

# **“WHAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG?”**

---

SECRET DEAL ALLOWS COMPANY TIED TO SADDAM’S  
NUCLEAR BOMBMAKER, IRAN AND U.A.E. TO MANAGE KEY  
FLORIDA PORT FACILITIES

An Occasional Paper  
of the Center for Security Policy

By: Alan Jones and Mary Fanning

23 December 2016



*Gulftainer's Port Canaveral cargo container terminal (left), Saddam Hussein awarding a medal to Iraqi nuclear physicist Dr. Jafar Dhia Jafar, considered the "father of Iraq's nuclear weapons program" (right)*

In 2015 President Barack Obama's Administration quietly approved the hand-over of cargo container operations at Florida's Port Canaveral to Gulftainer, a Middle Eastern ports company owned by the Emir of Sharjah of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Iraqi businessman Hamid Dhia Jafar.

Hamid Jafar is the brother and the business partner of Dr. Jafar Dhia Jafar -- the Baghdad-born nuclear physicist who masterminded Saddam Hussein's nuclear weapons program.

UAE-based port operator Gulftainer, a subsidiary of The Crescent Group, was awarded the 35-year no-bid lease at Port Canaveral in 2014 following two years of secret talks in a deal code-named "Project Pelican."

Treasury Secretary Jacob "Jack" Lew declined<sup>1</sup> to conduct a Committee on Foreign Investment (CFIUS) National Security Threat Analysis that, under the Foreign Investment & National Security Act of 2007 (FINSIA), is required for transactions affecting America's critical infrastructure and U.S. national security.

Port Canaveral is in close proximity to a U.S. Navy nuclear submarine base, two U.S. Air Force Space Command bases, and NASA's Kennedy Space Center.

Gulftainer has port operations in the UAE, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Pakistan, Turkey, Brazil, and Russia.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Brinkman, Paul, "Port opening cargo terminal – no further review required," *Orlando Sentinel*, June 12, 2015, available at <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/business/brinkmann-on-business/os-port-canaveral-gulftainer-cargo-20150611-post.html>

<sup>2</sup> Sleiman, Mirna, "UAE's Gulftainer acquires 51 percent stake in Saudi Gulf Stevedoring," *Reuters*, June 23, 2013, available at <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-emirates-gulftainer-saudi-idUSBRE95M02320130623>

Crescent Petroleum, a sister company of Gulftainer also owned and operated by the Jafar family, was investigated in 1993 by the Treasury Department and three congressional committees to determine if Crescent Petroleum was a front company for Saddam Hussein.<sup>3</sup>

Dr. Jafar, who oversaw the production, movement, and concealment of Iraq's nuclear program, initially fled Baghdad and Iraq in 2003 as invading U.S. forces hunted down Saddam's top WMD scientists. Upon his surrender, Dr. Jafar was subjected to extensive interrogation by Western intelligence officials. Dr. Jafar is infamous for his uranium enrichment genius, is known to possess ties to Iran, Russia, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and the UAE, and was in communication with Pakistani nuclear physicist A.Q. Khan.<sup>4</sup>

## **GULFTAINER'S CONNECTIONS TO THE CLINTONS AND TWO OF PRESIDENT OBAMA'S COLLEGE ROOMMATES**

The Jafar family has connections to the Clintons and to the Clinton Foundation (covered in more detail below).

The Jafar family also has direct business connections with two of President Barack Obama's lifelong friends and college roommates -- former foreign students Vinai Thummalapally of Hyderabad, India and Wahid Hamid of Karachi, Pakistan. Thummalapally and Hamid both bundled campaign contributions for Barack Obama and attended Barack and Michelle's wedding.

In 2015 Wahid Hamid spent time with President Obama at the White House, aboard Marine One, and at Camp David.<sup>5</sup>

Wahid Hamid was also a member of the Pentagon's Defense Business Board under President Obama.<sup>6</sup>

Wahid Hamid, along with Mohammed Hasan Chandoo (a.k.a. Chandio), another one of Obama's Pakistani college roommates, allegedly met Obama at the Karachi airport in 1981 at the beginning of Obama's mysterious tour of Pakistan.<sup>7</sup>

Hamid Jafar and his son, Gulftainer executive Badr Jafar, who is the nephew of nuclear physicist Dr. Jafar, both have served on the board of directors at UAE-based private equity firm The Abraaj Group. Wahid Hamid is a Partner at The Abraaj Group.<sup>8 9</sup>

Badr Jafar also has ties to SelectUSA Director Vinai Thummalapally.

