

United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
BANKING, HOUSING
AND URBAN AFFAIRS
FOREIGN RELATIONS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

May 14, 2013

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I continue to wait for a response to my letter of May 2 requesting an explanation for reports that the CIA has been delivering bags of cash to Afghan President Hamid Karzai, who has confirmed receiving these payments for the past decade. As I indicated in my earlier letter, our assistance to Afghanistan should have long since evolved to a carefully coordinated, fully transparent effort across federal agencies with appropriate congressional oversight to ensure U.S. aid meets our national interests. These secret payments lack any kind of accountability, encourage the very kind of corruption we are trying to prevent in Afghanistan, and further undermine U.S. taxpayers' confidence in our government.

Since my original letter, President Karzai has claimed that the CIA station chief in Kabul assured him the payments will continue, stating, "It is the choice of the American government." I believe a prompt response to how these payments meet our objectives in Afghanistan is warranted. I have attached my previous letter for your reference.

Sincerely,



Bob Corker
Ranking Member
Committee on Foreign Relations

1 Attachment

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COMMITTEES:
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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

May 2, 2013

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

Recent news reports of years of large cash payments to President Karzai, if accurate, indicate an incoherent U.S. policy toward Afghanistan.

Our support for the Karzai administration should have evolved long ago into regular and more sustainable efforts that are fully coordinated across the government and are calibrated to ensure collaboration with U.S. policies. The alleged arrangements make accountability impossible and promote corruption at the top levels of the Afghan government, as well as break trust with the American taxpayer.

Please provide an explanation, with a classified annex if necessary, for how this alleged policy fits within overall U.S. objectives in Afghanistan.

Sincerely,



Bob Corker
Ranking Member
Committee on Foreign Relations