Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 13, 2012

Mr. Charles K. Edwards
Acting Inspector General
Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Drive, SW, Building 410
Washington, DC 20528

Dear General Edwards:

As you may know, information has recently come to light that raises serious questions about the involvement of organizations and individuals associated with the Muslim Brotherhood in Department of Homeland Security activities and policies. Given that the U.S. government has established in federal court[1] that the Muslim Brotherhood's mission in the United States is "destroying the Western civilization from within" – a practice the Brothers call "civilization jihad" – we believe that the apparent involvement of those with such ties raises serious security concerns that warrant your urgent attention.

According to "The Muslim Brotherhood in America: The Enemy Within," a product of the Center for Security Policy (www.MuslimBrotherhoodinAmerica.com), the Department of Homeland Security has utilized in a key advisory role three individuals with extensive ties to the Muslim Brotherhood, other Islamist organizations and causes: Dalia Mogahed, Mohamed Elibiary, and Mohamed Magid.

The problematic nature of this arrangement is evident from, for example, the use of Imam Magid by the Department of Homeland Security – among other federal agencies – as a liaison with the Muslim-American community insofar as he is the president of the largest Muslim Brotherhood front in America, the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA).[2] In this regard, we note that the "Supreme Guide" of the international Muslim Brotherhood, Muhammad Badie, in September 2010 openly called for jihad by all "the Arab and Muslim peoples" against the United States.[3]

As members of the Department's Homeland Security Advisory Committee's Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Working Group and, in the case of Mr. Elibiary, as a member of the Advisory Committee itself, these three have been in a position to exercise considerable influence. In addition to Messrs. Elibiary, Magid and Ms. Mogahed, five other members of the CVE Working Group appear to share their sympathy for Islamist causes in addition to sharing some of their associations with organizations that are advancing such agendas inside the United States.

Of particular concern is the fact that the Working Group has been publicly credited with developing guidelines that have since been adopted by the Department and other agencies

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

that utilize DHS funding to train personnel in understanding, identifying, and countering the threat currently euphemistically dubbed "violent extremism."

Examples of other aspects of the Department's activities that suggest an undue, and potentially dangerous, influence exercised by such individuals within DHS or other parts of the federal government include:

- A DHS "Lexicon" that obscures, rather than clarifies, the threat we face from jihadism. Its approved words effectively equate those perpetrating this threat with ones said to arise from "Christian patriots," "Constitutionalists," and "militia extremists."

- A CVE Curriculum announced in August 2011 that would use federal Homeland Security funding to establish a "community-oriented policing approach" that would confer on "community leaders" and organizations tied to the Muslim Brotherhood responsibilities for coordination with DHS entities and state and local law enforcement utilizing federal homeland security funding.

- A "Building Communities of Trust Initiative" that promotes the notion of a distinction between so-called "cultural behaviors" and "conduct that may legitimately reflect terrorism-precursor activities." As a practical matter, making such a distinction affords pre-violent jihadist activity to be masked and pursued under the guise of innocuous "cultural behavior."

- The preeminent role of the DHS Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties – rather than offices with line responsibility for homeland security or law enforcement – in determinations that govern relations with a "particular ethnic or religious community." In practice, this has translated into direction that amounts to ignoring pre-violent jihadist behavior – no matter how threatening – as long as it can be construed as "constitutionally protected."

- Promoting as a "resource" a book published by the Muslim Public Affairs Council entitled, *Building Bridges to Strengthen America: Forging an Effective Counter-Terrorism Enterprise Between Muslim Americans and Law Enforcement.* The Investigative Project on Terrorism, among other organizations, has identified that MPAC as an entity long and closely associated with the Muslim Brotherhood and its civilization jihadist agenda.

- The providing of a security clearance to Mohamed Elibiary and whether proper lawful vetting was done before providing such clearance. This is especially true in view of the report that Mr. Elibiary used his clearance to gain access to classified documents which he downloaded and then provided to media outlets in an effort to portray the Texas Department of Public Safety as "Islamophobic."

We believe these actions and policies are cause for serious concern. They may even pose security risks for this nation, its people and interests.

In any event, they are within the scope of your duties under Section 2 of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, "to conduct and supervise audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of the [Department of Homeland Security] and...to provide a means for keeping the head of the establishment and the Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies relating to the administration of such programs and operations and the necessity for and progress of corrective action." Accordingly, we request that your office conduct a formal investigation or evaluation of the extent to which Muslim Brotherhood-tied individuals and entities have helped achieve the adoption of these Department of Homeland Security actions and policies, or are involved in their execution.

Specifically, within your statutory duties, we ask that your report address:

(1) Within the programs and operations of the establishment(s) for which you serve as Inspector General, has the Muslim Brotherhood or has any individual associated with the Muslim Brotherhood, directly or indirectly ever renounced the objectives of the Muslim Brotherhood in North America?[4]

(2) How is the Muslim Brotherhood active in the "programs and operations" of the establishment(s) for which you serve as Inspector General, (a) through what specific individual and organizational agents, (b) whether or not the specified individuals involved are U.S. citizens, and (c) what is its/their relationship with the international Muslim Brotherhood?

(3) In light of the statutory duty of Inspectors General "to provide a means for keeping the head of the establishment and the Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies relating to the administration of such programs and operations and the necessity for and progress of corrective action" (IG Act, Section 2(3)), we request that you recommend in your report "corrective action," consistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States, to ensure that no Muslim Brotherhood associated entity or individual is placed into a position of honor or trust within the programs and operations of the Department of Homeland Security.

(4) The manner in which Mr. Elibiary obtained his security clearance, whether it followed proper procedure, whether anyone else advising or assisting Homeland Security has obtained a security clearance without following proper procedure as well as what background checks were utilized to select advisors, board members, or working group members are all matters that should be included in the report.

Please forward your recommended "corrective action," including a discussion of its consistency with the Constitution and laws of the United States, together with your other findings, to the undersigned in unclassified and, if necessary, classified form, within 90 days of your receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,

Michele Bachmann
Member of Congress

Trent Franks
Member of Congress

Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress

Thomas Rooney
Member of Congress

Lynn Westmoreland
Member of Congress

cc: Hon. Janet Napolitano, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security
Hon. Peter King, Chairman, House Homeland Security Committee

Attachments: a/s

---

[1] See enclosed: Official Government exhibit entered into evidence in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas by the United Stated Department of Justice; July 1, 2009 opinion of the United States District Court of the Northern District of Texas; order unsealing that opinion issued by the United States Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit on October 20, 2010, in connection with an appeal captioned *United States v. Holy Land Foundation et al.,* No. 09-10875.

[2] See the enclosed October 20, 2010, opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit and the July 1, 2009, District Court opinion it ordered unsealed, both mentioned above.

[3] See Muhammad Badie sermon, September 30, 2010 (translation enclosed).

[4] *Op.cit*, October 20, 2010, opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit and the July 1, 2009 District Court opinion it ordered unsealed.