

Subject: Re: Questions regarding the Central African Republic

Date: Saturday, 25 July 2020 at 12:26:03 South Africa Standard Time

From: [REDACTED]

To: Iqbal Meer Sharma

CC: Warren Thompson

Good day Mr. Sharma,

I strongly refute the allegations and insinuations contained in your email. I think it is unfortunate you do not want to have an open and robust engagement about what was going on in CAR, but we will incorporate your response in the book.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,
Warren Thompson
[REDACTED]

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

----- Original Message -----

On Wednesday, July 22, 2020 9:06 PM, Iqbal Meer Sharma <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Mr Thompson,

In response to your questions, the following is my response without prejudice, and my rights being preserved:

Your reading of the document you attach is completely wrong. I am not sure if this is erroneous or deliberate. Given your line of questions, designed to create your predetermined narrative, I am inclined to believe it is the latter. The document is with the Government with the President as it's representative. This is clear in a section of the document that is underlined for emphasis. Further, I am not sure what legal education you rely on to determine that the default position of an absence of banking account information infers payment in cash?

I am not sure what qualifies you to write a book about the Central African Republic and how much time you have spent there, if any, however, your efforts to conjure up a false narrative based on scant and questionably obtained part communications is disingenuous at best and poses many questions about your ethics as a journalist. You have clearly not left your bias at the door (to quote you on the role of a good journalist). It is common cause that mainstream media and journalists (including you by your own admission) in South Africa have historically been tools of special interests. Your employer and its various publications have been found wanting on more than one occasion in presenting bias free news to the public, and I have personal experience of corrupt journalists who have suppressed stories and written fluff pieces about corruption involving particular special interests (happy to share this undeniable evidence with you).

Your conclusive assumptions are fatally flawed based on your incorrect reading and despite your deepest desire to project a particular narrative, it is unfortunate that facts spoil your perspective. Would it be fair to assume that given your dalliance with Bell Pottinger, you are doing your very best to earn the trust of your handlers by producing a work of fiction to be passed off as fact? I'm sure you would protest that view but facts speak otherwise.

Sincerely,

Iqbal

On 04 Jul 2020, at 15:57, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Mr. Sharma,

Thanks for your time yesterday. Please find the following questions (attached) for your attention. I have also included the agreement between Kema, Overine and Gade.

Kind Regards,
Warren Thompson

[REDACTED]

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

<Iqbal Sharma questions.docx><2.6 Signed Agreement 8 Oct 2013.pdf>