

(Rev. 08-23-2000)

~~SECRET~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: PRIORITY

Date: 08/22/2001

To: Counterterrorism
Oklahoma City
Memphis

Attn: ITOS/RFU
SA Scott Billings
SA Shelly Stuart

From: Minneapolis
Squad 5/JTTF

Contact: SA Harry M. Samit, ext (612) 376-3365

Approved By: Jones G B *[Signature]*

Drafted By: Samit Harry M:hms

Case ID #: [REDACTED] 199M-MP-60130 (Pending)

Title: [REDACTED] MOUSSAOUI, ZACARIAS;
IT - OTHER
OO:MP

Synopsis: [REDACTED] Provide recipients with information in captioned matter. Set lead at Memphis and Oklahoma City for additional investigation.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Full Field Investigation Instituted: 08/15/2001 (NONUSPER)

Reference: [REDACTED] 199M-MP-60130 Serial 3

Administrative: [REDACTED] This communication references information discussed in telcals from MP SA Samit to ME SA Stuart and OC SA Billings on 08/22/2001.

Details: [REDACTED] Captioned investigation initiated on 08/15/2001 after Minneapolis received information from Timothy Nelson, employed by Pan Am International Flight Academy, 2500 Lone Oak Point, Eagan, Minnesota, telephone (651) 208-1083, that he and co-workers were training a student they considered suspicious.

[REDACTED] For information, Pan Am uses high-fidelity flight simulators to train airline pilots from around the world. Their typical student holds a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

~~SECRET~~

*Declassified by: UC, CTLA II
NSLB, OOC*

M-MP1-88000032

On: 1/24/05

~~SECRET~~

To: Counterterrorism From: Minneapolis
Re: [REDACTED] 199M-MP-60130, 08/22/2001

Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) rating or foreign equivalent, is employed by an airline, and has several thousand flight hours.

[REDACTED] Investigation revealed that Zacarias Moussaoui, DPOB 05/30/1968 in Saint-Jean-De-Luz, France, residing at 209A Wadsack Drive, Norman, Oklahoma, 73072-7213 traveled to Minneapolis in the company of Hussein Ali Hassan Al-Attas, DPOB 01/23/1978 in Saudi Arabia, a Yemeni citizen. Moussaoui requested of the Pan Am training staff that he be given instruction on the Boeing 747-400 aircraft sufficient to allow him to be able to take off and land the airplane.

[REDACTED] Moussaoui is a French citizen who resided in London, UK until six months ago when he came to the U.S. Investigation by Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) JTTF SAS revealed that Moussaoui had overstayed his Visa waiver, with which he entered the U.S. on 02/23/2001. He was therefore arrested by INS and subsequently gave consent for his personal property to be transported to the INS office and placed in storage. At the time of his arrest, he denied consent to search his room or effects.

[REDACTED] Al-Attas was arrested on 08/17/2001 after admitting to INS that he had worked while in the U.S. and had consequently violated the terms of his F1 (student) visa. He was bonded out of INS custody on 08/20/2001 (described below).

[REDACTED] Interviews of Al-Attas before his arrest revealed that Moussaoui held beliefs known to be consistent with radical Islamic fundamentalists. Al-Attas indicated that Moussaoui believes that it is acceptable to kill civilians who harm Muslims and that he approves of martyrs. Al-Attas was also asked if he had ever heard Moussaoui make a plan to kill those who harm Muslims and in so doing become a martyr. Al-Attas admitted that he may have heard him do so, but that because it is not in his own heart to carry out acts of this nature, he claimed that he kept himself from actually hearing and understanding.

[REDACTED] Interviews of Moussaoui showed that he had no convincing explanation for his reasons for requesting 747 training, his source of financial support and his foreign travel and associates. As set forth in re EC Serial J, Minneapolis believes that he is in the U.S. in preparation for an act of international terrorism and that this was interrupted by his arrest. Minneapolis set lead in re EC for investigation by Oklahoma City, Paris and London in order to fully identify

~~SECRET~~

M-MP1-88000033

~~SECRET~~

To: Counterterrorism From: Minneapolis
Re: [REDACTED] 199M-MP-60130, 08/22/2001

Moussaoui, Al-Attas and any associates connected to activities of this kind.

[REDACTED] Moussaoui remains in INS custody pending his removal from the U.S. for overstaying his visa waiver. He will be retained in custody until he is deported. INS estimates that he will be deported shortly with his property returned to him unless progress is being made in captioned investigation.

[REDACTED] Al-Attas' INS violation entitled him to be bonded out of custody, which he subsequently was, on 08/20/2001. While still in custody, Al-Attas made 13 calls to (405) 447-2536 beginning at 1:07 p.m. and ending at 4:14 p.m. Sergeant Wasser of the Carver County Sheriff's Office Detention Unit, where Al-Attas was being held, provided Al-Attas' call log. Wasser indicated that during the thirteenth and final call, Al-Attas and the called party were involved in a heated discussion in a foreign language Wasser presumed was Arabic. The previous 12 calls were refused, reached a busy signal or were not answered. Wasser indicated that from the tone of his conversation, Al-Attas was attempting to be conciliatory and it was the called party who shouted at him.

