

Appendix III: Khalifa Letter

Letter from Philip C. Wilcox Jr., the State Dept.'s senior adviser regarding terrorism, to an unnamed immigration judge, declaring that Mohammed Jamal Khalifa has "engaged in serious terrorist offenses" and that his release "would endanger U.S. national security."

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United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

December 23, 1994

Dear Immigration Judge:

The Department of State is the Administration's "lead agency" regarding international terrorism. I serve as the Secretary of State's senior adviser regarding terrorism as well as U.S. foreign policy practices and initiatives intended to counter this threat to American interests and citizens. I will hold the personal rank of Ambassador, upon Senate confirmation. Prior to this current assignment, I served as the senior career official in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research. The Bureau is responsible for analysis, on behalf of the Secretary, of intelligence products collected by the U.S. Government. In preparation for this letter, moreover, I have been in close contact with the Department of State's Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, which coordinates U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East, including with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

In my letters to you of December 16 and 20, I provided you substantial information regarding the terrorist connections of Mohammad Jamal Khalifah. In the last two days there has been a significant additional development in this matter. On December 21 the State Security Court in Jordan found Mohammad Jamal Khalifah guilty of the charges for which he was indicted and imposed a capital sentence.

Based on my experience as a specialist in Middle Eastern affairs and service as U.S. Consul General in Jerusalem and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in the Bureau of Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, it is my view that a conviction by the competent Jordanian authorities provides strong evidence that Mohammad Jamal Khalifah has, in fact, engaged in serious terrorist offenses. I further believe that Mr. Khalifah's release in the United States under these circumstances would endanger U.S. national security, and would significantly damage U.S. foreign policy interests, particularly with respect to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Sincerely,

Philip C. Wilcox Jr.
Philip C. Wilcox, Jr.
Coordinator for Counterterrorism

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