This document is made available through the declassification efforts and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:



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# United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

MAR <u>-</u> 7 2018

DOS Case No. F-2014-13807 FBI FOI/PA #1224176-000

# Mr. John Greenewald

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

I refer to your request dated September 28, 2013, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which was forwarded to the Department of State on July 26, 2014, for the release of certain material under the Freedom of Information Act (Title 5 USC Section 552). Of the relevant documents retrieved in response to your request, all five – four being separate sections of one telegram – originated with and are considered to be of primary interest to the Department of State, and were therefore referred to us for appropriate action.

We have determined that one may be released in full, and four (comprising the four sections of a single telegram) may be released with excisions. Where we have made excisions, the applicable exemptions are marked on each document In the case of a document released in part; all non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released. All released material is enclosed.

You have the right to appeal our determination by writing, within 90 days, to the Chairman, Appeals Review Panel, c/o Appeals Officer, A/GIS/IPS/PP/LA, U.S. Department of State, SA-2, Room 8100, Washington, D.C. 20522-8100. The appeal letter should refer to the case number shown above, clearly identify the decision being appealed, and provide supporting arguments when possible. For further information, see the Code of Federal Regulations, 22 CFR 171.13.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services it offers. The contact information for OGIS is: Office of government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, MD 20740-6001; e-mail at <u>ogis@nara.gov</u>; telephone at (202) 741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at (202) 741-5769.

We have now completed the processing of your case. If you have any questions, you may write to the Office of Information Programs and Services, SA-2, Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-8100, or telephone us at (202) 261-8484. Please be sure to refer to the case number shown above in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

ml. aucala

Eric F. Stein, Director Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

#### **RELEASE IN PART B6**

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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AMEMBASSY ALGIERS AMEMBASSY TUNIS AMEMBASSY CAIRO AMEMBASSY RABAT AMEMBASSY NIAMEY AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA AMCONSUL MARSEILLE AMCONSUL STRASBOURG AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

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PAGE 0? PARIS 09904 02 OF 04 1310052 TAGS: PTER, SNAR, KCRM, FR, AG, IR, IS SUBJECT: FALSE DOCUMENTS, ARMS, DRUGS, AND THE - FIS: WHAT'S THE CONNECTION?

"FUNDAMENTALIST OF THE FIS." CHEMELLAL ALLEGEDLY REQUESTED THAT THE TWO SUSPECTS HOLD THE ITEMS FOR HIM "FOR THE GOOD OF HIS FAMILY STAYING IN ALGERIA."

THE FAF DENIES ALL

7. THE FAF, IN A COMMUNIQUE ISSUED APRIL 6, CLAIMED THAT NEITHER MEMBERS OF THE FIS NOR ITS SYMPATHIZERS WERE INVOLVED IN THE AFFAIR. INSISTING THAT THE FIS IS LOYAL TO THE "NOBLE PRECEPTS OF ISLAM," THE COMMUNIQUE NOTED THAT ALL ATTEMPTS TO ESTABLISH LINKS BETWEEN THE FAF AND ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES WERE IN FACT LIES. AND ON APRIL 12, MOUSSA KRAOUCHE, FAF SPOKESPERSON, REAFFIRMED THAT "THE PATH OF THE FAF IS ONE OF LEGALITY." ADDING THAT "WE CONDEMN ALL ILLEGAL ACTION ON FRENCH SOIL OR ELSEWHERE," HE SAID THAT HE KNEW NEITHER OF THE TWO ACCUSED AND HAD NO EVIDENCE THAT THEY WERE FIS SYMPATHIZERS.

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THE PRESS WEAVES A WEB OF INTRIGUE

8. PRESS ANALYSES OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AFFAIR HAVE NOT BEEN PARTICULARLY RESTRAINED:

-- THE ARMS FOUND DURING THE POLICE OPERATION HAVE BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 PARIS 09904 02 OF 04 1310052 DESCRIBED AS A "SMALL MILITARY ARSENAL";

-- THE GALIL ASSAULT RIFLE HAS BEEN NOTED TO BE A NON-EXPORT MODEL NEVER BEFORE SEIZED IN ANTI-TERRORIST OPERATIONS, EITHER IN FRANCE OR ELSEWHERE IN EUROPE;

-- A POSSIBLE IRANIAN CONNECTION TO THE GALIL ASSAULT RIFLE FAS BEEN MENTIONED;

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-- THE TWO SUSPECTS THEMSELVES HAVE BEEN DESCRIBED AS POSSIBLE "SLEEPING GUARDIANS" WHO COULD FURNISH, AS REQUIRED, KEY MATERIEL TO MORE ACTIVE FIS MEMBERS;

-- AND LILLE'S PROXIMITY TO THE NETHERLANDS AND ITS NOTORIOUS DRUG NETWORKS HAS BEEN USED TO IMPLY A POSSIBLE LINKAGE BETWEEN NARCOTICS AND THE FIS.

