Total Deleted Page(s) = 98
Page 7 ~ b1; b3;
Page 8 ~ b1; b3;
Page 9 ~ b1; b3; b7E;
Page 10 ~ b1; b3;
Page 11 ~ b1; b3;
Page 12 ~ b1; b3;
Page 13 ~ b1; b3;
Page 14 ~ b1; b3;
Page 15 ~ b1; b3;
Page 16 ~ b1; b3;
Page 17 ~ b1; b3;
Page 18 ~ b1; b3;
Page 19 ~ b1; b3;
Page 21 ~ b1; b3;
Page 22 ~ b1; b3;
Page 23 ~ b1; b3;
Page 25 ~ b1; b3;
Page 26 ~ b1; b3;
Page 27 ~ b1; b3;
Page 28 ~ b1; b3;
Page 29 ~ b1; b3;
Page 30 ~ b1; b3;
Page 31 ~ b1; b3;
Page 32 ~ b1; b3;
Page 33 ~ b1; b3;
Page 45 ~ b1; b3;
Page 46 ~ b1 - PER NCIS & FBI; b3;
Page 47 ~ b1; b3;
Page 48 ~ b1; b3;
Page 49 ~ b1; b3;
Page 53 ~ b1; b3;
Page 59 ~ b1; b3;
Page 60 ~ b1; b3;
Page 64 ~ b1 - PER DOS & FBI; b3; b7E;
Page 65 ~ b1; b3; b7E;
Page 67 ~ b1; b3; b7E;
Page 71 ~ b1; b3;
Page 72 ~ b1; b3;
Page 94 ~ b1; b3;
Page 95 ~ b1; b3; b7E;
Page 107 ~ b1; b3;
Page 112 ~ b1; b3;
Page 113 ~ b1; b3;
Page 114 ~ b1; b3;
Page 115 ~ b1; b3;
Page 116 ~ b1; b3; b7E;
Page 127 ~ b7D; b7E;
Page 128 ~ b7D; b7E;
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 06/16/2003

To: Counterintelligence

Washington

From: Washington Field

IT-4

Contact: SA

Approved By: ________________

Drafted By: ________________ (S)

Case ID #: (S) Pending

Title: (X) UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER;
FCI-PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT (X);
OO: WFO

Synopsis: (X) Notifies recipients of

(U) Derived From: G-3
Declasify On: XI

Reference: (S)

Administrative: (X) Reference 06/16/2003 meeting at FBHQ
between UC and SSA and WFO
SAs and .

Details: (X) Based upon referenced serials and meeting,
captioned As discussed during referenced meeting, WFO will attempt to obtain copies of all
documents

SECRET
To: Counterintelligence  From: Washington Field  
Re: (S)  06/16/2003

(S) WFO will also attempt, with the assistance of FBIHQ, to interview personnel who may have knowledge of this and related matters.

(U) WFO co-case agents for this are:

**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Date Filed</th>
<th>To be returned</th>
<th>Yes No</th>
<th>Disposition</th>
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<tr>
<td>(S)</td>
<td>1/28/03</td>
<td>ORIGINAL NOTES RE INTERVIEW</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>FILE PHOTOS + NOTE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(S)</td>
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<td>ORIGINAL NOTES RE INTERVIEW</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>MTH</td>
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<td>(S)</td>
<td>3/30/04</td>
<td>ORIGINAL NOTES RE INTERVIEW</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>MTH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CLASSIFIED BY: NSICG F54M93K42/AAG
REASON: 1.4 (C)
DECLASSIFY ON: 12-31-2028
DATE: 10-14-2015
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE
Universal Case File Number

Field Office Acquiring Evidence

Serial # of Originating Document

Date Received 11/28/2003

From SSA

(City and State)

By

To Be Returned □ Yes □ No
Receipt Given □ Yes □ No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6(e) Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure □ Yes □ No

Federal Taxpayer Information (FTI) □ Yes □ No

Title: Subject: False information provided to US Government
Unknown subject(s)
False information provided to

Reference: (Communication Enclosing Material)

Description: □ Original notes re interview of

+ File Photo

+ Note

□ 130
Universal Case File Number

Field Office Acquiring Evidence

Serial # of Originating Document

Date Received: 4/3/2003

From

(Name of Contributor)

(Address of Contributor)

By

To Be Returned: No
Receipt Given: No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6(e)
Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

Federal Taxpayer Information (FTI)

Title: Subject False Information Provided to US Government

Unknown subject(s)
False information provided to

Reference:

(Communication Enclosing Material)

Description: Original notes re interview of

(S)
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

To: Counterintelligence  
Washington Field

Attn: UC SSA

SSA

ASAC-IT

ASAC-CI

CI-9, SA

Date: 06/18/2003

From: Washington Field

IT-4

Contact: SA SA

Approved By:  

Drafted By: cmp

Case ID #: (S) (Pending) (S)

Title: (X) UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S); FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI EFFORTS TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER; FCI-PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT (X); OO: WFO

Derived From: G-3

Declassify On: X1

Reference: (X)

Details: (X) On 06/17/2003, case agents  
and met with SSA

SSA provided the case agents with a copy
(for review, not retention)
This document was faxed to the Counterintelligence Division (CD) on 06/09/2003, and is believed to be the document/time line referred to in referenced serial.

In addition, in 09/2002, agents requested a copy of it from SSA however, SSA
the case agents then met with
the FBI was not conducting a criminal investigation of this issue, but rather
To: Counterintelligence  From: Washington Field
Re: (S)  06/18/2003

(S)

(S) (S/NF) stated that in his opinion.

(S) (S/NF) At the conclusion of the interview, the case
agents requested
To: Counterintelligence
From: Washington Field
Re: (S) 06/18/2003

On behalf of the case agents, SSA called and requested an interview. Advised that he would be in meetings for the next two days, but requested that SSA speak to his secretary to arrange a meeting before the end of the week. SSA spoke to secretary, and it was agreed that the case agents would interview at 9am on Friday, 06/20/2003.

The FBI was not conducting a criminal investigation of this issue, but rather a
To: Counterintelligence
From: Washington Field
06/18/2003

Following the above interviews, the case agents requested that SSA identify the following interviewees:

(S)
To: Counterintelligence
From: Washington Field
Re: (S) 06/18/2003

(S) On 06/18/2003, following several telephone/e-mail messages between CD SSA and WFO SA, SSA directed that WFO not contact SSA advised that SSA was to contact SSA via a voice mail message, SSA of SSA directive, and that would be the person to contact. Also on 06/18/2003, SSA advised SA that he had contacted and requested that they identify knowledgeable personnel to be interviewed regarding captioned matter. SA advised SSA that CD had earlier in the day (06/18/2003) notified WFO that captioned investigation is to be concluded by Friday, 06/20/2003, and therefore the interviews must be conducted as soon as possible. SA also requested that SSA obtain a statement which was approved for dissemination to the FBI. SA offered to pick up and stressed that it was needed by close of business Thursday, 6/19/2003, at the latest.

(S) WFO is currently waiting for notification from SSA that has identified persons for interviews on or before 06/20/2003, and that are ready for pick-up by the case agents.
(S) The case agents are scheduled to interview on Friday, 06/20/2003, at 9am.

**
Embassy of the United States of America

Office of the Legal Attache
24 Grosvenor Square
London, W1A 1AE

20 June 2003

URGENT / TIME SENSITIVE

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S) POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE U.S. GOVERNMENT; DOCUMENTS ALLEGEDLY GIVEN TO ITALIAN JOURNALIST DISCLOSING GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ EFFORTS TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS CLASSIFIED "SECRET" IN ITS ENTIRETY.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is located in its agency. Its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.
The FBI is currently conducting an investigation into information/documents provided by a journalist to U.S. Embassy Rome in October 2002, related to reported efforts by the Government of Iraq to obtain Uranium from the Government of Niger.

As always, the assistance of [Redacted] is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]
Assistant Legat Attache

For: [Redacted]
Legal Attache

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.
Embassy of the United States of America

Office of the Legal Attache
24 Grosvenor Square
London, W1A 1AB

23 June 2003

b1
b3
b7E

URGENT / TIME SENSITIVE

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S) POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE U.S. GOVERNMENT;
DOCUMENTS ALLEGEDLY GIVEN TO ITALIAN JOURNALIST DISCLOSING GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ EFFORTS TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS CLASSIFIED "SECRET" IN ITS ENTIRETY.

b7E

b7E

b1
b3

SECRET

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

17403-1. le
The FBI is currently conducting an investigation into information/documents provided by a journalist to U.S. Embassy Rome in October 2002, related to reported efforts by the Government of Iraq (GOI) to obtain Uranium from the Government of Niger (GON).

In support of this effort, the FBI is interested in determining:

As always, the assistance of [redacted] is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

Assistant Legal Attache

For:

Legal Attache
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE
To: Counterintelligence
Washington Field

From: Washington Field
IT-4

Contact: SA

Date: 06/23/2003

Approved By: [Signature]

Drafted By: cmp

Case ID #: (S) (Pending)

Case ID #: (S)

Title: (S) UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER;
FCI-PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT (X);
OO: WFO

Synopsis: (S) Based upon investigation conducted to date, it
appears as though the person(s) responsible for the false
information/documents was acting on his/her own (i.e., there was
no foreign government involvement), and their goal was to profit
financially. However, investigation is continuing.

