



U.S. Department of Justice

Criminal Division

Washington, DC 20530

August 27, 2003

[addressee deleted]

Re: Foreign Agents Registration Act
[text deleted]

Dear [name deleted]:

This is in response to your letter of August 12, 2003 regarding the possible obligation or exemption of your firm under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.* (FARA or the Act) for its activities on behalf of the [foreign government].

You have advised that your firm has been retained by the [foreign government] to prepare litigation seeking to recover money owed to the [foreign government] under commercial contracts. You also advised that you have been working with federal law enforcement agencies in connection with an ongoing investigation.

Based on the disclosures made in your letter, the Department will not challenge the applicability of the exemptions from registration provided in Sections 3(d)(1) and 3(g) to your legal advice and representation of the [foreign government]. However, these exemptions would not apply if your representation later expanded to include political consulting or activity including lobbying or public relations.

Please note that the question of obligation or exemption under the Act must be revisited as the nature of the relationship changes from time to time. If the nature of your firm's activities change or its relationship with the [foreign government], or any foreign principal, changes, you should notify this office to request an advisory opinion.

Sincerely,

Heather H. Hunt, Acting Chief
Registration Unit
Counterespionage Section