

My Story 1995 Sydney

The story dates back to 1996, when we moved to an apartment Nock in Edensor Street. Epping, NSW 2119. One day when I came home around 4 pm, I saw few policemen in the adjacent apartment, which was occupied by a young couple (Australian looking). The lady who was very upset and distressed came out and told me that their apartment had got broken into. All of a sudden with no further communication she shouted in agony "Tell your friends to bring everything back". I was surprised and had no idea what she was talking about. I thought she was in trauma and ignored her comments then, later on I came to know that there were three Iranian young men renting the basement of the apartment and who, within few weeks of the burglary, vacated the place. Not long after that, we were told to vacate the apartment by our owners too. We then moved to one of the ground floor units in another block of apartments across the park about 500m away from there. In the same apartment, just opposite to our unit, lived two young men (in their mid-thirties). After few weeks I noticed an Indian looking lady (25-30 years old), mother of 4-5 years old boy

who visited the Australian men very frequently. Her activities clearly revealed that she had an affair with one of the inmates. She used to monitor my homecoming time and take notes of my activities around the house. During that time, I thought that this was a normal procedure of the country to monitor an immigrant who has come from a country associated with such illegal activities, I thought that was a way of protecting their citizens by making sure only people with a clean image could enter and reside in the country. I did not think it was necessary for me to mention or talk about this to anyone. In the same block of apartments also lived an elderly Iranian guy, who One day told me that I would be watched and monitored wherever I went. People will not leave me alone and let me live peacefully.

Beginning of 1997, started to work as a part time store person at Lynk, a company retailing in electronic parts. Two months after I started working there, one of my Chinese colleagues mentioned that a young boy (11-15 years old) sits outside the building and observes me come and go. Soon after, a Phillipino man and an Australian lady who actually worked with me started to closely watch my activities inside the company. One day, after about 5 months of my work with the company, some civil looking people came to the store and asked for the manager. I gladly directed them to

the manager's office. Few days after, I was called into the manager's office and was told that I was no longer required by the company and was immediately asked to leave. My innocent mind knew little that the people, whom I directed to the manager, were policemen in Ordinary clothes and were there to talk about me. During those days, I put a business partnership proposal to a young man (my son's friend). He clearly stated that he did like the proposal but was scared that I was under surveillance and having a business relation with me might endanger his own reputation.

After I lost the job at Lynk, at end of 1997, we bought a house and moved to Kellyville (Benalla Avenue) and started my job hunt again. I got a job in a small plumbing pipes company on Sunnyholt Road in the Blacktown. I hadn't worked there for long when a person (in ordinary clothes) came and spoke to the manager clearly pointing to me. I don't know if he was a police or a civil. The next day, the manager called me and fired me from the job. I was clueless and hopeless. I have no words to explain the agony I was going through those days. I got repeatedly sacked from one job after the other despite my honest and loyal work ethics. I could neither express this to my friends nor my family. I didn't have an answer to the questions in their eyes.

Thereafter, I found myself a job at MQF, a sausage manufacturing company in Flemington market area. After two months of working there I spoke with few Fijian co-workers during lunch time. I told them my previous work experiences and how I got fired from the jobs. They explained me that the same was going to happen there too and I would not be left alone anywhere. They also said that the people who were behind me were professionals. They would torture me to the extent that I would lose the balance of my mind. They would label me mentally sick, send me to the mental hospital and medicate me. They were true in a sense. My shifts at MQF started at 5 am in the morning. I had to leave home around 4.15 am in the morning. It would still be dark. I noticed one of my neighbours from 8-9 houses away following me in his car every morning from my house to the main street. As I said earlier, I ignored those activities and did not speak to anyone about it. My Fijian co-workers suggested that I should build my own business and not rely on other companies for jobs. That conversation was a real eye opener to me. After a week, I quit the job and gradually started my own business.

Our few years of stay in Kellyville was full of such incidents. A lady, who lived in the next to us, revealed that she was being forced to work for a group for their interest

and spy on me and report to them. She was a very honest lady and didn't want to get involved in these sorts of activities. There was a family with the surname Mammone, living in the same vicinity, who worked for a political party in the election campaigns etc... Who were convincing the lady to monitor our family. Later I came to know that she got a call from a group of people to visit their office and start working for them. She was scared to go there by herself and I had to take someone with her. Frequently, groups of men with bizarre appearances (could be reasonably described as hooligans) would drive around our house. One of those instances when I stopped them and asked if I could help them because the way they were driving was a "No through road". They intentionally tried to pick a fight. The incidents carried on, my post box got broken; my letters were opened and thrown in front of my house. Finally I reported the incident to the local police. Constable Michelle Parragne wrote my incident report then (I only reported the breaking in of my post box).

With a heavy heart, we left the area and moved to 2 Old Beecroft Road, Cheltenham NSW. Where my daughter joined the local girl's high school. We were not spared there too. While in the area, I soon became aware of two houses (addresses no.1 and no. 4) belonging to immigrants with

teenage children. These young people were coerced into working in surveillance (as a 'watchdog') for the government, something I have not seen happening in any other country.

I have been surprised to see that misleading and damaging information about me had gone to the databases of various government and private businesses like Commonwealth Bank, ANZ etc.

Limiting opportunities at work was evident everywhere and everyone I worked for. During 1999, I worked to sell products for commissions for a company named Sidam. A lady and a man came there too and spoke to the manager. Few days later I was told that if I didn't meet certain target sales, I could go. I can confidently say that the lady came there was the same who used to observe me when I lived in Epping.

I saw the extent of this action in the year 2000 when a girl aged approximately 15 years was made to follow and observe my actions with a male companion. This girl was acting under the Iranian government and the Australian government, and had been abused and let by the systems. Today, this girl has a young daughter of her own, and I wonder what her damaged mother going to teach her.

Our life at Cheltenham was even harsher. What added to the severity of the situation was, the police, entrusted with power to protect the rights and dignity of the residents, seemed to join hands with the perpetrators. Very often police cars hovered around our house. Many times parked nearby and stayed for a quite a long time. However, could not resist myself when one day they parked, blocking our driveway. I approached them and politely asked if I could be of any assistance. One of officers replied in a very plain, cold tone that they were doing their job and it wasn't my business at all. I then retorted that it certainly became my business when they were parked on my driveway. With the police constantly driving around the perimeter of my house, the neighbours had started to cook up false ideas about my family and me. I went to the Eastwood Police Station to discuss and ask if the police was suspicious about myself or any activities that I was Involved in. I presented myself very calmly and requested to speak to the senior official, as the lower level officials did not seem to care about what I was going through, No one was there to listen to my experiences and me. Instead, I got very cold and rude Statements from them. I felt helpless and overwhelmed with frustration and agony. And said, "If anyone appears near my house from now I will destroy everyone and everything". Although my

statement was just a sentence that came out of a frustrated and helpless man banging his head for peace and justice and trying to shield his family from inhumane acts. I do not regret the loud and firm words I used because what I noticed from the next immediate day was that the watchdogs didn't appear close to my house. Not that they had stopped, but now they stayed a bit further in the street. Now the questions that hounded my mind were, firstly, "How did the observers know about what I spoke within the walls of the police station?" and secondly, "Was that the reason why the offenders were never been actioned upon despite their acts were clearly evident?"