Derived From: G-3
Declassify On: X1

Reference: (S)

Details: (S) On 06/19/2003, co-case agents and
interviewed
Based on all of the above, the information contained in referenced serials, and WFO's review of

To: Counterintelligence
From: Washington Field
06/23/2003

b1

b3

b3

b1
supporting documentation, captioned matter can be summarized as follows:
To: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) ________________

From: Washington Field
06/23/2003

Based on investigation conducted to date, it appears as though the person(s) responsible for the false documents was acting on his/her own, and their goal was to profit financially. They appear to have approached _______ the Italian journalist, and _______ with the same forged documents. Investigation is continuing.

(S) For the information of recipients, below are additional details, organized by entity _______ Italian journalist, etc.). All of this information is supported by documentation provided to WFO _______. There is additional information/documentation still required by WFO:

(S) ________________

SUMMARY OF EVENTS (ORGANIZED BY ENTITY)

(S) ________________

(S) ________________
(U) On 01/29/2003, President Bush noted in the State of the Union address that "The British Government has learned that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa."

(S/NI) Italian Journalist's Reporting/Documents

documents and other information she had obtained from "a source" regarding a purported 07/2000 agreement between Niger and Iraq under which Niger would provide Iraq with 500 tons of "pure uranium" per year. The journalist identified her source as an Italian male who had managed to obtain the documents and who was now seeking the amount of 15,000 euros in return for Panorama's publication of the information.

(U) International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

On 11/13/2002, as part of a larger briefing on the status of Iraq's nuclear weapons program, briefed the following to the IAEA: "Reporting on Iraqi attempts to procure uranium from Africa are fragmentary, at best."
(U) On 03/07/2003, IAEA Director General Dr. Mohamed El-Baradei stated in his report to the UN Security Council that documents provided by member states indicating that Iraq sought to buy uranium from Niger in recent years have been analyzed by the IAEA, which has concluded that these documents are "not authentic." The IAEA concluded that these specific allegations
To: Counterintelligence
From: Washington Field
Re: (S) 06/23/2003

were unfounded and promised to follow up if additional evidence were provided by member states.

(U) Reporting

(U) NCIS Reporting

***
To: International Operations  
Counterintelligence  
Washington Field  

Attn: SC Sandra L. Fowler  
SSA  

Attn: UC  
DC-2A, SSA  
ASAC-IT  
ASAC0CI  
CI-9, SA

From: Rome  
Contact: 

Approved By:  

Drafted By: dvg  

Case ID #: (S) (Pending) (S)

Title: [X] UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);  
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO  
U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI EFFORTS  
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER;  
FCI - PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT (X);  
OO: WFO

Synopsis: [X] Providing interview of  

[US] Classified By: 7982, LEGAT/ROME  
Reason: 1.5(b)  
Declassify On: X1

Reference: (S)  

[US] Because of the nature of the information, extreme caution must be exercised if the information contained in this E.C. is disseminated outside the FBI.
LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Info)

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES

(U) Read and clear.
Synopsis: This electronic communication (EC) requests Priority Investigation by Leaets Rome and London, and the Washington Field Office to expedite the preparation of the Director's testimony to Congress on the committee's inquiries concerning captured documents. The EC is directed to U.S. Government authorities to ensure that relevant documents are preserved, and to the Italian government to ensure that relevant documents are preserved.

Att: SAC Michael E. Rolince

Date: 06/12/2003

To: Washington Field

Precedent: IMMEDIATE

INTL Operations

Attn: SAC Ronald A. Nesbitt

FBI

From: Counterintelligence

Case ID #: (X)
To: Washington Field
From: Counterintelligence
Re: 06/12/2003

Details: Reference Counterintelligence Division (CD), electronics communication (EC) dated 06/03/03, designating Washington Field as "Office of Origin" to captioned
The EC also followed inquiries made by the House Intelligence Committee and Director.

Reference is also made to the Rome EC dated 06/06/06, setting forth the results of the interviews of American Embassy officials who first interviews the journalist,  of Panorama Magazine.

For the further information of Washington Field and Legat London, on 06/05/03, the U.S. Department of State (USDS), Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR) provided FBI Headquarters with 17 pages of documents in the French and Italian languages that were received by two American Embassy officials. The USDS also provided English language translations of the documents. The documents purportedly consisted of diplomatic notes between the Iraqi Embassy to the Holy See and the Embassy of Niger to Rome, internal communications within the Government of Niger (GON), telexes between the GON and the Embassy, and an accord for uranium transaction between the two Governments.

On 06/09/03, Legat interviewed the two Political Officers at the Embassy who met with a journalist. According to the officers, approximately 10/8/02, the Editor of Panorama Magazine contacted the American Embassy and advised that a Panorama journalist in Milan had information to provide. The following day, visited the Embassy and met with the two officers. pulled out a folder that held numerous who she claimed came from a "contact" who had provided reliable information to her in the past. She was unwilling to provide the name of the "contact." The "contact" had requested 15,000 Euro for the information. made the documents available for photocopying. She also requested that the Embassy advise of the accuracy to the contents, but the officers declined. Additionally, she declined their request to contact Italian authorities. Copies of the photocopied documents were passed and, approximately 10/15/02, were sent via secure facsimile to USDS. The facsimile consisted of 18 pages of information. Approximately one-week following the meeting, an officer telephoned  and re-stated the above two points.
To: Washington Field  
From: Counterintelligence  
Re:  

06/12/2003

As Washington Field may already be aware, the 06/09/03 issue of the Washington Post, reported that a National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) was prepared concerning the Iraqi WMD threat. The NIE stated that "Iraq had WMD" and Hussein "was continuing to improve his WMD capabilities, that he was hiding these from the world [and] that there were large, unaccounted-for stockpiles." The CD does not know if the estimate contained references to information from the above documents being present in the NIE.

As London may or may not already be aware, British Prime Minister Tony Blair has made reference in the media to Iraq's possession of WMD material. The reference reportedly came...
To: Washington Field  
Re: [S]  
06/12/2003

When all is said and done,

(U) The objective of this inquiry is

(S) The CD will advise [S] to expect contact by Washington Field in response to this EC. The CD will also request [S] to notify [S] to anticipate contact by Legat also in response to this EC.

(X) Once approved by FBI Headquarters, the coordination of the interviews with [S] will be left to the discretion of Legat [S] FBI Headquarters would suggest that the interviews be coordinated with [S] but, if at all possible, conducted by the FBI and a

[S]

(U) The POC concerning this EC is SSA [S] at [S] The alternate POC will be Unit Chief [S] at [S]

LEAD(s):
To: Washington Field  From: Counterintelligence  06/12/2003

Set Lead 1:  (Action)

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

Set Lead 2:  (Action)

LONDON

AT LONDON, ENGLAND

determine, to extent possible, what if any information may have been attributable to the above documents.

Set Lead 3:  (Action)

ROME

AT ROME, ITALY

EC. Locate[ ] and her "contact" for interview and, when ready, request FBI Headquarters approval for interview.

* * *

SECRET//X1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

To: Counterintelligence
Washington Field

Attn: UC SSA
Attn: ASAC-IT
Attn: ASAC-CI
CI-9, SA

From: Washington Field
IT-4
Contact: SA

Approved By: (Pending)
Drafted By: cmp

Case ID #: (S) (S)

Title: (S) UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER;
FCI-PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT (X);
OO: WFO

Synopsis: (S) Results of follow-up interview

(S) Derived From: G-3
(S) Declassify On: X1

Administrative: (S) Telephone call on 07/03/2003 between
Counterintelligence Division (CD) SSA and WFO SA

Details: (S) During referenced telephone call, CD SSA
advised writer that CD executive management believed
that it was necessary to obtain

SECRET/NOFORN
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: IMMEDIATE Date: 05/27/2003

To: Rome Attn: Personal Attention
Legat
Counterterrorism Attn: AD Larry A. Mefford
International Operations Attn: SC Sandra L. Fowler

From: Counterintelligence Contact: SSA or Room 4133
Unit Chief

Approved By:

Drafted By: vjz

Case ID #: YS (Pending)

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT;
DOCUMENTS ALLEGEDLY GIVEN TO
ITALIAN JOURNALIST DISCLOSING
GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER
FCI - X

Synopsis: (U) To request expedite investigation by Legat Rome
concerning captioned allegation. Investigative objectives are
discussed, and status report is requested by 06/04/03.

Derived From: G-3
Declassify On: X1

Details: (U) As Legat may or may not be aware, the 05/23/03
issue of The Washington Post carried an article on page A13,
entitled: "CIA to Review Iraq Intelligence; Questions of
Accuracy, Bias Spur Study." The two-column article states: "The
House Intelligence Committee, expressing concerns about the
failure to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, asked
Director of Central Intelligence George J. Tenet yesterday 'to
To: Rome  From: Counterintelligence  Re: 05/27/2003

reevaluate U.S. intelligence' used by the Bush administration to describe Iraq's proscribed weapons programs and its links to terrorist organizations such as al Qaeda." The article later stated that the CIA review followed criticism that the Defense Department and other parts of the Bush Administration manipulated intelligence to make the case for war in Iraq.

