ops against U.S. elected officials, including staff assigned to General Caldwell?
- 3) Were similar psy-ops carried out against other U.S. elected officials, for example official delegations from the White House, the State Department, the Pentagon and other U.S. agencies?


- 4) Were similar psy-ops carried out targeting other visiting dignitaries and civilian opinion-makers, such as the Czech ambassador to Afghanistan, the German Minister of the Interior, and influential think-tank analysts?
- 5) Are these same military psy-ops that were coordinated by the IO cell continuing, only in a disguised form ostensibly under a new name, the "Information Engagement cell" and placed under the rubric of "public relations," even though the mission, purpose and methods remain relatively unchanged?
- 6) Were any attempts made to target for retaliation or unfairly reprimand Army Lt. Colonel Michael Holmes, JAG lawyer Capt. John Scott or Major Laural Levine in retaliation for Holmes or Scott having raised objections or concerns about the IO unit's operations aimed at influencing U.S. officials, Senators and Members of Congress, citizens or other distinguished visitors and opinion-makers? If so, what actions are being taken to expunge such reprimands from their records and recognize that they acted honorably?

Mr. President, these matters demand serious investigation. We ask that you act swiftly to stop further misuse of U.S. taxpayer dollars and military personnel, training, materials and operations targeted at civilians in this manner.

Sincerely,



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress