

The idiocy from Nigeria continues. Big Dawg and Big Dick are on vacation, so Herbert Humper makes his debut. As you read this exchange, consider the fact that my real name is a part of my email address, yet this never seems to register with the folks from Nigeria, who continue to write “Herbert Humper” back — even when he deliberately misspells Mr. Babalola’s name on the return emails.

1. The Original Email

FROM: Mr David Babalola
Federal Ministry of Aviation
(FMA)Lagos, Nigeria.

Subject: URGENT&CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS PROPOSAL

It is my humble pleasure to write this letter irrespective of the fact that you do not know me. However, I came to know of you in my private search for a reliable and trustworthy person that can handle a confidential transaction of this nature in respect to our investment plans in real estate. ...

I am Mr David Babalola,the Project Director of Federal Ministry of Aviation(FMA).We have an existing surplus of US\$28,500.000.00(Twenty Eight Million,Five Hundred Thousand US Dollars belonging to myself and my colleagues in the Federal Ministry of Aviation(FMA)which we want to transfer into a trustworthy account outside the country for personal use and investment. ...

Mutually, we have unanimously agreed to give 30% of the money to you, 65%for myself and colleague, and 5%for settlement of any expenses that may arise locally/international on the process of ransferring the money into your account. This is a golden opportunity of our life and we intend to establish good business/investment out of it in your country through your acceptance to work with us as an anchorman.

For more details and to enable us forward application for claims to our Ministry, using your name and particulars as the beneficiary of the fund kindly contact me immediately on my my email

Best Regards.
Mr David Babalola

2. My First Reply

Dear Mr. Babaloo

I fear that your email may have reached me in error.

While I am indeed the managing director of Consolidated Vapors Works, Inc., we are, regrettably, a small 35 employee cooperative in the Rigid Middlefinger Enterprise Zone in upstate New York. While I am extremely interested in your most intriguing offer, I'm quite certain that you were looking for a company with greater resources than our \$25 million in annual sales.

Perhaps one day we will be large enough to gain your respect, and have you again make contact with us. We are an emerging leader in the alternative energy field. My company recovers the escaping vapors from common farm animals, and turns this naturally produced methane into a valuable energy resource. Right now we process enough captured bovine flatulence to power a small city. While our sales have been brisk in rural areas, to date we have not been able to penetrate the all-important urban or suburban markets. An unfortunate by-product of the combustion process is a noticeable odor not unlike the smell one might find from standing too close to Rosie O'Donnell after a week long binge on stale frijoles. We are working diligently on this problem, and hope to have it solved soon.

Again, with my deepest regrets, I must inform you that your message must have reached me in error.

Warmest regards,

Herbert Humper
Managing Director

3. The Big Babaloo bites

Subject: LET ME TRUST YOU PLEASE

DEAR HERBERT,
PLEASE BE MOST ASSURED THAT MY MAIL DID NOT REACH YOU IN ERROR! PLEASE LET ME HAVE YOUR CELL PH. NUMBER AS I WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOU AND DISCUSS WITH YOU OR CALL ME ON 234 80 37167536.

PLEASE, BE INFORMED THAT THIS IS INEVITABLE.IT IS EITHER YOU CALL ME OR YOU LET ME HAVE YOUR NO.

REGARDS,

BABALOLA.

4. But Herbert Humper has no phone

Dear Mr. Babaloo:

I am humbled and excited that your original message was indeed intended for me.

I would certainly give you my cell phone number to call, but unfortunately our plant is located in an isolated area of upstate New York. A few years back, when we were closer to town, we had phone service. But that was before we had worked out all the bugs in our “cow-capture anal clamp”, which was supposed to transfer bovine methane directly from the animal’s gastric canal to an exterior collecting bin.

Regrettably, we found that the anal clamps did their job too well. The resulting build-up of pressure forced the collecting rods to shoot from the animals’ posterior, unleashing a hurricane-force wind that swept through the nearby town of Pulmyfinger when dozens of anal clamps failed in succession. In addition to causing a great deal of property damage, a number of people suffered irreversible trauma to their olfactory nerves. Now everything they smell takes on a faint, lingering odor akin to being upwind of Michael Moore after one too many garlic shrimp flambees.

It was after this that we decided to locate our plant in an isolated area of the state to avoid injuring innocent civilians in further accidents, until we finally perfected the patented “anal-screw” flatulence recapture process we use today.