Then I started get calls from taxi companies (Silver Taxi) around 2 am of the night saying if I had booked a taxi. The first time denied and ignored the call. The next day around the same time of the night a taxi came to my house saying that I booked a cab. I sat inside with a smile and told the driver to take me where he was told. He kept on insisting that I booked the cab so I had to tell him where I needed to go. I then asked him to drive me to a nearby police station. When he stopped in front of the police station. I grabbed his authority card and went inside and explained the whole incident to them. When police asked the taxi driver who called him, he showed them the number on his mobile phone.

The Police was silent when they saw the number and tried to explain to me that it was a misunderstanding and instructed me to pay the fares to the driver. I was not ready to pay the fare as I hadn't booked the taxi. To my absolute surprise, this incident never got recorded and no report was created. My mind was about to burst with all these thoughts that police knew the number of the caller and kept silent.

Around 2000-2001, I used to supply cleaning products to hospitality businesses. This particular instance I was visiting Parramatta shopping centre to deliver some products to an established customer and walk around to get new businesses in the area. An Aussie looking, hefty man closely followed me wherever I went around the shopping centre and shops I entered, He tried to intimidate me with his physical appearance and presence.

During a similar work related visit to one of restaurants located at the top floor of Hornsby shopping centre, I had police following me. While I was talking to the restaurant owner and explaining about my products, the policemen came and sat on the chairs nearby (in the food court). They neither ordered any food or drink nor spoke to anyone.

In 2003 I met with federal agent Fiona Drennan of the Australian Federal police and clearly stated that I knew of the pressure exerted by the Iranian Government on both the

Indian and Australian governments to damage my reputation and limit my opportunities.

A tragic incident took place at a Shop in Liverpool where I supplied my products. Police attended the business with my photograph and warned the owner to stop dealing with me immediately. A similar condition was created at a fruit shop in Liverpool, where police spoke to an Asian female worker of the store. I could see the police entering the fruit shop from a coffee shop outside (I was writing an invoice). Then those gentlemen in blue shirts came close to me and stood around for couple minutes, making me feel like a criminal. Following that incident, the fruit shop refused to do any business with me. I have personally witnessed both the situations.

As mentioned earlier, I have been ignoring all these activities for a long time, as I very well know the reason behind it. I have spoken to many of my clients and explained that my reputation is being attacked because am against the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran but the Australian government supports the current Iranian government and is clearly assisting them by attacking their opposition. Fortunately, a majority of my customers these days are prudent enough to see the truth and continue the business relation. However, many of them simply do not wish to deal

with me because they do not like any trouble and wish to operate their business smoothly. I do not blame them at all and I wish the same. Everyone has a right to live and earn their living peacefully. But the reason of heartache is only because I have lost my right to live a peaceful life and earn my living without distress.

It is sad to mention, that this has not stopped even after I recently moved to North Rocks (6 years ago). The vigil started again and my closest neighbour was assigned the duty. Every Step in and out from home was watched. One out of many such occasions, when I came home from a meeting, I saw a van waiting right in front of my house. I quietly parked behind it and waited inside the car to see what they were up to. They probably had realised that I would not come out of the car and thus drove off.

As an innocent man, I believe, I should be able to live happily and peacefully in the country that I chose to spend the rest of life. Despite the continued harassment and attempts to tarnish my reputation, limiting my opportunities at work breaches of privacy, I shall continue to love and be faithful to this nation. However I have vowed to continue this fight for justice for as long as it takes. So that in future any innocent person will not suffer injustice.

Mehdi Zolfaghari

20 January 2016

To Whom It May Concern

I wish to make a formal complaint in relation to the actions and events that I have endured by government organisations over the past 20 years since my arrival in Australia from Iran. Within this open letter I have documented what I believe to be several occasions that prove my allegations.

This open letter is written to you with due respect to the authority, as a concerned and a good samaritan. It is a complaint and an explanation about the situation of migrants like me who have come to this country, who believe in peace and nonviolence. There must be many others like me who are silently suffering and suffocating. As a duty of a citizen of this country I would like to tell you about what I have seen and experienced in this period of twenty years.

My belief was that this land protects its citizen's identity, dignity, credibility and honour, that it would not allow anyone to encroach on their citizen's basic freedom of everyday life.

I don't know how I can explain my feeling and my experience of being in Australia for 20 years. However, I have to assure you that our loyalty to this land is same to our

motherland. I remember very well when I came to this beautiful and innocent land, I was still young and active. I think it would be relevant to throw some light on my life in Iran before migrating here. Before I came here I lived in the northern part of Tehran, which is considered as one of the posh areas in Iran. I lived a very respectful and exemplary life. Parents took as one a role model to teach their children how to live an honest life. A wealthy life, a dignified job and a happy family was all left behind only because my heart did not approve the way the Iranian government treated its own citizens. For me being personally privileged but seeing my countrymen suffer was not the ultimate happiness. As a government official, I was posted to various countries for work. While I was working as a cultural officer for the Iranian government in Pakistan, I discovered that the government was using innocent Pakistani students for the Iranian intelligence. I instantly quit my job and left Pakistan without even serving the notice period. My inner self did not allow me to work for the government who was not doing the right thing. I then decided to leave the country for good and live a peaceful life in Australia where, I believed, I did not have to involve myself in any activities that would harm other beings. I had come from a country where the citizens were deprived of basic human rights, where there is no law

existed, even if it did, it only applied to the common people. I had come from the country where words such as women-rights, child-rights or basic human rights had no meanings, where criminals ruled the nation and the innocent people suffered and where the leaders supported thieves and elected them for high positions in the government. I had come from the country where 3800 young students were executed within a month without trial only because they were protesting for their rights, and where the biggest theft was recorded when the rulers of the Country robbed its own people. **"Freedom of speech"** or **"impartial journalism"** was words written merely in the books. I had come from the country where tobacco was prohibited in the name of religion but when the same people ruled the country it was allowed again. Some religious leaders of Iran, preached that caviar was Haram (forbidden), however the same leaders, when got into higher and authoritative positions declared it Halal. They also preached that it was Haram to have business relations with countries such as Russia and China where people did not believe in god. However after they got in power, they have the strongest ties with such countries. In fact. They became enemy of the most Muslim countries such as Bahrain, Saudi Arabia etc. (It may be relevant to mention that it has been Russia's dream since hundred years, to reach

