



U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service

*Inspections
Miami International Airport
P.O. Box 99-7895
Miami, Florida 33299-7895*

October 23, 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR ADD Mr. Garofano

9/11 Law Enforcement Privacy

FROM: [redacted] Immigration Inspector

SUBJECT: Inspection of Mohammed Atta

On May 2, 2001, I was detailed to the Miami Deferred Inspection Unit for one (1) day. During the day a person by the name of Mohammed Atta came to the Miami Deferred Inspection. Subject had a companion with him, and Mr. Atta wanted information about his I-94. Mr. Atta was admitted for eight (8) months as a tourist, while his friend was admitted for six (6) months. Mr. Atta wanted to know "Why his friend got 6 months as a visitor and he got eight (8) months"? I explained to Mr. Atta, his I-94 was issued in error, as a tourist he is only entitled to six (6) months. I spoke to the Supervisor [redacted] about the issue, I told her I wanted to correct the I-94 to reflect six (6) months instead of eight (8) months, [redacted] did not see a problem with me correcting the I-94. I corrected the I-94 with the same admission date as to the time of entry for six (6) months from the time of entry and explained to Mr. Atta, if he needed more time to stay in the United States, he would have to file for an extension.

Mr. Atta thanked me and departed Deferred Inspection.

OIG004-0183

Oct 26 01 12:35P



DEFERRED INSPECTION

Please, WRITE YOUR NAME AND NATIONALITY AND TAKE A SEAT UNTIL YOUR NAME IS CALLED

DATE: May 2 2001

PRINT YOUR NAME / NOMBRE EN LETRA DE MOLDE, NATIONALITY / NACIONALIDAD, PRINT YOUR NAME / NOMBRE EN LETRA DE MOLDE, NATIONALITY / NACIONALIDAD

1		Ref. Div.	21		USA
2		...	22		
3		...	23		Colombia
4		...	24		
5		...	25		
6		...	26		
7			27		
8			28		
9		...	29		
10		...	30		VENEZUELA
11		...	31		...
12		...	32		ARGENTINE
13		...	33		COLOMBIA
14		...	34		
15		...	35		LAWYER
16	ATTA	...	36		
17		...	37		
18		...	38		Perth American
19		...	39		Per
20		...	40		Per

Follow-up interviews conducted on April 16, 2002 by SAs [redacted]

[redacted]
Miami District Office – Deferred Inspection:

SII [redacted]

- Was interviewed as a witness (no warnings or placed under oath)
- Was shown copy of I-94 with admission # 68653985708
- [redacted] has never seen this I-94 until now
- Upon entry into U.S., INS stamps top & bottom portion of I-94 and passport
- Top portion remains with INS, bottom portion goes with passenger
- Top portion is sent to service center for data entry
- B-1 stamp on I-94 – There is no B-1 stamp being used at deferred inspection. Dates change according to the persons circumstances – normally write in B-1 and the date
- The B-1 stamp was probably put on the I-94 at MIA – All passengers arriving at MIA on a particular date would have the same date on his/her documents (i.e. Feb 9, 2001 w/B-1 or B-2 stamp). This is easier for processing at MIA with date stamp.
- If an I-94 has any changes, including the crossing out of information, the IIs are authorized to issue a new I-94 – recommended to avoid any confusion with old and new entries
- Upon issuing a new I-94, comments are made on the back stating the reason for any changes and issuance of new I-94
- If Atta had come to deferred inspection on May 2, 2001 with a Feb 9, 2001 entry date, he would have been in overstay status. Investigations would have been notified and Atta would have been arrested and processed. Don't know if Atta made any changes to this I-94 before arriving at deferred inspection.

