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Folder Title: Terrorism: Individuals: Atta [Mahmoud]

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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name COUNTERTERRORISM AND NARCOTICS, NSC:
RECORDS

Withdrawer

SMF 5/12/2010

File Folder TERRORISM: INDIVIDUALS: ATTA [ITA, MAHMOUD]
TED MCNAMARA, NSC STAFF

FOIA

F97-082/4

Box Number 92270 RAL BOYE

WILLS

5

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions	
91194	REPORT	RE ABU NIDAL ORGANIZATION (ANO)	1	ND	B1	B3
91195	MEMO	CLARKE TO NSC RE MAHMOUD ITA	2	5/6/1987	B1	B3
91196	MEMO	DUPLICATE OF 91195	2	5/6/1987	B1	B3
91197	REPORT	RE ATTA	1	ND	B1	
91198	CABLE	STATE 139474	2	5/12/1987	B1	
91199	CABLE	KUWAIT 03413	1	5/21/1987	B1	
91200	CABLE	151525Z MAR 88 (1ST PAGE ONLY)	1	3/15/1988	B1	B3

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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J. Ahmed

<ORIG> REUTER
<TOR> 870511075031

<TEXT>YDD

111150 MIS :AM-LEBANON-THREAT

GUERRILLA GROUP WARNS U.S. AGAINST EXTRADITING PALESTINIAN
BEIRUT, MAY 11, REUTER - THE RADICAL PALESTINIAN ABU NIDAL
GROUP HAS WARNED THE UNITED STATES AGAINST EXTRADITING TO
ISRAEL A PALESTINIAN WANTED FOR KILLING A BUS DRIVER AND
WOUNDING THREE PEOPLE THERE LAST YEAR.

"WE WARN THE AMERICAN JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES OF THE
CONSEQUENCES OF HANDING OVER ANY PALESTINIAN TO THE ZIONIST
STATE," THE FATAH REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL OF ABU NIDAL SAID IN A
STATEMENT DELIVERED TO AN INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCY.

THE TYPE-WRITTEN STATEMENT, BEARING YESTERDAY'S DATE,
CARRIED THE LOGO OF ABU NIDAL'S GROUP AND CONFORMED TO THE
STYLE OF ITS PREVIOUS STATEMENTS.

IT SAID THE UNITED STATES WOULD BEAR RESPONSIBILITY IF
MAHMOUD ATTA, AN ALLEGED GUNMAN OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION
ORGANISATION (PLO), WAS EXTRADITED TO ISRAEL "NO MATTER WHAT
THE JUDICIAL ARGUMENTS ARE."

"THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION IS GOING TOO FAR IN
INTERFERING IN OUR STRUGGLE AGAINST THE ZIONIST ENEMY. IT HAS
THEREFORE TO BEAR THE CONSEQUENCES," THE STATEMENT ADDED.

ATTA, BORN IN JORDAN, EMIGRATED TO PUERTO RICO AND BECAME A
NATURALISED U.S. CITIZEN IN 1982.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) AGENTS WHO CAME WITH
HIM FROM VENEZUELA, AFTER HE WAS DEPORTED ON IMMIGRATION
CHARGES, ARRESTED HIM AT NEW YORK'S KENNEDY AIRPORT ON MAY 6.

HE WAS ARRAIGNED IN A U.S. FEDERAL COURT ON A PROVISIONAL
ARREST WARRANT THAT CHARGED HIM WITH MURDER, ATTEMPTED MURDER
AND CAUSING INJURY WITH GRIEVOUS INTENT.

ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY JOHN GLEESON TOLD THE COURT THERE
WAS SUFFICIENT LEGAL BASIS TO HOLD ATTA FOR 60 DAYS UNDER THE
EXTRADITION AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE U.S.

REUTER
NNNN

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91195	MEMO CLARKE TO NSC RE MAHMOUD ITA	2	5/6/1987	B1 B3

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91196	MEMO	2	5/6/1987	B1
	DUPLICATE OF 91195			B3

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91197	REPORT RE ATTA	1	ND	B1

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<DIST>SIT: EOB VAX

<PREC> IMMEDIATE<CLAS> ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~<OSRI> RUEHC #<DTG> 062014Z MAY 87
<ORIG>FM SECSTATE WASHDC
<TO>TO RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS NIACT IMMEDIATE 0000
INFO RUFHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE 0000

<SUBJ>SUBJECT: US CITIZEN HELD ON TERRORISM CHARGES

<TEXT>

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 137001

FOR AMBASSADOR AND PAO

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PTER

SUBJECT: US CITIZEN HELD ON TERRORISM CHARGES

1. THE FOLLOWING IS PREPARED AND CLEARED FOR USE ON AN
IF-ASKED-BASIS. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO SHARE WITH GOV PRIOR
TO USE.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

S/CT PRESS GUIDANCE

MAY 5, 1987

U.S. CITIZEN HELD ON TERRORISM CHARGES

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE U.S. CITIZEN BEING
HELD IN THE U.S. ON CHARGES THAT HE COMMITTED TERRORIST
ACTS IN THE WEST BANK?