---

<sup>3</sup> Captain Moonlight's Notebook, "Writs fly as Iraq oil firm fends off media," March 20, 1993, *The Independent*, available at <http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/captain-moonlights-notebook-writs-fly-as-iraq-oil-firm-fends-off-media-1499099.html>

<sup>4</sup> "October 06, 1990 Correspondence between the MIC and the Petro Chemical Group Regarding a Letter from A.Q. Khan Offering Assistance in Developing Iraq's Nuclear Weapons Program," *Wilson Center Digital Archive*, available at <http://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/116989.pdf?v=707cfbfeca8c49f9c92035d29379608a>

<sup>5</sup> Fabian, Jordan, "Obama golfs with old friends on pre-birthday weekend," *The Hill*, August 1, 2015, available at <http://thehill.com/homenews/administration/250003-obama-golfs-with-old-friends-on-pre-birthday-weekend>

<sup>6</sup> "Minutes of the Quarterly Board Meeting Defense Business Board," July 22, 2010, available at [http://dbb.defense.gov/Portals/35/Documents/Meetings/2010/2010\\_7\\_22\\_Minutes.pdf](http://dbb.defense.gov/Portals/35/Documents/Meetings/2010/2010_7_22_Minutes.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Maraniss, David, "Barack Obama: The Making of the Man," Atlantic Books, 2012

<sup>8</sup> "Wahid Hamid," The Abraaj Group – People, available at <http://www.abraaj.com/site/people-popup/wahid-hamid-1>

<sup>9</sup> "Executive Profile Wahid Hamid," *Bloomberg*, available at <http://www.bloomberg.com/research/stocks/people/person.asp?personId=31047849&ticker=PEP>

Badr Jafar and Thummalapally both attended the 2015 grand opening of Gulftainer’s Port Canaveral container terminal. In an unusual step, President Obama appointed his foreign-born former roommate (who has minimal history of working for American-owned companies) to be America’s “chief marketing officer” as Director of SelectUSA.<sup>10</sup>



*President Obama’s college roommates Vinai Thummalapally of India (2<sup>nd</sup> from L) and Wabid Hamid of Pakistan (3<sup>rd</sup> from L), Badr Jafar (3<sup>rd</sup> from R), Hamid Jafar (2<sup>nd</sup> from R), and nuclear physicist Dr. Jafar Dhia Jafar (R)*

Crescent also has deep connections to Russian President Vladimir Putin and Putin's longtime associate and onetime deputy prime minister Igor Sechin, known as “Russia’s Darth Vader” and “the scariest man on earth”—both of whom were career KGB officers.<sup>11</sup>

## **DUBAI PORTS WORLD 2.0:**

**Former Gulftainer Executive Who Negotiated “Project Pelican” Now Chief Strategy Officer At “Ports America” – Takeover Target Of Turkish Firm; 38 U.S Ports At Stake**



*Peter Ford, formerly with Gulftainer, now with Ports America (Image: LinkedIn)*

<sup>10</sup> Levine, Andrew, “Meet America’s Chief Marketing Officer,” *Forbes*, December 18, 2014, available at <http://www.forbes.com/sites/andrewlevine2/2014/12/18/meet-americas-chief-marketing-officer/#56e623504663>

<sup>11</sup> LoGiurato, Brett, “Obama Just Sanctioned ‘The Scariest Man On Earth’,” *Business Insider*, April 28, 2014, available at <http://www.businessinsider.com/igor-sechin-darth-vader-sanctions-russia-obama-ukraine-putin-2014-4>

Former Gulftainer Chief Operating Officer Peter Ford “was responsible for the negotiations that allowed Gulftainer to expand its footprint into Port Canaveral, FL” according to Ford’s LinkedIn profile.<sup>12</sup>

Ford’s current position is Chief Strategy Officer at Ports America. The Ports America brand was created when “in the aftermath of 9/11, Dubai Ports World was forced to divest all of its U.S. port operations, selling its long-term leases to Highstar Capital” according to public relations firm Washington Media.<sup>13</sup> Ports America owns stevedoring operations at 38 U.S. ports, including Port Canaveral, and is the largest ports operator on the U.S. East Coast and along the Gulf region.

