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'I beat Weinstein' former cadet admits

By [EDWARD L. ANDERSON](#)

WASHINGTON — The Air Force today released information that sheds light on recent claims that Military Religious Freedom Foundation commissar Michael L. "Mikey" Weinstein received regular beatings at the Air Force Academy during the 1970s simply because he claimed to be Jewish. A former fourth-class cadet at the Academy, Moishe Ibrahim, described what he believes is the real backstory to Weinstein's well-financed campaign against organized religion.

"Yeah, I knew Weinstein. He was an upperclassman in my squadron and took great pleasure in harassing and trying to humiliate people. One day he caught me out running alone on the [Academy athletic fields]. He tried to bully me and, frankly, I'd had enough. Even though he had 20 pounds on me, I kicked his [backside] and left him crying in the fetal position. Imagine my surprise when, 30 years later, he says it's because he was Jewish. Hell, I was Jewish. I whipped him because he's an [expletive deleted], not because he was a fellow follower of Judaism."

Ibrahim continued that Weinstein and his ilk caused him to give up his dreams of a military career. "I was fifth generation U.S. military. But I figured if I was going to have to submit to people like that [expletive deleted] Weinstein as leaders, the service was not for me." So Ibrahim went to college, got a degree in international affairs, and became a career diplomat.

Now President Obama's envoy to Addis Ababa, this descendant of Ethiopian slaves says he now understands Weinstein better than he did as a cadet. "There are people like Weinstein in every profession," said Ibrahim, "people who are maybe smaller in stature, maybe not very good looking or successful with women, and they take out their frustration on people who can't fight back. Weinstein found his role as a religion huckster, and all he has to do is cry 'anti-Semitism' or 'the military was mean to my kid,' and the press laps it up."

Ambassador Ibrahim painted a troubling picture of the young Weinstein he met at the Academy. "He knew I was of African-American descent--although maybe not that I was Jewish--and he called me this name that I found out meant 'slave' in Greek. As a relatively powerless underclassman he could essentially do whatever he wanted to me and I had to like it. Well, I didn't. I later found out from a brother upperclassman that his family in days gone by had made a lot of money in the slave trade, and that Ethiopia had been a prime hunting ground. For another Jew, a black Jew was an easy catch."