A: MAHMOUD EL ABED AHMAD IS BEING HELD IN NEW YORK UNDER
A WARRANT ISSUED BY A FEDERAL JUDGE. HE IS BEING
HELD PENDING A FORMAL EXTRADITION REQUEST FROM THE
GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL.

-- THE GOI HAS ISSUED A WARRANT FOR MR. AHMAD'S ARREST
CHARGING HIM WITH INVOLVEMENT IN THE ATTACK ON A BUS
IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES ON APRIL 12, 1986.
ACCORDING TO INFORMATION PROVIDED US BY GOI, THE
ATTACK, USING AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND FIRE BOMBS,
RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF THE DRIVER AND THE SERIOUS
INJURY OF THREE PASSENGERS.

Q: WHEN WAS MR. AHMAD ARRESTED?

A: TODAY, FOLLOWING HIS ARRIVAL IN THE UNITED STATES.
HE HAD BEEN EXPELLED FROM VENEZUELA.

Q: IF HE IS WANTED FOR TERRORIST ACTS IN ISRAEL, WHY DID
THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT EXTRADITE HIM TO THE UNITED
STATES RATHER THAN ISRAEL?

A: HE WAS NOT EXTRADITED TO THE UNITED STATES. THE GOV
EXPELLED HIM TO HIS COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP.

-- FURTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT GOV ACTIONS SHOULD BE
DIRECTED TO THE GOV.

Q: ON WHAT BASIS IS HE BEING DETAINED IN THE UNITED
STATES? HAS HE VIOLATED ANY U.S. LAWS? HOW CAN WE HOLD
A U.S. CITIZEN IF THERE IS NO VIOLATION OF U.S. LAW?

A: HE IS BEING HELD ON FEDERAL ARREST WARRANT BASED ON
AN OFFICIAL REQUEST FROM GOI FOR HIS PROVISIONAL
ARREST PENDING A FORMAL EXTRADITION REQUEST. FURTHER
QUESTIONS

SUCH AS THIS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE DOJ.

Q: WILL HE BE EXTRADITED TO ISRAEL?

A: EXTRADITION IS A LEGAL AND JUDICIAL PROCESS. MR.
AHMAD CANNOT BE EXTRADITED UNLESS SPECIFIC LEGAL
REQUIREMENTS ARE MET. ONCE AGAIN, I WOULD REFER YOU

Dept. of State G.O. del 99 July 21, 1997
BY any NARA, DATE 5/12/10

TO DOJ FOR SPECIFICS.

Q: IS MR. AHMAD A NATURALIZED CITIZEN? IF SO, ON WHAT BASIS DID HE BECOME A CITIZEN?

A: MR. AHMAD IS A NATURALIZED AMERICAN CITIZEN. WE CANNOT PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS DUE TO PRIVACY ACT CONSTRAINTS.

Q: SINCE THE ATTACK WITH WHICH MR. AHMAD WAS CHARGED TOOK PLACE IN THE WEST BANK, WHICH THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT RECOGNIZE AS PART OF ISRAEL, HOW CAN WE EXTRADITE HIM TO ISRAEL?

A: -- ALL OF THE VICTIMS OF THE ATTACK WERE ISRAELI CITIZENS. UNDER ISRAELI LAW, COURTS IN ISRAEL HAVE JURISDICTION OVER CERTAIN CRIMES COMMITTED AGAINST ISRAELI CITIZENS, RESIDENTS, OR THEIR PROPERTY EVEN IF THE OFFENSE WAS COMMITTED OUTSIDE OF ISRAEL. THE U.S. HAS RECENTLY ENACTED LEGISLATION WITH SIMILAR CONSEQUENCES IN TERRORISM CASES. THE U.S.-ISRAELI EXTRADITION TREATY EXPLICITLY PERMITS THE PARTIES TO HONOR REQUESTS FOR

EXTRADITION WHEN THE OFFENSE HAS BEEN COMMITTED OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY OF THE REQUESTING PARTY. THE U.S. DECISION TO HONOR THE REQUEST IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES IS CONSISTENT WITH THE TREATY AND DOES NOT REPRESENT ANY CHANGE IN OUR POLICY REGARDING THE WEST BANK.

Q: WHY WAS MR. AHMAD ARRESTED IN VENEZUELA? DID WE GET CONSULAR ACCESS THERE?

A: --YOU WILL HAVE TO ASK THE GOV WHY HE WAS ARRESTED. MR. AHMAD MADE CLEAR TO VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS THAT HE DID NOT DESIRE SUCH CONTACT. EOT
DECONTROL ON USE SHULTZ

<SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 01<SSN> 7001<TOR> 870506162545 MSG000168625544

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91198	CABLE STATE 139474	2	5/12/1987	B1

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91199	CABLE KUWAIT 03413	1	5/21/1987	B1

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