Mr. John Greenewald

Reference: F-2011-01396 / DIA #0114-2005

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

In the course of processing your 18 November 2004 Freedom of Information Act request to the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) for all documents concerning Operation Northwoods, the DIA located three Foreign Broadcast Information Service documents and referred them to us on 4 May 2011 for review and direct response to you.

We reviewed the documents and determined they are releaseable in their entirety. Copies of the documents are enclosed.

Sincerely,

Susan Viscuso
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures
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RUZFNAI/NASIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH
RUEAIJM/NGA M3 WASHINGTON DC
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RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//
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SECTION 1 OF 2
CITE FBIS RESTON VA 814661
WARNING: TOPIC: DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER
SERIAL: LAP20050611000054
/******* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *******/

BODY
COUNTRY: VENEZUELA, UNITED STATES
SUBJ: VENEZUELA: ARTICLE SAYS CHAVEZ MUST WORRY ABOUT ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT
SOURCE: VHEADLINE/VENEWS WWW-TEXT IN ENGLISH 10 JUN 05
TEXT:
(REPORT BY OSCAR HECK: "SHOULD PRESIDENT CHAVEZ FRIAS HAVE CONCERNS FOR AN ASSASSINATION ST TTEMPT?")
(FBIS TRANSCRIBED TEXT)

VHEADLINE.COM COMMENTARIST OSCAR HECKWrites: I HAVE RECEIVED SEVERAL EMAILS REGARDING MY LAST ARTICLE, "STAY OUT OF IT BUSH! STOP YOUR ATTACKS ON VENEZUELA! YANKEE GO HOME!" ONE READER WHO SOMETIMES WRITES TO ME ASKED IF I HAD EVER HEARD OF "OPERATION NORTHWOOD." I HAD NOT HEARD ABOUT IT ... SO I LOOKED IT UP ON THE WEB.

THE FOLLOWING IS A QUOTE WHICH SUMMARIZES WHAT JAMES BRAMFORD WRITES ABOUT IN HIS (EXPOS(-ILLEGAL-CHARACTER-) ENTITLED "BODY OF SECRETS."

IN HIS NEW EXPOSE OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY ENTITLED BODY OF SECRETS, AUTHOR JAMES BAMFORD HIGHLIGHTS A SET OF PROPOSALS ON CUBA BY THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF CODENAMED OPERATION NORTHWOODS. THIS DOCUMENT, TITLED "JUSTIFICATION FOR US MILITARY INTERVENTION IN CUBA" WAS PROVIDED BY THE JCS TO SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ROBERT McNAMARA ON MARCH 13, 1962, AS THE KEY COMPONENT OF NORTHWOODS. WRITTEN IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM THE CHIEF OF THE CUBA PROJECT, COL. EDWARD LANSDALE, THE TOP SECRET MEMORANDUM DESCRIBES U.S. PLANS TO COVERTLY ENGINEER VARIOUS PRETEXTS THAT WOULD JUSTIFY A US INVASION OF CUBA. THESE PROPOSALS - PART OF A SECRET ANTI-CASTRO PROGRAM KNOWN AS OPERATION MONGOOSE - INCLUDED STAGING THE ASSASSINATIONS OF CUBANS LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES, DEVELOPING A FAKE "COMMUNIST CUBAN TERROR CAMPAIGN IN THE MIAMI AREA, IN OTHER FLORIDA CITIES AND EVEN IN WASHINGTON," INCLUDING "SINKING A BOATLOAD OF CUBAN REFUGEES (REAL OR SIMULATED)," FAKEING A CUBAN AIRFORCE ATTACK ON A CIVILIAN JETLINER, AND CONCOCTING A "REMEMBER THE MAINE" INCIDENT BY BLOWING UP A US SHIP IN CUBAN WATERS AND THEN BLAMING THE INCIDENT ON CUBAN SABOTAGE. BAMFORD HIMSELF WRITES THAT OPERATION NORTHWOODS "MAY BE THE MOST CORRUPT PLAN EVER CREATED BY THE US GOVERNMENT."

(MANY PEOPLE HAVE WRITTEN TO ME SAYING THAT CHAVEZ IS PARANOID OR THAT CHAVEZ IS ONLY SAYING THAT HIS LIFE IS IN DANGER IN ORDER TO STIMULATE MORE SUPPORT FOR HIM. AS FAR AS I CAN FATHOM, CHAVEZ' LIFE IS IN DANGER ... AND THAT HIS POTENTIAL ASSASSINATION IS PROBABLY PUPPETED BY THE US GOVERNMENT. (REMEMBER, BUSH IS THE DEVIL IN FLESH, THE ANTICHRIST.) OPERATION NORTHWOOD IS ONLY ONE OF THE MANY EXAMPLES OF THE EVIL OF US GOVERNMENTS.)
THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THAT 9/11 WAS ORCHESTRATED BY THE US GOVERNMENT AS WELL. MORE AND MORE, I AM BEGINNING TO CONSIDER THAT THE POSSIBILITY IS REAL. AFTER ALL, AFGHANISTAN HAS SOME OF THE LARGEST POPPY GROWING REGIONS OF THE WORLD... AND IT IS STRATEGICALLY PLACED (FOR MILITARY PURPOSES - THE USA ALSO HAS A MILITARY BASE IN KYRGYZSTAN).