to the Persian Gulf in the Middle East. To accomplish its goal, it has been trying hard to appoint its agents as leaders of the countries in those areas. To some extent they have been successful in their mission. **Bashar al-Assad** in Syria, Saddam Hussein in Iraq and **Ali Khamenei** in Iran are powerful examples). Yes we did migrate, flew like birds to reach this country, hoping, here we will have peaceful lives and peaceful society. We left all our properties and memories behind thinking we will have a law that will protect us as citizens of Australia. But this belief is going through a serious trial every second for the last twenty years. I did leave Iran for a reason. The reason is simple enough, did not want to work for a government which did not respect and protect the rights of its citizens. These twenty years in Australia, unfortunately hasn't been any better for me. I have been going through the same mental distress every single day. The Australian government is proud of its democratic society, and the dignity and freedom enjoyed by its citizens. However, this is not consistent with you supporting such a government (Iran). The recent killings of protesting students without trial is an example of how such support is a black mark on the foreign policy and actions of the Australian governments. Yes as I said, we migrated here in 1995 and since then, every day I ask who am I this morning? What do

I believe now? If I open my mouth, what sound will come out? Only people with no brains can fool themselves with trivial facts and not get to the bottom of the truth. But for a knowledgeable and a sane person a short time is enough to discover the truth. Here I'm wondering, is it something wrong with the system or something is wrong with those people. Of course not all of them are guilty but some of them who involve themselves in such an ill manner are certainly worth blaming. Twenty years is not a short time. It is long enough for a child to be born and be in the university. It is certainly long enough for someone to comprehend that if you could not find out the truth for such a long period, there should be two things for you to question. Firstly, there might not be anything that I'm searching for or I suspect. Secondly something must be wrong with me that I could not unveil the truth. In both cases, there will be a price which has been paid. I had a conversation with one of my customers lately. I asked him "how long have you been connected with these people?" he told me since few years, then asked him "what did you see?" he was calling himself a pure orthodox Muslim which he learned everything from Koran. Then I told him that in Koran it is written that there is the day a father won't recognize his son and the son won't recognize his father. On that day everyone is responsible for their own act" if it is true

that there is a God, certainly cannot say that I have heard from someone or someone has told me or someone had brought me some document or ordered me. Then in that case you are ignoring your own God because God had gifted you with brain to think, eyes to see, ears to hear. If you did not have all these documents with you, it means that you are responsible for other people's sin. They will do the same judgement with you. After the Iranian revolution, some people who were in SAVAK intelligence and other agencies like Hezbollah came here and started working here. The Iranian government intelligence takes actions against people who opposed the Iranian regime. Unless you are Shia and blindly follow what the government tells you to do, you are considered against the regime. They are teaching wrong things putting brothers' against brothers. They are like virus that spreads everywhere and makes everyone sick. It reaches the library and spreads itself as teachings in the books; it reaches the universities and corrupts the lecturers to go against the rules of their own universities; it reaches hospitals and makes doctors go against their own principle and the law of the humanity. It reaches your neighbor, who uses their own children for the purpose of intelligence gathering in your area. Exactly what is seen in countries like Syria, Iran, Afghanistan, Africa etc. where the leaders are

acting for the interest of the other countries, not their own people. The Russian **KGB** has entered the Iranian Regime and started its operation of monitoring and defaming the true nationalists. They have established many places to give lectures through the clergies to brainwash the general public and teach them Islam the way they want and not the way the Koran wants, unfortunately due to the lack of knowledge in the country, many people have been affected by it. However the new generation is putting themselves away from it and trying their best to clear the path. The same people who have been brain washed are here in this country and they are using some of the migrants who are innocent are going to their arms because of the social pressure put by the government here. These innocent people can be misused by them for any purposes. I have seen it through my own eyes, many young people who could be well educated to serve this nation skillfully and intellectually for the next generation have been exploited by them.

I have been living in the middle class areas where the neighbors are more or less ordinary and work hard to secure their own lives. But unfortunately, this virus which am talking about has entered the area and badly affected them. If you believe it or not the whole area has changed. Most Of the people are ignorant of the impacts of their actions on the society and the future generations.

Wish there was a place for them to gain knowledge and strength for their brain to think differentiate right from the wrong.

I have noticed that in my area there is a time schedule for them to watch and observe. Sometimes when the parents cannot make it, they send their children and that is what worries me the most. I often wonder where our society is heading with these wrongly trained youth.

My question to these neighbors is, what did we do? Did we disturb them? Did we cause them problems? I am not a religious person but since my childhood I have learnt and believed that neighbors are important and learned to love them respect and them as brothers and sisters. However, since I have seen their actions, I feel embarrassed to call them my neighbors and look into their eyes.

I don't call myself as an innocent man. As an ordinary man I have made mistakes like anyone would. I am not a son of the prophet; I am a son of an ordinary human. The mistakes I made hasn't hurt or affected anyone but only me and my life. It doesn't concern the neighbors for them to monitor me daily, tape my phones, monitor my house, car and my daily life. **Many times I have witnessed those taking photos when I am sitting and relaxing in my backyard or veranda and on the streets or out for shopping. I have**

been ignoring these activities because I am pretty sure the photographers are merely puppets of someone behind the scene .

The saddest part of this tragedy for me was to witness the actual law makers and the law keepers assisting such unlawful acts. Unfortunately, despite of several books, claiming to protect its citizen's basic rights, there has been no practical effort to actually make people feel safe in the society.

It is announced almost every day on the major news channels and social media that the Australian government has vowed to protect its citizens from terrorism and from those who spread antisocial teachings among the youth. Contrarily, it is clearly evident that the government supports in fact aids the Islamic republic Of Iran. At present Iran is being condemned by the United Nation, Human Rights Commission and 96 countries for supporting terrorism by providing equipment and finances. On one hand, new laws are often being implemented to protect refugees, wherever in Australia. On the other hand, the intelligence officers from Iranian embassy Canberra are called and taken to Villawood camp to identify the individuals who could, in their opinion, pose risk to the Iranian government. The Iranian government has taken two people from the camp back to the country to carry

out execution. Did the government of Australia bother about humanity and human rights? Isn't this act supporting terrorism directly or indirectly? One of leaders Of the **Green party said "government of Australia is doing the dirty job of the Iranian government "isn't it shameful?**

All over the world if you have noticed, prisoners are mostly the people who have criminal records such as murderers, thieves, drug dealers or violence makers. In Iran most of the prisoners who are behind the bars, are mostly university students, news reporters, editors of newspapers, politicians, philanthropist and human rights activists.

