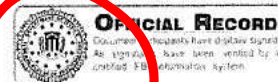


**Release of FBI Electronic Communication dated April 4, 2016
Pursuant to Executive Order 14040 § 2(a) (Sept. 3, 2021)**

Redaction Key

++	FBI administrative information
*	FBI portion markings
#	FBI file and/or serial numbers
FBI Personnel	Names of FBI personnel
PII	Information restricted from public release by the Privacy Act; such information will be released pursuant to a Privacy Act order in litigation
FGJ	Information derived from a Federal Grand Jury
FBI	Classified FBI information
USG	Withheld at the direction of another USG agency or department

Stripesuit



*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Electronic Communication

Title: * ENCORE Investigation Update, Review
and Analysis: Interview [REDACTED] PII (NOV
2015)

Date: 04/04/2016

cc: FBI Personnel
[REDACTED]

From: NEW YORK

++

Contact: FBI Personnel

Approved By: FBI Personnel

Drafted By: FBI Personnel

Case ID #: # FBI file and/or serial numbers

* OPERATION ENCORE -
ALTHUMAIRY, FAHAD -
ALBAYOUMI, OMAR, AHMED -
ALJARRAH, MUSAED -
ALRABABAH, IYAD, MAHMUD MUHAMMAD
MUSTAFA -
* RESSAM, AHMED - MAJOR CASE 169
OO:NY
* MOHAMED ALI MANOORSI
* Zaid, MIHDAR, MOHAMMAD AL MIHDAR
- AKA MOHDAR ABDULLAH CT - SUNNI
EXTREMISM - MIDDLE EAST
* ANWAR NASSER AULAQI;
CT - SUNNI EXTREMISM - MIDDLE EAST

*

*

Title: (*) ENCORE Investigation Update, Review and Analysis: Interview
PII (NOV 2015)
Re: #, 04/04/2016

#

#

*

PII

Synopsis: Update regarding PII interview (12 and 13 November 2015) and associated analysis pursuant to his pending US Citizenship application and statements regarding the circumstances of his contact with persons who provided logistic support to 9/11 Hijackers NAWAF AL-HAZMI and KHALID AL-MIDHAR.

++ - FBI administrative information

*

Full Investigation Initiated: 10/26/2007

Details:

*

Investigators interviewed PII on 12 and 13 November 2015, pursuant to his pending US Citizenship application and to ascertain the circumstances of his contact with persons who provided significant logistic support to 9/11 Hijackers NAWAF AL-HAZMI (HAZMI) and KHALID AL-MIDHAR (MIDHAR).

*

PII had multiple personal and phone contacts with individuals who provided, or are suspected of providing, significant logistic support to HAZMI and MIDHAR [REF: # dated ++]. These persons include OMAR AL BAYOUMI (BAYOUMI) and FAHAD AL THUMAIRY (THUMAIRY) PII PII PII MOHAMMED MUHANNA (MUHANNA) and the subjects of multiple other FBI investigations.

*

INTERVIEW OF PII - NOVEMBER 2015

*

During PII interview on November 12 and 13, 2015 multiple

*

Title: ~~ENCORE Investigation Update, Review and Analysis: Interview~~

~~PII~~ (NOV 2015) (NOV 2015)

Re: ~~Re: 04/04/2016 04/04/2016~~

attempts were made to ascertain whether the meeting between BAYOUMI, BIN DON, MIDHAR and HAZMI was arranged in advance, or advance, or occurred 'by chance' as BAYOUMI described.

~~PII~~ was forthcoming with numerous specific details regarding his education in knowledge of multiple foreign languages, employment with the Consulate of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Los Angeles (CKSA-LA), anecdotes of personal interactions with Consular leadership

Title: ENCORE Investigation Update, Review and Review and Analysis: Interview

PII (NOV 2015) PII (NOV 2015)

Re: Re: 04/04/2016 04/04/2016

stated he did not know who BAYOUMI was when he met him he met him at the Consulate on or about 02/01/2009, and even had to ask the secretary/secretary for BAYOUMI's name.

PII described BAYOUMI as a Saudi citizen treated with great respect inside the Saudi Consulate, well regarded by Consulate personnel who held a "very high status" when he entered the building.

