

# **The Immigration and Naturalization Service's Contacts With Two September 11 Terrorists:**

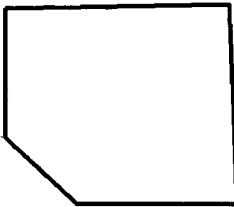
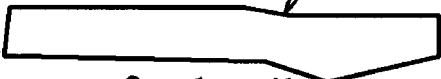
A Review of the INS's Admissions of Mohamed Atta and Marwan Alshehhi, its Processing of their Change of Status Applications, and its Efforts to Track Foreign Students in the United States



Office of the Inspector General  
May 20, 2002

Patti Sumter

Steve Fallowfield: -



DOJ 016 re doc fraud ~~re~~ to provide passports for chry couriers & never connected to 9.11 & investigated 9.11 & nothing came of it.

Pled. convicted fraud

- for all reps of who was/wasn't working on that day. (re daily logs).
- never affirmatively determined wh Atta connected to Barrigan.
- how did ~~the~~ INS verify that daily log (INS MIA sure they saw one) was the original & unaltered?

PATTY SUMNER, who ran OIG investigation

↳ Steve Fallonfield FALLON in MIA in OIG.GC.

would know [redacted] bit. 616-0633

o FBI may have interviewed inspectors, but we never got them. Ask Steve

o <sup>DOJ/OIG</sup> Never interview any of other hijacker inspectors.

JRR: Where is the daily log sheet for MIA 1-10-01?

JRR: Why weren't the inspectors of Atta's entry of w/no. 1955 not asked about the inspection stamps?

9/11 Law Enforcement Privacy

[redacted]: 2-24-04 phone call

- Miami used to be very strict; surprised let off. <sup>Asia</sup>
- [redacted] was an [redacted] + very professional inspector in early '90s when I at MIA + then I heard he'd gone south
- [redacted], who let in Alomari, was incompetent. continually passed over for ~~get~~ promotion + couldn't even fill out his time sheets correctly

JANICE KEPPART-ROBERTS

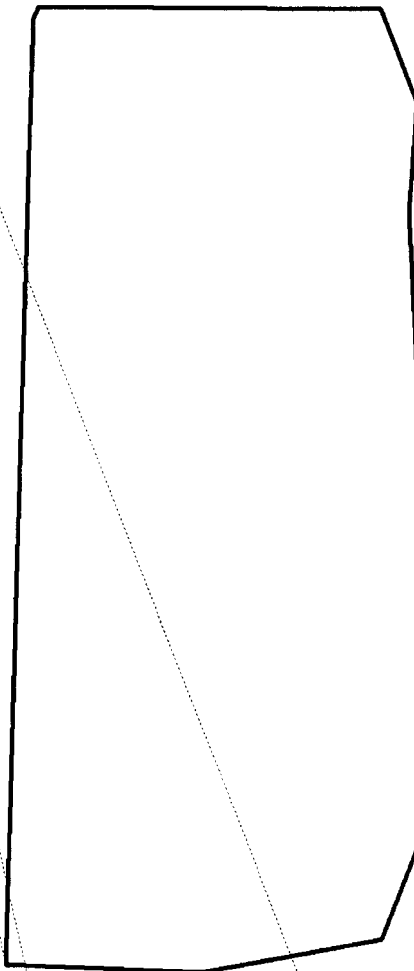
SEPT. 11 COMMISSION 2.23.04 Monday

Request for DOJ/OIG docs underlying the report:  
INS CONTACT with ATTA + AL SITEHHF

Box #  
02 or 071  
97125

Folder: "[redacted] : Atta documents "

Handwritten interview notes:



3.26.02

3.29.02

3.28.02

3.29.02

3.27.02

4.3.02

3.28.02

3.27.02

3.28.02

3.27.02

Memo of investigation [redacted], TSC 2.13.02

Significant Incident Report to INS HQ-TI Command Center  
Miami FL re "Information Concerning Mohamed Atta"  
SII [redacted]; admission stamp 1955 NOT in use 1.10.01

