



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND GLOBAL SECURITY WORKING GROUP

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue, E51-296
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

July 10, 2014

Graham Morrison, Head of Security
Security Operations
The University of Western Australia (M411)
35 Stirling Highway
CRAWLEY WA 6009
Australia

Dear Mr. Morrison:

This letter explains why a communication made to authorities at the University of Western Australia may be a violation of antiterrorism, hate crime and civil liberty laws. The communication at issue is reproduced in Appendix 1 on page 3 of this letter. The communication is dated June 19, 2014 and you are shown to be one of the recipients of this communication.

This letter is accompanied by another letter that describes my professional involvement with the University of Western Australia student, Maram Susli, who is the main target of this potential crime (the letter appears to also attempt to slander me, but that is not an issue that concerns me here).

I have already been in contact with FBI on this matter. My contact at the FBI is Special Agent XXXXXXX XXXXXX, who is experienced in FBI antiterrorist and hazardous material operations. Special Agent XXXXXX has told me that he has contacts he has worked with in the UK, and he could help facilitate coordination on this matter with Australian police authorities when they contact him. Special Agent XXXXXX's contact information is provided at the end of this letter.

Mr. Kaszeta's false report of a terrorism activity alleges that Maram Susli was producing nerve agent in her organic chemistry laboratory. This claim is at its face ridiculous, since Ms. Susli is a quantum chemist, and therefore has a laboratory that is more likely to be a computer terminal than a laboratory containing chemicals and devices for mixing, distilling, and controlling the temperature of chemical materials. The numerous statements in Mr. Kaszeta's false report of a terrorist activity shows that he has absolutely no basis for this extremely serious set of accusations.

Over the past 15 years, the greatly increased concern about international terrorism has resulted in a very high degree of international cooperation among law enforcement agencies in the Western alliance. Only last week, there were many reports about the increased security for flights into the United States from foreign airports. This increase in security is a direct result of concerns about a potential increase in terrorist acts by organizations involved with, or sympathetic to, groups that are fighting in the Syrian civil war and in Iraq.

As such, the timing of Mr. Kaszeta's accusations are especially problematic, due to the heightened security condition from concerns in the international police community of increased terrorist activities spilling out of the Syrian civil war and the ongoing invasion of Iraq by the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria. Mr. Kaszeta's letter is likely a violation of antiterrorist laws in Australia, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Canada – in addition to many other countries in the Western alliance.

It is public knowledge that exchanges of intelligence are now routine between law enforcement agencies in countries like the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia. It should therefore be of great concern to all these cooperating police authorities that an individual would make a false claim of terrorist activity against an innocent student at your university.

In addition to making a false claim of a terrorist activity against Maram Susli, Mr. Kaszeta has also targeted Ms. Susli because she is a descendent of Syria – even though she is an Australian citizen and grew up in Australia.

This raises further questions about whether the false report of terrorism also qualifies as a hate crime. The very strict laws against hate crimes are similar in the United States, Australia, and the United Kingdom. As such, it seems that these serious violations of law are likely covered by international arrangements between these three countries. It therefore seems that Australian authorities should forward information about Mr. Kaszeta's false report of terrorist activities to British authorities for their investigation. As noted earlier in my letter, Special Agent XXXXXX is aware of these facts and has the ability to contact the appropriate British authorities.

I am not an expert in the law, but I do know quite a bit about the problem of terrorism. In fact, I teach a very popular course on the subject at MIT. At the end of that course, I have by tradition invited agents from the FBI to make presentations to the class.

I am extremely concerned that the local police authorities and the authorities at the University of Western Australia appear to not have referred this matter to the British government. It is my belief that this should be done so that the British government can assess the situation independently and take whatever actions it deems appropriate. To not provide the British government with this information could invite additional false claims of terrorism from Mr. Kaszeta and some of his colleagues. This is not, and should not, be acceptable to international police authorities.

I am attaching short discussions along with the URLs from which they were taken that describe the legal arrangements in the United States with regard to false reports of terrorism and hate crimes. I would be very surprised to find out that the Australian and British systems do not treat these matters in much the same way.

I have had extensive communications with Ms. Susli, and I know she has collected a substantial amount of material about Mr. Kaszeta's conduct beyond that of his scurrilous communication. I am sure that she will freely share all the information she has obtained.

I am, of course, also available to communicate with any police or university-based organizations that have a concern about these matters.

Thanks very much for your attention to this matter.

