

## From the desk of Rodney Stich

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January 10, 2009

David A. Paterson, Governor

State of New York

State Capitol

Albany, NY 12224 Certified 7002 0860 0003 9592 7310

Re: Executive clemency application for Richard Taus, 91A1040

To Governor Paterson:

This letter is for your consideration in support of the request for executive clemency by Richard Taus, who is now incarcerated in the state prison at Dannemora, New York. He has the request pending in your office. I am a former federal agent, airline captain, and navy pilot, who has spent many years uncovering misconduct in government offices, which is a major issue in the charges made against Taus.

I have accumulated considerable information over many years that have helped me understand why the actions were taken to imprison FBI Special Agent Richard Taus. The suspicious sequence of events that were taken against him shows an attempt to obstruct justice that has had very serious effects on national matters, and matters in your area of responsibility. This letter highlights the complex web of intrigue occurring in your New York jurisdiction.

Mr. Taus was a highly decorated Vietnam helicopter pilot who repeatedly risked his life many times under very dangerous conditions to rescue military personnel under intense fire. After leaving military service, Mr. Taus worked in undercover activities for the federal government in Central and South America before becoming an FBI Special Agent in the New York City offices. As an FBI agent, Mr. Taus discovered areas of corrupt activities that his supervisor, Lindley DeVecchio, did not want reported. One area of such illegal activities was a covert CIA operation in the New York City area that involved secret funding and arming of Iraq during the 1980s. He also discovered suspicious activities relating to his immediate supervisor, Lindley DeVecchio. In an earlier book, I wrote about Mr. Taus' activities.<sup>1</sup>

There are disturbing ties between the prosecution of FBI agent Taus by a Brooklyn prosecutor in your area of responsibilities and the sudden dropping of murder charges against FBI supervisor Lindley DeVecchio by that same prosecutor office. The same DeVecchio, who blocked Taus' investigation into major criminal activities that had international consequences, and who was involved in sham charges against Taus, had been recently charged with complicity in four murders involving citizens in your state of New York.

After DeVecchio blocked Taus from reporting these crimes, Taus reported the corrupt activities—and the cover-ups by DeVecchio, to members of Congress. As I discovered over the years, members of Congress refused to respond to the charges, and passed the information to the very people complicit through cover-ups. FBI-DOJ officials then charged Mr. Taus with misusing—three years earlier—a government credit card, and charged Taus with a crime. His arrest and removal from investigative duties protected CIA and other high government personnel involved in the disastrous funding and arming of Iraq, and the FBI-DOJ officials protecting DeVecchio from the consequences of his murderous conduct.

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<sup>1</sup> *FBI, CIA, the Mob, and Treachery.*

The misuse of a government-issued credit card was based on Mr. Taus' purchase of less than \$10 in gasoline for his personal auto. Mr. Taus had *legally* used the government-issued credit card to pay for fuel used during an official undercover operation—as he was authorized to do. The use of a credit card charge several years earlier shows the desperate search for an excuse to cover up for high-level misconduct in several government offices.

Having succeeded in temporarily removing Mr. Taus from office, it was necessary to fabricate more serious charges to insure that Taus be incarcerated and blocked from exposing the corruption he had discovered as part of his official duties. A Brooklyn district attorney in your state then filed criminal charges against Mr. Taus for allegedly having improper conduct with several teenagers at an athletic club that was set up by the FBI for surveillance purposes.

My understanding is that several, or all, of the parents of the young men that charged Mr. Taus with improper sexual relations were also at risk of being charged with minor illegal offenses by that same prosecutor. If that were correct, it would reflect a common prosecutorial tactic used to obtain false testimony against a targeted person. Mr. Taus may, or may not have had, improper relations with young men. I doubt that occurred. However, consider the following:

- The sequence of events leading up to the charges by the Brooklyn prosecutor against Taus were highly suspicious. They followed a standard procedure used in government to discredit a person exposing high-level misconduct.
- Mr. Taus had legally adopted a Vietnam orphan while serving in Vietnam, which was highly publicized on TV at the time. *If* Mr. Taus were inclined to have improper sexual conduct with young boys, it would surely have included the Vietnam orphan that he adopted. That boy, now an adult, is David Taus, who lives in your jurisdiction, taking care of Taus' elderly mother, and is available for your office to contact.<sup>2</sup>
- Further suspicion arises from the incredibly long sentence given to Mr. Taus—much longer than given to vicious murders, for what would be—even if true—a relatively minor offense among consenting males. For the sake of argument, *if* Mr. Taus *did have* improper sexual conduct with young men, which I doubt, it certainly didn't justify the outrageously long prison sentence. The only reason that this outrageous sentence was given would be an attempt to protect criminal misconduct and criminal cover-up involving key government officials—including that of his supervisor, Lindley DeVecchio—involved in murders with the infamous “Killing Machine” Mafia capo, Gregory Scarpa, Sr.
- Making matters even worse, that same Brooklyn district attorney office, suddenly, under highly suspicious circumstances, recently dropped murder charges against Taus' former FBI supervisor, Lindley DeVecchio. *We now have a case* of a prosecutor's office, in your area of responsibility, not only protecting DeVecchio and the high FBI-DOJ officials who covered up for DeVecchio's murderous conduct by falsely charging Taus with a crime, again protecting DeVecchio by dropping murder charges against DeVecchio.

