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Lockerbie

By Anthony Shell

[Note: This is an extensively updated version of a report originally published in The UK Column, in June 2012.] 1

Introduction

At 18.25 hours on the 21st December 1988 Pan Am 103 departed from Heathrow for the 8-hour flight to New York. Approximately 37 minutes after take off (at 19:02 hours, local time) – at a cruising height of 31,000 feet – a bomb exploded in the cargo hold, destroying the aircraft and killing all 259 passengers and crew. Falling aircraft debris killed a further 11 people in the small Scottish town of Lockerbie. ^{2 3 4}

There is evidence that in the immediate aftermath of the attack UK State agencies were instructing mainstream media to promulgate the particular narrative – that it was Iran who had been responsible for that atrocity (aided by Syria, and executed by PLO terrorist proxy-groups). ⁵

This report provides an examination of public-domain evidence (some of which has apparently since been removed by State agencies) concerning that particular terrorist attack.

The Investigation

On the 31st August 1987, and again on the 26th April 1988, troop-trains carrying US service personal were subjected to bomb attacks in Hedemünden, West Germany (fortunately with no fatalities). Those attacks were carried out by members of a PFLP-GC cell, led by Hafez Kassem DALKAMONI, operating from a base in Düsseldorf and Frankfurt. ^{6 7} There is also evidence that, at that time, the DALKAMONI cell was

¹ 'Abdelbaset Al-Megrahi, Lockerbie – And The Lies We Have Been Told', by Tony Shell, the UK Column newspaper, June 2012, pages 19 to 21.

² 'The Lockerbie bombing or the Lockerbie air disaster – an orthodox view', by Martin Frost, 13th March 2012, source: http://www.martinfrost.ws/htmlfiles/locherbie1.html

³ 'Victims of Pan Am Flight 103', source: http://www.victimsofpanamflight103.org/victims

⁴ Had the aircraft left at its scheduled departure time of 18:00 hours (instead of the actual 18:25 hours) then if it is assumed that a timing device only was used to trigger the bomb (the official version) then the aircraft would have been destroyed over the Western Isles. Based on a ground speed of 430 knots, and a heading of 321 degrees True North.

⁵ "It is sometimes forgotten just how powerful the evidence was, in the first few months after Lockerbie, that pointed towards the involvement of the Palestinian-Syrian terror group the PFLP-GC, backed by Iran and linked closely to terror groups in Europe. At The Scotsman newspaper, which I edited then, we were strongly briefed by police and ministers to concentrate on this link, with revenge for an American rocket attack on an Iranian airliner as the motive."... "This line of inquiry was heavily promoted by the US and UK Governments for two years until the invasion of Kuwait, when the coincidental requirement to use Iranian airpsace to bomb Iraq became a priority. Libya was then identified as the prime suspect. ... The involvement of Iran and Syria has been promoted consistently as an alternate explanation for the Lockerbie event, and PFLP-GC group member Mohamed Abu Talb was named by the two accused, Megrahi and Fhimah, in their special defence of incrimination. ... Talb's alleged involvement was held to be at the root of the event in the case compiled by Juval Aviv on behalf of Pan Am's insurers. Aviv was a former agent of Israeli secret service Mossad, creating a further link to US intelligence of the heavily promoted Iran/Syria connection to the event.", 'Exclusive: Former Scotsman editor confirms government and CIA influence over Lockerbie investigation', The Firm, source: http://www.firmmagazine.com/exclusive-former-scotsman-editor-confirms-government-and-cia-influence-over-lockerbie-investigation'

⁶ PFLP-GC: Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine – General Command

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involved in smuggling of heroin from the Bekaa Valley region of Lebanon into Western Europe, via the Cyprus / Yugoslavia/ West Germany trafficking route. ^{8 9}

In late September 1988 a meeting (over approximately a two-week period) was convened in a PFLP-GC 'safe house' in Krusevac Yugoslavia. The purpose of the meeting was to plan a campaign to bomb civil passenger aircraft, and was hosted by the local PFLP-GC commander, Mobdi GOBEN. Those attending included: Hafez Kassem DALKAMONI; Abdel Fattah GHADANFAR; Salah KWEIKS; and Marwan KHREESAT. ¹⁰ Notably one of the attendees, the bomb-making specialist Marwan KHREESAT, was secretly working in collaboration with the Jordanian intelligence service (GID) – an organization that has had a close working relationship with US intelligence agencies.

Following the conclusion of that meeting, Hafez Kassem DALKAMONI made a brief visit to the island of Cyprus, before returning to Germany (arriving in Cyprus on the 4th October, returning to Frankfurt on the 5th October 1988). ¹¹ ¹² On the 13th October GID operative Marwan KHREESAT flew into Frankfurt (from Jordan) to begin assembling IEDs needed for the DALKAMONI cell's aircraft bombing campaign. ¹³

The design of those IEDs was such as to enable each device to be concealed within commonly available radio or hi-fi equipment (including Toshiba-manufactured radio-cassette players). A characteristic feature of the IED electrical circuitry was that detonation would occur approximately 30 minutes, 45 minutes, or 60 minutes after being armed by the barometric sensor (depending on the choice of IED components). ¹⁴ ¹⁵ ¹⁶

⁷ Intelligence information on: Haj Hafez Kassem DALKOMINI; Adbel Fatah GHADANFAR; Marwan Abdel-Razzaq Mufdi KHREESAT; Martin KADORAH; salah Salmon Fiaz KWEIKS; Habib DAJHANI (Cyprus resident) given in a letter to Mr. Jean-Louis Bruguiere, First Investigating Magistrate At The Court of First Instance of Paris, 'Attack Committed on September 19, 1989 against DC 10 of The UTA Airline, Flight UT 772', Ministry of The Interior, General Department of National Police Department of Territory Surveillance, France, 9th March 1990. See page 9 with respect to the 1987 and 1988 troop train bombings in West Germany.

⁸ Letter to Mr. Jean-Louis Bruguiere, First Investigating Magistrate At The Court of First Instance of Paris, 'Attack Committed on September 19, 1989 against DC 10 of The UTA Airline, Flight UT 772', Ministry of The Interior, General Department of National Police Department of Territory Surveillance, France, 9th March 1990. On page 13 there is a reference to heroin being found in a car belonging to Martin KADORAH, an associate of Haj Hafez Kassem DALKOMINI and a member of the PFLP-GC/Neuss cell.

⁹ 'Khreesat Advises – Partial Summary of Interviews with Marwan Khreesat', FD302 Format, compiled by Special Agent Edward Marsham, FBI, November 1989. Crown production 1851. Portions read at trial by agent Marsham (witness N° 540), day 76, 5th December 2000, and transcribed. Partially re-created by page number by Caustic Logic, April 2010. See, in particular, pages 2 and 3 with references to the smuggling by Mobdi Goben (aka 'Abu Fuad').

¹⁰ Salah Salmon Fiaz KWEIKS (alternative spellings: KWIKES; KWEKES). Also known as Ramzi DIAB, and as Salah Suleiman KOUFIKESS (born on Akko, in Israel in 1959). Letter to Mr. Jean-Louis Bruguiere, First Investigating Magistrate At The Court of First Instance of Paris, 'Attack Committed on September 19, 1989 against DC 10 of The UTA Airline, Flight UT 772', Ministry of The Interior, General Department of National Police Department of Territory Surveillance, France, 9th March 1990, page 10

¹¹ Reference to Dalkamoni visiting Cyprus on the 4th October 1988. See: SCOTTISH CRIMINAL CASES REVIEW COMMISSION STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER SECTION 194D (4) OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995 - Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed Al Megrahi, convicted of murder on the 31st January 2001 at The High Court of Justiciary sitting at Kamp van Zeist in the Netherlands, reference paragraph 18.28.

¹² See reference to Dalkamoni returning to West Germany on the 5th October 1988, after a trip to Cyprus, and of being under police surveillance. 'Megrahi, You Are My Jury – The Lockerbie Evidence', John Ashton, Birlinn Ltd., Edinburgh 2012, page 31

¹³ Khreesat flew into Frankfurt Airport on the 13th October 1988, accompanied by his wife, from Jordan. See: 'Khreesat Advises – Partial Summary of Interviews with Marwan Khreesat', FD302 Format, compiled by Special Agent Edward Marsham, FBI, November 1989. Crown production 1851. Portions read at trial by agent Marsham (witness N° 540), day 76, 5th December 2000, and transcribed. Partially re-created by page number by Caustic Logic, April 2010, page 5

¹⁴ Letter to Mr. Jean-Louis Bruguiere, First Investigating Magistrate At The Court of First Instance of Paris, 'Attack Committed on September 19, 1989 against DC 10 of The UTA Airline, Flight UT 772', Ministry of The Interior, General Department of National Police Department of Territory Surveillance, France, 9th March 1990. See page 24

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A key figure in these preparations to bomb civil passenger aircraft was a person named as Abu ELIAS.

The evidence is that Abu ELIAS arrived in Germany on the 22nd October 1988, with the declared purpose of meeting senior members of the DALKAMONI/Neuss cell (in particular, DALKAMONI and KHREESAT).