Int'l Terrorism Operations Section NS3: Atta timeline  
3-13-02

Ziglar testimony 9-19-02

Testimony Hoffman Aviation by CEO Rudi Dekkers

Immigration Services Dir Org Chart

Folder: "E & I Atta Documents"

- Interview of ACS' [redacted] 3-27-02
- TX Service Center Interviews 3-19-~~27~~<sup>02</sup>, 2002
- Interview Rudi Dekkers 3-18-02

Folder: "[redacted] documents" (FBI files/interviews)

- Hoffman.....
- FL Flight school training records NOTE: TABBED PAGES ONLY
  - 9-13-01 Interview of Nicole Antini
  - 9-14-01 Interview of [redacted]
  - 9-16-01 Interview of [redacted]
  - 9-15-01 Ref. Lead Control # SF-969
  - <sup>9-13-01</sup> Index of Hoffman Records obtained by FBI [redacted]

Box: [redacted] ATTA DOCS

Folder: "[redacted] Interview Notes"

Please print off floppy discs, including all interviews of JFK inspectors/personnel that are handwritten or, preferably, on floppy.

Folder: "FBI - Miami Field Div"

- 1. Time line pertaining to S Florida
- 2. Mohamed Atta: CES

Folder: "Mohamed Atta - Intel file INS/MIA"

- Memo from Mike Pearson 3-3-00 to regional directors re § 222(g) INA
- Flight itinerary Atta (flagged) (3 p.)
- Student/school system info on Huffman Aviation re Atta (7.17.01 enrolled to)
- Atta 1-10-01 I-94 (2 p.s flagged) "I-94 was issued at MIA I-7.1903, I-94 was issued in error, new I-94 was issued at Def-MIA. Same validity of time." (July 9 date)
- Atta passenger query - SII

Folder: "Witnesses": All (includes interviews of inspectors)

No folder: Interview [redacted] INS Miami District

(2 pages of <sup>typed</sup> interview only) 1-24-02

Interview [redacted] TSC 2-13-02 (1 page only)

Folders: "Hoffman - Miami District Office"

• INS school certification for Hoffman Aviation 10/1/99

Note: Marwan AlShehki inspector 1.21.01 @ JFK; according to JPK:

Terminal 1SIF [redacted] 1000-1800

SIF [redacted] 1250-2000

Ass't Area Port Director: James T. Hayes 0800-1600

II [redacted] 1000-1800

II [redacted] 0800-1600

• Daily Attendance Report Terminal One 1/18/01

Box 02 or 072 97125

Folder: [redacted] docs

Interviews of [redacted]

[redacted]

- II Atlanta
- SSII JFK
- II Newark, NJ
- II Newark, NJ
- AAPD JFK
- II JFK retired
- SII JFK Training Officer
- SII JFK Training Officer
- APD JFK
- SII JFK
- II JFK

Folder: [redacted] docs

Interviews of [redacted]

Annette Bywaters

[redacted]

- APD MIA
- INS Deputy Port Director MIA
- II MIA
- SII MDO
- II MDO
- SII MIA
- II MIA
- II MIA
- ADD (E) INS Mia District
- SOI MIA
- INS SA OLDET
- SII MIA
- SII MIA
- II MIA
- SII MIA

Atta 1-10-01 stamp # [redacted]

Atta 1-10-01 stamp # [redacted]



Folder: "Documents Produced by INS in response to OIG document request"

- INS holds SOPs for processing 9-11 investigation
- INS SOURCE [redacted] : email & legal analysis of Atta's entry 3-14-02 (NOT attached printouts)

WHOLE FOLDER COPIED PLEASE  
(legal <sup>internal</sup> discussions, notly)

Box 02 or 069 97125 Atta

Folders: (MOI's, including all [redacted] MOI's)