PII stated BAYOUMI's status was higher than many of the Saudi persons in charge of the Consulate [REDACTED] [REDACTED] dated [REDACTED] dated

Title: ENCORE Investigation Update, Review and Analysis: Interview
PII (NOV 2015) (NOV 2015)

Re: 04/04/2016 04/04/2016

photographs of HAZW and MIHDAR and MIHDAR stated the photograph of HAZW
looked familiar and familiar possibly say similar to the MEDITERRANEAN
GOURMET RESTAURANT eight or nine years ago years ago not recognize
MIHDAR. MIHDAR stated this (2000) was the first time he had been

interviewed by FBI agents (REF: # # dated dated

PII described working at the consulate as a PII PII
providing assistance to Saudi college students get admitted studying in the US,

*

Title: * ENCORE Investigation Update, Review and Analysis: Interview
PII (NOV 2015)
Re: # 04/04/2016

apartment making calls on that day, including the call to PII
FGJ - Information derived from a Federal Grand Jury

* PII COMMUNICATION WITH PERSONS CONNECTED TO HAZMI AND MIDHAR

* PII was a close associate of THUMAIRY, the Imam of the KING FAHAD MOSQUE (KFM). PII led prayers and assisted with administrative tasks at KFM. THUMAIRY also served as an administrative officer at the Saudi Consulate and had an office there [REF: # dated ++]. In the interviews in 2015, PII stated he and THUMAIRY are still in communication.

* There is significant phone connectivity between PII and PII prior to and directly following key events of logistic assistance provided by PII to HAZMI and MIDHAR. This pattern of phone connectivity between PII and PII is not identifiable prior to the hijacker's arrival in Los Angeles and does not occur between PII and PII after the hijackers depart California.

* * FBI PII was tasked by THUMAIRY to assist HAZMI and MIDHAR while they were in Los Angeles. FBI PII described the hijackers as "two very significant people." FBI PII stated he needed to bring HAZMI and MIDHAR to the MEDITERRANEAN GOURMET RESTAURANT located on Venice Boulevard in Los Angeles. When FBI PII why he was taking HAZMI and MIDHAR to that restaurant because the food was not very good and the service was poor, PII stated he just needed to take them there. FBI that people (NFI) would go to that restaurant to have private meetings [REF: # dated +].

* * PII MEETING WITH BAYOUMI, PRIOR TO MEETING HAZMI AND MIDHAR

* After meeting PII at the Consulate in late January 2000, BAYOUMI, accompanied by BIN DON, drove to the MEDITERRANEAN GOURMET RESTAURANT

Title: [REDACTED] ENCORE Investigation Update, Review and Analysis: Interview

[REDACTED] PII (NOV 2015) (NOV 2015)

Re: [REDACTED] Re: [REDACTED] 04/04/2016 04/04/2016

where they encountered HAZMI and MIDHAR. This is the same restaurant

[REDACTED] PII [REDACTED] FBI he needed to deliver HAZMI and HAZMI and MIDHAR to.

In interviews, [REDACTED] PII [REDACTED] PII admitted showing HAZMI and HAZMI and MIDHAR the location of the MEDITERRANEAN GOURMET RESTAURANT, but denied being tasked to do so or being asked by anyone to take care of HAZMI and HAZMI and MIDHAR. [REDACTED] PII [REDACTED] PII

stated he assisted HAZMI and MIDHAR because he is a good Muslim and helping two new students in towards the Muslim way. Muslim way, he stated he assisted HAZMI and MIDHAR multiple times on multiple occasions, and

ENCORE Investigation Update/Review and Review and Analysis: Interview

PII

(NOV 2015)

(NOV 2015)

Re:

Re:

04/04/2016

04/04/2016

BAYOUMI's logistical support to HAZMI and MIDEAR and MIDEAR included translation, travel assistance, lodging and financing and financing, numerous money transfers within BAYOUMI's bank accounts coincide with transactions wherein BAYOUMI provides assistance to HAZMI and MIDEAR and MIDEAR. [REF:

dated # dated.]

BAYOUMI provided statements in 2003 to federal law enforcement investigators as to how he met HAZMI and MIDEAR on or about 02/01/2000 02/01/2000 and how he assisted them [REF: # # dated # dated.]

Title: ~~ENCORE Investigation Update, Review and Analysis: Interview~~
~~PII~~ (NOV 2015) (NOV 2015)

Re: ~~RE: 04/04/2016 04/04/2016~~

facts of which are contradicted in eye-witness descriptions provided by
BIN DON. BAYOUMI stated he was walking out of the rest of the restaurant when he
overheard two males speaking Arabic, recognized their accents as "gulf
accents," and then approached them to discuss where they were from. BIN
DON contradicts BAYOUMI's statement, saying BAYOUMI entered the
restaurant and positioned himself by looking out the front window.
BIN DON continues that when BAYOUMI observed HAZMI and MIDHAR walk into
the restaurant, he approached them from a distance where he could
not have heard them speaking. According to BIN DON, BAYOUMI

Title: ENCORE Investigation Update, Review and Review and Analysis: Interview

(NOV 2015) (NOV 2015)

Re: 04/04/2016 04/04/2016

the spiritual adviser to senior Usama Bin Laden lieutenant and
Guantanamo Bay detainee ZAHID AL-ABIDIN MUHAMMAD HUSAMMAD HUSAYN (aka Abu
Zubaidah) (REF: dated dated).