INTERICR MINISTRY RUMINATIONS

9. WE EXPLORED THIS INCIDENT ON APRIL 11 WITH

ACCORDING TO THE

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AFFAIR IS INDEED SIGNIFICANT, REPRESENTING THE FIRST EVIDENCE OF CONCRETE SUPPORT FROM FIS-AFFILIATED INDIVIDUALS IN FRANCE TO FUNDAMENTALIST HARDLINERS IN ALGERIA. ALTHOUGH HE CAUTIONED THAT IT IS TOO EARLY TO TALK ABOUT THE FULL IMPLICATIONS OF THE INVESTIGATION -- NO ONE KNOWS, HE SAID, WHERE THE VARIOUS EVIDENCE TRAILS MIGHT LEAD -- CLAIMED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENTS THAT WERE FOUND WAS OBVIOUS: TO ENABLE CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-13807 Doc No. C05639652 Date: 03/07/2018

#### CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PARIS 09904 02 DF 04 131005Z ANTI-REGIME INDIVIDUALS IN ALGERIA TO AVOID MILITARY SERVICE BY DEMONSTRATING THAT THEY HAD ALREADY SERVED IN THE ARMY, AND TO FACILITATE THEIR MOVEMENT AROUND ALGERIA WITH FALSE IDENTITY PAPERS. SPECULATING THAT THE BLANK DOCUMENTS HAD TURNED UP IN FRANCE BECAUSE FIS-SYMPATHIZERS COULD MAKE USE OF THEM WHEN ENTERING ALGERIA FROM FRENCH TERRITORY, ADDED THAT IN THIS CASE -- UNLIKE MANY OTHERS INVOLVING SUSPECTED PRO-FIS

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-13807 Doc No. C05639652 Date: 03/07/2018

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0 41 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-13807 Doc No. C05639651 Date: 03/07/2018

PAGE 02 PARIS 09904 01 DF 04 131004Z TAGS: PTER, SNAR, KCRM, FR, AG, IR, IS SUBJECT: FALSE DOCUMENTS, ARMS, DRUGS, AND THE - FIS: WHAT'S THE CONNECTION?

REF: PARIS 4679 (NOTAL)

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2. SUMMARY: RECENT REVELATIONS THAT THE FRENCH POLICE DISCOVERED ARMS AND FALSE DOCUMENTS POSSIBLY LINKED WITH FIS SUPPORTERS DURING A DRUG INVESTIGATION HAVE FUELED SPECULATION ABOUT ILLEGAL ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALIST ACTIVITY IN FRANCE AND LINKS WITH HARDLINERS IN ALGERIA.

HAS TOLD US THAT ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS FOUND BY THE POLICE DURING THEIR INVESTIGATION -- DOCUMENTS WHICH FE REFUSES TO DESCRIBE FURTHER -- HAVE BEEN KEPT OUT OF PRESS ACCOUNTS AND ARE QUITE DAMNING. THE EVIDENCE THAT HAS SURFACED SO FAR STRIKES US AS INTRIGUING BUT INCONCLUSIVE. END SUMMARY.

3. THE FRENCH PRESS HAS RUN A SERIES OF ARTICLES TRUMPETING RECENT REVELATIONS ARISING FROM THE ARRESTS MARCH 22 AND 23 DF TWO ALLEGED FIS SYMPATHIZERS. MEDIA

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ACCOUNTS INDICATE THAT CHAID EDDOUR, AGE 39, AND 28-YEAR-OLD AHMED SEBA -- SOTH REPORTEDLY MEMBERS OF THE FIS-LINKED ALGERIAN FRATERNITY IN FRANCE (FAF) --WERE PICKED UP BY POLICE AT THEIR RESIDENCES IN LILLE AND OUTSIDE PARIS, RESPECTIVELY. THE OPERATION WAS PART OF A "MUNDANE" DRUG INVESTIGATION, BEGUN IN DECEMBER 1993, OF A LILLE DRUG RING THAT TRAFFICKED IN

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PAGE 03 PARIS 09904 01 DF 04 131004Z ABOUT THREE KILOGRAMS DF HERDIN EACH MONTH AND WAS REPORTEDLY LINKED TO PROSTITUTION ACTIVITY.

