



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20340-5100



U-05,0546/CP-C

26 October 2005

Honorable John D. Rockefeller IV
Vice Chairman, Select Committee
On Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Vice Chairman:

Thank you for your 18 October 2005 letter forwarding two paragraphs from the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) issued DITSUM # 044-02 containing claims from Ibn al-Shaykh al-Libi relating to chemical and biological weapons training in Iraq. Your letter had indicated that al-Libi had subsequently recanted these statements and requested that the two paragraphs be declassified. I appreciate your interest in this matter and I am pleased to respond to your request.

DIA's delegated declassification authority has reviewed the information requested to be declassified, and can find no reason for it to remain classified. They arrived at this conclusion after consultation with DIA's counterterrorism experts and with a member of the DIA General Counsel staff.

If you have additional questions on this matter please contact the DIA Office for Congressional Affairs at 703-697-5101.

Sincerely,

Kathleen P. Turner
Chief, Office for Congressional Affairs

cc: The Honorable Carl Levin

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SSCI #2005-4275

October 18, 2005

Vice Admiral Lowell E. Jacoby
Director
Defense Intelligence Agency
The Pentagon
Washington D.C. 20340

Dear Admiral Jacoby,

(U) In February 2002, while he was in detention, Ibn al-Shaykh al-Libi claimed that al-Qa'ida sent operatives to Iraq to acquire chemical and biological weapons and related training.

(U) Then-Director of Central Intelligence George Tenet authorized the use of al-Libi's claims in Secretary Powell's February 2003 speech to the United Nations. In January 2004, al-Libi recanted a number of his claims, including that al-Qa'ida sent operatives to Iraq to obtain chemical and biological weapons and related training. In February 2004, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) recalled and reissued all intelligence reports based on al-Libi's recanted statements.

(U) The CIA recently declassified the attached description of al-Libi's reporting and his subsequent recantation.

In February 2002, when al-Libi's claims about chemical and biological weapons training were first reported in the Intelligence Community, the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) issued DITSUM # 044-02 containing al-Libi's claims and the following comment:

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" This is the first report from Ibn al-Shaykh in which he claims Iraq assisted al-Qaida's CBRN efforts. However, he lacks specific details on the Iraqi's involved, the CBRN materials associated with the assistance, and the location where training occurred. It is possible he does not know any further details; it is more likely this individual is intentionally misleading the debriefers. Ibn al-Shaykh has been undergoing debriefs for several weeks and may be describing scenarios to the debriefers that he knows will retain their interest.

Saddam's regime is intensely secular and is wary of Islamic revolutionary movements. Moreover, Baghdad is unlikely to provide assistance to a group it cannot control."

(U) Both al-Libi's February 2002 claims about al-Qa'ida's attempts to acquire chemical and biological weapons and related training from Iraq and his subsequent recantation of those claims have now been declassified. We request that the DIA comment quoted above also be declassified. We are making this request in the interest of ensuring that the public record on this matter is accurate and reflects not only the CIA view but the DIA view.

(U) If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact our staff Andy Johnson (202-224-1732) or Joe Bryan (202-228-6118) on the Senate Intelligence Committee. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



John D. Rockefeller IV
Vice Chairman



Carl Levin
United States Senator

Attachment: (U) CIA declassification letter dated October 3, 2005

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