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Description of document: Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Intelligence Assessment: Assessment of Documents Relating to US Schools, 2004

Requested date: April, 2010

Released date: Various dates, 2010 – 2012 (see response letters included)

Posted date: 09-January-2012

Date of document: 29-October-2004

Source of document: Federal Bureau of Investigation
Attn: FOI/PA Request
Record/Information Dissemination Section
170 Marcel Drive
Winchester, VA 22602-4843
Fax: (540) 868-4391/4997
E-mail: foiparequest@ic.fbi.gov

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U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

April 29, 2010

FOIPA Request No.: 1146949- 000
Subject: IRAQI US SCHOOL THREAT

- This acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request to the FBI. The FOIPA number listed above has been assigned to your request.
- For an accurate search of our records, please provide the complete name, alias, date and place of birth for the subject of your request. Any other specific data you could provide such as prior addresses, or employment information would also be helpful. If your subject is deceased, please include date and proof of death.
- To make sure information about you is not released to someone else, we require your notarized signature or, in place of a notarized signature, a declaration pursuant 28 U.S.C. § 1746. For your convenience, the reverse side of this letter contains a form which may be used for this purpose.
- If you want the FBI's Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) to perform a search for your arrest record, please follow the enclosed instructions in Attorney General Order 556-73. You must submit fingerprint impressions so a comparison can be made with the records kept by CJIS. This is to make sure your information is not released to an unauthorized person.
- We are searching the indices to our Central Records System for the information you requested, and will inform you of the results as soon as possible.
- Processing delays have been caused by the large number of requests received by the FBI. We will process your request(s) as soon as possible.

Your request has been assigned the number indicated above. Please use this number in all correspondence with us. Your patience is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", is written over the typed name.

David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division



Homeland Security

May 3, 2010

Re: **DHS/OS/PRIV 10-0619**

This acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), dated April 7, 2010, and received in this office April 23, 2010. You are seeking the 2004 discovery of and follow-up actions related to a computer disk in Iraq containing photos of schools in about a half-dozen US states, including New Jersey, Florida, and California, and diagrams and emergency information for the school districts.

Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Per Section 5.5(a) of the DHS FOIA regulations, 6 C.F.R. Part 5, the Department processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although DHS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, the FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period. As the subject matter of your request is of substantial interest to two or more components of this Department or of substantial interest to another agency, we will need to consult with those entities before we issue a final response. Due to these unusual circumstances, DHS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request, as allowed by Title 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). If you care to narrow the scope of your request, please contact our office. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

Provisions of the Act allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. We shall charge you for records in accordance with the DHS Interim FOIA regulations as they apply to non-commercial requestors. As a non-commercial requestor you will be charged 10-cents a page for duplication, although the first 100 pages are free, as are the first two hours of search time, after which you will pay the per quarter-hour rate (\$4.00, \$7.00, \$10.25) of the searcher. You stated in your request that you are willing to pay assessable fees up to \$50.00. You will be contacted before any additional fees are accrued.

We have queried the appropriate component of DHS for responsive records. If any responsive records are located, they will be reviewed for determination of releasability. Please be assured that one of the processors in our office will respond to your request as expeditiously as possible. We appreciate your patience as we proceed with your request.

Your request has been assigned reference number **DHS/OS/PRIV 10-0619**. Please refer to this identifier in any future correspondence. You may contact this office at 1-866-431-0486 or 703-235-0790.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sab B', written in a cursive style.

Sabrina Burroughs
Disclosure & FOIA Operations Manager



Homeland Security

May 21, 2010

Re: **DHS/OS/PRIV 10-0619**

This is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), dated April 7, 2010, and received in this office April 23, 2010. You are seeking the 2004 discovery of and follow-up actions related to a computer disk in Iraq containing photos of schools in about a half-dozen US states, including New Jersey, Florida, and California, and diagrams and emergency information for the school districts.

We conducted a comprehensive search of files for records that would be responsive to your request. Unfortunately, we were unable to locate or identify any responsive records.

While an adequate search was conducted, you have the right to appeal this determination that no records exist that would be responsive to your request. Should you wish to do so, you must send your appeal and a copy of this letter, within 60 days of the date of this letter, to: Associate General Counsel (General Law), U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Washington, D.C. 20528, following the procedures outlined in the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. § 5.9. Your envelope and letter should be marked "FOIA Appeal." Copies of the FOIA and DHS regulations are available at www.dhs.gov/foia.

