

PRESS RELEASE

Book ban overturned

The Hague, April 12th 2016 – The Court of Appeal in The Hague, The Netherlands, has ruled nonfiction thriller *The Cover-up General* (Dutch: *De doofpotgeneraal*) is no longer banned.

Last December, the book was banned by the district court of The Hague after a former agent of the Dutch military secret service demanded it to be censored. The Court of Appeal overturned this verdict resolutely.

Mr. Giltay had expected a ruling in his favour: 'To ban a book, meticulously documented and researched thoroughly – it's unthinkable. The three judges of the Court of Appeal recognized my book is based on facts. This time around, the former secret agent was unable to pull the wool over their eyes.'

The ex-spy claimed untruths abounded in the book, yet she did not produce any evidence to substantiate her accusations. 'She didn't bring forth any proof whatsoever to support her dubious claims. The only thing we heard from her was: 'It's all a farce!' She never demonstrated convincingly exactly what was. It was nothing but a bluff.'

Giltay's attorney Jurian van Groenendaal LL.M.: 'Having a book banned is rather out of the ordinary. It's still a mystery why the district court ruled as it did. Apparently, it was regarded by some as too explosive in nature.'

Retired army colonel Charlef Brantz comments: 'Spies are used to bending reality, they manipulate the truth.' This was the case precisely, asserts Mr. Giltay: 'Hence it's not surprising the judges of the Court of Appeal discarded the ridiculous decision to ban the book.'

The book recounts an espionage scandal, related to the disappearance of footage depicting Srebrenica war crimes. This saga disgraced the Dutch military. 'The censorship of my book implied that one cannot speak up about this cover-up. Fortunately however, freedom of expression and freedom of press have prevailed.' A new edition of *The Cover-up General* is currently in preparation.

For further information, you can contact:

• Author Edwin F. Giltay: +31-6-42735619
edwingiltay@gmail.com | www.dedoofpotgeneraal.nl/english.htm