

INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

89415 WSH

JAN 31 1979

Assoc. Dir.	
Dep. AD Adm.	
Dep. AD Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
Plan. & Insp.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Servs.	
Training	
Public Affs. Off.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

WU INFOMASTER 4-0474264030 41/30/79

IGS IFLXNVA WSH

ZCZC0175 WASHDC 0 310036Z JAN 79/031 OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

TLX 89415 89415 WSH

BT

Unsub: Theft of 66 Kilograms of 2.6 Percent Enriched Uranium from the General Electric How Enriched Uranium Plant, Wilmington, NC
0 310036Z JAN 79

FM UCLL CREDIBILITY ASSESSMENT COORDINATING CENTER F W JESSEN

LIVERMORE CALIF

TO HQ FBI ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION WASHDC

AE

BT

UNCLAS/N O N W D/NARR

CREDIBILITY ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

WILMINGTON INCIDENT

1/30/79 1600 PST

THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS SUMMARIZE THE PRESENTLY AVAILABLE EVALUATION BASED ON THE TEXT OF THE EXTORTION MESSAGE SENT TO MR ALKEMA.

TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY

LLL:

LASL:

BEHAVIORAL ASPECTS

70 FEB 1 1979

DR. MIRON:

REC-114

117-2865-4
ASSESSMENT/CONFIDENCE LEVEL

CREDIBLE/HIGH

CREDIBLE/MODERATE

11 FEB 1 1979

117-
HOAX/HIGH

b6
b7C

with FBI deletions
CONFIRMED TO BE UNCLASSIFIED
DOE/OFFICE OF DECLASSIFICATION
MR SCHMITT ADD DATE:
1490 Schmitt 5/29/07

atch 7

20070001232

DR. KROFCHECK:

CREDIBLE/MODERATE

IMPLEMENTATION OF
THREATNED ACTION

LLL:

HOAX/MODERATE

LASL:

CREDIBLE/HIGH

COPIES OF THE ASSOCIATED DETAILED ASSESSMENTS HAVE BEEN TRANSMITTED
TO DOE/EACT SEPARATELY. THIS SUMMARY WILL BE UPDATED WITHIN 4 HOURS.

FBI REPORTED INFORMATION: SECOND MATERIAL SAMPLE

THIS ENVELOPE, NOTE, AND VIAL WAS HAND DELIVERED TO THE BELOW
NEWSPAPER OFFICE. PLASTIC VIAL WAS SEALED WITH ALUMINUM DUCT TAPE
AND HAD THE WORD POISON AND THE SYMBOL SKULL AND CROSS-BONES PENNED
WITH A RED MARKING PEN ON THE VIAL.

THE NOTE READS:

MR. BILL SMITH
MANAGING EDITOR
WILMINGTON STAR
PLEASE HAND DELIVER

PAGE 3 ~~RH04~~ELL0340 UNCLAS/N O N W D/NARR

DEAR MR. SMITH:

DO NOT OPEN THE ENCLOSED VIAL.

IT IS URANIUM.

IT IS RADIOACTIVE.

IT IS DEATH.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MR. RANDALL ALKEMA TODAY, JANUARY 30, 1979, AT 343-5666. THIS MAY BE IMPORTANT.

A FRIEND

TELECOPY

TO: FRED JESSEN, LAWRENCE LIVERMORE LABS. (415 422-4821

DATE 1/30/79 TIME 1:15 P.M. 1 HR. RESPONSE

1. RECEIPT OF VIAL OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL URANIUM OXIDE AND IDENTIFICATION OF THE MISSING VIAL NUMBERS /WHICH WE UNDERSTAND HAS BEEN VERIFIED/ INDICATES THIS THREAT IS REAL; I.E., THAT THE SENDER OF THE MESSAGE POTENTIALLY HAS THE CAPABILITY OF CARRYING THROUGH ON HIS THREAT.
2. HE SPENDS A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THE MESSAGE DEVELOPING THE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES /POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ANTI-NUCLEAR/. LATER IN THE MESSAGE HE STATES THAT NONCOMPLIANCE WITH HIS DEMANDS WILL RESULT IN A CITY BEING CONTAMINATED WITH RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL.
3. DETAILS OF PAYMENT ARE GIVEN WITH FURTHER DIRECTIONS TO FOLLOW.

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HE IS CAUTIOUS ABOUT EXAMINING THE MONEY TO ENSURE IT IS NOT MARKED.