The actual criminals right now are the head of government departments, revolutionary guards and are freely walking in the streets and the general public is aware of it and anyone who dares to oppose them are labelled as the lawbreakers and are considered against the regime. For example the Iranian government spies on other countries. They will collect the information and give it to Russia, Britain, the US but the regime blames it on opposition of spying. They have stolen most of the reserve bank's money and transferred to their Swiss, British, Canadian and Indian accounts. The regime itself is involved in all sorts of illegal activities such as drug dealing, violence, spying etc. But when someone

dares to oppose and speak up, the blame is transferred and charges are laid against that person.

For example, Mrs. Nasreene Suthude, a resident Of Tehran, who is a famous lawyer and human rights advocate, was placed behind the bars for her strong advocacy for the rights Of common people. After she was released, she went on a hunger strike before the Ministry Of Justice building because she felt that she had been constantly monitored and observed everywhere she went. She was defamed and falsely accused to such a degree that even her close friends and family started to stay away from her. Everyone who surrounded her were brainwashed and forced to believe that she was an antisocial element in the country. She stated that her condition outside the prison was similar to that inside. The only difference was that outside she could walk. Twice a group of hooligans were sent to physically assault her. The exact same thing is happening with me here in Australia, the country I proudly call home since last twenty years.

I have seen this happening to many people (whom I cannot name) here in Australia. They are silently suffering and suffocating, The Australian government is clearly aware of it. The question is that, "is the government violating the

agreement by giving the green signal to the Iranian hooligans and intelligence to do their job freely? Many of my customers have mentioned that this government since ten years has become a national velvet for all foreign spies to work and operate with no restrictions. Most of them who work directly as watchdogs are migrants who have been used by the foreign missionaries by either forcing them or supporting them financially and make them work for them. Unfortunately the Australian citizens do not seem to get any physical or moral protections from those people and such activities. The agencies of some countries over here are the same as in China, Russia and Iran. To put it bluntly, intelligence officers have been able to move freely throughout Australia, often to its detriment. For example a former Chinese diplomat was interviewed recently on channel 9. Having retired from his post, he became an Australian citizen and remained in the country. Another example is f Mr Laghari, who, despite spying offences, is still permitted to work and live in Australia. In this situation, it is clear who is held accountable for upholding the dignity and safety of Australia and its citizens.

The most important thing that shocks me is that our government is mute on this issue and not doing anything to protect its citizens. Giving the job of monitoring their

neighbor to the young people of our community is gradually teaching them terrorism. They are telling them indirectly that breaking law in this country is easy. **My open and humble questions to those people who have been observing me directly or indirectly for the past twenty years and have not found me guilty is "Do you still feel the need to observe? How long would it need you to come to a conclusion that a person is guilty or not? If you haven't found in twenty years do you still think you will find something in future? My question to the authorities of this country is "Isn't it foolish to monitor a person without any reason for 20 years?"**

I have got names of few Iranian students who came to Australia from Iran on government scholarships and the Australian government was fully aware that those students were working in the Intelligence office and as revolutionary Guards in Iran. To my utter surprise, the university allowed them to do their job effectively and freely and finish their course at the same time. Same thing has happened in the USA and the UK. For such students obtaining foreign student visas and scholarships would be an easy job and would only take a day where as for ordinary people it would take at least a year or most of them do not even get it. This could be an interesting piece of information **that former**

President of the USA Mr. Ronald Reagan has mentioned in the senate, that the greatest historical mistake in American politics was removing The King Of Iran and putting one of the fanatic Muslim person as a leader of the people who we thought would be same as Ghandi but later on turned out to be a trouble maker in the region.

Police entering and observing me in the Library would certainly hound the mind of the people watching with curiosity and disgrace (Pennant Hill). Security checks coming into the library every few minutes and continuously observing me would surely arouse suspicion among other library users (Baulkham Hills). As per my knowledge in Australia it is illegal to film or photograph someone without their consent. However, I have witnessed people carrying cameras and taking my photos in fair few places and circulating the photos. Unfortunately it seems that the government has green signaled to them to do whatever they want. Although this may not be of much concern to the authorities and even me as I am not a public figure, a national or an international political personality, it may, however, weaken the faith of many stalwart believers of our constitution.

Someone who has visited a care centre for people with mental illnesses might be able to relate to this. Some patients

there pretend to be James bond. Some try to impersonate a fireman and few others think that they are being attacked by an enemy and hide behind the trees, the enemy is in their imagination. Since twenty years I have been thought and treated as an imaginary culprit, an enemy, by some orthodox group of people and their jaundiced viewpoint is sadly supported by the law keepers of Australia.

The rise of Russia under Vladimir Putin's presidency (have been worked for the Leningrad Directorate of KGB Russia) is going through a defining moment. What are the implications of Russian political ambitions for the rest of the world?

It is late but perhaps not too late to think big and try once more. After all, the rise of China in the Far East which is not so far away when seen from Siberia, where much of Europe's oil and gas comes from poses vast challenges, so does the threat of radical Islam in the Middle East, be it the Iran's nuclear ambitions, be it terrorist disruption. For good measure one can add accelerating climate change and the spread and eventual containment of weapons of mass destruction of terrorism and failed states of cyber war and organized crime. All those specters haunting the world are equal concern both to Russia and to the Western nations today.

Reference

Hate has been defined as emotion of intense dislike, a feeling so strong that it demands action. We as Iranian nation have been trapped into a deep feeling of hatred for everyone and for everything. This hatred is consuming us as an invisible fire from within. It ultimately will burn us and reduce us to ashes. Our talent, our expertise, our ingenuity and our creativity, all are at the verge of extinction. We are almost there where we will be left with nothing to establish our identity. The multiple problems being faced by the country are finding no solution due to our own stubborn attitude and we are translating the same into more intense feeling of hatred; an uncalled for hatred against Christians, against Jews against Sufism against Baha'i against Sunni Muslim and everyone living outside our borders. Within our borders we hate our rulers, politicians, bureaucracy, law enforcing agencies and military junta, our rulers hate the opposition and media, the poor hate the rich and the rich hate the poor, and so on. Our ruling elite to fulfill their own ulterior motives is using the hate emotion. For the past 32 years people of this country are being pushed into the hate syndrome to provide for the luxurious lifestyle of a few.

