

This is Zone-H coverage of one of the many scam Nigerian mails that are tricking the receiver into a perverted fraud scheme.

Everything started when SyS64738 (admin) received this mail (among the other hundreds of the same fraud scheme...) and we decided to follow the fraudsters till the end...

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Note:

- **ALL THE MAIL IN CAPITAL LETTERS ARE THE MAIL THE NIGERIAN FRAUDSTERS SENT TO US**
- **All the mails in smallcaps are the mail we sent back to the fraudsters**

This is the first mail we received

FIRST BANK PLC
TEL: 234-8033062755
FAX: 234-9-2721428

MY NAME IS DR.DICKSON EZE, I AM ONE OF THE SENIOR MANAGERS IN THE FIRST BANK PLC AND I WORK UNDER THE DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE OPERATIONS (INTERNATIONAL REMITTANCE). I AM CONTACTING YOU PRESENTLY BECAUSE I NEED YOUR URGENT ASSISTANCE IN A BUSINESS TRANSACTION THAT WILL BE OF IMMENSE BENEFIT TO BOTH OF US.

I NEED TO TRANSFER SOME MONEY THAT HAS LONG BEEN DECLARED UNCLAIMED BY THE CHAIRMAN AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF OUR BANK.THE MONEY IS THE CLOSING BALANCE OF ONE OF OUR BEST CUSTOMER, LATE ENGR. GEORGE BENSON. I WAS HIS PERSONAL ACCOUNT OFFICER BEFORE HE DIED. GEORGE BENSON WAS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN AND THE AMOUNT INVOLVED IS \$20.5M USD (TWENTY MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DOLLARS) HE WAS AN INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTOR WHO SUPPLY AND INSTAL EQUIPMENTS WITH A COMPANY CALLED CREEK CONTRACTORS LIMITED.NOBODY HAS EVER COME FORWARD TO MAKE A STATEMENT OF CLAIM BECAUSE HE DOES NOT HAVE A NEXT OF KIN.

I HAVE DISCOVERED HOWEVER THAT THE CHAIRMAN AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WANT TO CLAIM THESE MONEY FOR THEIR OWN PERSONAL USE. THOUGH, MY COLLEAGUES AND I HAVE MADE SEVERAL ATTEMPTS AT LOCATING ANY PERSON OR PERSONS THAT COULD BE REMOTEDLY RELATED TO ENGR.GEORGE BENSON, THOUGH, WE HAVE BEEN DOING THIS FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS AND NOBODY HAS COME FORWARD FOR THE MONEY DUE TO THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO NEXT OF KIN.

I AM HEREBY SOLICITING FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE TO PROVIDE ME WITH A PRIVATE FOREIGN ACCOUNT WHERE THIS MONEY CAN BE DEPOSITED FOR OUR USAGE AND ALSO FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LESS PRIVILEDGED IN THE WORLD. I HEREBY SUGGEST THAT PROVIDING A GOOD ACCOUNT WILL MAKE YOU HAVE 30% FOR YOUR HELP, 10% FOR THE LESS PRIVILEDGE IN THE WORLD LIKE CHARITY HOMES OR MOTHERLESS BABIES HOME ETC.AND 5% FOR ANY EXPENSES INCURED FROM YOUR SIDE OR MY SIDE. THIS WILL BE BETTER THAN ALLOWING OUR CHAIRMAN AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO ACQUIRE THESE MONEY FOR THEIR PERSONAL USAGE.WE HAVE WORKED OUT A PERFECT PLAN TO STAND YOU AS A NEXT OF KIN TO ENGR.GEORGE BENSON AND I WILL ALSO PROVIDE YOU WITH ALL THE INFORMATIONS YOU WILL NEED TO ANSWER ANY SECURITY QUESTION THAT MAY COME UP.IF YOU FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY, EVERYTHING WILL BE COMPLETED WITHIN TWO WEEKS. THEREFORE, CONTACT ME ON MY PRIVATE PHONE NO.234-8033062755 OR FAX NO.234-9-2721428 OR EMAIL:travelegg@eircom.net

THANKS FOR YOUR KIND CO-OPERATIONS,

DR.DICKSON EZE.

