

**BRIEF TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE
COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY AND
INTELLIGENCE ON THE \$44 MILLION DOLLARS
NIA INTERVENTION FUND**

PREAMBLE: I Mohammed Dauda of Block 49 flat 3 OAU quarters, Born in Biu in Borno state, attended Bayero University Kano and graduated in 1983. I started work with Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in 1984. I Wish to state that, I was the immediate past Ag. DGNIA and that I resumed work at the Agency on the 7th November 2017, after being recalled from N'djamena, where I was the Nigerian Ambassador. I make this submission before honorable members of this committee conscious of the constitutional mandate of the House of Representatives pursuant to section 62.88 and 89 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (1999) as amended,

- 1. MY STORY:** I arrived Abuja on Friday 6th November, 2017 and headed straight to the Presidential Villa, where I met Chief of Staff, Mallam Abba Kyari, and he informed me, that as the most Senior Serving Director in NIA, the President had directed, that I should act as the Director- General in the interim, pending further directives.
- 2.** From the Villa, I proceeded to the NIA, where I met the retiring Ag. DG NIA, Amb. Arab Yadam, whom I knew very well as a senior colleague, who went straight ahead to give me his initial briefing on his activities in the Dolphin House, in the preceding seven (7) months that he was at the helm of affairs. Among his briefings which were mostly operational, administrative, and technical in nature, and therefore highly confidential, he also gave me the

picture of the financial position of the Agency, which included an account of the Forty four million US Dollars (\$44m), which he told me was the remaining part of the intervention fund, that caused so much controversy in the country, which is a well-known story.

3. He (The former Ag.DG) also introduced one Brig. General Mohammed JA'A-FARU, whom he said was the Ag. Director of Finance and Accounts (DFA) of the Agency, and whom I will be working with. The Ag.DFA also briefed me on the Nature of his assignments in the Agency. These assignments include day to day operations of the accounts Department for both Domestic and Foreign accounts management. He also told me that the \$44m in his custody, which was not part of our budgetary allocation, should not be touched, as it is now an exhibit, in an ongoing case, and that he just wanted me to know, for my information only.
4. Shortly after resumption, a Presidential Review Panel (PRP) headed by Amb. Babagana KINGIBE, Former Secretary of the Government of the Federation, came to start work on their mandate in the Agency. We provided them with office accommodation, transport, food and all other logistics throughout the Six (6) weeks, that they stayed with us, these also includes honorarium and hotel accommodation, for those of them that are not Abuja residents like Chief Albert K. HORSFALL and Amb. Olaniyi OLADEJI. The other members are Amb. Z.Y. IBRAHIM and the current DGNIA, Ahmed RUFIA ABUBAKAR, who was the Secretary of the Panel. The Panel Chairman called me after the inaugural address and advise me in my own interest to cooperate with them fully, and avoid any close contact or taking any further order from the NSA, at least up to the end of the duration of their assignment as according to him, they have presidential powers to

veto and over-rule any previous directive or instruction that emanates from the NSA. The 'riots act' also warned me, to keep all their activities and actions as highly confidential, especially to the office of the National Security Adviser. I was instructed to channel all our activities, contacts and concerns and complaints through the office of the Chief of Staff only.

I was not too comfortable with these new sets of rules and regulations that apparently contradicts all the provisions of our instruments, but did not want to start my job with confrontation and bad blood, with anyone, so I kept away from the NSA to be on the safe side.

5. Everything went on fine from there, until some of the members started putting a lot of pressure on me, with constant demand for money ceaselessly, day and night, these two members are Amb. Babagana KINGIBE and the current DG, A.R. ABUBAKAR. I went through psychological and mental torture for a while. When I tried to explain to them that our current US Dollars account was low, because of the problems we were experiencing in sourcing foreign exchange from CBN due to the 'IKoyi Gate' crises. They insisted that the \$44m under the custody of the General is also ours and that he had no power to stop me from spending that money, since everything has normalized now, I should go ahead and ask the General to go back to his job, where he rightly belonged, that I should either ask him verbally to leave, write a letter to the National Security Adviser (NSA) to withdraw him or ultimately instruct my security department to stop him from entering the premises. I first promised them that I was going to do it, but after due considerations, I decided not to oblige to their demands because of the way they were showing undue interest in the