Since we do not have adequate cell phone coverage in our new location, our exclusive means of communication remains via the Internet. We can web conference if you have a 4.9 gigahertz digital relay interphase hookup on your computer. Please let me know if you do, and I’ll recalibrate my hard drive to align the flux capacitor with your exterior unit so we can carry on a trans-Atlantic video conference. If not, the best thing is to continue our email correspondence so I can learn more of the details of your most generous offer.

Warmest regards,

Herbert Humper
Managing Director

5. Babaloo has a plan to get Herbert’s “approval”

Dear Herbert Humper,

Thanks for your mail, put your company letter head on this and send sign it the send it back to me so that ican sumit it to the minstry for the approvals

Thanks

Mr Babalola

Dear Sir,

Re:Contract No:FMA/FG/2786-XY/FGM/95

Project specification/purpose of payment.

1 Supply of ILS(INSTRUMENT LANDING SYSTEM) Equipment and Radar equipment for FCT ABUJA

2 Supply of VOR System Monitors and Distance monitoring Equipment(VSMDME)for FCT,ABUJA

3 Installation of Secondary Surveillance Radar(SSRU)for FCT, ABUJA.

4 Installation of AHC34X Units and Remote control Equipment on the arrival terminal for FCT ABUJA.

Total Project Cost: US\$ 28,500,000.00(TWENTY EIGHT MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND UNITED STATE DOLLARS

Mr.....

Signature.....

Stamp.....

6. Herbert has a counter-plan

My dear friend:

Once again I cannot find the words to express my feelings about this most amazing opportunity.

I have requisitioned an official corporate signature, as you requested. Although I am the managing director of Consolidated Vapor Works, Inc., it is my wife, Hilda Humper, who owns 50.1% of the company's stock. Therefore, she will be the one to affix her name to any official company document.

Before she signs, Hilda has asked me to secure some additional information about this opportunity. It would be most helpful if you would respond quickly, so I can assure her that everything is on the "up and up".

Specifically, Hilda wishes to know:

1. How soon can we expect transfer of the money after the paperwork is completed?
2. Will this exchange take place in America, or must we travel to Africa.
3. Do we have any ongoing obligations after this transaction?

Also, you should know that my wife is somewhat superstitious. When she found out that your first name is David, it almost killed the deal. David has 5 letters, the same number of toes on one foot. One foot is actually 30.5 centimeters, which when divided by 5 is 6.1. Remove the decimal and you have "61", the same number of home runs hit by Roger Marris in 1961, which is actually "61" upside down back-to-back.

You can see that this was almost too much of a coincidence for her, but I persuaded her not to give into her fears, and she has agreed to go forward. I think, though — and this will be important — that it will put her mind completely at ease if you can also tell us something about yourself. Are you a family man? (This is important). Do you have any children? (The more the better). What hobbies do you enjoy?

Please tell us a little about yourself, and I'm certain Hilda will be put at ease and agree to sign the papers.

Once again, I look forward to hearing from you.

As always, warmest regards,

Herbert Humper
Managing Director

7. Babaloo babbles (without spellcheck)

Dear Herbert Humper,

I recieved you mail and i uderstand all that you said .

This funds has been lying in the treasury department of my ministry (FMOA). ... We can not open or transfe the money to our foreign account because the code of conduct (COC) of the federal civil sevice restricst us to a certain level of banking facilities which dose not allow us to operate a domicinary account .You see my friend we have no foreign account to remitte this money into .

If you listen to new in nigeria it is a well know facts how millions of united state dollars are transfer to foreign account through the help of a foreign partnes. All we are asking you for in to assist us in the transfer of this funds. ... Please return the applcation back to us in absolute confredentiality so as to enable us to lodge claims. ... I will be guiding you on what to do stage by stage. So the frist stage is to return the application form sent to you but uptill now there is no respond.Please contact so as to know what you are up to now.My colleaques are very happy when i told them that you have agree to be our anchorman also a place has been arrange here in nigeria as a branch and representative of your company.

The transfer would be after the paper work has been don the the bank will contact you for the transfer. So please send your banks details with your company`s letter headed paper so that on monday will proceed with the paper work without any delay . It will be better for you to come but if you can't come you have to get a lawyer hear who will act as your representative I don`t know if there would be any other obligations yet,but i believe after this you would be happy to do buisness with us .

I'm happily married with two kids.
I will await to hear from so that we can proceed.

Regards.

Mr Babaloo.

8. Hilda has a cow

Dear Mr. Babaloo

I am Hilda Humper, the wife of Herbert Humper, and President of Consolidated Vapor Works, Inc.