AS A SIDE NOTE, ACCORDING TO THE GLOBAL SECURITY WEBSITE, LT. COL. STAN GILES, THE BASE CHAPLAIN AT THE USA'S MILITARY BASE IN KYRGYZSTAN STATES, JOKINGLY, "YOU KNOW, THERE'S AN OLD SAYING: 'WAR IS GOD'S WAY OF TEACHING GEOGRAPHY TO AMERICANS.' GULP... AND THIS IS A MAN OF GOD... JOKING ABOUT WAR? VERY DISTURBING.


SO, SHOULD CHAVEZ BE WORRIED ABOUT A POTENTIAL ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT?

DEFINITELY, YES. IF PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS ASSASSINATED IN HIS OWN COUNTRY, AND PROBABLY BY HIS OWN PEOPLE, THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO REASON WHY CERTAIN INTERESTED PARTIES WITHIN THE US GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT "GET RID OF" A "CASTRO-CLONE" (CHAVEZ).

I WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF THERE EXISTS AN OPERATION NORTHWOOD FOR VENEZUELA.

IN FACT, I AM SURE THAT ONE EXISTS. HERE ARE SOME EVENTS WHICH SUPPORT THIS POSSIBILITY:

THE GRANDA AFFAIR EARLIER THIS YEAR... WHERE A COLOMBIAN FARC REVOLUTIONARY FORCES LEADER WAS KIDNAPPED IN VENEZUELA BY COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT-PAID MERCENARY FORCES. THIS MAY HAVE BEEN A RUSE TO "ACCUSE" CHAVEZ OF HARBORING "TERRORISTS." (THE FARC ARE LABELED "TERRORISTS" BY THE TERRORIST US GOVERNMENT.)

CHAVEZ’ VISIT WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN AND GHADAFI A FEW YEARS AGO... USED TO PORTRAY CHAVEZ AS PLANNING WITH AND COLLABORATING WITH WORLD LEADERS WHO SUPPORT AND HARBOR "TERRORISTS." (CHAVEZ WAS IN FACT ON A VISIT TO OPEC COUNTRIES, WHICH INCLUDED LIBYA AND IRAQ.)

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 *****

SOURCE: VHEADLINE/VENEWS WWW-TEXT IN ENGLISH 10 JUN 05

THE FACT THAT THE US GOVERNMENT'S NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY
(NED) has been financing sectors of the Venezuelan opposition for years now. The opposition has created havoc and chaos in Venezuela with the intent to destabilize Venezuela (their own country). They often made public calls for US military intervention in order to "get rid of Chavez."

During the 2002-2003 sabotage of Venezuela by the US-financed opposition (the CTV and FEDECAMARAS) all of the major anti-Chavez media sources in Venezuela and a substantial portion of the US-based media propagated the idea that Chavez had a biological weapons manufacturing facility in Los Teques or San Antonio de Los Altos (near Caracas). About the same time, they also stated that Chavez had an Islamic terrorist training camp on the tourist island of Margarita.

The US government did not condemn the April 2002 coup against Chavez. The person who was selected (by whom?) to replace Chavez as president of Venezuela (and who only lasted two days) was Pedro Carmona, the then president of FEDECAMARAS (which received financing from the NED). FEDECAMARAS is the traditional Venezuelan Chamber of Commerce.

Venezuela's recent order for 100,000 rifles was publicly denounced by the US government as an attempt by Chavez to destabilize the region.

There is more to this list... but the above should provide readers with a reasonable view of the US government's involvement in attempts to "get rid of Chavez."

What's next?

(Description of source: Caracas VHeadline/VENews WWW-Text in English -- pro-government online news organization. URL: http://www.vheadline.com)

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- Hyperlinked removed in last five paragraphs and changed source city to Moscow
Internet
OSC Translated Text
Intelligence with no secrets
The figures
According to various assessments, the American intelligence services obtain between 35 and 95 percent of their intelligence information from open sources. Spending on OSINT accounts for only around 1 percent of the US intelligence budget.
The term OSINT (Open Source Intelligence) is used to describe the collection and analysis of intelligence on the basis of information from generally accessible sources. These include newspapers, the Internet, books, telephone directories, scientific journals, radio, television, government reports, technical documentation, instruction guides, and so forth.
From an intelligence viewpoint OSINT is fundamentally different from "just information" (sometimes known as OSIF or Open Source Information) --that is, in general all kinds of data and information circulating in freely accessible media channels. There
is never anything "general" about OSINT -- it is always specific information collected and structured specially to respond to specific questions.

OSINT collection of intelligence is very different from other areas of intelligence activity, primarily HUMINT, or intelligence using agents. When relying on agents the principal difficulty for an intelligence officer is how to obtain information from a source that is generally not inclined to cooperate. But in OSINT the main problem is finding fruitful and reliable sources among the abundance of generally accessible information. But if such sources are found, obtaining intelligence from them is not that difficult.

The segregation of intelligence into open and secret is extremely hypothetical in some cases. A significant proportion of intelligence using agents boils down to the open extraction of information from knowledgeable people, and so can also be regarded as part of OSINT. Possible examples here are interrogations of refugees, conversations with tourists and people travelling on business, and reports from official agents like ambassadors, attaches, and trade representatives. These distinctions are equally vague in other basic areas of intelligence. For example, satellite photos of terrain used to be the prerogative of IMINT, secret imaging intelligence conducted by states with advanced space technology. But now, with the burgeoning of commercial satellite systems and services like Google Earth, special services themselves now look to these sources for information. As for SIGINT, or radio-electronic (signals) intelligence, within the components that handle this there have always been services that analyze not only decrypted information but also information transmitted openly through the airwaves and through cables.