Marwan KHREESAT alleges that it was there two days later (on the 24th October 1988) that Abu ELIAS allegedly produced "the fifth device" – a Toshiba radio cassette player containing a concealed bomb. ¹⁷ KHREESAT also alleges that Abu ELIAS had reportedly claimed that he had first been shown this particular type of IED in 1987. ¹⁸ In an interview with the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Marwan KHREESAT described Abu ELIAS as "an expert in airport security" who "had all of the details about how to get the IEDs on the aircraft." ¹⁹

It is known that an important meeting had been scheduled for the 28th October 1988 between the DALKAMONI/Neuss cell members, and the PFLP-GC head of 'western region operations' Mohamed HADID ²⁰. The meeting was to be held in Yugoslavia. ²¹ Included in that meeting was an associate of Hafez Kassem DALKAMONI by the name of Habib DAJHANI – a resident of Nicosia, Cyprus. ²²

However, as it transpired, the DALKAMONI cell members were unable to attend that meeting – on the 26th October 1988 the West German police arrested 16 members of the DALKAMONI cell. Two of those arrested – Hafez Kassem DALKAMONI and Marwan KHREESAT – were apparently on their way to a meeting with Abu ELIAS when apprehended by West German police. ²³ Subsequently all but two of those arrested were released without charge. Hafez Kassem DALKAMONI (the cell leader) and Abdel Fattah GHADANFAR were both charged, but only in connection with the earlier train bombings for which they subsequently faced trial, were found guilty, and served long terms of imprisonment.

¹⁵ 'Khreesat Advises – Partial Summary of Interviews with Marwan Khreesat', FD302 Format, compiled by Special Agent Edward Marsham, FBI, November 1989. Crown production 1851. Portions read at trial by agent Marsham (witness N° 540), day 76, 5th December 2000, and transcribed. Partially re-created by page number by Caustic Logic, April 2010, page 32

¹⁶ The actual detonation times are dependent on the design characteristics of the electrical circuitry (a delay of 30, 45 or 60 minutes, depending on the combination of components) added to the time taken for the aircraft to climb to the altitude at which the barometric sensor activates the timer (i.e. at, reportedly, a sensed air pressure of lower than 950MBars).

¹⁷ 'Khreesat Advises – Partial Summary of Interviews with Marwan Khreesat', FD302 Format, compiled by Special Agent Edward Marsham, FBI, November 1989. Crown production 1851. Portions read at trial by agent Marsham (witness N° 540), day 76, 5th December 2000, and transcribed. Partially re-created by page number by Caustic Logic, April 2010, page 24

¹⁸ 'Khreesat Advises – Partial Summary of Interviews with Marwan Khreesat', FD302 Format, compiled by Special Agent Edward Marsham, FBI, November 1989. Crown production 1851. Portions read at trial by agent Marsham (witness N° 540), day 76, 5th December 2000, and transcribed. Partially re-created by page number by Caustic Logic, April 2010, page 10

¹⁹ 'Khreesat Advises – Partial Summary of Interviews with Marwan Khreesat', FD302 Format, compiled by Special Agent Edward Marsham, FBI, November 1989. Crown production 1851. Portions read at trial by agent Marsham (witness N° 540), day 76, 5th December 2000, and transcribed. Partially re-created by page number by Caustic Logic, April 2010, pages 10, 20, and 22

²⁰ Also known as Abu JASSIM.

²¹ 'Khreesat Advises – Partial Summary of Interviews with Marwan Khreesat', FD302 Format, compiled by Special Agent Edward Marsham, FBI, November 1989. Crown production 1851. Portions read at trial by agent Marsham (witness N° 540), day 76, 5th December 2000, and transcribed. Partially re-created by page number by Caustic Logic, April 2010, page 5

Letter to Mr. Jean-Louis Bruguiere, First Investigating Magistrate At The Court of First Instance of Paris, 'Attack Committed on September 19, 1989 against DC 10 of The UTA Airline, Flight UT 772', Ministry of The Interior, General Department of National Police Department of Territory Surveillance, France, 9th March 1990. See page 11

²³ 'Khreesat Advises – Partial Summary of Interviews with Marwan Khreesat', FD302 Format, compiled by Special Agent Edward Marsham, FBI, November 1989. Crown production 1851. Portions read at trial by agent Marsham (witness N° 540), day 76, 5th December 2000, and transcribed. Partially re-created by page number by Caustic Logic, April 2010, page 7

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There is no record of Abu ELIAS ever having been arrested.

Mobdi GOBEN was (reportedly) to later make a 'death bed confession' saying that he had helped coordinate the Lockerbie bombing from Yugoslavia, and that the operation's controller was Abu ELIAS who had planted the bomb on 20-year-old student Khaled JAAFAR. According to Mobdi GOBEN's wife (Miroslava) Abu ELIAS had met Khaled JAAFAR in Belgrade in early December 1988.

However nobody was charged with conspiracy to bomb civil passenger aircraft, despite the discovery of airline timetables, and explosives and a barometric arming mechanism for an IED. A key member of the DALKAMONI cell, Salah KWEIKS (also known as Ramzi DIAB), was released almost immediately – enabling him to leave Germany on the 28th October to travel to (it is believed) Yugoslavia. The GID operative Marwan KHREESAT was released (also without charge) approximately two weeks later. ²⁴

The known activities of Salah KWEIKS, both before the 'Autumn Leaves' police raid on the 26th October 1988 and events in the weeks following that raid reveal the important role KWEIKS played in the DALKAMONI-cell preparations for a bombing campaign against civil passenger aircraft. This is highly significant – given the considerable efforts that have been made to conceal evidence that Salah KWEIKS was an operative for the Israeli foreign intelligence service (MOSSAD). ²⁵ ²⁶

Of special interest in this regard are the reported attempts to block those investigating possible collaborative links between the PFLP-GC and the Israeli internal security agency Shin Bet – and to permanently remove any such information from the public domain (i.e. from the Internet). ²⁷

In late November 1988 the PFLP-GC 'safe house', in the Yugoslavian village of Krusevac (Yugoslavia), was raided by the State police. Other PFLP-GC members have stated that they were told that they would be meeting Abu ELIAS at that meeting, but that he had failed to appear.

²⁴ Letter to Mr. Jean-Louis Bruguiere, First Investigating Magistrate At The Court of First Instance of Paris, 'Attack Committed on September 19, 1989 against DC 10 of The UTA Airline, Flight UT 772', Ministry of The Interior, General Department of National Police Department of Territory Surveillance, France, 9th March 1990. See pages 9 and 10

²⁵ "On the 26 October 1988 Special Operations Command ... One of those seized was Ramzi Diab, born in Akko [Acre] Israel in 1959. In the 'Autumn Leaves' report Diab is considred to be only incidental, and is noted [by the investigators] as a person 'of no interest'. But this is far from the truth. The BfV knew that Diab had been approached to play a dangerous double game. Diab is said to have been subsequently exposed by the PFLP-GC and executed [as a MOSSAD agent]." See: 'Der To dim Herbstlaub', Der Spiegel, No 16, 1994

²⁶ "The documents are concerned with the 'Autumn Leaves' operation from 1988 and name several double agents, among them the dubious Ramzi Diab, a.k.a. Qweik Salah Selman Teiz [sic]. He was cooperating with MOSSAD, giving them information on how the PFLP-GC in Frankfurt was preparing a major attack on a Spanish international airline in the last half of 1988." [nota bene: this comment was post on the 1st November 2000, during the course of the Lockerbie/Kamp van Zeist trial] See: http://www.starbucks.ca/CapitolHill/5260/latest23.html

²⁷ "I had learned from a recently released U.S. National Archives file that Shin Bet, the Israeli Security Agency, had infiltrated the PFLP and helped the Entebbe hijackers (Israeli commandos rescued the hostages in Uganda in 1976), so I wanted to learn more about the link between the PFLP and the PFLP-GC. I also wanted to learn more about allegations made by David Colvin, the first secretary of the British Embassy in Paris, concerning the rather bizarre collaboration between the PFLP and the Shin Bet. As I could not locate the article in which I had learned about the allegations, I consulted the article on the Entebbe Operation on Wikipedia, where I knew the story had been noted. To my surprise, I found that all references to the alleged collaboration between the PFLP and the Shin Bet had been suppressed. Moreover, it is no longer possible to edit the page.", 'Wikipedia and the Intelligence Services - Is the Net's popular encyclopedia marred by disinformation?', Intelligence Search, 2007, source: of http://www.intelligencesearch.com/ia138.html.

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The police action resulted in the uncovering of a hoard of weapons and bomb-making equipment, however Mobdi GOBEN managed to elude capture. Notably Abu ELIAS had (yet again) failed to turn up for a meeting. ²⁸ The obvious assumption (reasonably made) is that either: (a) Abu ELIAS was somehow forewarned; or (b) that he was, in fact, a part of a State initiated 'sting' operation.

On the 8th May 1987 a person by the name of Hafez HUSSEIN purchased \$5,850 in travelers cheques from the Societe Bancaire Arabe (SBA) in Cyprus. ²⁹ A week later, on the 14th May 1987, a person named as Basel BUSHNAQ deposited those same cheques into an account at the RIGGS NATIONAL BANK (Washington DC). ³⁰ 31 32

The importance of that event is this: the use by the terrorist Hafez Kassem DALKAMONI of the alias Hafez HUSSEIN; the observations of DALKAMONI's connections (and numerous visits) to the island of Cyprus; and the links between the RIGGS NATIONAL BANK and the CIA. 33 34 35

The relationship between the RIGGS BANK and the CIA was not revealed until some 17 years later, as a result of US Justice Department investigations into money laundering. In February 2005 the RIGGS NATIONAL BANK was fined \$16million by the US Justice Department after pleading guilty to violation of the US Bank Secrecy Act. The bank had come under intense scrutiny following reports that it had "overlooked tens of millions of dollars in suspicious transactions by Saudi diplomats and dictators from Africa and South America". ³⁶

²⁸ 'Megrahi, You Are My Jury – The Lockerbie Evidence', John Ashton, Birlinn Ltd., Edinburgh 2012, pages 33 and 44 to 45

²⁹ The Societe Bancaire Arabe SA was registered in Cyprus on the 12th April 1986

³⁰ Basel Bushnaq, believed to be a USA resident. Bushnaq is alternatively spelt as Bushanak, Buchnak or Boshnak.

