

[redacted]

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From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 4:59 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Most Wanted Terrorist List Addition

Thanks! I didn't know that, and it certainly helps with an understanding of how the murder is related to terrorism [redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 1:19 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Most Wanted Terrorist List Addition

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Important Note: In the 1970's, The BLA was directly responsible for the premeditated killing and wounding of over a dozen police officers throughout the country. They viewed law enforcement as soldiers of a government they were at war with. Chesimard initiated the gun battle with the Troopers - she fired the first shot.

[redacted]
New Jersey State Police
FBI Newark JTTF
(W) [redacted]
(C) [redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Sent: Thu May 02 16:14:51 2013
Subject: Re: Most Wanted Terrorist List Addition

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Fantastic--thanks [redacted] All of this is helpful, but particularly the affirmation that " The charges for which Chesimard was found guilty were committed in furtherance of the black separatist extremist ideology and were designed to effect political change through its use." The contrast, of course, is an individual who commits a crime, but happens to have an unrelated ideology (e.g., a robber who wanted money for his drug habits, but also posted on white supremacist blogs).

Thank you!

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Sent: Thu May 02 15:48:28 2013
Subject: RE: Most Wanted Terrorist List Addition

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[redacted]

Here are the answers to your questions. Let me know if you need anything else. Thanks.

- 1) What "act of terrorism" is Ms. Chesimard suspected of?
- The FBI defines domestic terrorism as "the unlawful use, or threatened use of force or violence by a group or individual based and operating entirely within the United States or its territories without foreign direction committed against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian populations, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives." The charges for which Chesimard was found guilty were committed in furtherance of the black separatist extremist ideology and were designed to effect political change through its use.
- 2) How was the BLA designated a "terrorist group"? By whom?
- The Black Liberation Army isn't designated as a terrorist group. The BLA was described in the press release as one of the most violent, militant organizations of 1970s.
- 3) Did the FBI investigate the BLA as a criminal enterprise, or only certain members of it who were suspected of criminal activity?
- The FBI investigated the BLA under the Civil Unrest case classification in the 1970s. (Note: records this old are difficult to search, but it appears there was no criminal enterprise investigation on the BLA). Additionally, the FBI also investigated individuals believed to be involved in criminal activity who were also associated with the BLA.

[Redacted]

Intelligence Analyst

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 12:30 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Most Wanted Terrorist List Addition

H [Redacted]

I do not have the exact answers to these questions, but I have copied everyone I can think of in Domestic Terrorism here at HQ and the folks in Newark working on the case. Hopefully, one of them will be able to provide media friendly answers.

[Redacted] Any ideas to help [Redacted] She is our [Redacted]

Thanks so much to all,
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 12:24 PM
To: [Redacted] (DO)(FBI)
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Most Wanted Terrorist List Addition

[Redacted]

Given the interests of the local media, I'm anticipating a few questions but am stumped on the answers. Will you please lend me your thoughts?

- 4) What "act of terrorism" is Ms. Chesimard suspected of? I only saw charges listed for murder and robbery, without a terrorism angle.

- 5) How was the BLA designated a "terrorist group"? By whom? (State Dept is usually my go-to, but that's only for foreign organizations)
- 6) Did the FBI investigate the BLA as a criminal enterprise, or only certain members of it who were suspected of criminal activity? (I know my media will wonder about first amendment protected beliefs and congregation.)

Thanks!

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 8:59 AM
To:
Subject: Most Wanted Terrorist List Addition

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Hi Everyone,

Just so that you are all aware, and in case you receive any media inquiries...

This morning, FBI Newark announced **Joanne Deborah Chesimard** as the latest addition to the Most Wanted Terrorists List. She is the first female to be added to the List and the second Domestic Terrorist to be added.

Attached is a copy of the poster and a Public Affairs Guidance (PAG) document for your use. It contains information and history concerning the Most Wanted Terrorists List. The poster is also currently available, in both English and Spanish, on the FBI website.

Thank you all very much for your time and assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact us at any time.

The Investigative Publicity Coordinators



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[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 1:22 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: MWTL

Thanks.

[REDACTED]
New Jersey State Police
JTTF North, FBI Newark Div.
[REDACTED]

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (NK)(FBI)
Sent: Tue Apr 10 13:14:57 2012
Subject: Re: MWTL

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I will reach out to unit chief today and let you know

[REDACTED] Assistant Special Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Newark Field Division
(O) [REDACTED]
(CP) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (NK)(FBI)
Sent: Tue Apr 10 13:13:47 2012
Subject: MWTL

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All,

The selection committee advised that both subjects were voted to advance to the CTD AD for approval.

In speaking with the OPA rep, a subject cannot be placed on both the Top 10 and MWTL. UBL was the exception as the MWTL was created after his Top 10 nomination.

OPA said that 1 Top 10 was selected today, a child porn subject.

Would it be possible to get a yeah or nay from the VCMO section? If she is still in the running for Top Ten, then we may need to ask the MWTL committee to hold the EC.

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SSA [REDACTED]
FBI Newark JTTF
Squad [REDACTED]
Office: [REDACTED]
24 hour: [REDACTED]
Cell: [REDACTED]

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Filing and Security

Primary Case: [REDACTED]

Case Title: (U) MOST WANTED TERRORIST
PROGRAM

Serial Number: [REDACTED]

Serialized: 01/26/2012

Initiated: 07/13/2012

Details

Serial #: [REDACTED]

Type: EC

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Document Title: TO REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD FOR

Approval Date: 01/26/2012

Classification: ~~SI~~

Contents:

Precedence: ROUTINE Date: 01/26/2012

To: Counterterrorism Attn: NTCS/TRU/JEH, 4831

TIS [REDACTED]

Attn: [REDACTED] SA [REDACTED]

IA [REDACTED]

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From: Newark

GMRA [REDACTED]

Contact: DSFC [REDACTED] (NJSP) [REDACTED]

SA [REDACTED]

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Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]

Case ID #: [REDACTED] (Pending)

[REDACTED] (Pending)

b3
b7ETitle: FBI's MOST WANTED TERRORIST LIST;
NATIONAL THREAT CENTER SECTION (NTCS);
COUNTERTERRORISM DIVISION (CTD)

JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD a.k.a. ASSATA SHAKUR

a.k.a. ASSATA SHAKUR

FUGITIVE; IO NUMBER #4846

Synopsis: To request consideration of JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD for
inclusion into the FBI's "Most Wanted Terrorist List" (MWTL).

Reference: [REDACTED]

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Details: (a) On May 2, 1973, JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD A/K/A ASSATA SHAKUR, murdered New Jersey State Police (NJSP) Trooper Werner Foerster and wounded Trooper [REDACTED] when the vehicle she was traveling in was pulled over for a motor vehicle violation. At the time of the traffic stop, unbeknownst to the troopers involved in the incident, Chesimard was a member of a violent domestic terrorist organization known as the Black Liberation Army (BLA). During the 1970's the BLA actively advocated the overthrow of the United States government. Over a three and one half year period the BLA executed,

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murdered, and wounded over two dozen police officers in the United States. The BLA was an organized, national group with safe houses and networks throughout the United States. The BLA engaged in a string of assassinations of police officers in New York, NY, and some of its members were heavily involved in the 1981 armed robbery of a Brinks armored vehicle in Nyack, New York. Chesimard was known as the "soul" of the BLA, whose membership viewed law enforcement officers as the soldiers of the US government. The FBI believes that, at the height of its power in the 1970s, the BLA had 50-100 active members in the United States. At the time of Trooper Foerster's murder Chesimard was wanted after having been charged with involvement in several felonies,

including bank robbery. Chesimard was charged, tried, and convicted of Murder, Felony Murder, Atrocious Assault and Battery, Assault and Battery on a Police Officer, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault with Intent to Kill, Illegal Possession of a Weapon and Armed robbery.