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. In this instance, because the cost is below the \$14 minimum, there is no charge.

Your request has been assigned reference number **DHS/OS/PRIV 10-0619**. Please refer to this identifier in any future correspondence. You may contact this office at 1-866-431-0486 or 703-235-0790.

Sincerely,



Vania T. Lockett
Associate Director, Disclosure & FOIA Operations



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

August 04, 2010

Request No: 1146949-000

Subject: IRAQI US SCHOOL THREAT

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of the status of your pending Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Currently your request is being reviewed by an analyst. The analyst will confirm that all records are responsive to your request and apply exemptions allowed under FOIPA. If your request is for sensitive national security information, then the records must undergo a systematic declassification review prior to application of FOIPA exemptions. Large requests take the longest time to be processed by an analyst.

You may inquire as to the status of your request by calling the FBI's FOIPA Public Information Center at 540-868-4593.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Hardy", is positioned above the typed name.

David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information Dissemination Section
Records Management Division



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

November 02, 2010

Request No: 1146949-000

Subject: IRAQI US SCHOOL THREAT

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of the status of your pending Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Currently your request is being reviewed by an analyst. The analyst will confirm that all records are responsive to your request and apply exemptions allowed under FOIPA. If your request is for sensitive national security information, then the records must undergo a systematic declassification review prior to application of FOIPA exemptions. Large requests take the longest time to be processed by an analyst.

You may inquire as to the status of your request by calling the FBI's FOIPA Public Information Center at 540-868-4593.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", is positioned below the "Sincerely yours," text.

David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information Dissemination Section
Records Management Division



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

December 29, 2011

FOIPA Request No.: 1146949- 000
Subject: IRAQI US SCHOOL THREAT

This is in further reference to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request concerning the above captioned subject.

As a result of having completed consultation with the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), portions of the information have been declassified. Excisions were made by the DIA pursuant to Title 5, U.S. Code, Section 552, subsections (b)(1) of the Freedom of Information Act and Executive Order 13526, Section 1.4(c). The releasable information is enclosed.

The DIA official responsible for the DIA determination is Alesia Y. Williams, Chief, Freedom of Information Act Staff. You have the right to appeal any DIA decision by addressing your appeal to the DIA FOIA Requester Service Center, Washington, D.C. 20340-5100. Should you decide to do this, please explain the basis of your appeal.

Additional deletions have been made by the FBI pursuant to Title 5, U.S. Code, Section 552, subsections (b)(6) and (b)(7)(C) of the Freedom of Information Act. An explanation of the exemptions is enclosed.

You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001. Your appeal must be received by OIP within sixty (60) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be identified easily.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Hardy", is written over the signature line.

David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

~~SECRET//NOFORN//10292029~~



Federal Bureau of Investigation
Intelligence
ASSESSMENT

(U) Assessment of Documents Relating to US Schools

29 October 2004

Bracket FDPS page 4
para 2 per OGA letter
dated 7/15/11

DOD information
declassified per letter
dated 7/15/11

DATE: 02-03-2011
FBI INFO.
CLASSIFIED BY uc/baw 60324
REASON: 1.4 (c)
DECLASSIFY ON: 02-03-2036

~~CL BY: G3~~
CL REASON: 1.5(c)
DECL ON: 10292029

Prepared by

**FBI Counterterrorism
Division**

~~SECRET//NOFORN//10292029~~

(S//NF) Threat Assessment:

[Redacted]

b1

Executive Summary:

(U)

~~(S//NF)~~ A review of CDs obtained from a Department of Defense (DoD) Tactical HUMINT team source in Iraq containing US school related data does not provide sufficient information to determine whether the CDs represent a current threat to US schools. Until more information is obtained concerning the associations, activities, and intentions of the owner of the CDs, and whether any of the school related material was transferred to a terrorist group with operational capabilities in the US to support any pre-operational planning, a definitive assessment cannot be made.

(S)

[Redacted]

b1

- (S//NF)

[Redacted]

- (S//NF)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

(U)

- ~~(S//NF)~~ The school information on the CDs was collected prior to the early September 2004 Chechen rebel attack on the elementary school in Beslan, Russia.