.....
This is how we answered. The name Marq Bellini is totally invented (it happens that I have a Marq friend down to

Hi there, I might be interested in the deal.
Can you be a little more precise explaining me the details ?
Regards

Marq Bellini

.....

Here's their reply:

DEAR SIR,
I THANK YOU FOR YOUR REPLY TO MY EMAIL.WE ARE ABOUT THREE OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN THIS TRANSACTION AND WE ARE MEN OF GREAT HONOUR IN OUR VARIOUS FIELDS.BEFORE CONTACTING YOU,WE HAVE ALREADY SET ASIDE SUBTAINIAL AMOUNT WHICH WE BELEIVED WILL BE OKAY TO CONCLUDE THIS NOBLE TRANSACTION.ALL WE NEED FROM YOU IS HONESTY AND CONFIDENTIALITY TO JOINTLY ACTUALISE THE PROJECT.

HOWEVER,IT IS IMPORTANT YOU SEND DOWN YOUR BANK PARTICULARS,COMPANY'S NAME PHONE AND FAX NUMBER TO ENABLE US PROCESS THE RELEASE OF THE FUNDS INTO YOUR NOMINATED ACCOUNT.YOU CAN AS WELL CALL ON MY MOBILE NO.234-8033062755 FOR MORE DISCUSSIONS IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU DID NOT UNDERSTAND OR YOU CAN AS WELL SEND US THE NEEDED INFORMATIONS THROUGH OUR FAX NO.234-9-2721428.YOU CAN BE REACHING ME ON MY PRIVATE EMAIL ADDRESS FOR SECURITY REASONS.THE ADDRESS IS oboms2001@yahoo.com

HOPING TO HEAR FROM YOU TODAY.
REGARDS,
DICKSON EZE.

.....
As you saw, they asked for my data and bank details. We invented a totally fake bank account, fake address etc. , knowing that the fraudsters would have never checked it... We also invented a Rome (Italy) address and we purchased a brand new GSM rechargeable card to allow them to call us in total anonymity.

Hello there.
Sorry for the delay but I couldn't reach the internet for the last week or so.
I am still interested in the deal so here are my data:

Name: Marq Bellini
Address Circo Massimo 34 - Rome - Italy
Bank: Banca popolare di Lodi, agency 29 Roma
Bank account 400882-380001/1
Phone contact : +39 348 8861XXX **(the last three numbers are covered cause I am still using that number...)**

Before proceeding, I'd like to know more details about the deal as you didn't expalin to me.
I'd like to know how did you get my mail contact.
Regards

Marq

.....
After this mail, we let them wait one week or so, just to get them anxious...

>From: <sisterme@eircom.net>
>To: "Sir Lancelot / H.M. Zone-H messaging servant" <zoneh_org@hotmail.com>
>Subject: URGENT.
>Date: Mon, 10 Feb 2003 19:11:36 +0000

>
>DEAR SIR,
>I HAVE WAITED TO HEAR FROM YOU TO NO AVAIL.I WANT TO KNOW WHETHER YOU ARE STILL INTERESTED BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE TO WASTE TIME AS OUR AIM IS FOR THIS MONEY TO BE RELEASED TO YOUR ACCOUNT WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

>
>PLEASE,IF YOU STILL INTERESTED,SEND DOWN THE NEEDED INFORMATIONS ASAP INORDER FOR US TO PROCESS THE RELEASE OF THE FUNDS INTO YOUR NOMINATED ACCOUNT.
>REGARDS,
>MARTINS. **(who is Martins? One of the three guys?!?)**

After this mail, they called me and they told me : (resume)
- May God bless you
- We are like brother in this deal, and God wanted us to meet
- Keep this deal secret, don't even tell it to your wife
- Follow exactly our instructions and you will get your share of money
- We need a fax number to fax you some documents, ACT NOW! (they screamed it to me)
- You cannot cash the money as private person, you must provide us a legal entity. What's your company' name?

.....

Oh oh... we are in trouble! They want a fax number... what shall we do?

We couldn't give them a real fax number so we subscribed one of the many Free Internet Fax Receiving services. The one we choose allowed also to use an Italian city prefix, so we choose Rome (06) to make our fake as real as possible.