³¹ 'Bushnaq' – an Arabic term for people of Bosnian (Bosniac) origin who were conscripted into the armies of the Ottoman Empire at the end of the 19th Century

³² SCOTTISH CRIMINAL CASES REVIEW COMMISSION STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER SECTION 194D (4) OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995 - Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed Al Megrahi, convicted of murder on the 31st January 2001 at The High Court of Justiciary sitting at Kamp van Zeist in the Netherlands, reference paragraph 14.151 (page 368) of that SCCR report.

³³ Alternative spellings: DALKAMOUNI; DELKAMOUNI; and DALKAMINI. Also known as Hafez Muhammad HUSSEIN (born in Damascus 28th September 1945); Hafez Muhammad Quasem; Kassen HAFEZ; EL HAJ; Hafis Muhamed; Abu MOHAMED. Source: Intelligence information on: Haj Hafez Kassem DALKOMINI; Adbel Fatah GHADANFAR; Marwan Abdel-Razzaq Mufdi KHREESAT; Martin KADORAH; salah Salmon Fiaz KWEIKS; Habib DAJHANI (Cyprus resident) given in a letter to Mr. Jean-Louis Bruguiere, First Investigating Magistrate At The Court of First Instance of Paris, 'Attack Committed on September 19, 1989 against DC 10 of The UTA Airline, Flight UT 772', Ministry of The Interior, General Department of National Police Department of Territory Surveillance, France, 9th March 1990, page 8

³⁴ In February 2005 the RIGGS NATIONAL BANK was fined \$16million by the US Justice Department after pleading guilty to violation of the US Bank Secrecy Act. The bank had come under intense scrutiny following reports that it had "overlooked tens of millions of dollars in suspicious transactions by Saudi diplomats and dictators from Africa and South America". See: 'Riggs Bank Had Longstanding Link To the CIA – Ties May Pose Challenges For Prosecutors Investigating Money Laundering at Bank', by Glenn R Simpson, Staff Reporter of the Wall Street Journal, 71e Wall Street Journal, 31st December 2004

³⁵ The relationship between the RIGGS BANK and the CIA was not revealed until some 17 years later, as a result of US Justice Department investigations into money laundering. In February 2005 the RIGGS NATIONAL BANK was fined \$16million by the US Justice Department after pleading guilty to violation of the US Bank Secrecy Act. The bank had come under intense scrutiny following reports that it had "overlooked tens of millions of dollars in suspicious transactions by Saudi diplomats and dictators from Africa and South America". See: 'Riggs Bank Had Longstanding Link To the CIA – Ties May Pose Challenges For Prosecutors Investigating Money Laundering at Bank', by Glenn R Simpson, Staff Reporter of the Wall Street Journal, The Wall Street Journal, 31st December 2004

³⁶ See: 'Riggs Bank Had Longstanding Link To the CIA – Ties May Pose Challenges For Prosecutors Investigating Money Laundering at Bank', by Glenn R Simpson, Staff Reporter of the Wall Street Journal, The Wall Street Journal, 31st December 2004

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It is reported that on the 15th August 1988 (i.e. just 4 months <u>before</u> the bombing of Pan Am 103) Basel BUSHNAQ met with FBI agents in Washington DC. Thereafter he continued to have regular contact with the FBI throughout the rest of 1988 and on into 1989. ^{37 38}

In the course of the trial at Camp Zeist (in 2001) the two Libyans charged with the Lockerbie bombing, the Crown Office of Scotland chose not to disclose most of the 28 documents it held in relation to FBI information on Basel BUSHNAQ. In a subsequent letter to the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (SCCRC), the Crown Office asked the Commission to ensure that "his name [Basel BUSHNAQ] is not made public as a result of its [the Commission's] investigations". On three separate occasions the Commission sought to clarify why The Crown Office felt compelled to make this extraordinary demand – however no response was ever received.

There is also this extraordinary comment within the SCCRC report: "According to the [case review] submissions it was apparent from the international Lockerbie conference minutes that Abu Elias was of great interest to investigators, yet very little information was provided about him." ^{41 42} Which (of course) begs the obvious question – why not? As we have seen, Abu Elias was a key figure in the PFLP-GC.

The first public reference to Abu ELIAS (also identified as Khaisar HADDAD) as a key member of the PFLP-GC was made in February 1992: "Abu Elias, according to PLO sources, trained in the East bloc and at a PLO camp in Beirut in the 1970s, where he studied US army manuals secretly purchased by a PLO agent. He came to specialize in airplane bombs, such as the Lockerbie bomb ..." 43 44

³⁷ SCOTTISH CRIMINAL CASES REVIEW COMMISSION STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER SECTION 194D (4) OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995 - Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed Al Megrahi, convicted of murder on the 31st January 2001 at The High Court of Justiciary sitting at Kamp van Zeist in the Netherlands, paragraphs 14.118, 14.130 and 14.153.

^{38 &#}x27;Megrahi, You Are My Jury - The Lockerbie Evidence', John Ashton, Birlinn Ltd., Edinburgh 2012, page 250

³⁹ SCOTTISH CRIMINAL CASES REVIEW COMMISSION STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER SECTION 194D (4) OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995 - Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed Al Megrahi, convicted of murder on the 31st January 2001 at The High Court of Justiciary sitting at Kamp van Zeist in the Netherlands, reference paragraph 14.145.

⁴⁰ This example of the concealment by the authorities of important evidence is by no means unique. In 1994 two people were convicted of detonating a bomb outside the Israeli Embassy. The result of enquiries by the UK Security Service (MI5) led to internal reports that concluded the bombing was instigated by MOSSAD (the Israeli foreign intelligence service) as a classic 'false flag operation. Those MI5 reports were not disclosed during the course of the trial – with the consequence that two people, most probably innocent of the charges, were convicted and sentenced to long periods of imprisonment. See: 'The Israeli Embassy Case', by Annie Machon, source: http://www.anniemachon/files/the_israeli_embassy_case.pdf

⁴¹ SCOTTISH CRIMINAL CASES REVIEW COMMISSION STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER SECTION 194D (4) OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995 - Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed Al Megrahi, convicted of murder on the 31st January 2001 at The High Court of Justiciary sitting at Kamp van Zeist in the Netherlands, reference paragraph 14.164.

⁴² International Lockerbie conference meetings, involving representatives of various national police and crime investigation agencies from Europe and the USA, were held at Meckenheim, West Germany (14th September 1989); Washington DC (12th and 13th June 1990); and an unknown venue (10th January 1990).

⁴³ 'PLO Links Iran With Lockerbie', Marie Colvin, The Sunday Times, 23rd February 1992, source: NewsBank archives.

The reference to an "Army Field Manual" is presumably a reference to FM 30-31B – a document which first surfaced at the Embassy of The Philippines in Bangkok (Thailand) in 1975, and was subsequently supplied to Spanish newspapers two years later (1977) by a member of the Cuban intelligence service. The authenticity of the document (supposedly an 'Appendix B' to FM 30-31) is now widely disputed. See: Soviet Covert Action (The Forgery Offensive), Hearings Before The Subcommittee On Oversight Of The Permanent Select Committee On Intelligence House Of Representatives, Ninety-Sixth Congress, Second Session, February 6, 19, 1980, U.S. Government Printing Office Washington: 1980, Appendix, CIA Study: Soviet Covert Action and Propaganda, Presented to the Oversight Committee, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, House of Representatives, 6 February 1980, by the Deputy Director for Operations, Central Intelligence Agency, [Pages 66-67.], U.S. Army Field Manual FM 30-31B.

It is note that it was in July 2007 that the first newspaper reference was made describing Abu ELIAS as being a former high-ranking official of the PFLP-GC "who lives near Washington DC and has a new identity that the Sunday Express will not divulge". It is also seen as highly significant that that newspaper article also linked Abu ELIAS to the (then) chief suspect for the PA 103 bombing – Abu TALB. ⁴⁵

On the 13th October 1988 Martin IMANDI, a close associate of MOHAMED ABU TALB of the PPSF, based at Uppsala in Sweden [but in Cyprus at that time?] asked MOHAMED MOUGRABI to travel to Neuss and remove TALB group (PPSF) members staying there [in anticipation of the police/BKA raid?] ⁴⁶

Notably Abu TALB had flown (fled?) to Cyprus the day after the assassination of the Swedish Prime Minister Olaf Palme (on the 28th February 1986) – and claimed to have done so only in order to travel on to Egypt (despite earlier claiming that he could not return to Egypt for fear of arrest). ⁴⁷

Mohamed Abu TALB flew to CYPRUS on the 3rd October, whilst (coincidently) DALKAMONI was also on the island. Abu TALB subsequently travelled to Malta on the 19th October 1988, and stayed until the 26th October 1988 when he returned to Sweden (taking with him some Maltese clothes he had purchased). It is reported that he may possibly have returned to Malta later in the year (1988) under a false identity. ⁴⁸

In September 2009 the first reference to a person named as Basel BUSHNAQ, <u>as allegedly being the person using the alias Abu ELIAS</u> (in regard to the bombing of Pan Am 103), was made by the Member of the Scottish Parliament, Christine Grahame: "Why have the US authorities not queried the true identity of Basel Bushnaq alias Abu Elias, a senior figure in the PFLP-GC at the time of the bombing and nephew of Ahmed Jibril, former head of that terrorist organization? Basel Bushnaq currently resides in Washington DC and is in the employ of the schools division." ⁴⁹

From inspection of the partially redacted SCCR report (in which the evidence presented at the Scottish Crown Office trial of Abdelbaset Al MEGRAHI and Al Amin Khalifa FHIMAH, at Camp Zeist in Belgium in 2000, is described) it is seen that it (the SCO) had found that: (1) Abu ELIAS was an alias used by a person named Basel BUSHNAQ; (2) Basel BUSHNAQ was (then) a resident of the USA, who (then) held dual US / Syrian nationality; (3) in May 1987 Basel BUSHNAQ had engaged in financial dealings with the PFLP-GC commander in West Germany, Hafez Kassem DALKAMONI; (4) Basel BUSHNAQ met with US FBI agents in August 1988 (i.e. 4 months <u>prior</u> to the bombing of Pan Am flight 103) – for undisclosed reasons; (5) numerous witnesses also (separately) claimed that Basel BUSHNAQ was Abu ELIAS, and that prior to the bombing of PA 103 he had met the local Yugoslavia PFLP-GC commander, Mobdi GOBEN; (6) Basel BUSHNAQ was interviewed by the FBI in February 1989, purportedly for the purpose of seeking information on Hafez Kassem DALKAMON and on the PA-103 bombing.