This intelligence assessment was produced by the FBI's Counterterrorism Division with a contribution from DHS.

Background

(U)

~~(S//NF)~~ On 25 July 2004, a DoD source with direct access and undetermined reliability provided Coalition Forces with 17 CDs, one of which contained unrecoverable data, 2 VHS tapes, and an identification card bearing the name and photograph of [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] The CDs contained a variety of open-source information ranging from articles pertaining to nuclear physics research, extremist Islamic writings, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidelines on emergency preparedness, and collected information on US schools. The information on US schools includes multiple references to US school safety policies, physical security measures, access control, emergency planning, floor plans, building and ground security items, and response and recovery measures. Specific schools and school districts cited include schools located in Georgia, New Jersey, Pittsburgh, Kansas City, Baltimore, San Diego, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Philadelphia, Virginia, and Florida.¹

(U)

~~(S//NF)~~ Three of the 17 CDs discovered, and many of the data files contained in the CDs, bear the name [redacted] on them. [redacted] who reportedly completed a master's degree in nuclear physics in 2003 and is pursuing a PhD in nuclear physics at the University of Mosul. According to the source who provided the materials, the CDs were allegedly hidden in the home of a relative in [redacted] in order to escape detection by Coalition Forces. [redacted] is believed to have been born in [redacted] and had been residing in his father's home in [redacted] who provided the CDs or [redacted] for further questioning.

b1 DIA
b6
b7C


(S)

Overview of School Information Found on CDs

(S//NF)

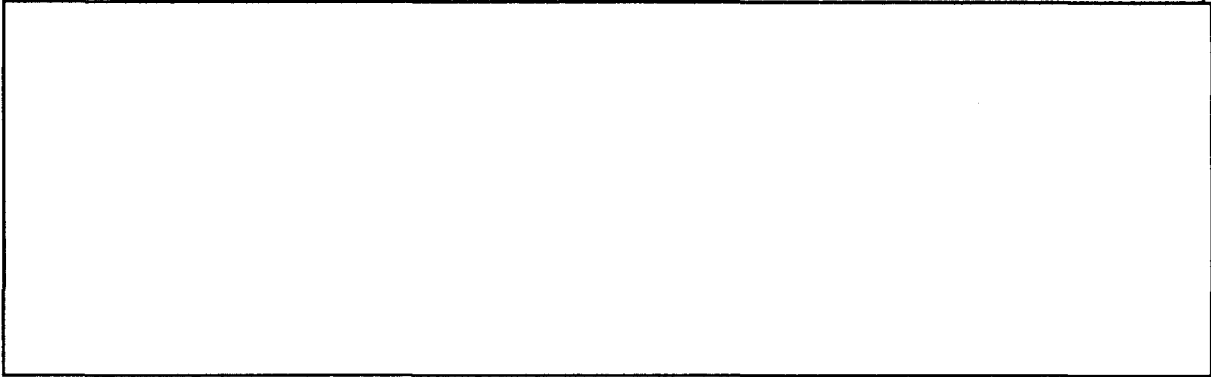
[redacted]



b1

 *Possible Extremist Ties*



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b7C
b1

(S//NF)



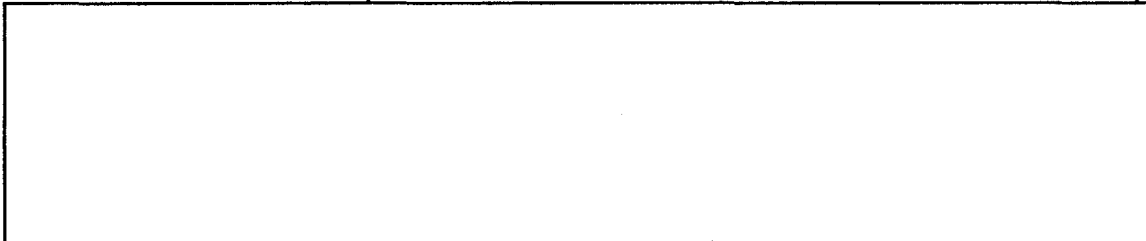
- (U) • (S//NF) According to a DoD source of undetermined reliability,  is  to participate in anti-coalition activities. (NFI)

b6
b7C

- (S//NF) 