If we are talking about the US intelligence community, for example, the CIA's Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS), which was created in 1941 to monitor enemy radio and press, has been the main provider of open source intelligence for decades. In 2004 the state commission investigating the terrorist acts of 11 September 2001 recommended as one of the most important counterterrorist measures the creation of an intelligence agency focused on the collection and analysis of open source information. Things did not get as far as an entire agency, but in November 2005 J. Negroponte, director of US National Intelligence, announced the creation within the intelligence community of a new
structure -- the Open Source Center. Since the Center was formed on the basis of the Foreign Broadcast Information Service and the director of FBIS became director of the Center, these transformations did not result in any substantial changes in the work of the intelligence service.

Of course, open sources are studied in any state that pays attention to intelligence. But this work can be organized in different ways. For example, in Australia the main expert in open sources is the Office of National Assessments, which is officially a state in intelligence structure. Whereas in Britain, for example, there is the BBC Monitoring information service, which is emphatically focused solely on the collection of openly accessible information using the civilian journalists who work there. Analysis of the data collected by the BBC, however, is handled by officials from the British secret services.

The value of open sources

History

The photo not available in this version of source shows a microphoto camera that can reduce an entire page of text to the size of a dot above a letter i or at the end of a sentence. Such photos have been embedded in the text of ordinary letters or concealed in rings, hollow coins, and other objects sent through the mail. The recipient would read them with a special viewer which would also be well camouflaged.

There are great differences of opinion about the role of OSINT. Descriptions by intelligence agents who themselves handle open sources can be regarded as maybe the most productive descriptions of this field. So the text that follows constitutes a condensed version of recent articles from the anthology "Studies in the Intelligence" that is produced by the CIA and is based on unclassified or declassified analytical products from the American intelligence community.

Open source intelligence is occasionally not only indistinguishable from secrets but can often be superior to them in terms of value. The overall value of intelligence information is determined by a number of factors, including timeliness of receipt, quantity, quality, clarity, ease of subsequent use, and acquisition costs.

Timeliness. When a crisis erupts somewhere on the planet and an intelligence service's potential in the given region is not great, both intelligence service analysts and state policymakers
most often turn on the television or turn to the Internet for information. In addition, the same may also happen in regions where this state's own spies are a dime a dozen. The rapidly changing situation during crises is covered most fully in current news, so (it is reliably known) both Washington and CIA headquarters at Langley tracked the fall of the Berlin Wall not from intelligence service reports but by turning to the television and watching CNN reports from the scene.

Quantity. There are always going to be many more bloggers, journalists, independent experts, TV reporters, and other informed people in the world than any special service -- even the biggest and richest -- has staff intelligence officers. Two or three professional intelligence officers with a good network of agents can indisputably run rings around even a hundred reporters in terms of potential access to secrets. But, as experience shows, proficiently collated fragments of information from open sources can, in aggregate, be equivalent to or even more significant than secret intelligence reports.

Quality. In the work of any country's intelligence services there are occasionally situations when staff officers prepare reports on the basis of information obtained from secret agents that has been deliberately fabricated or simply lifted from local newspapers, and sometimes even embroidered to make it look more plausible. In comparison with such "intelligence information," information from open sources is preferable because it is not tainted by lies.

Clarity. A serious problem for intelligence analysts and policymakers is the uncertain reliability of information, even if it has been obtained through agent sources. For example, when a CIA analysis department official reads a report about a foreign leader based on information from "a source of unproven reliability," it is pretty clear how this document should be viewed. The problem becomes much trickier if the report has been compiled on the basis of information from a "trustworthy source." Fundamental importance is attached to who this source is -- a minister in the leader's cabinet, the minister's brother, or the minister's wife's brother's lover. As a rule, an analyst at Langley does not know the answer to this question as the CIA operations section carefully protect their sources and do not divulge their methods for obtaining information. So whereas in the case of OSINT the reliability of open source can be both clear and unclear, in the case of secretly acquired information the
level of reliability is almost always unclear.

Ease of use. It is the practice to surround any secrets with barriers consisting of security classifications, principles for isolating information, and special access regimes. All this makes it exceptionally difficult not only to convey information that has been acquired to the political structures that make the decisions but also to disseminate important information among fellow intelligence agents or associates from the counterintelligence service, not to mention the police. As for OSINT information, it can be easily passed to any interested offices.

Cost. Satellite imagery intelligence, which costs billions of dollars to develop, launch, and keep operational, can photograph the roof of a military plant or the hull of a new submarine. On the other hand, photographs taken inside the workshops of the plant of interest to the intelligence service or within that same submarine can be found in a foreign magazine whose annual subscription costs less than $100.

Joining up the dots:

History

The photo not available in this version of source shows a lithium-iodine battery. The CIA often develops technologies that are utilized in highly important applications after being declassified. Thus in the 1970s the technology of lithium-iodine batteries was passed to the medical community. Today it is utilized in heart pacemakers. Thus, many experts admit that OSINT is an exceptionally powerful and possibly the most promising method of intelligence.

