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STAFF

CONF: NE/IOX-2 INFO: ADVCTC, C/ORMO, DACO, DOMDS, NEDORECORD, ODPD,  
FILE, CIC/NE-2, CNC/OPS-7, CTC/RSH-2, EUR/CGT-3, PCS/LCG (18/P)

91 3641144 ASR

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TOT: 030206Z APR 91

DIRECTOR 599793

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STAFF

TO: [ ] INFO [ ]

030206Z DIRECTOR 599793

FROM: NE/IOX INFO CIC/NE, PCS/LCG, EUR/CGT, CTC/RSH, CIC/NE,  
CNC/OPS

SUBJECT: WNINTEL LNTUBA TRACE - ANDRE BANAYER

REF: [ ] ; 91 355902 ; (NSN [ ] ✓)

ACTION: [ ] , PLS SEE PARA 6.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2008

1. SUMMARY: ANDRE DAVID AMRAM ((BANAYER)) IS A DUAL  
BELGIAN/ISRAELI CITIZEN WHO WAS BORN 01 OCTOBER 1941 IN  
CASABLANCA, MORROCO. HE IS A "BUSINESSMAN" AND ADMITTED DOPE  
SMUGGLER, WHO HAS SPENT NEARLY FIFTEEN YEARS IN VARIOUS JAILS.  
HE WAS REGISTERED AS AN LNTUBA SOURCE IN OCTOBER 1986 AND  
ASSIGNED [ ]

2. IN JUNE 1987 A [ ] SOURCE REPORTED THAT BANAYER  
HAD "LOST" A SHIP LOADED WITH WEAPONS OFF THE COAST OF MALTA IN  
MARCH 1986. BANAYER WAS ALSO REPORTEDLY THE FINANCIER OF A  
TERRORIST OPERATION IN PARIS (NFI) [ ] , DATED 23 JUNE  
1987). FYI: HQS RESPONDED WITH TRACES THAT "WE HAVE ONE  
LISTING ON AN ISRAELI CITIZEN BY THAT NAME," AND GAVE DPOB FOR  
PASSAGE TO [ ]

3. ALSO IN JUNE 1987, [ ] PROVIDED AN INTEL REPORT  
ABOUT A PENDING CAR BOMB ATTACK AGAINST AN UNKNOWN U.S.  
FACILITY, WHICH WAS SOURCED TO BANAYER. BANAYER REPORTED THAT  
THE ATTACK WAS BEING PLANNED TO TAKE PLACE SOMETIME AFTER 01  
JULY. HE HINTED THAT THE IRANIAN-BACKED PLAN FOR THE ATTACK  
WAS PASSED TO KNOWN TERRORIST ASSOCIATE FRANCOIS ((GENOUD)) BY  
IRANIAN NAMED "GEORGI" (THOUGHT TO BE IDENTIFIABLE WITH WAHID  
((GOURDJI))). BANAYER WOULD NOT DISCLOSE WHICH U.S. BASE WAS  
ACTUALLY BEING TARGETTED TO [ ] , AND SAID THAT HE WOULD  
ONLY GIVE THAT INFO TO A U.S. OFFICIAL. SO [ ] GAVE ITS  
RESPONSE TO A FACE-TO-FACE MEETING WITH BANAYER AS LONG AS  
[ ] WOULD RECEIVE THE INFO THUS OBTAINED. [ ] ALSO  
SAID THAT BANAYER WANTED TO MEET THE U.S. OFFICIAL IN BELGIUM,  
AND SET UP THE CONTACT INSTRUCTIONS [ ] , DATED 23  
JUNE 1987).

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SOON THEREAFTER, [ ] MET  
BANAYER IN THE EMBASSY WALK-IN ROOM ON 26 JUNE 1987. BANAYER  
REPEATED THE ABOVE INFO, AND ADDED THE ONE DETAIL NOT GIVEN TO  
[ ] : THE ATTACK WAS TO BE ON THE SIGONELLA NAVAL BASE ON  
STOBY. NOTE: [ ] WAS NOT IMPRESSED WITH BANAYER'S  
PRESENTATION AND WAS SKEPTICAL OF THE INFO. C/O GAVE THE  
FOLLOWING ASSESSMENT OF BANAYER: SUBJECT ADMITTED TO BEING A  
DRUG TRAFFICKER, AND EVINCED PRIDE THAT HE ONLY DEALT IN  
HASHISH (NEVER HEROIN OF COCAINE). BANAYER MENTIONED THAT HE  
HE HAD SPENT SOME TEN YEARS IN AN ISRAELI PRISON WITH BRUNO  
((BREGUET)) FROM 1969 TO 1975. HE CLAIMED TO HAVE PREVIOUSLY