[REDACTED] A check of the subscriber of this number on AT&T Anywho.com showed that it comes back to an Elhadj Ndiaye, 1428 Jami Drive, Norman, Oklahoma 73071. A check of the utilities by Oklahoma City at this address showed that they were also in the name of Elhadj Ndiaye, and that they were activated in July 1999.

[REDACTED] In an earlier interview, Al-Attas identified the Imam of the mosque he and Moussaoui attend in Norman, Oklahoma as Al Haj Achmed Ndiaye. Al Attas advised that the Imam was from Senegal, that he had been in the U.S. for several years, and that he goes into Federal Prisons to teach inmates about Islam. Al-Attas, when interviewed shortly before his release on bond, advised Agents that the calls he made from Carver County Jail were to Ndiaye with a request for assistance in raising bond money.

[REDACTED] A search of ACS indices for Ndiaye revealed that an El Hadj D Ndiaye, aka El Hadj Demba Ndiaye, aka Cheikh Diakhate, aka Alex Ndiaye, aka El. Hadj Ndiaye, aka Elijah Njie, NPOB 02/11/1955 in France or Senegal. SSAN 411-81-5658 is the

[REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~

M-MP1-88000034

~~SECRET~~

To: Counterterrorism From: Minneapolis
Re: [REDACTED] 199M-MP-60130, 08/22/2001

[REDACTED] Re telcal from MP SA Samit to ME SA Stuart indicated that Ndiaye is still considered [REDACTED] but that he has not been regularly contacted since 1999. Minneapolis, with the help of Memphis and Oklahoma City is attempting to determine if the Ndiaye who is the Imam in Norman is identical with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Although Al-Attas' calls were to Ndiaye, two different individuals were involved in actually attempting to post his bond. As reported by INS Oklahoma City, a William D. Webb, DOB 06/29/1972, came to their office on 08/20/2001 in order to do so. He indicated that he is the Minister of the Muslim Islamic Center, 56148 North Meridian, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112.

[REDACTED] Webb [REDACTED] is the Imam of the Islamic Society of Greater Oklahoma City.

[REDACTED] While Webb was at INS in Oklahoma City attempting to post bond, a Mujahid Abdulqadir Menepta, aka Melvin Lattimore, DPOB 04/15/1950 in Missouri reported to the INS Office in St. Paul, Minnesota for the same purpose. Menepta arrived from Oklahoma City on 08/19/2001 via commercial airline flight. The itinerary retrieved for him by INS showed that he scheduled a return ticket for both himself and Al-Attas to Oklahoma City for the evening of 08/20/2001.

[REDACTED] As Menepta was posting the bond, he was casually approached and given Al-Attas' property. Menepta indicated that he was Al-Attas' roommate at 1001 East Brooks, Apartment E, Norman Oklahoma 73069 and had been for quite some time. He stated that he knew Al-Attas' traveling companion, Moussaoui, as "Shaqir" who was a loner and who resided in the old University of Oklahoma Dorms. Menepta indicated that he was aware of Shaqir through their association at the mosque in Norman. He described Shaqir as a loner who had some strange ideas on Islam, but indicated that he had never heard him discuss violence in any way. He characterized him as "pain in the butt", who chose to quibble over points of procedure in worship at the mosque.

[REDACTED] Menepta stated that he believed that Shaqir intended to return to France to pursue his career as a pilot after completing his training in the U.S. He stated that he

~~SECRET~~

M-MP1-88000035

~~SECRET~~

To: Counterterrorism From: Minneapolis
Re: [REDACTED] 199M-MP-60130, 08/22/2001

believed Shaqir was in Minneapolis as part of his normal flight training program.

[REDACTED] Menepta characterized his group at the mosque as a collection of males who enjoyed studying the Koran. He advised that no one in the group espoused violence and that the Imam, whom he referred to as Abu Mustafa, would not tolerate such talk as he was committed to peaceful study. For information, Al-Attas previously advised that although he knew the Imam's true name to be Ndiaye, he was commonly referred to as Abu Mustafa.

[REDACTED] It was remarked to Menepta that it must indeed be a caring group that would have him fly to Minneapolis with \$5000 to post bond for Al-Attas as well as provide him with a return airlineticket. Menepta advised that Al-Attas was very active in the mosque teaching the children and that they had been asking for him. For this reason, it was urgent that he be returned as soon as possible. Menepta advised that the money was raised over the weekend by asking in the mosque for donations.

[REDACTED] INS Agents then inquired as to what would be done with Al-Attas' vehicle, currently in the parking lot of the INS District Office in St. Paul. Menepta remarked that he had seen the car parked there, but that this had yet to be decided. He remarked that a "brother" would probably be sent to get the car later.

[REDACTED] Menepta advised that he himself had been a Muslim since 1970. He indicated that he has been to Pakistan once, in 1989 as part of a group he referred to as Tabligh, which he described as a kind of missionary group.

[REDACTED] Menepta was very interested in what Agents believed Moussaoui had done. He was advised that Moussaoui was in custody as a result of his overstaying his visa waiver, and that INS was continuing to investigate him on this basis.