(U) As Legat may or may not also be aware, the above allegation has been the topic of news media coverage in the United States during recent months. The issue was recently escalated when the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency publically discredited documentary information that purported the Government of Iraq (GOI) sought uranium for its weapons of mass destruction program from individuals in Niger.

(U) According to media reports, an unnamed individual had provided an Italian journalist with documents that purported the GOI's attempts to obtain the uranium. The source reportedly received 15,000 Euro dollars for the information. Italian authorities (not further identified to the FBI) reportedly were aware of the transaction, and may have provided the material to the American Embassy in Rome.

(For the further information of Legat,

Legat is being requested, to the extent possible,

SECRET//X1
To: Rome  From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 05/27/2003

Accordingly, Legat is to coordinate its efforts with the Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM). In accordance with accepted practice, officials from agencies other-than and law enforcement agencies should be considered for contact concerning this matter.

Legat is to take a personal interest in this matter, and keep the CD up-to-date concerning pertinent developments. By 06/04/03, Legat is request to identify its plan-of-action, to include for contact and the results of contact with the DCM.

The point-of-contact (POC) for the first report is at . Thereafter, the POC will be Unit Chief

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Action)

ROME

AT ROME, ITALY

Conduct investigation as discussed above, coordinated as necessary with the DCM. Legat is also provide the CD with a status report by 06/04/03.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: IMMEDIATE
Date: 06/03/2003

To: Washington Field
Attn: SAC Michael E. Rolince
Attn: SAC Ronald A. Nesbitt
Attn: ALAT
Rome
Counterterrorism
International Operations

To: Counterintelligence
Contact: SSA
Unit Chief

From: Room 4133

Approved By: 

Drafted By: vjz 

Case ID #: (Pending)

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT;
DOCUMENTS ALLEGEDLY GIVEN TO
ITALIAN JOURNALIST DISCLOSING
GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER
FCI - X

Synopsis: (U) This electronic communication (EC) designates Washington Field as "Office of Origin" to captioned. Captioned matter follows inquiries by the House Intelligence Committee and Director to the Counterintelligence Division (CD). Investigative objectives and strategy are discussed. Washington Field is to give priority attention to this matter and keep the CD fully apprized of developments. Washington Field is to immediately identify the responsible squad and points-of-contact (POCs).

Derived From: G-3
Declassify On: X1
Details: (U) Set forth as background for Washington Field is a summary of the CD EC [redacted] predicating captioned matter with Legat Rome.

(U) The 05/23/03 issue of The Washington Post carried an article on page A13, entitled: "CIA to Review Iraq Intelligence; Questions of Accuracy, Bias Spur Study." The article stated in part: "The House Intelligence Committee, expressing concerns about the failure to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, asked Director of Central Intelligence George J. Tenet yesterday 'to reevaluate U.S. intelligence' used by the Bush administration to describe Iraq's proscribed weapons programs and its links to terrorist organizations such as al Qaeda." The article later stated that the CIA review followed criticism that the Defense Department and other parts of the Bush Administration manipulated intelligence to make the case for war in Iraq.

(U) The above allegation has been the topic of news media coverage in the United States during recent months. The issue was recently escalated when the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency publically discredited documentary information that purported the Government of Iraq (GOI) sought uranium for its weapons of mass destruction program from individuals in Niger.

(U) According to media reports, an unnamed individual had provided an Italian journalist with documents that purported the GOI's attempts to obtain the uranium. The source reportedly received 15,000 Euro dollars for the information. Italian authorities (not further identified to the FBI) reportedly were aware of the transaction, and may have provided the material to the American Embassy in Rome.
(U) To: Washington Field From: Counterintelligence

Re: [redacted] 06/03/2003

Legat has been requested

Legat is to coordinate its efforts with the Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM).

For the further information of Washington Field, on 05/28/03, Assistant Legat (ALAT) advised he is coordinating the FBI inquiry with

(U) By email message dated 05/30/03, ALAT advised of his meeting with the DCM on 05/29/03. The DCM's response to ALAT

SECRET//X1
For the further information of Washington Field, by email message dated 05/30/03, when information volunteered, it must immediately be considered with suspicion.

FBI Headquarters believes it necessary to interview the above, USDS employee. The interview is critical, as it will shape the direction of the FBI investigation. The interview will also allow the FBI direct linkage to the actual material for analysis, and the parallel construction in this way, the FBI can proceed without commingling our work with. Presently, ALAT is making arrangements for the interview.

For the further information of Rome and Washington Field, FBI Headquarters has been coordinating captioned matter.
(U) Captioned matter has now been initiated, and FBI Headquarters believes a reasonable basis has been established for further investigation in an attempt to develop or refute the hypothesis.

(U) Washington Field is

(U) The POC is SSA ______ at ______ Thenafter, the POC will be Unit Chief ______ at ______

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1:  (Action)

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

(U) Assume office of origin and promptly advise ______ of POCs.
Set Lead 2: (Action)

ROME

AT ROME, ITALY

(II) Continue inquiries as discussed in this EC, and keep full apprised of developments.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: PRIORITY

To: International Operations
   Counterterrorism
   Counterintelligence
   Washington Field

Attn: UC
Attn: AD Larry Medford
Attn: UC
     SSA
     SAC Michael E. Rolince
     SAC Ronald A. Nesbitt

From: Rome
Contact: 

Approved By:

Drafted By: jmc

Case ID #: (x) (Pending)

Title: [x] UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
   POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
   ACTIVITY DIRECTED, GIVEN TO
   ITALIAN JOURNALIST DISCLOSING
   GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ EFFORTS
   TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER;
   FCI - X

Synopsis: To provide results of an interview conducted June 9, 2003, with Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM), Rome, and Political Officers from the U.S. Embassy, Rome, provided the following information regarding captioned matter:

Classified By: 7982, LEGAT/ROME
Reason: 1.5(a)
Declassify On: XI

Details: On June 9, 2003, DCM and Political Officers from the U.S. Embassy, Rome, provided the following information regarding captioned matter:

advised that on approximately October 8, 2002, a senior foreign service national (FSN) from the U.S. Embassy in Rome received a phone call from the editor of "Panorama" Magazine. The editor would not provide the FSN with information but requested to be placed in contact with an
American. Political Officer then spoke to the Panorama editor who advised that one of Panorama's journalists in Milan, Italy, had information she would like to provide to Embassy personnel. The journalist came the following day, October 9, 2002, to Embassy, Rome to meet with

On October 9, 2002, at approximately 10:00 A.M., met at the cafeteria at Embassy, Rome. pulled out a folder which saw held numerous documents, some of which had what appeared to be official Iraqi letterhead. advised that most of the documents were written in French called his office and requested to meet him and in the cafeteria. advised that then explained that she received the information contained in the documents from a "contact" who had provided reliable information to in the past. Both requested the name of the contact but was unwilling to provide the name. advised that referred to the contact as a male. advised that the contact requested 15,000 Euro for the information. requested that make a photocopy of the information. wanted information from the Embassy as to the accuracy of the information. Both advised that the Embassy would not in any way attempt to verify the information.

brought the documents back to the political section within the Embassy, made copies, then returned to the cafeteria and provided with the original contents of her folder. then departed.

then sent a cable to State Department Headquarters advising main state of the documents and the meetings and requested guidance from main state as to how the information should be passed. The information was not analyzed by Embassy, Rome. On approximately October 15, 2002, the information was secure faxed from Embassy, Rome to main state. The fax contained eighteen (18) pages of information originally received from

called approximately one week after their original meeting. again advised that Embassy, Rome would in no way attempt to validate the information provided by requested to contact Italian authorities with the information.
laughed and it appeared to ______ that she had no intention of contacting the Italian authorities.

[8] ______ and ______ advised that to the best of their knowledge, Panorama never ran the article. Both ______ and ______ advised that they do not know if Panorama ever paid contact the 15,000 Euro. Neither ______ nor ______ had information as to how ______ contact originally obtained the information.

[8] Neither ______ nor ______ has had contact with ______ since ______ phone call to ______ approximately one week after the initial meeting.

[8] DCM, Rome advised that he did not attend the original meeting between ______ and ______ and he has never met with ______. He became aware of the information provided by ______ on the day the information was received. DCM clarified that during an initial conversation he referred to the information as being provided by a walk-in. DCM advised that the information was actually provided by the journalist ______. DCM advised that the information received by ______ was sent to main state in an eighteen (18) page fax. The eighteenth (18th) page may have been the cover sheet for the fax. DCM did not read the contents of the fax due mainly to the fact that the information was in French. DCM advised that as far as he knows, the Italian government was unaware of the information received from ______. DCM additionally advised that ______ was requested by ______ to provide her information to the Italian government but she appeared unwilling to do so.

[8] ______ all advised that they ______ believe very strongly that if ______ was contacted regarding her information she would make use of the contact in a story for the magazine or another publication.
LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Info)

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES

(U) For information of recipients.

艙艗
SECRET

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: PRIORITY

To: International Operations
Counterterrorism
Counterintelligence
Washington Field

Attn: UC
Attn: AD Larry A. Medford
Attn: UC
SSA
SAC Michael E. Rolince
SAC Ronald A. Nesbitt

Date: 06/04/2003

From: Rome
Contact: 

Approved By: 
Drafted By: 
jmc

Case ID #: (x) (Pending)

Title: (x) UNKNOWN SUBJECT (S);
POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITY DIRECTED GIVEN TO
ITALIAN JOURNALIST DISCLOSING
GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER;
FCI-X

Synopsis: (x) To provide information received from the Deputy
Chief of Mission (DCM), Rome regarding captioned matter.