Nevertheless even the most effective technologies for analyzing intelligence -- both secret and open -- were unable to prevent two painful American intelligence failures. We are referring to the 9/11 terrorist acts and the fundamentally erroneous conclusions about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. It is pointless to talk about the wrong assessments of the Iraqi military program here as the intelligence service itself has already admitted that in general nobody was interested in the real situation and all the facts were massaged (and fabricated, as journalistic investigations demonstrated) to suit the wishes of the top political leadership of the United States. But the events of 9/11 and other actions by Islamic extremists are worth looking at in greater detail as the role of OSINT here is very important.
When the state commission investigating the events of 11 September concluded in its final report in 2005 that American intelligence had no information about the terrorist acts that were being prepared and their perpetrators, several people were outraged to the depths of their soul and broke their oath of silence. These people -- officers, IT experts, and a civilian contractor -- had been recruited as data mining experts in 1999 from various components of the US Defense Department to carry out the secret Able Danger program. The program's task was to provide extensive analysis of information available on the Internet with a view to identifying active officials and cells of the terrorist Al-Qa'ida network. By the spring of 2000 -- that is, 20 months before the tragedy -- a list of individuals who potentially posed the greatest danger had been compiled. And of the figures presumed to have links with the organizers of the 1993 World Trade Center explosion, four of the people who subsequently organized the 9/11 terrorist act featured on the list, including their leader by the name of Muhammad Atta. For reasons unknown to analysts, the top military leadership did not pass the list to the FBI for processing, and soon after the mass of information obtained from the Internet was ordered to be destroyed. When a few years later analysts, circumventing official channels, sent the information about Able Danger to the 9/11 commission, their evidence was ignored.

But this is by no means the only example of OSINT information that is strongly at variance with the official interpretation of events. For example, everybody knows that on 11 September the terrorists seized four aircraft, but by no means everybody knows that four buildings were supposed to be destroyed, although only three aircraft reached their targets. The fourth building, the 47-story WTC7 skyscraper located not far from the twin towers, collapsed within 6.5 seconds apparently without cause, for reasons that have still not been identified. But something else is even more interesting. You can find on the Internet a video clip of a report from the scene by the BBC's New York correspondent Jane Standley in which she tells television viewers that yet another building in Manhattan had collapsed. But the shot from the report was incidentally set up in such a way that that very building is clearly visible behind the journalist, and it would suddenly collapse only 23 minutes later. This video clip appeared on the Net in the winter of 2007, and it became clear that its authenticity is indisputable, although this story...
has not been kept in the BBC news service's archives "because of a misunderstanding" (the weightiest proof of the authenticity of the clip is the evidence of Richard Porter, head of the BBC World news service in his personal blog here report embeds live link to http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/theeditors/2007/02/part(-UNDERSCORE-)-of(-UNDERSCORE-)-the(-UNDERSCORE-)-conspiracy.html

Other highly important documents relating to 9/11 go missing not purportedly by accident but as a result of deliberate destruction. The spring of 2004 saw the publication of a report from the US Department of Transportation's inspector general that detailed evidence from 15 or so air traffic controllers who had been tracking the hijacked aircraft. At mid-day on 11 September, immediately after completing their shift, they gathered in a conference room and, passing a microphone from one to another, described all the important things that they remembered about that tragic day. But the leadership of the New York Air Traffic Control Center did not make public either this cassette or the fact that it existed. On the contrary, some unnamed manager from the Federal Aviation Agency immediately appeared and confiscated the cassette, immediately smashed it to pieces, tore the tape into little pieces, and distributed all the fragments among various garbage cans around the Center here report embeds live link to http://www.archives.gov/legislative/research/9-11/staff-report-sep t2005.pdf.

Another indicative episode was when not only a perpetrator but the probable organizer of another terrorist attack by extremists who caused four explosions on London public transport on 7 July 2005 was successfully arrested. Haroon Rashid Aswat had left Britain several hours before the explosions, but, as investigators ascertained, immediately before the terrorist act around 20 telephone conversations had taken place with the suicide bombers from his cell phone. Aswat was quickly found through this same phone and was arrested in Africa, on the border between Zimbabwe and Zambia. The press reported the capture of the "brains" of the 7/7 terrorist act, but as soon as Aswat was taken to London all talk about his involvement in the explosions inexplicably stopped.

The situation was clarified by John Loftus, a former investigator with the US Justice Department specializing in problems of terrorism, who spoke on a Fox News television program. Loftus
said that Aswat was a long-standing Islamic extremist whom the United States had intended to arrest back in 1999 for organizing a guerrilla training camp in the State of Oregon. But the arrest never happened because of a categorical prohibition from the Justice Department, which made it plain to the intelligence service that this person should not be touched because he was working for Anglo-American intelligence. And although Aswat's name continued to figure on lists of wanted terrorists, he repeatedly "avoided" being arrested, as is confirmed by the South African, Pakistani, and French special services. Endless bureaucratic judicial proceedings relating to the (in)advisability of extraditing him to the United States in connection with the ancient case of the camp in Oregon have been dragging on for two years now. Aswat's obvious involvement in the 7/7 terrorist acts is obviously of no interest.

But in order for it to be absolutely clear what kind of role OSINT methods are capable of playing in the assessment of terrorist threats, let us cite yet another fact acquired from the archives of the writer and researcher James Bamford. When he was preparing his latest book on the intelligence service, Bamford came across an amazing document about operation Northwoods that was completely unknown to historians among a multitude of documents declassified by the Clinton Administration. This document from the early 1960s contains an action plan developed by the special services and adopted by the United States' top generals as a result of which the American population was supposed to approve a military invasion of Cuba and the occupation of the island. To this end it was planned as part of Northwoods to carry out explosions, sink ships, hijack aircraft, and commit several bloody terrorist acts in US cities allegedly carried out by Cuban revolutionaries on Castro's instructions. This plan was approved in 1962 by all the chiefs of staff and their chairman Lyman Leominster, after which only the approval of Defense Secretary Robert McNamara and President Kennedy was required for the operation to be launched. But the civilian leadership of the state considered the plan unacceptable. History testifies that the approaches adopted by the special services and the military toward solving problems have virtually not changed down the years, but not all state leaders have the decency of the then top leadership of the United States.

