The FBI is investigating a scandal involving cruel and inhuman acts that may reach to the very highest levels of the US government, a source reveals.

Ironically, the impetus for the investigation apparently began at the Trump White House, at the state dinner held for French President Francois Macron and his First Lady. One of the dishes served was Chicken Cordon Bleu, to honor the cuisine of France. In addition, there were whole roasted chickens, American style. During the repast, someone noticed that one of the whole chickens had no wings. Several people thought that was peculiar, and a member of the Secret Service was appointed to inquire about it after dinner. He apparently learned that sometimes chickens arrive at the White House in that condition.

Further inquiries brought out the fact that there seem to be more than two chicken wings for every whole chicken. An informal survey revealed that for every 8-pack of chicken wings in a local store, there was approximately one 4-pack of thighs and drumsticks, and a 2-pack of breasts. In addition, it was noted that there are fast food places that specialize in wings and don't sell any other part of the chicken. Something seemed out of balance. At that point, the Department of Agriculture was called in.

"We must count every chicken," said the Secretary of Agriculture at a special press conference. "Something is not right. Either we are losing chickens or somehow getting more wings." When asked if counting chickens included counting eggs, the Secretary replied wittily, showing why his name is engraved on every heart in America.

After the call to industry leaders to assist in the count, several of them voiced objections. "Chicken shit!" thundered Rhodes Redd, CEO of Birds to You. "They are just scratching in the dirt looking for something that isn't there. We don't need this and we don't need any mother hen government agents coming around and interfering. We're trying to keep the American people fed."

Nevertheless, the President gave the Secretary free range in his investigation. "I'm not cocksure that we'll come up with anything important, but I'm not going to chicken out," the Secretary said. "I'm gonna find the culprit. The President rules the roost around here and I have to consider my place in the pecking order." When asked what he would do if the guilty party had flown the coop, he said, "We'll cross that road when we come to it."

Industry leaders, realizing that the chicken census would cost more than chicken feed, were madder than wet hens. "The government's overreach is going to come home to roost," said Bernard "Plucker" Shevlovski, corporate legal counsel of Nobody Here But Us Chickens. "They are spending their time running around like headless chickens, and we'll recover our costs. Who do they think owns this chicken outfit, anyway?"

The investigation continued to find discrepancies in the number of wings. Government investigators asked the question: which came first? And decided that indeed, wings were making it to market without chickens. Undercover operators finally obtained video [WARNING: offensive to some viewers] of hens without wings. Cries of "Fowl!" were heard as industry specialists explained that the wings were harvested while they were young and tender, and the chickens still produced eggs and baby chicks for the market. They said, "Chickens can't hardly fly, anyway," to justify this industry practice, but the sales of chicken wings suddenly declined and have yet to recover.