⁴⁵ 'Real Bomber Named', Derek Lambie, The Express on Sunday, 1st July 2007, source: NewsBank archives.

^{46 &#}x27;Megrahi You Are My jury - The Lockerbie Evidence', by John Ashton, Birlinn Ltd., Edinburgh, 2012, page 48

⁴⁷ 'Megrahi You Are My jury – The Lockerbie Evidence', by John Ashton, Birlinn Ltd., Edinburgh, 2012, page 257

⁴⁸SCOTTISH CRIMINAL CASES REVIEW COMMISSION STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER SECTION 194D (4) OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995 - Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed Al Megrahi, convicted of murder on the 31st January 2001 at The High Court of Justiciary sitting at Kamp van Zeist in the Netherlands, reference paragraph 18.28 and 18.31; and 'Megrahi You Are My jury – The Lockerbie Evidence', by John Ashton, Birlinn Ltd., Edinburgh, 2012, pages 88 to 92.

⁴⁹ 'Abdelbaset Ali Mohamed al-Megrahi (Decision)', The Scottish Parliament, Plenary, 02 Sep 2009, contribution from Christine Grahame (South of Scotland, SNP), source: http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=4881&mode=html.

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The Scottish Crown Office response to such findings was: (a) to assert that Basel BUSHNAQ had had no connections to the PA-103 bombing; and (b) to redact BUSHNAQ's name from within the SCCR report.

In regard to (4), it is of particular note the report that when interviewed by the Defence Counsel at Camp Zeist, a person named Mahmoud ALMARI admitted to having met with FBI agents on the 15th August 1988, of having visited Yugoslavia and of having friends there; and of meeting with the FBI frequently throughout 1988, 1989 and thereafter. ⁵⁰ This strongly suggests that the name Mahmoud ALMARI was yet another alias being used by Basel BUSHNAQ.

In the course of this investigation, the earliest 'record of residency' of a person living "near Washington DC" with the name Basil BUSHNAQ is of a person of that name living in a house in Herndon, Virginia from 2001 onwards – a residency located less than one mile from the two NCTC Central Intelligence Agency operational sites, at the New Dominion Technology Park, at 399 Grove St., Herndon VA 20170 (however the CIA has long since departed from that location), and at Sunset Hills Road in Reston.

For the purposes of this research, and this report, that person will be identified as Basel BUSHNAQ [POI].

Notably, one of the important purposes of those CIA facilities was to investigate the threats of terrorism that targeted the worldwide civil aviation industry (i.e. airport terminal shootings / bombings; aircraft hijacks, and aircraft bombings). Those two CIA National Counterterrorism Centers (NCTC) sites were approximately 5 miles from the NCTC CIA HQ at Tyson's Corner in McLean, and (most conveniently) a mere 5 miles from Washington's Dulles International Airport.

In interviews with UK newspapers Basel BUSHNAQ [POI] has denied having had any involvement with the bombing of Pan American 103.

The earliest record of a communication emanating apparently from that same Basil BUSHNAQ [POI] is a copy of an email he sent in December 2004 in which he vigorously expresses his hostility toward the Syrian Government – and all those Syrians (or others) that supported (or failed to condemn) it. ⁵¹

On the 15th October 2008 Basel BUSHNAQ [POI] posted comment on the Washington-based Investigative Project on Terrorism (IPT) website attacking those who support and help fund the Hezbollah and Hamas organizations.⁵² ⁵³ Notably the IPT has been closely linked to pro-Israel lobbying groups within the US. ⁵⁴

⁵⁰ 'Megrahi, You Are My Jury – The Lockerbie Evidence', John Ashton, Birlinn Ltd., Edinburgh 2012 – page 250

⁵¹ On the 1st December 2004, an email from Basil Bushnaq to Al-Ayham Seris includes this: "Your ruthless background does not fit you in any civilized society. One thing I blame Nihad Seris that he was the reason of my introduction to you and other subhuman like you in 'Syrians'. Nihad is a destructive factor to our Arab-Muslim generations. And puppies like you cannot help but to walk behind him. Finally enjoy the freedom of thieves that the Syrian regime is giving you and people like you on the account of Syrian people. I promise you, this will not stand forever. When we have a freedom of speech in Syria, one day, people like you will have to be investigated for every dollar they have. Till we meet one day, I leave you with your devils. My Name is Basel Bushnaq and now you can pass it to your family members in Almukhabart." Source: http://www.alayham.com, Google cached copy for the 28th April 2012, downloaded on the 4th May 2012.

⁵² "American system was too good for him [Abdurahman Alamoudi]. He lived in fancy house in Virginia paid for from contribution money he used to collect from Saudi Arabia and Golf countries. He used all privileges of freedom of speech and movement. His arrogant nature drove him to, bluntly, carry nearly three Hundred thousand dollars of "contributed money" by his handbag from London to Washington where he finally stopped and arrested. Opportunistic character like him used to wake up in the morning and had nothing to do but to prepare his rhetoric words in order to collect more money and contribution from people who support Hezbollah and Hamas. He used to be very close to some congress members who he presented himself to them as a good American public servant. Eventually he could not hide his real mission; influenced by emotional moment, he disclosed his reality in public. Most his close friends fled the USA after he testified against them in his bargaining deal with Federal Authorities. I am happy that

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In June 2011 Basel BUSHNAQ [POI] (as "Wash DC") posted comments on a BBC Arabic-language forum in which he attacked the Syrian Government's response to anti-government protests. ⁵⁵

Sometime prior to April 2012 (the date of the last Google cache archive of the source) Basel BUSHNAQ [POI] posted a comment on the website for the US Embassy in Damascus, stating: "We would like to see deeds, not only words. Turkey backed up from its promises. We all are looking forward to seeing a more active role from both US and Turkey. We're looking to see more F-16 and F-15 in the sky of Damascus." ⁵⁶

The victims of the Pan Am 103 bombing included two high-ranking officers from US intelligence agencies. Those two officers were US Army Major Charles Dennis MCKEE (DIA Chief of Operations, Beirut) and Mathew Kevin GANNON (CIA Operations, Beirut). These two senior US intelligence officers were provided with armed escorts for their journey home – by Special Agent Ronald Albert LaRIVIERE (US Diplomatic Security Service, based in Beirut) and Special Agent Daniel Emmett O'CONNOR (US Diplomatic Security Service, based in Nicosia, Cyprus). The booking for Mathew GANNON's flight to Heathrow from Cyprus (flight CY 504, 21st December 1988) was made on the 16th December 1988, with an onward connection on flight Pan American 103 to New York. ⁵⁷ 58

The CIA had a track record, from the early 1970s, for efforts in negotiating between various groups in Lebanon, with a view to ending the fighting between those groups. The CIA agent Robert AMES, in particular, was very prominent in those efforts. ⁵⁹ AMES was also involved in negotiations with the PLO leadership that was largely responsible for the curtailment of PLO/Fatah attacks on targets in Europe.

The 'deal' being sought appears to have been this: that the 'West' (the USA and Europe) would be prepared to more sympathetic towards the Palestinian cause (especially in regard to the situation within the occupied territories) and to be more vigorous in pressing the Israelis for compromise – if the various PLO groups undertook to curtail their attacks upon targets in Europe.

this episode of crime and terror is over, hope he will learn in jail the minimum amount of decency." Source: http://www.investigativeproject.org/comments – 'Rally at Lafayette Park: Alamoudi', October 28 2000, page downloaded on the 20th April 2012. Comment added by Basil Bushnaq on the 15th October 2008.

⁵³ In the USA, at the end of October 2004, Al-Amoudi pleaded guilty to a number of charges including: three charges of illegal financial transactions with the Libyan government, the unlawful procurement of citizenship and impeding administration of the Internal Revenue Service, and of having a role in a Libyan conspiracy to assassinate then-Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah. He was sentenced to 23 years imprisonment.

Organizations that have reportedly funded the IPT have also provided funds for: The One Israel Fund (which supports Israeli settlement in the occupied territories); The Jerusalem Reclamation Project; Americans For a Safe Israel; Israel At Heart; Friends Of The IDF (Israeli Defense Force); The Anti-Defamation League (ADL); The Israel Project; The American Jewish Committee; and The Israel on Campus Coalition. Lobbyists for the IPT have also reportedly lobbied for various US private military and intelligence companies. Source: 'Investigative Project on Terrorism', Source Watch, 8th January 2012, http://www.sourcewatch.org

⁵⁵ Source: http://newsforums.bbc.co.uk/ws/ar/thread.jspa?