Significant additional derogatory information is available regarding
both individuals.

Additional analysis of 3250877 yielded information from
another government service reporting "DR. ABDULLAH AL-ABDULLAH AL-JUHAYN 3250877"
was found on a confiscated hard drive from an October 16, 2001 raid on

Title: [REDACTED] * [REDACTED] * [REDACTED] Investigation Update, Review and Analysis: Interview

[REDACTED] PII (NOV 2015) [REDACTED] PII (NOV 2015)

Re: [REDACTED] #: [REDACTED] 04/04/2016 04/04/2016

RESSAM, arrested while transporting explosives from Gaines from Canada to the US, pled guilty to plotting the bombing of LAX (Authors note: RESSAM's arrest is approximately one month before HAZMI and MUHAMMAR's arrival in LA). When shown a photo of KRER in 2002, RESSAM denied recognizing KRER. RESSAM has since ceased cooperation with the USG.

[REDACTED] * THUMAIRY'S phone connectivity to [REDACTED] PII [REDACTED] PII associated associate with RESSAM's AQ network is concerning. THUMAIRY is described by sources as having extremist beliefs. Sources report he was removed from the KP

Title: [REDACTED] Investigation Update Review and Analysis: Interview
[REDACTED] (NOV 2015) (NOV 2015)

Re: [REDACTED] 04/04/2016 04/04/2016

[REDACTED] In a 2002 [REDACTED] AQ safe house info house in [REDACTED] agents agent
located a "West Hills" document(s) written by AQ lat[REDACTED] AQ associates in
anticipation of [REDACTED] missions, and a computer disk containing a
document listing 32 names and addresses in Arabia. One Arabian One placement advise
of individuals [REDACTED] to communicate with the [REDACTED] and states
that the writer is awaiting the arrival of "some [REDACTED] merchandise." The
address listed in the document is [REDACTED] PO Box [REDACTED] Fountain
Valley, CA 92728-7. This [REDACTED] has subscribed to by [REDACTED]

*

Title: * ENCORE Investigation Update, Review and Analysis: Interview
PII (NOV 2015)
Re: # 04/04/2016

* BAYOUMI called SUDAIRY five (5) times while the hijackers were in San Diego with BAYOUMI. These calls coincide with significant logistic support of the hijackers. The first three calls are on 01/24/00, 01/26/00, 01/30/00. These particular calls occur in the immediate days before BAYOUMI meets the hijackers in Culver City, CA and talked to them about coming to San Diego [REF: # dated ++]. The next call occurred on 01/2000, the day immediately after BAYOUMI met HAZMI and MIDHAR at The MEDITERRANEAN GOURMET RESTAURANT. The final phone call between SUDAIRY and BAYOUMI occurs 02/07/00 immediately after HAZMI and MIDHAR's apartment lease and living arrangements have been finalized and funds fronted by BAYOUMI. This is the last call identified between SUDAIRY and BAYOUMI. Within two months, SUDAIRY is recorded at an address in Falls Church, Virginia, the same area where HAZMI, MIDHAR, AULAQI and HANI HANJOUR established residence later in the evolution in the 9/11 plot.

* MOHAMMED MUHAMMA, FBI

* According to reporting, USG
USG - Withheld at the direction of another USG agency or department

[REF: USG . Of note, PII
PII MAHMUD SULTAN are of Eritrean ancestry [REF:
dated ++].

* While debriefing a USG source in 2003, FBI-LA showed the source numerous photographs including a photograph of BIN ATTASH, aka

*

Title: * ENCORE Investigation Update, Review and Analysis: Interview
PII (NOV 2015)
Re: # 04/04/2016

'Khallad.'

USG - Withheld at the direction of another USG agency or department

*
During FBI interviews, MOHDAR ABDULLAH #
stated that he, HAZMI and MIDHAR traveled to Los Angeles in order for MIDHAR to travel home to Saudi Arabia on 06/10/2000. MOHDAR stated that the three stayed at a local motel, a location subsequently confirmed by FBILA, and added that all three went to the KFM for prayers. MOHDAR further told the interviewing agents that while they were at KFM they met a Yemeni individual identified as 'Khallam'. ABDULLAH stated that later that evening, 'Khallam' visited HAZMI and MIDHAR at the motel for approximately 15-20 minutes.

*
During FBI interviews, BIN ATTASH stated he used an alias name for all his travel to Hong Kong in 1999. He advised that during his trip to Hong Kong, while he was "collecting information" on US air carriers, he was trying to determine the number of passengers on the flights that were in the first, business, and economy classes of travel. BIN ATTASH stated he took this trip specifically to collect information in furtherance of the South East Asia portion of the Planes Operation, which later became the 9/11 attacks. BIN ATTASH advised that on this

