Incident Report: “Michael” Visit to my apartment July 8, 2019, illegal threats and events the next day

By Gregory Brundage

This morning I went to the local police station to try to get another residence permit as my current one expires July 17. The officer at the desk had never before seen or heard of a UNHCR letter certifying that I or anyone is an Asylum Seeker.

She would not issue the Residence Paper.

At around 11:30 my close friend (then fiancée) Miao Hui received a phone call from a Beijing police officer who calls himself “Michael.” He is in charge of all foreigners in Beijing it appears. His qualification? His English, I’ve heard, which by the way is very limited. He said he would visit out apartment around 2:30. The police woman had put my fiancé’s (Miao Hui’s) phone number as a contact person at the police station.

Miao told me after the phone call the police officer did not sound nice.

Two Changping District policemen visited my apartment today (July 8) at approximately 2:30 pm.

One officer who calls himself “Michael” seemed very angry. The other officer said nothing during the interview. I believe “Michael” works for the 中华人民共和国国家安全部 [*zhōnɡ huá rén mín ɡònɡ hé ɡuó ɡuó jiā ān quán bù*, usually called *An quanbu* for short] Ministry of State Security of the People's Republic of China

First, he demanded to know why I haven’t married my fiancé Miao. I explained that the divorce laws in the United States are different in every state. Thirty-three years ago, I was married in the State of Wisconsin. I haven’t been with my former wife since 1995 but can’t get a divorce because according to Wisconsin law I have to live in Wisconsin for six months to apply for a divorce. The laws are different in Las Vegas for example, where someone can get married on Friday night and divorced on Saturday morning. Going to the United States would be dangerous for me however, because I sued the CIA in Federal Court.[[1]](#footnote-1) That was why I was applying for political asylum in China.

Police officer “Michael” had no interest in that.

With the help of Miao’s translations, I understood Michael said that I had better find another job soon, because “following all the regulations for police responsibilities regarding people seeking political asylum was too much work.” He said I have to find another job soon.

**Then he turned off his camera and microphone and said: “With this paper you will have to leave Changping District.”**

(The paper was my application for political asylum certificate.) Miao asked him why. He said I would have to visit the police station every day and it was too much responsibility for the police in Changping, so I had to leave this district of Beijing soon unless I get another regular (work) visa.

**Miao asked him: “What if we don’t want to leave?”**

**He answered: “We have ways of making you leave.”**

**That sounded like a threat.**

I hold him in most cases, it’s impossible for a person over 60 to get a work visa in China. A foreigner over 60 cannot get a teaching visa for example, except in the case of teachers that can have their visa renewed at a school they’ve taught at before.

(The school where I’ve been teaching for 10 years said they would not give me a new contract for a variety of reasons. One major reason is the school was taken over by a cult of Christian religious fanatics and I am Muslim.)

Michael responded there was a 70-year-old teaching at my school Beijing Huijia Private School.

I said they like him because he’s a famous artist. I didn’t mention he’s also a close “friend” of religious maniac former Head of the English Department Sun Xiujuan who I believe has an extraordinary amount of power at Beijing Huijia Private School even though she officially retired in February of this year (2019). She is also the chief minister at a large underground Christian church here in Changping District with hundreds of followers. Most of the administrators at my former school Beijing Huijia Private School are now Christian, as are many of the teachers and most of the student counselors.

“Michael” the policeman’s tone was very threatening. I could imagine he has ways of making someone leave, e.g. making someone’s life very uncomfortable, e.g. a wide variety of harassments, because he didn’t feel like meeting the “responsibilities” he seemed to think were associated with having someone seeking political asylum in “his” district. (I wonder if his wife is “Christian?”)

Both Miao Hui and I felt very threatened by his statements, his obvious anger and his turning off his camera and microphone before he made these threatening statements.

I do not now feel safe in this district of Beijing after being threatened by this policeman, who identified himself as Michael. I am worried about my personal safety. The fact that he turned off his camera and microphone before he made his threats was especially worrisome. Is this official government policy or just “Michael’s” way of enforcing the “peace?”

I believe it’s illegal for a police officer to turn off his body camera and microphone and threaten people like that.