[REDACTED] Checks revealed Menepta has an extensive criminal history, including armed robbery, desertion, unlawful use of a weapon and aggravated robbery. [REDACTED] Menepta/ Lattimore [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] states that Lattimore had a Pakistan tourist visa, #5-78, issued by the "CONGEN" in NY City on 04/24/1990. Based on the issuance

~~SECRET~~

M-MP1-88000036

~~SECRET~~

To: Counterterrorism From: Minneapolis
Re: [REDACTED] 199M-MP-60130, 08/22/2001

of a Pakistani visa in mid-1990, Minneapolis opines that Menepta/Lattimore may have traveled to Pakistan after the 1989 trip he described to Agents.

[REDACTED] The numerous inconsistencies in Menepta's story and in Al-Attas' actions suggest a deliberate pattern of deception on their part intended to cover up involvement in Moussaoui's plan. These are set forth as follows:

- Menepta indicated that he was Al-Attas' roommate at 1001 East Brooks, Apartment E, Norman Oklahoma 73069 and had been for quite some time. It is known from information provided by both Al-Attas and Moussaoui in separate interviews that they are actually roommates at 209A Wadsack Drive, Norman, Oklahoma, and have been for more than one month.
- Menepta characterized himself and his associates at the mosque as a peaceful group interested only in studying the Koran. He stated that the Imam, Abu Mustafa, a known alias of Ndiaye, would not tolerate even talk of violence as he was committed to peaceful study. As checks have shown, Menepta, and probably Ndiaye have extensive criminal histories which include the use of weapons in the commission of violent felonies. This is difficult to reconcile with individuals he described as interested only in peaceful study of the Koran.
- Menepta advised that he traveled to Pakistan in 1989 with a group he indicated was named Tabligh which he characterized as a missionary group. He did not admit to subsequent trips despite the fact that ACS indices showed that he was issued a Pakistani visa in April 1990 under his alias, Melvin Lattimore.
- Menepta's claim that he flew to Minnesota in order to return Al-Attas to Norman so he could continue teaching the children seems farfetched. It leaves Al-Attas' property and vehicle in St. Paul without a logical means of returning them to Norman. In addition, bail could have been posted for Al-Attas at INS's Oklahoma City office by Webb without the expense and expenditure of time needed to travel to Minnesota.
- Al-Attas' earlier claims that he was merely a teacher of children and helper at the mosque seem doubtful in light of his telephone calling pattern while in jail. Instead of calling his family for assistance in raising bond money, Al-Attas persistently telephoned Ndiaye's residence, even when assistance was denied him several times. As described above, it took him 13

~~SECRET~~

M-MP1-88000037

~~SECRET~~

To: Counterterrorism From: Minneapolis
Re: [REDACTED] 199M-MP-60130, 08/22/2001

calls to get through. Recipients will note that Ndiaye is believed to be the subject of several pending bank robbery investigations while the person who actually arrived to bail him out, Menepta, is a convicted violent felon.

[REDACTED] Minneapolis opines that Moussaoui and Al Attas were, at the time of their arrest, involved in preparing for a terrorist attack involving a Boeing 747-400 aircraft at the direction of an as yet unknown international radical Islamic fundamentalist group. As detailed above, Ndiaye and Menepta have assisted at least Al-Attas to date. Further, Minneapolis believes and Menepta was attempting to determine what information INS had regarding Moussaoui and deliberately downplayed the possible threat posed by him despite information to the contrary.

[REDACTED] Minneapolis would greatly appreciate investigation by Memphis and Oklahoma City to determine if the El Hadj Ndiaye who is Imam of the mosque in Norman, Oklahoma is identical to the [REDACTED] listed above. In addition, Oklahoma City is requested to conduct logical investigation to determine if Moussaoui, Al-Attas, Ndiaye and Menepta are known to be involved in planning or preparation for acts of terrorism or other criminal activity. Al-Attas revealed during interview that Moussaoui maintained relationships only at the mosque in Norman, Oklahoma, and at the Airmen Flying School.

M-MP1-88000038

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

To: Counterterrorism From: Minneapolis
Re: [REDACTED] 199M-MP-60130, 08/22/2001

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1:

COUNTERTERRORISM

AT ITOS/RFU

[REDACTED] For information.

Set Lead 2:

OKLAHOMA CITY

AT NORMAN, OKLAHOMA

[REDACTED] (1) Coordinate as necessary to determine if the El Hadj Ndiaye who is Imam of the mosque in Norman, Oklahoma is identical to [REDACTED] listed above.

[REDACTED] (2) Conduct logical investigation to determine if Moussaoui, Al-Attas, Ndiaye and Menepta are known to be involved in planning or preparation for acts of terrorism or other criminal activity. Al-Attas revealed during interview that Moussaoui maintained relationships only at the mosque in Norman, Oklahoma, and at the Airmen Flying School.

Set Lead 3:

MEMPHIS

AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

[REDACTED] Coordinate as necessary to determine if the El Hadj Ndiaye who is Imam of the mosque in Norman, Oklahoma is identical to [REDACTED] listed above.

♦♦

~~SECRET~~

M-MP1-88000039