

## **FINDING OF FACTS**

### **HIJACKING ON NOVEMBER 16, 2006**

**Crescent Security Group (CSG) fired Iraqi employees.**

**Interview with Mr. F. Picco**

**Iraqis threatened to retaliate for the firing.**

**Interview with Mr. F. Picco**

**One or two months before the hijacking weapons are stolen from CSG. (Iraqis dress up as Iraqi Police [IP])**

**Interview with Mr. F. Picco**

**Franco Picco and Crescent buy back some of their weapons in Basra , Iraq . Franco Picco reports the weapons theft to the police chief, but was told to mind his own business.**

**Interview with Mr. F. Picco**

**Crescent Security notifies the U.S. Of a larger convoy scheduled to leave of Kuwait on Nov. 16, 2006 .**

**Interview with Mr. F. Picco and e-mail**

**Number of client vehicles and type:**

**25 x Mercedes Benz tractor units pulling**

**6 x Lowbed Trailers**

**17 x Flatbed Trailers**

**2 x Tractor Units**

**12 x Tractor Units (variety of makes and models)**

**12 x Flatbed Trailers**

**Intel report from a military unit that debriefed the two-team members who were not taken during the ambush.**

**The convoy's length (1-1/2 miles) and scant protection (only five security vehicles) left the transport open to hijacking. Intel report from a military unit that debriefed the two-team members who were not taken during the ambush and my own training in the U.S. Army**

**(Patriots 1 & 2) pass Bridge 3 on the way to Bridge 2 but didn't see the IP checkpoint. Intel report from a military unit that debriefed the two-team members who were not taken during the ambush.**

**Four civilian men wearing suits appeared to be in charge. I had previously heard Wissam tell John Cote that these men were from the CIA in Basra (possibly meant CIU). Intel report from a military unit that debriefed the two-team members who were not taken during the ambush.**

**(Patriots 1 & 2) took more than 45 minutes to get to the scene.**

**The British pick up Wissam Hashem (aka John Belushi), an Iraqi translator/security guard, and Kusay, an Iraqi who works for CSG, about 24 hours later. (They are suspected of being the two "inside guys" on the hijacking.) Interview with my contacts.**

**The British hold them for a few days, then release them after notifying the U.S. Interview with my contacts.**

**Within a few days of the hijacking, a highly educated Iraqi told the FBI in Iraq that he could take them to where the hostages were. If he did this, he would need a Green Card to allow his family to come to the U.S. The FBI refused to listen to him. Interview with my contacts and confirmation from the U.S. State Dept. In February.**

**Chuck Fuller offered contact info to the F.B.I, but the agency dismissed it, without checking it out.**

**Per Cindy Akken, F.B.I. Agent. Minneapolis Office, and my interview with the F.B.I. In December 2006 and January 2007.**

**Brad Ford gave the F.B.I. Info and contacts in January 2007, but it took the agency until June 2007 to contact him by phone.**

**Note: The F.B.I. Contacted Brad on June 2, 2007 and told him not to contact the two people in Iraq who might help to get the 5 hostages back.**

**Interview with my contacts.**

**Between December 2006 and February 2007, Josh Munns's mother asked a friend, Mr. J.J., to check into the hijacking.**

**Interview with my contacts.**

**Mr. J.J. Used his contacts and received a cell-phone call telling him to drive to a parking lot. When he arrived, the cell-phone caller told Mr. J.J. To put his arm out of the window and hold up any amount of fingers and caller would tell him how many digits he had displayed. He did so and the caller told him that he was holding up three fingers. Then he was told to back off or.....**

**Mr. J.J. Then told Josh Munns's mother that he couldn't help her.**

**Interview with my contacts and Mark Munns.**

**In February 2007 the hostages' families were told that the U.S. State Department would distribute flyers about the captives. Every time a family member asked when the flyers were to come out, the State Department responded that the idea would have to be approved by five departments. The U.S. State Department had never produced the flyers as of June 20, 2007 .**

**Interviews with family members.**

**In February 2007 their contacts at the F.B.I. And U.S. State Department told the families that these organizations would not contact Mark Koscielski.**

**Interviews with family members.**

**In March 2007 Mark Koscielski meets with the F.B.I., tells the agents that he is going over to Kuwait/Iraq, and asks if he can contact the FBI in Iraq or Kuwait if he learns anything about the hostages. When asked this, Agent K.M. from the Minneapolis office said "NO" three times.**

**In February 2007 the U.S. State Department reports to John Young's mother that they had a new ransom demand note.**

**Note: She was the only person to learn this from the agency.  
Interview with Young's mother.**

**The U.S. government claims that the "Mujahedeen of Jerusalem Company" and The Furkan Brigades (two new groups previously unknown to the U.S. ) hijacked the contractors.  
This was reported in the news.**

**From the beginning of the incident, the families would get a phone call from their F.B.I. and U.S. State Department contacts each week to update the families on the situation. At no time did the F.B.I. or the U.S. State Department share the same information with each of the families.  
Interviews with family members.**

**Mark Koscielski**

**Date: 4-05-07**