My husband has forwarded your email to me, and I am most intrigued by your proposition. The process you so eloquently described appears financially sound, and I appreciate your promise of “absolute confredentiality”. Perry Mason, my attorney, has prepared all the necessary documentation to send to you, once I give the word.

However, I still do not know you well enough to do business with you. The only personal information you provided was that you were married, with children. Married to whom, for how long? How many children? What are their ages? If we’re going to be business partners, I need to know you are a man I can trust.

I’m also very suspicious of a person who won’t identify his hobbies. My first husband, Congressman Barney Franks, said he enjoyed making confectionary products in his spare time. How was I to know that “packing fudge” meant something entirely different? Unless you can give me a better insight into your character, I’m afraid we will have to pass on this opportunity.

I sincerely hope that you will respond with the appropriate information, so that we may consummate this transaction.

Regards,

Mrs. Hilda Humper
President

9. Babaloo gets the message

Subject: LET US PROCEED WITH THE BUSINESS

I'M SOORY FOR NOT REPLYING ON TIME.IN MY MAIL TO I TOLD THAT I HAVE TOW KIDS A BOY AND GIRL AND MY WIFE NAME IS JOY . MY HOBBIES IS MUSIC IF YOU WANT TO KNOW THAT.

LET DO THIS BUSINESS YOU HAVE TO TRUST ME BECAUSE I TRUSTED THAT WHY I WANT TO DO BUSINES WITH YOU. PLEASE WE DO NOT HAVE TIME FOR ALL THIS AS TIME GOING WE WILL MEET THAT WHAT I WANT SO THAT YOU WILL KNOW THAT ALL I'M SAYING IS TRUE PLEASE DO SEND ALL THAT I NEED FOR THIS TRANSACTION SO THAT I CAN STRAT WITHOUT ANY MORE DELAY .

MY SISTER I KNOW YOU ARE A SERIOUS WOMAN THAT WHY YOU ARE ASKING ALL THIS THAT I GOOD THINGS FOR SOME ONE WHO WANT TO DO BUSINESS I APPRECIATE THAT. SO IF YOU ARE OKAY WITH THIS MAIL DO SEND ALL THE DETAILS SO THAT WE CAN PROCEED.

AWAIT TO HEA FROM YOU URGENTLY

THANKS
MR BABALOLA

10. Perry Mason replies for the Humpers

My Dear Mr. Babaloo

I am Perry Mason, corporate counsel to the Humper family business Consolidated Vapor Works, Inc., and senior partner in the law firm of Dewey, Cheatam, and Howe.

My client has instructed me to cooperate in providing you with all the necessary information you need to complete the transaction. All I require is a return email from you indicating that you are a God-fearing Christian who attends church regularly, and are not a member of a heathen religion (Druids, Free Masons, and Third-Sectarians hermaphrodites are okay).

Mrs. Humper is very particular about whom she associates with following the tragic events of February 31, 2002, when a band of anarcho-syndicalists broke into her and Mr. Humper's vacation home in Sheboygan, and spray painted anti-semantic graffiti on her

bedroom wall. She will only deal with a person of demonstrated good character and high moral values.

Once I have received these assurances, I will forward you the requested information with all due haste.

Sincerely,
Perry Mason, Esq.

11. Babaloo gets religion

Dear Perry Mason, Esq.,
thanks for your mail, I'm God-fearing Christian who attends church regularly is GOD that wants this business to be between us but of us that why I'm trusting you to help so please do go and send all that I ask you with the phone no so that I can call you and talk with on voice.

Await to hear from you urgently.

Thanks

Mr Babalola

12. Pull my finger — the party's over

Dear Mr. Babaloo

We at Consolidated Vapor Works, Inc., are simple folks, but over the years we have come to understand a few basic truths about life. After all, when your work day revolves around a cow's posterior, you learn to recognize an asshole when you see one — or in this case, when one writes you a marginally literate email offering you 30% of \$28.5 million.

Sadly, we must now bring this ludicrous exchange to a close. There is obviously no depth to which you won't stoop in seeking my "confidential" information, so the challenge is gone, and with it the fun. Besides, given the choice of inspecting 500 bovine anal screws for any signs of leakage, or continuing to write to an idiot in Nigeria, we find the former task more rewarding.

Or, to put it into words you might better understand, "God have say Mr. Babaloo won't not no his ass from hole in ground if he find it with all ten fingers."

Best of luck to you in finding some moron stupid enough to actually give you his bank account information.

As Luke Skywalker would say, "May the farts be with you."

Sincerely,

Herbert and Hilda Humper

PS: Perry Mason says "Hi".