Thus we are entangled into unending troubles of our own making. Dr. Thomas A Harris in his bestseller book "I am Ok you're Ok" gives four positions which an individual can take up at a given time. These four positions are, I am not Ok, you're OK", "I am not OK you're not OK", "I am OK, you're not OK" and finally "I am OK, you are OK". An individual progresses from the first position to the last and so does societies. Ironically, Iranian society and majority of its citizens progressed in the opposite direction and today we have reached the stage of "I am OK, you're not OK". Which is the most dangerous position where an individual or a nation cannot sustain and is doomed to perish. At this stage people think that they are right and all others are wrong. And it is their moral and divine to correct the wrong of others. At this stage every one of us is running around trying to change others instead of changing ourselves, but we forget to analyze how and why we have reached at this stage. It was neither our fate nor the events taking place in the region after the incidents of 9/11 that we are in this mess. Our national follies, blunders and deliberate mismanagement ever since this country came into being have been instrumental for the disaster. The definition of hate at the beginning of this article says 'a feeling of dislike so strong that it demands action'. It means that an action to this hatred is imminent. The action

is sometimes spontaneous and violent; while at times it keeps accumulating into potent anger and erupts out more vigorously as it finds an outlet. The exuberant crime rate in the country, target killings, occasional riots and arson, loot and plunder, sectarian violence, bomb blasts, suicide attacks, religious extremism. Taliban and Hezbollah activism and other attempts of terrorism in the country are examples of hatred being translated into criminal activities. These actions are sometimes so ferocious that even the strongest of the armies fail to contain them. They can only be subdued with logic, reason, talks, negotiations and long-term measures. The decade long fighting. On the contrary it gave rise to its splinter group in Iran though people may not endorse the ideology of the Taliban, they support them to vent their anger against the West. In this article we will try to find some causes of the hate syndrome, which are translated into acts of terrorism. It is said that Pakistan was created as result of an Islamic junction based on two-nation theory, which says that all Muslims are one nation and all non-Muslims are another nation. Furthermore, every Muslim's duty is to bond to work for the creation of a society based on Islamic principles and fundamentals. To create such a society, Muslims are even allowed to wage war against the Non-believers and bring them within the purview of Islam.

Religious obligations urge Muslims to preach and convert the non-believers to Islam. According to the perceived Islamic teachings, it is an undisputed element of faith that the whole world will ultimately convert to Islam and an Islamic society will prevail. It is said to be promised by Allah and guaranteed to be the only solution to the growing world problems. This theological assurance in Islam has been a means of "mine is the best" syndrome, which further created a sense of superiority complex and the position of "I am OK, you're not OK" in Muslims. Another big source of spreading hatred in the society is the network of seminaries or Hozeye Elmie (Hezbollah Teachings) which had a mushroom growth during the 80's when Iran and Iraq was engaged in a proxy war against the Soviet Union in Iraq. These are the greatest hate monger factories in the Country. They use religion to indoctrinate the young students and incite hatred in their hearts against the west, against other religions and against the followers of different sects. During the of war 80's Soviet Union decided to use religious sentiments to fight against the USA troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. So they encouraged the establishment of a network of agencies along the Iran-Iraq- Afghan border and started the indoctrination process. It is now no hidden secret that some agencies prepared and nurtured young suicide bombers who

were used in most of the terrorist activities over the past decade. Groups of missionaries' who were sometime called Hezbollah brigades, were also the products of these agencies where hatred was used as a weapon to mold such characteristic among the youth. The government policies throughout had been encouraging the agencies culture in the country. It was never adopted as a policy that the agencies should be abandoned or stopped from preaching hate lessons. On the contrary Government helped in regularizing the agencies.

Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York United States

"We must focus, as never before, on improving the conditions of individual men and women who give the State or nation its richness and character."

Dear Secretary General
Mr. Kofi Anan

These were inspiring words from your Nobel lecture given at Oslo on December 10, 2001, you also rightly pointed out that in the 21st century "the mission of the UN would be defined by a new, more profound awareness of the sanctity and dignity of every human life, regardless of race or religion..." You mentioned that throughout your term as Secretary General you have sought "to place human dignity at the center of everything we do—from conflict prevention to development to human rights. Securing real and lasting improvement in the lives of individual men and women is the measure of all we do at the United Nations." It is in great hope that I turn to your leadership to help several immigrants like me in New South Wales in Australia by protecting them

from those who deviously and illegally curtail basic freedoms of individuals, Having been inspired by your Nobel lecture I decided to write this letter on behalf of those who become victims at the hands of forces who have utter disregard for the concept of human rights. To quote you again when states undermine the rule of law and violate the rights of their citizens they become a menace not only to their own people, but also to their neighbors and indeed the world." Reposing great faith in the spirit of your profound lecture I would like to draw your attention to the faulty administration of justice in New South Wales both in terms of welfare of permanent immigrants as well as other citizens. I would like to cite here a few of my agonizing experiences due to which prospects of a good career in this country have been destroyed for me. For your kind information have met with the following people and have explained my problem to them and I have told them that I am sorry in such a democratic country as Australia I have seen a part of the government Of Australia are looking to do the dirty job of Iranian government in this country. However, they could not really be useful as they had their own duty.

Fiona Drenna — Federal Agent — Australian Federal Police
Beth Stilton — Duty Officer — NSW Police (Eastwood Local Area Command),

Sydney, Australia

Andrew Kable — NSW Police (Eastwood Local Area
Command), Australia

- CST Jones

Yours Sincerely,

Mehdi Zolfaghari

January 6, 2010

Yours Excellency, the Ambassador of India

First Of all, I would like to share my sorrow with the family of the Indian student who was killed in Melbourne, Australia recently. This sad occasion has reminded me of a similar incident in which an Iranian student studying at Bangalore University was killed for no reason, during a student-run silent protest in 1978. Despite worldwide condemnation of this act, the Indian government did nothing to punish those involved and increasingly acted to remove those Iranian students from Indian universities who protested for human rights in Iran. "India is a great land of democracy, which has been bought by the greatest holy man, Sri Mahatma Gandhi, who taught the values of liberty, freedom and independence." Gandhi was one of the few men in history to fight simultaneously on moral, religious, political, social, economic and cultural fronts. During his time as a lawyer in South Africa he developed his strategy of non-violent protest, which he made the basis of his successful struggle against British rule in India. There are thousands of politicians who have been following his philosophy to bring the world peace and continue to spread his message today. As an Iranian Cultural Attaché in Pakistan, I became aware

of my Government's use of Pakistani students for intelligence purposes around the world. I discovered that this was occurring and that the Pakistani Government was aware of it and took no action. After this discovery, I resigned from the Iranian Government (in June, 1995) and in July, I travelled to India to see some of my relatives. I noticed that the Iranian agency in India had started to undermine my dignity and tarnish my image by providing false information to my connections, and forcing others to condemn me. For example when I was invited to one of your Ambassador's houses for a meal as a guest he refused to take photos with me and publically condemned me in front Of the other guests. I was deeply surprised and offended to be treated in such a way, in a country that prides itself on its democracy, independence and human rights. By supporting the Iranian Government, your reputation among the Iranian people, and around the world, has been blackened. Recently, many young Iranian students have been executed by the government run by Ali Khameneai, with the support of the clergy Mr. Janti. For example, just last week five students were executed without a trial, merely for being vocal in their opposition. At the same time, Mr. Janti happily declared that the government "should execute more people so we don't have any problems in future." Having travelled to India

many times over the last few decades, I have found it difficult to conduct business, or even just visiting my relatives without interference and harassment, which has been organized by the Iranian Government. How long will this treatment continue? Are you still the same nation who are the proud bearers of independence, freedom and human rights? If someone were to ask Mahatma Ghandi, Nelson Mandela or Jawaharlal Nehru about India's relationship and support of the Iranian Government, would they approve? Putting people such as myself on a 'black list' has no effect on my beliefs and philosophy, but it is the next generation that will pass judgement on your actions.