Moreover we had another problem: our mailbox was zoneh_org@hotmail.com so we had somehow to justify this name. So we invented a Bellini Zone Hotels company. This would justify the usage of Bellini name in conjunction with Zone-H spare mailbox. So we mailed them:

Hi, as requested by you here is my fax number:
+39 06233230995

the details of my company:

Bellini Zone Hotels spa
via Prenestina 16, 10100 Roma (Italy)

waiting for your answers

Best regards

Marq Bellini

.....
They answered:

DEAR SIR,
I THANK YOU FOR THE INFORMATIONS YOU SENT.I HAVE SUBMITTED THE APPLICATION AND I HOPE IT WILL BE OUT TOMORROW.SO ONCE EVERYTHING IS OKAY TOMORROW,I WILL SEND THEM TO YOU FOR YOUR PERUSAL.

AGAIN,I WILL LIKE US TO BE COMMUNICATING HENSEFORTH THROUGH MY PRIVATE EMAIL ADDRESS:oboms2001@yahoo.com
HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU SOON.
REGARDS,
DICKSON.

Note that every time we make a step ahead in the transaction, they will tell us to change email address or telephone numbers.

This is because they sent so many scam letters around the world AND THEY ACTUALLY RECEIVE A LOT OF ANSWERS so they have the problem to manage all those mails.

To solve the problem they use different mails and phone numbers for each step of the fraud so that if you call them on a certain phone instead than another one it will mean for them that you already are at step X of the fraud scheme, helping them to better manage the large amount of involved victims

.....
Wow! What a surprise, things are getting serious now!

I received the first set of documents from Nigerians.

Please note that it appears they opened a company named Bellini Zone Hotels Llc. This is because they told us we need a local legal entity to cash legally that money.

Also, note that the certificate appears backdated to 1991 so to have a legal entity that appears being working with Nigeria since a long time.

Please pay also attention to the fact that all the fees and stamp duties on the certificates are expressed in US Dollars, while the official currency in Nigeria is the NAIRA.

Nigeria must be more expensive that Dubai! In fact the fees to open a company appear to be 25.500 USD !!!



NO..RC...1876540.....



CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

Certificate of Incorporation

I HEREBY CERTIFY that

BELLINI ZONE HOTELS SPA (NIG) LIMITED.

is this day Incorporated under the COMPANIES AND ALLIED MATTERS
DECREE 1990 and that the Company is Limited

Given under my hand at Abuja this TWENTY FIFTH day of
MARCH one thousand Nine Hundred and NINETY ONE.

Fee and Deed Stamps , \$25,500..USD.
Stamp Duty on Capital , \$16,000..USD.

Registrar General

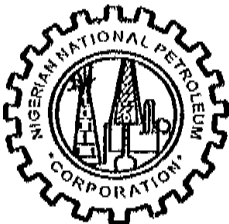
Now this is nice: because we finally have a Bellini Zone Hotels legal Nigerian entity, we will be able to be recognized by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (the company fraudsters said they will use to transfer the money from) as one of their accredited contractor. This will allow NNPN to release us an official payment for the promised 20.5 Million USD

FROM :

PHONE NO. :

Jan. 15 2000 01:24PM P1

NIGERIAN NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION
N. N. P. C.



N.N.P.C./P.T.E REG. NO. 1784193

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION
SUPPLIES & GENERAL CONTRACTS.

This is to certify that

BELLINI ZONE HOTELS SPA (NIGERIA) LIMITED

of 45, KOFO ABAYOMI AVENUE, VICTORIA ISLAND-LAGOS.


have/has been registered with the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation
(Nigeria/Foreigners) Contractor's Register.

at VALOMO OFFICE COMPLEX In Category " A "

for Supplies & General Contractors not exceeding
\$100,000,000.00 (ONE HUNDRED MILLION U.S. DOLLARS ONLY)

ISSUED THIS 17TH day of APRIL, 1991

*Any alteration to this Certificate renders



After receiving those faxes, we mailed them:

Hi I got your faxes.
What to do now?
Marq Bellini

Here's their answer:

DEAR MARQ,
THANK YOU FOR YOUR MAILS.THE NEXT STEP NOW IS TO WAIT TO HEAR FROM THE FINANCE
MINISTRY.WHATEVER HAPPENS,I PROMISED I WILL COMMUNICATE YOU BECAUSE WE BOTH ARE
IN THE BUSINESS.I WILL ALSO LIKE YOU TO BE CALLING ME ON DAILY BASIS SO THAT I
WILL BE GIVING YOU THE DETAILS OF THE WHOLE TRANSACTION.MY MOBILE IS
234-8033062755.
REGARDS.