Cc: Special Agent

XXXXXX@ic.fbi.gov
XXXXXX

XXXXXX@UAW.edu.au
Professor XXXXXX

XXXXXX@UAW.edu.au
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Maram Susli

Theodore A. Postol



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Attachment 1 of 3:

Letter Sent by Dan Kaszeta Making False Reports of Terrorism

Attachment 2 of 3:

Legal Issues Raised by False Reports of Terrorism

Attachment 3 of 3:

Legal Issues Raised by Actions That Qualify As Hate Crimes

Appendix 1 of 3

Letter Sent by Dan Kaszeta Making False Reports of Terrorism

From: Dan Kaszeta director@strongpointsecurity.co.uk
Subject: I need to report a possible Security and/or Safety issue at your University
Date: 19 June 2014 12:19 am
To: xxxxxxxx@uwa.edu.au, xxxxxxxx@uwa.edu.au, xxxxxxxx@uwa.edu.au, xxxxxxxx@uwa.edu.au

Dear University of Western Australia officials:

I apologise for bothering you, but as a professional in the security industry with a background in law enforcement, I feel it is my ethical duty to report possible safety, legal, and security concerns to you. I believe that one Maram Susli, who may be associated with your university in some capacity, evidently as an MSc student, might be engaging in potentially dangerous research involving chemical warfare agents, particularly the deadly nerve agent Sarin.

Background:

As this is a relatively complex matter, I will explain how and why I have come about this information:

* I am a career long specialist in chemical warfare and defence against chemical weapons, and I work as a consultant in this area. I am a published author and established authority in the field. Feel free to make independent queries about my career and credentials.

* My views have been sought after because of chemical warfare events in Syria and I am a public figure in the debate over the details of what may have happened.

* In the last week I was engaged in a lengthy technical debate, by email, with Dr. Ted Postol of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He and I are having various disagreements about how the Sarin that was used on 21 August last year in Syria may have been made.

* Without my permission, Dr. Postol started copying a person known by the alias "Syrian Sister" into the conversation, stating that she was an organic chemist who could add to this debate.

* I ceased communications once I discovered that a third party was being added to technical discussions about how illegal nerve agents could be made and refined.

This "Syrian Sister" person, now having my personal email address, sent me an email, a PDF of which is attached. She makes reference to being a chemist, having access to chemical reagents through a university, and claims a high degree of knowledge about nerve agents.

* In her email to me, she identified herself as "PartisanGirl", who is infamous online and in media as an extremist who strongly identifies with the Assad regime in Syria and who advocates violence against Jewish people. A search of social media will indicate such. Given the various public statements of an extremist nature and advocating violence, the combination of access to reagents, specific chemical warfare knowledge, and extremist ideological makes me very nervous.

* A very quick and elementary search of the internet and social media identifies that "PartisanGirl" is very likely one Ms. Maram Susli, who appears to be at the University of Western Australia.

Specific Safety and Security Concerns:

* Is this person conducting laboratory research into chemical warfare materials, in particular the nerve agent Sarin?

* The email claims that she has access to reagents through her university. In the context of the discussions in which she was copied into by Dr. Postol, the only meaningful interpretation would be that she has access

* Is Dr. Postol from MIT engaged in unauthorised tasking of one of your students, particularly in this dangerous area of chemical warfare research?

* Is Ms. Susli using university property or materials or computer systems for unauthorised and potentially illegal or unsafe acts?

This could, of course, be invective and hyperbole. Or there could be something deeply dangerous happening. This is why I have made the decision to flag this disturbing email to all of the appropriate university officials. As you can understand, my own professional ethics compel me to report this to someone. I hope that one of you addressed on this email is the appropriate official or can at least forward this to someone for an investigation.

I thank for taking your time to review this issue. I would not make these allegations if I did not have a reasonable fear that something potentially illegal or unsafe was going on. If I have mis-identified Ms. Susli as the person responsible for this, I deeply apologise and hope that perhaps the correct person can be identified. My contact details are below. If it is necessary for full context, I can send the entire email chain between myself and Dr Postol, but my first inclination is not to do so unless it is specifically requested.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Kaszeta
Managing Director, Strongpoint Security Ltd.
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+44 7429 009925
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Appendix 2 of 3

Legal Issues Raised by False Reports of Terrorism

<http://www.legalmatch.com/law-library/article/crime-of-filing-a-false-report-of-terrorism.html>

Is it Illegal to File a False Report of Terrorism?

Yes- many states now have statutes which make it illegal for a person to make a false report of a terrorist attack or threat. Such false claims are considered to be a great waste of resources, including, time, money, and personnel that could be devoted to real attacks.

The main concern regarding false reports of terrorist activity is that they can have the same effect on the public as a real report. That is, the public may respond to the threat as if it were real, which could result in further disorder or injury. As a result, many states categorize false reports of terrorism as a felony. Some states that have passed such laws include New York and Michigan.

What are the Legal Consequences of the Crime of False Report of Terrorism?

In many states the crime of false report of terrorism include prison time in a federal facility, with sentences ranging anywhere from 7-20 years. The consequences may also include heavy fines as well. Some states consider the crime to be a violent felony, even if the defendant did not specifically commit any violent acts.