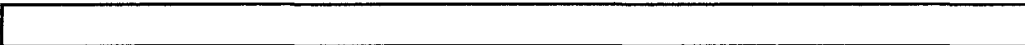

b1

(S//REL TO USA AND MCF)




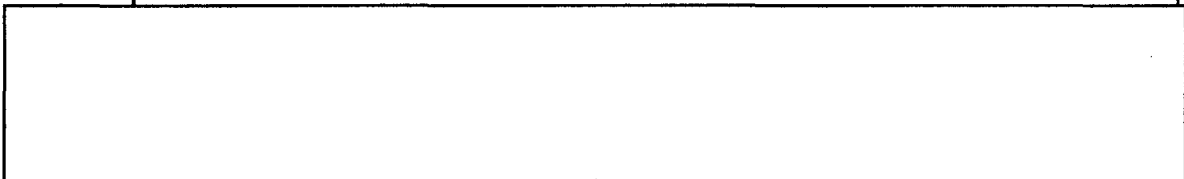
Intelligence Gaps and Questions

(S//NF)

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(S//NF)



Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

February 25, 2011

Subject: IRAQI US SCHOOL THREAT
FOIPA No. 1146949- 000

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

Table with 3 columns: Section 552, Section 552a, and Section 552a. It lists various exemption codes such as (b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(3), (b)(4), (b)(5), (b)(6), (b)(7)(A-F), (b)(8), (b)(9), (d)(5), (j)(2), (k)(1-7).

6 page(s) were reviewed and 5 page(s) are being released.

- Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:
- referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.
- referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.

You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001. Your appeal must be received by OIP within sixty (60) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown, when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s).

If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

In response to your specific Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted to FBI Headquarters, enclosed is a processed copy of the responsive documents regarding Iraqi U.S. School Threat.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Serial Description ~ COVER SHEET

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 1
Page 5 ~ b1

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
X for this Page X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

~~SECRET~~//NOFORN//10292029



Federal Bureau of Investigation
Intelligence
ASSESSMENT

(U) Assessment of Documents Relating to US Schools

29 October 2004

DATE: 02-03-2011
FBI INFO.
CLASSIFIED BY uc/baw 60324
REASON: 1.4 (c)
DECLASSIFY ON: 02-03-2036

CL BY: G3
CL REASON: 1.5(c)
DECL ON: 10292029

Prepared by

FBI Counterterrorism
Division

~~SECRET~~//NOFORN//10292029

(S//NF) Threat Assessment:

[Redacted]

b1

(S)

Referral/Consult

Executive Summary:

(S//NF)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

b1

- (S//NF)

[Redacted]

- (S//NF)

[Redacted]

b1

[Redacted]

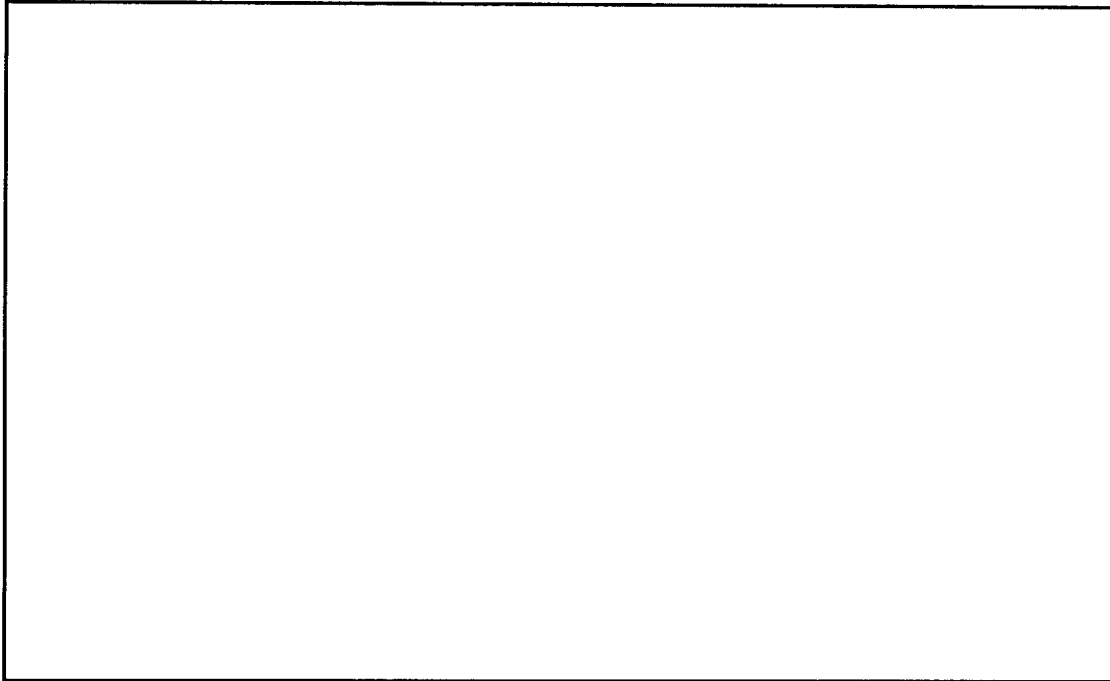
- [Redacted]

