

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE
MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC

April 30, 1991

Hon. Donald J. Atwood
Deputy Secretary
Department of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Mr. Atwood:

I have recently been asked to look into the case of Richard M. Barlow (SSN: 133-46-4885), who is presently on a leave-without-pay status from the Department of Defense.

I understand that Barlow and the Defense Department have been engaged in lengthy proceedings relating to his security clearances, his duties and responsibilities in the Department, and his future with DOD. I am also informed that last year the Department formally offered Barlow \$20,000 plus up to \$6,000 in legal fees as an inducement to agree to a final resolution of his case, and that this offer was subsequently withdrawn.

I am writing now to ask that you direct the appropriate officials in the Department to meet with Barlow or his legal counsel in order to come to a speedy resolution of his case in a manner that is suitable and equitable to all parties.

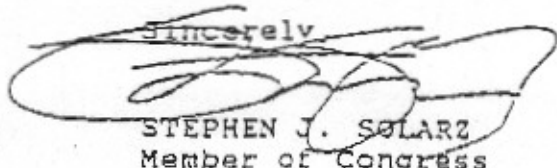
Since I assume this process will not take place overnight, I think that it would be appropriate, if Barlow so requests, that he be retained on a leave-without-pay status until his case is resolved.

Finally, I request that to the extent this is lawful, his personnel files and all other government records pertaining to his DOD employment be expunged of all allegations that have been lodged against him that have subsequently been shown to be false or malicious.

I appreciate your looking into this case. From what I understand of the matter, it has dragged on for an unconscionably long time at great personal, professional, and financial cost to Barlow, who, as I understand it, has never been found guilty of any wrongdoing, despite extensive investigations into his conduct.

I look forward to your response at an early date.

Sincerely



STEPHEN J. SOLARZ
Member of Congress