The elements for proving false report of terrorism include:

- Making a false report of a terrorist act or a terrorist threat
- Knowledge that the report is untrue
- Communicating such false report to another person

Note that the definition also includes making reports about fake threats, and not just terrorist actions. It could also include falsely accusing another person of being a terrorist while knowing the accusation is false.

A common example of this crime is when a person makes a phone call to the police stating that a bomb has been placed in a public place such as an airport or a stadium. If the person knew that the threat was false, they will likely be held liable under criminal laws, and will receive a felony on their criminal record.

Since the crime is considered to be a felony, it could have affects on other rights that are available to the person, such as immigration status or the right to bear arms.

Is this Different From Lying to the Police or Making a False Statement?

The crime of lying to the police is a more general crime that does not necessarily always deal with terrorism. Also, making a false statement in court is considered a different crime (perjury) and is dealt with in a different manner than the crime of false report of terrorism.

For your information, **the crime of false report of terrorism focuses the act or a threat of terrorism. It need not be communicated to a police or other authorities; making the report to a neighbor or co-worker could be considered enough to trigger the offense.**

Appendix 3 of 3

Legal Issues Raised by Actions That Qualify As Hate Crimes

<http://www.legalmatch.com/law-library/article/hate-crime-lawyers.html>

What Are Hate Crimes?

Hate crimes are defined in a variety of different ways. Hate crimes, also known as bias motivated crimes are crimes that are motivated in whole or in part by a bias or prejudice against protected groups. For example, if a person is [murdered](#) because they are African American, the murder is a hate crime. Different states protect different groups, but some of the most common groups are race and religion.

What Are the Penalties for Hate Crimes?

Most states provide for penalty enhancements for hate crimes. A penalty enhancement increases the penalty for a crime. So, if you assault someone because they are Chinese and this assault is determined to be a hate crime, the penalty for the crime will be increased. The amount of enhancement varies from state to state. The purpose of tougher penalties for hate crimes is to deter others by showing people that those who commit hate crimes will be treated severely. The Supreme Court has held that penalty enhancements are Constitutional.

Other Facts about Hate Crimes

In addition to penalty enhancements, many states allow for civil cases as the result of a hate crime. To learn about the differences between the civil and criminal systems, [click here](#). Also, many states have institutional vandalism statutes, which provide for tougher penalties for vandalism of houses of worship, cemeteries, schools, and community centers.

What to Do if You're the Victim of a Hate Crime

If you are the victim of a [crime](#), you should call the police. This is especially true if you believe the crime was motivated by a bias or prejudice. If the police feel there is enough evidence, they will go forward and present the case to the District Attorney's office in order to prosecute the person who committed the crime against you.



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July 10, 2014

Kimberley James Heitman,
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General Counsel/Director of Legal Services
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Corporate Services M461 |
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Dear Ms. Heitman:

I am writing to commend Maram Susli, for her highly professional support of my colleague, Richard Lloyd, and I during our ongoing work on technical issues associated with the nerve agent attack of August 21, 2013 in Damascus. The technical details associated with this atrocity are extremely important, as they have direct implications for the highest level of political decision making in the UN, the United States, Great Britain, and the many other states that are in the Western alliance.

I am also attaching a second letter that specifically deals with the potential criminal implications of false allegations made in a letter sent to UWA by Dan Kaszeta, who claims to reside in London England. Mr. Kaszeta pretends to be an expert on chemical weapons. The false statements in his letter are potential violations of laws that carry stiff penalties for making false reports about terrorism threats, hate speech, and suppression of free speech that have all been adopted by the United States, Great Britain, and Australia. Mr. Kaszeta's actions are little different from telling authorities about a bomb plot that did not exist. They are also little different from threatening an individual with harm for expressing political thoughts that are protected as free speech. I am sending copies of this letter and the second letter about Mr. Kaszeta's potentially violations of law to the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

During the early course of Mr. Lloyd's and my work on the Damascus atrocity, we were the first to identify the novel design characteristics of the chemical munitions that were used in the attack – showing that the amount of sarin that was delivered was 10 to 20 times larger than what the world at that time believed. Our findings were independently verified by a UN team that published a report roughly 2 weeks after our finding was made public.

We later showed that the chemical munition could only have been fired from a range of roughly 2 kilometers, which indicated that the entire foundation of US intelligence reports on the attack made to the Congress, the UN leadership, and the American public, could not possibly have been correct. The inaccurate US intelligence could have led to the US President to take military actions in Syria that could have had disastrous consequences for the Western alliance.