After that I had to return to school to proctor a final exam at school. It was my last few days of work before retirement. When I returned home, I asked Miao to write her memories of what happened during the police visit. She wrote the following:

He came to the apartment and asked us the first question: Why you still didn’t get married or get another visa? I saw people over 70 still have visa and stay here? We explained the situation (and) told him Greg (is) still trying to get another visa.

He said we may need to go to police station to report what have done every day. After a while, he turned off his on-duty camera on his shirt said “Please find ways to get a (work) visa, otherwise when this UNHCR paper expired in 6months, we cannot stay here. Are we clear?” I said I don’t understand why after six months Greg cannot stay here anymore? He said because they will take big responsibility of this case, and they will find ways to make us go away. So then either we move to somewhere else or get an official visa. I asked why we have the right to stay in China but not Changping (District)? He makes sure the camera is off then said again "because it’s too much responsibilities for them as they would have to deal with this all the time."

I said I understand it’s a lot of work and appreciate their work but is it the official excuse after 6months have to make us leave Changping? He didn’t answer and said please let Anquanbu (Public Security Bureau) people contact him to know more information about this case weather all we said its true. Greg said yes.

 We also very much like to share more details and documents but they make the appointment just half an hour before Greg had to leave for work. Greg has to go to school to do his job. I told these two policemen let’s find another time to share more information please. (Police officer) Michael let Greg add his WeChat and gave me his phone number then left our apartment.

End Miao’s written statement.

I asked Miao if he seemed to threaten us:

* ...”soon” if I don’t get a regular work visa? Or
* ...after 6 months if I don’t get a regular work visa and try to stay with (another) Official Request for Political Asylum letter from UNHCR?

She said both, but it was vague.

In both cases the reason seemed to be that it was too much responsibility for the local police and that I would have to report to the police station every day.

I also consider it very strange that he turned off his camera and microphone (attached to his shirt) before he made these threats.

He said he could “make us leave.” How exactly did he plan to do that?

I have a letter from UNHCR, an official Request for Political Asylum. I was told by UNHCR I had to wait for another interview and it might take six months or more.

I also know that being over 60 it is impossible for me to even apply for most visas.

For the first time in 10 years living in China I feel very threatened.

I believe his threats were illegal and that’s why he turned off his camera and microphone.

At the Political Asylum Seekers and Refugee meeting held Tuesday, 25 June 2019 I heard other Asylum seekers report to “Mr. Kang” – the official representative of the “An Quen Bu” (Public Security Bureau) that they were forced to move by police.

One Muslim woman reported that spent three months in jail because police would not accept her official UNHCR Asylum Seeker letter. She was the only one who reported being sent to jail for an extended period of time by police for seeking political asylum in China. Several people reported that police didn’t have any idea what the UNHCR official document was and would not accept it in applying for a Residence Permit. Most of the asylum seekers and those who had attained Asylum status did not appear to be Muslim.

Why was the only person put in jail Muslim? Is that a coincidence? I am a Muslim. Are Muslims specifically targeted for “special” treatment?

I do not know if I will get a residence paper which I must have to live here in China. I do not know if I will be hit by a car while riding my bicycle, smashed while driving my car, or put in jail.

That policeman calling himself “Michael” was very unpleasant today.

My impressions of the application for political asylum process so far?

Generally, it seems Chinese police really don’t like people to seek political asylum here, especially Muslims based on my impressions from the meeting held Tuesday, 25 June 2019.

The openly threatening statements of Changping District policeman “Michael” today (July 8, 2019) confirmed this impression.

------

The evening of July 8th Miao Hui, my finance of the past eight years was very angry at Michael. She was shocked and horrified that he could threaten us so openly. She had never experienced anything like that before.

I told her to forget about it, I would smooth things over with Michael.

