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DATE: 11-14-2017

JFK Assassination System Identification Form

Date:

5/4/2015

Agency Information

AGENCY:

FBI

RECORD NUMBER:

124-90124-10048

RECORD SERIES:

HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER:

SEE TITLE

Document Information

ORIGINATOR: **FBI**

FROM: NY

> TO: HQ

TITLE:

[Restricted]

DATE:

03/06/1975

PAGES:

10

SUBJECTS:

ALADDIN M. AL-TAYYAR

MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL

DOCUMENT TYPE:

PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT

CLASSIFICATION: RESTRICTIONS:

Secret 1B; 1C

CURRENT STATUS:

Redact

DATE OF LAST REVIEW:

09/12/1998

OPENING CRITERIA:

INDEFINITE

COMMENTS: MEMO

v9.1

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Released under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (44 USC 2107 Note). DATE: 11-14-2017 CPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1982 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6 UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SECRET ${\it Memorandum}$ ALL INFORMATION CONTENTED DATE: TO 6 1975 DIRECTOR, FBI NEWS IS UNDIASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN J. F. S. S. S. S. SAC, NEW YORK SUBJECT: ALADDIN M. AL-IS-IRAQ (BUFILE (105-263921)) 68 SLO/GC (NYFILE)105-137187) IRAQ MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS IS-IRAQ (BUFILE 62-77787-282) (NYFILE 105-21730) This letter and enclosed LHM are being classified "Secret" to protect sensitive sources utilized and to prevent disclosure of sensitive nature of this investigation regarding diplomatic personnel Re WFO airtel to the Director dated 2/5/75; New York nite to the Director dated 2/14/75; FBI HQ letter to New York dated 23/75. Enclosed for the Bureau are 8 copies and for recipient offices 2 copies each of an LHM regarding subject. One copy each of enclosed LHM being furnished locally to U.S. Customs 11/3 States; 17NS; BATF, Che and CIA-FRD. The Special Agent observing the departure of CHARLES GOFF from John F. Kennedy International Airport was SA DAVID E. VON HOLLE! The Special Agent who interviewed ROSSER SCOTT REEVES, III was SA JAMES T. BURNETT 4-Bureau (105-263921) (SEncis. ((2**-1**62-77787-282)**7 (** 2-Albany (Encls. 2) (RM) 2-Alexandria (Encls. 2) (RM) ST-112 2-Atlanta (105-5823) Encls. 2(x)(RM) 2 (RM) Exempt from 2-Boston (Encls. 2) (RM) Date of Declassification 2-Chicago (Encls. 2) (RM) CIA HAS NO DEJECTION TO 2-Miami (Encls. 2) (RM 2-Newark (105-33554) Pencls. 2(K) 2) (RM)(s) 05-2247) (Encls. 2) (RM) 2-New Haven (Encls. RELEASE OF CIA INFORM 2-Salt Lake City (105-2247) (H) THIS DOCUME 2-Washington Field (105-128435) (Encls. 1-New York (105-21730) 1-New York (105-137187) NON-SYMBOL SOURCE JTB:mfw (26)Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

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Telephone toll records concerning the residence telephone of AL-TAYYAR were obtained through the Security Supervisor, New York Telephone Company.

The first confidential source mentioned in the enclosed LHM is NY 14567-IA.

The second confidential source mentioned in the enclosed LHM is NY 2340-S. (5)

For the information of recipient offices, first-captioned subject is the First Secretary of the Iraq Mission to the United (5) Nations. He arrived in New York on 5/13/73 following assignments for the Iraq Government in Montreal and Ottawa, Canada. Investigation to date indicates that at least since the Summer of 1974, subject has expressed an interest in the purchase of weapons, including silencers. He has made some legitimate purchases of revolvers for export to Iraq On 1/2/21 and 22/74, the subject and an individual named ISSAM ABI RAFEH, North Bergen, New Jersey 5 discussed the transfer of 70 "units" and 2,000 rounds of ammunition in New York. These "units" may have been destined for use in the United States or for transportation to Montreal, Canada.