So we called them. They told us that we would receive a phone call from the Ministry of Finance' lawyer.
And it happened. A new SERIOUS voice called us asking for our credential.
He asked us to take a copy of the documents they previously sent us by fax and asked me about reference
numbers etc, this to play like if he was really concerned about my ID.
After having verified by phone that I was the real Mr. Bellini, he told me to wait a fax of confirmation from the
Ministry of Finance.
Which arrived

FROM : FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE PHONE NO. : 234126643 Jan. 18 2000 05:37PM P1

OUR REF: FMF/976831/FGN/01
YOUR REF:

DATE: 17TH FEB, 2003

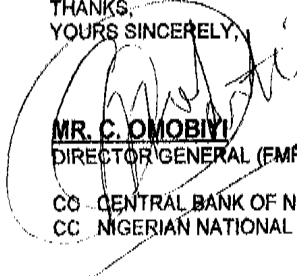
THE MANAGING DIRECTOR
BELLINI ZONE HOTELS SPA NIG. LTD
45, KOFO ABAYOMI AVENUE
VICTORIA ISLAND LAGOS-NIGERIA
SIR,

RE-APPLICATION FOR THE REMITTANCE OF \$20,500,000.00 USD ON CONTRACT
NO.NNPC/PED/2660KR/FGN/93/97 IN FAVOUR OF MARQ BELLINI

WITH REFERENCE TO THE APPLICATION FROM NNPC/PC/FMFED/9109/00 TO APPROVE
THE TOTAL SUM OF \$20.5M USD IN FAVOUR OF MARQ BELLINI, THE FEDERAL MINISTRY
OF FINANCE HAS CAREFULLY GIVEN YOUR FILE A THOROUGH PERUSAL IN RESPECT
OF YOUR OUTSTANDING CLAIMS ON THE APPROVED CONTRACT EXECUTED FOR NNPC
AT PORTHARCOURT HIGH SEA OIL RIGS. THE MINISTRY IS SATISFIED WITH ALL YOUR
PRESENTATIONS AND HAS GIVEN APPROVAL IN YOUR FAVOUR. YOUR FILE HAS BEEN
REFERED TO THE CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA FOR FINAL APPROVAL TO FACILITATE
YOUR CONTRACT SUM INTO YOUR ACCOUNT URGENTLY.

NOTE THAT INCOME TAX CERTIFICATE OF YOUR COMPANY IS NOT IN YOUR FILE. DO
SEND IT DIRECTLY TO THE CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA.

WE CONGRATULATE YOU.
THANKS,
YOURS SINCERELY,


MR. C. OMOBIYI
DIRECTOR GENERAL (FMF)
CC - CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA
CC - NIGERIAN NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION.



Please note that in the fax is stated: NOTE THAT INCOME TAX CERTIFICATE OF YOUR COMPANY IS NOT IN
YOUR FILE. DO SEND IT DIRECTLY TO CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA.

We believe this will be a phrase they will use to steal from us some MORE money in case, later on we would
have flown down to Nigeria to cash our money, like asking some extra bribes to let our income tax certificate
appear like magic in the file of Central Bank of Nigeria (which has nothing to share with this fraud, look at their
official page statement).

After a few days we received this fax from the Central Bank of Nigeria, stating the approval of the payment execution on our bank account. NOTE THAT CENTRAL BANK SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY POWER TO RELEASE APPROVAL FOR SUCH PAYMENTS

Note also the amount of APPROVED stamps... it gave us a good 30 minutes laugh!