--------

July 9th

I tried to smooth things over with Michael. The following is our WeChat record:

|  |
| --- |
| 10:37 amGood morning Michael. I and Miao were shocked after our interview yesterday. Fortunately I think I have a simple harmonious solution that will make you and everyone happy.I am trying to make a career change now.Things have changed a lot since the last time I met you. Things have changed for me personally and for China as a nation.I am sending you a copy of my CV. It has a long, long list of my publications in the international media during my past years in China. Those articles promote Chinese history and culture, and President Xi Jinping's 一带一路 (Belt and Road Initiative) in the International media.No other foreign teacher or journalist in China has published as much as I have making Chinese culture and history look good.[My CV was attached here]I want the same things as you do. I want peace and harmony.Please be patient with me Michael.I know you are overworked and don't have time to deal with a "problem" like me. But please understand that I am on your side. I want the same things you do. I empathize with you. I feel your pain, and share your worries. |

Then Officer “Michael” responded:

|  |
| --- |
| 那我等你的好消息，祝找到新的工作We Chat translation: I’ll wait for your good news. Good luck finding a new job. |

At this time there was a knock at the door. I wondered if it was police here to arrest me. It was only a special delivery package for Miao. Something she ordered on the Internet. Obviously “Michael’s” intimidation and threats yesterday were having a psychological effect on me also.

I wrote back to Michael:

|  |
| --- |
| People like me who are seeking Political Asylum in China have been told to call UNHCR only on Wednesday. That's tomorrow. I will try to get someone to call you to tell you having me live here in Changping is not so much extra work for you. |

He wrote back:

|  |
| --- |
| 好的，明天等你的电话WeChat translation. All right, I’ll wait for your call tomorrow. |

I wrote back:

|  |
| --- |
| I don't know how quickly they communicate with each other, or with 安全部 or how long it will take them to communicate with you. But, I will be happy to let you know what they tell me. I know you need official information from them regarding how to deal with me. I really believe it is not as complicated or time consuming as someone told you. I went to a meeting with you, (安全部) and UNHCR, and about 30 other Asylum Seekers last week. I more or less understand the procedure, and really believe everyone wants to make this process as simple and painless as possible. This is the way of harmony. Please don't worry so much. I told Miao the same thing. We all want the same things. If you can be a little patient, everything will be fine and everyone will be happy. Thank you. |

 He wrote back:

|  |
| --- |
| 明天我等你消息WeChat translation: I’ll wait for your message tomorrow. |

In a further attempt to build a positive bond with Michael I shared the following:

|  |
| --- |
| One last thing. To help protect you I want to share some information with you. If you look at my CV you might think: Here is this stupid American Gregory Brundage working as a professional journalist while here in China on a teaching visa! This is illegal!---Please understand I made a deal with Shi Yan Pei, the Head Monk at North Shaolin Monastery on Panshan, in Jixian many years ago to set up a bank account so that foreign donations to rebuild the North Shaolin Monastery can be easily made. I made a deal with the editor of Kung Fu Tai Chi magazine in the U.S. that instead of paying me, he put advertising in that magazine to collect money to rebuild the North Shaolin on Panshan in Jixian County. I other words, I am not paid, and it is not professional work.---Songshang Shaolin Monastery was destroyed during the Warlord Era in 1928. But the North Shaolin on Panshan survived until 1942, when it, and 70 other monasteries on Panshan were burned by the Japanese. Only during the past 10 years has that monastery been rebuilt. It cost a lot of money. The Tianjin government did not help. I did. |

Michael wrote back:

|  |
| --- |
| OK |

I wrote back:

|  |
| --- |
| All of my books and articles are free. I think I know what the law is. You explained it to me. I have never intentionally broken the law. I respect the law. |

He did not respond. That’s OK, I know he’s very busy.

**July 9th, 2019**

This morning and early this afternoon Miao was very depressed.

At around 12:00 noon I she told me she had to go to her parents’ house as her mother needed a ride to the bus terminal to go to her hometown. Before she left we had a conversation.

She told me:

After you went to sleep last night I was awake for a couple of hours. Where is my life going? I’m not sure I can go on...

She told me about an insurance policy she had for her parents and herself.

“You know if something happened to me my parents would get a lot money,” she said.

I told her:

“You’re just depressed. We both had a terrible shock yesterday. What that policeman Michael did yesterday was criminal, threatening us that way. Don’t worry I smoothed it over this morning on WeChat. Everything’s going to be fine.”

As the conversation went on I realized Michael had really terrified her yesterday. She said:

“You know me. I’m scared. I scare easily. I just don’t want to deal with it. I want to run away, or die. I can’t deal with this.”