⁵⁶ Source: http://ko-kr-connect.facebook.com/syria.embassy/posts/377905115571739 - Google archive copy of the 28th April 2012.

⁵⁷ "Mathew Kevin Gannon – Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)', Brad Colip, The Arlington National Cemetery Website, source: http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/mkgannon.htm

⁵⁸ The reference to Daniel O'CONNOR [security officer, US Embassy, Nicosia, Cyprus] who flew on flight CY1364 from Cyprus to Heathrow to join PA103 was that he was "believed to be a colleague of Major Charles McKEE." [note: on page 120 the reference is to Major McKEE arriving from Cyprus at 14.34 hrs.] Source: 'Megrahi You Are My jury – The Lockerbie Evidence', by John Ashton, Birlinn Ltd., Edinburgh, 2012, pages 120 and 253

⁵⁹ 'The Good Spy – The Life and Death of Robert Ames', by Kai Bird, Broadway books, New York, 2014.

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AMES's most senior contact in those negotiations was Ali Hassan SALAMEH, who was subsequently assassinated by the Israeli MOSSAD by means of a car bomb in Beirut, on the 22nd January 1979. The bomb also killed 8 other people – including British secretary Susan Wareham. Robert AMES was killed in the truck bombing of the US Beirut Embassy on the 18th April 1983 (along with 62 other people). Notably those efforts by Robert AMES were consistent with the USA Government policy, under the leadership of President Ronald Reagan (1981 to 1989) at that time.

It is most likely that at that time Major Charles MCKEE and Mathew GANNON were involved in: (1) Creating the basis for some sort of 'accommodation' between US Government agencies and Hezbollah, especially in regard to the release of hostages; and (2), Brokering US Government / Lebanese Government negotiations, with a view to ending the Lebanese civil war (which finally culminated in the 1989 T'iaf Accords). Obviously the intention behind such efforts was to bring to an end the violence in Lebanon between Shi'ite Muslims, Maronite Christians, Palestinians, and Syrian forces. ^{60 61}

If we are to accept that Abu ELIAS, Khaisar HADDAD, Mahmoud ALMARI, and Basel BUSHNAQ are all one and the same person, then that would imply that that person was 'turned' / coopted sometime in his late teens / early twenties. It also shows an extraordinary effort to use aliases to conceal a true identity, and to cause extreme difficulties and confusion for anyone attempting to investigate these matters.

The reference to "the East bloc" is therefore almost certainly to the DDR (East Germany) which, through the MfS / HVA (Stasi) operations under Markus WOLF, had close working connections to various PLO groups based within the DDR, assisted their operations in West Germany, and arranged for their various trips to Syria and Lebanon, for both training and operational purposes.

An investigation in 1990 by the US PBS TV channel, in regard to the Pan 103 / Lockerbie bombing, reported claims by unnamed "intelligence officials" that Major Charles McKEE and Mathew GANNON were (only) a "strong secondary target". 62 Which of course (again) begs the question – who, then, did those "intelligence officials" think was the primary target? No information is given. A rather obvious possible candidate (for assassination, as a 'primary target') must inevitably have been the prominent and highly influential Swedish diplomat Bernt CARLSSON. Therefore to properly address this question, the historical context needs to be addressed.

Throughout the 1960s and the early 1970s there were considerable concerns within both the US Congress and the US nuclear regulatory authorities that Israel was clandestinely and illegally receiving highly enriched Uranium (including weapons-grade HEU material) from US industry sources. ⁶³ Those concerns

⁶⁰ The CIA had a track record, from the early 1970s, for efforts in negotiating between various groups in Lebanon, with a view to ending the fighting between those groups. The CIA agent Robert Ames, in particular, was very prominent in those efforts. He was also involved in negotiations with the PLO leadership that was largely responsible for the curtailment of PLO/Fatah attacks on targets within Europe. 'The Good Spy – The Life and Death of Robert Ames', by Kai Bird, Broadway books, New York, 2014.

⁶¹ AMES's most senior contact in those negotiations was Ali Hassan SALAMEH, who was subsequently assassinated by the Israeli MOSSAD by means of a car bomb in Beirut, on the 22nd January 1979. The bomb also killed 8 other people – including British secretary Susan Wareham. Robert AMES was later killed in the truck bombing of the US Beirut Embassy on the 18th April 1983 (along with 62 other people).

⁶² Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), Frontline Investigation, January 1990. See: 'Bush Administration's Involvement in Bombing Pan Am 103', by Joel Bainerman, (May/June 1997 issue), source http://www.lossless-audio.com/usa/1107560966.htm

⁶³ For a good overview of these events, with explicit reference to primary US law enforcement sources, see: 'The NUMEC Affair: Did Highly Enriched Uranium From The U.S. Aid Israel's Nuclear Weapons Program?', by Roger J. Mattson PhD, 2nd November

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focused mostly on the activities of one particular US Citizen – Dr. Zalma Mordecai SHAPIRO, the President of the US-based Nuclear Materials and Equipment Corporation (NUMEC).

The US investigating agencies (primarily The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the FBI, the CIA, and the DIA) were especially concerned at reports of meetings within the USA between senior members of the US the nuclear industry and delegation members from an Israeli industrial 'liaison' organization – including the then Director of the Israeli Industrial Liaisons Agency (LAKAM) – Rafi <u>EITAN</u>. However from at least 1968 onward Rafi (Raphael) EITAN was also the Director of covert operations serving Shin Bet, MOSSAD and AMAN – and on that basis, was on special assignment to LAKAM.

It was almost certainly the case that by the end of this period (i.e. the late 1960s, early 1970s) that Israel took the decision to undertake its own Uranium enrichment process, including the production of weaponsgrade Uranium 235. In pursuit of that goal, Israel sought its own supply of yellowcake (refined Uranium ore) from a number of African states – i.e. Niger, The Congo, and (most especially) Namibia.

Four years earlier, in 1972, a mutual defence agreement had been forged between the two governments, and this agreement was augmented by active cooperation between the Israeli and South African military establishments. In particular Israel undertook to supply South Africa with substantial quantities of US-manufactured armaments. It was this agreement that led to substantial and close collaboration between Israel and South Africa in research into the development of conventional, nuclear, chemical and biological weaponry – as well as close cooperation between the South African BOSS / NIS and MOSSAD. 64 65 66

Beginning in 1976, refined uranium ore (yellowcake) was illegally extracted from Namibia and exported by the Republic of South Africa (RSA) to Israel. ^{67 68} And it was the UN Commissioner for Namibia – the

^{2016,} The George Washington University, source: http://nsarchive.gwu.edu/nukevault/ebb656-Was-U.S.-Nuclear-Weapons-Fuel-Diverted...

⁶⁴ The South African Government made arrangements for uranium ore to be exported to Israel to support Israel's work in developing its own arsenal of nuclear weaponry at Dimona and at KAMG, Nabial Sorek. South African also provided facilities (at a remote test site near the islands of Prince Edward and Marion, in the Indian Ocean) to enable Israel to test its first nuclear warheads.

⁶⁵ With regard to biological weaponry, it is believed there was also extensive close cooperation between the two countries. It is without doubt that South Africa had an extensive programme of research into biological weapons. Project Coast, led by Dr. Wouter Basson, was set up to investigate the practicability of producing advanced biological weapons. The intention was to demonstrate a capability of manufacturing biological weapons for a variety of purposes including the use of virus or bacterial agents, or of synthesised toxins, as both terror weapons and for covert assassination of political opponents.

⁶⁶ Israel not only collaborated in work on biological weapons with Apartheid-era South Africa, but also had an intense interest in similar work being undertaken in many other parts of the World including North America, post-communist Russia, and communist Korea. This interest included attempts to recruit scientists from these countries to work for Israel on its own biological weapons programs. The internationally recognised researcher Gordon Thomas claims that: "at least two scientists who worked in the program in South Africa [Project Coast] later moved to Israel".

⁶⁷ "After this time, considerable collaboration between Israel and South Africa developed and continued through the 1970s and 1980s. South Africa became Israel's primary supplier of uranium for Dimona. A Center for Nonproliferation Studies report lists four separate Israel-South Africa 'clandestine nuclear deals.' Three concerned yellowcake and one was tritium." Source: Center for Nonproliferation Studies. "Israeli Friends," *ISIS Report*, May 1994, 4; on-line, Internet 22 November 1998, available from http://cns.miis.edu. - as quoted in: 'THE THIRD TEMPLE'S HOLY OF HOLIES: ISRAEL'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS', by Warner D. Farr, LTC, U.S. Army, The Counterproliferation Papers Future Warfare Series No. 2 USAF Counter-proliferation Center, Air War College, Air University Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, September 1999.

⁶⁸ "South Africa eventually built its own nuclear bombs, albeit possibly with Israeli assistance. But the collaboration on military technology only grew over the following years. South Africa also provided much of the yellowcake uranium that Israel required to develop its weapons."; source: 'Revealed: how Israel offered to sell South Africa nuclear weapons', by Chris McGreal, The Guardian, Monday 24th May 2010

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Swedish diplomat Bernt CARLSSON – who, in the late 1980s, was at the forefront of UN-led efforts to close down such transactions.