II [redacted]

- Was interviewed as a witness (no warnings or placed under oath)
- Was shown a copy of I-94 with admission # 68653985708
- Don't recall seeing a B-1 stamp with date (Feb 9, 2001)
- Didn't stamp with B-1 or date stamp – dates change at deferred inspection – easier to write classification and date
- Claims this is not the I-94 she saw back in May 2001
- Atta's I-94 had a January 10, 2001 entry date with an until date of September 2001 (eight months)
- Don't recall if classification was written in or stamped
- The date on Atta's I-94 was clearly written and showed an eight month period
- In looking at this I-94, the date looks like 09 July 01, which is correct if issued a B-2, which was also written over B-1

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- Would not have written on old I-94 – would cause confusion – instead issued Atta a new I-94
- Never seen IIs write the date like this one 09 July 01 – Most IIs normally write the month, day, year
- If Atta presented this I-94 with a date of 09 July 01, she would not have issued him a new one
- If Atta had come to deferred inspection with a B1 and date of Feb 9, 2001, he would have been an overstay and INS Investigations would also have been notified
- In regard to Atta's I-94, he only wanted to get eight months for his friend. I issued him a new I-94 because the I-94 he presented clearly shows until September 2001, which was beyond a B-2 status. This I-94 appears to be fraudulent [redacted] used a "loop" to review the I-94 and concluded that some of the letters in "ADMITTED" were slanted and not aligned properly and some letters were not evenly spaced).
- She stapled the old I-94 to the new I-94 issued to Atta and placed them in a box, which was sent to UNIBAND for data entry into NIIS
- She did not write or stamp any information on the old I-94
- IIs should issue a new I-94, instead of crossing out and making corrections

Miami International Airport:

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SR [redacted]

- Was issued a Kalkines warning and placed under oath
- Was shown a copy of I-94 with admission # 68653985708
- He doesn't recall owning a B-1 stamp. B-1 / B-2 stamps are purchased by IIs and are not issued by INS
- He normally writes B-1 or B-2 with the date
- If he was filling in for someone, he may use a B-1 stamp if available
- He normally does not carry a B-1 stamp around with him
- Doesn't recall if his admission stamp # was [redacted]
- He was recently issued a new admission stamp with # [redacted]
- He can't tell if the handwriting on the stamp is or isn't his
- He can't tell if he wrote the date. Claims to have a "sloppy" handwriting
- He said its SOP if an IIs scratches out or makes any changes to an I-94, the II has the option to issue a new I-94
- Can't tell if the handwriting is his because he write differently at times
- When writing the date, he normally spells out the month, day, and year. He may also write the date using numbers, i.e. 09 July 01, and may write the day, month an year
- In looking at the I-94, [redacted] said the date appears to be 09 July 01. The middle portion of the date are not his initials and looks like July.

OIG004-0179

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

EVENT: Interview of Inspector [redacted] Customs and Border Protection

DATE: March 25, 2004

Special Access Issues: None

Prepared by: Janice Kephart-Roberts, Joanne M. Accolla

Team Number: 5

Location: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Ronald Reagan Building,
14th & Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC

Participants: Non-Commission: [redacted] Customs Inspector, Differed
Inspection, Miami; Alex Damen, Customs & Border Patrol Counsel's Office

Participants: Commission – Janice Kephart-Roberts, counsel
Joanne M. Accolla, Staff Assistant

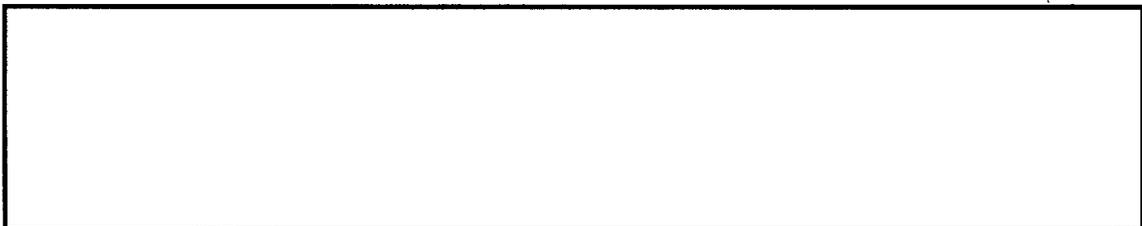
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Background:

JKR asked if [redacted] had been interviewed by anyone else regarding the Atta entry. She said the FBI interviewed her about 2-3 weeks after 9/11 when she discovered Atta came out of deferred inspection. The FBI agents were from the NE Miami Beach Office. She was also interviewed by the DOJ OIG twice.