On June 27, 2016, Christian Blauert, chief executive of Turkish port operator Yilport, “confirmed that Yilport had put in a bid for Ports America, but would not comment further other than to say it would make a final bid ‘soon’” according to report from “The Loadstar.”<sup>14</sup>

Istanbul-based Yildirim Holding AS, headed by Chairman / CEO Robert Yuksel Yildirim, is the parent company of Yilport. Yilport has reportedly set aside billions of dollars for the acquisition of U.S. ports. “We want to help open up U.S. ports to world business if we buy assets there...there are some attractive port assets in the Americas” CEO Yildirim told Bloomberg.<sup>15</sup>

Lloyd’s List reported in May 2016 that Robert Yildirim claimed that Yilport was “now in the second round of the sales process.”<sup>16</sup> Yildirim also “made it clear he would not accept anything less than a 51 percent shareholding in Ports America, and could be willing to buy 100 percent control if the price were right” according to the same report. “I want to be in the driving seat...I need to have majority control” he said.

On September 23, 2016, a representative of Ports America declined to comment to Reuters about the sales process.<sup>17</sup>

## **GULFTAINER: OWNED IN PART BY A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT**

Gulftainer is owned by two shareholders, Hamid Dhia Jafar and His Highness Sheikh Sultan Al Qassimi, the Ruler of Sharjah, UAE according to a 2012 World Bank International Finance Corporation

---

<sup>12</sup> “Peter Ford,” *LinkedIn* profile, accessed on December 13, 2016, available at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/petercford>

<sup>13</sup> “Highstar Capital / Ports America,” *Washington Media Group*, available at <http://www.washingtonmedia.com/portfolio-item/highstar-capital-ports-america/>

<sup>14</sup> Van Marle, Gavin, “Yilport eyes port operations in new territory as it continues its global acquisition trail,” *The Loadstar*, June 27, 2016, available at <http://theloadstar.co.uk/yilport-eyes-port-operations-new-territory-continues-global-acquisition-trail/>

<sup>15</sup> Ersoy, Ercan, “Yildirim Seeks Mines, U.S. Ports in \$10 Billion Expansion,” *Bloomberg*, April 19, 2016, available at <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-04-19/yildirim-seeks-u-s-ports-kazakh-mines-in-10-billion-expansion>

<sup>16</sup> “Yilport seeks majority control of Ports America,” *Lloyd’s List*, May 06, 2016, available at <https://www.lloydslist.com/ll/sector/ports-and-logistics/article524221.ece>

<sup>17</sup> Reuters News, “OTPP-owned GCT Global Container Terminals exploring options: Reuters,” *The PE HUB NETWORK*, September 23, 2016, available at <https://www.pehub.com/canada/2016/9/otpp-backed-gct-global-container-terminals-exploring-options-reuters/#>

(IFC) document.<sup>18</sup> The World Bank document, therefore, establishes Gulftainer as a company owned in part by a foreign government.

| <b>Project sponsor and major shareholders of project company</b>   |
|--|
| An existing client of IFC since September 2010, Gulftainer Company Limited, based in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates ("UAE"), and founded in 1976, is a well established company whose core business consists of the operation and management of two container terminals in the Emirate of Sharjah: the Sharjah Container Terminal ("SCT") operating since 1976 at Port Khalid in Sharjah city, and the Khorfakkan Container Terminal ("KCT") since 1986 on the eastern side of the Straits of Hormuz. In addition to these historical activities, the Company has developed container-related transport and logistics activities (such as trucking, warehousing, freight forwarding, etc.) in the UAE and has started to export its know-how since 2004 with its first significant overseas investment in Iraq in 2010 (rehabilitation and operation of two terminals at Umm Qasr port) and Brazil (operation of one multi-purpose terminal at Recife's port). The Company handled total traffic of over 3 million twenty-foot equivalent ("TEU") in the UAE in 2011. |
| The Company is owned by two shareholders: HH Sheikh Sultan Al Qassimi, the Ruler of Sharjah and Mr Hamid Dhia Jafar.   |

*World Bank IFC document showing ownership of Gulftainer*

During the secret "Project Pelican" negotiations, Crescent established a Florida corporation called "GT USA" and several other subsidiaries downstream of The Crescent Group.

One interpretation of the use of structured layering of subsidiaries – sometimes referred to as downstreaming – is to mask true ownership equity so as not to trigger CFIUS and FINSA reviews.

Had a full-blown National Security Threat Analysis of Port Canaveral's deal with Gulftainer occurred, it would have uncovered that Gulftainer is partially owned by the Ruler of Sharjah, a foreign government. This information should have resulted in a recommendation to President Obama to block the deal on national security grounds.

A simple Google search would have uncovered the World Bank IFC document showing ownership by the Ruler of Sharjah, UAE.