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DIRECTOR 599793

26 JUNE 1987. IN THE INTERVIEW WITH ONE OF OUR OFFICERS, HE GAVE INFORMATION RELATED TO AN ATTACK HE CLAIMED WAS BEING PLANNED AGAINST SIGONELLA NAVAL BASE IN SICILY. HE OFFERED TO "GO BACK INSIDE" THE REPORTED TERRORIST NETWORK ON OUR BEHALF. SUBJECT GAVE THE FOLLOWING HISTORY OF HIMSELF IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONING. HE SAID THAT HE WAS A DRUG TRAFFICKER, BUT THAT HE SOLD ONLY HASHISH AND NEVER HEROIN OR COCAINE. HE CLAIMED THAT HE LIVED IN SYRIA FROM 1961 TO 1967 OR 68 AND HAD MANY CONTACTS THERE IN THE AIR FORCE AND GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING PRESIDENT ASSAD BEFORE THE LATTER BECAME HEAD OF STATE. BANAYER CLAIMED THAT THE SYRIANS HAD RECRUITED HIM TO SPY AGAINST ISRAEL BUT THAT LATER TURNED HIMSELF INTO THE ISRAELIS IN 1967 OR 1868 AND OFFERED TO ACT AS A DOUBLE AGENT. HE CLAIMED THAT AN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IN ISRAEL SUPPORTED THIS IDEA, BUT THAT A JUDGE NEVER-THE-LESS SENTENCED HIM TO PRISON. FOR THAT REASON, HE CLAIMED TO DISLIKE THE ISRAELIS THOUGH HE WAS VERY PROUD OF BEING JEWISH. WHILE IN PRISON HE CLAIMED TO HAVE MADE THE ACQUAINTANCE OF NOTED TERRORIST BRUNO BREGUET, DURING THE 1969 TO 1975 TIMEFRAME. HE ALSO CLAIMED TO BE WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO YOUR OFFICER IN NICOSIA.

OUR OFFICER WROTE THAT THROUGHOUT THE INTERVIEW, BANAYER'S COMPORIMENT VARIED FROM SLIGHTLY MIFFED TO COOPERATIVE TO SEMI-HYPER. DURING THE ELICITATION OF THE ABOVE BIO DATA, SUBJECT CONTRADICTED HIMSELF SEVERAL TIMES, AND REPEATEDLY BROUGHT UP HIS CONNECTION WITH YOUR OFFICE IN NICOSIA. SINCE THE NAMES HE OFFERED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ALLEGED PENDING ATTACK (WHICH NEVER MATERIALIZED) WERE ALL WELL KNOWN AND/OR FREQUENTLY REPORTED IN THE PRESS, BANAYER'S INFORMATION WAS GIVEN NO CREDIBILITY. WHEN HE CALLED OUR OFFICER A SECOND TIME TWO WEEKS LATER, HE WAS TOLD NOT TO CONTACT THE EMBASSY IN BRUSSELS AGAIN. HE WAS CONSIDERED TO BE UNRELIABLE BECAUSE OF HIS OWN ADMISSION OF 'RECRUITMENT' BY THE SYRIANS, HIS OFFER TO WORK FOR THE ISRAELIS, HIS OFFER TO WORK FOR US, AND HIS CLAIM TO WORK FOR YOU.

-----TEAR LINE-----

8. FILE: [ ] DECL OADR DRV HIIM 4-82.>  
ORIG: NE/IOX [ ]); COORD: NE/ISR [ ]/DRAFT),  
EUR/CGT (); INFO: CTC/NE, PCS/LCG, EUR/CGT, CTC/RSH, CIC/NE,  
CNC/OPS: AUTH: C/NE/ISR (); REL: C/EUR/CGT (). CL BY

END OF MESSAGE

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