Following her Judgement of Conviction and sentencing, Chesimard was ultimately incarcerated at the Clinton Correctional Institution for Women in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Chesimard remained incarcerated until November 2, 1979. On that date, Chesimard effected a successful armed escape from the Clinton Correctional Institution for Women with the help of three other individuals affiliated with the

Black Liberation Army and several other left wing domestic terrorist organizations. She has remained a fugitive ever since.

(b) The Chesimard case is a battle in the worldwide war on terrorism. Joanne Chesimard is a wanted fugitive, and she needs to be returned to the United States to face justice. The FBI believes that she may

[redacted] attempt to leverage her "revolutionary" credentials there to foment further anti-American and anti-Western terrorism.

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(c) Chesimard was a terrorist and she continues to articulate terrorist ideology. Therefore, the FBI believes it is reasonable to presume she will remain a terrorist in the future, continuing to engage in, or encourage followers to engage in, acts of violence to support her agenda. To stop this and increase the chance of her apprehension and extradition, the FBI requests inclusion of Joanne Chesimard on the "Most Wanted Terrorist List" (MWTL).

(d) Chesimard has been granted political asylum in Cuba by the Castro regime. She has continually espoused anti-US rhetoric and been utilized by the regime to leverage anti-US sentiment both in Cuba and here in the United States.

(e) On March 25, 1977, Chesimard was convicted by a jury in the State of New Jersey for Felony Murder in the 1973 execution-style murder of New Jersey Trooper Werner Foerster, as well as Atrocious Assault and Battery, Assault and Battery of a Police Officer, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault with intent to Kill, Illegal Possession of a Weapon, and Armed Robbery. She was sentenced to life in prison for murder plus 26-33 years for the other crimes. On November 2, 1979, Chesimard escaped from prison and has been residing in Cuba since 1984.

(f) Chesimard is the subject of pending FBI Newark investigation

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Joanne Chesimard is currently believed to be located in Cuba, and her inclusion on the FBI's "Most Wanted Terrorist List" (MWTL) list may assist with her apprehension and extradition.

Descriptive information:

(a) JOANNE DEBORAH CHESTIMARD, AKA: ASSATA SHAKUR

(b) Date of Birth: July 16, 1947
Place of Birth: New York, NY

(c) Height: 5'6"
Weight: 127-138 lbs.
Build: Medium
Hair: Black (various styles)
Eyes: Brown
Complexion: Medium
Sex: Female
Race: Black
Citizenship: United States
SS# Used: [REDACTED]
Scars/Marks: Bullet scars on abdomen, chest, left shoulder and underside of right arm, round scar on left knee.

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(d) On March 25, 1977, Chesimard was convicted by a jury in the State of New Jersey for Felony Murder in the 1973 execution-style murder of New Jersey Trooper Werner Foerster, as well as Atrocious Assault and Battery, Assault and Battery of a Police Officer, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault with intent to Kill, Illegal Possession of a Weapon, and Armed Robbery. She was sentenced to life in prison for murder plus 26-33 years for the other crimes.

(e) Details of the Trooper Foerster murder:

On May 2, 1973, at approximately 12:45 a.m., uniformed New Jersey State Trooper [REDACTED] stopped a motor vehicle driven by Clark Squire on the New Jersey Turnpike for a motor vehicle violation. Trooper [REDACTED] was backed-up on the stop by Trooper Werner Foerster. Squire immediately exited the vehicle and met Trooper [REDACTED] at the rear of the stopped vehicle. Squire presented Trooper [REDACTED] with a fictitious New York State driver's license and a Vermont registration for the Pontiac LeMans. Squire was unaware of the name of the registered owner of the vehicle, which caused Trooper [REDACTED] to become suspicious. Trooper [REDACTED] observed Squire to be nervous. Trooper [REDACTED] advised Squire to remain at the rear of the vehicle, while Trooper [REDACTED] verified the vehicle identification number (VIN) to the vehicle's registration card. Trooper [REDACTED] opened the left side driver's door to verify the VIN and requested identification from the two passengers, Joanne Chesimard and James Coston Jr.

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Meanwhile, Trooper Foerster arrived on the scene and approached Squire at the rear of the vehicle and conducted a safety pat down. The pat down revealed Squire possessed a fully loaded .380 caliber magazine clip. As Trooper Foerster was informing Trooper [REDACTED] of this discovery, Chesimard opened fire with a .9mm semiautomatic pistol, wounding [REDACTED] in the left shoulder. [REDACTED] took cover at the left rear of his patrol car. Chesimard continued to fire and Trooper [REDACTED] returned fire striking Chesimard twice after she exited the vehicle. Coston also exited the vehicle and commenced firing. Trooper [REDACTED] returned fire striking and mortally wounding Coston. In the meantime, Trooper Foerster was struggling with Squire. Trooper [REDACTED] left the scene to seek additional assistance after expending all six rounds from his service revolver. When assistance arrived, Trooper Foerster was found shot dead with Chesimard's gun at his side. At least five rounds were fired from Chesimard's weapon, one at the position of Foerster's body. Foerster had been executed with two shots to the head with his service revolver, which was ripped from his holster as he lay on the ground wounded. Trooper Foerster was also shot once in the abdomen and once in the right arm. His

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weapon was taken from the scene by the assailants.

Chesimard was arrested five miles further south on the Turnpike. The body of Coston, the vehicle, and Trooper Foerster's weapon, were recovered at that location. Squire was arrested approximately 40 hours later.

Under the criminal justice system in New Jersey, a person charged, such as Joanne Chesimard, is entitled to all of the applicable constitutional rights. Such persons have the right to have their charges considered by a Grand Jury which decides whether formal charges will be filed against a person in an Indictment. Once indicted, a person has a right to a trial by jury of his/her peers. The trial is an adversarial proceeding over which a neutral judge presides and a jury decides the guilt or innocence of the defendant. The State presents testimony and physical evidence. The State's witnesses can be cross-examined by the defendant's attorney. Then the defendant has the right to present testimony and evidence. Throughout the criminal proceedings beginning with the arrest of the defendant and continuing forever, a defendant has the right to remain silent and never give a statement or testimony that is against his/her penal interest. At the conclusion of the trial, the judge instructs the jury on the law and then the jury deliberates alone on the case. The jury must reach a unanimous verdict in a case. Following a verdict of guilty, the judge imposes a sentence which the defendant serves. The defendant can appeal to higher courts from the verdict or from the sentence.

