The Threat: In A Time Of Rising Anger, What Happened To One Man Who Threatened Rep. Majorie Taylor Greene

By Ruby Cramer *The Washington Post* 27 April 2024 (@ 0600 Hrs EDT)

¶ (50 Approx.) Then Came Another Letter, This One A Surprise.

It Was From The U.S. Attorney's — A Request For Restitution On Greene's Behalf.

At Home In Georgia, The Congresswoman Had Upgraded Her Security Cameras And Built A New Fence, All As A Result Of Morelli's Threat, The Prosecutor Said, And Greene Was Asking Morelli To Pay For It. They Were Expenses She Would Not Have Incurred "But For The Defendant's Conduct," The Prosecutor Said In A Letter To The Judge. The Camera Upgrades Cost \$1,375. **THE FENCE COST \$65,257.49**.

\$66,632.49 TOTAL.

Along With The Restitution Request Came A Victim Impact Statement, Signed By Greene.

"How Have You/Your Company/Your Family Been Affected Overall By This Crime?" The Form Asked.

"Scared My Whole Family" Was Greene's Response.

"Have You Experienced Any Of The Following Reactions To The Crime?" The Form Asked.

Below Was A Menu Of Options, Including Grief, Guilt, Sleep Loss, Nightmares, Depression, Trouble Concentrating.

Greene Left Check Marks Next To Four Categories.

Unsafe. Anxiety. Fear. Anger.

"Yes, It Made Me Angry," Greene Said.

She Was In Her Capitol Hill Office On A Recent Afternoon Talking About The Threat.

If Anyone In Washington Had An Understanding Of Threats, Greene Said, She Would Be That Person. She Guessed That She Received The Most Threats Of Any Member Of Congress, Though The Capitol Police Didn't Release Data Like That, Even To Lawmakers. Morelli's Threat Had Come At A Chaotic Time For Greene. She Had Been Banned From Twitter For Violating Its COVID Misinformation Policies. There Was A Lawsuit Seeking To Remove Her From The Ballot In Georgia. She Remembered Billboards And Ads, Paid For By People Casting Her As "The Most Horrible Person In Washington, She Said. "I'm The Most Horrible Person In Congress. I'm The Most Horrible Person In The World, **Perhaps."** [Ed. Note: YES! YES! And YES!] Now She Was Used To It When People Came Up To Her In Airports Or In Restaurants, Calling Her A WHORE, A RACIST, A NAZI. The Worst Was When Someone Came Up To Her, Smiling, Asking To Take A Selfie. They'd Get Close To Her Face, And Then In An Instant, The Smile Would Vanish, And They Would Begin To Call Her Names, "And They're This Close To Me," She Said. "If They Had Wanted To, Could They Stab Me? Yeah."

So She Was Vigilant. "And It Shouldn't Be That Way For Anybody. I Don't Care If I Disagree With Them Politically."

NO ONE SHOULD MAKE THREATS, She Said.

But As Morelli Considered Going To Trial, "Threatening" Was The Word His Lawyer Had Used To Describe Greene. In Legal Filings, DiBella Wrote, Greene Had "Liked" Inflammatory Social Media Posts, Like One Suggesting That "A Bullet To The Head" Would Be The Quickest Way To Unseat Then-Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.). She Had "Promoted Election Fraud Conspiracy Theories." She Had Referred To Participants In The Insurrection On Jan. 6, 2021, As "Political Prisoners." And Then There Was The Ad That had Started All Of This: It Was "Full Of Explosions" And "Upsetting" And "Struck A Nerve With Joe With Joe, AS HE FEELS THAT HIS DISABILITY BENEFITS ARE A FORM OF SOCIALISM, AND THAT WITHOUT THOSE HE WOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING." [Ed. Note: No, Mr Morelli, Your Disability Benefits Are Made Available To Those Who Are In Legitimate Need Of Such Support. It's A Hallmark Of Being An American Citizen — To Be Privileged To Live In A Country (And Society) That Strives (Often Imperfectly) To Support Its People Who Struggle To Care For Themselves, Sometimes, To Just Survive.]

Greene Said She Was Surprised To Learn That His Anger Had Begun With The Prius Ad. She Loved That Ad. "It Was Actually Really Cool," She Said.

She And Her Team Had Searched Northwest Georgia For An Open Field. They Purchased An Old Prius From A Junkyard And Removed Its Battery And Its Engine Until The Car Was Just A Shell,

In Which They Placed A Large Tub Of Granular Substance That Explodes On Contact With A High-Velocity Bullet. With Cameras Rolling, Greene Set Up Her Rifle, Took The Shot And Boom. "It Was Fun," She Remembered. "I Was Really Excited I Made The Shot, WHICH SHOULD BE A WARNING TO ANYBODY THAT WANTS TO KILL ME."

It Should Have Been Clear, She Said, That When She Was Blowing Up A Car With The Word "SOCIALISM," She Was Blowing Up The *Idea* Of Socialism. The Imagery Meant, "We Don't Want To Be A Socialist Country," She Said, And There Were Plenty Of People Who Would Agree With That. "Should It Have Triggered Him To Want To Murder Me Because I Said, "We Don't Want Socialism?" [Ed. Note: Of Course Not!]

