

that Nawaf and Salem al-Hazmi had obtained U.S. visas in April 1999, several days before al-Mihdhar obtained his U.S. visa at that consulate.

Thus, at the time of the Malaysia meeting, the CIA had passport information regarding al-Mihdhar, including his U.S. visa. A CIA officer, who was working as a CTC Supervisor, testified before the Joint Inquiry that a CTC cable in early 2000 noted that al-Mihdhar's passport information had been "passed to the FBI," but the CIA was unable to "confirm either passage or receipt of the [page 153] information" and, thus, could not identify "the exact details . . . that were passed." The Joint Inquiry found no record of the visa information at FBI Headquarters.

While the Malaysia meeting was in progress, a CIA employee sent an e-mail to a CIA colleague describing "exactly" the briefings he had given two FBI agents on al-Mihdhar's activities. The CIA employee had been assigned to the FBI's Strategic Information Operations Center to deal with problems "in communicating between the CIA and the FBI." The e-mail did not mention that al-Mihdhar held a U.S. visa, but did report that the CIA employee told the second FBI agent the following:

This continues to be an [intelligence] operation. Thus far, a lot of suspicious activity has been observed but nothing that would indicate evidence of an impending attack or criminal enterprise. Told [the first FBI agent] that as soon as something concrete is developed leading us to the criminal arena or to known FBI cases, we will immediately bring FBI into the loop. Like [the first FBI agent] yesterday, [the second FBI agent] stated that this was a fine approach and thanked me for keeping him in the loop.

An e-mail from the second FBI agent to FBI Headquarters discussed the conversation with the CIA employee. This e-mail also did not mention al-Mihdhar's visa information. None of the participants in these communications now recalls discussing the visa information.