It becomes even murkier. DeVecchio, in a position of trust as an FBI supervisor, was charged with participation in four murders with Colombo Mafia capo Gregory Scarpa, Sr. (also known as “The Killing Machine”). There were many people ready to testify against DeVecchio, including two witnesses that were classics to prove a case. One was Linda Schiro, the common law wife of Scarpa Sr., and Scarpa's son, Gregory Scarpa, Jr. Linda Schiro was privy to the many conversations between Scarpa and DeVecchio, which occurred in her presence. After Linda Schiro testified about the murders involving her common-law husband and FBI supervisor DeVecchio, the prosecutor suddenly dropped all charges, basing his actions on a

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<sup>2</sup> David Taus, 3308 Bertha Drive, Baldwin, New York 11510. Phone: 516-223-2811.

totally flawed excuse and stating that Schiro's testimony was not credible. The cooperating judge in the case then implied that criminal perjury charges should be considered against Linda Schiro, who had courageously appeared to testify at great risk to herself.

Making the dropping of murder charges against DeVecchio even more suspicious, the prosecutor blocked Gregory Scarpa, Jr. from testifying about the murders involving his father and FBI supervisor DeVecchio. It would be difficult to find two witnesses that were more capable of proving the murder charges involving DeVecchio. It would also be difficult to find a prosecutor that repeatedly acted to protect a key FBI official engaging in murders of U.S. citizens.

Following the dropping of charges against DeVecchio, a thorough investigation by an outside investigator reported that the testimony of Linda Schiro was thorough credible. In addition, and for reasons not known by this writer at this time, the prosecutor's office issued a letter praising Gregory Scarpa Jr. Those two written reports justify filing criminal charges against DeVecchio, who was never found innocent. Of course, carrying out that responsibility would expose a sordid and dangerous culture in the U.S. Department of Justice.

We now have a scenario where former FBI agent Richard Taus was suddenly hit with two false charges, that conveniently protected DeVecchio and high FBI-DOJ officials, and then the same prosecutorial office protected DeVecchio by blocking the testimony of two star witnesses and the many others willing to testify. These are crimes against the state, and against selected citizens of the state.

### **The Scenario Gets Worse: Ties to Terrorism and National Security**

But there is more to this sordid scenario. Gregory Scarpa Jr., at great risk to his family, worked as a mole inside an al Qaeda cell headed by Ramzi Yousef, the person who master minded the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center. Covering a period of many months, Mr. Scarpa obtained valuable information from Ramzi Yousef of several planned major terrorist acts against the United States. These terrorist acts *did* subsequently occur, with the *initial* loss of life into the thousands. Scarpa was promised by FBI personnel that he would be recommended for a reduction in his sentence for his valuable work as an al Qaeda mole. This relationship is detailed in my latest book and referred to in several others.<sup>3</sup>

Mr. Scarpa's reports were highly praised by the FBI personnel who worked with him during the months that Scarpa worked as a mole. But high FBI-DOJ officials refused to act on the reports of the planned terrorist attacks; it was necessary to discredit Mr. Scarpa, who was scheduled to testify in several criminal trials that would have proven that DeVecchio was involved with Scarpa's father in several murders. Everyone involved knew, of course, that by covering up for the planned terrorist attacks would be costly in human life. These attacks *did occur*, and the initial heavy loss of life led to other actions that continue to be even more costly in human life and the security of the United States.

Local FBI personnel had promised Mr. Scarpa a reduction in sentence for his dangerous role as a mole in the al Qaeda cell. But high FBI-DOJ officials, recognizing the danger to themselves if Gregory Scarpa Jr. was given a reduction of sentence and released from prison. The same applies to former war hero and FBI agent Richard Taus.

With 40 years of sophisticated airline and other investigative experience, starting as a federal agent investigating such fraud-related matters as the 1960 crash of a United Airlines DC-8 into Brooklyn (that happened in the program for which I had primary safety responsibility), I am fully aware of the sordid culture that exists in some government offices.

I would like to be able to write in subsequent book revisions and on my various Internet sites that finally, someone, such as you, the governor of New York, had the courage to address these outrages. The country is in dire need for a few more people with the character and courage to address these matters.

If you need more information about me, an Internet site<sup>4</sup> provides background information.

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3 *Crimes of the FBI-DOJ, and the Mafia.*

4 [www.defraudingamerica.com/stich\\_bio.html](http://www.defraudingamerica.com/stich_bio.html).

The primary issue in this letter is a request to promptly commute the sentence of Mr. Taus, and further, to expunge the conviction from the record. Taus' mother, the wife of a deceased veteran, is in failing health and will not live to see her son released, if you do not act fast.

I have been in continuous contact for several years with Richard Taus and Gregory Scarpa, Jr., and have received hundreds of documents and letters from them. Combined with my many years of investigative work, including as a federal investigator, I am convinced that what is stated in this letter is accurate.

The ramifications of what is stated here are related to the success of prior catastrophic terrorist attacks upon the United States. The continuing culture in key government positions continues to threaten the lives of many people as well as the security of the United States.

The matters stated here are also crimes against the people of the state of New York. I believe the gravity of these matters demand that you impanel a meaningful investigative group to consider not only the plight of Mr. Taus and Mr. Scarpa, the reinstatement of the murder charges against former FBI supervisor Lindley DeVecchio, and actions to prompt a federal investigation into the matters related to the conduct that enabled the prior terrorist attacks to so easily succeed. In addition, the involvement of U.S. Attorney General Michael Mukasey in one segment of the cover-up of these matters requires that any federal investigation be conducted by people outside of that department.

Sincerely,

Rodney Stich