

Roderick Russell
Apt. 213, 930 18th Ave. SW
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2T 0H1

Tel: [REDACTED]

October 7, 2013

Mr. Juan Mendez
Special Rapporteur on Torture
C/o Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
United Nations Office at Geneva
CH – 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Dear Sir,

Re: Complaint of a “Failure to Protect” & “No-Touch Torture” by the Authorities in Canada and UK

A Journalist advised me that you had met with a [REDACTED] and had indicated to her an interest in issues that relate to “failure to protect”. He felt that my own situation was very pertinent to this issue, and so I am taking the liberty of reporting it to you. Attached with this letter are two additional attachments called “Russell Zersetzen” that contain detailed information and documentation relating to my complaint.

For 20 years my wife and I have been targeted victims of a very nasty campaign of intimidation, harassment, threats, surveillance and telephone tapping. As well as threats against myself and my children, this campaign of persecution includes vicious and untruthful character assassination.

The attachments are titled “Russell – Zersetzen” and come in two versions, both of which are identical as to content. The only difference being that the Microsoft OneNote version also includes evidentiary file attachments that can be opened, whereas the PDF version does not.

Proof of years of Intimidation, Harassment, Threats

May I draw your attention to the attachments? The significant amount of intimidation, harassment and threats that we have had as targeted victims are listed in chronological date order under the main headings “Vancouver”, “London – Yarm” “Manchester” “Calgary”. The reference letters under these headings as the INDEX shows are B through J.

Items that have an independent source of corroboration for verification purposes are indicated by a Color tag; and you will notice that there are over 90 of them. So there is clear proof, with significant corroboration, that my wife and I have been targeted victims for 20 years of a very nasty campaign of threats, intimidation and criminal harassment.

But what is the involvement of the authorities with these crimes? Well, at the very least there has been a huge “failure to protect”.

Proof of Failure to Investigate by Authorities

There has been a complete failure by the authorities to honestly investigate these crimes. They have simply not been allowed to.

May I ask you to peruse the contents under the main heading “Cover-up” on the attachment “Russell – Zersetzen”. The reference letters under the heading cover-up are K, L and M. You will note that my wife and I, and others, have brought this matter to the attention of police and senior politicians on many occasions in both the UK and in Canada. On each occasion there has been a deliberate failure to investigate. Sometimes excuses are given for not investigating. As each excuse is proven untrue, another untruthful excuse will surface. Sometimes we are ignored completely. The details (including evidentiary letters both to and from the authorities) are described in the narrative under the main heading “Cover-up”.

These items and more - in the “Cover-up” section of the “Russell Zersetzen” attachment - prove a failure to investigate by the authorities, and they can be verified by an investigator. Indeed some of the letters from the authorities are themselves enough to prove “wilful blindness”, and the authorities’ obvious determination never to investigate this issue honestly. The UK’s and Canada’s security agencies do not want this story publicized.

“Failure to Protect” by Authorities

So there is verifiable proof that these crimes of intimidation, threats and harassment have taken place, and also proof that the Authorities have failed to investigate and protect. Indeed there is proof of a “failure to protect” by the authorities beyond any reasonable doubt. But it is worse than that!

Intimidated and Harassed for complaining to the Authorities who should be protecting.

My wife and I have been intimidated and harassed just for complaining to the authorities and asking for justice. May I draw your attention to sections M3 and L5 on the attachment? “Russell Zersetzen” for a few examples of this?

So it is not just about a “failure to protect” by the authorities, nor about the authorities active involvement in a “denial of justice” through their deliberate failure to honestly investigate. As the pages referenced M5 and L3 on the attachment describe, we have been intimidated and harassed just for complaining to the very authorities who should be protecting. But it is even worse than that!

No-touch Torture

The authorities in the UK and Canada through their secret security agencies - who operate outside the law, in reality accountable to no one - have in recent years been practicing an illegal campaign of intimidation, harassment, threats, and character assassination against innocent citizens who have fallen foul of them. Sometimes these targeted citizens are

whistleblowers, and sometimes like myself they are targeted merely as a result of pique by a well-connected member of the power-elite.