In brief, OSINT methods can be really effective only if the end
users of the intelligence information are interested in the real situation rather than the political context. But if there are secret structures operating within the special services that perpetrate overtly criminal acts way beyond the limits of the law, OSINT methods will remain a serious obstacle to these structures. This is possibly why these methods are still not being given a priority role in the world's leading intelligence services. Which, however, does not diminish the tremendous importance and validity of OSINT so long as society can engage in this kind of intelligence independently, which can only benefit the health of the special services. Maybe matters will also go as far as bringing the real criminals to trial. Although it is hard to believe that.

To steal or receive as a gift?

It would be a big mistake to think that in an age of excessive information all sensible people in the intelligence community understand the importance of OSINT. As insiders testify, to date a completely different viewpoint -- that real intelligence is secrets stolen from enemies -- predominates. That is, information obtained in the course of covert operations must per se be more valuable than information that is generally accessible. A recent CIA brochure prepared for the recruitment of new analysts for the intelligence service contains the following lines: "You can be on the sidelines, reading about world events in a newspaper, or you can be at the center of these events, working in the intelligence service." In other words, the brochure divides the world into those who read newspapers and those who have access to "real intelligence" within the special services. Recent CIA Director George Tenet like to use the trenchant phrase "we steal secrets" to briefly describe his department. The same thought is expressed in greater detail by veteran CIA officer Thomas Carroll: "Despite the frequent references to 'open source intelligence,' within the CIA this term is seen more as a nonsense, an oxymoron. By definition intelligence is secretly acquired information. Stolen, to put it crudely. Information from journals, television programs, or any kind of bulletin may be valuable, but it is not intelligence."

This kind of view is regarded as typical of professional spies, particularly those in operations.

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COUNTRY: AFGHANISTAN, UNITED STATES
SUBJ: AL-JAZIRAH AIRS PART III OF 'TOP SECRET' PROGRAM ON 9/11 'MASTERMINDS'

REF: 1. FYI -- AL-JAZIRAH TO AIR PART 3 OF 'TOP SECRET' 9/11 PROGRAM ON 21 SEP GMP20050918550001 AL-JAZIRAH SATELLITE CHANNEL TELEVISION ARABIC 18 SEP 05

SOURCE: DOHA AL-JAZIRAH SATELLITE CHANNEL TELEVISION IN ARABIC 2105 GMT 21 SEP 05

TEXT:

(FBIS TRANSLATED TEXT)
DOHA AL-JAZIRAH SATELLITE CHANNEL TELEVISION IN ARABIC AT 2105 GMT ON 21 SEPTEMBER CARRIES THE THIRD EPISODE OF A NEW SERIES OF YUSRI FUDAH'S "TOP SECRET" PROGRAM WITH THE TITLE: "PART III: THE TRUTH BEHIND 9/11; ALARM BELLS".


COMMENTING ON THE 9/11 ATTACKS, FUDAH NOTES THAT A LARGE PORTION OF NEW YORKERS BELIEVE THAT THE US GOVERNMENT HAD PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE ATTACKS BUT DECIDED TO TURN A BLIND EYE TO THEM. THIERRY MEYSSAN, AUTHOR OF "9/11: THE BIG LIE," SAYS -- IN FRENCH WITH VOICEOVER ARABIC INTERPRETATION -- THAT THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION IS TRYING TO AVOID A SERIOUS CRIMINAL OR CIVIL TRIAL AND THUS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ATTACKS.
DIYA RASHWAN, FROM EGYPT’S AL-AHRAM CENTER FOR POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC RESEARCH, NOTES THAT DESPITE THE LARGE AMOUNT OF INFORMATION AND DATA ACCUMULATED BY THE US ADMINISTRATION OVER THE PAST 3 YEARS SINCE THE 9/11 EVENTS FROM AFGHANISTAN TO THE PRISONERS HELD AT GUANTANAMO BAY, IT ONLY HAS ENOUGH GROUNDS TO TRY ONE SUSPECT -- ZACARIAS MOUSSAOUI. HE ADDS THAT THIS GIVES RISE TO MANY SUSPICIONS OVER WHAT REALLY TOOK PLACE.

FUDAH CITES THE 1996 HOLLYWOOD MOVIE "THE LONG KISS GOODNIGHT." HE SHOWS A CLIP FROM THE MOVIE WHERE THE VILLAIN EXPLAINS TO OTHER CHARACTERS IN THE MOVIE THAT HE IS GOING TO FAKE A TERRORIST ATTACK IN ORDER TO GET MONEY OUT OF THE CONGRESS. THE VILLAIN STATES: "WELL, UNFORTUNATELY MR. HENNESSEY, I HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO FAKE KILLING 4,000 PEOPLE SO WE'RE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO DO IT FOR REAL. WE'LL BLAME IT ON THE MUSLIMS NATURALLY."