Chesimard and Squire were indicted by the Middlesex County (New Jersey) Grand Jury on May 11, 1973. Indictment Number I-1437-72 charged Chesimard with Murder, Felony Murder, Atrocious Assault and Battery, Assault and Battery on a Police Officer, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault with Intent to Kill, Illegal Possession of a Weapon and Armed robbery. The trial began in 1974; however, Chesimard was severed from the trial when she was diagnosed to be pregnant. She went on trial in New York on an unrelated matter and was returned to New Jersey where she was tried from January 17, 1977 through March 25, 1977.

During the trial, evidence and testimony were presented against Chesimard by the State of New Jersey. Witnesses included Trooper [redacted] other detectives, medical experts, and other witnesses. Physical evidence including the guns used in the crimes was admitted at the trial. Chesimard was represented by four lawyers. The Honorable Theodore Appleby was the judge. The case was tried before and deliberated by a jury of 12 persons. Chesimard was given the opportunity to cross-examine the State's witnesses, to make various motions and to present evidence and testimony. In short, she was afforded all of the rights that any individual tried for a serious felony would be entitled. The jury was instructed that the State was obligated to prove each and every charge against Chesimard beyond a reasonable doubt. The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty to all charges, on March 25, 1977. Chesimard was immediately sentenced by Judge Appleby on the murder of Trooper Foerster to life in prison. Chesimard DOES NOT face the death penalty on any of these charges. On April 25, 1977, Chesimard was sentenced to additional 26 to 33 years by Judge Appleby on the remaining charges.

Chesimard filed an appeal to the New Jersey Superior Court, Appellate Division, which was dismissed on December 18, 1979, because of her escape from the Clinton Correctional Institution for Women (see below).

Following her Judgement of Conviction and sentencing, Chesimard was ultimately incarcerated at the Clinton Correctional

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Institution for Women. Chesimard remained incarcerated until November 2, 1979. On that date, Chesimard effected a successful armed escape from the Clinton Correctional Institution for Women with the help of three other individuals affiliated with the Black Liberation Army and several other left wing domestic terrorist organizations. She has remained a fugitive ever since. Had Chesimard not escaped, she would have remained incarcerated in prison at least until the year 2000, the earliest date upon which she would have been eligible for consideration for parole.

Trooper Werner Foerster was 35 years old when he was murdered. He was a two-year veteran of the New Jersey State Police. He was a husband and the father [redacted] When Chesimard and her confederates murdered Trooper Foerster, she not only brought a violent end to his life, but shattered a family forever. The Foerstes will always live with the scars of that night on the New Jersey Turnpike when Chesimard and her confederates violently ended the life of a husband, father, and dedicated law enforcement officer.

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In addition, since her arrival in Cuba in 1984, Chesimard has received the support of the Cuban government and has given many anti-US speeches. In a videotaped interview with the media in 1998, Chesimard reiterates her anti-government rhetoric and continues to deny her culpability in Foerster's murder. The US government still views Chesimard as a terrorist, a murderer, and an individual who, while she remains at large, is spreading the violent, anti-government message of terrorism.

(f) Group affiliation: Black Liberation Army
US DOS Designated State Sponsor of Terrorism: Cuba

(g) Location: Cuba

(h) Photos available on www.FBI.gov, Most Wanted, Domestic Terrorist link.

(I) In January, 2004, the FBI requested the US Department of Justice (DOJ) approve increasing the reward for information leading to Chesimard's arrest to one million US dollars, which was approved in May, 2005.

(j) DSFC [redacted]

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(k) Interpol notice has been issued and is currently active.

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Action)

COUNTERTERRORISM

AT WASHINGTON, DC

(U) NTCS/TRU/JEH: FBI Newark nominates JOANNE
CHESIMARD, a.k.a. Assata Shakur, for inclusion on the FBI's "Most
Wanted Terrorist List" (MWTL).

Set Lead 2: (Info)

COUNTERTERRORISM

AT WASHINGTON, DC

(U) For information.

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Routing

Drafted by:

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Filing and Security

Primary Case: [REDACTED]

Case Title: (U) CHESIMARD, JOANNE,
DEBORAH SHAKNAP [REDACTED] HAS
BEEN CONS. INTO THIS CASE

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Serial Number: [REDACTED]

Serialized: 02/20/2012

Category: [REDACTED]

Initiated: [REDACTED]

b7E

Details

Serial #: [REDACTED]

Type: EC

Document Title: TO REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF CAPTIONED SUBJECT FOR INCLUSION

Approval Date: 02/20/2012

Classification: ~~SI~~

Contents:

Precedence: ROUTINE Date: 02/20/2012

To: Criminal Investigative Attn: DAD John G. Perren
SC Jane Challman
ASC [REDACTED]
SSA [REDACTED]
Violent Criminal Threat
Section/Violent Crime

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Counterterrorism Attn: DAD Stuart R. McArthur
SC Stephen A. Bucar
ASC [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] UC [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] UC [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] SA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] IA [REDACTED]

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From: Newark
GMRA/ [REDACTED]

Contact: DSEC [REDACTED] (NISP), [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]

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Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]

Case ID #: [REDACTED] (Pending)

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Title: JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD a.k.a. ASSATA SHAKUR
a.k.a. ASSATA SHAKUR
FUGITIVE; IO NUMBER #4846

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

Synopsis: To request consideration of Captioned Subject for inclusion
into the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitive List (TMWFL).

Enclosure: Joanne Deborah Chesimard LHM.

Reference: [REDACTED]

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Details: The enclosed LHM provides a detailed background of JOANNE
CHESIMARD and this investigation. The LHM may be disseminated as a

whole or in part. JOANNE CHESIMARD is currently believed to be located in Cuba, and her inclusion on the FBI Top 10 list may assist with her apprehension and extradition.

On May 2, 1973, JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD A/K/A ASSATA SHAKUR, one of the leading members of a small but violent terrorist organization known as the Black Liberation Army, murdered New Jersey State Police (NJSP) Trooper Werner Foerster when the vehicle she was traveling in was pulled over for a motor vehicle violation. At the time of the traffic stop, unbeknownst to the troopers involved in the incident, CHESIMARD was wanted after having been charged with involvement in several felonies, including bank robbery.

On March 25, 1977, CHESIMARD was convicted by a jury in the State of New Jersey for Felony Murder in the execution of New Jersey Trooper Werner Foerster as well as Atrocious Assault and Battery, Assault and Battery of a Police Officer, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault with Intent to Kill, Illegal Possession of a Weapon, and Armed Robbery. She was sentenced to life in prison for murder plus 26-33 years for the other crimes. On November 2, 1979, CHESIMARD escaped from prison and eventually surfaced in Cuba around early 1984.

CHESIMARD has since been granted refugee status and has been supported

by the Cuban government. CHESIMARD

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CHESIMARD continues to speak out against the US and proclaim her innocence. She is currently on the FBI's most wanted list and there is a \$1,000,000 reward for information leading to her apprehension.