As we continued our work on these extremely important national security issues, we became aware of Dan Kaszeta, who presented himself as an experienced expert on chemical weapons. We were immediately aware that Mr. Kaszeta was not who he claimed to be, as he was making false technical claims that the unitary chemical munition used in the attack was actually a binary munition. There was, and remains, absolutely no technical basis for this claim.

A far more serious and harmful false claim by Mr. Kaszeta that was widely reported in the Western press was with regard to the meaning of traces of hexamine that were found in swipe samples taken in Damascus by the UN inspection team. Mr. Kaszeta falsely claimed that the presence of hexamine in the UN samples was a "Smoking Gun" indicating that the Syrian government could have been the only source of the attack.

Letter 1 of 2 Letters

To provide you with the information you need to verify that Mr Kaszeta is a fake I am attaching a document titled, *A Brief Assessment of the Veracity of Published Statements in the Press and Elsewhere Made by Dan Kaszeta, a Self-Described Expert on the Science and Technology of Chemical Weapons.*

This document contains a short summary describing Mr. Kaszeta's false claims, and appendices that show that Mr. Kaszeta has essentially none of the technical knowledge that he represents himself as having. Appendix 1 in the document provides the full email exchange between Mr. Kaszeta and me on the technical questions associated with his claim that hexamine was a "Smoking Gun" pointing to the Syrian government. During the email exchange he falsely claimed that Professor Åka Sellström, the Head of the UN inspection team that took the samples, had made statements that supported Mr. Kaszeta's claims.

Appendix 2 contains my letter to Professor Sellström asking about Kaszeta's assertion that hexamine clearly indicated the Syrian government was the source of the attack, and Professor Sellström's reply that he had never made such a statement.

It is also worth noting that during the entire exchange with Mr. Kaszeta he could not produce a single relevant scientific reference to support any of his claims about the use of various chemical precursors in the production of sarin.

Both Mr. Lloyd and I are trained as physicists and we understand that chemistry is a highly complex discipline, so we asked Maram to critique our exchanges with Mr. Kaszeta.

During that process, Maram conducted herself in a highly professional and respectful way. She was willing and able to criticize some of our analysis, and to add significant insights for us as we moved forward in the exchange with Mr. Kaszeta. For example, we had reason to believe that the solubility of hexamine in isopropanol was very low, making it a poor choice as an acid scavenger in the production of sarin. We could not find the scientific references to show this. Maram found the references and pointed out that the low solubility of hexamine and isopropanol meant that very high ratios of isopropanol to Methylphosphonyl difluoride would be required to manufacture sarin. She also pointed out that the chemical reaction rates could well result in a sarin product that could be of very low quality – if, in fact, any sarin could be produced by this cumbersome process.

Since the Syrian government had declared to the UN that it had vast amounts of isopropyl amine, the preferred product for use in the production of sarin, the Syrian declaration was completely consistent with Professor Sellstrom's clear statement that hexamine played no role in the manufacture of sarin by the Syrian government.

This peculiarly narrow technical discussion is an example of how in some cases technical details can have major implications for international security efforts.

In this case, it was, and remains, highly desirable to identify the source of this atrocity. There is accumulating evidence that the atrocity could have been a "false flag" attack, designed to provoke the United States and its allies into using air power to destroy the Syrian government's military capacities.

This would have had the consequence of removing a very significant military counterbalance to extremist organizations like Al Nusra and the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

There is no question that most, if not all, all of the combatant groups involved in the Syrian Civil War have indulged in behavior that could not be judged as anything but criminal. But there is still a question of whether the destruction of Syrian military capacity would have further strengthened ISIS, which is now posing a major threat to all moderate Muslims in the region, and to the political stability of the entire Middle East.

In summary, Maram's interactions with us have been absolutely professional, constructive, and critical to our efforts to provide independent technical information that informs decision-making in the Western

alliance. The fact that independent technical assessments like ours, can be done by the intelligence systems in the Western alliance, does not lead to a conclusion that work like this is irrelevant.

My very substantial experience over decades has led me to conclude that the pressures on governments and their leaders, can lead to very bad decisions that might otherwise be avoided if the public, the parliaments and the Congress had other sources of information. In the case of the United States, in 2003 we initiated a war of choice with Iraq that was entirely based on fictional claims that there was a big threat from weapons of mass destruction. The currently evolving destruction of the political order in the Middle East from the catastrophic rise and success of ISIS can be directly traced to the ill-considered war in 2003.

In this case, one of your students, Maram Susli, has provided a great service to the democracies of the Western alliance by helping to inform the general public about false statements that could lead to other ill-considered political decisions in the future.

I will be happy to communicate with you or any of the Australian police authorities further at any level of detail that is deemed appropriate. As such, I am providing contact information for me at the bottom of this letter.

I am attaching a separate letter that deals with what I believe are potentially criminal acts by Mr. Kaszeta.

Theodore A. Postol



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Maram Susli