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In August 1969, the Department of Army hired me for my qualifications, starting me at the GS-7 level (GS-5 is the normal starting rank). I have the requisite credits (33) toward a Ph.D., all but dissertation. This was at the Tank-Automotive Command (TACOM) in Michigan. Due to my excellent performance, TACOM rapidly promoted me five grades, to the GS-12 level, June 1974. My positions were in Human Resources and as a Crime Prevention Officer. At the relevant time, I was age 33 with flawless performance/attendance record, and awards for same.

I blew the whistle on waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption. Fraud and abuse: Hiring documents were being falsified or disregarded to hire persons engaging in prohibited drug abuse conduct dangerous to themselves, others, and property. Safety Office officials would falsify records to show minimal problems, e.g., in a 50 maximum area, TACOM's 42,000 (non-compliance) would be reported as 4.2 (compliance).

Waste: The danger was increasing personnel absenteeism and costs. Corruption: The pertinent laws are not being enforced. The behavior and gateway drug abuse is linked to the money trail that is known to be involved in supporting terrorism.

Coworkers were complaining, none dared to speak up formally to blow the whistle. At least one coworker in my area was injured and received worker compensation funds; another died. On the subject as a whole, Michigan's Governor (John Engler) advised me that some 15,000 Michiganders were being killed annually.

Another worker there was killed under such grossly unlawful circumstances that both federal and state criminal charges were filed, and upheld – upheld all the way to the US Supreme Court, see *International Union, UAW v General Dynamics Land Systems Division*, 259 US App DC 369; 815 F2d 1570 (1987) cert den 484 US 976; 108 S Ct 485; 98 L Ed 2d 484 (1987), and *People v General Dynamics Land Systems Division*, 175 Mich App 701; 438 NW2d 359 (1989) lv app den 435 Mich 860 (1990),

In this context, I blew the whistle. My immediate supervisor, Jeremiah Kator, was supportive. Together we drew up a list of needed corrective actions. TACOM refused to do any. Mr. Kator was soon transferred to another base in another state. Coworkers of mine who agreed to look the other way on the violations, were promoted to be in charge.

Examples of pertinent laws and regulations included but are not limited to 5 U.S.C. §§ 7902(d), 29 U.S.C. § 651 *et seq*, 29 C.F.R. § 1910.1000.Z, 32 C.F.R. § 203; Army Reg. 1-8, MCL § 750.27, MSA § 28.216, etc.

This is the Army base that, once it got away with harassing me, subsequently harassed the engineer, David Tenenbaum, working on armor for the troops in Iraq, and stalling that protection. This is the Army base that harassed and made fun of the injuries of wounded veteran James McKelvey – seriously injured in Iraq while defending his country. His case resulted in a jury award of some 4.3 million dollars. Tenenbaum's case is, I believe, still pending.

The Chief of Staff at TACOM demanded I stop whistleblowing or be out. I refused to stop, and the “decision to terminate” me occurred immediately. There was no due process. Due process under both the Constitution and federal law 5 U.S.C. § 7513 requires advance notice of charges, specificity, the right to defend and reply before decision is made, etc. TACOM refused me this.

I appealed in the Office of Special Counsel (OSC) and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) forums. OSC refuses to help. My EEOC investigation was stopped mid-stream by TACOM because co-workers were providing affidavits in my favor, to TACOM's consternation. TACOM has never allowed the EEOC forum investigation to resume. EEOC repeatedly ordered TACOM to let me have review. TACOM defied all such orders.

The State of Michigan granted me unemployment over TACOM's protests insisting I wasn't eligible!

With review closed in my chosen forum under 29 CFR § 1613.403, I subsequently sought review by the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB). TACOM ex parte contacts with it, arranged that it would falsify, pretend that all the refused actions that my supervisor Mr. Kator and I had drawn up, had been done! though none had been! EEOC on review [83 FEOR 3046] verified that MSPB had falsified.

I eventually sued to get review to begin. TACOM ex parte contacts with federal judges led to more falsification, getting the judges to pretend, *sua sponte*, that I'd applied to retire myself (at age 34)! No advance notice of this accusation was given me! My defense would be, I'd done no such thing, no such application exists! I sought police review of the various falsifications. The Army had such investigations squashed.

As is well known, people still are suffering and being killed by the behavior, the terrorism, etc.

My case has been cited as an example by an Australian Professor, Brian Martin, who studies whistleblower situations. See <http://www.uow.edu.au/arts/sts/bmartin/dissent/documents/Pletten.html>. For more on my case, see, e.g., <http://medicolegal.tripod.com/inconsistencies.htm>, <http://medicolegal.tripod.com/starfirewhisblower.htm>, <http://medicolegal.tripod.com/violationsoverview.htm>, and <http://medicolegal.tripod.com/chapter18.htm>