Descriptive information for JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD

Date of Birth: 07/16/1947
Place of Birth: New York, NY
Height: 5'6"
Weight: 127-138 lbs.
Build: Slender
Hair: Black (various styles)
Eyes: Brown
Complexion: Medium
Sex: Female
Race: Black
Nationality: American
SS# Used:
Scars/Marks: Bullet scars on abdomen, chest, left shoulder and underside of right arm, round scar on left knee.
AKA: ASSATA SHAKUR

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LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Action)

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE

AT WASHINGTON, DC

FBI Newark nominates JOANNE CHESIMARD, a.k.a.
Assata Shakur, for inclusion on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitive
List.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

Routing

Drafted by:

Approved by:

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~~SECRET~~

Filing and Security

Primary Case: [REDACTED]

Case Title: (U) CHESIMARD, JOANNE
DEBORAH SHAKNAP [REDACTED] HAS
BEEN CONS. INTO THIS CASE

b7E per FBI

Serial Number: [REDACTED]

Serialized: 04/18/2012

Category: [REDACTED]

Initiated: [REDACTED]

FBI INFO.

CLASSIFIED BY NSICG [REDACTED]
REASON: 1.4 (c)
DECLASSIFY ON: 06-26-2040
DATE: 06-26-2015b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI
b7E per FBI

Details

Serial #: [REDACTED]

Type: EC

Document Title: TO SUMMARIZE THE MOST WANTED TERRORIST PROGRAM (MWTP)

Approval Date: 04/18/2012

Classification: ~~X~~

Contents:

Precedence: PRIORITY Date: 4/18/2012

To: Director's Office Attn: Director Robert S. Mueller
DD Sean M. Joyce
EAD Mark F. Giuliano
AEAD [REDACTED]
Counterterrorism Attn: ITOS I
SC Joshua Skule
ITOS II
SC Paul M. Abbate
OPA Attn: AD Michael Kortan, OPA
UC [REDACTED]
International Operations Attn: AD Joseph Demarest
Interpol Attn: SSA [REDACTED]
MPA [REDACTED]
Washington Field Attn: SSA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
FA [REDACTED]
Newark Attn: DSFC [REDACTED]
SAC Michael Ward
SSA [REDACTED]
SSA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
All Legats Attn: All LEGATS/ALATS

b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI

From: Counterterrorism
National Threat Center Section/JEH, 4981
Contact: TIS [REDACTED]

Approved By: [REDACTED]

b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI

Drafted By: [REDACTED]

Case ID #: (U) [REDACTED] (Pending)
(U) [REDACTED] (Pending)
(U) [REDACTED] (Pending)

b3 per FBI
b7E per FBI

Title: (U) FBI's MOST WANTED TERRORIST LIST
SEEKING MORE INFORMATION - WAR ON TERRORISM
LIST

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b7E per FBI

(U) NATIONAL THREAT CENTER SECTION (NTCS)
COUNTERTERRORISM DIVISION (CTD)

b1 per FBI
b3 per FBI
b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI

(U) ~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]
(U) JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD a.k.a. ASSATA SHAKUR
a.k.a. ASSATA SHAKUR
FUGITIVE; IO NUMBER #4846

Synopsis: (U) To summarize the Most Wanted Terrorist Program (MWTP) Selection Committee results and seek approval for immediate inclusion of two nominations to the MWTP: one to the Most Wanted Terrorist List (MWTL), and one to the Seeking More Information List (SMIL).

~~(S) Derived From : FBI NSISCG-20080301~~
~~Declassify On: 203700418~~

b7E per FBI

Reference: (U) [REDACTED]

Details: (U) On October 2001, former President George W. Bush announced the creation of the MWTL, which provides an avenue to publicly seek information or assistance in locating subjects of FBI investigative interest. The SMIL, created in 2002, serves as a companion list to the MWTL for subjects who are not indicted in the United States.

(U) In response to the annual MWTP nomination canvass, the FBI's Counterterrorism Division, National Threat Center Section (NTCS),

b7E per FBI

[REDACTED]/Threat Review Team (TRT) received two nominations from FBI field offices for possible inclusion in the MWTP.

Each office submitted a nomination package, which details the subjects' connections to terrorism and how the subjects' meet the necessary criteria.

(U) This electronic communication [REDACTED]

b7E per FBI

MWTL Nomination:

1. JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD

(U) On May 2, 1973, JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD aka ASSATA SHAKUR, murdered New Jersey State Police (NJSP) Trooper Werner Foerster and wounded Trooper [REDACTED] when the vehicle she was traveling in was pulled over for a motor vehicle violation.

b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI

(U) On March 25, 1977, Chesimard was convicted by a jury in the State of New Jersey for Felony Murder in the 1973 execution-style

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b7E per FBI

murder of New Jersey Trooper Werner Foerster, as well as Atrocious Assault and Battery, Assault and Battery of a Police Officer, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault with intent to Kill, Illegal Possession of a Weapon, and Armed Robbery.

(U) The selection committee voted unanimously for the inclusion of Chesimard to the MWTL.

SMIL Nomination:

2. [REDACTED]

(U) (S//NF) [REDACTED]

b1 per FBI
b3 per FBI
b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI

(U) The selection committee voted unanimously for the inclusion of [REDACTED] to the SMIL.

Interpol Notices:

(U) An Interpol notice has been issued and is currently active for Chesimard

(U) There is currently no Interpol notice issued for [REDACTED] Washington Field can reach out to Interpol to establish a notice.

b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI

b1 per DOS

(U) Based on the selection committee's recommendations, the FBI's MWTL and SMIL would consist of the following individuals:

(U) MWTL:

b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI

b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b7E per FBI
b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI



JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD (Pending)

(U) SMIL:



b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI

Office of Public Affairs:

(U) If approval is granted, the Office of Public Affairs will revise the FBI's website for the Most Wanted Terrorist Program and coordinate a press release to announce the additions with the respective field offices and Legats.

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Info)
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

AT DD FO, DC
(U) Read and clear.

Set Lead 2: (Info)
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

AT DO, DC
(U) Read and clear.

Set Lead 3: (Info)
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

AT EADNSB, DC
(U) Read and clear.

Set Lead 4: (Info)
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

AT ASSOCIATE EADNSB, DC
(U) Read and clear.

Set Lead 5: (Action)
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

AT OPA, DC
(U) The Office of Public Affairs will modify the FBI's web site according to the changes described herein and will facilitate the dissemination of a press release.

Set Lead 6: (Info)
WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, DC

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b7E per FBI

(U) Read and clear.

Set Lead 7: (Info)
NEWARK

AT NEWARK, NJ
(U) Read and clear.

Set Lead 8: (Info)

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES
(U) Read and clear.

**

Routing

Drafted by:

Approved by:

b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI

~~SECRET~~

Filing and Security

UNCLASSIFIED

Primary Case: [REDACTED]

Case Title: (U) CHESIMARD, JOANNE,
DEBORAH SHAKNAP [REDACTED] HAS
BEEN CONS. INTO THIS CASE

b7E

Serial Number: [REDACTED]

Serialized: 12/13/2012

Category: [REDACTED]
Initiated: [REDACTED]

b7E

Referenced By: [REDACTED]
Lead 10 Lead 11 Lead 10 CoverageLead 11 Coverage
[REDACTED]
Lead 10 CoverageLead 11 Coverage

b7E

Details

Document Title: (U) JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD a.k.a. ASSATA SHAKUR, FUGITIVE IO#4846

Synopsis: (U) To request consideration of JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD for
inclusion on the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitive List" (TMWFL).

