

had been at a “suspected al-Qa’ida logistics facility.” The other, Nawaf al-Hazmi, began his trip to Malaysia from Pakistan. Initially, only the travelers’ first names were known. From the outset, information circulated throughout the Intelligence Community that identified them as “terrorist operatives.” For example, a CIA cable stated, “Nawaf’s travel may be in support of a terrorist mission].”

[Page 151]

The intelligence preceding the Malaysian meeting also showed that a person whose first name was Salem would attend. An intelligence analyst observed at the time that “Salem may be Nawaf’s younger brother,” and that observation was reported to other Intelligence Community agencies.

The Kuala Lumpur meeting took place between January 5 and 8, 2000. There has been no intelligence about what was discussed at the meeting, but, according to DCI Tenet, surveillance [—————] that began with al-Mihdhar’s arrival on January 5 “indicated that the behavior of the individuals was consistent with clandestine activity.”

It was later determined that Khallad bin-Atash, a leading operative in Bin Ladin’s network, also attended the meeting. According to DCI Tenet, Khallad was “the most important figure at the Kuala Lumpur meeting” and he would later become “a key planner in the October 2000 *USS Cole* bombing.”

The principal location of the meeting was a condominium owned by Yazid Sufaat, who DCI Tenet identified to the Joint Inquiry as “a Malaysian chemist . . . directed by a terrorist leader to make his apartment available.” Later in 2000, Sufaat signed letters of introduction for Zacarias Moussaoui as a representative of his company, letters Moussaoui took with him to the United States.

DCI Tenet testified that, “[i]n early January 2000, we managed to obtain a photocopy of al-Mihdhar’s passport as he traveled to Kuala Lumpur.” This gave the CIA al-Mihdhar’s full name, his passport number, and birth information. It also showed that al-Mihdhar held a U.S. visa, issued in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia in April 1999, that would not expire until April 2000. These