4. HE ANTICIPATES FURTHER DIALOGUE /HE CLOSES WITH QUOTE YOU WILL BE CONTACTED UNQUOTE; OUTLINED RESPONSE PROCEDURE REGARDING DELIVERY OF THE MONEY; AND PROVIDES FOR TERMINATION OF THE THREAT BY RETURN OF THE MATERIAL.

A RADIOLOGIC DISPERSAL THREAT PLUS THE FACTS CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPHS 1, 3 AND 4 ABOVE STRONGLY SUGGEST A CREDIBLE THREAT.

\$100,000 DOES NOT SEEM TO BE A VERY LARGE RANSOM TO EXTRACT IN THIS SITUATION.

WE ARE STRUCK BY THE APPARENT INCONSISTANCY IN MOTIVATION. THE EARLY SECTIONS OF THE MESSAGE IMPLY ALTRUISTIC CONCERNS FOR SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS OF THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY. THE SUBSEQUENT EXTORTION CONTENT SUGGESTS THAT THIS APPARENT CONCERN COULD BE BOUGHT OFF FOR MONEY ONLY WITH NO OTHER MUSTS OR PENALTIES OF THE SYSTEM. THE POSSIBILITY CANNOT BE RULED OUT--IF THE ALTRUISTIC CONCERNS ARE GENUINE--THAT EACH ADVERSARY, SUBSEQUENT TO ANY PAYMENT, MIGHT STILL EXPOSE A BREACH OF SECURITY AS WELL AS THE GOVERNMENT'S COMPLACENCY IN COVERING UP THE MATTER.

AT THIS TIME WE BELIEVE THE ADVERSARY TO BE WORKING ALONE.

J. L. KROFCHECK, M.D.

GAIL BASS, PH.D.

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FOUR HOUR REPORT

OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT

BY: GEORGE MOORE /LLL/

EVALUATION: HOAX

CONFIDENCE: MODERATE

SUMMARY:

THE PLAN, AS PRESENTED, IS EVALUATED AS A HOAX /WITH MODERATE CONFIDENCE/ FOR MANY REASONS AS DETAILED IN THE TEXT. THIS DOES NOT PRECLUDE, AND MAY STRONGLY SUPPORT, A SOPHISTICATED HOAX INVOLVING THE THEFT OF A SMALL AMOUNT OF MATERIAL. THERE IS NO REASON TO CHANGE THE ONE-HOUR ASSESSMENT.

TEXT:

1. THE FOLLOWING FACTS ARE KNOWN AT THIS TIME:

A. THE LETTER AND VIAL /2.8/ 235U/ WERE DELIVERED.

B. THE EDITOR OF THE WILMINGTON STAR REPORTED RECEIPT OF A 35 MM LIKE CAN MARKED URANIUM - POISON. CONTENTS HAVE NOT BEEN VERIFIED.

C. THE REFERENCED CONTAINERS AND THEIR CONTENTS ARE MISSING.

WHETHER OR NOT THEY HAVE LEFT THE PLANT SITE IS NOT CLEAR.

2. THE RECIPT OF THE MATERIAL BY THE EDITOR OF THE WILMINGTON STAR WOULD INDICATE THAT THE PERPETRATOR HAS EXECUTED HIS "PLAN B" / THE SCENARIO UNDER WHICH HE AUTOMATICALLY INFORMS EVERYONE AND SPREADS THE CONTENTS OF ONE CAN THROUGH THE DOWNTOWN AREA OF A MAJOR CITY/. THE DELIVERY TO THE WILMINGTON STAR WITHIN 24 HOURS OF PRESUMED

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RECEIPT OF THE FIRST MESSAGE /THIS OBSERVER SUFFERS FROM LACK OF A GOOD TIMETABLE/ INDICATES THAT IF THE PERPETRATOR IS FOLLOWING HIS PLAN HE /1/ KNEW OF POLICE/FBI NOTIFICATION, /2/ HAND DELIVERED THE VIAL TO THE WILMINGTON STAR, IN CONTRAST TO HIS ASSERTATION THAT VIALS WOULD BE SENT "FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY" /IT COULD BE INTERPRETED THAT THIS IMPLIES LOCAL MAILING FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, BUT THAT SEEMS RATHER ILLOGICAL/.