• Interview [redacted] 11.27.01 by [redacted]

2 I-94s b/c made mistake of 7st info + I-20, thinking Atta had an M-1 visa, + gave 8 mos. When realized the I-94 was wrong, ~~did another in~~ 6 mos. referred to 2ndary b/c Atta needed an M-1. Said [redacted] had nothing to do w/it b/c was off shift at time. Recalled inspection

• Interview [redacted] 3.20.02 by [redacted]

• " " " 4.17.02 " " "

• Interview MIA District Exams [redacted] 1.31.02

by [redacted]

• Interview II [redacted] 12.20.01 by [redacted]

- didn't have to roll back I-94 date [redacted] <sup>checked</sup>
- checked in 2ndary + found
- Atta had filed for extension of stay + change of states, so okay.

• interview of SIT [redacted] by [redacted] 3.19.02

[redacted] not on duty

- thought Atta already approved states duty b/c [redacted]
- didn't think leaving duty pend of app = abandonment

• Interview II

• Interview SIT [redacted] by [redacted] 4.16.02

" " " " " " 3.19.02

4.22.02

5.28.02

• Inspection Reports address Visa-Warner Program

• Interview SIT [redacted] 12.22.01 by [redacted]

SIT [redacted] experienced + never spoke to zoning re Atta.

conflict -  
yes I-20  
no I-20

no on  
Garrigan

STE

Folder: "Docs INS - Miami docs; rec'd from [redacted]; rec'd by Steve Followfield"

- DOJ/INS Memo: Comm's Annual Awards Program  
8.4.97. re TDF teams to detect terrorists, smugglers etc for 180-220 flights per day + 19K to 25K passengers/day.
- TDF Adverse Actions for 1999 part of curriculum @  
NOTE: - Daily Time Sheets kept, @ Imm Officer Academy  
- vocational student defined @ § 101(a)(15)(H) INA 8/97
- Immigration Inspector Post Academy Training Program  
Unit #6 "Alien Documentation, Identification + Telecommunication System"
- MOU on Provider Data p. 2-8:
  - Airline IATA code; passenger last + first departure + flight #; US arrival location, number of DOS; IATA codes + date of flight arrival.
  - in return, INS will process w/in [redacted] by 4:00 passengers as arrive thru exit.
- Memos on field guidance on deferred inspection 11/28/01 + 11/14/01
- Classification symbols + max admission periods.
- I-20A-B instructions ("M visas ALWAYS needs extra support docs")
- Fraud training outline: passenger profiling: when to start looking closer

terrorism drugs + fraud

MIA-IAP Pre Academy Training

Folder: "INS Intel docs provided by [redacted]"

- NALLS LOOKOUT INFO (Envelope) contains: NA/US lookouts on Atta; report by NSU [redacted] re Atta's travel

a. Mohammad Atta w/ stolen Belgian passport 2035-1-84

9 of 15

Folder: "INS JFK Docs Rec'd from APD [redacted]"

SIF [redacted], SIF [redacted]

COPY ENTIRE FILE: 222(g)

- memo from Miranda to EEO re overstap ineligible to reenter US for 5 yrs <sup>+ void visa</sup> 1.9.97
- memo from [redacted] re 222(g) 3.3.00
- email from [redacted] re Texas fraudulent flight schools ([redacted] w/ 4 in good standing) 11.21.01
- Application for Waiver of Passport / Visa
- handwritten list of NIV waivers w/ fee went from 128 in <sup>Aug</sup> July 01 to 54 in 10.01 to 0 in 2.02
- 8.9.94 memo to field re processing of I-20s
- 8.7.01 [redacted] <sup>email</sup> memo re admission stamps use
- admission of M-1 students
- M-1 student visa fraud 11.21.01
- M-1 guidance email 2.25.02
- G-392 Intel Report on "Non-existent M-1 Flight Schools in TX involved in change of NI status" w/ school breakdown + nationalities of "applicants"
- [redacted] email 8.24.01 re M-1 admissions.