I call no-touch torture Zersetzen, since that is the name that the former GDR secret police the Stasi used for its (now well published) campaign against dissidents. As a “no touch torture” Zersetzen or Zersetzung was developed to cause dissidents “severe and prolonged” suffering without leaving marks.

Zersetzen is not a new technique. Certain of the secret services in the English speaking world, including the UK’s MI5 and Canada’s CSIS, are known to use it and it is occasionally reported in the mainstream press.

It goes by various other names too, but is much the same thing – no touch torture. In the 1970s the Church Committee of the US Senate castigated the FBI and certain intelligence services for their illegal involvement in a program called Cointelpro. If I may quote the Church Committee’s report – “individuals have been harassed and disrupted because of their political views and their lifestyles..... Unsavory and vicious tactics have been employed”. In Canada, CSIS (Canadian Security Intelligence Service) while denying their use of such torture techniques, even has a name for them – D & D: Disrupt and Discredit.

Mr. Mendez, the attached documentation also demonstrates that my wife and I have long been victims of rogue elements within the security/intelligence services – i.e. the authorities themselves. So what we have is this: The authorities are not just guilty of a failure to investigate in my case, but are also themselves (through rogue elements within the security services) committing the offenses.

Proof of Security Service Involvement

May I draw your attention to my file attachment “SIRC & RRussell” that is located on subpages K1 and M5 of the “Russell Zersetzen” attachment? Please look at the 14 points that are summarized on page 12 which prove the involvement of a highly sophisticated security service. Each of these points is backed by a mountain of corroborative evidence.

This persecution began and continues in Canada. It has also happened in the UK. MI5 / MI6 in the UK, and CSIS in Canada are co-conspirators in these illegal activities; either through conducting the crimes themselves, or through condoning the crimes of others. Indeed there are several well-known precedents where these agencies have illegally done similar things to other innocent people.

Why?

The US Senate’s Church Committee wrote that “The victim [of Cointelpro] may never suspect that his misfortunes are the intended result of activities undertaken by his government”. This suggests that a target can be persecuted for little reason at all, since sometimes, according to the Church Committee, even the victim may not know what the reason is.

This all started for me with a blacklisting after I chose to leave the, then, Vancouver-based Grosvenor International Holdings. I had done an excellent job for them and a very honest one. There is no logic as to why I was blacklisted. I had been Group Controller with this company which is owned by the Duke of Westminster - a man who according to the mainstream UK press has boasted about his intelligence connections, and was Deputy Chief of UK Defense Staff. A prominent lawyer has said - "that organization (i.e. Grosvenor) has far too much power"

Conclusion

Failure to Protect - There is overwhelming proof of "a failure to protect" by the authorities in the UK and Canada, and I think an investigator would, at the very least, reach no other conclusion. There are over 90 incidents that are independently corroborated for verification purposes and these are marked on the "Russell Zersetzen" attachment.

The story and documentation provided on the "Russell Zersetzen" attachment demonstrates a complete breakdown of the justice system in both countries with regard to my complaints. It shows a failure to investigate by authorities who had a duty to investigate and, in short, it proves a "failure to protect" by the authorities in both countries. There has been a "denial of justice". I would suggest that the "failure to protect" by the authorities is well proven. But, my issue goes beyond that.

Abusive Involvement of the security services – There is also evidence that the abusers who have targeted my wife and I are themselves part of the State Authorities; the secret security services themselves. As indicated on the previous page there is significant evidence of the illegal involvement of the security services, or at least of rogue elements within them. But it also goes beyond that too!

In the Section headed "Cover-up", there is substantial evidentiary proof that the Authorities, who should be protecting and investigating, are covering this up to pervert justice. I would argue that a cover-up in itself is an admission of guilt. As often is the case it's not just the act, it's the cover-up that pins them.

I am sending this from [REDACTED] but will be back at home in Canada on Tuesday Oct 15th. I should just mention that I can be hard to reach, since at times the authorities in Canada have made communicating with me - by post, email, or telephone - very difficult.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely

Roderick Russell

(Enclosure – [REDACTED])