

# **EXHIBIT 2**

## **VERNON MEMO**


January 26, 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR Curt Cizek, former U.S. Air Force Captain.

SUBJECT: Personal observations regarding the handling of a request for reconsideration involving a former filed reprisal case with the Department of Defense (DoD), Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

1. Disclaimer: This document is the opinion and view of the undersigned who was a former Senior Investigator, Whistleblower Reprisal Investigations Directorate, DoD OIG and who conducted Mr. Cizek's request for reconsideration. Accordingly, under no circumstances does anything contained therein represent the DoD OIG or any of its subordinate directorates. This document was written at the request of Mr. Cizek to the undersigned, who reconstructed Mr. Cizek's case based on memory.
2. In the Summer of 2021, the undersigned conducted a review of Mr. Cizek's request for reconsideration (reprisal case) and found that there were obvious errors, that taken together, could have substantiated Mr. Cizek's military reprisal case. Specifically, these errors are outlined below;
  - a. Mr. Cizek's made protected communications to his Troop Commander about the reading of End of Course Survey's before the basic training cycle actually ended, which in some cases, led to the abuse of trainees and that disclosure did not sit well with Mr. Cizek's leadership.
  - b. Mr. Cizek's rater at Joint Base Fort San Antonio did not dispose of an unfavorable personal action as he said he would as written in the reprimand. Instead, Mr. Cizek's supervisor forwarded the reprimand.
  - c. Later at Shaw Air Force base, it was the opinion of the undersigned that Mr. Cizek experienced bias by his immediate rater and additional rater, who were first-time supervisors and who had grossly overlooked the fact that Mr. Cizek made previous protected communications to his Basic Training chain of command and his current chain of command, covered under 10 U.S.C. 1034. Instead, Mr. Cizek's rater and additional rater, referred to Mr. Cizek's "Lack of Officership" when he made protected communications to the Commanding General of Training and Education Command.
  - d. Furthermore, even though Mr. Cizek's supervisors had poorly handled his evaluation and performance recommendation, and which was properly document in the Air Force IG's ACTs database, the lack of action, oversight, and acknowledgement that Mr. Cizek was more than likely retaliated against and which ultimately due to the DoD OIG's failure to connect the evidence, cost him his Air Force career.
3. Should there be any questions concerning this matter, please contact the undersigned at (703) 357-3012 or by e-mail at [mark1335jv@protonmail.com](mailto:mark1335jv@protonmail.com).

Sincerely,

  
John D. Vernon  
Former Senior Investigator