Whereas I’m used to really cruel bullies, she isn’t. Michael terrified her yesterday. Is this standard operating procedure for the police in Beijing, threatening us that I have to get a work visa very quickly or we had to leave Changping district quickly or he would force us to leave, by some undefined means?

Yes, I can try to smooth this over with Michael, however the effects on my fiancé of eight years Miao are more extreme that I had thought.

Then she had to leave to give her mom a ride to the bus station.

She left about 1:30. It is now 2:10 pm. I am worried. I calculate there is a 98% chance she will cheer up being out of this apartment where a crime was committed yesterday, that crime specifically is we were threatened by a policeman who had turned off his camera and microphone to make that threat.

There is a 1% chance that Michael will try to prove his point about being able to force us out of Changping by having one of his criminal friends play games with Miao while she is driving to her parents’ house or on the way to the bus station.

And there is a 1% chance Miao might crash her own car in an attempted suicide, or desperate cry for help.

In any case it appears there are some communication breakdowns between UNHCR, the 安全部 and local police stations. I heard from the 安全部 at the presentation that Mr. Kang – the 安全部 representative notified police stations about asylum seekers and the official paper that political asylum seekers have. Apparently, this hasn’t happened yet.

Really, I had much more important work to do today than deal with the psychological effects of police officer Michael’s rude criminal intrusion into our lives.

Among other things this morning I missed an exam I was supposed to monitor at school, so disturbed was I by Michaels threats yesterday.

Unfortunately, I can’t work on anything abstract right now. Michael’s intrusion into my life is delaying me from developing the alternative career I need to get another visa. Hopefully my fiancé and I will recover soon.

During the next three or four days I’ll be working 16 hours a day correcting final exams and writing reports for the bosses at school.

I still don’t have a residence paper and don’t know if or when I will get one. Tomorrow, I will call UNHCR and ask about all this. Right now my trust in China has been severely fractured.

Bullying I can deal with. But bullying Miao, and her emotional reactions yesterday and especially today are scary. What is he? An angry sadist who thinks he is god? Miao is a Chinese citizen. She has worked as a translator at many meetings between diplomats in foreign countries and here in Beijing. She is not stupid, and yet, I’ve never seen her so scared and depressed before.

I cannot understand Michael’s anger. Added responsibilities were the cause? Maybe.

So far I’ve stayed alive in many dangerous places by listening to my feelings. I feel there is at least 51% chance that Michael, or someone in his chain of command, possibly the captain of that police station, or some friend or relative of his had some communication either with the CEO of Beijing Huijia Private School, Wang, or some other administrator at Huijia (possibly Vice Head Master Yan Yunhu - a “close friend” of religious fanatic Sun Xiujuan) or possibly some follower of religious fanatic Sun Xiujuan.

Beijing Huijia Private school is one of the oldest and largest private schools in China. It is very powerful in Changping District.

Michael’s anger was unnatural yesterday. I tried to smooth things over with him this morning, but seeing the intense depression of Miao this afternoon really, really made me distrust Michael, the Changping police in general and this environment.

I am just finishing nearly four years of bullying at school by religious maniac and Chief Minister at her own underground “Christian” church Sun Xiujuan, her “close friends” and religious maniac followers at school. Now it appears the Changping police are going to continue that bullying and harassment.

In the UNHCR building in Beijing there is a sign that says: “You are safe here.” That may be so, but I sure do not feel safe here in this district of Beijing now. I am genuinely worried about the psychological effects of the threats upon my fiancé Miao.

July 10th, 2019

When she woke Miao told me she had another nightmare.

|  |
| --- |
| I dreamt there was a huge wave outside the window towards us taller than our 6th floor and it made a thunder sound loud and scary. There was not enough time for us to run out, so we hold each other waiting for death. The wave came broken our window luckily we didn’t washed away something hold us here. After a while a tornado was coming, I woke up. I never have such dreams so scary before. |

I tried to keep Miao’s mind on other things.

(This record continues, and is posted on a website that is not visible to browsers. Some of my friends have the URL.)