[redacted] said they asked her if she could identify Atta's companions from pictures they were holding. The FBI had pictures from some illegal aliens they were holding in CROM (facility which holds illegal aliens in Miami area). She did not recognize them. They asked her to describe Atta – what he looked like and what he was wearing – and if she was willing to go under hypnosis which she agreed to but it never happened.

She was not interviewed by anyone from CPB or legacy INS. She was interviewed by her port director, Mr. Garafano, and her supervisor.



Atta deferred May 2, 2001

On May 2 2001, she was detailed from Miami airport to the District Office located 7880 Biscayne Blvd., 5th Floor. Her supervisor asked her to help in the Deferred Office because someone called in sick and they needed help.

Her training at FLETC was from approximately [redacted] She didn't remember if she received counterterrorism training. She said they learned a lot about document fraud. She didn't recall training on databases. She did remember mock primary and secondary inspections. She said she did not receive any cultural or behavioral training. There was language training in Spanish and they had firearms practice everyday. She carried a gun in Ft. Lauderdale but not in line.

Standard operating procedures used pre 9/11

[redacted] Feels she is good with document fraud.

B1

Length of stay for B1s – standard length of stay. If they are here on business for 2, she would give 3 weeks. She wouldn't use pre-made stamps, just write it in.

B2s

Mandatory 6 months – could not shorten that time – only supervisor could. She had requested it in Miami a couple of instances, where person appeared to be intending immigrant because they were here for 6 months, left for 2 days and returned... Sometimes supervisor would make her change it back to more time.

Vocational students

I gave a year and one month.

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F1

DS (duration of status) – to give students to study English

M1

Technical school– always a year and one month.

Janice asked if there was a port policy about referrals and how often it should happen. [redacted] didn't believe there was a port policy.

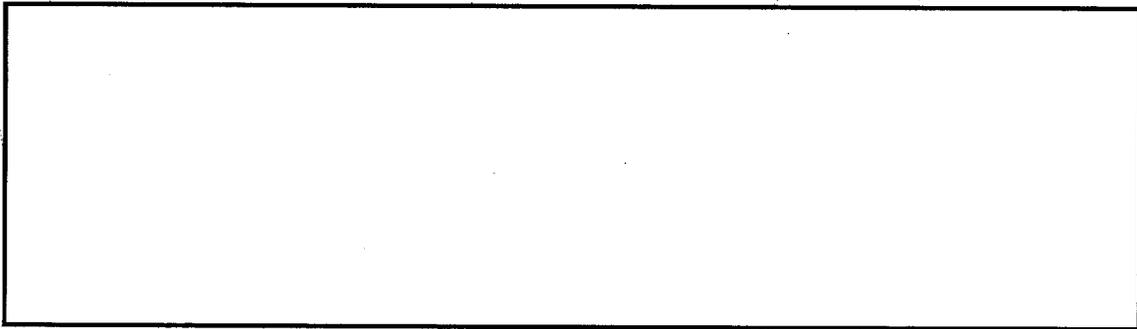
Fraud

Pre 9/11 [redacted] would look for fraud in visas with [redacted] She didn't check travel stamps; most of the time in visas its [redacted]

[redacted] didn't know if anyone at the port knew Arabic.

Janice asked if there was someone on duty at the airport who had expertise in documents. [redacted] said yes.

Janice asked if she had much experience with Saudis or Egyptians, and [redacted] replied that at Miami you get everything. She said you are basically looking for people who are staying and working here, criminals . . . [redacted] said she has not gotten any TIPOFF hits pre or post 9/11; she has gotten Lookout hits.



Deferred Inspection

Janice asked [redacted] how deferred inspection worked. [redacted] said if someone comes through airport and you run the person in the system and they have a record but no judgment in the database. He is asked to bring in his Judgment of Conviction records and inspector can see - if someone has immigrant visas and no pictures, they would be deferred to bring in pictures. If someone needs more time because they are sick they are deferred. Considered to be a continued inspection.

Janice asked if an immigration history is created if they get called up in deferred. [redacted] said each case is different because in deferred they actually have been admitted. These people have already been admitted so databases were checked at airport.