Yours sincerely,

Mehdi Zolfaghari

13/05/2010

Kindly permit me to narrate here the problems that were responsible for devastating my career and driving me to the brink of despair since I settled down in this country as a citizen. From 1995 the happiness that the gesture brought me then turned into a nightmare once I started settling down to new environment and living conditions in Australia. Within four months of our landing in Sydney I realized that I was being targeted for persecution by the Iranian mercenaries for reason best known to them.

I hail from a very respectable family and I have lived all life with a sense of dignity and public goodwill. Discipline formed an integral part of my life. During my service in government I was highly regarded for my sense of commitment to work and honesty. All those around me always looked up to me for the values I cherished in life. Now I suddenly find myself as a victim of humiliation inflicted by people who have no respect for human dignity. While I was in Iranian Government service (1994-95) as a supervisor of Cultural Centre in Hyderabad, Pakistan I came to know that Iranian Government functionaries were training some people of non-Iranian origin to work as intelligence agents for our Government. Their job was primarily to collect information about Iranian people living inside and outside Iran.

(I strongly believe that the mercenaries who have no respect for their motherland cannot be expected to be loyal to my country. Obviously I cannot reveal the name of the country for reasons of security.) I found that the Iranian Government is stealthily working in tandem with European countries. They have no genuine concern for the welfare of the people of Iran. Instead they give in to the dictates of the nations who are manipulating self-serving individuals in the Iranian Government.

Soon I realised that if I continued to work under such circumstances I would only end up being a traitor of my people. My conscience did not permit me to continue to be part of a system that does injustice to Iranian people. To live up to the demands of my conscience I had to make many sacrifices: I gave up my career, my future of comfortable living and my loved one back home. Having to leave my country and migrate to a foreign land was indeed a painful decision to make.

I retrospect I feel that even the period of my association with the Government had amounted to doing injustice to my country. For this I owe an apology to the people of my native land.

The urge to prove myself that I cannot be a traitor to my own country and my own people I made up my mind to search for

peaceful existence. That is how I migrated to Australia. Ironically, to my surprise I found that Australia is too willing to do the “dirty job” of the Iranian Government in this country. (The phrase that was used by the Green Party recently while condemning the attitude of the Australian Government towards the refugee immigrants. Unfortunately the Australian Government is contemplating handing back the refugee immigrants to Iran.)

I am still trying to figure out why I am being denied the basic civil rights that the Australian Constitution guarantees to all its citizen. Since I am a legitimate citizen of the country and strongly feel part of it, the Government has a moral obligation to protect me from injustices done by evil forces. I expect the Government of Australia not to be indifferent to any violation of human rights perpetrated against its citizen like in countries such as Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan (former regime) and some African countries. No civilized society or government should ignore any kind of indignity or harassment meted out to its citizen.

A long, tiring and futile search for a suitable employment has left me with no option but to accept positions that were far too low and underpaid considering my educational qualifications and track record of professional achievement. My professional integrity and skills were solely responsible

for a good career in the country of my origin. If I accepted low positions of employment in Australian companies such as MQF and Lynk Dynamic it was because I wanted to ward off the unpleasant feeling of whiling away my time in this age like a retired person.

Also, I wanted to utilize my energies in some work. I decided that a low paid job was better than no job for an active person like me. In spite of my willingness to overlook several pinpricks at workplace and cope with my situation I was not allowed to continue.

The forces that were after me never let me to live in peace even at home. In retrospect, I am puzzled by certain incidents that occurred close to where I lived. In 1996 when I was living in an apartment in No: 15/18 Edensor St Epping in New South Wales a couple of Iranian mercenaries moved into the apartment close to mine. They stayed there for a few weeks. I know they were Iranian, but did not try to find out anything more about them and the purpose of their stay there. They had left the place as mysteriously as they appeared there. It was only much later that realized that they were actually shadowing me and conspiring against me.

When I was residing at 20, Benella Avenue in Kellville, New South Wales, several time my letter box was broken and thrown on the driveway with letters torn and strewn all

round. At first I dismissed the as a childish prank of some mischievous and playful children. Many of my letters never reached me as they either disappeared or were being deliberately delivered to wrong addresses. More than on three occasions some people had attacked my car parked in front of my house.

In December 1998 I received an anonymous letter in crude and abusive language. Later on the letter was handed over to costal hill police station. I was extremely distressed by the letter. I was appalled and unnerved by events that followed the letter. I began to sense that I was being singled out for mental torture and harassment by people around me. My neighbours who were initially very cordial with me gradually changed and started acting strangely and indecently. I tried to ignore such acts of vandalism directed against me. Often I have found neighbours opposite my house (House No: 16) evince very unhealthy curiosity about my day-to-day functions at home, particularly when my family members entertained guests. There was one well-meaning neighbour who partially confided in me saying that some people were after me. Beyond stating that she refused to divulge any details. She pleaded helplessness and said that she would face dire consequences if she gave out any further details about “those perverse individuals.”

Those people were actually involved in active politics. They had even kept my family under surveillance as if I were indulging in subversive activities. Children in the neighborhood told us that a round-the-clock video camera was installed on the second floor of the opposite house (No: 26) specifically to track my movements. However, I did not pay much attention to such thing those days since my conscience is clear. Gradually I realized there was an unseen hand of local hooligans aimed to destroy my peace of mind. Such perverse acts do not scare me because I am a God fearing person, but when I am concerned about is that they occur in a civilized society bringing disrepute to the collective dignity of the nation and insulting the people general. Later to get admission for my daughter in a girl's high school we moved to a different location at 2, Old Beecroft Road in Cheltenham 2119 Sydney. Here too I found that after a few days the people were no better. They too were displaying the same unhealthy curiosity about me by giving me suspicious looks as others did before. All this must be the handiwork of those who were determined to torment me by poisoning the minds of our neighbours as well as people where I work and instigating them to act against me. Sir, in this context, I would like to draw your kind attention to the political decision of the prime minster to send the country's

troops to fight terrorism in Afghanistan (prior to take-over of the present government) and other terrorism-affected regions. The decision was perfectly all right, but his primary duty should be too ensure that people in his own country are protected from anti-social elements that torture the law-abiding and decent citizens by terrorizing them.