Classified By: 7982, LEGAT/ROME
Reason: 1.5(a)
Declassify On: XI

Details: (x) DCM, U.S. Embassy, Rome, Italy
advised the following:

Prior to the start of war with Iraq, a
representative from an Italian news publication approached the
press section at the U.S. Embassy, Rome, and advised that they
wanted to pass photocopied documents to the press officer. The
Italian representative requested that the information contained
in the photocopies be verified regarding accuracy. Embassy, Rome
made an additional photocopy of the information and sent one copy
to the U.S. Department of State (USDOS) Headquarters in

SECRET

b1
b3
Washington, D.C. Embassy, Rome advised the Italian representative that there was no possible way to verify the information provided. DCM, Rome advised that the story regarding the information in the photocopies was never published in Italy.

DCM, Rome advised that a cable was sent from Embassy, Rome to USDOS with details regarding the Italian representative who provided the photocopied materials and the information contained within. On May 30, 2003, DCM, Rome requested permission from USDOS to provide the writer with a copy of the cable. To date, DCM, Rome has not received permission from USDOS to provide the cable. DCM, Rome specified that all requests for information be provided to the DCM and additionally requested that other USDOS, Rome employees not be contacted directly, to include the press officer who received the initial information.

DCM, Rome advised that as soon as USDOS, Washington provides clearance to pass the aforementioned cable, Legat, Rome will be notified and will then provide results to recipients.
LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Info)

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES

(U) For the information of recipients.

++
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

To: Counterterrorism
International Operations
Washington Field
Rome

From: London
Contact: 

Approved By: 

Drafted By: jh

Case ID #: (Pending)

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT;
DOCUMENTS ALLEGEDLY GIVEN TO
ITALIAN JOURNALIST DISCLOSING
GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER;
FCI-X

Synopsis: (X) To clear a lead set to London.

(X) Derived From: G-3
Declassify On: X1

Reference: 

Details: (X) In referenced EC, dated June 12, 2003, Legat
London was provided with the prediction for captioned
investigation.
To: Counterterrorism
From: London
Re: [Redacted]

06/28/2003

(S) Legat London

(S) A copy of a report entitled:

(S) On June 23, 2003, a copy of the report was faxed to SSA. The copy was forwarded to SSA via Federal Express.

(S) After reviewing the aforementioned report, SSA indicted that Legat could clear the lead set forth in Serial 8.

(S) Based on the above, London is taking no further action in this matter.
LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Info)

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES

✓ Read and clear.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: IMMEDIATE

To: Washington Field

Attn: SAC Michael E. Rolince
PERSONAL ATTENTION
SAC Ronald A. Nesbitt
PERSONAL ATTENTION

Paris
LEGAT
PERSONAL ATTENTION

Rome
LEGAT

London
A/LEGAT

Counterterrorism
DAD John S. Pistole
SSA
Chief

Counterintelligence
SSA
Detaillee

International Operations
Attn: SC Sandra L. Fowler

From: Counterintelligence

Contact: SSA Room 4133 or
Unit Chief

Approved By:

Drafted By: Liz (S)

Case ID #: (S) (Pending)

Title: (X) UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT;
DOCUMENTS ALLEGEDLY GIVEN TO
ITALIAN JOURNALIST DISCLOSING
GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER
FCI - X

Synopsis: (X) This electronic communication (EC) requests expedite investigation by recipients following a briefing of the Director on 07/14/03. Priority attention is requested in preparation of the Director's testimony to Congressional

SECRET//XI
Details: (U) The below narrative was taken from a briefing paper for the Director that was presented on 07/14/03. The narrative provides a detailed summary of captioned investigation to date, and has been presented as a "readily available reference" for referral by recipients.

(U) U.S. Government receipt of Information. The results of investigation to date identified

(U) Purpose. Our investigation has focused on the

SECRET//X1

2
To: Washington Field
From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 07/23/2003

(SSID) State of the Union address. Our review of the President's "State of the Union" message, located the pertinent reference to our inquiry reads: "The British government (sic) has learned that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa." Our review indicates that [Redacted].
(S) To: Washington Field  From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) [Redacted] 07/23/2003

(S) [Redacted] Italian journalist. In response to the
above comment, we searched the Internet using several
key phrases; [Redacted] The search failed to produce any information
to impact the two time periods when the alleged information was
received by the U.S. Government.

(U) The INTERNET search concerning [Redacted] confirmed
her employment with Panorama. A review of references disclosed
that she has published numerous articles concentrating
international affairs. She appears politically savvy, and has reported on several "hot spots" over the last ten years, to include: Rwanda, Kosovo, Sarajevo, Somalia and the Middle East. Of note, was the absence of any articles concerning the 17 pages of documents and her contact with the U.S. Embassy.

For the further information of recipients, the below narrative follows our meeting with the Director and/or updated events to the investigation. Either action has predicated the requests of the recipients that are noted in the "lead" section of this EC.
To: Washington Field From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 07/23/2003

(S) Interview of the Italian journalist. On 06/09/03, Legat Rome interviewed two Political Officers at the American Embassy in Rome who had met with the journalist. On or about 10/08/02, the Editor of Panorama Magazine contacted the American Embassy and advised that a Panorama journalist in Milan, had information to provide. The following day, met with the two officers and presented numerous documents she claimed came from a "contact" who had provided reliable information in the past. She refused to identify her "contact," but made the documents available for photocopying. She also requested that the Embassy advise of the accuracy to the contents, but the officers declined. Additionally, she declined their request to contact Italian authorities.

(U) documents represent the second time that information possibly associated with perception management was presented to the U.S. Government. The circumstances associated with her receipt of the information should assist in evaluating the allegation. The circumstances would include the possibility that her contact may have been unwittingly exploiting the journalist and/or out for criminal gain.

(U) On 07/17/03, Legat Rome advised of his meeting with the U.S. Ambassador and other U.S. Embassy executives.
To: Washington Field  From: Counterintelligence  
Re: (S)  07/23/2003  

Legat further advised of an American Embassy Rome cable (Rome 3299), dated 07/18/03, that requested USD endorsement of the interview with .

Re-contact with During Legat’s visit to FBI Headquarters, Legat advised of his anticipated meeting with upon his return to Rome. At the same time, Legat advised the FBI Director is scheduled to visit Rome during September 2003.

The CD encouraged Legat's meeting with as soon as possible following his return to Rome. Legat was advised to re-visit the issues discussed with on 06/25/03.

In coordination with the CD, Legat is to advise that a CD executive would travel to Italy and participate in the meetings. Thereafter, Legat is to make the arrangements for meetings with CD representatives.
To: Washington Field From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 07/23/2003

(S) Contact with the Counterterrorism Division (CTD) on 07/17/03, determined they maintain listings of selected
______ for possible interview. On the same date, the
To: Washington Field
From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 07/23/2003

CTD advised that the review failed to locate any listing for the above four individuals.

(S) Washington Field are to coordinate the FBI's desire to locate for interview. Once located, Washington Field and FBI Headquarters will address the feasibility and advisability of conducting the interviews.

(S) Legat Paris is to await the results of the Washington Field interview. Upon receipt of the results, Legat Paris is to conduct interviews to the extent possible.
To: Washington Field  From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 07/23/2003

Documents. The documents provided by _______ are available at Washington Field and FBI Headquarters for possible display to prospective interviewees. Copies have already been provided to Rome and Paris by facsimile.

The POC concerning this EC is SSA _______ at _______. The alternate POC will be Unit Chief _______ at _______.
To: Washington Field From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 07/23/2003

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Action)

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

Set Lead 2: (Action)

LONDON

AT LONDON, ENGLAND

Set Lead 3: (Action)

PARIS

AT PARIS, FRANCE AND NIAMEY, NIGER

[Box] Expeditiously conduct investigation as discussed in this EC.

[Box] Upon notice from Washington Field, conduct investigation in Niamey, as discussed in this EC. In the meantime, Legat may coordinate anticipated travel with the American Embassy in Niamey.
To: Washington Field From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) [Redacted] 07/23/2003

Set Lead 4: (Action)

ROME

AT ROME, ITALY

(S) Coordinate with the CD, contact with [Redacted] and arrangements for meeting with CD representatives, and interview of [Redacted] as discussed above.