As The Case Moved Through The Court, Greene's Staff Kept Her Updated As Morelli Remained On House Arrest, Pleaded Guilty, And Six Months Later, Received His Sentence: Three Months In Prison.

Seven Days After That, At A Town Hall In August, Greene Told A Crowd About "A Man Up In New York" Who Had Threatened Her. "He Pled Guilty. He Didn't Even Deny It," She Said, Adding, "He's Gonna Be Met With A BIG WALL OF BULLETS IF HE COMES TO MY HOUSE." [Ed. Note: Do Take Note Of The DONALD-LIKE Pseudo-Toughness That *Marge* Comically Endeavors To Project.]

On Oct. 2, Morelli Reported To A Federal Prison In New Jersey. A Month Later, He Was Back In Court, This Time At A Hearing To Decide *Who Should Be Responsible For The \$66,632.49 Security System* Greene Had Installed Around Her Home.

"So, Let's Talk About The Fence," DiBella Said In The Courtroom.

Greene's Aide, Travis Loudermilk, Was On The Stand.

"You Would Agree With Me That This Is A Pretty Substantial Fence?" DiBella Said.

"What Do You Mean?" Loudermilk Said.

The Fence Was Five Feet Tall, According To An Invoice From The Fencing Company. Seven Hundred Feet Of The Fence Was Black Residential-Grade Chain Link, Mounted With Three Strands Of Barbed Wire. Another 500 Feet Featured What The Invoice Described As "Spear Tops."

"Do You See Fences Like This Every Day?"

"No," Said Loudermilk.

"It's A Good Fence, Yeah," Greene Said Now In Her Office.

But She Thought The Fence *Had* To Be Good. At Least Eight Times, She Had Received Fake 911 Calls Alerting The Local Police To Her House — "Swatting" Incidents. She Lived In A Partially Wooded Area. Geographically, It Was Difficult To Secure. And It Was The Morelli Threat, The *Prosecutor* Argued In Court, That Made Her Fearful Enough To Put Up The Barbed Wire And The Spear Tops.

Greene Had Not Been Present At The Restitution Hearing To See Morelli That Day. *She Had Never Seen Him. Really, She Didn't Know Much About Him.*

What She Did *Imagine* About Morelli Was That He Didn't Feel Any Regret About What He Had Done. "This Is A Guy That Was Not Remorseful At All," She Said.

That Was Why She Checked "Angry" On That Form. But There Were Other Reasons, Too.

It Made Greene Angry That The Judge Had Allowed Morelli To Stay On House Arrest Until He Received His Sentence. It Made Her Angry That His Sentence Was Just Three Months. And It Made Her Angry Again When The Judge Did Not Agree That Morelli Should Be Forced To Pay For Her Security System. [Ed. Note: Why I Foresee A Snickers Commercial In Marge Greene's Future.] THE PROSECUTION HAD NOT PROVED, The Judge Wrote In Her Decision, THAT MORELLI'S THREAT STOOD APART FROM ALL THE REST THAT GREENE RECEIVED. Threats Were A Frequent Part Of Her Life In Politics. Greene, The Judge Pointed Out, Had Said So Herself, And That's Where The Restitution Case Ended, Even As More Threats From Other Strangers Continued To Come.

"They Never Stop," Said Greene.

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PMS In The Early Part Of This Story Is The Following Exchange (An Interview) Between Mr Morelli And FBI Agents: "Do You Know Her? Marjorie?" The Second FBI Agent Asked.

Morelli Said No, He Didn't.

"Or Any Other Politician?" The Other Agent Asked.

No, He Said. "I've Never Owned A Gun. I've Never Owned A Weapon. I'm Not Going To Freakin' D.C. And Crap. *I Barely Leave My House.*"

He Decided To Change His Plea, And On Feb. 1, In A Courtroom In Syracuse, He Told A Judge That *He Was Guilty*.

"So The Phone Calls You Made Were A True Threat To Injure Her?" The Judge Asked.

"They Were A True Threat, *But I Had No Plan To Actually Do So,*" Morelli Said.

"And Did You Know That They Would Be Viewed As Threats?"

"Yes, I Did."

[Final Ed. Note: I Can't Seem To Remember What The Pfuck I Was Going To Finish This With — 08/13/2024. Perhaps It Was Thus: This Incident Was Serious And Rep. Greene Did The Smart & Correct Thing To Report It To Law Enforcement. In Upstate New York Where Mr Morelli Resides, This Matter Was Well-Handled By Local Law Enforcement And The Trial Judge. Furthermore, Mr Morelli's Incarceration Was Appropriate To The Threat He Posed To Rep. Greene. Finally, He Is Fortunate — With The Considerable Support Of Family — To Have Been Able To Re-establish A Stable Life.

As For This Disgusting Trump-Sniffing Skank — *Marge* Greene — Apparently Her Motto Is *Never Let A Golden Grift Opportunity Go To Waste*. Right, **DONALD?** Of Course, I Make Reference To The

\$66.6k Fence. And One Can Only Wonder How Much Shit That Judge [Ed. Note: I Did Not Take Note Of The Judge's Name.] Received For What I Regard As A Just And Eminently Fair-Minded Decision To Not Impose That Onerous Financial Burden On Mr Morelli (And Perhaps His Family). Good For You, Judge!

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