\$44m. I became very suspicious and came to the conclusion that, if the General leave now, these people may overpower me in the decision, concerning the money. They kept on insisting that they have the mandate of the President and that the President had directed the EFCC to hands off the money, that it is now legitimately ours. They verbally queried me on the logic of keeping the money as an exhibit, since there was no any case pending in court on this matter. Amb. KINGIBE told me that he was the one, who through the Chief of Staff drafted the memo that the President accented to, instructing the EFCC to hands off our case (the Ikoyi gate), just to convince me, that there are no more encumbrances on the money.

6. They kept on harassing and threatening me, if I don't get rid of the General, but I stood my ground and refused to do anything about the General, since he never stopped me from doing my work in any way, since I resumed as the Head there, all my approvals and instructions were honored by him, without any delay, he is a very amiable cool headed and polite individual, that I really enjoyed working with.
7. It was after I refused to budge consistently, that one day Amb. KINGIBE and A.R. ABUBAKAR the current DG called me to the Hilltop, where they were seating and told me in camera, that I was refusing Presidential Orders, to bar the General from our sacred premises and that there might be consequences for my intransigence, and refusal to take orders from above. I recalled that at one of their sittings, this same issue was raised, but one of them Chief Albert HORSFALL, ask me to ignore any suggestion that will bring me into a collision course with the NSA, and advised his colleagues to put it as part of their recommendations, to the

President since they have his mandate so that he can order NSA to remove the General from NIA.

8. I must emphasize that the demand for money from me, was getting too much for various reasons, either they want the money for medical treatment or holidays abroad for their families and girlfriends. I met and gave a lady simply known to me as Angela from Amb. KINGIBE money twice at the car park of the Hilton Hotel once \$50,000 and the second time \$20,000, which apparently did not impress him, but I explained our predicament to him, though he never believed me. Even the current DG NIA once called me on his watsapp, just like Amb. KINGIBE always do, and said that his Oga was travelling to London for Medical checkup and he suggested that I should find something for him, as a sign of good will, in order to start building some kind of 'bridge' in our relationship, saying that it is a traditional practice at the Dolphin House. So I reluctantly gave him \$50,000 against my will, a decision that made me sad throughout the whole day. It was around Charismas/New-year period, though I can't remember the exact date. Amb. KINGIBE alone has collected over \$200,000 from me throughout the time they were with us and beyond. It is also important to note that Amb. KINGIBE has been using the name of the President to hoodwink me into believing that Mr. President normally sanctions all the monetary demands that he imposes on me, I knew all these things were happening because they refused to allow my office to follow the Command Chain of reporting to ONSA. That was why they were successful in fleeing the office. It is therefore imperative that the office of the NIA should be allowed to report to the office of the NSA rather than a faceless group. It is upon this premise that the President needs to know, that some of

his aides are abusing the trust reposed on them in perpetrating corrupt practices and also undermining the office of the NSA.

9. Finally on Wednesday 20th of December 2017, Amb. KINGIBE asked A.R. Abubakar to tell me to meet them at home at 59 Nelson Mandela street, in Asokoro, and that I should go there alone, which I did as instructed, where they told me that since I assumed the leadership of the Agency, I have refused to cooperate with them, and they wanted to warn me that the General (Ag. DFA) is conspiring with some people to steal that money, and that I will be held responsible, if I don't do something before their plan materialize.
10. They told me that their committee had completed their assignment and that their recommendations were very generous to the DG NIA. They said they recommended the appointment of two (2) Deputy Directors General and watered down their powers enough, that they will not be in a position to pose any threat to the DG.
11. They told me further, that it is now my turn to do something for them. They told me that as the most senior serving Director on ground at the NIA, their recommendations favour me, as the person that will most likely get the nod of the President as the substantive DG NIA, but on the condition that I will also take their interest into consideration. They then said that they needed Two million Dollars (\$2m) as a hand shake from the DG, as some of them have political ambitions. But I told them that it was not going to be possible, as we are low on foreign exchange, and the only money available to me, beside the critical operation reserve of forex is the \$44m and I don't know to approach the General

(Ag.DFA) with this request. This explanation made them very upset with me.