Set Lead 5: (Action)

COUNTERTERRORISM

AT [Redacted]

(S) Advise [Redacted] should any of the above, [Redacted]

Set Lead 6: (Action)

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

AT WASHINGTON, DC

(S) [Redacted]

**

SECRET//X1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

To: Counterintelligence
    Counterterrorism
    International Operations
    London
    Paris
    Rome
    Washington Field

Attn: DAD Timothy D. Bereznav
      UC
      SSA
      CEG Chief
      CPD Detaitee, SSA

Attn: DAD John S. Pistore
      SSA

Attn: SC Sandra L. Fowler
      A/LEGAT

Attn: LEGAT
      LEGAT

Attn: SAC Michael E. Rolince
      SAC Ronald A. Nesbitt
      ASAC-CI
      ASAC-IT

From: Washington Field
      IT-4

Contact: SA

Approved By: 

Drafted By: 

Case ID #: (S) (Pending) (S)

Title: (X) UNKNOWN SUBJECT (S);
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER;
FCI-PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT (X);
OO: WFO

Synopsis: (X) Covers/addresses leads in referenced serial (S)

(X) (U) Derived From: G=3
Declassify On: XL

Reference: (S)
As the case title reflects, the predication for this investigation is that false information, which alleged that Niger had entered into an agreement to sell uranium to Iraq, was provided to the U.S. Government (USG). The information regarding this alleged agreement has been officially and publicly discounted by the USG.

[8] For the information of recipients, WFO has queried for any additional, relevant information. Results were negative.


As explained above, it has already been established that
(U) Given that captioned investigation was initiated

(S) WFO's investigation continues, and the leads set
(S) for WFO-in-referenced serial [redacted] will be covered.
To: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 07/31/2003

Set Lead 1: (Action)

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

AT WASHINGTON, DC

File

**
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE
Date: 07/31/2003

To: Counterintelligence
   London
   Paris
   Rome
   Washington Field

Attn: UC SSA
      A/LEGAT
      LEGAT
      ASAC-IT
      ASAC-CI

From: Washington Field
   IT-4
   Contact: SA

Approved By:

Drafted By: cmp

Case ID #: (Pending)

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT (S);
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGBR;
FCI-PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT (X);
OO: WFO

Synopsis: (S) Results of interview

Derived From: G-3
Declasify On: X1

SECRET
To: Counterintelligence  From: Washington Field
Re: (S) [redacted], 07/31/2003

The matter is being referred to [redacted] for informational purposes, pending a finding by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) as to whether or not it (DOJ) will refer the matter to the FBI for investigation.

**
Embassy of the United States of America

Office of the Legal Attache
24 Grosvenor Square
London, W1A 1AE

4 August 2003

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S) POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE U.S. GOVERNMENT;
DOCUMENTS ALLEGEDLY GIVEN TO ITALIAN JOURNALIST DISCLOSING GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ EFFORTS TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS CLASSIFIED "SECRET" IN ITS ENTIRETY.

Reference is made to my letters to you dated 20 June 2003 and 23 June 2003, captioned as above, requesting your assistance in

As you are aware,

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is not to be distributed outside your agency.

AUG 4 2003
LEGAL ATTACHE - LONDON
The FBI continues to investigate the information/documents provided by a journalist to U.S. Embassy Rome in October 2002, related to reported efforts by the Government of Iraq (GOI) to obtain Uranium from the Government of Niger (GON).

In support of this effort, the FBIHQ has requested assistance in determining:

As always, the assistance of [redacted] is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Assistant Legal Attaché

For: [Signature]

Legal Attaché

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

To: Counterterrorism
   Washington Field
   Counterintelligence
   London
   Paris
   Rome

Attn: SSA
     ASAC
     SSA
     A/SSA
     Chief
     SSA
     A/LEGAT
     LEGAT
     LEGAT

From: Counterintelligence

Contact: SSA

Extension □□□□□□

Approved By: □□□□□□

Drafted By: □□□□□□

Case ID #: (S) □□□□□□

Title: (X) UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
   POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
   ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE
   U.S. GOVERNMENT;
   FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
   THE U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI
   EFFORT TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER
   FCI - X

Recipients are requested to conduct as many interviews as possible within 30 days of this EC.

Derived From: G-3
Declassify On: X1
To: Counterterrorism  From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S)  08/06/2003

Enclosure(s): (U) Enclosed for the Counterterrorism Division to forward to [blank] are 17 pages of material comprising seven documents. Five documents are in the French language; two in Italian. Attached to each document is the corresponding English language translation prepared by the U.S. Department of State.

Details: Description of enclosures. Two of the enclosed documents

(U) The documents are being forwarded to [blank] via facsimile. Therefore, FBI Headquarters has limited the number to be transmitted.

(U) FBI perception management investigation. For the specific information [blank] and the further information of other recipients, captioned matter was initiated at the request of the Director in response to a request from the Senate. The objective of the investigation is [blank]

(U) The documents surfaced on October 9, 2002, when an Italian journalist provided them to the American Embassy in Rome. The documents purport a GOI agreement with the Government of Niger (GON) to purchase 500 tons of uranium. The documents report travel to Niamey by the-then Iraqi Ambassador Al Zahawie. On March 7, 2003, the Director of the International Atomic Energy Agency made a public statement to the United Nations that the documents were forgeries.
To: Counterterrorism  From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 08/06/2003

(S)

(U) For the time being, FBI investigation

(U) Based on the results of investigation, FBI Headquarters

(U) **Media references.** The above documents and the events associated with them were the topic of an article, dated 07/25/03, in the Italian magazine, *Panorama*. The journalist stated the documents were given to her by a source. In the article, the journalist described her attempt to validate the material as unsuccessful. Her attempted validation included her Editor's recommendation that she contact the American Embassy, which she did on 10/09/02. The journalist ultimately labeled the event a "hoax."

(U) Further, Italian and U.S. media reports have stated that Italian security services had acquired the information that is contained in the documents. Some media reports claimed the Italian services obtained the material from the Embassy of Niger in Rome. The media reports also claim that third-party, foreign security services, such as the British, may have been aware of action undertaken by the Italian services in the acquisition of the material.

(S)
To: Counterterrorism  From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S)  08/06/2003

(5)

[Redacted]

(5) Investigation desired. FBI Headquarters believes an understanding of the events associated with the 2001 report by [Redacted] is critical to resolving the allegation. [Redacted] may be in a position to authoritatively comment on either of the FBI's above objectives.
(U) The assistance by the recipients is greatly appreciated by FBI Headquarters. Questions are to be directed to SSA [redacted].
To: Counterterrorism  From: Counterintelligence  
Re: (S) 08/06/2003

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Action)

COUNTERTERRORISM

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

Transmit instant EC and enclosures to [ ] for as discussed.

(U) For [ ] conduct interviews as discussed in this EC.

Set Lead 2: (Action)

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

AT WASHINGTON, DC

Notify [ ] of action being taken pursuant to this EC.

Continue efforts [ ] to locate [ ] as discussed in this and previous ECs.

Set Lead 3: (Action)

PARIS

AT PARIS, FRANCE

Continue efforts [ ] as discussed in this EC.

Set Lead 4: (Action)

ROME

AT ROME, ITALY

If deemed feasible, re-contact [ ] for display of documents as discussed in this EC.

Set Lead 5: (Action)
WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

[Marked redacted]

(requested)

[Marked redacted]

(requested)

[Marked redacted]

(requested)
Precedence: ROUTINE

To: Laboratory

Washington Field

Counterintelligence

London

Paris

Rome

Attn: Unit Chief

Attn: Questioned Documents Unit

Room 2180

Attn: SSA

Attn: A/SSA

Attn: Chief

Attn: SSA Detaillee

Attn: A/LEGAT

Attn: LEGAT

Attn: LEGAT

From: Counterintelligence

Contact: SSA Room 4133 Extension

Date: 08/06/2003

Approved By: 

Drafted By: 

Case ID #: (S) Pending

Title: [S]

UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT;
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI
EFFORT TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER
FCI - X

Synopsis: (U) To query Laboratory Division concerning feasibility for examination of photocopies to foreign language documents associated with captioned allegation. Rome is requested to contact the Italian journalist to determine location of original foreign language material and, if possible, obtain originals for delivery to the Laboratory.

(U) [S] Derived From: G-3
Declasify On: X1

Enclosure(s): (U) Enclosed for the Laboratory are 17 pages of photocopied documents in the French and Italian languages. Attached
To: Laboratory  From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 08/06/2003

Also enclosed is a four-page document.

Details: (U) Description of enclosures. Two of the enclosed documents

(U) FBI perception management investigation. For the information of the Laboratory Division, captioned matter was initiated at the request of the Director in response to a request from the Senate. The objective of the investigation is

(U) The documents surfaced on October 9, 2002, when an Italian journalist provided them to the American Embassy in Rome. The documents purport to a Government of Iraq (GOI) agreement with the Government of Niger (GON) to purchase 500 tons of uranium. The documents report travel to Niamey by the-then Iraqi Ambassador Al Zahawie. On March 7, 2003, the Director of the International Atomic Energy Agency made a public statement to the United Nations that the documents were forgeries.
To: Laboratory
From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 08/06/2003

(S) For the time being, FBI investigation has

(U) Based on the results of investigation, FBI Headquarters

(U) Media references. The above documents and the events associated with them were the topic of an article, dated 07/25/03, in the Italian magazine, Panorama. The journalist stated the documents were given to her by a source. In the article, the journalist described her attempt to validate the material as unsuccessful. Her attempt included her Editor's recommendation that she contact the American Embassy, as she did on 10/09/02. The journalist ultimately labeled the event a "hoax."

(U) Further, Italian and U.S. media reports have stated that Italian security services had acquired the information that is contained in the documents. Some media reports claimed the Italian services obtained the material from the Embassy of Niger in Rome. The media reports also claim that third-party, foreign security services, such as the British, may have been aware of action undertaken by the Italian services in the acquisition of the material.
(U) Examination by the Laboratory Division. On 08/05/03, the Questioned Documents Unit was contacted by the CD. The CD understood...

