



THE DIRECTOR  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

14 September 2017

Rolf Mowatt-Larssen  
Director, Intelligence and Defense Projects  
Harvard Kennedy School, Belfer Center  
79 John F. Kennedy Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Mr. Mowatt-Larssen

I am writing to confirm that I will not be speaking at the John F. Kennedy, Jr. Forum. It is a decision I did not make lightly. However, after much deliberation in the wake of Harvard's announcement of American traitor Chelsea Manning as a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Politics, my conscience and duty to the men and women of the Central Intelligence Agency will not permit me to betray their trust by appearing to support Harvard's decision with my appearance at tonight's event.

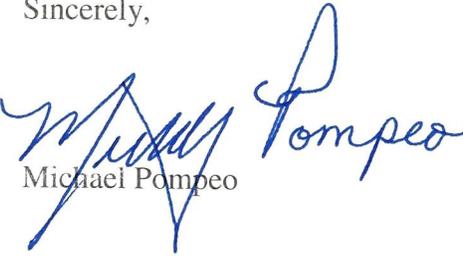
Ms. Manning betrayed her country and was found guilty of 17 serious crimes for leaking classified information to Wikileaks. Wikileaks is an enemy of the United States, akin to a hostile foreign intelligence service. Leaders from both political parties denounced Ms. Manning's actions as traitorous and many intelligence and military officials believe those leaks put the lives of the patriotic men and women at the CIA in danger. And those military and intelligence officials are right.

Indeed, Ms. Manning stands against everything the brave men and women I serve alongside stand for. Let me be clear, this has nothing to do with Ms. Manning's identity as a transgender person. It has everything to do with her identity as a traitor to the United States of America and my loyalty to the officers of the CIA.

I am especially saddened because I hold a degree from Harvard Law School. The students there now are owed an institution that acts responsibly; an institution that does not sanction or legitimize the criminal path Ms. Manning took to undermine our national security. Indeed, Harvard's actions implicitly tell its students that you too can be a fellow at Harvard and a felon under United States law. While I have served my country as a soldier in the United States Army and will continue to defend Ms. Manning's right to offer a defense of why she chose this path, I believe it is shameful for Harvard to place its stamp of approval upon her treasonous actions. The very motto of Harvard "Veritas," truth, is a core principal of the agency I now lead. We deliver the truth to America's leaders each and every day. Ms. Manning swore an oath to the United States Constitution, promised to protect her fellow soldiers, and signed a commitment to abide by the law. She did none of that and yet Harvard has placed her in a position of honor.

I applaud the decision of Michael Morell, a past and dedicated servant of the same agency that I now lead, to resign as a result of Harvard's decision. I am saddened, however, at Harvard's loss. You have traded a respected individual who served his country with dignity for one who served it with disgrace and who violated the warrior ethos she promised to uphold when she voluntarily chose to join the United States Army.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Pompeo". The signature is stylized and cursive, with the first name "Michael" written in a more compact, slanted script and "Pompeo" written in a larger, more flowing cursive style.

Michael Pompeo