

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Arab file

FILE:  
Arab Activity  
Bay Area

TO: Edwin Suall

FROM: Richard S. Hirschhaut

DATE: June 18, 1986

SUBJECT: Arab Activity in San Francisco Bay Area

San Francisco Bay  
Area - Arab  
ACTIVITY  
Card // folder  
ref card to be  
made  
Arab activity -  
SF Bay Area.

On June 13, Sergeant/Inspector Tom Gerard of the San Francisco Police Department telephoned our offices and requested an urgent follow-up to discuss the activities of specific Arab organizations and individuals in the Bay Area. (Our earlier meeting with Gerard is detailed in a memorandum to Harvey Schechter of 6/6/86, of which you were copied.)

Gerard was carrying a multi-inch folder of material. We proceed in discussion which lasted more than two hours and during which he provided a significant amount of information.

I was assisted in this meeting by an official friend, whose familiarity and expertise in these matters provided the necessary catalyst for a thorough and candid exchange of information. Our friend's presence was invaluable. Attached will find his synopsis of information gleaned from our discussion. Additionally, the following points should be included to complete this memorandum.

- Gerard mentioned that the Department has enlisted the services of Arabic-speaking informants who will provide to the police the names of all Arabic-speaking activists in the Bay Area.
- The California head of the DFLP is ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~, ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ in Daly City, CA., 94014. He is approximately 37 years old and is assumed to be originally from a village in Israel called "Abwan." This village has apparently produced many Bay Area activists.
- Gerard maintains there are two active DFLP cells statewide, in San Francisco and San Diego. Travel between the two cities by activists occurs frequently. The Arabic-language attachments to this memorandum are believed to have emanated from San Diego.
- A follow-up call from Gerard yesterday concerning speculation over the identity of Syrian descent working for Pete McCloskey clarified the name as "~~\_\_\_\_\_~~", ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~, Berkeley, CA.
- Gerard feels that local ACLU attorney ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ is closely associated to the November 29th Coalition. Gerard generally regards the ACLU as disruptive of the type of investigative work he focuses on.

- - - - - presented the following theory for our consideration: The costs for opening a licensed travel agency are only \$10,000 which then fronts such an establishment one million dollars worth of travel credit. It is thus conceivable that terrorists could be opening travel agencies as scam operations and their individual travel records would not be traceable.

- - - - - 26th and 27th, in Los Angeles and San Francisco respectively. The Justice Department is sponsoring seminars for sworn officers only on the subject of Arab terrorism. Gerard may be able to arrange for the distribution of ADL business cards to attendees at these seminars.

I trust this information will be useful to you.

RSH

Enc

cc:

- Mann
- Ringer
- Schwartz
- Kass
- Haumgarten
- Lowe

- Gail Gans
- Betsy Rosenthal
- Morris Casuto
- David Lehrer
- Steve Edelman
- Harvey B. Schechter

Restoration of Memo to Irwin Suall from Richard Hirschhaut:  
CONFIDENTIAL

TO: Irwin Suall  
FROM: Richard S. Hirschhaut  
DATE: June 13, 1986  
SUBJECT: Arab Activity in the San Francisco Bay Area

On Friday, June 13, Sergeant/Inspector Tom Gerard of the San Francisco Police Department telephoned our offices and requested an urgent follow-up meeting to discuss the activities of specific Arab organizations and individuals in the Bay Area (Our earlier meeting with Gerard is detailed in a memorandum to Harvey Schechter of 6/6/86, of which you were copied).

Gerard arrived carrying a multi-inch folder of material. We proceed into discussion which lasted more than two hours and during which he provided to us a significant amount of information.

I was joined in this meeting by an official friend, whose familiarity and expertise in these matters provided the necessary catalyst for a thorough and detailed exchange of information. Our friend's presence was invaluable. Attached you will find his synopsis of information gleaned from our discussion. Additionally, the following points should be included to complete this report:

- - Gerard mentioned that the Department has enlisted the services of two Arabic-speaking informants who will provide to the police the names of all Arabic-speaking activists in the Bay Area.
- - The California head of the DFLP is (name unreadable) 544 An-d-n-d-d-Street, Daly City, CA 94014. He is approximately 37 years old and presumed to be originally from a village in Israel called "Mar-Debwan." This village has apparently produced many Bay Area activists.
- - Gerard maintains there are two active DFLP cells statewide, in San Francisco and San Diego. Travel between the two cities by Arab activists occurs frequently. The Arabic-language attachments to this memorandum are believe to have emanated from San Diego.
- - A follow-up call from Gerard yesterday concerning speculation over a woman of Syrian descent working for Pete McCloskey clarified her name as (name and address unreadable), Berkeley, CA.
- - Gerard feels that local ACLU attorney Mark Vander Hout is closely tied to the November 29th Coalition. Gerard generally regards the ACLU as disruptive of the type of investigative work he focuses on.

- - Gerard posited the following theory for our consideration: The start-up costs for opening a licensed travel agency are only "unrecoverable" which then fronts such an establishment one million dollars worth of travel credit. It is thus conceivable that Arab activists could be opening travel agencies as scam operations where their individual travel records would not be traceable.
- - On June 26th and 27th, in Los Angeles and San Francisco respectively, the US Justice Department is sponsoring seminars for sworn officers only on the subject of Arab terrorism. Gerard may be able to arrange for the distribution of ADL business cards to the attendees at these seminars.

I trust this information will be useful to you.

RSH:ds(?)

Encl:

cc:

Joe (X)baumann  
(X)nin Finger  
(X)nin Schwartz  
Mortimer(?) Kass  
Gerald(?) Baumgarten  
David Lowe

Gail Gans  
Betsy Rosenthal  
Morris Casuto  
David Lehrer  
Steve Edelman  
Harvey B. Schechter