(U) The CD would like to determine...

(U) The CD would also like to determine...

(U) The assistance of the Laboratory is greatly appreciated by FBI Headquarters. Questions are to be directed to SSA... at...
To: Laboratory  From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S)  08/06/2003

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Action)

LABORATORY

AT WASHINGTON, DC

(U) Review enclosures and respond to the CD requests in this EC.

Set Lead 2: (Action)

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

AT WASHINGTON, DC

(S) Notify of action being taken pursuant to this EC.

Set Lead 3: (Info)

LONDON

AT LONDON, ENGLAND

(U) None. For information only.

Set Lead 4: (Action)

PARIS

AT PARIS, FRANCE

(U)

Set Lead 5: (Action)

ROME
To: Laboratory From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 08/06/2003

AT ROME, ITALY

(U) Determine from

Set Lead 6: (Action)

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

($) (X) Notify of action being taken in this EC.

SECRET//X1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE  Date: 08/08/2003

To: Counterintelligence  Attn: UC
London  Attn: A/LEGAT
Paris  Attn: LEGAT
Rome  Attn: LEGAT
Washington Field  Attn: ASAC-IT

From: Washington Field  Attn: SA
IT-4  Contact: SA

Approved By: [Signature]

Drafted By: [Signature]

Case ID #: (S) (Pending) (S)

Title:  UNKNOWN SUBJECT (S);
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER;
FCI-PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT (X);
OO:  WFO

Synopsis:  Results of interview

Derived From:  G-3
Declassify On:  XX

Details:  On 08/07/2003, SAs and co-case agents for captioned investigation, interviewed

During the interview provided the following information:
Ambassador Mathieu:

8. You may or may not be aware from media coverage, but, at the request of the US Senate, Director Mueller has ordered, and we have subsequently

As a result, our headquarters has identified what investigative steps they want taken in an effort to resolve this matter. My office is one of several Legatis involved.

4. For additional background, documents surfaced on October 9, 2002, when an Italian journalist provided them to the American Embassy in Rome. The documents purport a Government of Iraq (GOI) agreement with the Government of Niger (GON) to purchase 500 tons of uranium. The documents report travel to Niamey by the then-Iraqi Ambassador Al Zahawie. On March 7, 2003, the Director of the International Atomic Energy Agency made a public statement to the United Nations that the documents were forgeries.

FBI investigation has determined that:

but I don't recall if that was prior to your arrival at Post or not. I thought I recalled your arrival as being during the summer last year, after these events.)

My question is this:

This is, again, not a criminal investigation, we're simply seeking to get to the bottom of this. I have been asked to complete this by the end of this month, realizing full well that this is generally vacation time for much of Europe and Africa - a fact I also shared with my headquarters. I would also be very interested in your "take" on this.

While we want to investigate this to the fullest extent possible, I am separately forwarding this same information. If it's possible to accomplish this, I will get a cable out tomorrow and travel soonest. Flights are twice weekly between Paris and Niamey (Monday and Friday).
(U) Thank you in advance for your support and counsel on this.
AS A RESULT, OUR HEADQUARTERS HAS IDENTIFIED WHAT INVESTIGATIVE STEPS THEY WANT TAKEN IN AN EFFORT TO RESOLVE THIS MATTER. LEGATT PARIS IS ONE OF SEVERAL LEGATTS INVOLVED.

FOR ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND, DOCUMENTS SURFACED ON OCTOBER 9, 2002, WHEN AN ITALIAN JOURNALIST PROVIDED THEM TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN ROME. THE DOCUMENTS PURPORT A GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ (GOI) AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF NIGER (GON) TO PURCHASE 500 TONS OF URANIUM. THE DOCUMENTS REPORT TRAVEL TO NIAMEY BY THE THEN-IRAQI AMBASSADOR AL ZAHAWIE. ON MARCH 7, 2003, THE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY MADE A PUBLIC STATEMENT TO THE UNITED NATIONS THAT THE DOCUMENTS WERE FORGERIES.

FBI INVESTIGATION HAS DETERMINED THAT

ADVISED OUR LEGATT IN ROME THAT

THE FBI IS CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY THAT
DURING A CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR MATHIEU AND LEGATT PARIS ON 8/14/03, AMBASSADOR MATHIEU ADVISED THAT
AMBASSADOR MATHIEU RAISED ANOTHER ISSUE CONCERNING THE

THE DOE/STATE TEAM IS RESPONDING TO A FEBRUARY, 2003 REQUEST DURING BILATERALS WITH THE GON, TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN ASSESSING THE SECURITY OF THE URANIUM SUPPLY CHAIN. SPECIFICALLY, THE VISIT IS TO ASCERTAIN IF THE CONTROL, PHYSICAL PROTECTION, AND ACCOUNTING OF URANIUM CAN BE IMPROVED, AND TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE FOR IMPLEMENTING ANY PERCEIVED NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS. THIS TEAM WILL REVIEW THE ENTIRE URANIUM CHAIN FROM MINING TO LOADING ABOARD SHIPS. THIS ASSISTANCE IS ALSO BEING RENDERED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENIN, THROUGH WHOSE COUNTRY THE URANIUM PASSES IN ITS CHAIN.

BASED ON DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN LEGATT PARIS AND AMBASSADORS MATHIEU AND BRIDG Wat er, IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE TWO GROUPS WILL NOT CONFLICT AND, IN FACT, DO HAVE DISTINCTLY DIFFERENT MISSIONS. AMBASSADOR BRIDG Water WILL BE RECEIVING A DETAILED BRIEFING BY FBIHQ PERSONNEL ON 8/19/03.
FINALLY, LEGATT PARIS NOTES THAT THIS IS ALL BEING CLOSELY COORDINATED

WILLIAM BULTEMEIER INVESTIGATION

(U) FOR BACKGROUND PURPOSES, ON DECEMBER 23, 2000, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE WILLIAM BULTEMEIER, A CONTRACT EMPLOYEE, WORKING AT THE EMBASSY NIAMEY, WAS SHOT AND KILLED DURING A CAR JACKING IN DOWNTOWN NIAMEY. MARINE SECURITY DETACHMENT COMMANDER STAFF SERGEANT WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED BY THE ATTACKERS. ON DECEMBER 26, 2000, THE STOLEN VEHICLE, A WHITE TOYOTA LAND CRUISER BEARING DIPLOMATIC TAGS, WAS LOCATED IN TIMBUKTU, MALI. THERE ARE THREE MAIN SUBJECTS IN THIS INVESTIGATION:

(1) AKA AKA AKA AND


(U) THE FBI AND THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MADE THE DECISION TO CONVEY A FEDERAL GRAND JURY. FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY WAS RECENTLY CONVENED THAT THE PROSECUTOR HAS DETERMINED

SECRET NOFORN
(U) FURTHER, AS POST IS AWARE, THE FBI'S WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE RECENTLY REASSIGNED THIS MATTER TO ANOTHER SQUAD IN ITS' OFFICE. THE FBI CASE AGENT WHO WAS ASSIGNED THIS MATTER WHEN IT INITIALLY OCCURRED, AND WHO HAS DONE EXCEPTIONAL WORK ON THIS CASE, HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS ONE OF THE CASE AGENTS ON THE MAY 2003 RIYADH BOMBINGS, THUS SHE IS UNABLE TO ADDRESS THE BULTEMEIER CASE AT THIS TIME. KNOWING AND AGREEING WITH THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING TO PURSUE THIS INVESTIGATION IN A TIMELY FASHION, WFO MANAGEMENT AGREED TO REASSIGN THE MATTER TO ANOTHER SQUAD WITH RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THIS MATTER NOW.

(U) THERE HAS BEEN AN ONGOING DIALOGUE, VIA E-MAIL, WITH THE RESPECTIVE POST RSOS AND AMBASSADORS ABOUT THE NEXT STEP IN THIS CASE, WHICH, APART FROM THE FBI ANTICIPATES

- THE FBI HAS TWO REQUESTS OF POST: 1. AND 2. LOCATE AND REQUEST
(U) LEGATT PARIS REALIZES THAT

(U) LEGATT PARIS GREATLY APPRECIATES ANY QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO LEGATT PARIS TELEPHONICALLY AT OR VIA THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S E-MAIL SYSTEM.
DERIVED FROM: C-3, DECLASSIFY ON: X-1

BT
///

SECRET NOFORN
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

To: Rome
   Paris
   London
   Washington Field
   Counterintelligence

Attn: LEGAT
     LEGAT
     A/LEGAT
     SSA
     A/SSA
     Chief
     SSA
     Detalee

From: Counterintelligence

Contact: SSA Room 4133

Approved By: ____________________________

Drafted By: ____________________________

viz (S)

Case ID #: (S) ________________________ (Pending)

Title: (X) UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
   POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
   ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE
   U.S. GOVERNMENT;
   FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
   THE U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI
   EFFORT TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER
   FCI - X

Synopsis: (X) To provide recipients with FBI Headquarters' analysis
   and observations concerning captioned matter that impacts
   investigation. Questions are provided to Rome for interview of the
   Italian journalist, should Legat be in position to interview.
   Disseminable narrative and questions are also provided to Rome for use
   with Other Legats may use the narrative upon coordination with FBI Headquarters.