A top-level delegation representing the government of South Africa (including Pik BOTHA, the then RSA Foreign Minister) was scheduled to attend a UN Tri-Partite meeting in New York On the 22nd December 1988, between the RSA, Cuba and Angola, for the purpose of final discussions on, and signing of, an agreement that (in part) required the RSA was to give up its occupation and control of Namibia. ⁶⁹ Such an agreement would undoubtedly have been seen – by both individuals, and by agencies of both the USA and the Israeli State – as initiating an effective curtailment of (or posing considerable obstacles to) the export of refined Uranium ore (yellowcake) from Namibia to Israel.

In addition to the Namibia / Uranium-ore issue, by mid-December 1988 Israel was under enormous pressure following an affirmation by the UN General Assembly of "the need to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their sovereignty over their territory occupied since 1967", and The Assembly's decision to change the UN observer status of "The Palestine Liberation Organization" to that of "Palestine". ⁷⁰

On the 19th December 1988 (i.e. just 3 days before the UN/Namibia Tri-Partite meeting) Bernt CARLSSON flew from New York to Brussels to attend a speaking engagement in the European Parliament. However his scheduled return trip to New York (from Brussels) was delayed after the De Beers diamond mining and marketing conglomerate asked him (at somewhat short notice) to attend a meeting in London. This request was apparently made as a result of critical remarks Bernt CARLSSON had made about De Beers in a Granada TV documentary shown earlier that same month. ⁷¹

On the morning of the 21st December 1988 Bernt CARLSSON had arrived at Heathrow from Brussels on flight BA 391 at 11:06am, with an onward booking to New York on flight PA 103 with a scheduled departure at 18:00pm. Throughout his stay in London, CARLSSON's already checked-in suitcase remained at Heathrow.

The evidence indicates that the Republic of South Africa (RSA) delegation had originally planned to fly from Johannesburg on the evening of the 20th December 1988 (on SAA flight 234) to arrive in Frankfurt airport on the 21st December – from which the delegation would transfer to Pan Am flight 103A (a Boeing 727) for the onward flight to London, Heathrow; and subsequently transfer to the Pan Am flight 103 (the Boeing 747 that was bombed) for the onward flight to New York. ^{72 73}

However it is reported that the Frankfurt stopover was cancelled, and instead the SAA aircraft flew directly to London, Heathrow. This change of schedule enabled RSA diplomatic staff to re-book the most senior of their RSA delegation (to the UN meeting) to the earlier Pan Am flight 101, which left Heathrow for New

⁶⁹ 'Angola and Namibia Accords Signed', by Paul Lewis, New York Times, 23rd December 1988

⁷⁰ Source: UN 82nd Plenary Meeting, 15th December 1988; reference: 43/177, 'Question of Palestine'.

⁷¹ From the Swedish newspaper iDAG for the 12th March 1990, as referenced in: 'Alternative theories into the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103', updated on the 13th March 2012, source: http://www.martinfrost.ws/welcome.html

⁷² The Pan Am flight was designated PA 103A, in Frankfurt.

⁷³ On the 21st December 1988 flight PA 103A took off from Franfurt airport at 15.23 hours GMT, arriving at London Heathrow at 16.36 hours GMT (17.36 BST). The scheduled flight time between Frankfurt and Heathrow is approximately 80 minutes.

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York at approximately 11:00am, on the morning of the 21st December 1988. ⁷⁴ Notably, in New York, RSA diplomatic staff members were unaware of this change of plans, and were still expecting the RSA delegation team to be travelling on Pan Am flight 103. Of course, had they done so, then they all would have perished in the bomb attack against that particular US airliner.

Another strong indicator of the Pan Am 103 / Lockerbie bombing being a 'false flag' is to be found in the bombing of UTA 772 (a DC10 flight from Brazzaville to Paris, via N'Djamena) on the 19th September 1989 (i.e. 9 months <u>after</u> Pan Am 103), in which 170 passengers and aircrew were murdered. Indeed, all the ingredients for the Pan Am 103 (Libyan) conspiracy theory were already prepared – the luggage bomb hidden in the cargo hold of the aircraft, the explosion at (cruise) altitude, the extraordinary discovery, within a very widespread and remote debris field, of a tiny fragment of an electronic timer mechanism. ⁷⁵ ⁷⁶

This bombing occurred shortly after a Libyan State delegation of 40 representatives were due to attend an ICAO conference in Montreal. ⁷⁷ Libya immediately cancelled its attendance at that conference – obviously realizing that it was being targeted for some extremely nasty mischief. It should be noted that the 'Libya did it' theory for Pan Am 103 (an extraordinarily complete and complex narrative) didn't publically surface until *circa* 26th December 1991 (although the FBI had obviously been working on it for some time).

There is (as they say) 'prior form'. on the 28th February 1986 the Swedish Prime Minister, Mr Olaf PALME was assassinated. Mr. PALME, a Swedish Social Democrat, was a fierce opponent of the South African apartheid regime and at least one trail reportedly led towards Johannesburg – with the allegation being that the motive was to stop secret Swedish government payments to the banned African National Congress (ANC). ⁷⁸ Notably, at that time the Apartheid regime of South Africa and the Israeli State were very close political and military allies. Notably Olaf PALME had been instrumental in stopping an Israeli shipment of 80 HAWK missiles, on 17th November 1985, from Israel to Tehran, via Sweden. As noted previously, Abu TALB (who was initially the chief suspect in the Lockerbie/Pan Am 103 bombing) had flown to Cyprus the day after the assassination of Olaf Palme – and claimed to have done so only in order to travel on to Egypt (despite earlier claiming that he could not return to Egypt for fear of arrest). ⁷⁹

So, what conclusions can be drawn from the facts, established by this research?

Examination of contemporary events at the time of the bombing, the manner in which the subsequent investigations were pursued, and the way in which the eventual trial (in 2000) of defendants Abdelbaset Al MEGRAHI and Al Amin Khalifa FHIMAH was handled, leads (ultimately) to some highly disturbing insights into the deceits that lie at the heart of "regime change", and of "the war on global terrorism".

⁷⁴ 'South Africa Minister Denies Knowing Of Lockerbie Bomb', Reuters, 12th November 1994

^{75 &#}x27;Megrahi, You Are My Jury - The Lockerbie Evidence', John Ashton, Birlinn Ltd., Edinburgh 2012 - pages 248 to 251

⁷⁶ Although similar in functionality and operability, the purported UTA 772 electronic timer was from a completely different manufacturer as that of the purported Pan Am 103 device. However – and most serendipitously – the US FBI and CIA already possessed numerous examples of both types of timers.

⁷⁷ 'Assembly 27th Session, Montreal, 19 September – 6 October – Plenary Meeting – Minutes', International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), DDC 9550 A27-Min. P/1-16

^{78 &#}x27;Yugoslavian hitman in Scottish jail accuses fellow countryman of murdering Swedish PM Olof Palme in Balkan plot', Mail OnLine, Last updated at 2:47 PM on 18th January 2011

^{79 &#}x27;Megrahi You Are My jury - The Lockerbie Evidence', by John Ashton, Birlinn Ltd., Edinburgh, 2012, page 257

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There are two main issues to consider in regard to the Pan Am 103 bombing: (1) who actually benefited (*cui bono*?); and (2), that any complex planning (re. as suggested by both the West German police and Camp Zeist 'narrative') can be upset by major unforeseen events – i.e. the cancelling of flights, flight delays, passengers cancelling or passengers late booking, re-routing of flights, *et cetera*. In regard to (2), this is important to take into consideration when attempting to determine the actual intended purpose (i.e. that that purpose should be seen in the context of those unforeseen events not having occurred).

It is very difficult to see why the Palestinians, or the Syrians, or the Iranians, or (even) the Libyans would have wanted to bomb that aircraft – and especially at that time. Indeed, they would almost certainly know that it would give them no political / diplomatic / military / economic advantage – it would have been very detrimental to the all of their interests, should evidence be 'discovered' implicating their involvement. So, to whose advantage would it have been, had flight Pan Am 103 proceeded as would have been expected by the perpetrators on the morning of the 21st December 1988?

The obvious answer has to be Israel. ⁸⁰ Had everything gone according to plan, then not only would it have been Special UN Representative Bernt CARLSSON (who was overtly pro-Palestinian, and led a UN call for an embargo on Israel illegally importing uranium ore from Namibia for it's nuclear weapons programme) who was killed, but so too would have been the whole of the Republic of South Africa delegation to the UN in regard to that same purpose. The killing of the senior US Intelligence Staff members returning from Beirut and Cyprus (engaged in the peace talks between US Government CIA/DIA security agencies and Hezbollah, in Lebanon) has been described by informed sources as a "secondary objective". This is seen as a highly revealing comment.

Undoubtedly there would have been many within the Israeli political / military hierarchy that would have seen both the looming embargo on Israel's import of 'yellow-cake' from Namibia, and the USA-Hezbollah talks in Lebanon, as an existential threat to Israel – and that 'something' drastic would have to be done. 81

In regard to an evidence-based assessment, then the following findings are made: (1) that it was a person of the name Basel BUSHNAQ (alias Abu ELIAS) who organized the December 1988 bombing of Pan Am 103 – an attack that killed 270 people (including 190 Americans); (2) that he was a citizen and resident of the USA at the time; (3) that the US FBI had been in contact with BUSHNAQ both before and after that bombing; and (4) that the 'mastermind' behind that bombing was the Israeli intelligence head Rafi EITAN.

The 'consensus' theory, promulgated by The Crown Office of Scotland and at Camp Zeist, requires a belief in evidence produced by the US Authorities – not from the local UK security and crime investigators. That 'consensus' theory calls for a belief in an extraordinarily complex plot by a foreign state (Libya), despite Libya not having a pressing reason to carry out such an appalling attack (in fact, quite the opposite). The conclusion, therefore, is that the 'Libyan Theory' is considered to be the least likely to be correct.

END

⁸⁰ This is a conclusive assessment of 'greatest likelihood' based on: extreme motivation (most especially); ideological propensity; opportunity; prior history; and capability (technical and political).

⁸¹ And, of course, the perception of an existential threat to Israel (and the need to take drastic action) would have been foremost in the mind of many Israelis, given the events in the first half of the 20th Century.

Scottish MP Christine Grahame Claims Abu ELIAS / Basel BUSHNAQ Living in Washington DC



Home Parliamentary Business Official Report

Official Report

Plenary, 02 Sep 2009

:

Christine Grahame (South of Scotland) (SNP): I add my support for the Cabinet Secretary for Justice in his decision to release Abdelbaset Ali al-Megrahi on compassionate grounds. As many have said, it was a tough decision and, as a former lawyer, the cabinet secretary is well aware that it will be scrutinised with subsequent applications for compassionate release. That is why it had to be scrupulous. In my view, it is one of the few scrupulous actions in the entire Lockerbie tragedy. I believe that the decision was made with integrity, in contrast to the murky international deals that go right back to the night of 21 December 1988 and which continue to this day. Megrahi was, and in my view remains, a geopolitical pawn.

For me, compassionate release was the way forward not only because the criteria would be met but because it would have preserved that crucial appeal process. Mr Megrahi's priority was to be with his family, including his elderly mother, but he was also determined to clear his name not just for himself and his family but for those victims' relatives who believed that they had seen justice done but who had been deceived all those years. The closure that they sought had been bought at the cost of truth. I say to Bill Aitken that I stand by my e-mails, but I note that Mr Megrahi himself has said that he was not pressurised. I can say no more.

:

Why have the US authorities not queried the true identity of Basel Bushnaq alias Abu Elias, a senior figure in the PFLP-GC at the time of the bombing and nephew of Ahmed Jibril, former head of that terrorist organisation? Basel Bushnaq currently resides in Washington DC and is in the employ of the schools division.

SCCRC Report - Document Image Analysis [1]

14.132 Mr Campbell said that as a result of the information given by these witnesses the name had come to the attention of the Crown. Enquiries were made and an individual in the US was identified. Mr Campbell said that the Crown's position, having obtained that information, was to disclose it to the defence. However, in relation to the allegation that Abu Elias placed the bomb in the property of Khaled Jaafar, the Crown's position was that this was untrue. 14.133 In respect of Iran, Mr Campbell said that according to the application the witness Rabbieh had informed the defence that he had been responsible for overseeing payments in one section of the financial department of the PFLP-GC, that he recalled that Abu Elias and Khaled Jaafar had been paid by the PFLP-GC and that regular payments, one of \$7 million, were made to the PFLP-GC by the government of Iran. However, when interviewed by the Crown Rabbieh had said: "I can also recall being present in Abu Nidal's office around 1992 to 1993, when Jibril and Abu Nidal returned from Iran with a large quantity of cash in two briefcases. The fact that the money is usually paid through the embassy, as well as the fact that Jibril brought the money back personally, makes me think that this may be of some significance. I do not know what the money was for, or payment for a job. I was not told. I was told to bank the money. I did not count the money." 14.134 Mr Campbell said that it was plain from this that there was no information to indicate that the payment was in respect of the bombing of PA103. The timing of the payment was also well after the attack. According to Mr Campbell's submissions there was also no information to suggest that the and Khaled Jaafar mentioned by Rabbieh as being members of the PFLP-GC were the same as had been identified by the Crown and the passenger Khaled Jaafar who died on PA103. In Mr Campbell's submission the defence had failed to satisfy the tests set out in McLeod in respect of its applications regarding Iran and Syria and the court should reject these. Mr Campbell added that the appropriate course in respect of the applications concerning the US and Sweden was to continue them pending discussions between the Crown and defence. 363 dushned

This is an image scan of the document 'SCOTTISH CRIMINAL CASES REVIEW COMMISSION, STATEMENT OF REASONS, UNDER SECTION 194D (4) OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995'. The information

Basel Bushnaq

that the Crown Office and the SCCRC have attempted to conceal has been highlighted.

Bushnaq

Basel

SCCRC Report - Document Image Analysis [2]

number of papers in relation to the memorandum which were extracted from the defence files (again an index of these materials is contained in the appendix). It is clear from these papers that the defence interviewed all the witnesses referred to in Crown Office's letter of 23 October 2000. Having compared the information in the possession of both parties at the time of trial, the Commission is of the view that the defence had all material information that was available to the Crown in respect of the memorandum.

14.149 Likewise, the Commission has examined each of the 28 documents received from Crown Office in relation to Again, most of these items were not disclosed to the defence. The Commission has also examined a number of defence papers in relation to (see the index in the appendix). Having compared both sets of information the Commission is of the view that all material information concerning which was in the hands of the Crown was also available to the defence.

14.150 The Commission has also examined various items received from Crown Office (see the index in the appendix) and D&G in response to its requests for information regarding Mr Jaafar, as well as the relevant passages from the Crown precognitions and the police report. Again the Commission found nothing material in any of these sources which was not available to the defence at trial.

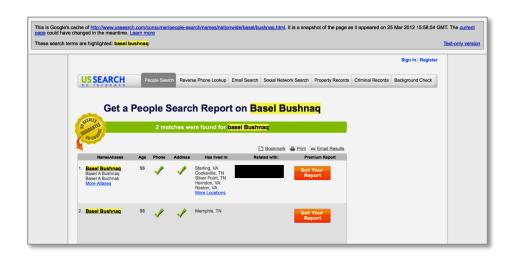
14.151 The contents of three letters sent to the defence by Crown Office during the trial are worthy of note as they contain additional information regarding (see appendix), and are of assistance in addressing the submissions about the FBI's enquiries about him. First, in a letter dated 31 October 2000, Crown Office advised the defence that information had been made available to the Crown by the FBI that on 14 May 1987 deposited \$5850 in Thomas Cook traveller's cheques in his account with Riggs National Bank. According to the letter a Mr Hafez Hussein purchased the traveller's cheques on 8 May 1987 from the Societe Bancaire Arabe in Cyprus (the Commission notes that Hafez Mohamed Hussein was a name used by Dalkamoni: evidence of Anton Van Treek: 71/8724 and joint minute number 16). Although the information provided by the FBI was that the cheques banked were to the value of \$5850, by the Crown's calculations the cheques totalled \$5000 which

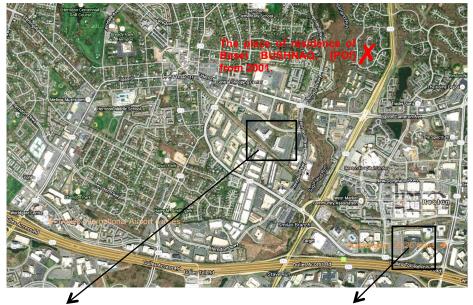
368

This is an image scan of page 368 of the document 'SCOTTISH CRIMINAL CASES REVIEW COMMISSION, STATEMENT OF REASONS, UNDER SECTION 194D (4) OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995'. Information of special interest has been highlighted. Again, the person being referred to was <u>Basil BUSHNAQ</u>.

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Basil BUSHNAQ [POI] - Residency in Washington DC





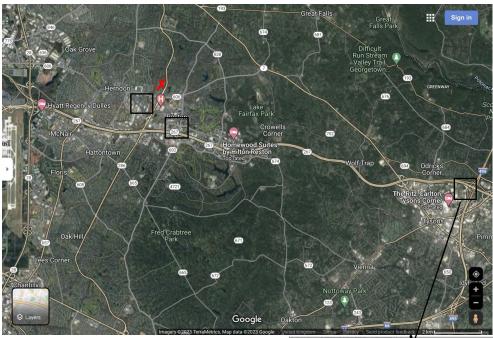


Central Intelligence Agency National (CIA) Counterterrorism Center (NCTC 2), New Dominion Technology Park I. [Phase 1, 399 Grove St, Hendon, VA 20170 completed in 2001] [Phase 2, 499 Grove St, Hendon, VA completed in 2004]



Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC), Reston, VA. First expansion site for the NCTC HQ at Tyson's Corner, VA (i.e. pre 2001). Lockerbie.pdf Page 19 of 27

The Washington DC Disposition of POIs and CIA NCTC Facilities



The above shows the locations of the US GOV CIA NCTC HQ (Tyson's Corner, McLean), and the large supplemental facilities in the Washington DC area, NCTC 1 (Reston) and NCTC2 (Herndon).

Note the locations in regard to the Dulles International Airport, and to CIA HQ (Langley, VA).

The (early, circa 2001) listed residence of Basel BUSHNAQ [POI] is also shown.



Former CIA NCTC HQ - this is a circa 2000 photo. The site no longer appears to be used by the US GOV and to have been extensively re-developed for private commercial / business use.

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Basil BUSHNAQ [POI] Urges UD Damascus Embassy for US attacks on Syria





It would appear that these comments were made in 2012.