On 1/18/75, WILLIAM APIKIAN, an individual of unknown nationality, giving an address of 21 Avenue de Jour, Ferne-Vollaire (5) France, arrived in New York with NATIK SHAKIR, a cousin of AL-TAYYAR, and a high official of the Iraq Government. (5) SHAKIR underwent medical consultation in New York for an equilibrium of the New York, as well as with CHARLES COFF, American International Corporation, Salt Lake City, Utah, and GEORGE SALESKY, of Military Armament Corporation, Marietta, Georiga. Both of these firms produce highly sophisticated counter-insurgency weapons. On 1/29/75, GOFF embarked on a trip to the Middle East to (5) demonstrate these weapons. (APIKIAN) may be contacting (5) European representatives of U.S. arms firms in connection with weapons, purchases.

For the information of FBI HQ, on 2/18/75, SA MICHAEL FAHY, U.S. Customs, New York, checked the records of the Lanas Import Company, 41 West 30th St., NY, NY, under the guise of a routine examination. These records and interview of OSCAP LOPEZ, Ny, proprietor of Lanas, indicated that the firm does business with many diplomats, especially from Latin America. Among the transactions indicated on the books of Lanas were the delivery of gifts of wine from the Algerian Mission to the United CS Nations to other United Nations Missions during several days or prior to Christmas, 1974. These deliveries would appear to the control of the United Nations Missions during several days of the United Nations Missions during the United Nations Missions during the Missions during the Missions during the Missions during the Missio

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provide a plausible explanation for the presence of the Lanas truck in the vicinity of the Iraq Mission on 12/23/74. SA FAHY (5) further advised that U.S. Customs border officials have been alerted regarding the return of CHARLES GOFF to the United States.

For the further information of FBI HO, CIA-FRD advised the NYO that KATIK SHAKIR, aka MATIK SHAKIR MAHMUD ALTIKRITI born in Baghdad, Iraq, in 1942, entered the United States on 9/24/69, as an Artache. He was also the bodyguard for 5 ABDUL KARIM AL SHAIKHLY, currently Iraq Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN, in Kuwait in 1971. He is the brother of SADUN SHAKIR, Director of General Intelligence in Iraq.

On 2/4/75, CLYDE BRYANTE, U.S. State Department, telephonically contacted the NYO and advised that the travels of CHARLES GOFF to the Middle East for the purpose of demonstrating the use of firearms may constitute a violation of Title 22, US Code, Section 1934, and Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 121-128. BRYANTE further indicated that United States Customs Department, Investigations Unit, handles investigations for the State Department in connection with violations of munitions control regulations, such as the above-mentioned provisions.

As indicated in WFO airtel to the Director dated 2/5/75, Central Records of INS were checked with negative results by WFO re APIKIAN and SHAKIR. (5)

A search of INS records per D. F. LEONE, Records and Information Section, 20 West Broadway, NYC, re SHAKIR and APIKIAN proved negative on 2/14/75.

REQUEST OF FBI HQ

Syntaxas

FBI HQ is requested to furnish NYO with any information in Bureau files re NATIK SHAKIR and WILLIAM APIKIAN. (S)

FBI HQ is also requested to advise the NYO of the status of NYO request for additional coverage of the subject as set forth in FBI HQ nitel to New York dated 1/24/75 and New York nitel to Director dated 1/30/75.

FBI HO is requested to contact at headquarters level representatives of U.S. Customs Service and Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Unit of the U.S. Treasury Department to determine the status of any current or recent investigation relating to GEORGE SALESKY or ROSSER SCOTT REEVES, III, or their firm, Military Armament Corporation, CHARLES GOFF, or his firm, American International Corporation, or MITCHELL WERBELL, III, MITCHELL WERBELL, IV, or their firm, Defense Systems, of Powder Springs, Georgia, which may relate to instant investigation.

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As mentioned in New York nitel to the Director dated 2/14/75, NY \14567-IA,\ who has had social contact with/AL-TAYYAR in the past, has expressed a willingness to cooperate with the FBI in this matter. However, NYO does not feel that FBI HQ proposal set forth in referenced letter of 1/23/75, would provide the answers concerning the ultimate use for which weapons are being sought by AL-TAYYAR and APIKIAN (AL-TAYYAR would (5) not necessarily reveal these ultimate purposes to a prospective supplier of arms. Before any indication of this ultimate use might be furnished to the Special Agent acting as an arms dealer, the Agent might have to engage in a prolonged relationship with the subject and actually provide large quantities of sophisticated weapons, the use of which would be beyond FBI \cdot In addition, the cover suggested in referenced letter, control. would subject the Special Agent to possible scrutiny through arms dealers already contacted by [AL-TAYYAR.] If an approach CS. by a Special Agent under suitable cover is recommended by FBI HQ, the NYO suggests that the Special Agent might utilize the cover of an American businessman dealing in machined metal parts, having extensive contacts both within the arms industry and with government agencies. This cover would allow the subject of weapons to be discussed without involving their uncontrolled delivery to the subject.