(S) Derived From: G-3

(S) Declassify On: X1

Details: (X) For the further information of recipients, FBI
   Headquarters has created the below model following a review of the
   results of FBI investigation to date.
To: Rome, From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 08/21/2003

FBI Headquarters Analysis and Model.

and the documents in the possession of the Italian journalist, (As recipients are already aware, on 10/09/02, provided 13 documents, consisting of 17 pages, to the American Embassy in Rome.)
To: Rome  From: Counterintelligence  
Re: (S)  08/21/2003  

(S)  

(U)  FBI Headquarters has stated that a  

(U)  The report in the Italian Panorama magazine article media indicated that 10/09/02 contact with the American Embassy was the result of a request by the magazine's Editor. This observation will be verified from interview.  

SECRET//XI
To: Rome  From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S)  08/21/2003

(U) **Interview of** [REDACTED] A review of the Panorama article disclosed that on 10/7/02, [REDACTED] talked to the source. She stated that the documentation was incomplete and her preliminary research could not validate the information. The source also made reference to [REDACTED] on the same date. [REDACTED] contacted American Embassy.

(U) On 10/9/02, [REDACTED] visited the American Embassy with the documents. After her meeting at the American Embassy, [REDACTED] returned to her office where she found other documents that had arrived via facsimile. The latter documents made reference to [REDACTED].

(U) The source stated to [REDACTED] that the documents were acquired from [REDACTED]. During 10/17-23/02, [REDACTED] traveled to Niger in an attempt to validate the documents. [REDACTED] claimed that she has had no contact with intelligence agents, or anyone associated with [REDACTED]. What follows are the FBI Headquarters questions for [REDACTED] during an interview with the FBI.
(U) The matter of interest to the FBI concerns an allegation that a foreign government may have engaged in perception management to deceive U.S. Government executive policy makers concerning Government of Iraq efforts to acquire uranium from the Government of Niger.

(U) The results of FBI investigation disclosed that

(U) The journalist claimed to have received documents from a source who, in turn, acquired the material from an individual who

The journalist further reported the idea from her superior to contact the American Embassy in Rome in an attempt to determine the reliability of the material contained in the documents.

(U) Italian and U.S. media reports state that Italian security services acquired the documents. Some reports claimed the Italian services obtained the material from the Embassy of Niger in Rome. The media reports also claim that foreign security services may have been aware of action undertaken by the Italian services.
To: Rome
From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 08/21/2003

(S) The above is being provided to Rome to facilitate Legat’s interaction with and as circumstances warrant.

(U) Questions are to be directed to SSA at
To: Rome  From: Counterintelligence  Re: (S)  08/21/2003

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Action)

ROME

AT ROME, ITALY

(U) (S) Disseminate designated narrative to [blank] in connection with request upcoming discussions concerning captioned matter.

(U) Legat may use above questions for expeditious interview of [blank] and the Panorama Editor, if desired, without awaiting arrival of representatives from FBI Headquarters or Washington Field.

Set Lead 2: (Info)

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

AT WASHINGTON, DC

(U) (S) None. For information only.

Set Lead 3: (Action)

LONDON

AT LONDON, ENGLAND

(U) For review and use by Legat as discussed above.

Set Lead 4: (Action)

PARIS

AT PARIS, FRANCE

(U) For review and use by Legat as discussed above.

Set Lead 5: (Info)
WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

(U) None. For information only.

★★
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

To: Laboratory
Washington Field
Counterintelligence
London
Paris
Rome

Attn: Unit Chief
Questioned Documents Unit
Room 2180

Attn: SSA, A/SSA, Chief

Attn: SSA, A/LEGAT, Detalilee

Attn: LEGAT

From: Counterintelligence
Contact: SSA, Room 4133

Date: 08/21/2003

Extension

Approved By:

Drafted By:

Case ID #: (S)
(Roening)

Title: ☑️
UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT;
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI
EFFORT TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER
FCI - X

Derived From: G-3
Declassify On: XI

SECRET//XI
To: Laboratory  From: Counterintelligence  
Re: (S) 08/21/2003  

Details: (S) Niger. For the information of recipients, on 08/14/03, Legat Paris advised FBI Headquarters of a conversation with the U.S. Ambassador to Niger, Denise Mathieu, that date. The Ambassador indicated that, during the course of a meeting between the Nigerien Prime Minister and she several weeks ago, the Prime Minister made reference to the U.S. Government's interest in the purported Niger - Iraq uranium transaction.  

On 08/14/03, FBI Headquarters contacted the Acting Office Director for the Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR), USDS. FBI Headquarters has kept the USDS apprised of FBI investigative activities overseas in connection with this matter through INR.
To: Laboratory From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 08/21/2003

Bureau. FBI Headquarters requested INR to ensure that appropriate executives within USDS were aware of the FBI investigation.

On the same date, FBI Headquarters advised the FBI briefing of Ambassador Bridgewater. On 08/19/03, Unit Chief [redacted] and SSA [redacted] briefed Ambassador Pamela Bridgewater, Deputy Assistant Secretary for African Regional Affairs, and representatives from the African Regional Bureau, Non-Proliferation Division and INR.
Legat and FBI Headquarters also discussed the Washington Field recommendation to
Legat and Washington Field

Laboratory Division. As recipients are aware, the photocopies of the 17 pages of documents from the Italian journalist were provided to the Laboratory via EC dated 08/06/03. On 08/13/03, contact with the Questioned Documents Unit determined that the FBI Headquarters will leave further action in this regard to the discretion of Legat.

Questions are to be directed to SSA at
LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1:  (Info)

LABORATORY

AT WASHINGTON, DC

(U) None. For information only.

Set Lead 2:  (Info)

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

AT WASHINGTON, DC

(U) None. For information only.

Set Lead 3:  (Info)

LONDON

AT LONDON, ENGLAND

(U) None. For information only.

Set Lead 4:  (Action)

PARIS

AT PARIS, FRANCE

Set Lead 5:  (Info)

ROME
AT ROME, ITALY

(U) None. For information only.

Set Lead 6: (Action)

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.
Automated Serial Permanent Charge-Out
FD-5a (1-5-94)

Date: 08/28/03 Time: 16:21

Case ID: ________________________

Description of Document:

Type: EC
Date: 08/18/03
To: COUNTERTERRORISM, et al.
From: BUFFALO

Topic: 8/17 LEAD COVERED TO CONDUCT LOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Reason for Permanent Charge-Out:

communication serialized to wrong file number

Transferred to:

Case ID: ________________________

Employee: ________________________
SECRET

08/28/2003
16:08:55

Permanent Charge-Out of Serial

ICMLPE20
Page 1

Set Tickler of WFWF 9772885
WORK NUMBER 9999965 INTERVENING UPDATE, PLEASE TRY AGAIN 5263709
Set Tickler of WFWF 9772885
WORK NUMBER 9999962 INTERVENING UPDATE, PLEASE TRY AGAIN 5259145

CLASSIFIED BY: NSICG P54M93K42
REASON: 1.4 (C)
DECLASSIFY ON: 12-31-2028
DATE: 11-03-2015

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

SECRET
********* Permanent Charge-Out of Serials Summary *********

Leads of old Case ID (5) with old Serial have been copied to leads of new Case ID (5)
with new Serial (5)

Total Leads have been discontinued: 2 (5)
Total Leads have been added: 5 (5)
Total Ticklers have been updated: 1
D-4146

POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY DRECTED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

As you are probably aware from media coverage, here has been reporting, both in the media, and through suggesting that the Government of Iraq (GOI) and the Government of Niger (GON) may have been engaged in negotiations for a Uranium purchase by Iraq.

At the request of the United States Senate, FBI Director Mueller ordered that a foreign counterintelligence investigation be opened to determine whether or not documents and related items surrounding this alleged deal could have been used in a perception management campaign by a foreign power to influence U.S. Government executive policy makers concerning Iraq.

Documents surfaced on 9 October 2002, when an Italian journalist provided them to the American Embassy in Rome. These documents purport a GOI agreement with the GON to purchase 500 tons of uranium. The documents report travel to Niamey by the then-Iraqi Ambassador Al Zahawie. On 7 March 2003, the Director of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) made a public statement to the United Nations that he believed that the documents were forgeries.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.
We thank you for your ongoing collaboration.
SECRET

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE
Date: 08/23/2003

To: Counterintelligence
Attn: SSA

From: Laboratory
FAS/QDU/2180
Contact:

Approved By:

Drafted By: dh

Case ID #: (S)

Title: (X) UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT;
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI
EFFORT TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER
FCI - X

Synopsis: (U) Response to lead request from Counterintelligence Division to the Questioned Documents Unit (QDU), Laboratory Division, in EC dated 8/6/2003.

Details: (U) The QDU was requested to provide information regarding the limitations of forensic document examinations on photocopies of documentary evidence. Additionally, the QDU was requested to evaluate submitted enclosures and provide information concerning the types of examinations that can be conducted on the enclosed documents in both original and photocopy form.