J - request to CHANGE I94 -

He was not deferred -he just walked off the street - sometimes people who are close to 6 months and want more time - told no.

ATTA

Janice stated that on May 2, 2001 [redacted] was detailed from 8:00 a.m. to the district office and worked to approximately 3:00 p.m.

[redacted] said it was close to lunch time – about 11:30ish. Three guys came in and came up to the counter. One of the 3 started asking questions about his friend – “both came in on same day and we need to get some information about his I-94.” I asked him if he was the one that needs help; he said no - I told him to sit down and I will help his friends. She told them the person who needs help should sign in. Atta signed in (the guy who started the conversation was not Atta). “This person who was a great looking kid – he didn’t look Arabic – looked Caucasian. Atta said my friend and I came in on the same day and I got 8 months and my friend only got 6 – my friend wants to get 8 months. I believe I took both passports to see if they had valid visas. [redacted] said even if the visas were expired, she couldn’t do anything because they were already admitted.

Janice showed [redacted] some photographs to try to identify Atta’s 2 companions, but [redacted] didn’t recognize them. [redacted] said he didn’t have accent, spoke perfect English (this was the first guy).

[redacted] said she went to her supervisor and her supervisor told her to go ahead and change Atta’s to 6 months because he should not have gotten 8 months - only 6 months. [redacted] made a notation on the back of the I94 ([redacted] was her inspector number). She said she had to backdate the I94 and admit him on January 10 until July 9. [redacted] said every time you change an I94 you have to write comments.

The I94 issued at Miami by inspector [redacted] - the I94 issued in error; a new I94 was issued at Deferred Inspection at the District Office in Miami. [redacted] said she looked at the original I94 and saw the stamp number.

She said if you look over admission stamps in the passport, you will not find her inspector number because he had already been admitted.

[redacted] said she didn’t remember going through his entire passport. She said Atta didn’t say much; he was quiet. She told him someone gave you the wrong admission and I’m not giving your friend 8 months. When she asked her supervisor “it was wrong can I change it.” Atta understood everything she said. She told them they could apply for an extension with forms downstairs. They said thank you and left.

[redacted] said the whole encounter stuck in her mind because after they left she spoke to a colleague and said that Atta was an ugly man “like a bulldog.” She didn’t remember physical characteristics.

Janice if in this case she looked at databases. [redacted] said no because she didn’t have access to the district office’s databases because she was only there for the day. [redacted] asked the inspector to put the information in the computer for her but he didn’t. The top of the I94 gets sent to Texas.

Janice said to [redacted] that she had said in a prior interview with DOJ IG that she saw an I94 that looked fraudulent.

[redacted] said she never said that. The second time they asked me to identify the I94 . . .
"The one I had - there were no corrections over it - it was just B2 -8 months."

Janice said let me read to you what it said in regard to Atta's I94 [read from statement].

[redacted] said when I gave him the 6 months, there was never an issue of whether he had a fraudulent I94.

Janice said that [redacted] told the FBI there were 3 guys. She said yes. All 3 had same skin tone, same features. The guy who made the initial conversation, about a year ago the FBI was looking for some one named of [redacted] (sp?) - [redacted] said she called her boss - apparently the FBI thought he worked with Atta - and he left the country. She told Mr. Garafano - did not tell FBI - this man apparently was a legal resident, school teacher in South Florida.

[redacted] said the only I94 she changed was Atta's.

[redacted] began looking over pictures and documents of the other hijackers]

Janice said for the record - the I94 with the [redacted] stamp on it does not look familiar to [redacted]

[redacted] confirmed she physically took out the old I94 and put the new one in his passport.

DHS

Janice asked [redacted] about what improvements she has/has not noticed with the new CBP. She said it was hard to say because immigration legacy INS is still doing immigration work, and customs is still doing customs work; she doesn't know if it's going to work - trying to do cross over - so much to learn -

Janice asked if [redacted] had trained in customs. She said very little. She said she works mostly at private side of airport - Executive. [redacted]

[redacted] - customs and INS combined. Just an airport.

[redacted] said USVISIT is very good - get a lot of hits on mismatch.