FUDAH CITES ANOTHER INCIDENT. HE SHOWS A DOCUMENT, WHICH HE DESCRIBES AS "PROOF THAT SOME AMERICANS CAN AT LEAST THINK OF HITTING THEMSELVES WITH A CLUB JUST TO USE IT AS AN EXCUSE TO FURTHER THEIR OBJECTIVES." THE DOCUMENT IS ON OPERATION NORTHWOODS, WHICH WAS LAUNCHED IN 1962 WHEN THE AMERICANS DID NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH CUBA’S FIDEL CASTRO. THE OPERATION AIMED TO ENABLE SOME FRIENDLY CUBAN ELEMENTS TO ATTACK THE US MILITARY BASE IN GUANTANAMO AND HIJACK A CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT AMONG OTHERS. THE DOCUMENT STATES THAT THE LISTS OF VICTIMS IN THE US PRESS WILL LEAD TO A PUBLIC OUTCRY THAT WOULD BE IN THE US ADMINISTRATION’S FAVOR.

MICHAEL ROBERT, AUTHOR OF "CROSSING THE LINE," CITES A BOOK BY FORMER NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI IN WHICH HE SAID THAT IF THE US WAS NOT HIT BY AN OPERATION LIKE PEARL HARBOR, THEN THE US PUBLIC WOULD NOT SUPPORT MILITARY ACTION IN CENTRAL ASIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST TO BRING THE REGION UNDER US CONTROL. HE CONCLUDES: "THIS WAS SOMETHING THAT WAS ABSOLUTELY NEEDED."

ABD-AL-BARI ATWAN, CHIEF EDITOR OF THE LONDON-BASED AL-QUDS AL-ARABI NEWSPAPER, SAYS: "I DO NOT THINK THE US ADMINISTRATION IS WILLING TO GAMBLE WITH A LOSS OF THIS SIZE -- A PSYCHOLOGICAL, MORAL, INTELLIGENCE, AND MATERIAL LOSS -- JUST TO CONTROL THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH EAST ASIA BECAUSE IT ALREADY CONTROLS THE MIDDLE EAST AND DOES NOT NEED AN EXCUSE TO DO SO."

FUDAH INTERVIEWS GUESTS WHO SAY THAT THE US ADMINISTRATION DID NOT FOCUS ON TERRORISM WHEN IT FIRST TOOK OFFICE, BUT CONCENTRATED ON THE BALLISTIC MISSILES DEFENSE SYSTEM AND IRAQ. CRAIG UNGER, AUTHOR OF "HOUSE OF BUSH, HOUSE OF S'AUD," NOTES
UNCLASSIFIED

THAT THE INTERESTS OF THE KEY FIGURES OF THE NEWLY ELECTED US ADMINISTRATION HAD THEIR OWN AGENDAS, BE THEY RELATED TO OIL, SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL, OR THE NEOCONSERVATIVE CHRISTIAN AGENDA.

FUDAH REPORTS A CONVERSATION BETWEEN GEORGE BUSH AND RICHARD CLARK ONE DAY AFTER 9/11. RICHARD CLARK REPORTS THAT BUSH INSTRUCTED HIM TO FIND A LINK BETWEEN SADDAM AND THE 9/11 ATTACKS.

FUDAH THEN TURNS TO THE PERPETRATORS OF 9/11. ALMOST A YEAR EARLIER, IN SAN DIEGO, SAUDI NATIONAL NAWWAF AL-HAZIMI, THE DEPUTY FIELD COMMANDER OF THE AIRPLANES OPERATION IN THE UNITED STATES, WAS STILL WORKING IN A GAS STATION AND LIVING WITH AN INDIAN FBI INFORMANT. HE HAD JUST SAID GOODBYE TO COMPATRIOT KHALID AL-MIHDAI, WHO HAD RETURNED TO YEMEN, AND WAS AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF A THIRD SAUDI, HANI HANJUR. THE THREE MEN WERE DESTINED TO DIE ON THE SAME AIRPLANE MONTHS LATER. AL-HAZIMI AND HANJUR LEFT FOR ARIZONA SOON AFTER THE LATTER'S ARRIVAL TO SAN DIEGO.

FUDAH NOTES THAT AL-HAZIMI WAS NOT VERY CAUTIOUS AND LEFT MANY LEADS BEHIND HIM THAT COULD HAVE EASILY BEEN PICKED UP BY ANYONE TRACKING HIM DOWN. ON HIS WAY OUT OF SAN DIEGO, HE LEFT ALL THE INFORMATION IN THE HANDS OF ABD-AL-SATTAR SHAYKH, THE FBI INFORMANT AND AL-HAZIMI'S HOUSEMATE.

FUDAH EXPRESSES SURPRISE THAT HANJUR REMAINED OFF THE RADAR OF US INTELLIGENCE, CONSIDERING HE ATTENDED TUCSON UNIVERSITY IN ARIZONA AND MINGLED WITH SOME NOTORIOUS AL-QA'IDA ELEMENTS WHO WERE UNDER US INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE AT THE TIME AND WHO EVEN TOOK AVIATION LESSONS WITH HIM.

IN THE MEANTIME, MUHAMMAD ATTA, THE FIELD COMMANDER OF THE OPERATION, AND HIS COMRADE MARWAN AL-SHIHHI HAD COMPLETED THEIR AVIATION COURSE IN FLORIDA, WHILE ZIYAD JARRAH COMPLETED HIS COURSE IN A NEARBY SCHOOL IN THE SAME STATE. ATTA FLEW BACK TO BERLIN IN EARLY 2001 TO PRESENT A PROGRESS REPORT TO BIN LADIN THROUGH RAMZI BIN-AL-SHIBAH. FUDAH NOTES THAT ATTA WAS ALLOWED BACK IN THE US EVEN THOUGH HIS VISA HAD EXPIRED. DURING THAT TIME, ZACARIAS MOUSSAOUI, A FRENCH CITIZEN OF MOROCCAN ORIGIN, ARRIVED IN MINNESOTA TO RECEIVE TRAINING ON USING THE RADIO OF A BOEING 757 WITH NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF FLYING.

