




Home | Elected Members | Committees | Legislative Actives | About the Government | Visit the Government | Anchor

? Help



Understanding
@KPMG

Three Afghanis, Letter to Talk Today

Date Posted: 2001-09-13

Posted By: CayPolitics News

I N T E R A C T !

E-mail:

Prev in Thread:

User Name:

Next in Thread: [Three Afghanis, Letter to](#)

URL: n/a

Disclaimer:

CayPolitics.com is an open medium offering our users the ability to post their own replies to articles. The replies posted do not necessarily express the views of CayPolitics.com.

[Return to CayPolitics Home](#)

[Reply to this Article](#)

[E-Mail this Article to a Friend](#)

CAYMA

CayPo
adverti

CNN.com

Link Temporarily

ITA
www.ita.org.ly

FOXNews.com

- World**
- Desperate Resc Continues
 - Bush Seeks For Multimedia Arc
 - Helpful Phone N
 - Americans Rais
 - U.S. Weighs O
 - Nation's Airspac
 - Stocks to Reop
 - NY Mayor Repo Missing

- Politics**
- Cheney Moved David
 - Bush: 'I Weep a With America'
 - 'Wipe Them Off the Earth'
 - Report: Bin Lad Threat
 - U.S. Military Re Be 'Sustained'
 - In Final Clinton Chance to Attac Rejected
 - Let Us Pray
 - Bush Speaks W Pataki
 - Source: Dump T Movement Unde

- Business**
- Airlines Face St Losses
 - Terrorist Attacks Shoppers
 - List of World T Tenants
 - Microsoft Judge Deadline in Cas
 - Job Market Wea Confidence Fall

Police News

- Police Report - September 13th 2001
- Police Report - September 12th 2001
- Airport Evacuation
- Indecent Assault
- Traffic Advisory - September 10th 2001

Technology News

- U.S. experts: Code Red III's nothing new
- TECH NEWS: High-tech warfare
- Search engines accused of hiding ads
- Internet Could Raise Living Standards
- Tech News: European Parliament restricts access to personal data

YAHOO! NEWS

Sports

- NFL calls off weekend's games, will decide whether to replay them
- Baseball postpones games through weekend, to resume Monday
- All Division I-A college football games canceled
- Division I-AA football goes on despite other cancellations
- Rangers quietly open camp: NHL dark all weekend

Cayman Weather
[Click Here](#)

Quick Quotes

Enter the stock ticker.
Example: IBM

Horoscope

Aries

Amid much concern circulating in the local community over the three Afghan nationals who have been residing in Grand Cayman since August last year and allegations that they may have ties to the tragic events which occurred in the U.S. on Tuesday, a press conference was held at the Glass House this afternoon (Thursday) at which a statement was issued by Chief Secretary James Ryan. Much of the statement, and indeed the questions from the media, surrounded a letter – handwritten by a Caymanian on August 29th and received by the Deputy Chief Secretary on September 6th – which contains a startling claim of knowledge of an upcoming terrorist attack on the United States. The letter was intended for reading aloud on Radio Cayman's Talk Today program.

CayPolitics – in the interest of completeness – posts in their entirety both Mr. Ryan's statement and a typewritten, verbatim presentation of the letter - followed by a report on the press conference. Readers should note that the letter mistakenly refers to Joel Walton instead of Joel Francis, the host of Talk Today.

STATEMENT by the HON. CHIEF SECRETARY
As everyone will be aware, three individuals claiming to be Afghan nationals arrived in the Cayman Islands just over a year ago. They possessed no form of identity. Local authorities, including the judiciary, as well as a senior United Kingdom immigration officer, have not been satisfied with the individuals' version of how they reached the Cayman Islands. The relevant United Kingdom authorities, Interpol, and United Nations, authorities were all made aware of their presence here. Canadian authorities were also contacted initially as the individuals indicated that Canada was their intended destination. After having been in the Cayman Islands for some four months, the individuals sought political asylum in the Cayman Islands. Efforts have been ongoing to establish their identities and potential options for their relocation in the event of their request for political asylum being unsuccessful.

The three individuals have in recent months been accommodated in a local guesthouse following a Grand Court decision. They have been subject to daily reporting to immigration and RCIP authorities and some monitoring. Turning now to a more current development, I wish to state that a copy of an unsigned letter of concern from a resident to the Talk Today' show was passed to the Acting Chief Secretary on 06th September. The letter was treated as merely speculation on the part of the writer as to the potential risks to these islands of the three Afghans remaining here, as indeed many others have speculated since their arrival in August 2000. The tragic circumstances of Tuesday, 11th September 2001, in the United States have naturally created grave interest in the contents of this letter, and

Submit

the basis of those contents. Copies of that letter have subsequently been circulated in the Cayman Islands and seemingly outside the Cayman Islands.

The writer of the letter has now been interviewed and has stated that indeed the letter was purely speculation on his part.

The matter is nevertheless under investigation and U.S. authorities are on island. There is full co-operation between the Cayman Islands Government (CIG) authorities and those of the United States Government (USG) and the matter will be fully investigated.

In the interim, in the interest of the security of these islands, the safety of the three individuals and the expeditious conclusion of the investigation, the three individuals are being relocated to Northward Prison.

Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

- Insurers Fret Ov
for Disaster
- IMF: Limited Ec
Impact After Att
- Trade Center Te
Account for Wo
- Key Data Lost in
Seen Regained

Aug. 29 - 01

Mr. Joel Walton
c/o Radio Cayman
Cayman Islands

Dear Mr. Walton,

I am a regular listener to your "Talk Today" program. I find it informative and a positive way of the citizens of this island expressing their views.

Mr. Walton we have an urgent situation with the three Afganistans that we have in our midsts for the past months. I have been convinced that they are agents of Osama Bin Laden - one of the world's greatest terrorist - operating out of - you guessed it - Afganistan. The three agents here are organizing a major terrorist act against the U.S. via an airline or airlines.

Their identity is difficult to establish for this reason. Why do you think they had funds on their persons when they were apprehended? Why do you think that their last country before they came to the Cayman islands was Cuba?

I feel that the world will think this is the most likely place on Earth to launch an attack - the Cayman Islands. The agents are patiently organizing this attack while we fumble and stumble over the trivial thing as their identity.

These agents are allowing us to know just enough about them to keep on this island to accomplish their mission. Remember this is probably the easiest and most informative place in this hemisphere to plan their attack.

Mr. Walton we need to pass on this information immediately to the authorities and refrain from being naïve and complacent in this serious situation.

Your sincerely,

A very concerned Caymanian

P.S. If we foil these agents' plans we may never know for sure why they are here, but if we allow this attack to be carried out this would be one of the greatest and most far reaching catastrophe for these Islands.

It was revealed at the press conference that the letter was hand delivered by its author to the Director of Broadcasting Loxley Banks sometime on or after August 29th. Mr. Banks handed it to then Acting Chief Secretary Donovan Ebanks who saw it as just one of countless expressions of concern over the presence of these individuals. Mr. Ebanks brought the matter of the letter to the attention of the Chief Secretary and the Police Commissioner on Wednesday September 12th. Asked why he felt no urgency to act on the letter as events in the U.S. unfolded on Tuesday, Mr. Ebanks said the three individuals were already the focus of attention on that day.

Representatives of the U.S. Embassy in Kingston arrived here last night and they are currently looking into matters surrounding the three Afghanis. Police Commissioner David Thursfield told the media the FBI is aware of these matters and are investigating.