FROM : CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA

PHONE NO. : 2341266100

Jan. 20 2000 02:51PM P1

APPROVED FOR PAYMENT
CENTRAL BANK OF NIG-RIA



INTERNATIONAL REMITTANCE
LAGOS

APPROVED

CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA

OUR REF: CBN/1995/FGN/001
YOUR REF:

DATE: 19TH FEB, 2003

TINIBU SQUARE
LAGOS
NIGERIA

ATTN: THE MANAGING DIRECTOR
BELLINI ZONE HOTELS SPA NIG. LTD
45, KOFO ABAYOMI AVENUE
VICTORIA ISLAND
LAGOS-NIGERIA.

URGENT

APPROVED

SIR,
RE FINAL PAYMENT ORDER/VIDE CONTRACT NO.NNPC/PED/2650KR/FGN/93/97
IN FAVOUR OF BELLINI ZONE HOTELS SPA NIG. LTD OF KOFO ABAYOMI
AVENUE VICTORIA ISLAND-LAGOS, NIGERIA ACCOUNT NO.400882-380001/1 IN
ITALY

THE CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA WISHES TO INFORM YOU OF THE APPROVAL OF
US\$20.5M DOLLARS (TWENTY MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA DOLLARS) BEING TOTAL AMOUNT ON CONTRACT
NO.NNPC/PED/2650KR/FGN/93/97 EXECUTED BY YOUR COMPANY BELLINI ZONE HOTELS
SPA NIG. LTD FOR THE NIGERIAN NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION (NNPC)

APPROVED

YOU ARE THEREFORE ADVISED TO PROCEED AND ENDORSE THE IRREVOCABLE FUNDS
TRANSFER ORDER OR THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE REMITTANCE ORDER (FERO) IN THE
CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA, BY YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY AS THIS IS THE ONLY
CONDITION WITHHOLDING THE REMITTANCE OF YOUR CONTRACT VALUE IN FOREIGN
EXCHANGE ALLOCATION IN FAVOUR OF YOUR COMPANY. BE ACCORDINGLY ADVISED
THEREFORE THAT YOU CAN CALL OUR ACCREDITED ATTORNEY DR. MUSA DANJUMA
(SAN) ON TEL.NO.234-1-2885432 FOR THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE
REMITTANCE ORDER IN YOUR FAVOUR. IN CASE YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO TRAVEL
DOWN TO NIGERIA PERSONALLY FOR THE ENDORSEMENT.

APPROVED

WE HAVE ON THE STRENGTH OF THIS APPROVALS ASSURE YOU THAT YOUR US\$20.5M
DOLLARS WILL BE CONFIRMED IN YOUR DESIGNATED ACCOUNT WITHIN 72HRS OF THE
ENDORSEMENT OF THE REMITTANCE ORDER BY YOU OR THE ACCREDITED ATTORNEY.
THE CENTRAL BANK CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR FUNDS RETURNED TO THE
TREASURY DUE TO YOUR DELAY IN ENDORSING YOUR FOREIGN EXCHANGE
REMITTANCE ORDER (FERO) IN THE BANK. WHILE WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR FINAL
ENDORSEMENT, WE CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR SUCCESS.
YOURS FAITHFULLY,

APPROVED

E.O.ONANUGA
CC NIGERIAN NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION
CC FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE
CC PRESIDENCY
CC AUDIT DEPT. (CBN)

19/2/03

APPROVED

After this fax, Mr. Musa Danjuma the lawyer of the Central Bank of Nigeria (a fake one, of course) called me urging me to proceed with the payment of the due fees in order to release our 20.5 M USD. He gave me two possibilities :

- 1) to pay 16.500 via Western Union to their legal office so that the lawyer would act on our behalf to release the money
 - 2) to come to Nigeria personally to endorse the money, this procedure would cost only 6.500 USD
- The fees I had to pay are the one stated in this fax:

FROM :

PHONE NO. :

Jan. 21 2000 12:24PM P1



OWO, ROTIMI, JOHNSON & PARTNERS

(SOLICITORS, LEGAL PRACTITIONERS & NOTARIES PUBLIC)