In order to more expeditiously resolve this matter, the NYO requests FBI HQ authorization for the following approach (u)

As previously noted, while serving in Canada in 1972 the subject approached a representative of the United States Department of State and made inquiry concerning possible political asylum for a "friend" who was unhappy with the current Fraqi regime. In this sconnection, he was later contacted in Montreal by a representative of CIA During this contact, he continued to use the guise of speaking for a "friend", and indicated that this "friend" was willing to collaborate with the U.S. Government by inserting himself in an anti-regime plotting group. The NYO feels that the subject should be approached away from the Traq Mission or other diplomatic establishments under secure conditions by a special Agent or Agents who would not identify themselves to the subject. They could then make inquiry concerning the current feelings of the subject's alleged "friend" regarding cooperation with the U.S. Government. Depending upon AL-TAYYAR's reaction, the Special Agents

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might discuss the U.S. Government's interest in the influx of sophisticated weaponry into the Middle East. In view of the fact that (AL-TAYYAR) previously initiated contact with U.S.(5) Government officials in Montreal it is not felt that he would be in a position to make a complaint regarding this approach through (Iraqi) or (United Nations channels.) Since the Special L5 Agents would not identify themselves, (AL-TAYYAR) could not, in any (S) event, make specific allegations against either the FBI or This approach would allow for a prompt the U.S. Government. determination of AL-TAYYAR's willingness to cooperate without (5) involving a prolonged undercover relationship that could possibly compromise highly sensitive source NY[14567-IA.] FBI HQ should [5] note that CIA-FRE continues to express a keen interest in approaching AL-TAYYAR in order to develop him for overseas [S intelligence purposes III FBI HQ does not wish to authorize contact of AL-TAYYAR by Special Agents, it might consider (S) giving CIA permission to approach AL-TAYYAR and requesting CIA (S) to furnish the FBI with any information he provides regarding instant investigation.

LEADS

ALBANY

At Syracuse, New York

- (1) Will identify subscribers to 315-471-9517 and 315-446-4766, (3) both of which were called during the first week of August, 1974, from Miami and Tampa Florida, and charged to the home telephone (5) number of AL-TAYYAR, 212-879-8023
- (2) Will check office indices and appropriate sources for any indication that the subscribers are involved with either arms dealers or Arab or radical political organizations. (5)

ALEXANDRIA

(1) At Arlington and Falls Church, Virginia

Will conduct the same investigation requested of ALBANY in connection with telephone numbers 703 521-7245 and 703 941-3419 called 10/22/74 and 7/31/74, respectively, from the subject's home telephone number.

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LEADS (CONT'D)

ATLANTA

At Atlanta, Powder Springs, and Marietta, Georgia

- (1) For the information of Atlanta, on 1/11/75, NY 2340-S S advised that WILLIAM APIKIAN and AL-TAYYAR discussed dealing S with a father and son in Powder Springs, Georgia, indicating that the father wanted to travel to Jordan and Iraq. Atlanta is requested to attempt to determine whether MITCHELL WERBELL, III or MITCHELL WERBELL, IV have recently traveled to the Middle East.
- (2) Will establish liaison with local offices of U.S. Customs and Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and advise the NYO and FBI HQ on a continuing basis of the progress of investigation being conducted by those agencies regarding the activities of GEORGE SALESKY, of Military Armament Corporation, and MITCHELL WERBELL, III and MITCHELL WERBELL, IV, of Defense Systems. Will coordinate investigation with these other agencies in an attempt to determine the nature and extent of any exportation or domestic sale of weapons to Arab individuals, groups or (5) governments.

BOSTON

At Lenox, Massachusetts

Will conduct same investigation as requested of Albany in connection with telephone number 413-637-3525 called from 5 subject's home phone on 7/27/74.

At Springfield, Massachusetts

Will check indices and contact established sources regarding E. W. REITHER, of Smith and Wesson, and advise the NYO whether it is felt that contact with REITHER might jeopardize the confidentiality of the inquiry concerning the subject.

