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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3303

June 26, 2013

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Mr. Speaker:

Americans recently learned that every month for the past decade the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) secretly delivered suitcases, plastic shopping bags, and backpacks full of millions of dollars of U.S. taxpayer cash to the corrupt president of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan: Hamid Karzai. While these off-the-books bribes were allegedly intended to promote cooperation with Afghanistan's political elites, it was also used to pay rent for Karzai's employees, underwrite diplomatic trips, and inevitably, line the pockets of Afghanistan's established cache of corrupt government officials. It has also come to light that the majority of the cash drops have been used to prop up elite Afghan warlords who are too often involved with the country's opium trade, organized crime, and occasionally, the Taliban itself.

The American public is outraged by these revelations. They rightly believe their hard earned tax dollars ought to be spent right here at home, not secretly funneled to Hamid Karzai, a man who has publicly stated that he would "choose the Taliban" over the United States. Despite the public's opposition, the CIA has reportedly assured President Karzai that the suitcase deliveries of U.S. taxpayer cash will continue.

Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives has a duty to conduct vigorous oversight of the expenditure of the people's money by the executive branch, especially when those expenditures are at such odds with the clear will of the American people. That is certainly the case in this situation. I respectfully urge you to quickly encourage the Chairmen of the relevant committee(s) of jurisdiction to convene public, declassified hearings on this matter so the American public can get the answers they deserve.

I have enclosed a copy of a flyer that has attracted much attention in my district in support of such a hearing. Thank you for your leadership and your consideration of this request. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress



CIA DELIVERS CASH TO AFGHAN LEADER'S OFFICE – New York Times April 28, 2013

KARZAI SAYS HE WAS ASSURED C.I.A. WOULD CONTINUE DELIVERING BAGS OF CASH

“The C.I.A. money, Mr. Karzai told reporters, was ‘an easy source of petty cash,’ and some of it was used to pay off members of the political elite, a group dominated by warlords.”

“Mr. Karzai said that when he met with the C.I.A. station chief, ‘I told him because of all these rumors in the media, please do not cut all this money, because we really need it.’”

“It has helped us a lot, it has solved lots of our problems,’ he added.”

–New York Times May 4, 2013