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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

Fraudulently Acquired Saudi Passports Facilitate Al-Qa'ida Travel

6 December 2002

Al-Qa'ida uses fraudulently acquired Saudi passports to document its operatives and facilitate international travel

Some of the passports are stolen issued to terrorists under false pretense.

Forgers fraudulently issue or alter these passports to create false identities, impersonate other citizens, and conceal suspicious travel

Thousands of Saudi Passports Lost or Stolen

Saudi passports have been lost or stolen in recent years

Saudi blanks are particularly problematic because they lack the document control number normally used for tracking their disposition before issuance.

This report was prepared by the DCI Counterterrorist Center

- (b)(1)
- (b)(3)
- EO 12958 1.4(b)<25Yrs
- EO 12958 1.4(c)<25Yrs
- EO 12958 1.4(d)<25Yrs
- EO 12958 1.4(e)<25Yrs
- EO 12958 3.5(c)

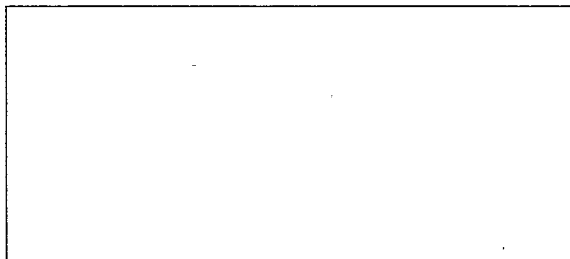
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In late 2001, the Saudi Government began a transition to new style passports that are more difficult to fraudulently issue or alter because they incorporate a number of significant security features.