Referral/Consult

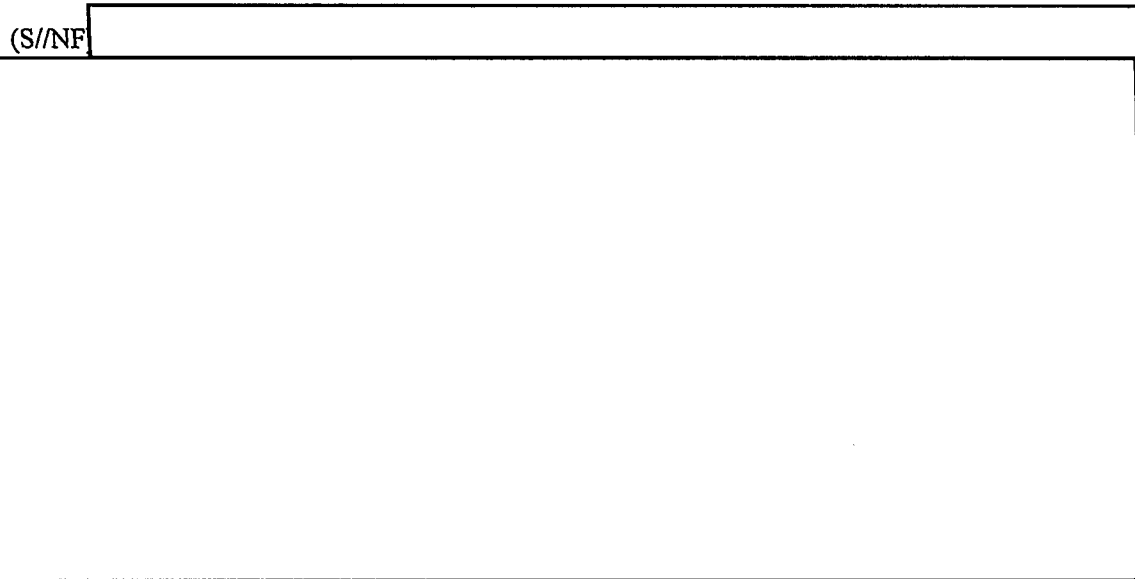
This intelligence assessment was produced by the FBI's Counterterrorism Division with a contribution from DHS.

Background

Referral/Consult



Overview of School Information Found on CDs



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Possible Extremist Ties

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(S//NF) [Redacted]

b1

[Redacted] (S)

• [Redacted]

Referral/Consult

• (S//NF) [Redacted]

b1

(S//REL TO USA AND MCF) [Redacted]

Intelligence Gaps and Questions

(S//NF) [Redacted]

b1

(S//NF) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

b1
(S)

(S//REL TO USA AND MCFD)

[Redacted]

Status of Investigation

- (S//NF) [Redacted]
- (S//NF) [Redacted]

b1

Questions or comments regarding this communication may be directed to the Counterterrorism Analysis Section at [Redacted]@fbi.ic.gov or [Redacted]@fbi.ic.gov.

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b7C

[Redacted]

(S)
b1