FUDAH DISCUSSES THE DIFFERENCES AMONG US OFFICIALS DURING THAT TIME ON THE WAY TO INVESTIGATE AL-QA'IDA AND ASSESS ITS THREAT. HE SHOWS FOOTAGE OF A TESTIMONY BY RICHARD CLARK BEFORE THE 9/11 COMMISSION.
IN THE MEANTIME, ATTA AND SHIHHI MOVED CLOSER TO NEW YORK, MOVING UP FROM FLORIDA TO VIRGINIA BEACH IN VIRGINIA, AND AL-HAZIMI AND HANJUR MOVED TO THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA IN VIRGINIA AS WELL.

THE PROGRAM IS INTERRUPTED FOR 4 MINUTES AT 2130 GMT FOR NEWS HEADLINES.


THE YEMENI IMAM THAT AL-MIHDAH AND AL-HAZIMI HAD MET IN SAN DIEGO -- ANWAR AL-AWLAQI -- HAD RECENTLY MOVED TO THAT MOSQUE TO SERVE AS ITS IMAM. FUDAH NOTES THAT US AUTHORITIES STATED THAT THEY LOOKED FOR AL-AWLAQI BUT WERE UNABLE TO LOCATE HIM. HE ADDS THAT HE MANAGED TO FIND AL-AWLAQI IN SANAA "IN BROAD DAYLIGHT." HE FOUND THAT THE AMERICANS THEMSELVES HAD DEPORTED HIM. FUDAH INTERVIEWS AL-AWLAQI, WHO SAYS THAT HE DID NOT KNOW OF AL-HAZIMI'S PRESENCE IN VIRGINIA EXCEPT THROUGH THE MEDIA.

FUDAH SAYS THAT THE AL-QA'IDA ELEMENTS EVENTUALLY FELL IN THE GRASP OF ISRAEL'S MOSSAD. A FORMER CIA AGENT CONFIRMS THAT MOSSAD HAD MAJOR INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS IN NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY AGAINST ISLAMISTS. SEYMOUR HIRSCH COMMENTS: "THEY (THE MOSSAD) WERE THERE IN BROOKLYN. LOOK, I CAN JUST TELL YOU WHAT THEY SAID AND I COULD TELL YOU THAT YOU ARE NOWHERE NEAR GETTING THIS STORY OUT TO THE PUBLIC. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE. YOU ONLY HAVE A FEW LEADS. LISTEN, WE ARE ALL CONCERNED BY THE INABILITY OF THE CIA AND FBI TO PUT THINGS TOGETHER."

FUDAH ADDS THAT WHILE THE MOSSAD DID NOT KNOW WHEN THE OPERATION WAS GOING TO TAKE PLACE EXACTLY, THEY HAD GATHERED AMPLE INFORMATION. RAMZI BIN-AL-SIBAH HAD INFORMED FUDAH DURING HIS INTERVIEW THAT ONE OF THE 9/11 HIJACKERS HAD KILLED A MAN WHOM HE THOUGHT AT THE TIME WAS A SECURITY OFFICIAL BUT IT TURNS OUT HE WAS A MOSSAD AGENT. HE ADDS THAT THE 9/11 PERPETRATORS KNEW THEY WERE BEING FOLLOWED AND WATCHED BUT DID NOT KNOW BY WHOM.

FUDAH SAYS THAT CIA DIRECTOR GEORGE TENET AND THEN NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR RICE IGNORED THE RED LIGHTS AND WARNING SIGNALS THAT THEY RECEIVED OVER A POTENTIAL AL-QA'IDA ATTACK AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.
IN THE FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR THE ATTACK, ATTA AND AL-SHIIHI HEADED TO STONE MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA TO HONE THEIR FLYING SKILLS IN MARCH. JARRAH SHOWED UP IN NEARBY DAKOTA, GEORGIA DURING THAT TIME BEFORE RETURNING TO FLORIDA FOR TWO MONTHS. DURING HIS STAY IN FLORIDA, HE JOINED A GYM. JARRAH'S PERSONAL INSTRUCTOR AT THE GYM DESCRIBED HIM AS "CALM AND DELIBERATE."

IN THE MEANTIME, AL-HAZIMI AND HANJUR WENT TO PATerson, NEW JERSEY, WHICH HAS A LARGE ARAB POPULATION. THEY HAD RECEIVED NEWS FROM AFGHANISTAN OF THE NEED TO RELOCATE. THE SAME NEWS HAD REACHED ATTA, WHO PREPARED TO MOVE TO FLORIDA ALONG WITH AL-SHIIHI TO BE NEAR JARRAH.

FUDAH THEN TALKS ABOUT "THE MUSCLE, WHO WILL PROTECT THE PILOTS DURING THE HIJACKINGS." KHALID SHAYKH MUHAMMAD MET THEM ONE BY ONE AND THEY WERE SELECTED FROM THE "MARTYRDOM DEPARTMENT" IN AL-QA'IDA. THE MEN WERE SENT FROM AFGHANISTAN TO THE UNITED STATES WITHOUT KNOWING THE DETAILS OR THE NATURE OF THEIR MISSION BUT WITH THE SOLE KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY WILL BE "MARTYRED." EACH OF THEM RECORDED THEIR WILLS EXCEPT ONE WHO FEARED IT WOULD BE A FORM OF VANITY.

