

Date: 1/6/2003

To: All Divisions  
From: Counterterrorism CAS/CAU/ Room 4944  
Contact: [REDACTED]

Attn: Assistant Directors  
ADIC  
SAC  
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Case Id: (U) 66F-HQ-A1397797 (Pending)  
Title: Communications Analysis Unit; Counterterrorism Program Matters  
Synopsis: (U) Review of the mission of the Communications Analysis Unit and a description of the services this unit provides.

(S) **Derived From: G-3**  
**Declassify On: X1**

**Details:** (U) For the information of field offices, Legats, and FBIHQ divisions, the following provided to clarify the mission of the Communications Analysis Unit (CAU) of the Counterterrorism Division's Communications Analysis Section (CAS), as well as to describe this unit's distinct role in the FBI's participation in the global war on terror.

(U) The CAU facilitates the prevention and prosecution of international and domestic terrorism activities through the relevant collation, incisive analysis, and timely dissemination of high quality intelligence identified through telephone calling activity.

(S) This mission is accomplished through liaison the CAU has established with specific elements of the United States Intelligence Community (USIC) who are in the a unique position to provide potentially actionable intelligence to the FBI. This intelligence is reviewed by the CAU's team of supervisory Special Agents, Intelligence Operations Specialists, and Technical Information Specialists experienced in the investigation of international and domestic terrorism cases. These personnel are equipped with analytic tools capable of further dissecting the intelligence so that logical leads may be deduced from the information and forwarded to appropriate entities.

Redacted Paragraph

(S) An important facet of the work underway in the CAU in the achievements of a defined capability within the FBI to provide for predictive exploitation of certain types of international terrorist calling activity. This capability will preeminently allow the FBI to identify and intercept previously unknown hostile elements on US soil. The Counterterrorism Division has determined this capability is imperative to the continuing efforts by the FBI to protect our nation against future terrorist attacks.

(S) The operational support conducted by the CAU is accomplished through the use of a number of analytical tools, some of which are highly classified. Other tools are publicly or commercially available. The CAU strives to provide operational support at the lowest classification level possible - sometimes using multiple techniques to identify the same information at a lower classification level. It should be noted that some of the information available to the CAU is classified NOFORN which does not allow for dissemination for foreign intelligence agencies.

(S) The CAU also has the ability to conduct calling analysis on specific individual numbers of high interest to case agents. Analysis of these numbers utilizing specialized tools beyond the FBI Telephone Application can sometimes provide the case agent with previously unknown associates or terrorism activity regarding their subjects. (Redacted Section)

(S) Comprehensive calling analysis of hot numbers (those instruments and techniques being utilized by known terrorists) has the potential of generating an enormous amount of data in short order, much of which may not actually be related to the terrorism activity under investigation. For this reason, the most beneficial analysis seems to emerge with a summary of events predating the request, as well as a description of the intended investigative inquiry, can accompany the request for calling analysis.

Redacted Version

(U) Through liaison developed by the unit, in exigent circumstances the CAU is able to obtain specialized toll records information for international and domestic numbers which are linked to subjects of pending terrorism investigations. Appropriate legal authority (Grand Jury subpoena or NSL) must follow these requests.

(U) All field offices have access to and should utilize the Telephone Application on the FBINET in their investigations. The Telephone Application is the FBI's central repository for telephone subscriber data and should be checked prior to setting leads for telephone related records.

(U) Lead for requesting calling analysis may be set to Counterterrorism with the identifier AT CAU, DC in Electronic Communications. Requests for calling analysis in a criminal terrorism investigation should emanate from a classified sub file of that investigation since all of the USIC databases utilized by the CAU contains classified information. The reply EC prepared by the CAU will normally be classified at the SECRET level and will contain necessary caveats regarding the information contained therein. Special arrangements need to be made to pass information classified beyond the SECRET level.