She said there are not a lot of foreign students going through Ft. Lauderdale so she doesn't use SEVIS that much.

National Targeting Center - she hasn't used.
Visa info photos - helpful.

Her message for Commissioner Bonner:

What do you have to do to get a supervisor position??

When some one comes through, you have to do customs, immigration and agriculture inspections.

Phone discussion March 29, 2004 re identification of Shukrijumah with Atta on May 2, 2001.

[REDACTED] an immigration inspector normally working at Miami International, was detailed for one day on May 2, 2001 at the Miami District Immigration Office. She completed a deferred immigration inspection of Mohammad Atta on another date.

She states that Atta came in with two companions. One companion did not speak at all and she does not recall his identity. (She recognized none of the hijackers, although she thought al Shehhi looked familiar.) The other individual with Atta began the conversation. After reviewing the fbi website at www.fbi.gov/terrorinto/adnan.htm, this is what Barbara Hopkinson had to say: "I'm 75 percent sure that this is the same guy, Adnan G. El Shukrjumah.. He was clean cut, my skin complexion, looked Indian, like me. I don't recall size or amount of facial hair, but dark. He spoke perfect English."

He initiated the conversation. "My friends have a question about their I-94s (arrival records)." I asked him: "do you need to see immigration?" He said no. I said then go sit down. He did. I didn't talk to him again.

[redacted] ATTA

**Deferred inspector at Miami District Office on May 2, 2001
September 11 Commission Interview March 25, 2004**

Use of name in report: The Commission would agree, if you want, that the Commission will not use your name or your personal information without prior consultation with DHS/CBP about the information we seek to use. Unless we really feel the need, we won't use your name. However, we will not make the flat promise that we will not under any circumstances use your name. (Circumstances when would use name: probably only in making policy recommendations or factual information that requires a quote.)

Background.

Who else has interviewed you: DOJ OIG, FBI, DHS, CBP.

Do you recollect the inspection of Atta on May 2, 2001?

FLETC.

- When did you train? How long? [redacted] (5 wks Spanish)
- Training in CT? *don't recall*
- Document fraud? *lots of time.*
- Databases? *no primary*
- Mock secondary inspections? *yes.*
- Cultural training? *no*
- Behavioral training? *no*
- Language training? *5 wks. Spanish.*
- Firearms. Ft. Lauderdale - *yes*

Normal primary. Miami - *no*

- Please describe the standard operating procedures you employ in primary screening, including questions asked, documents reviewed, and databases checked.
- *Length of stay for B1s:* was there a standard length of stay given pre 9/11? Was that a port decision, or national operating policy? If you gave less than the standard time, were there professional repercussions?
- *Length of stay for B2s:* was there any discretion in length of stay granted B2s pre 9/11?
- *Length of stay for vocational students:* what was your understanding of the rule? Did the one year limitation include the 30 days to leave, or was the 30 days tacked on at the end of the stay so that the stay in reality was 13 months?
- *Processing time at Miami:* was there a standard processing time? [redacted]

[redacted] Any professional repercussions if did not meet that processing time?

- Was there a port policy about referrals to secondary; a certain criteria that had to be met to refer to secondary?

Review of passport and visa.

- What do you look for on the document to determine whether fraud or not?
- Can you read Arabic stamps/cachets?
- Have you received any training in reading documents other than FLETC prior to 9/11?
- Does the port always make sure there are inspectors on duty in secondary with expertise in documents and stamps?

Treatment of Emirates and Saudis.

- How did inspectors view Saudis pre 9/11? Ever considered a threat to national security?
 - At JFK, did you ever notice that any particular nationalities were treated any differently than others?
 - What about Saudis in particular?
 - How did the treatment affect adjudication of Saudis?
 - If you could not communicate with a Saudi, what would you do?
 - Were there any Arabic speakers in INS inspections at JFK? Did you always have to rely on the airlines?
 - Would the airline help you out?

Profiling.

- What unusual characteristics about an alien applying for admission would cause you concern and result in a referral to secondary?

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9/11 Law Enforcement
Sensitive

- What would be the nature of your concern; what would you think was wrong?