12. They also told me, at that meeting that, if I can't sack the Ag.DFA, they will send someone to do it very soon, so let me go and think about it and call them back, and that was my last communication with them, until I heard of my removal from office on Wednesday 11th January 2018 on channels TV around 8pm.

13. Then on Thursday 12th January 2018, I advised the NSA to look at the possibility of evacuating the money from the NIA, seeing the kind of attention on it, and also taking into consideration the sudden change of leadership at the Agency. I took this decision because I was worried about the fate of the money when I leave office. I feared a situation where the money would be stolen or tampered with in my absence, and they turn around to blame me at the time that I won't be there to defend myself. Fortunately, after due consultations, the NSA agreed with me, and sent the Ag.DFA to arrange for the evacuation, while I gave instructions for the money to be moved to ONSA in our bullion van under the watch of our finance officers and escort, a decision that could as well be my best in my entire working life. Everything went fine with the transfer, on Friday 12th in the morning around 9am, when the money was off-loaded at ONSA, and proper inventory taken, before my staff returned to the office.

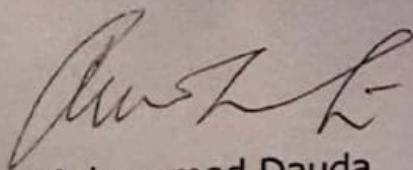
14. Nothing happened after that, and Friday 12th January, passed on as any other day until around 9.30pm, when I closed for the day, and was getting ready to go home, when I received a phone call from A.R. ABUBAKAR now DG NIA, that he wanted to have a meeting with me and all my senior staff at 10 pm that same day, that it was very urgent and that it was ordered by the

Chief of Staff in the Villa, but I told him that, it was not going to be possible that night, as most of my directors have closed for the weekend, and it will not be fair to summon them, for a meeting at that an ungodly hour, and I was adamant about it, so he reluctantly agreed to shift the meeting to 9am on Saturday 13th January, 2018, which I accepted, and called my Director of Administration to ensure that he reach out to all the members of Senior Management Committee (SMC)

15. When he came in the following day at 9am, we were all seated and he was literally fuming, and said that the President had instructed him to take over immediately on that Saturday, and said the Presidency blamed him, for not taking over immediately his appointment was announced, thereby giving out some window of time that allowed some people to take the money away to an unknown destination. He added that they will hold me responsible for the disappearance of the money.
16. When he finished, I told him that ~~that~~ there was no money that disappeared, and that I approved the transfer, so that I can sleep with both eyes closed after my exit. I told him that unless there is some ulterior motive, the apprehension was unfounded. I also warned him to mind his language as I have always been his senior in this service, and that I deserve my compliments as his senior, under whatever circumstances. That was how the meeting ended. I wish to rest my case here. Having said that I wish to appeal to the relevant authorities to consider providing me immediate protection as my security, livelihood and rights is being threatened by the aforementioned people, since I honoured your call and reported to the EFCC on 17th January, 2018. On the 19th January, 2018 I receive a letter from the office of the new DG NIA

to return official vehicles in my possession. On the same day I also received another letter from the same source instructing me not to move to any location thereby restricting my movement on spurious claims that there were publications made in the social media that was offensive, misleading and damaging to the Agency and that the objective of a so-called ban on me not to travel is to unravel the perpetrators. These are acts meant to cow and intimidate me into submission, and there are also attempts to bundle me out of my official quarters through extra legal means, and also to withdraw my security details, thereby impacting my security.

PRAYER: I therefore urge you to use your good office not to allow them subvert the rule of law and proper procedure, to bully me into compromising my anti-corruption stand, by exposing them.



Amb. Mohammed Dauda
Former Ag. DG NIA.