One day when I found a boy of nine years standing outside my house continuously I warmly wished him and asked him if he needed anything. To this he replied that his mother wanted him to keep a watch over my house.

This incident shocked me immensely because if a child of that age is forced into such a socially unacceptable practice as prying into other's domestic activities it is surely a symptom of unhealthy upbringing. Chances are children with such poor parenting would end up as juvenile delinquents taking to crime later on in life.

At this stage I was convinced about what the well-meaning lady had told me in Kelliville.

As if the harassment during my waking hours was not enough I was also being disturbed after I retired to bed. On two occasions I had to suffer late-night intrusions into my privacy by a taxi operator's men. The taxi operator sent his people knocking on my door at midnight asking if I was looking for taxi service. The intruders were from Executive

Fleet Service: (02) 8332 8811. They came to my house on the night of October 22, 2001 and the night before. While I ignored the first incident I treated the second one seriously and handed over the intruder to the police. The record of my complaint is with the Eastwood police station. (I wonder how the two innocent drivers must have felt on knowing that they had actually been fooled by the taxi operator who misguided them).

The fact that the Australian Embassy in Iran cleared my application after an exhaustive assessment of my antecedents and issued my family permanent immigration visas clearly indicated that the record of my background in my native country was clean. I am sure any sensible and educated person would ask himself how a 45-year-old man like me could suddenly turn suspicious in the eyes of these people within four months of landing in Australia. **I would like to point out here that these insidious external forces actually undermine the dignity of the Australian nation in the first place and me as an individual.** As I mentioned before since I was in my native country eight years ago everything was okay. Between then and now could have possibly gone wrong? Some unidentified miscreants tormented me continually by making crank calls both on my landline phone as well as mobile. I changed the telephone

numbers a few times thinking I could free myself of the mince of crank calls. But I found that they have links everywhere. I strongly believe that all those who have caused distress to me directly all these years were actually innocent and being misguided and exploited indirectly by anti-national forces. These innocent people would not have been misused by these forces if only they had been educated and aware of how a honest citizen's image is tarnished by those who hatched this conspiracy against me. **It is very unfortunate that these citizen have never asked themselves how an individual in a democratic country like Australia could be subject to such character assassination without any warrant from the law-enforcement agency.**

I had unfortunate experiences with the police in Sydney on a many occasions. Instead of protecting and safeguarding citizen from the threats of anti-social elements that police often join hands with them. I would like to state here that because there was no evidence of any kind against.

Documents



NSW POLICE

STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

In the matter of:	ZOLFAGHARI assault
Place:	Chatswood Police Station
Date:	26 April, 2004

Name:	Fariba JONEIDY	Tel. No:	known to police
Address:	known to police		
Occupation:	Administration Officer		



NSW POLICE

STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

In the matter of: ZOLFAGHARI assault
Place: Chatswood Police Station
Date: 26 April, 2004

Name: Fariba JONEIDY

STATES:

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.
2. I am 24 years of age.
3. On Saturday the 24th April 2004 I was Anahita Restaurant at Lane Cove. I was at a friend's birthday. I was dancing with my friend's in a group there was about four or five of us. While we were dancing I noticed a guy standing behind my friend, Elham, he was facing her back. He was wearing a black t-shirt with jeans. He had dark brown hair that was peeled up spiky. I noticed that he was singing and dancing close to her and she looked at me and we both gave each other an expression as if to say what is he doing. I think Reza saw the facial expression of me and Elham and he came forward. He tried to stand in between the guy and Elham. When he did this Elham walked away.
4. I then saw Reza talking to the guy with the black t-shirt. I came a bit forward to see what was going on. I was then facing the guy's friend as I was standing behind Reza. I noticed a guy with a shaved head, blue t-shirt and he was a bit short. I noticed he was coming forward showing he wanted to fight. One of this guy's friends put his hand forward across his body. At this time Reza was talking to the guy with the black t-shirt and I thought I should step back. I went behind Reza a bit. Suddenly I felt a push as I was behind Reza. When Reza was punched I was pushed back as well and that's when I saw all the guys holding the guy with the shaved head and blue shirt and Reza's friends were holding him. At that time I noticed my watch was missing.
5. Reza was then taken away by his friends.

Witness:

CST DIXON
26/04/04

Signature:

Fariba JONEIDY
26.04.04



COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN

Complaints: 1300 365 072
Tel: 02 6276 0111
Fax: 02 6249 7829
www.ombudsman.gov.au
Level 4, 1 Foveal Place
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia
GPO Box 642
Canberra ACT 2601

Our Ref: 2003-195979

01-March-2003

Fariba Daniel
Luk & Associates
Suite 2, Level 1067 Castlereagh Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Fariba Daniel

I refer to your complaint on behalf of your client, Mr Mehdi Zolaghari, about the actions of members of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in harassing him.

Your complaint to the Federal Justice Minister the Honorable Chris Ellison was referred to the AFP. As required by the *Complaints (Australian Federal Police) Act 1991* the AFP Internal Investigation Unit has notified this office of your complaint. Your complaint will be managed under the AFP's workplace resolution process.


The AFP will advise this office of the outcome of the workplace resolution process. If we are advised that you are not satisfied with the outcome, we will consider whether any further action is warranted and will advise you accordingly. If we are advised that you are satisfied with the outcome we will regard the matter as finalised and we will not contact you further.

Please notify this office if you are not satisfied with the outcome and have had no further contact from the AFP.

If you have any questions please contact me on 02 6276 0111.

I have enclosed a brochure explaining the role of this office.

Yours sincerely



Sharon Judd
Senior Investigations Officer



**LUK & ASSOCIATES
SOLICITORS**

11 November, 2002

(Re: Mr. Daryl Williams (Federal Attorney General))

RE: Mr. Mehdi Zolfaghari (D.O.B 21 March 1950)

Honourable Attorney General

Principal

Rasna Luk

Bcom
LLB
ASCPA

Associate

Fariba Daniel

Bsc. (Sydney)
MBA (UNSW)
LLB(UTS)
Master of Law &
Legal Practice (UTS)

The purpose of this communication is to seek your assistance to stop the harassment of Mr. Mehdi Zolfaghari by Federal Police.

Mr. Zolfaghari is an Australian citizen, who came to see me in relation to his long-term mental torture and public harassment caused by Australian Federal Police.