NOTE: Applications under § 8 CFR § 212.4 = waivers @ POEs.  
 ↓ exp/mission.

Box 02 or 068 97125

Folder: unlabelled

- INS fax on Atta 1-10-01 entry

NOTE: Deferred Inspection in Inspector's Field Manual 17.1

- "Factors to Consider" when exam admission applicant.
- Database "IBIS Instruction Pamphlet" (also has explanations of other databases)
- ~~Atta's~~ Atta's Movements (timeline)
- al Shehhi's Movements (timeline)
- "2nd <sup>Atta</sup> I-94 - went to deferred on May 2, 2001"

© G-60 Miami- IAP 1955

- FAM 41.61 N10.2 M-1 Applicants period of stay.  
"Period of stay for an M-1 student, whether from admission or through a change of NI classification, is the time necessary to complete the course of study indicated on Form I-20 M-N, Certificate of Eligibility for NI (M-1) Student Status - For Vocational students plus 30 days within which to depart, or 1 year, whichever is less.
- LESC News Release 3-30-99
- Interview of [redacted] 4-3-02 by [redacted]
- INS 9-11-01 Suspected Hijacker Entry Data (what databases checked + what info learned in J+ hrs).
- US INS TSC Enforcement Operations Div 3-12-01
- TSC pamphlet on services offered

## Folder "Issue #2"

- Service Center Processing Time Report TSC 7.01 "  
(I-539s : pending 4d, 818 cases for 282 days)
- 2.24.00 [ ] memo re processing time goals for various applications
- 3.25.02 I-539s ~~data~~ statistics on completions, approvals & denials for fiscal yrs '98, '99, '00 or '01.
- Ziglar's zero tolerance memo 3.22.02
- [ ] 6.18.01 pending app abandoned if leave US.
- FY 2001 Implementation Plan for Imm Benefits Services
- Document Summary: <sup>Atta Student Visa</sup> 8 memos re pre + post CIPRIS project from Louis Berry
- ACE ltr re SEVIS
- Ziglar response to OIG report 7.24.02

Box 02 or 073 9705

Nothing requested.

ATTA / AL SHEHHI report review complete.

Box (untitled)

3 Notebooks of Exhibits for the Atta + al Shehhi  
report — NONE.

## NORTHERN BORDER REPORT

- Folder 1 of 8  
Bkgrd Info
- [3] Follow up Review of BP Efforts Along N. Border 1-2000-01 - Chronology
  - [15] INS N. Border Strategy 1.9.01  
(sets replaced by AG SOpt plan 12.3.01)
  - [19.2] N. Border incidents stats '99-01  
intel resource requests
- Folder 2 of 8  
Bkgrd Info
- [27] 1998 Statistical Yearbook INS
  - [28] FY93-FY98 stats - agents by sector
  - [35] Fact sheet: Presidents 2001 Inaug Budget
  - [38] 8-24-99 Interview re extent of intel activities related to BP on N Border
- Folder 3 of 8 NONE
- Folder 4 of 8 NONE
- Folder 5 of 8 "Operation Northern Passage" strategy
- Folders 6 + 7 of 8 NONE
- Folder 8 of 8 NONE



~~Box~~ This report put indefinitely on hold b/c of transfer of INS to DHS.

WHITE BOX: Following Review of Sevis Implementation

A-2003-005

Report I-2003-003

Section B - Background

Section C - Interviews

- B-15: Sevis Training at Ports of Entry

WHITE BOX A-2002-01 Review of the Foreign Student & Exchange Visitor Program

- Index
- ~~to~~ Folder 1 of 1 WORKPAPER SECTION C
  - ALL - CIPRIS / SEVIS bkgrnd info including
    - school assoc comments / interviews ACE / NAFSA pre + post 9/11