ABD-AL-BARI ATWAN NOTES THAT HE DETECTED A GREAT SENSE OF HATRED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES FROM ALL THE LEVELS OF LEADERSHIP IN AL-QA'IDA. THE PROGRAM SHOWS CLIPS OF THE VIDEO WILLS OF THE 9/11 PERPETRATORS ALL OF THEM THREATENING THE UNITED STATES.

THE "MUSCLE" STARTED TO ARRIVE IN THE UNITED STATES IN APRIL 2001. THEY STAYED IN FLORIDA, NEAR ATTA, JARRAH, AND AL-SHIIHI, IN AN AREA THAT WAS FULL OF MOSSAD AGENTS, SOME OF WHOM EVEN LIVED IN THE SAME STREET AS THE AL-QA'IDA ELEMENTS. IN VIRGINIA, ALMOST HALF OF THE AL-QA'IDA TEAM IN THE US HEADED TO AN OFFICE /****** BEGINNING OF SECTION 3 ******

OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO ISSUE DRIVERS Licenses, AT THE SAME TIME. FUDAH NOTES THAT AT THAT POINT, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE FOR THE FBI TO CONNECT THE DOTS AND ARREST HALF OF THE AL-QA'IDA TEAM.

FUDAH ADDS: "IN MAY 2001, AN ANONYMOUS TIP TO THE FBI SAID THAT THERE WERE PLANS TO ATTACK LONDON, BOSTON, AND NEW YORK. SHORTLY AFTERWARD, A US EMBASSY RECEIVED A WARNING THAT BIN LADIN'S FOLLOWERS WERE PLANNING FOR AN OPERATION INSIDE THE UNITED STATES. COFER BLACK, FORMER HEAD OF THE ANTI-TERRORISM DEPARTMENT, WARNED THEN NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR RICE THAT THE DANGER LEVEL WAS UP TO SEVEN OUT OF A SCALE OF TEN.
IN JUNE 2001, JARRAH MANAGED TO FLY AT A LOW ALTITUDE OVER THE HUDSON RIVER IN VIEW OF THE MANHATTAN SKYLINE, SOMETHING WHICH HIS COMRADE HANI HANJUR FAILED TO DO BECAUSE OF HIS WEAK FLYING SKILLS. JARRAH WAS UNDER SURVEILLANCE AT THE TIME BY THE FBI, WHO LOST TRACK OF HIM SHORTLY BEFORE 9/11.

FUDAH CONTINUES TO DISCUSS THE INCREASING ALARM BELLS AND WARNINGS THAT WENT OFF AS 9/11 DREW CLOSER.

HE ADDS THAT AL-MIHDAH RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES FROM YEMEN VIA SAUDI ARABIA ON INDEPENDENCE DAY -- 4 JULY 2001.

FUDAH SAYS: "ON A DAY WHEN SECURITY MEASURES WERE AT THEIR HIGHEST LEVELS, HE RETURNED TO THE COUNTRY OF HIS ENEMIES USING HIS REAL NAME WITH A VALID VISIA ON A VALID PASSPORT, WHILE WE ARE EXPECTED TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE AMERICANS WERE LOOKING FOR HIM EVERYWHERE."

AL-MIHDAH JOINED THE "BIRDS' NEST" IN PATERSON, NEW JERSEY. A FEW DAYS LATER, ATTA FLEW TO SPAIN, WHERE HE MET WITH RAMZI BIN-AL-SHIBAH. HE STAYED THERE FOR TWO WEEKS AND EXCHANGED INFORMATION ON DEVELOPMENTS UNDERWAY AND INSTRUCTIONS FROM AFGHANISTAN. THE TWO MEN AGREED ON THE TARGETS AND ATTA WAS LEFT WITH THE AUTHORITY TO PICK THE TIME OF EXECUTION.

FUDAH REFUTES CLAIMS BY THE US ADMINISTRATION THAT THEY NEVER EXPECTED AIRPLANES TO BE USED AS WEAPONS AGAINST BUILDINGS BY CITING A REPORT BY A US THINK TANK ISSUED IN 1998 AND WARNING OF THE POSSIBLE USE OF PASSENGER PLANES AS CRUISE MISSILES.

FUDAH THEN SHOWS FOOTAGE OF PRESIDENT BUSH WALKING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE AND EXPLAINING TO REPORTERS ABOUT THE LANDSCAPE. HE NOTES THAT WHILE BUSH AND MOST OF HIS ADMINISTRATION WERE ENJOYING A LONG VACATION IN AUGUST OF THAT YEAR, THE US SECURITY AGENCIES WERE LEFT SQUIRMING. MOUSSAOUI WAS ARRESTED DURING THAT PERIOD "AGAINST THE WISHES OF SOMEONE IN WASHINGTON."

THE PROGRAM ENDS AT 2153 GMT. FBIS JN BUREAU PLANS NO FURTHER PROCESSING.

(DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: DOHA AL-JAZIRAH SATELLITE CHANNEL TELEVISION IN ARABIC -- INDEPENDENT TELEVISION STATION FINANCED BY THE QATARI GOVERNMENT)

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