Details: (U)

On May 2, 1973, JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD A/K/A ASSATA SHAKUR, murdered New Jersey State Police (NJSP) Trooper Werner Foerster and wounded Trooper [REDACTED] when the vehicle she was traveling in was pulled over for a motor vehicle violation. At the time of the traffic stop, unbeknownst to the troopers involved in the incident, Chesimard was a member of a violent domestic terrorist organization known as the Black Liberation Army (BLA). During the 1970's the BLA actively advocated the overthrow of the United States government. Over a three and one half year period the BLA executed, murdered, and wounded over two dozen police officers in the United States. The BLA was an organized, national group with safe houses and networks throughout the United States. The BLA engaged in a string of assassinations of police officers in New York, NY, and some of its members were heavily involved in the 1981 armed robbery of a Brinks armored vehicle in Nyack, New York. Chesimard was known as the "soul" of the BLA, whose membership viewed law enforcement officers as the soldiers of the US government. The FBI believes that, at the height of its power in the 1970s, the BLA had 50-100 active members in the United States. At the time of Trooper Foerster's murder Chesimard was wanted after having been charged with involvement in several felonies, including bank robbery. Chesimard was charged, tried, and convicted of Murder, Felony Murder, Atrocious Assault and Battery, Assault and Battery on a Police Officer, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault with Intent to Kill, Illegal Possession of a Weapon and Armed Robbery. Following her Judgement of Conviction and sentencing, Chesimard was ultimately incarcerated at the Clinton Correctional Institution for Women in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Chesimard remained incarcerated until November 2, 1979. On that date, Chesimard effected a successful armed escape from the Clinton Correctional Institution for Women with the help of three other individuals affiliated with the Black Liberation Army and several other left wing domestic terrorist organizations. She has remained a fugitive ever since.

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The Chesimard case is a battle in the worldwide war on terrorism. Joanne Chesimard is a wanted fugitive, and she needs to be returned to the United States to face justice. The FBI believes that she may [REDACTED]

b7E

[REDACTED] attempt to leverage her "revolutionary" credentials there to

foment further anti-American and anti-Western terrorism.

Chesimard was a terrorist and she continues to articulate terrorist ideology. Therefore, the FBI believes it is reasonable to presume she will remain a terrorist in the future, continuing to engage in, or encourage followers to engage in, acts of violence to support her agenda. To stop this and increase the chance of her apprehension and extradition, the FBI requests inclusion of Joanne Chesimard on the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitive List" (TMWFL).

Chesimard has been granted political asylum in Cuba by the Castro regime. She has continually espoused anti-US rhetoric and been utilized by the regime to leverage anti-US sentiment both in Cuba and here in the United States.

On March 25, 1977, Chesimard was convicted by a jury in the State of New Jersey for Felony Murder in the 1973 execution-style murder of New Jersey Trooper Werner Foerster, as well as Atrocious Assault and Battery, Assault and Battery of a Police Officer, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault with intent to Kill, Illegal Possession of a Weapon, and Armed Robbery. She was sentenced to life in prison for murder plus 26-33 years for the other crimes. On November 2, 1979, Chesimard escaped from prison and has been residing in Cuba since 1984.

Chesimard is the subject of pending FBI Newark investigation

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Joanne Chesimard is currently believed to be located in Cuba, and her inclusion on the FBI's "Most Wanted Terrorist List" (MWTL) list may assist with her apprehension and extradition.

Descriptive information:

JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD, A.K.A. ASSATA SHAKUR

Date of Birth:	July 16, 1947
Place of Birth:	New York, NY
Height:	5'6"
Weight:	127-138 lbs.
Build:	Medium
Hair:	Black (Various Styles)
Eyes:	Brown
Complexion:	Medium
Sex:	Female
Race:	Black
Citizenship:	United States
SS# Used:	
Scars/Marks:	Bullet scars on abdomen,

b6
b7C

chest, left shoulder and
underside of right arm, round
scar on left knee.

Photos available on www.FBI.gov., Most Wanted, Domestic Terrorist link.

On March 25, 1977, Chesimard was convicted by a jury in the State of New Jersey for Felony Murder in the 1973 execution-style murder of New Jersey Trooper Werner Foerster, as well as Atrocious Assault and Battery, Assault and Battery of a Police Officer, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault with intent to Kill, Illegal Possession of a Weapon, and Armed Robbery. She was sentenced to life in prison for murder plus 26-33 years for the other crimes.

Details of the Trooper Foerster murder:

On May 2, 1973, at approximately 12:45 a.m., uniformed New Jersey State Trooper [redacted] stopped a motor vehicle driven by Clark Squire on the New Jersey Turnpike for a motor vehicle violation. Trooper [redacted] was backed-up on the stop by Trooper Werner Foerster. Squire immediately exited the vehicle and met Trooper [redacted] at the rear of the stopped vehicle. Squire presented Trooper [redacted] with a fictitious New York State driver's license and a Vermont registration for the Pontiac LeMans. Squire was unaware of the name of the registered owner of the vehicle, which caused Trooper [redacted] to become suspicious. Trooper [redacted] observed Squire to be nervous. Trooper [redacted] advised Squire to remain at the rear of the vehicle, while Trooper [redacted] verified the vehicle identification number (VIN) to the vehicle's registration card. Trooper [redacted] opened the left side driver's door to verify the VIN and requested identification from the two passengers, Joanne Chesimard and James Coston Jr.

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Meanwhile, Trooper Foerster arrived on the scene and approached Squire at the rear of the vehicle and conducted a safety pat down. The pat down revealed Squire possessed a fully loaded .380 caliber magazine clip. As Trooper Foerster was informing Trooper [redacted] of this discovery, Chesimard opened fire with a 9mm semiautomatic pistol, wounding [redacted] in the left shoulder. [redacted] took cover at the left rear of his patrol car. Chesimard continued to fire and Trooper [redacted] returned fire striking Chesimard twice after she exited the vehicle. Coston also exited the vehicle and commenced firing. Trooper [redacted] returned fire striking and mortally wounding Coston. In the meantime, Trooper Foerster was struggling with Squire. Trooper [redacted] left the scene to seek additional assistance after expending all six rounds from his service revolver. When assistance arrived, Trooper Foerster was found shot dead with Chesimard's gun at his side. At least five rounds were fired from Chesimard's weapon, one at the position of Foerster's body. Foerster had been executed with two shots to the head with his service revolver, which was ripped from his holster as he lay on the ground wounded. Trooper Foerster was also shot once in the abdomen and once in the right arm. His weapon was taken from the scene by the assailants.

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Chesimard was arrested five miles further south on the Turnpike. The body of Coston, the vehicle, and Trooper Foerster's weapon, were recovered at that location. Squire was arrested approximately 40 hours later.

Under the criminal justice system in New Jersey, a person charged, such as Joanne Chesimard, is entitled to all of the applicable constitutional rights. Such persons have the right to have their charges considered by a Grand Jury which decides whether formal charges will be filed against a person in an Indictment. Once indicted, a person has a right to a trial by jury of his/her peers. The trial is an adversarial proceeding over which a neutral judge presides and a jury decides the guilt or innocence of the defendant. The State presents testimony and physical evidence. The State's witnesses can be cross-examined by the defendant's attorney. Then the defendant has the right to present testimony and evidence. Throughout the criminal proceedings beginning with the arrest of the defendant and continuing forever, a defendant has the right to remain silent and never give a statement or testimony that is against his/her penal interest. At the conclusion of the trial, the judge instructs the jury on the law and then the jury deliberates alone on the case. The jury must reach a unanimous verdict in a case. Following a verdict of guilty, the judge imposes a sentence which the defendant serves. The defendant can appeal to higher courts from the verdict or from the sentence.

