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Memorandum

Event: Interview of Special Agent [redacted]

Type of Event: Witness Interview

Date: 10/29/03

Date memo prepared: 11/4/03

Special Access Issues: None

Prepared by: Doug Greenburg

Team Number: 4

Location: Detroit FBI field office

Classification: ~~SECRET~~

Participants - FBI: [redacted] Pat O'Brien, Esq.

Participants-Commission: D. Greenburg, J. Roth, S. Wille

On October 28 2003, we interviewed FBI Supervisory Special Agent [redacted] [redacted] at the FBI's Detroit Division for approximately 40 minutes. This memorandum provides a summary of what we consider the most important points covered in the interview, but is not a verbatim account. The memorandum is organized by subject and does not necessarily follow the order of the interviews. All information in this memorandum was provided by [redacted] during the interview unless stated in brackets. (U)

Background

[redacted] has a B.A. and M.A. in Criminal Justice from Michigan State University. He served as a U.S. Customs Agent from 1987-91, where he worked on drug investigations in San Francisco and as part of the San Francisco Airport Drug Task Force. He joined the FBI in 1991. After a brief stint in Flagstaff, Arizona working violent crime on Indian Reservations, he spent eight years in Baltimore, investigating organized crime, drug, and fugitive cases and working on the criminal intelligence squad and with the "Safe Streets" program. In 2000, he came to FBIHQ and served as a supervisor in the [redacted] known as ITOS Unit II. He came to Detroit in March 2003, and supervises the terrorist enterprise squad, which focuses on terrorist organizations and support networks. The squad handles both criminal and intelligence cases, using both criminal and intelligence tools on the same investigations. It uses the new "315" designation for terrorism cases, which has replaced the old designation of 199 (intelligence) and 265 (criminal). A separate squad deals with terrorist operatives and imminent threats. Detroit also has a squad solely devoted to FISAs. (U)

Global Relief Foundations (GRF) Investigation

When [redacted] took over his squad in March 2003 he was told of the late November 2002 meeting which resulted in Chicago taking the lead on all GRF- investigations, including Detroit GRF subjects Alchurbaji, Haddad, and four other minor GRF figures. As a result of Chicago's lead role, Detroit has largely been standing down on GRF, other than some [redacted] carried out by one of the Resident Agencies.

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[redacted] has spoken to the Chicago supervisor who supervised the GRF case [redacted] but primarily concerning other cases. (U)

[redacted] said he recently heard that Chicago is going to drop the GRF cases without prosecution. [redacted] has spoken to the Detroit U.S. Attorney's Office regarding the four minor GRF figures still at large in Michigan. If Chicago chooses to pass on the GRF case, Detroit will evaluate whether any criminal case can be made against these four subjects. (U)

[redacted] had no advance notice of the decision to deport Rabih Haddad. He believes that no one in his squad any notice of that decision. When asked his reaction to learning of the deportation, he said he has seen a number of criminal cases arising from intelligence investigations that look attractive on their face but break down when subjected to actual evaluation of their merits as prosecutable cases. He believes the apparent inability to make a criminal case against Haddad was another example of this pattern. (S)

Collaborative Efforts

[redacted] said these tough terrorism cases are best worked through a collaborative effort among field offices, FBIHQ, the intelligence community, and other law enforcement agencies. FBI in Detroit works closely with other agencies through the JTTF. [redacted] squad has assigned to it two Customs agent and an INS agent [both now with DHS, BICE]. The Detroit "threats" squad has two INS representatives. (U)

[redacted] said that in Detroit the FBI and Customs have a good working relationship. There have been no jurisdictional disputes concerning terrorist financing cases. [redacted] was familiar with the MOU between the DHS and DOJ, terminating Greenquest and giving the FBI the lead on terrorist finances. From his perspective, the process worked smoothly. Cases of common interest are being worked jointly, with the FBI taking the lead in any terrorist financing cases. When TFOS solicited a list of potential terrorist financing cases being worked in Detroit by the FBI and Customs, [redacted] called the Customs ASAC and easily obtained the Customs lists. (U)

[redacted] has focused on getting other agencies to bring any potential threat information to his immediate attention. This process has improved tremendously since his arrival in Detroit. (U)

[redacted] has had extensive contact with TFOS. [redacted] and [redacted] from TFOS came to Detroit to support an investigation regarding [redacted] and they were very helpful. [redacted] has worked extensively with TFOS on other cases and found the TFOS personnel to be responsive and helpful.

[redacted] 9/11 Classified Information [redacted] Overall, TFOS is a valuable component of the FBI's counter-terrorism effort. (S)

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