Deferred inspection.

- Please describe the SOP for conducting a deferred inspection.
 - What databases would you look at?
 - Would you call up the INS Inspections Results? If yes, what did you conclude about that inspection?
 - Did you have the ability to conduct a de novo finding on the propriety of the admission which the alien had questions about?
- What types of requests come under the rubric of deferred inspection?
- Would a request to change an I-94 length of stay, without filing any extension of stay, be normally defined as a deferred inspection?

- How routine was it to have a request for a change on an I-94, without a filing of an extension of stay? Or was this a common mistake visitors would make?

Atta's deferred inspection. (show documents).

- **Where do you normally work?**
- **Where were you working on May 2, 2001?**
- **Do you recollect Atta** (did in DOJ OIG interview)?
- **Do you recollect whether he had a companion with him?** I'm going to show you photos of two possible companions. Do you recognize either?
- **Please describe what happened.**
- **Do you recollect whether you ever asked to see Atta's companion's travel documents?**
- **Did you review Atta's passport and visa? Did you check to see if any potential fraud?**
- **Primary inspection report (show travel document copies and report):**
 - Electronic printout of "INS Inspection Results" for Atta on January 10, 2001, reads: (read data fields)
 - Primary inspector [redacted] wrote:
 - "Pax turned in a I20AB but has (not) had a response, meanwhile he's attending flight training school, already in school for 5/6 months, please verify.
 - Secondary inspector [redacted] wrote: "Subj applied for M-1. I.S. Adjusted Status. No overstay/ No removal grounds found."
 - Did you look up this report when you adjudicated Atta?
 - Would the inspection results have changed your adjudication of Atta's I-94 if you were aware of them? (would you have let him keep his 8 month stay?)
- Did you check CLAIMS for any pending applications? The Student / School System to call and verify whether Atta was attending school? NIIS for prior entries?
- Do you recall whether you got any help in translation or whether you could communicate in English with Atta?
- What documents did you request Atta show you?
- What documents did Atta show you?
- Any recollection of whether Atta mentioned he was attending flight school? Any recollection if he showed you an I-20? Mentioned that still in school?
- Is a continuation of flight training, the type of flight training that requires a change of status, fit into a legitimate B2 activity?

- Did he exhibit any unusual behavioral characteristics during the screening that caused you any concern?
- Did you check whether he had a return ticket?
- Was there consideration given that perhaps he was a student with the wrong visa type?
- **Admission stamp in passport (show).**
 - Did you write "Void" on the Jan. 10 admission stamp with "B2" initials "BR" and "@ Miami..."?
 - On the new stamp you wrote used your stamp, but back dated to Jan. 10, and wrote in "B2" until 71801?
 - Did you stamp the new I-94 with stamp no.
 - Did you intend to void out the stamp with admission no. as well?
 - Why didn't you stamp the passport?
- **I-94 (show).**
 - Is the notation "I-94 was issued at MIA II 1903, I-94 was issued in error, new I-94 was issued at DIF-MVA. Same validity of time." Your writing? Please translate.
 - Did you stamp his passport as well?
 - What did you do with the I-94 once you changed it?
 - Did Atta and INS both get copies?
 - If you didn't stamp the passport, doesn't that mean that an inspector looking at the passport, if the data hadn't yet been entered into NIIS, determined that Atta had until September 18 to stay in the US?
- **NonImmigrant Information System (show).**
 - Did you complete this information? Inspector no. again is
- **I-94 told DOJ OIG appeared fraudulent.**
 - Any of these I-94s I'm showing you now?

Changes at DHS.

- What changes do you see on the front line with the new CBP?
- Are you familiar with National Targeting Center?
- What effect has US VISIT had on entry and the inspection process?
- Use and value of SEVIS.
- Adequate access to DOS visa via the Consular Consolidated Database.
- If you had a message for Commissioner Bonner what would it be?

FBI - N. Miami Beach office

1205 016 - 2X

1 person in Chrome
description of person
hypoxia.



3-25-03

ATA:--

- ① Last entry in July - why not referred to Indy?
- ② I-539 - terminated - abandoned - go back + get proper visa to return.