(X) Derived From: G-3
Declassify On: X1

CLASSIFIED BY: NSICG F54M93K42
REASON: 1.4 (C)
DECLASSIFY ON: 12-31-2028
DATE: 11-03-2015
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREBIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE
To: Counterintelligence  From: Laboratory  
Re: (S)  08/23/2003

(U) The photocopy process would limit an examiner in the QDU from determining the following about a document:

  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  

(U) Examinations that cannot be conducted on the enclosures in their photocopied state are as follows:

  
  
  
  
  

(U) Examinations that could be conducted on the original documents include the following:
(U) It should be noted that with today's technology
LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Info)

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

AT WASHINGTON, DC

(U) Read and clear.

CC: 1 Rm. 1202
    1 Rm. 1204
    1 Rm. 2140
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: PRIORITY

Date: 08/29/2003

To: Counterintelligence

London
Rome
Washington Field

International Operations

Attn: Sandra Fowler

From: Paris
Contact:

Approved By:

Drafted By: (S)

Case ID #: (S) (Pending)

Title: (S) UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S)
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI EFFORT TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER;
FCI-PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT: WFO

Derived From: G-3
Declassify On: X1

Reference: (S) (S)

SECRET
To: Counterintelligence  From: Paris
Re: (S) 08/29/2003

{U} Administrative: (X) Reference e-mails sent by Paris Legat

Details: (X) Captioned investigation was initiated based on an allegation that a foreign government may have engaged in perception management to deceive or mislead US Government policy makers concerning alleged efforts by the Government of Iraq (GOI) to purchase 500 tons per year of uranium from the Government of Niger (GON). Information concerning the purported transaction first appeared in 2001. Although the original intelligence came into the possession of it was an Italian journalist, who came forward with the documents in October 2001, when she approached the US Embassy in Rome.
LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Info)

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES

(U) Read and clear.

**
Precidence: PRIORITY

To: Counterintelligence

Attn: UC

Paris

From: Rome

Contact: ____________________________

Approved By: _______________________

Drafted By: _______________________ jmc

Case ID #: (S) ______________________ (Pending)

Title: (S) UNKNOWN SUBJECTS (S);
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER;
FCI-PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT (X);
OO: WFO

Synopsis: (S) To provide details regarding Legat, Rome
interview of Panorama Magazine journalist ____________________________ at the

Enclosure(s): (S) Six (6) documents received from ____________________________ The
documents were provided by ____________________________ source on ____________________________

Details: (S) On September 4, 2003 Legat, Rome ____________________________ and ALAT _______________ interviewed
d/d/POB ____________________________ in Milan, Italy, address via
__________________________ cellular telephone number ____________________________ attorney, ____________________________ was present at the interview.
To: Counterintelligence  From: Rome
Re: (S) 09/08/2003

The interview was conducted at the U.S. Consulate in Milan, Italy.

(S) has a degree in Literature from the and in  studied Journalism at the
prior to her employment with the parent company of
Panorama Magazine, Mondatore. employment with
as a Panorama Journalist began on is also
associated as a contributing journalist with the

(S) first met the source in  An
associate asked if she wanted to meet someone who had
access to information. identified the source as

(S) Later in the source contacted
and advised that he was in possession of documents

The source provided with the

and a photographer went to the airport, and followed them to their hotel, then to

advised that this was only
and the meetings were verified the sources information and wrote a successful
article for Magazine. advised that

advised that this instance is the only time that she has ever

(S) Later in 1995 the source provided
information regarding
The source advised that the

The source provided no documents but was able to find enough connections to link to the
organization as a former employee. wrote an article that

relationship with the source slowed after
Between had no contact with the source.
To: Counterintelligence  From: Rome  
Re: (S)  09/08/2003  

(U) At the time of the initial information, believed the source had good access to information. described the source as He is not political or ideologically motivated. The source a good amount of time. advised that she believed the source worked for an years ago. She is not aware as to which the source worked for. The source is and is fluent in and speaks does not believe that the source is a "professional" source.

(U) received a message from her secretary to return a telephone call. recognized the number as the source's. The source advised He had information about the He spoke about documents in a very general way.

(U) met the source on The source provided the documents (photocopied documents) at this time. The source advised that the advised the source that she needed proof that the . The source provided with an additional document but this document was determined to be regarding and not related to this subject.

(U) the source sent an additional (copies provided as attachment). Two (2) pages dealt with and one (1) page was from a 

(U) The source advised that showed an envelope sent from the which the source confiscated. kept this envelope (attached) which was date canceled. The source showed additional letters taken from Additionally, the source showed a copy of the and advised that she believes the book was authentic. was convinced that the source had access.

(U) believes that the source's motivation was money. He requested payment of
The source advised that he had someone regarding the source providing false documents. The source advised that he was convinced that the documents were real (when he provided them). He provided advised that she is attempting to verify the source's latest information and may herself provide additional information once she verify's the source's information. The source advised that he believes advised she does not believe the source was used while providing the original documents but could not rule it out.

advised that the source is not willing to come forward and in fact only met again because he was afraid would provide his identity to authorities. was advised by the interviewers to re-contact the source and request the source to meet with legat personnel. advised that she will consider re-contacting the source.

The source advised that at the time of the original meeting he advised that she does not believe that there is a possibility of obtaining the original documents at this time.

The source advised that he found the information on Niger while (which was reportedly In fact,

does not believe (opinion) that
(S) On July 16, 2003 the Italian newspaper "La Republica" published six (6) of the twenty-three (23) documents. The source advised that a journalist working for a journalistic website received the documents, paying an unknown African diplomat for the documents. The editor of the website would not allow the journalist to print the documents on the website. The journalist then sold the information to La Republica, and it was then published. does not know how much money was actually paid to the African diplomat.

(SA) advised that she will consider re-contacting the source (who she has little confidence in at this time) in an effort to have the source speak directly to Legat, Rome. If is unsuccessful, Legat will request to act as a "middle man" between Legat and source.
LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1:  (Discretionary)

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES

(U)  For information and follow up response of recipients.

**
Precedence: ROUTINE                      Date: 09/16/2003

To: Rome                          Attn: LEGAT
    Paris                         Attn: LEGAT
    Washington Field            Attn: SSA
    Counterintelligence         Attn: A/SSA Chief

From: Counterintelligence

Contact: SSA Room 4133 Extension

Approved By: [Signature]
Drafted By: [Signature]

Case ID #: (S) (Pending) Email (S)

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);
POSSIBLE PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT;
FALSE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT RE IRAQI
EFFORT TO OBTAIN URANIUM FROM NIGER
FCI - PERCEPTION MANAGEMENT (X)

Synopsis: To respond to issues raised by the
during meetings with LEGAT and Assistant Legat, Rome
on 09/05 and 12/03, respectively.

Derived From: G-3
Declassify On: XL

Details: Meeting with [ ] on 09/12/03. On that date,
Assistant Legat met with [ ] representatives for further discussions
concerning [ ] and FBI cooperation in captioned matter. The meeting
followed-up on a meeting between Legat Rome and [ ] on 09/05/03.

The results of the 09/12/03 meeting were contained in
an email message the same date.
To: Rome, From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 09/15/2003

(S) (The Director is scheduled for a working lunch with the during his visit to Italy on 09/24/03.)

(U) Legats Briefing to Counterintelligence Division (CD). Earlier, on 09/09/03, Legats Rome and Paris briefed interested managers and executives of the Counterintelligence Division. The Legats were participants to the Legat Conference at FBI Headquarters.

(U) Legat Rome's brief concerned the results of his meeting with on 09/05/03.

(S) (U) Director's Briefing. Legat's brief, along with updated developments provided by Legat Paris, were set forth to the Director in a briefing paper dated 09/11/03. The pertinent text from the briefing paper is set forth below.
On 09/01/03, the journalist was interviewed by Legat Rome. The journalist, while cooperative, was unable to provide more specific information concerning the origin of the documents and/or the existence of originals.
request of LEGAT Rome on 09/05/03. On that date, LEGAT advised FBI Headquarters of two questions posed by [redacted] A review of Washington Field's EC dated 06/23/03, located references that would respond to [redacted] requests. In an email message dated 09/12/03, FBI Headquarters provided the below information.
To: Rome, From: Counterintelligence
Re: (S) 09/15/2003

(U) Questions are to be directed to SSA at

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Info)

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

AT WASHINGTON, DC

(U) None. For information only.

Set Lead 2: (Info)

PARIS

AT PARIS, FRANCE

(U) None. For information only.

Set Lead 3: (Action)

ROME

AT ROME, ITALY

(U) Advise that the Director will be prepared to discuss concerns during the 09/24/03 working luncheon.

(U) Provide with the indicated responses to the two questions posed on 09/05/03.

Set Lead 4: (Info)

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

(U) None. For information only.

+++

SECRET//X1

5
Automated Serial Permanent Charge-Out
FD-5a (1-5-94)

Case ID: ________________

Description of Document:
Type: FD542
Date: 09/26/03
To: COUNTERTERRORISM, et al.
From: DALLAS
Topic: INFORMATION REGARDING WEBSITE POSSIBLY LINKED TO AL

Reason for Permanent Charge-Out:
SERIALIZED INTO FILE FILE

Employee: ________________

CLASSIFIED BY: NSICG FSC4M93K42/AAG
REASON: 1.4 (C)
DECLASSIFY ON: 12-31-2028
DATE: 11-03-2015
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE