

STAFF

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TOT: 171740Z MAY 82

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FRANCOIS GENOUD - 201 SUMMARY

TO: C [] INFLC J, C [] J, C [] J.

FROM: E/SAS INFO NE/PAL, NE/L, IAD/TG, EUR/PMT

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TRAVEL PROGRAM	
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1. WISH TO BRING TO [] ATTENTION ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN 7-8 MARCH 1982 ISSUE OF LE MONDE (P.16) ALLEGING TIES BETWEEN SWISS BANKER FRANCOIS ((GENOUD)) (([])) AND WIDE RANGE OF TERRORIST GROUPS INCLUDING NEO-NAZIS, PFLP AND BRUNO BREQUET, WHO WAS RECENTLY ARRESTED IN PARIS AND ON WHOSE BEHALF THE INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST CARLOS THREATENED THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT. (FBIS TRANSLATION OF ARTICLE BEING SENT BY TM 910846.)

2. IN MID-1970'S HEADQUARTERS HAD BEEN INTERESTED IN GENOUD AS UNWITTING SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON ARAB TERRORISM AND HAD DEVELOPED CONTACT WITH HIS ASSOCIATE [] (([])) (([])) WHO PROVIDED INFORMATION ON GENOUD'S TRAVELS AND ACTIVITIES. OVER THE PERIOD OF A YEAR, HOWEVER, [] PROVED TO BE AN UNPRODUCTIVE SOURCE AND BEGAN MANUFACTURING TIDBITS HE THOUGHT MIGHT BE INTERESTING TO US. EVALUATION OF CASE IN NOVEMBER 1975 LED TO DECISION TO DROP CONTACT WITH [] AND SOLELY MONITOR HIS ACTIVITIES FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE INTEREST. IN 1976, [] ACCEPTED A POSITION IN SOFIA, BULGARIA AND CONTACT WAS CONSEQUENTLY DROPPED.

3. GIVEN CONTINUED, HIGH-LEVEL INTEREST IN TERRORISM, [] MAY WISH TO CONSIDER RENEWING COLLECTION EFFORTS AGAINST GENOUD. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF GENOUD'S 201 FILE. INFO OBTAINED FROM BETWEEN 1957 AND 1975:

4. GENOUD WAS BORN IN LAUSANNE ON 26 OCTOBER 1915. DURING WORLD WAR II HE WAS ALIGNED WITH THE NAZIS AND FASCISTS AND WAS ALLEGEDLY AN ABNEHR AGENT. AFTER THE WAR HE WAS DIRECTOR OF A PUBLISHING HOUSE PROFESSING NEO-NAZI SYMPATHIES AND MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH A NUMBER OF EX-GERMAN OFFICIALS LIVING IN ARAB

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5. IN THE 1960'S GENOUD WAS CONNECTED WITH THE ALGERIAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT AND WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF MUHAMMAD ((KHIDIR)), AN ALGERIAN POLITICIAN, WHO FLED ALGERIA WITH A LARGE SUM OF ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT MONEY. IN 1964, GENOUD WAS SUSPECTED OF HAVING AIDED KHIDIR IN THE ILLEGAL TRANSFER OF FUNDS, WAS PUT IN AN ALGERIAN JAIL FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, AND FINALLY DEPORTED.

6. GENOUD HAS BEEN INVOLVED WITH ARAB EXTREMISTS AND ACTIVE IN PRO-ARAB CIRCLES IN SWITZERLAND. IN 1970 HE REPORTEDLY ATTENDED THE TRIAL OF THREE TERRORISTS WHO ATTACKED AN EL-AL AIRPLANE IN ZURICH. AS AN OFFICIAL SUPPORTER OF THE PFLP, HE ACTED AS COUNSELOR BETWEEN THE ARAB LAWYERS AND THE PALESTINIAN PRISONERS. IN 1974 GENOUD CLAIMED TO BE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH GEORGE HABBASH, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE PFLP, IN LEBANON.

7. IN 1975 GENOUD WAS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ARAB COMMERCIAL BANK IN GENEVA AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS OF THE ARAB WORLD. HE ALLEGEDLY MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH THEN LIBYAN REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL MEMBER, FOREIGN MINISTER AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE CHIEF, MAJOR ABD AL-MUNIM AL ((HUNI)), VIA A SPECIAL CONTACT IN PARIS. HE WAS REPORTEDLY ASSIGNED A SPECIAL MISSION BY THE LIBYANS TO CONTACT AND ASSESS UNNAMED REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS IN VENEZUELA IN MARCH 1975. THAT SAME MONTH, THE U.S. EMBASSY IN BOGOTA DENIED GENOUD'S REQUEST TO TRANSIT THE U.S. ON THE RETURN LEG OF A "BUSINESS TRIP" FROM LATIN AMERICA TO EUROPE.

8. IN 1975 GENOUD ALSO REGISTERED A HOLDING COMPANY, VALCOMAR, S.A., IN SWITZERLAND. THE COMPANY WAS REPORTEDLY CAPITALIZED BY THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT AND SERVED AS A COMMERCIAL FRONT AND FUNDING CHANNEL FOR LIBYAN POLITICAL INVESTMENTS. ACCORDING TO "SCHWEIZARISCHES RAGIONENBUCH 1981", VALCOMAR IS CURRENTLY LOCATED IN FRIBOURG AT RUE DE ROMONT 29, APPARENTLY AT THE RESIDENCE OF A G.((CHASSOT)), ONE OF THE ORIGINAL SHAREHOLDERS. IN 1975 CHASSOT WAS DESCRIBED AS A BUSINESSMAN AND HONORARY CONSUL FOR THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL AS WELL AS A RIGHT-WING TYPE WHO HAD RESIDED IN LAUSANNE FOR MANY YEARS.

9. HEADQUARTERS WOULD WELCOME APPROACHING REGARDS REGARDING GENOUD. 3 VIEWS ON POSSIBILITY COULD CITE LE MONDE

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10. [] MAY ALSO WISH TO QUERY [] REGARDING POSSIBLE CONNECTION BETWEEN GENOUD AND JACQUES (VERGES), THE LAWYER WHO DEFENDED THE TERRORIST BREQUET. BESIDE THE APPARENT CONNECTION THROUGH BREQUET, BOTH VERGES AND GENOUD MAY ALSO BE LINKED THROUGH ALGERIA AND THEIR CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH MUHAMMAD KHIDIR. VERGES BECAME A MOSLEM AND TOOK ALGERIAN CITIZENSHIP IN 1961. IN 1963 HE WAS DISMISSED FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AS A RESULT OF THE SAME KHIDIR AFFAIR FOR WHICH GENOUD WAS IMPRISONED.

11. FILE: [] ^{libes} [] ^{libes} RVW 13 MAY 02. DRV
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DRAFT); EUR/PMT ([] -IN DRAFT); C/E/SAS ([]) AUTH: AC/EUR/SA
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RELEASE: DC/EUR/RR CL BY: []

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