Chesimard and Squire were indicted by the Middlesex County (New Jersey) Grand Jury on May 11, 1973. Indictment Number I-1437-72 charged Chesimard with Murder, Felony Murder, Atrocious Assault and Battery, Assault and Battery on a Police Officer, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault with Intent to Kill, Illegal Possession of a Weapon and Armed robbery. The trial began in 1974; however, Chesimard was severed from the trial when she was diagnosed to be pregnant. She went on trial in New York on an unrelated matter and was returned to New Jersey where she was tried from January 17, 1977 through March 25, 1977.

During the trial, evidence and testimony were presented against Chesimard by the State of New Jersey. Witnesses included Trooper [redacted] other detectives, medical experts, and other witnesses. Physical evidence, including the guns used in the crimes, was admitted at the trial. Chesimard was represented by four lawyers. The Honorable Theodore Appleby was the judge. The case was tried before and deliberated by a jury of 12 persons. Chesimard was given the opportunity to cross-examine the State's witnesses, to make various motions and to present evidence and testimony. In short, she was afforded all of the rights that any individual tried for a serious felony would be entitled. The jury was instructed that the State was obligated to prove each and every charge against Chesimard beyond a reasonable doubt. The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty to all charges, on March 25, 1977. Chesimard was immediately sentenced by Judge Appleby on the murder of Trooper Foerster to life in prison. Chesimard DOES NOT face the death penalty on any of these charges. On April 25, 1977, Chesimard was sentenced to additional 26 to 33 years by Judge Appleby on the remaining charges.

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Chesimard filed an appeal to the New Jersey Superior Court, Appellate Division, which was dismissed on December 18, 1979, because of her escape from the Clinton Correctional Institution for Women (see below).

Following her Judgement of Conviction and sentencing, Chesimard was ultimately incarcerated at the Clinton Correctional Institution for Women. Chesimard remained incarcerated until November 2, 1979. On that date, Chesimard effected a successful armed escape from the Clinton Correctional Institution for Women with the help of three other individuals affiliated with the Black Liberation Army and several other left wing domestic terrorist organizations. She has remained a fugitive ever since. Had Chesimard not escaped, she would have remained incarcerated in prison at least until the year 2000, the earliest date upon which she would have been eligible for consideration for parole.

Trooper Werner Foerster was 35 years old when he was murdered. He was a two-year veteran of the New Jersey State Police. He was a husband and the father [REDACTED] When Chesimard and her confederates murdered Trooper Foerster, she not only brought a violent end to his life, but shattered a family forever. The Foerstes will always live with the scars of that night on the New Jersey Turnpike when Chesimard and her confederates violently ended the life of a husband, father, and dedicated law enforcement officer.

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In addition, since her arrival in Cuba in 1984, Chesimard has received the support of the Cuban government and has given many anti-US speeches. In a videotaped interview with the media in 1998, Chesimard reiterates her anti-government rhetoric and continues to deny her culpability in Foerster's murder. The US government still views Chesimard as a terrorist, a murderer, and an individual who, while she remains at large, is spreading the violent, anti-government message of terrorism.

In January, 2004, the FBI requested the US Department of Justice (DOJ) approve increasing the reward for information leading to Chesimard's arrest to one million US dollars, which was approved in May, 2005.

Interpol Notice has been issued and is currently active.

Routing

From: NEWARK, b7E

Drafted by:

Approved by:

b6
b7C

Distribution:

[REDACTED]
b7E per FBI

Filing and Security

UNCLASSIFIED//~~LES/LES~~

Primary Case: [REDACTED]

Case Title: (U) CHESIMARD, JOANNE
DEBORAH SHAKNAP [REDACTED] HAS
BEEN CONS. INTO THIS CASE

b7E per FBI

Serial Number: [REDACTED]

Serialized: 01/18/2013

Category: [REDACTED]
Initiated: [REDACTED]

b7E per FBI

Additional Case: [REDACTED]
Chesimard

Case Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) JOANNE DEBORAH
CHESIMARD

b7E per FBI

Serial Number: [REDACTED]

Serialized: 02/08/2013

Referenced By: [REDACTED]

b7E per FBI

Details

Document Title:

b7E per DOS

Synopsis:

Details:

[REDACTED]

b7E per DOS

b7E per DOS

Routing

From: COUNTERTERRORISM, DG-OPS2

b7E per FBI

Drafted by

Approved by: UC
A/UC
ASC
SC Harold V. Bickmore

b6 per FBI
b7C per FBI

Distribution:

Filing and Security

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

Primary Case: [REDACTED]

Case Title: (U) CHESIMARD, JOANNE,
DEBORAH SHAKNAP [REDACTED] HAS
BEEN CONS. INTO THIS CASE

b7E

Serial Number: [REDACTED]

Serialized: 04/05/2013

Category: [REDACTED]
Initiated: [REDACTED]

b7E

Referenced By: [REDACTED]
Lead [REDACTED] Coverage [REDACTED]

b7E

Details

Document Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) ENHANCEMENT REQUEST CONCERNING JOANNE CHESIMARDSynopsis: (U//~~FOUO~~) Headquarters response concerning enhancement request
concerning Joanne Chesimard.Details: (U//~~FOUO~~)

FBI Newark's request's to enhance the reward being offered for Joanne Chesimard from one million to two million dollars will not be approved. Headquarters assesses that the proposed monetary increase will not attract information leading to the capture of Chesimard that would not otherwise be obtained under the currently offered reward. Headquarters recommends that FBI Newark continue the current media campaign in addition to Chesimard remaining on The Most Wanted Terrorist List.

Routing

From: COUNTERTERRORISM

Drafted by: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

b6
b7CApproved by: UC [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
UC [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
ASC [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
SC Harold V. Bickmore [REDACTED]Distribution: NK [REDACTED] (SSA)
[REDACTED]b7E
b6
b7C

Filing and Security

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

Primary Case: [REDACTED]

Case Title: (U) CHESIMARD, JOANNE,
DEBORAH SHAKNAP [REDACTED] HAS
BEEN CONS. INTO THIS CASE

b7E

Serial Number: [REDACTED]

Serialized: 04/08/2013

Category: [REDACTED]

Initiated: [REDACTED]

b7E

Referenced By: [REDACTED]

Lead 20

b7E

Details

Document Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Document receipt of letterSynopsis: (U//~~FOUO~~) To document the receipt of a letter to the Director from
Newark Division SAC and the State of New Jersey's Office of the
Attorney General.Details: (U//~~FOUO~~)This electronic communication serves as documentation of the receipt of a
letter to Director Mueller from the State of New Jersey's Office of the
Attorney General regarding domestic terrorism fugitive Joanne Chesimard.The letter requests Director Mueller's consideration to raise the reward
amount for Chesimard from \$1 million to \$5 million.