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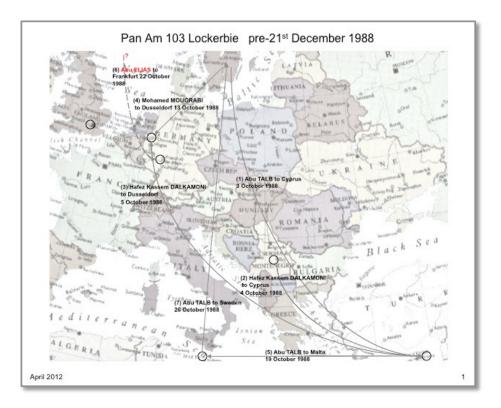


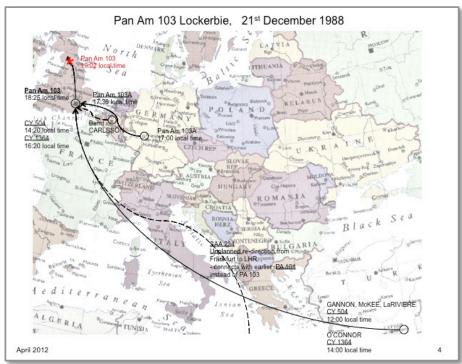
Basel BUSHNAQ [POI] Uses IPT Platform to Attack US HAMAS Supporters

The IPT is seen as a very anti-PLO, anti-HAMAS organization, based within the USA. Coincidently it was one of the organizations that the Zionist-terrorist Anders BEHRING BREIVIK promoted in his anonymous blog postings 'The Wandering White', prior to his murderous attacks against pro-Palestinian supporters in July 2011.

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People / Routes / Timelines – October to December 1988





The UN Proposal to Recognize The PLO and Palestine Statehood (15 December 1988)

General Assembly-Forty-third Sess

- (c) To expand its audio-visual material on the question of Palestine, including the production of special series of radio programmes and television broadcasts;

 (d) To organize fact-finding news missions to the area for journalists;
- (e) To organize regional and national encounters for journalists.

82nd plenary meeting 15 December 1988

43/176. Question of Palestine

The General Assembly.

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General of 31 March 1988¹⁰⁹ and 30 September 1988, ¹¹⁰

Having noted with appreciation the statement made on 13 December 1988 by the Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, ¹²⁸

Stressing that achieving peace in the Middle East would constitute a significant contribution to international peace and security,

Aware of the overwhelming support for the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East,

Noting with appreciation the endeavours of the Secretary-General to achieve the convening of the Conference,

Welcoming the outcome of the nineteenth Extraordi-nary Session of the Palestine National Council as a posi-tive contribution towards a peaceful settlement of the con-flict in the region,

Aware of the ongoing uprising (intifadah) of the Palestrain people since 9 December 1987, aimed at ending Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory occupied since 1967,

- Affirms the urgent need to achieve a just and com-prehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the core of which is the question of Palestine;
- of which is the question of Palestine;

 2. Calls for the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, on an equal footing, and the five permanent members of the Security Council, based on Security Council roundings of the Security Council roundings of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination;
- 3. Affirms the following principles for the achievement of comprehensive peace:
 (a) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and from the other occupied Arab territories;
- (b) Guaranteeing arrangements for security of all States in the region, including those named in resolution 18I (II) of 29 November 1947, within secure and interna-tionally recognized boundaries;
- (c) Resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, and subsequent relevant resolutions;
- 128 See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Plenary Meetings, 78th meeting.

- (d) Dismantling the Israeli settlements in the territories occupied since 1967; (e) Guaranteeing freedom of access to Holy Places, religious buildings and sites;
- 4. Notes the expressed desire and endeavours to place the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, under the supervision of the United Nations for a limited period, as part of the peace process;
- 5. Requests the Security Council to consider measures needed to convene the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, including the establishment of a preparatory committee, and to consider guarantees for security measures agreed upon by the Conference for all States in the region;
- 6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, to facilitate the convening of the Conference, and to submit progress reports on developments in this matter.

82nd plenary meeting 15 December 1988

43/177. Question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Question of Pales-

Recalling its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in which, inter alia, it called for the establishment of an Arab State and a Jewish State in Palestine, Mindful of the special responsibility of the United Nations to achieve a just solution to the question of Palestine,

Aware of the proclamation of the State of Palestine by the Palestine National Council in line with General As-sembly resolution 181 (II) and in exercise of the inaliena-ble rights of the Palestinian people,

Affirming the urgent need to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East which, inter alia, provides for peaceful coexistence for all States in the re-

- Recalling its resolution 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 on the observer status for the Palestine Liberation Organization and subsequent relevant resolutions,

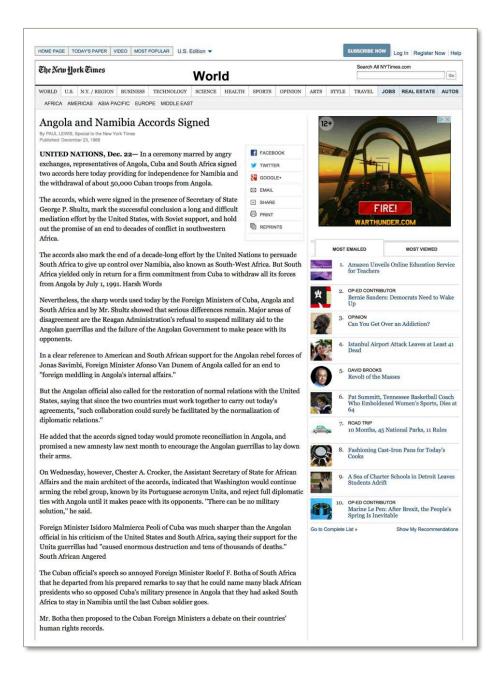
 1. Acknowledges the proclamation of the State of Palestine by the Palestine National Council on 15 November 1988;
- Affirms the need to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their sovereignty over their territory occupied since 1967;
- since 1967;

 3. Decides that, effective as of 15 December 1988, the designation "Palestine" should be used in place of the designation "Palestine Liberation Organization" in the United Nations system, without prejudice to the observer status and functions of the Palestine Liberation Organization within the United Nations system, in conformity with relevant United Nations resolutions and practice;

 4. Remuest, the Secretary-General to take the necessity.
- Requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

82nd plenary meeting 15 December 1988

The UN Angola and Namibia Accords, December 22nd 1988



Israeli Nuclear Weapons - US Supply of HEU is Blocked

The NUMEC Affair: Did Highly Enriched Uranium from the U.S. Aid Israel's Nuclear Weapons Program?

National Security Archive Electronic Briefing Book No. 565

Posted -November 2, 2016

Edited by Roger
J. Mattson
Avner Cohen and
William Burr,
editors, Israeli
Nuclear History
Series

For more information contact Roger Mattson: rdmattson@gmail.com William Burr: 202/994-7000 or nsarchiv@gwu.edu.



NUMEC's uranium plant in Apollo, Pennsylvania was a two-story, 50,000 square foot industrial facility that stretched for nearly two blocks along a main street in town.

The NUMEC Affair: Did Highly Enriched Uranium from the U.S. Aid Israel's Nuclear Weapons Program?

Document collection and introduction by Roger J. Mattson, PhD

Beginning more than 50 years ago, and extending over the period from 1957 to 1978, according to official U.S. government records and studies, more than 300 kilograms of uranium 235 (U-235) in the form of highly enriched uranium (HEU) went missing from a nuclear fuel manufacturing plant in the small town of Apollo, Pennsylvania. The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) concluded in 1966 that there was about a 200-kilogram deficit between the U-235 in the form of HEU supplied to the plant and the amount returned in products to customers. After the AEC and its Oak Ridge

And Another [POI]: Rafi EITAN

The NUMEC Affair: Was Nuclear Weapons Fuel Diverted to Israel?

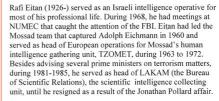
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declassified CIA documents suggest that some of CIA's intelligence information was not made available to the FBI and the NRC.

In the end, however, after several FBI investigations, including the use of warrantless wiretaps on Shapiro's phones, the Department of Justice chose not to prosecute him. It is easy to speculate that the Department made this decision because it was unable to use the wiretap information at trial and CIA did not want FBI or Justice to disclose its sources and methods. However, another possibility is that political and foreign policy considerations drove the decision. In 1971, to settle a dispute among the FBI, the Justice Department and the AEC over Shapiro's security clearance, the AEC commissioners found him a new job at Westinghouse that did not require a security clearance. [4]

The documents described below provide the first in-depth CIA and FBI accounts of NUMEC to reach public view. They contain greater detail about the NUMEC affair than was previously known, leaving strong but not incontrovertible evidence that a diversion did occur. However, the available materials are still highly redacted. In some cases, entire multipage documents or entire attachments to documents are blanked out. Most of these are CIA records, which the agency claims contain classified information revealing its sources and methods.[5]

There are several new findings contained in the documents recently released. This new information is both



material and relevant to understanding what happened at Apollo in the 1960s and what was not publicized during the investigations of the 1970s. Some of the recently declassified documents shed new light on the following issues.

- In April 1968, Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) Richard Helms asked Attorney General Ramsey Clark to undertake a discrete, all-source investigation of Zalman Shapiro in light of new evidence gained by CIA (presumably through environmental samples taken in Israel that detected uniquely enriched uranium in the environment near Dimona). (Documents 8 and 9)
- Some FBI and AEC documents describe a September 1968 visit to the NUMEC plant at Apollo by four Israeli citizens known to be affiliated with Israeli intelligence. These documents took on new importance when one of those agents, Rafi Eitan, later was exposed as the head of LAKAM in the Jonathan Pollard espionage affair in 1987. (Documents 10 to 12)

http://nsarchive.gwu.edu/nukevault/ebb565-Was-U.S.-Nuclear-Weapons-Fuel-Diverte... 27/04/201

So, the question is this: was this the actual mastermind behind the Pan AM 103 / Lockerbie bombing?

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Dedication



Lockerbie Memorial Garden

This work – and this report – is dedicated to the memory of the 270 men, women, and children whose lives were so cruelly taken from them on the 21st December 1988.

END