

Gar Pardy

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Sent: December-08-09 7:18 AM
Subject: Fw: Colvin

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>>>
>>> The issues raised by the Richard Colvin affair are profound. Colvin, a
>>> Foreign Service Officer dedicated to discharging his responsibilities to
>>> the best of his ability under difficult circumstances, was unfairly
>>> subjected to personal attacks as a result of his testimony provided in
>>> response to a summons from a parliamentary committee.
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>>> While criticism of his testimony was perfectly legitimate, aspersions
>>> cast on his personal integrity were not.
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>>> A fundamental requirement of a Foreign Service Officer is that he or she
>>> report on a given situation as observed or understood. It is only in
>>> this way that any government can draw conclusions knowledgeably and
>>> make its considered decisions, even if at variance with the reports
>>> received. The Colvin affair risks creating a climate in which Officers
>>> may be more inclined to report what they believe headquarters wants to
>>> hear, rather than facts and perceptions deemed unpalatable.
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>>> Marc Baudouin, Michael D. Bell, Eric Bergusch, Fred Bild, Marius Bujold,
>>> Jacques Crête, Anne Marie Doyle, Paul Durand, James Elliott, Nick
>>> Etheridge, Marc Faguy, Robert Fowler, John Graham, Jean-Paul Hubert,
>>> Gabriel Lessard, Patricia Marsden-Dole, François Mathys, Carolyn
>>> McAskie, John Noble, Gar Pardy, Jacques Roy, Joseph Stanford, Howard
>>> Strauss, William Warden, Christopher Westdal.
>>> Former Canadian Ambassadors
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