

C. Disadvantages of Relying on Foreign Liaison Services

[Despite the many advantages of working with foreign liaison services, this approach has several limitations that were manifest before September 11. These limitations can hinder cooperation and possibly be exploited by terrorists].

[On some occasions, individuals in some liaison services are believed to have cooperated with terrorist groups, [_____

_____. In addition, the former Chief of CTC's Bin Ladin unit testified that [_____
_____.]

Governments can also be highly sensitive about information that embarrasses them or implicates their citizens in terrorism. The former Chief of CTC's Bin Ladin unit testified that [_____

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Problems are common even with governments that have long been close partners of the United States. Many intelligence services are reluctant to share information. Even the most cooperative services withhold information to protect sources and methods and for other reasons. Several European governments were described as indifferent to the threat al-Qa'ida posed before September 11, while others faced legal restrictions that impeded their ability to disrupt terrorist cells.

Former National Security Advisor Sandy Berger told the Joint Inquiry that European governments (except Britain) did not share the U.S. assessment of the al-Qa'ida threat. Joint