ADDRESS:
38, MARINE ROAD,
LAGOS-ISLAND.
NIGERIA

OUR REF: ORJ/1728/OMP/9901

YOUR REF: NNPC/PED/2650KR/FGN/93/97

DATE: 20/02/03

ATTN: MARQ BELLINI

DEAR SIR,

SEQUEL TO OUR TELEPHONE CONVERSATION THIS AFTERNOON, BE INFORMED THAT YOUR PAYMENT HAS BEEN APPROVED THIS DAY AND THAT YOU MAY BE REQUIRED TO ENSURE YOUR MONEY IS REMITTED INTO YOUR ACCOUNT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID CANCELLATION IN CASE OF DELAY. I AM ON THE STRENGTH OF THIS CLEAN BILL GIVEN TO YOUR FILE INFORMING YOU THAT YOUR PAYMENT WILL BE EFFECTED WITHIN 72HRS. INTO YOUR ACCOUNT IF YOU ARE ABLE TO CONCLUDE THE PAYMENT FOR THE SWEARING OF AFFIDAVIT AND STAMP DUTY OF YOUR DOCUMENTS IN THE HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA. THE TOTAL FEES TO CONCLUDE YOUR ENDORSEMENT IN THE CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(1) AFFIDAVIT FEE	US\$3000 DOLLARS
(2) STAMP DUTY FEE	US\$3,500 DOLLARS
(3) PROFESSIONAL FEE	US\$20,000 DOLLARS
TOTAL	US\$26,500 DOLLARS

NORMALLY WE COLLECT US\$10,000 DOLLARS AS PART PAYMENT FOR OUR PROFESSIONAL FEE AFTER WHICH THE BALANCE US\$10,000 DOLLARS WILL BE PAID UPON THE CONFIRMATION OF YOUR MONEY INTO YOUR ACCOUNT. BY THIS, IT MEANS YOU HAVE TO SEND US\$16,500 DOLLARS TO CONCLUDE YOUR DOCUMENTATIONS.

NOTE THAT US\$6,500 DOLLARS IS NOT NEGOCIABLE BECAUSE THIS AMOUNT GOES TO THE GOVERNMENT'S ACCOUNT. THERE ARE OTHER FEES I WILL PAY IN THE COURT LIKE APPEARANCE FEES, VAT FEES, ATTESTATION FEES AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES I WILL COME ACROSS DURING THE DOCUMENTATION OF YOUR PAPERS IN THE HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA. IT IS ADVISABLE YOU ENSURE THE US\$16,500 DOLLARS ARE SENT URGENTLY THROUGH MY NAME AND ADDRESS BY WESTERN UNION MONEY TRANSFER SINCE THE MONEY WILL REACH ME THE SAME DAY TO ENABLE ME COMMENCE THE ENDORSEMENT OF YOUR RELEASE ORDER IN THE CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA SAME DAY. MY EMAIL ADDRESS IS: danjuma@afriamail.com MAKE SURE YOU SEND ME THAT AGREEMENT DULY SIGNED BY YOU UNFAILINGLY TODAY BECAUSE WITHOUT THE AGREEMENT, I CANNOT ENDORSE THE DOCUMENTS.

NAME: MUSA DANJUMA
ADDRESS: 38 MARINE ROAD,
LAGOS ISLAND, NIGERIA.

I EXPECT YOUR CALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
THANKS,
YOURS TRULY,

DR. MUSA DANJUMA (SAN)

OWO, ROTIMI, JOHNSON & PARTNERS
(Solicitors, Legal Practitioners &
Notaries Public)
38 Marine Road,
Lagos Island, Nigeria

Sign. _____ Date: 20/2/2003

.....

So we mailed them...

I received your fax which talks about the legal fees are necessary to be paid in order to proceed with the 20,5 M endorsement (16.500 USD).

My question is: would it be possible to withdraw that money from the total sum?

It doesn't really make any sense to me to pay money in order to receive money.

Moreover, I don't trust this kind of online transaction between people they don't know each other.

Can you please suggest an alternative solution that would ease out the process? Maybe I could come there by the end of next week as I am coming anyway to visit our hotels in Kenya with corporate airplane, it wouldn't take so much to jump to Nigeria as well.

Marq Bellini

.....

And they answered...