CHICAGO

At Chicago, Illinois

For the information of Chicago, on 1/20 and 21/75, NY (2340)S indicated that an individual named GANJI from Chicago, home telephone 312 (676-9569) business telephone 312 (676-0844,) 53 attempted to contact AL-TAYYAR regarding information GANJI had 53 received from AMIN EL HASSAN, of Washington, D. C. Chicago is 53 requested to fully identify GANJI and attempt to ascertain whether he has any connection with subject's weapons' deals.

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LEADS (CONT'D)

CHICAGO (CONT'D)

(1) Will conduct same investigation requested of Albany in connection with telephone number 312 784-7877 contacted C57 from subject's home telephone on 11/5/74.

IMAIM

At Miami, Florida

- (1) Will conduct same investigation requested of Albany in connection with telephone number 305-865-7511 called (5) 12/23/74 from New York, and telephone number 305-531-9440 (5) from which collect calls made to subject's residence on 8/2 and 3/74
- (2) Will, through Southern Bell "Toll Library", POB 440100, obtain identifying information regarding following calls charged to AL-TAYYAR's residence phone 212-879-8023 (5)

To Syracuse, New York

315 471-9517 (5)

From Miami, Florida, on 8/2/74

Identification Number JK 19038875 (5)

To Syracuse, New York
315-471-9517 CSJ
From Miami, Florida on 8/3/74
Identification Number JK 20030473 [S]

To Syracuse, New York

315-471-9517 (5)

From Miami, Florida, on 8/3/74

Identification Number (JK 20030510)(5)

To Syracuse, New York
315 (471-9517) (5)
From Miami, Florida on 8/4/74
Identification Number JK

To Syracuse, New York
315-446-4766) (S)
From Tampa Florida, on 8/6/75
Identification Number (JM (S)

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LEADS (CONT'D)

NEWARK

At Jersey City and South Orange, New Jersey

- (1) For the information of Newark, subject has made numerous calls to 201-868-4794, a number previously determined to be (5) the residence of ISSAM ABI RAFEH and his wife, LOLA RODRIGUEZ (5) RAFEH, 8200 Boulevard East, apartment (15-E, North Bergen, New (5) Jersey.
- (2) Will conduct same lead as set out for Albany in connection with telephone numbers 201 762-8368 and 201 451-8041 called 5 7/24/74 and 8/20/74, respectively.

NEW HAVEN

At Torrington and Ridgefield, Connecticut

Will conduct same investigation as requested of Albany in connection with telephone number 203-482-8480 called 7/27/74 3 and 9/6/74 and telephone number 203-438-3569 called 8/15/74.

SALT LAKE CITY

At Salt Lake City, Utah

Will attempt to discreetly determine whether CHARLES GOFF has returned from the Middle East or, if he has not, when he (5) is expected to re-enter the United States.

WASHINGTON FIELD

At Washington, D.C.

(1) As noted above, neither INS Central Files, Washington, D.C., nor INS Records Section, NY, NY, has been able to locate any record of the arrival or departure of either NATIK SHAKIR, aka NATIK SHAKIR MAHMUD AL-TIKRITI, or WILLIAM APIKIAN. Investigation has stailed to develop (APIKIAN's) exact nationality, but he has given san address in France and also claims to have a residence in Geneva, Switzerland. WFO is requested to recontact INS in an attempt to locate records of APIKIAN and SHAKIR. WFO is also requested to contact US Department of State, Visa Office, regarding any applications received for visas for the above individuals.

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LEADS (CONT'D)

WASHINGTON FIELD (CONT'D)

- (2) Check indices and established sources in an effort to identify AMIN EL HASSAN, possibly with the Iraq Interest Section, mentioned in lead for Chicago Office.
- (3) Will recontact Office of Munitions Control, US Department of State to determine if any applications have been received in the last 8 months from Military Armament Corporation or Defense Systems which could possibly be destined for individuals involved in this case. (It should be noted that AL-TAYYAR CS) claimed that an individual, possibly MITCHELL WERBELL, IV, of Defense Systems, claimed that the US Government had turned down a request for a shipment of arms.
- (4) Will also determine if proper ¹documentation and authorization were obtained in connection with the .45 caliber automatic ordered through John Jovino Company of NYC and ascertain the composition and authorization regarding the shipment made to New York by Smith and Wesson, Springfield, Massachusetts, as mentioned in enclosed LHM.