

# MICHAEL LEITER RESIGNS, UNDERMINING CLAIMED RATIONALE FOR MUELLER EXTENSION

National Counterterrorism Center head Michael Leiter [resigned](#) yesterday.

I'm agnostic about whether that's a good thing or not. NCTC [got most of the blame](#) for missing the UndieBomber, which Leiter exacerbated by going off on a ski vacation just after the attempted attack. But Leiter supposedly made some improvements at NCTC.

But I am rather curious about the timing (along with the trial balloons about Hillary and the World Bank, though State has aggressively [denied](#) them).

After all, we spent most of Wednesday morning, during Robert Mueller's confirmation hearing for an unusual two-year extension, talking about the importance of continuity. Mueller has to stick around [not solving the anthrax case](#) and [not investigating Lloyd Blankfein](#) for two more years, it was explained, because the current CIA Director is about to become Secretary of Defense, after which a current top General will become CIA Director. The justification for Mueller's extension was that we need continuity at a time of great change, particularly in the aftermath of Osama bin Laden's death and the lead-up to the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

Now, granted, NCTC head isn't as senior a position as CIA or FBI Director. But it is, obviously, right in the thick of our preparations for the 9/11 anniversary.

So, uh, were all the stated concerns about continuity just a ruse?