

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 06/29/2007

To: San Francisco

From: San Francisco
[redacted] / Oakland RAALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-25-2011 BY 65179 DMH/STU

Contact: SA [redacted]

Approved By: [redacted]

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Drafted By: [redacted]

tmi *MA*

Case ID #: [redacted] (Pending)

[redacted] (Pending) -50

Title: MOSQUE LIAISON CONTACTS

Synopsis: To report statistical accomplishments.

Details: The following accomplishments are claimed for contacts
with the below organization:Anjuman-e-Najmi
1121 Old Canyon Road
Fremont, CA 94536

On 05/07/2007, in response to an invitation from [redacted]
[redacted] telephone number [redacted]
[redacted] SA [redacted] and writer visited the masjid
at the aforementioned address. The Agents met with Anjuman-e-
Najmi, San Francisco [redacted] telephone number
[redacted] as well as with [redacted] and other members of the
masjid. After a brief discussion regarding the background of the
Dawoodi Bohra community and the history of the Fremont masjid,
the Agents were given a tour of the facility.

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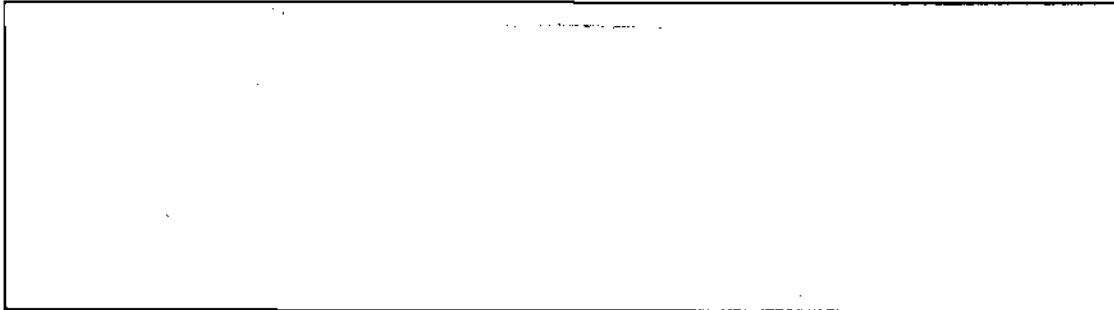
One topic of concern was raised during the meeting.
Specifically, [redacted]
[redacted]

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[redacted] was also present during the visit and assisted
with providing a tour of the masjid. [redacted]

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SA [REDACTED] and writer again visited the masjid on 06/02/2007. They were invited to the "open house" event, which was being held as part of the community's celebration of Dr. Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin's 96th birthday. At the event, the Agents talked informally with [REDACTED] and other individuals. Along with the invitation, [REDACTED] also emailed a brief document regarding the background of Anjuman-e-Najmi. Text of the document is as follows:

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"His Holiness Dr. Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin Saheb & The Dawoodi Bohras

At 96 years of age, Dr. Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin heads a distinguished community of one million Shia Muslims known as the Dawoodi Bohras. Dr. Burhanuddin's father, Dr. Syedna Taher Saifuddin, designated him as the heir apparent in 1933. Dr. Burhanuddin gathered the noble ways of his predecessor until 1965 when Syedna Taher Saifuddin passed. Since then, Dr. Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin has built the community into one that is internationally celebrated for its citizenry, economic vitality, and humanitarianism.

Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin encourages his followers to forge links that transcend barriers of race and religion and remain faithful to the land of their abode as an article of their faith. Though based in Mumbai, India, Dr. Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin travels the world visiting Dawoodi Bohra communities and extending a hand of friendship to leaders and communities of the lands in which they reside.

Like other Muslims, Dawoodi Bohras believe in the Quran, the message revealed by Allah to the Prophet Mohammed. In common with other Shia Muslims, Dawoodi Bohras proclaim that Mohammed was succeeded by Ali, who explained and interpreted the revelation received by

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Mohammed. Ali then chose his sons, Hasan and Hussain as the first Imams to continue guiding the community.