---

<sup>18</sup> "Gulftainer II Summary of Proposed Investment – Project sponsor and major shareholders of project company," International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group, April 18, 2012, available at <http://ifcext.ifc.org/ifcext/spiwebsite1.nsf/DocsByUNIDForPrint/B81A7D1009EA76C7852579E400696E0C?opendocument>



## **STRUCTURING OF DOWNSTREAM SUBSIDIARIES IN ORDER TO MASK TRUE EQUITY INTERESTS OF GT USA**

### **THE CRESCENT GROUP**

Sharjah, UAE - Hamid Jafar, Founder and Chairperson, is the brother and Crescent business partner of Iraqi nuclear weapons mastermind Dr. Jafar Dhia Jafar. Crescent Group subsidiaries include Crescent Enterprises and Crescent Petroleum. Crescent Petroleum was investigated by the U.S. government to determine if it was a front company for Saddam Hussein's regime.



### **CRESCENT ENTERPRISES**

Sharjah, UAE - Crescent Enterprises subsidiaries include Gulftainer and Crescent Investments. Crescent Investments invested in The Abraaj Group. Hamid Jafar is a founding shareholder of The Abraaj Group. Obama's former roommate Wahid Hamid is an Abraaj Group Partner.



### **GULFTAINER COMPANY LIMITED**

Sharjah, UAE - Gulftainer is owned by two shareholders:  
Hamid Jafar and His Highness Sheikh Sultan Al Qassimi, the Ruler of Sharjah, UAE, qualifying Gulftainer as a foreign government-owned business  
Source: 2012 World Bank IFC document.<sup>19</sup>



### **GT INTERNATIONAL LIMITED FZC**

Sharjah, UAE - Incorporated in the Hamriyah Free Zone<sup>20</sup> - HFZ member since 2014  
CEO Flemming Dalgaard reports to Peter Richards, Gulftainer's Managing Director, 100% owned by GT International<sup>21 22</sup>



<sup>19</sup> "Gulftainer II Summary of Proposed Investment – Project sponsor and major shareholders of project company," International Finance Corp, World Bank Group, April 18, 2012, available at

<http://ifcextl.ifc.org/ifcext/spiwebsite1.nsf/DocsByUNIDForPrint/B81A7D1009EA76C7852579E400696E0C?opendocument>

<sup>20</sup> Investor Profile, "GT International Limited FZC," Hamriyah Free Zone Authority, updated November 2016, available at <http://www.hfza.ae/en-us/directory/investor/21891/GT-INTERNATIONAL-LIMITED-FZC.aspx>

<sup>21</sup> "Gulftainer Appoints New Head For International Operations," Gulftainer.com, August 27, 2015, available at <http://www.gulftainer.com/press-release/gulftainer-appoints-new-head-for-international-operations/>

<sup>22</sup> Page, Paul, "Logistics Movers: Gulftainer Names Dalgaard CEO of GT International," *Wall Street Journal*, August 26, 2016, available at <http://www.wsj.com/articles/logistics-movers-gulftainer-names-dalgaard-ceo-of-gt-international-1440596339>

**GT AMERICAS CORP.**

Delaware, USA - "Gulf Americas" Delaware Corp. File #5517568 – Incorporated April 16, 2014, 100% owned by GT Americas



**GT USA LLC**

Tallahassee, FL, USA - "GTUSA" (L14000062886) a Florida LLC, c/o Corporate Services Company, 1201 Hays Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301 Was incorporated April 16, 2014.



## **“PROJECT PELICAN”: THE SECRET DEAL THAT BYPASSED A NATIONAL SECURITY REVIEW**

The Port Canaveral deal was forged in secret over a two-year period.

It is difficult to understand why Treasury Secretary Jacob “Jack” Lew, Hillary’s long-time friend who served as her Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources, would allow the Jafar brothers access to Port Canaveral. Secretary Lew bypassed the mandated Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) “National Security Threat Analysis,” which should have been overseen by Director James R. Clapper. The National Security Threat Analysis is supposed to be ordered by and delivered to the Treasury Secretary, who is also the designated chairperson of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS).<sup>23 24 25 26</sup>

Under the Foreign Investment and National Security Act of 2007 (FINSAs), the President of the United States is responsible for investigating foreign investments that could jeopardize national security. The President is the only federal official with the power to block such transactions. President Obama, therefore, was the ultimate authority responsible for allowing Gulfstream and its owners, the Ruler of Sharjah and Crescent’s Jafar family, to take control of Port Canaveral’s cargo container operations. President Obama’s final authority nevertheless does not diminish the importance of the damaging roles played by the Clintons and Treasury Secretary Lew.

