

Cable

Declassified Under Authority of the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel, E.O. 13526, sec. 5.3(b)(3) ISCAP Appeal No. 2017-190, document 1 Declassification Date: May 2, 2022
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PREC: IMMEDIATE
 CLASS: ~~SECRET~~
 LINE1: OAASZYUW RUEHCAA1002 2762230-SSSS--RHEHAAX.
 LINE2: ZNY SSSSS ZZH
 LINE3: O 022228Z OCT 00
 LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC
 OSRI: RUEHC
 DTG:
 ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC
 TO: RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE 9957
 RUEHDE/AMCONSUL DUBAI 2897
 INFO: ////
 SUBJ: USG INTEREST IN ARMS AND DIAMOND TRAFFICKER
 VICTOR BUTT AND HIS ASSOCIATES
 TEXT: ~~SECRET~~ STATE 191002



E.O. 12958: DECL: 9/27/2010
 TAGS: PREL, CVIS
 SUBJECT: USG INTEREST IN ARMS AND DIAMOND TRAFFICKER
 VICTOR BUTT AND HIS ASSOCIATES

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY AF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
 WITNEY SCHNEIDMAN. FOR REASON 1.5 (B) AND (D).

2. (U) THIS IS AN ACTION REQUEST.

3. ~~(C)~~ THE APPLICATION OF VICTOR ANATOLY BUT (BUTT)
 (01/13/67, DUSHANBE) FOR A TOURIST VISA IN ABU DHABI ON
 JULY 9 HAS FOCUSED ATTENTION ON HIS PRESENCE IN THE
 UAE. BUTT HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE PRESS AS A MAJOR
 PROVIDER AND SHIPPER OF ARMS TO VARIOUS CONFLICTS IN
 AFRICA. OFFICIALS WORKING ON THE UN SANCTIONS
 COMMITTEE FOR SIERRA LEONE HAVE INDICATED THAT BUTT IS
 A SUBJECT OF THEIR INVESTIGATIONS. BUTT IS BELIEVED TO
 HAVE SEVERAL ASSOCIATES, INCLUDING A BROTHER SERGEY,
 AND TO OPERATE WITH A LARGE AIR FLEET, MUCH OF IT BASED
 IN THE UAE AT CHARJAH.

4. ~~(S)~~ DEPARTMENT IS INTERESTED IN IDENTIFYING OTHER
 INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY BE ASSOCIATED WITH BUTT. TO THAT
 END, DEPARTMENT RAN A SEARCH OF ABU DHABI'S AND DUBAI'S
 NIV DATA BASES AND EXTRACTED A LIST OF ALL MALE FSU
 NATIONALS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 25 AND 50 WHO HAVE
 APPLIED FOR NONIMMIGRANT VISAS AT EITHER POST, GOING AS
 FAR BACK AS POST'S ELECTRONIC RECORDS WOULD PERMIT.
 THIS SEARCH PRODUCED 50 NAMES FOR ABU DHABI AND 137
 NAMES FOR DUBAI, ALONG WITH BASIC BIO DATA (DPOB AND
 PASSPORT NO.) AND DATES AND RESULTS OF VISA
 APPLICATIONS. DEPARTMENT (CA/VO/L/A - K. AISTON) IS E-

MAILING THIS LIST TO THE CONSULAR OFFICERS AT BOTH POSTS. POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO SEARCH AND RETRIEVE ANY REMAINING OF-156 VISA APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE NAMED INDIVIDUALS ON THE LIST. (BECAUSE MANY OF THE APPLICATIONS WERE MADE BEYOND THE NORMAL DOCUMENT RETENTION PERIOD FOR OF-156'S, THERE WILL BE MANY INSTANCES WHERE THE OF-156 WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE. AS THE LIST SPECIFIES THE EXACT DATE OF EACH APPLICATION, IT SHOULD BE APPARENT FROM THE LIST WHICH APPLICATIONS ARE STILL RETRIEVABLE AND WHICH WOULD HAVE ALREADY BEEN DESTROYED.) POSTS SHOULD REVIEW THE APPLICATIONS THAT CAN BE LOCATED AND EXAMINE THEM FOR SIGNS OF LINKS TO BUTT, IN PARTICULAR: (A) EMPLOYMENT WITH TRANSAVIA OR CESS AIR (AKA AIR CESS OR CESSAVIA), (B) OCCUPATION OF PILOT, AIRCRAFT MECHANIC, OR IMPORT/EXPORT BUSINESS, OR (C) DESTINATION LISTED AS PLANO, TEXAS. IF OF-156'S FALLING INTO ANY OF THESE CATEGORIES ARE LOCATED, POST SHOULD NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT AND FORWARD COPIES OF THE APPLICATIONS TO CA/VO/L/A - K. AISTON.

5. ~~(S)~~ AS THE USG'S FOCUS ON BUTT MUST BE CLOSELY HELD, THE SEARCH AND REVIEW REQUESTED IN THIS CABLE SHOULD BE DONE AS DISCRETELY AS POSSIBLE AND MUST BE PERFORMED BY U.S. PERSONNEL CLEARED FOR HANDLING CLASSIFIED MATERIAL. DEPARTMENT GREATLY APPRECIATES POSTS' ASSISTANCE IN THIS IMPORTANT EFFORT.
TALBOTT

TOR: 10/02/00 19:13:35

DIST: SIT: BABBITT BLACK BYRNE NSC HARRIS HARRISG HINCKLEY MAERTENS SAMORE SMITH TUCKER