It is specifically an article of the Dawoodi Bohra Faith that such an Imam would always exist on earth and lead the community. These, the Fatemi Imams, were great patrons of the arts and architecture, attracting the world's finest scientists and artists to their empire in the 10th-12th Century AD. They nurtured a society of tolerance in which Muslims of different schools of thought and non-Muslims alike could practice their faith in a freedom that was rare in those historical periods.

The 21st Imam, al-Tayyib chose complete seclusion from society. Since then, all Imams have done likewise. As the Imam's emissaries, missionaries, and governors, the Dai's have been carrying out the responsibilities of the Imam. Dr. Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin is the 52nd Dai serving as the Imam's representative.

Under the leadership of Dr. Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin, Dawoodi Bohras have maintained and re-affirmed Islamic values while embracing technology and modernity as ways to prosper and cultivate positive interactions between different people of the world. Though the largest numbers of Dawoodi Bohras live in India and Pakistan, significant numbers have settled in North America and Europe, among other places in the world. Over the years, Dawoodi Bohras have adhered to a strong tradition of education, self-employment, trade and business. Indeed, the word Bohra itself is a derivative of the term "trader" in the Gujrati language.

Approximately 1,400 Dawoodi Bohras currently reside in California and are mainly concentrated in the San Francisco Bay Area, Bakersfield, and the Greater Los Angeles Area. Like many other Californians, the first Dawoodi Bohras came to this state in search of educational and economic opportunities in the late 1950s. Unaware of what California was like, handfuls of Bohra students and newlywed couples came excited about pursuing new lives in California, yet also sought to maintain their cultural values.

Dawoodi Bohras have now emerged as crucial components of California society. The majority of Bohras own their own businesses, everything from hardware stores to multi-million dollar high tech companies. Many have established themselves as reputable scientists, doctors,

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and engineers, also running businesses in their respective fields.

Dr. Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin has visited California in 1978, 1986, and 1996, and 2005. Each time, the California Dawoodi Bohra community has been able to re-affirm its faith, renew its dedications, and revitalize its communal institutions. Its identity as a "business community" has also been furthered with increased emphasis on trade, commerce, and business with each one of Dr. Burhanuddin's visits. As Dr. Burhanuddin meets leaders and exchanges cordiality during his visits, the community he represents is established more firmly and is able to articulate this identity with greater confidence.

His Holiness has been recognized by numerous heads of state and leaders throughout the world, including President George W. Bush and former President Bill Clinton. The Times of India hailed Dr. Burhanuddin as a "Harbinger of Peace" and stated, "Dr. Burhanuddin has made rich contributions to international harmony and cultural diversity." The late King Hussein of Jordan conferred upon His Holiness the "Star of Jordan Class I," the highest civic honor of his country.

In the summer of 2003, Anjuman-e-Najmi, the Dawoodi Bohra organization of the San Francisco Bay Area, began building a Masjid (mosque) in Fremont. It is the first Dawoodi Bohra Masjid in California and is viewed as a symbol of the Dawoodi Bohras' success in and commitment to the great State of California. The Masjid was inaugurated by His Holiness, Dr. Burhanuddin in August 2005."

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Accomplishment Information:

Number: 2
Type: POSITIVE INTELLIGENCE (DISSEMINATED OUTSIDE FBI)
ITU: LIAISON WITH MOSQUE
Claimed By [REDACTED]
SSN: [REDACTED]
Name: [REDACTED]
Squad: [REDACTED]

Number: 2
Type: POSITIVE INTELLIGENCE (DISSEMINATED OUTSIDE FBI)
ITU: LIAISON WITH MOSQUE
Claimed By [REDACTED]
SSN: [REDACTED]
Name: [REDACTED]
Squad: [REDACTED]

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