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**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**Event:** Interview of BATF Special Agent [redacted]

**Type of event:** Interview

**Date:** November 20, 2003

**Special Access Issues:** DSM

9/11 Law Enforcement Privacy

**Prepared by:** Dieter Snell, 12/8/03

**Team Number:** 1A

**Location:** FBI, Los Angeles Field Office

**Participants – Non-Commission:** FBI Assistant General Counsel Randy Blair; BATF Attorney Mary Himmelberg

**Participants – Commission:** Dieter Snell, John Tamm

Special Agent [redacted] of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms has been with the Joint Terrorism Task Force in the Santa Ana RA office for 6 months and is the case agent for the recently-opened [redacted] case. His interview focused on an EC by him reporting, among other things, about three individuals, [redacted] ("the three travelers") who checked into a room at the Holiday Inn at LAX on August 24, 2001 after arriving on a flight from Dulles. They paid for the room in cash and requested that their room not be cleaned during the last few days of their stay. During cleaning visits, Holiday Inn staff observed pilot-type uniforms, documents containing United Airlines pilot and flight information, cellular phones connected to laptops, and boxes addressed to Syria, Jerusalem, and Afghanistan. Accompanied by [redacted] the three travelers rented a vehicle and put nearly 3000 miles on it in less than a week. The three travelers were scheduled to return to Dulles on 9/10/01 aboard AA Flight 144 but did not show for the flight. Interestingly, Flight 144 was the same Boeing aircraft that would leave Dulles on September 11 as Flight 77.

Also of interest to [redacted] is telephone analysis that shows 16 calls between July 20, 2000 and November 18, 2000 from the phone of [redacted] and recovered during the search of an Al-Qaeda site in Pakistan) to the phone of [redacted] in Lemon Grove. Additionally, 10 calls were made from [redacted] at 7200 Saranac Street in La Mesa to [redacted] [redacted] who frequents [redacted] apartment complex.

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[redacted] advised that the three travelers, [redacted] did in fact leave the United States on September 10, 2001, albeit on a different flight. They returned to Qatar, where [redacted]

The subjects of the [redacted] case tend to be Qatari and do not have documented ties to Islamic fundamentalism. Rather, they are implicated in gun dealing activities.

9/11 Classified Information

9/11 Personal Privacy

9/11 Law Enforcement Privacy