Mr. Zolfaghari claims that he hasn't done anything wrong in order to get the attention of the Australian Federal Police. However, since his arrival in Australia, he has been spied and followed by Federal Police. Mr. Zolfaghari states that even his neighbours are aware of the same and they have told him that police are watching him constantly.

His customers told Mr. Zolfaghari that they have been warned about Mr. Zolfaghari and they have been told not to buy anything from him. This has affected the earning capacity of Mr. Zolfaghari.

Australia is a democratic country in which its citizen has certain rights. As an Australian citizen Mr. Zolfaghari has the right to know what is the reason for the Federal police to follow him everywhere.

Mr. Zolfaghari cannot bear this harassment any longer. He has the right to know what he has done to have Federal Police follow him everywhere. Mr. Zolfaghari says, if he has done something which he deserves to be punished for, then the Australian judicial system

ABN 41 792 779 158

SUITE 1 - LEVEL 10, 67 CASTLEFRASHER STREET, SYDNEY NSW 2000, AUSTRALIA
TELEPHONE: (61 2) 9222 9588 e-mail: rluk@yodas.com.au FAX: (61 2) 9222 9488

Kogarah Office: Suite 9, 3a Railway Parade North KOGARAH NSW 2217, AUSTRALIA
Telephone: (61 2) 9533 4971 Fax: (61 2) 9553 4972

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SENATOR THE HON. CHRISTOPHER ELLISON

*Minister for Justice and Consumer
Senator for Western Australia*

4 FEB 2002

Mr Fariba Danesh
Luk & Associates Solicitors
Suite 2 Level 10
67 Castlereagh Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

224697

Dear Mr Daniel,

Thank you for your letter of 11 November 2002, on behalf of your client Mr Mehdi Zolfaghari, regarding his concerns that he may be the subject of surveillance and harassment by the Australian Federal Police (AFP).

I have been advised that the matters raised by Mr Zolfaghari have been registered as a complaint in accordance with the *Complaints (AFP) Act 1981* and will be referred to the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman for independent review. You will be advised directly by the Ombudsman of the outcome of this review.

Yours sincerely

CHRIS ELLISON
Senator for Western Australia

Att: MR ANJUS Federal Agent

Fax 92864718

IN-CONFIDENCE



Our Ref: PRS2003/81 (26943)
Your Ref:

GPO Box 401
Canberra ACT 2601
Telephone: 6275 7373
Fax: 6275 7599

Mr Mehdi Zolfaghari
c/- Luk and Associates Solicitors - Fariba Daniel
Suite 2 - Level 10, 67 Castlereagh Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Zolfaghari

I acknowledge receipt of your complaint, which was received by the Australian Federal Police (Professional Standards) on 7 January 2003.

In accordance with the requirements of the Complaints (Australian Federal Police) Act 1981, the matter has been referred to Professional Standards and is receiving attention. You will be contacted in the first instance by Federal Agent Fiona Drennan. I enclose a brochure, which serves to explain the role of the Commonwealth Ombudsman in overseeing the investigation of your complaint.

The Commonwealth Ombudsman reviews the handling of your complaint about the Australian Federal Police. If you have any concerns about the handling of your complaint or the outcome, you can contact the Ombudsman's Office:

Commonwealth Ombudsman
1 Farrell Place, Canberra ACT 2601
GPO Box 442, Canberra ACT 2601
Ph 02 6278 0111 or 1300 362 072

Yours faithfully,

W D Jamieson
Director
Professional Standards

20 February 2003

IN-CONFIDENCE

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS - working together to protect the integrity & security of the AFP and its people.



Mr Mehdi Zolfaghari
P O Box 464
KOGARAH NSW 1485



www.police.nsw.gov.au 131 150

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION UNIT

Level 12 Police Headquarters
Avery Building
1440 Colong Road
Darkfield NSW 2057
Box A1 1115 Sydney Post
0012
Ph: (002) 5199 / 55180
Fx: (002) 3224 / 55124
TTY: (02) 3176 1900 (Speech Recognition)

12 May, 2003

Ref: 1/1555

Dear Mr Zolfaghari,

I refer to your letter received at the Freedom of Information Unit. My apologies for the delay in replying.

This office is charged with responding to applications made to the NSW Police in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1989. To assist you, please note that the Freedom of Information Act is concerned with access to documents held by this agency, the Act cannot be used to obtain *information per se*, nor does it compel agencies to respond to questions or create documents to satisfy a particular request.

Clause 6(1) (Documents affecting personal affairs) - a document is an exempt document if it contains matter the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person.

As a courtesy, I have not accepted your application as in my view processing the request, in its current form would lead to you incurring an unnecessary expense without obtaining the information you seek. Your correspondence is attached hereto. Should you wish to again pursue the application, it would be necessary that the application be structured in such a manner that it requests access to documents known to be reasonably expected to exist, and does not seek answers to questions generally.

Should you have any queries concerning the operation of the Act, please telephone this Office on (02) 9139-3159.

Yours faithfully,

J Scholz
Co-Ordinator
Per:

NEW SOUTH WALES POLICE SERVICE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT, 1989 (FORM ONE)
REQUEST FOR PERSONAL INFORMATION

TO: The Manager
Legal Compliance, Freedom of Information
GPO Box 45
SYDNEY NSW 2001

SURNAME McKENNA ZOLEGART D.O.B. 21-03-1950
GIVEN NAMES MICHAEL MAIDEN NAME _____
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS 1111 BARNETT ROAD
CHELTENHAM NSW POSTCODE 2119
TELEPHONE 0603 981 2533
ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE 1111 BARNETT ROAD POSTCODE 2119
DRIVERS LICENCE NO. 113 386035 PASSPORT NO. _____

FULL DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT(S) REQUESTED (Specify if any known part)
PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHMENT

(Where a third party is entitled to see a part see over)
I request access by way of: ☐ Inspection
☐ Copy
☒ Other (Specify) _____

FEE CHARGES

Attached is a charge sheet in the amount of \$21.00 (if you are entitled to the 50% reduction free to view) made payable to the Commissioner of Police being the applicant fee.

I am aware that I will be required to pay processing charges in respect of this application at the rate of \$30.00 per hour after the first 20 hours. (For particulars concerning the calculation of your request and payment details see over)

I AGREE THAT I AM ENTITLED TO A 50% REDUCTION IN FEES AND CHARGES BY REASON OF THE FOLLOWING:

- ☐ I hold a (person's) health benefit card and I seek personal information only.
- ☐ I live a socially insecure which would entitle me to a (person's) health benefit card and seek personal information only.
- ☐ I represent a recognised organisation in financial hardship.
- ☐ I can demonstrate that it is in the public interest that the information is made available.

(If you have ticked any of the above supplementary documents must be attached)

05-05-2003
Date

Melvin
Applicant's Signature