1A/1C Packages

Package 1A53Summary: (U//~~FOUO~~) Copies of letters to the Director.

Acquired By: [REDACTED]

Acquired On: 04/05/2013

Receipt Given: No

b6
b7C

Attachments: UNCLASSIFIED

~~(U//~~FOUO~~)~~ Letters to the Director (U) NJ AG Letter re Chesimard 03282013.pdf (1 MB)

Digital Record

Routing

From: COUNTERTERRORISM, DG-OPS2 [REDACTED]

b7E

Drafted by: [REDACTED] Approved by: A/UC [REDACTED] 
UC [REDACTED] 

Distribution: [REDACTED]

b6
b7C



U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

11 Centre Place
Newark, New Jersey 07102

March 18, 2013

Joanne Chesimard
FBI Most Wanted List

Director Robert S. Mueller, III
Office of the Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

Dear Director Mueller,

Please find enclosed with this letter a request from New Jersey Attorney General Jeffrey S. Chiesa and New Jersey State Police Superintendent Colonel Joseph R. Fuentes requesting your assistance in increasing the reward for Joanne Chesimard's capture from one million dollars to five million dollars. Newark enjoys an outstanding, mutually beneficial relationship with the New Jersey State Police and wholeheartedly endorses this request in the hope it provides the necessary impetus to bring Ms. Chesimard to justice.

Respectfully,

Acting Special Agent in Charge

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b7C



State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
PO BOX 080
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0080

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

JEFFREY S. CHIESA
Attorney General

March 7, 2013

Director Robert S. Mueller, III
Federal Bureau of Investigation
J. Edgar Hoover Bldg.
935 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

Dear Director Mueller,

The unwavering support and commitment of the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have resulted in the inclusion of Joanne Chesimard onto the FBI's Most Wanted Terrorist List. The New Jersey State Police and the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General recognize and appreciate the significance of this action. We ask for your continued support and commitment to ensure that she is captured and returned to the United States to serve the remainder of her life sentence. To that end, we are respectfully requesting that the United States Attorney General's Office raise the reward for Chesimard's capture from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000.

May 2, 2013, will mark the 40th anniversary of the brutal execution of New Jersey State Police Trooper Werner Foerster at the hands of Joanne Chesimard, a.k.a. Assata Shakur, and her confederates. As a result of her arrest, Chesimard was tried, convicted, and sentenced to life imprisonment. On November 2, 1979, Chesimard escaped from a New Jersey prison and has since been a fugitive from justice presently residing in Cuba. Chesimard's initial act of violence against Trooper Foerster was an example of domestic terrorism. Her recent activities, as outlined below, have expanded her sphere of influence and rhetoric to the international community.

For nearly 34 years, collaborative efforts of various law enforcement agencies have been made to capture Chesimard. Thus far, all efforts have been unsuccessful. Throughout these years, Chesimard has been harbored and protected by the Cuban government while she has consistently preached her radical, anti-US government ideology. Joanne Chesimard has persistently advocated



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the armed overthrow of the United States government through a platform provided by the Castro regime, an ally of other rogue governments and a provider of safe haven for terrorists. In 1982, the Cuban government was formally designated by the U.S. Department of State as a state sponsor of terrorism. Chesimard is a domestic terrorist with international influence and member of a larger multinational community of terrorists residing in Cuba.

The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia (FARC) and National Liberation Army (ELN) guerillas; the Puerto Rican Macheteros; the Spanish Basque ETA; the Palestinian Liberation Army; and various Syrian and Iranian backed elements are among a diverse group of terrorist organizations whose members have been granted safe haven in Cuba. Current credible intelligence suggests that

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Source reporting indicates Chesimard [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7D
b7E

[REDACTED] Cuba continues to maintain strong ties with countries such as Iran, Syria, and Sudan, all of which share the U.S. Department of State designation as state sponsors of terrorism. Given the opportunity, Chesimard may [REDACTED]

b7E

[REDACTED] attempt to seek out sanctuary or leverage her "revolutionary" credentials for the purpose of promoting further anti-American terrorism.

The violent ideology of the separatist movement is prevalent in American society today and Chesimard remains influential amongst her international and U.S.-based supporters. Multiple advocacy-internet websites routinely display posts and forums in full support of Chesimard, her past actions, and her revolutionary rhetoric. The separatist ideology has manifested itself in many aspects of our society. Anti-government separatist groups continue to organize and plot against the U.S. government, often enacting violence in furtherance of their political and social objectives. It is for all these reasons that we request the reward for her capture be raised to \$5,000,000.

The New Jersey State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are currently organizing a coordinated media campaign to recognize the anniversary of the murder of Trooper Foerster and officially announce the inclusion of Chesimard on the FBI Most Wanted Terrorist List. We believe that an announcement of the reward increase to \$5,000,000 to coincide with this campaign is critical to the mission of enhancing multi-agency initiatives and strengthening ongoing investigative efforts to return Chesimard to the United States. Currently, the FBI's Most Wanted Terrorism List includes 31 terrorists. Of those 31, 23 have been designated with rewards of \$5,000,000.

The challenges of conducting this investigation within the borders of a designated state-sponsor of terrorism are unique. They are magnified by the operational climate inside of Cuba. As noted, some of Chesimard's [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7D



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] In addition, there is credible source reporting indicating Chesimard [REDACTED]

The New Jersey State Police and the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General have worked with the Office of International Affairs, FBI Legal Attaches, and various federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies in preparing the necessary paperwork for extradition and the establishment of contingency plans in the event we are in a position to interdict the future travel of Chesimard. The significant reward increase from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000 would expand our opportunities to elicit the cooperation necessary to bring this case to closure. In addition, it would serve to raise awareness of the presence of Chesimard in Cuba and highlight the support of a terrorist and convicted murderer by the Castro regime.

When initiating the FBI's Most Wanted Terrorist List in 2001, President Bush cited the fact that the initial designees were among the most dangerous, the leaders, the key supporters, the planners, and strategists. The war on terror is not just against individuals; the war is against networks and group – people who coddle them, people who try to hide them, people who fund them.

Joanne Chesimard is a terrorist who is responsible for the murder of a New Jersey State Trooper who, at the time of his execution, was on-duty and in uniformed public service. It is clear that the Cuban government is harboring, supporting, and propagandizing her existence in support of terrorism and toward the fulfillment of their anti-American agenda, all in concert with enemies of the United States. A \$5,000,000 reward for Joanne Chesimard sends a message to the world – the United States of America is a nation built on fundamental values, that rejects hate, rejects violence, rejects murderers, rejects evil.

The New Jersey State Police and the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General are committed to exhausting all efforts to bring this terrorist and convicted killer to justice and look forward to our continued partnerships with your agencies.