4. ALTHOUGH POLICE WERE SAID TO HAVE FOUND NO DRUGS DUPING THEIR SEARCHES OF THE TWO RESIDENCES, THEY DID UNCOVER FALSE ALGERIAN DOCUMENTS, ARMS, AND MUNITIONS -- DISCOVERIES THAT THE FRENCH CONTEND MAY FINALLY ESTABLISH THAT THE FIS IN FRANCE PROVIDES SIGNIFICANT

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ILLEGAL SUPPORT TO ANTI-REGIME MILITANTS IN ALGERIA. (NOTE: THE FRENCH PRESS INDICATES THAT FALSE DOCUMENTS ALSO WERE FOUND DURING THE NOVEMBER "ROUNDUP" IN FRANCE LAST YEAR OF SUSPECTED FIS SYMPATHIZERS, BUT THAT THESE EARLIER DOCUMENTS WERE FEW IN NUMBER AND OF INFERIOR QUALITY. END NOTE.) THE TWO SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH "CRIMINAL INVOLVEMENT IN TERRORIST ACTION."

WHAT WAS FOUND

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5. ACCORDING TO MEDIA ACCOUNTS, AT THE HOME OF EDDOUR -- SAID TO BE AN ALGERIAN WHO HAS LIVED IN FRANCE FOR ABOUT TWO YEARS -- POLICE REPORTEDLY DISCOVERED MORE THAN A THOUSAND FALSE ALGERIAN ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENTS (ABOUT 500 BLANK ALGERIAN IDENTITY CARDS AND ABOUT 600 BLANK ATTESTATIONS OF COMPLETED MILITARY SERVICE) AS WELL AS SOME CEPIES OF THE JOURNAL "CRITERE" PUBLISHED BY THE FIS-LINKED ALGERIAN FRATERNITY IN FRANCE (FAF) AND BANNED BY THE GOF. AND IN THE APARTMENT OF SEBA, A FRENCH NATIONAL, AUTHORITIES CAME ACROSS SOME HANDGUNS, AMMUNITION CLIPS, BOXES OF NINE MILLIMETER AMMUNITION, AND AN ISRAELI GALIL ASSAULT RIFLE, AS WELL AS STAMPS

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PAGE 04 PARIS 09904 01 DF 04 131004Z FOR MANUFACTURING FALSE DOCUMENTS.

"THEY WEREN'T DURS, BUT . . ."

6. AFP REPORTED APRIL 6 THAT, ACCORDING TO THE ACCUSEC, THE DOCUMENTS, ARMS, AND MUNITIONS HAD ACTUALLY BELONGED TO A BOUDJELHAL CHEMELLAL, WHOM THEY HAD MET NEAR A PARIS MOSQUE AND DESCRIBED AS A

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3104

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-13807 Doc No. C05639654 Date: 03/07/2018

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS AMEMBASSY TUNIS AMEMBASSY CAIRO AMEMBASSY RABAT AMEMBASSY NIAMEY AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM AMEONSUL CASABLANCA AMEONSUL MARSEILLE AMEONSUL STRASBOURG AMEONSUL BORDEAUX AFOSI DET 501 RAMSTEIN AB GE//EAC//

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13. EVEN MORE PROBATIVE FOR HOWEVER, WAS THE FIND OF SEVERAL VERY INCRIMINATING DOCUMENTS WHICH REVEAL, ACCORDING TO , THE EXISTENCE OF AN EXTENSIVE FUNDAMENTALIST SUPPORT STRUCTURE "IMPLANTED" IN FRANCE AND IN SEVERAL OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

WOULD NEITHER DESCRIBE THE DOCUMENTS FURTHER NOP NAME THE OTHER COUNTRIES INVOLVED, BUT HE CLAIMED THAT THE EXISTENCE OF THESE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS AND THEIR CONTENTS HAVE BEEN DELIBERATELY OMITTED FROM ALL PRESS ACOUNTS OF THE AFFAIR.

#### COMMENT

# 14. WITHOUT ACCESS TO THE ADDITIONAL, UNSPECIFIED DOCUMENTS MENTIONED BY , IT IS HARD TO EVALUATE THE FRENCH CASE. MUCH OF IT SEEMS HIGHLY SPECULATIVE (E.G., TALK OF DRUG PROCEEDS GOING TO FINANCE ALGERIAN FUNDAMENTALISTS). THE FRENCH PRESS AND OUR INTERIOR CONTACT SEEM TO BE READING BROAD

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POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS INTO THE DISCOVERY OF A FEW ARMS IN THE POSSESSION OF SUSPECTED DRUG TRAFFICKERS, WHO MIGHT LOGICALLY HAVE THEM FOR OTHER REASONS. THE CACHE OF BLANK ALGERIAN IDENTIFY CARDS AND MILITARY SERVICE ATTESTATIONS FOUND BY FRENCH AUTHORITIES APPEARS MORE PROBLEMATIC, BUT ALSO COULD BE EXPLAINED AS PART OF A SIMPLE CRIMINAL ENTERPRISE RATHER THAN AS PROOF OF CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 PARIS 09904 04 OF 04 131006Z LINKS WITH ALGERIAN FUNDAMENTALIST MILITANTS. GIVEN THE GRAVITY OF ALLEGATIONS MADE IN THIS AFFAIR, HOWEVER, WE WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE THIS STORY AND ITS IMPLICATIONS WITH RELEVANT CONTACTS.