**January 27, 2020 - Update**

I gave up on the application for political asylum. Obviously China does not want any political asylum people here. Also, I found out a couple of days later people who are given political asylum status here in China do not get any kind of visa, and then they try to leave China they are arrested and fined for overstaying their visa. Then, they will not be allowed to return to China. So I went to Indonesia and got a 10-year tourist visa.

Still I am not allowed to work. My limited savings are running out.[[2]](#footnote-2)

I have a car here in Beijing, several hundred books, many friends, and a life here. But I cannot live in fear of the police either.

I believe going back to the United States is too dangerous.

I believe Michael works for the:

中华人民共和国国家安全部 [zhōnɡ huá rén mín ɡònɡ hé ɡuó ɡuó jiā ān quán bù]

Ministry of State Security of the People's Republic of China

It has a: Science and Technology Investigative Division - Responsible for managing science and technology projects and conducting research and development

China is very advanced in special energy weapons research.[[3]](#footnote-3)

That might explain the irritating electronic noises I hear in this apartment for the past six months or so.

Miao has been gone a lot at night during the past couple of months. She says she is at her parent’s house. I know that’s not true. I pushed the issue. She then said she is trying to get her money back. She also said she met a nice policeman. I don’t know where she is most of the time now. It seems likely she has found a “sugar daddy,” as she has a big debt because a woman from Chaoyang stole a great deal of money from her in 2015, and I am unemployed now. That woman is in police custody, but police seem unable to recover the large amount of money she stole. There are rumors she is paying off police for good treatment in jail; I cannot assess the validity of those rumors.

Both the Pakistanis and Turkish president have been critical of China for anti-Muslim policies and practices. I'm beginning to think they have a good point. I'm also thinking that the whole belt and road project will fall apart if Muslims believe that China is prejudiced against Islam. I believe the police are having fun now. I don't like it. I don't like it at all.

(See: Attachment 4: Dual tone low and high frequency sound harassment)

1. I sued the CIA in Federal Court (Case No. 99-C-1222) because in 1994/1995 President Clinton was going around South Asia begging for pollical campaign money to support his 1996 presidential election campaign. President Clinton sold my wife and children to the Prime Minister Mahathir of Malaysia, and used the CIA to put me out of business. My wife was a very attractive woman. The Prime Minister might not have liked me because of some articles I published about the war in Kashmir. He is part Indian. The British brought his family to Malaysia to manage a British school there when he was a child. He is now 93. During the Anti-Communist insurgency in Malaysia (1968-1989) he, Mahathir Mohammad – then a young doctor – worked as an interrogator. I did not know his personal history when I published the articles about the war in Kashmir in Malaysia’s national newspaper. I have documents that prove the CIA put me out of business in Malaysia. I was forced by Malaysian Immigration to leave Malaysia without my wife and two children November 11, 1995. Even the U.S. Attorneys defending the CIA and President Clinton believed my case was valid, but their job was to win. I was nearly killed several times while pursuing the federal lawsuit. In each case the American police wrote false police reports. Everything I owned in the US was stolen. I was often harassed by the FBI and police. I am an inconvenient witness to high crimes by the CIA and do not want to go to or live in the USA. I believe my life would be in danger. Inconvenient witnesses have a strange way of dying. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. After 1995 and being thrown out of Malaysia I sent all the money I didn’t need to survive to my former wife and children. I stopped that four years ago when my daughter got married and son got a job. That was when I started my Silk Road Kung Fu Friendship Tour travels and publications in the American Kung Fu magazine. I thought traveling the Silk Road I could learn things that could help me get a job here in China given that China is putting so many investments into the Silk Road development plan, now called the Belt and Road Initiative. Unfortunately, because I’m American, and over 60, I’m not eligible for work visas. I thought perhaps I could do a little private tutoring here just for fun, but people here do not seem interested in this now. So, my limited savings are running out. I’ve been a Muslim since December 1987. It has been a very difficult 33 years. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jun/07/sonic-attack-fears-as-more-us-diplomats-fall-ill-in-china>

<https://dpl-surveillance-equipment.com/prevention-and-detection-of-electronic-harassment/prevention-detection-electronic-harassment-surveillance-pdehs/> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)