DEAR BELLINI,

MUCH THANKS FOR OUR PHONE DISCUSSIONS TODAY. IN SHORT, I MET WITH THE GOVERNOR OF CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA TO KNOW EXACTLY WHAT TO BE DONE NEXT TO REMIT THE \$20.5M USD INTO YOUR ACCOUNT SINCE THE WHOLE MONEY HAS BEEN APPROVED.

HE TOLD ME THAT YOU CAN CLEAR THE MONEY INTO YOUR ACCOUNT BY USING THE LAWYER OF THE BANK OR YOU CAN ALSO COME DOWN PERSONALLY AND DO ALL THE ENDORSEMENTS. I SHALL PROVIDE YOU WITH ESCORT THAT WILL PICK YOU FROM THE AIRPORT TO ANY HOTEL OF YOUR CHOICE. I HAVE TOLD YOU THAT I AM A MAN OF HONESTY, HIGH INTEGRITY AND HONOUR AND YOUR COMING TO MY COUNTRY WILL ALSO GIVE YOU THE OPENINGS INTO MANY BUSINESS CLIMATE IN THE OIL INDUSTRY.

I AM IN THE OIL FIELD AND YOU WILL ALSO MEET WITH SOME IMPORTANT OFFICIALS AND THIS WILL PAVE THE WAY FOR MORE BUSINESS BETWEEN US. I HAVE ASSURED YOU THAT \$20.5M USD IS JUST A TIP OF ICEBERG ONCE YOU ARE HONEST WITH ME AS I WILL BE 100% HONEST WITH YOU. IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO BE VERY CONFIDENTIAL BY NOT DISCLOSING THE TRUE NATURE OF THIS OUR NOBLE TRANSACTION TO ANYBODY EITHER IN YOUR COUNTRY OR MINE. I HAVE DONE A PERFECT HOME WORK AS REGARD TO THIS OUR TRANSACTION AND I PROMISE YOU THAT THE SKY IS OUR LIMIT.

THE GOVERNOR TOLD ME THAT YOU MUST COME DOWN WITH THE STAMP DUTY AND AFFIDAVIT FEES IN CASH SINCE THIS IS BEEN PAID TO THE HIGH COURT AND IT IS ONLY \$6500 USD. YOU WILL ALSO NEED A CLEARANCE TO LAND YOUR PLANE IN CASE YOU ARE COMING WITH A PRIVATE PLANE. THIS I BELIEVE YOU CAN DO YOURSELF BUT DO NOT TELL ANYBODY YOUR TRUE MISSION. JUST SAY YOU WANT TO EXPLORE NIGERIA AS AN HOTELIST AND A TOURIST TO EXAMINE HOW YOU CAN INVEST OR DO BUSINESS HERE IN NIGERIA. LET THE SECRET OF THIS BUSINESS BE KNOWN TO YOU AND ME ALONE AND I ASSURE YOU THAT WE WILL CLEAR MORE MONEY INTO YOUR ACCOUNT AFTER THE REMITTANCE OF THIS \$20.5M USD.

I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU IN MY COUNTRY NEXT WEEK. SEND ME ALL YOUR ARRIVAL DETAILS TO ENABLE ME GIVE YOU A PERFECT ARRANGEMENT HERE. YOU MAY SPEND ONLY THREE DAYS TO CONCLUDE THE TRANSACTION. IT SHOULD NOT BE WEEKEND BUT WORKING DAYS.

THANKS,
SINCERELY YOURS,
MARTINS EBERE.

.....

DEAR MARQ,

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR MAIL TO ME TODAY IN RESPECT OF YOUR CONTRACT PAYMENT IN THE CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA. IT IS PERTINENT TO LET YOU KNOW THAT IF YOU CAN COME TO NIGERIA YOURSELF FOR THE ENDORSEMENT THE BETTER BECAUSE IT WILL COST YOU JUST \$6500 USD NON NEGOTIABLE FEES FOR STAMP DUTY AND AFFIDAVIT.