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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AMEMBASSY ALGIERS AMEMBASSY TUNIS AMEMBASSY CAIRO AMEMBASSY RABAT AMEMBASSY NIAMEY AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA AMCONSUL MARSEILLE AMCONSUL STRASBOURG AMCONSUL BORDEAUX AFOSI DET 501 RAMSTEIN AB GE//EAC//

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ACTIVITY -- THE ACCUSED HAVE MADE NO CLAIMS OF COMPLETE INNOCENCE. HE ALSO NOTED THAT, OF THE TWO AMMUNITON CLIPS FOUND BY THE POLICE DURING THEIR SEARCHE, DNE WAS FOR THE GALIL AND THE OTHER WAS FOR ANUZI.

THE DRUG ANGLE

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10. ALSO OPINED THAT THE DRUG INVESTIGATION THAT LED TO THE ARRESTS OF THE TWO ALGERIANS COULD HAVE WIDER POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS. SOME TIME AGO, HE SAID, LEADERS OF THE ISLAMIC COMMUNITY IN FRANCE WERE REPORTED TO HAVE ENGAGED IN AN ANTI-DRUG CRUSADE IN THFIR OWN NEIGHBORHOODS (REF). NOTED THAT FRENCH AUTHORITIES DO NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THIS CAMPAIGN MAY HAVE BEEN ORCHESTRATED TO GAIN CONTROL OF THESE MARKETS FOR THE FIS, RATHER THEN ELIMINATING THEM ENTIRELY, AND THEREBY FACILITATE THE TRANSFER OF DRUG-LINKED MONEY TO ISLAMIC MILITANTS IN ALGERIA. CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS THEORY REMAINS

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UNPROVEN; HIS MINISTRY SD FAR LACKS CONVINCING EVIDENCE OF AN INSTITUTIONALIZED LINK IN FRANCE BETWEEN ALGERIAN FUNDAMENTALISTS AND NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING. (NOTE:

HESITATION ON THIS ISSUE HAS BEEN ECHOED BY OTHER GOF OFFICIALS. ACCORDING TO AN UNNAMED FRENCH ANTITERRORIST SPECIALIST QUOTED IN THE PRESS, "MANY PEOPLE ORBIT THE FIS, GOING ABOUT THEIR OWN BUSINESS, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 PARIS 09904 03 OF 04 131005Z DRUGS OR SOMETHING ELSE, BUT HELPING THE FUNDAMENTALISTS OUT WITH GIFTS OR FALSE DOCUMENTS. UNLIKE THE KURDISH WORKER'S PARTY, WE CANNOT FORMALLY SAY THAT THE FIS IS FINANCED BY DRUGS IN FRANCE, UNLESS IT IS INDIRECTLY." END NOTE.)

- AGAIN

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 11.
 USED THE OCCASION OF OUR MEETING TO RAISE

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 THE GOF, SAID

 IS CONVINCED THAT
 S STATEMENTS - 

 WHICH HE NOTED INCLUDE CALLS FOR ATTACKS ON FOREIGNERS

 IN ALGERIA -- MUST BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY.
 DID NOT

 FXPLICITLY OBJECT TO USG POLICY ON
 -- INDEED, HE

 RECOGNIZED U.S. LEGAL CONSTRAINTS IN CURTAILING

S COMMENTS -- BUT HE REQUESTED, IN THE INTEREST OF "RECIPROCITY," THAT THE USG SHARE WITH THE GOF ANY INFORMATION IT DEVELOPS ON S CONTACTS AND ACTIVITIES. (NOTE: THE INTERIOR MINISTRY'S INTEREST IN SHARING FIS INFORMATION CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH QUAI AND PRIME MINISTER BALLADUR'S CRITICISM OF SUCH COMTACTS. END NOTE.)

INCRIMINATING DOCUMENTS; I CAN'T SAY MORE

12. WE ALSO MET ON APRIL 11 WITH

CONCURRED WITH OUR INTERIOR CONTACT, VIEWING THE CASE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 PARIS C9904 03 OF 04 131005Z AS A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN CONFIRMING THE MACHINATIONS IN FRANCE OF THE FIS IN SUPPORT OF FUNDAMENTALIST MILITANTS IN ALGERIA. HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GALIL ASSAULT RIFLE FOUND BY THE POLICE, ASSERTING THAT ITS MILITARY CHARACTER AND ITS RARITY OUTSIDE ISRAEL SUGGEST THAT THE TWO INDIVIDUALS ARRESTED WERE MORE THAN MERE CRIMINALS.

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