3. EVEN IF THE VIAL SENT TO THE EDITOR OF THE WILMINGTON STAR IS 2.8/ 235U THERE IS NO CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE THAT THE LARGE AMOUNT OF URANIUM IS OUT OF THE PLANT AS VERSUS HIDDEN ON PLANT SITE. IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THE VIAL WAS MARKED TO PRECLUDE PERSONNEL INJURY/ RISK. THIS IS ONE OF THE INCONSISTENCIES OF "PLAN B". THE DUMPLING OF ONE CAN IN A DOWNTOWN AREA IS INCONSISTENT WITH SUCH WARNINGS /IT WILL/MAY INFLICT INJURY/DAMAGE WITHOUT WARNING/. IF PLAN B HAD BEEN EXECUTED IT WOULD BE LOGICAL THAT A DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN WOULD HAVE BEEN SENT WITH THE VIAL TO THE NEWSPAPER. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THIS HAS BEEN DONE. THEREFORE, THE ACT OF THE SENDING /IF THE MATERIAL IS 2.8/ 235U/ MAY BE A MEANS OF SHOWING THAT THE PERPETRATOR IS SERIOUS AND WOULD FORESHADOW INCREASED EXTORTION DEMANDS AND SOME FORM OF CONTACT TO DEVULGE A REVISED PLAN, ONE WITH SOME INCREASED FORESIGHT AND PLANNING.

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4. THERE IS A FLAWED LOGIC THAT RUNS THROUGHOUT THE THREAT MESSAGE. ONCE THE PERSONAL THREAT AGAINST ALKEMA HAS BEEN REMOVED /I.E., HE NOTIFIES THE POLICE/ THERE IS NO REMAINING THREAT AGAINST HIM DIRECTLY AND REALLY NO REASON THAT HE AND GE SHOULD CONTINUE TO FEEL AT RANSOM /I.E., THE THREAT IS PUBLIC, ONE CITY AREA HAS BEEN CONTAMINATED, SO WHY SHOULD GE PAY A RANSOM AGAINST SOME FURTHER CITY AS OPPOSED TO THE CITY ITSELF OR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT/. THIS REALLY BRINGS THE REQUEST FOR MONEY INTO QUESTION. THE AMOUNT IS SMALL AND THE PLAN CALLS FOR NO LOGICAL REDIRECTION OF THE RANSOM REQUEST AFTER THE EXECUTION OF "PLAN B".

5. THERE IS A FLAW IN THE COMMAND/CONTROL OPERATION. HOW DO THE LOCAL /"THOSE OF US HERE..." / PEOPLE MAINTAIN CREDIBLE CONTACT WITH THE MAILERS AND TRANSPORTERS /"AT LEAST 1,000 MILES"/ WHO "CANNOT BE LOCATED". IF THEY CANNOT BE LOCATED HOW DO THEY QUICKLY KNOW TO CARRY OUT PLAN B OR RETURN THE MATERIAL, ETC. THIS ALL SEEMS PUFF TO OBSCURE A PLAN BEING RUN BY ONE, OR A FEW, LOCAL PERSONS/S/ /WHAT IS THE SIZE OF THE INDIVIDUAL PAYOFF FOR A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH ONLY \$100,000 RANSOM IF MONEY IS THEIR ONLY MOTIVE?/ WHO MAY HAVE SOME MATERIAL.

6. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THERE IS A CAREFULLY DEVELOPED METHOD TO ALLOW ONE TO BELIEVE THAT THE PERPETRATORS ARE "SERIOUS" AND HAVE

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THE MATERIAL /I.E., CAN NUMBERS AND MASSES, BUT CURIOUSLY NO MENTION OF THE MATERIAL COMPOSITION/, BUT THERE IS NO EQUALLY CAREFUL ASSURANCE THAT GUARANTEES THE RETURN /I.E., WE'LL GIVE BACK HALF AND IF NO RANSOM IS PAID WE'LL SPREAD THE REST AROUND/. ALSO, CONVINCING THE PRESS WOULD BE MORE LOGICAL AND DRAMATIC BY DELIVERY OF A SIZABLE CHUNK OF MATERIAL /A KILOGRAM OR TWO/ THUS VERIFYING THEIR THREAT AS BEING CREDIBLE.

7. OVERALL THE PLAN APPEARS TO BE CONSISTENT WITH RECORD TAMPERING, OR MISHANDLING IN A PLANT COUPLED WITH POSSIBLE THEFT OF A SMALL AMOUNT OF MATERIAL BY ONE PERSON OR AT MOST A FEW. I EVALUATE THE POSSIBILITY OF THEFT OF A SMALL AMOUNT AS HIGHLY PROBABLE TO SUPPORT THE PLAN PRESENTED. THE PLAN PRESENTED, HOWEVER, IS STILL CONSIDERED A HOAX WITH A MODERATE LEVEL OF CONFIDENCE.

END REF LSO/JR-0340

BT

#0340

NNNN////////

NNNN

/ REPLACES CHAR(S) ON SENDERS KEYBD UNAVAIL ON YOURS

2356 EST

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