Very truly yours,


Jeffrey S. Chiesa
Attorney General


Colonel Joseph R. Fuentes
Superintendent



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Import Form

UNCLASSIFIED

Form Imported: EMAIL

Document Title: (U) Most Wanted Terrorist List Addition

Synopsis: (U) Email dated 5/2/2013 from [Redacted] re Most Wanted Terrorist List Addition

b6
b7C

File Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Uploaded File: (U) Most Wanted Terrorist List Addition.htm

Filing and Security

Primary Case: [Redacted]

Case Title: (U) FUGITIVE PUBLICITY
MATTERS - RICHMOND DIVISION

b7E

Serial Number: 459

Serialized: 05/06/2013

Initiated: 06/20/2012

Details

Raw File Text:

From:

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

b6
b7C

Sent:

Thursday, May 02, 2013 11:59
AM

To:

[Redacted]

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

Subject:
Most
Wanted Terrorist List Addition
Attachments:
chesimard.pdf;
pagchesimardmwt.doc

Hi
Everyone,

Just so that you are all aware,
and in case you receive any media inquiries...

This morning, FBI Newark
announced Joanne Deborah Chesimard as the latest addition to the
Most Wanted Terrorists List. She is the first female to be added to
the
List and the second Domestic Terrorist to be added.

Attached is a copy of the poster
and a Public Affairs Guidance (PAG) document for your use. It
contains
information and history concerning the Most Wanted Terrorists List.
The
poster is also currently available, in both English and Spanish, on
the FBI
website.

Thank you all very much for your
time and assistance in this matter. If you have any questions,
comments or
concerns, please feel free to contact us at any time.

The Investigative Publicity
Coordinators

b6
b7C



b6
b7C

Routing

Drafted by: [Redacted] 

Approved by: ASAC [Redacted] 



Federal Bureau of Investigation
Office of Public Affairs
Investigative Publicity and Public Affairs

Public Affairs Guidance

POC: UC [REDACTED]

Issued 05/02/2013

b6
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b7E

Topic: "Most Wanted Terrorists" Program

Press Guidance:

Talking points and Q&As below are **for internal use only**. Field office media coordinators should handle all local media inquiries and may respond to questions related to local matters only. This document should not be disseminated in this particular format and should be considered a guide for preparing SACs or others for media inquiries/interviews/other public events. As a reminder, comments should not be made regarding ongoing investigations or on cases outside of your respective field office.

Calls referring to cases of a national significance should be referred to Unit Chief [REDACTED] Investigative Publicity and Public Affairs Unit, [REDACTED]

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The following information is provided to assist in responding to inquiries regarding the "Most Wanted Terrorists" (MWT) list in your offices, as well as today's addition of **Joanne Deborah Chesimard** to the "Most Wanted Terrorists" list.

Background:

Joanne Deborah Chesimard is wanted for escaping from prison in Clinton, New Jersey, while serving a life sentence for murder. On May 2, 1973, Chesimard, who was part of a revolutionary extremist organization known as the Black Liberation Army, and two accomplices were stopped for a motor vehicle violation on the New Jersey Turnpike by two troopers with the New Jersey State Police. At the time, Chesimard was wanted for her involvement in several felonies, including bank robbery. Chesimard and her accomplices opened fire on the troopers. One trooper was wounded and the other was shot and killed execution-style at point-blank range. Chesimard fled the scene, but was subsequently apprehended. One of her accomplices was killed in the shoot-out and the other was also apprehended and remains in jail.

In 1977, Chesimard was found guilty of first degree murder, assault and battery of a police officer, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault with intent to kill, illegal possession of a weapon, and armed robbery. She was sentenced to life in prison. On November 2, 1979, Chesimard escaped from prison and lived underground before being located in Cuba in 1984. She is thought to currently still be living in Cuba.

If you have any information concerning the whereabouts of Joanne Deborah Chesimard, please contact the Newark Field Office at 973/792-3000.

History of the List:

In October of 2001, then-President George W. Bush announced the creation of the "Most Wanted Terrorists" list. The 22 terrorists originally on the list were indicted for various acts of terrorism against the United States.

Q&As:

Why use this list?

The list is a valuable tool that assists the FBI in its efforts to apprehend terrorists and bring them to justice through increased awareness and advertising domestically and internationally.

Who manages the list?

The program is managed by the Counterterrorism Division's (CTD) National Threat Center Section. Each year the section canvasses the field for nominations of international and domestic terrorism subjects for addition to the list. The nominees received are reviewed by Special Agents in CTD. The selection of the "proposed" candidate(s) is forwarded to FBI executive management for final approval.

What are the criteria for being named to the MWT list?

The terrorist must:

- Have threatened the security of United States nationals or the national security (national defense, foreign relations, or the economic interests) of the United States;
- Be considered a dangerous menace to society;
- Have indicated a willingness to commit, or indicate to commit, an act to cause death or serious bodily injury; prepare or plan terrorist activity; gather information on potential targets for terrorist activity; or solicit funds or other things of value for terrorist activity;
- Have provided material support such as currency or financial services or assistance to a terrorist group/organization, but does not necessarily have to belong to a terrorist organization;
- Be subject to lawful detention, either by the United States government based upon an active federal warrant for a serious felony offense, or any other lawful authority;
- Be the subject of a pending FBI investigation; and
- Worldwide publicity must be able to assist in the apprehension of the terrorist.

What are the criteria for removing people from the MWT list?

Individuals will be removed from the MWT list when they are apprehended by the United States, killed, or when sufficient information is available providing a reason to presume the individual is deceased or no longer poses a threat to United States nationals or national security.

How many people are on the MWT list?

With the inclusion of Joanne Deborah Chesimard, there are **32** individuals on the list. Chesimard is the first female to be named to the MWTL and only the second Domestic Terrorist to be placed on the list. (Daniel Andreas San Diego was the first)

What is the difference between the FBI's "Most Wanted Terrorists" list and those of the State Department and other federal agencies?

Each list is based on criteria established by the host agency. As the focus of each agency differs, the lists of most wanted terrorists for each agency also differ.

What about rewards?

The "Rewards for Justice" program, sponsored by the United States Department of State, offers rewards of up to \$25 million for many of the terrorists. Information on this program may be found at www.rewardsforjustice.net.

05/02/2013

Most Wanted Terrorists

Act of Terrorism - Domestic Terrorism; Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement - Murder

JOANNE DEBORAH CHESIMARD



Aliases: Assata Shakur, Joanne Byron, Barbara Odoms, Joanne Chesterman, Joan Davis, Justine Henderson, Mary Davis, Pat Chesimard, Jo-Ann Chesimard, Joanne Debra Chesimard, Joanne D. Byron, Joanne D. Chesimard, Joanne Davis, Chesimard Joanne, Ches Chesimard, Sister-Love Chesimard, Joann Debra Byron Chesimard, Joanne Deborah Byron Chesimard, Joan Chesimard, Josephine Henderson, Carolyn Johnson, Carol Brown, "Ches"

DESCRIPTION

Date(s) of Birth Used: July 16, 1947;
August 19, 1952

Place of Birth: New York City, New York

Height: 5'7"

Weight: 135 to 150 pounds

Hair: Black/Gray

Eyes: Brown

Sex: Female

Race: Black

Citizenship: American

Scars and Marks: Chesimard has scars on her chest, abdomen, left shoulder, and left knee.

Remarks: She may wear her hair in a variety of styles and dress in African tribal clothing.

CAUTION

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REWARD

The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$1,000,000 for information directly leading to the apprehension of Joanne Chesimard.

SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS

If you have any information concerning this person, please call the FBI Toll-Free tip line at 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324). You may also contact your local FBI office, or the nearest American Embassy or Consulate.