Folder 1 of 2 WORKPAPER SECTION D

Laws / Regs / Policies

D1-9 : Laws re SEVIS D1-6

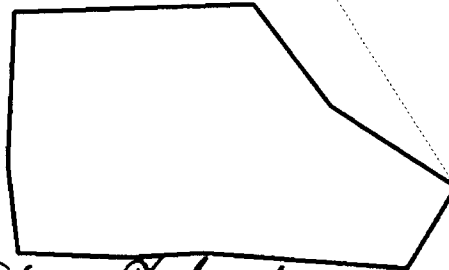
Laws re Entry - Exit D7-9

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Folder 2 of 2 D - NONE

Folder 1 of 1 WORKPAPER SECTION E -

- Headquarters Interviews - ALL



State Dept interviews.

Folder 1 of 1 WORKPAPER SECTION F

- INS Atlanta District Office F-1 - F-8  
Interviews re CIPRIS

Folder 1 of 1 WORKPAPER SECTION F San Fran District  
re CIPRIS - NONE

Folder 1 of 1 : WORKPAPER SECTION H  
INS Chicago District Office  
CIPRIS - NONE

Folder 1 of 1 : WORKPAPER SECTION G  
NYC District Office  
CIPRIS - NONE

**Janice Kephart-Roberts**

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**From:** WINVSEC@[REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 25, 2004 2:42 PM  
**To:** Janice Kephart-Roberts  
**Subject:** Re: Bahamas

In a message dated 2/25/2004 2:35:20 PM Eastern Standard Time, jkephart-roberts@9-11commission.gov writes:

Do you know whether the daily log at MIA for the inspectors on duty for Atta were ever reviewed? Or a determination made if there was ever a relationship b/w Atta's inspectors and [REDACTED]?

I know both the Miami FBI and DOJ/OIG (Ft. Lauderdale Office) pulled and reviewed all the MIA Inspection records related to [REDACTED] and the Inspectors who may have had anything to do with Atta.

**Janice Kephart-Roberts**

9/11 Personal Privacy

**From:** WINVSEC@[redacted]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 25, 2004 11:27 AM  
**To:** Janice Kephart-Roberts  
**Cc:** Walter Hempel  
**Subject:** Re: Bahamas

In a message dated 2/25/2004 9:36:08 AM Eastern Standard Time, jkephart-roberts@9-11commission.gov writes:

We're not sure, but that is a good help. Thanks.

If you learn anything else about [redacted] and the info that he had something to do with Atta getting in, could you let me know? Thanks.

Best info on [redacted] that I know is he was only coincidentally connected to the Atta matter and the lead info about him being bribed to let him in never amounted to anything. But, I left before the final verdict on all that.

9/11 Law Enforcement Privacy

2/25/2004

**Janice Kephart-Roberts**

9/11 Personal Privacy

**From:** WINVSEC@[REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 24, 2004 6:16 PM  
**To:** Janice Kephart-Roberts  
**Subject:** Bahamas

Janice,

Yesterday, Walt Hempel called me and asked about a couple of issues. One of which was the unsuccessful attempt by two of the 9-11 hijackers to go to the Bahamas from FLA and if there had been any other indications of anything linked to the Bahamas. I told Walt, to the best of my recollection, there had not been. After my conversation with him, I did remember that there had been, pre-9/11, general Intel about the Bahamas being a transit country for Mideast and Arab Nation aliens being smuggled into the US...allegedly the same way other aliens were being smuggled - surreptitiously by motor boats along the South FLA coast. The Intel was never very specific, and I only recall the very occasional intercept of a smuggling load containing such nationalities and then it was always one or two mixed with the usual Haitian and Jamaican majority load...but, every now and then there would be such a person or two found in a load, so there was at least some credibility to the intelligence. Now, were the two 9-11 thugs headed to the Bahamas to arrange transport for a coconspirator? Or, just to reenter to renew their visa time? Or, soem other reason? Anyway, I thought I'd pass this along.

Hope all is well otherwise.

Bill

2/25/2004