I WILL ADVISE HOWEVER THAT YOU SHOULD TRY AND COME DOWN PROBABLY BY NEXT WEEK AS YOU RIGHTLY PROPOSED BECAUSE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ARE PAYING FOREIGN CONTRACTORS RAPIDLY NOW DUE TO THE ON COMING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AND ANY CONTRACTOR WHO FAIL TO RECEIVE HIS CONTRACT SUM NOW WILL FIND IT DIFFICULT AFTER ELECTION.

PLEASE, TRY AND GIVE ME A CALL IMMEDIATELY YOU ARRIVE MY COUNTRY SO THAT I WILL BE AWARE YOU ARE AROUND IN CASE YOU MAY STILL NEED MY ASSISTANCE. MY MOBILE

NO.IS 234-8033260176.
REGARDS,
DR.MUSA DANJUMA(SAN)

--

**Note that they want me down to Nigeria. The Central Bank lawyer is also giving me his mobile phone....
So I decided to tell them by phone that giving the fact that my hotel chain had already one hotel in Kenya and I would be visiting that hotel a week after, I could have taken my private corporate plane and jump down to Nigeria, after all it's only 1 hour flight...
They also told me to bring some cash to pay the fees.**

DEAR MARQ,
I THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION TO JOINTLY ACTUALISE THIS OUR NOBLE PROJECT.PLEASE,I WILL LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU TO KNOW EXACTLY WHEN YOU WILL BE COMING SO AS TO MAKE SOLID ARRANGEMENT IN WELCOMING YOU.TRY AND CALL ME ON PHONE TODAY.EVERYTHING IS IN ORDER SO MAKE SURE YOU SEND ME YOUR ARRIVAL SCHEDULE.
REGARDS,
MARTINS.

We decided to play around a little with them, so I didn't call them for around 10 days...

DEAR MARQ,
I WROTE YOU YESTERDAY BUT I DID NOT HEAR FROM YOU.I ALSO CALLED YOU TODAY BUT YOU PHONE WAS IN ANSWERING MACHINE.PLEASE,TRY AND CALL ME AS SOON AS YOU RECEIVE THIS MESSAGE FOR ME TO KNOW WHEN YOU ARE COMING INORDER TO PICK YOU UP IN THE AIRPORT.MY MOBILE NO. IS 234-8033062755.ALSO SEND ME EMAIL ABOUT YOUR SCHEDULE INORDER TO PREPAIR WELL FOR YOU.

WAITING TO HEAR FROM YOU TODAY.
REGARDS,
MARTINS.

Then finally I wrote them...

Hi, sorry for the delay but I have had health problems and I got hospitalized for a week or so. But now I am back and fortunately feeling well.
My trip for Nigeria is planned this week.
I should arrive Thursday, departure on Sunday.
I will communicate the private plane flight code as soon as the pilots will file the flight plan to Lagos control tower.
Visa is already arranged, maybe you can suggest me a nice Hotel accommodation.
Marq.

After other phone calls we finally settled an arrangement:

Hello,
I have finally the copy of the flight plan filed by my pilots. I will be landing at Lagos Airport approximately at 09.15 AM on Thursday 6th March 2003 and I will depart Sunday afternoon.
The code of my flight will be acx2002 (I don't know if you need it) and I will fly with American tail N69326.
I would like to know the schedule of our meetings as I would like to organize my free time otherwise.
I also would like to know if you can deliver the limo directly to the airplane parking lot or if I should eventually manage myself the Custom Border immigration procedures.
I have never been to Nigeria so I am not aware about the private flight custom-immigration rules there ...
Marq



←CLICK HERE TO HEAR OUR LAST PHONE CALL WITH THE FRAUDSTERS

Note that at this point the scam becomes dangerous. In fact, if we agreed to pay the 16.500 USD fees by money transfer, we just lost our money and that was it. But given the fact that we decided not to transfer the money but to rather go to Nigeria to cash the big payment by our self, we put our life in a situation of extreme danger. In fact the fraud scheme might conclude (as it already happened) with the kidnapping of the victim once arrived in Nigeria. Some of them have been freed after having paid a ransom, some other have been killed.

Of course, they are still waiting us with the limo down at Lagos Airport landing path...

**You can refer to the official 419 Nigerian frauds page at the USA embassy' website:
or you can have a more extensive analysis at Zone-H special scam section:**

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