Congressman Duncan D. Hunter (R-CA) is an Iraq War veteran who enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps the day after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Rep. Hunter, now a Marine Corps Reserve Major, is the chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee.

In 2014 Rep. Hunter sent a letter to Treasury Secretary Lew requesting a CFIUS national security review of the Port Canaveral - Gulfstream deal. A June 12, 2015 Orlando Sentinel<sup>27</sup> article following up on Rep. Hunter’s 2014 request<sup>28</sup> reported that the “U.S. Homeland Security department and Federal Maritime Commission had reviewed information about the cargo operations. But an additional request for more review by the Treasury Department’s Committee on Foreign Investment (CFIUS) did not occur.”

Canaveral Port Authority Senior Director of Communications and Community Affairs Rosalind Harvey told the Orlando Sentinel that “after extensive filing of all required paperwork to U.S. Treasury

---

<sup>23</sup> 31 C.F.R. Part 800 “Regulations Pertaining to Mergers, Acquisitions, and Takeovers by Foreign Person; Final Rule,” Part II, Department of the Treasury, Office of Investment Security, *Federal Register*, November 21, 2008, available at <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/international/foreign-investment/Documents/CFIUS-Final-Regulations-new.pdf>

<sup>24</sup> “Foreign Investment and National Security Act of 2007 (FINSAs)” <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/international/foreign-investment/Documents/FINSA.pdf>

<sup>25</sup> Executive Order 11858 <https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/11858.html>

<sup>26</sup> “Further Amendment of Executive Order 11858 Concerning Foreign Investment in the United States” <https://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2008/01/20080123-9.html>

<sup>27</sup> Brinkman, Paul, “Port opening cargo terminal – no further review required,” *Orlando Sentinel*, June 12, 2015, available at <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/business/brinkmann-on-business/os-port-canaveral-gulfstream-cargo-20150611-post.html>

<sup>28</sup> Baumann, David, “Middle Eastern Investment In Florida Port Rekindles Security Infrastructure Debate,” *Forbes*, August 20, 2014, available at <http://www.forbes.com/sites/mergermarket/2014/08/20/foreign-investment-in-florida-port-rekindles-security-infrastructure-debate/#4f7934da7554>

Department officials, the panel found that no review was required because the agreement was a lease and not a purchase of Port assets.”

Federal rules, however, state that long-term leases are “transactions.”<sup>29</sup>

According to 31 C.F.R. Part 800:

The Proposed Rule also clarified that certain joint ventures and long-term leases are ‘transactions.’ In particular, the Proposed Rule provided that long-term leases are transactions when, because of the terms of the lease and the extent of the lessee’s authority over the U.S. business, the lessee operates the business as if it were the owner.

Furthermore, transactions with businesses that are owned or controlled by a foreign government or could affect national security are not excluded from CFIUS review. The Foreign Investment and National Security Act of 2007 (FINSIA) gives the President the power to block a CFIUS-reviewed lease that could result in foreign government control of U.S. critical infrastructure or threaten national security. President Obama did not. Jack Lew did not. Why not?

Following the money and the July 2015 Iran nuclear deal would appear key to unraveling the myriad interests involved in the Port Canaveral–Gulftainer deal.

#### **DR. JAFAR DHIA JAFAR: SADDAM’S NUCLEAR MASTERMIND**



*Saddam Hussein (left) with Iraqi nuclear physicist Dr. Jafar Dhia Jafar (right)*

---

<sup>29</sup> CFIUS Reform: Final Regulations Issued on November 14, 2008, U.S. Department of the Treasury, available at <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/international/foreign-investment/Documents/Summary-FinalRegs.pdf>

Saddam Hussein, “The Butcher of Baghdad,” did not build his nuclear weapons program by himself. He needed billions of dollars in cash, an estimated 7,000 scientists and 20,000 technicians and other workers,<sup>30</sup> and a nuclear mastermind laser-focused on a single goal: to design and build Iraq’s very own nuclear bomb, the self-proclaimed “Arab Bomb.”

After Israel bombed Iraq’s *Osirak* reactor complex in Baghdad in 1982, Saddam personally selected the man who would lead Iraq’s nuclear weapons program: the brilliant Shi’ite Iraqi nuclear physicist Dr. Jafar Dhia Jafar.<sup>31</sup>

**VIDEO: Saddam's Nuclear Scientist – Trailer:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Y5Q0lZITJk>

Between 1985 and 1990, Iraq’s nuclear weapons program, under the direction of Dr. Jafar and Saddam Hussein, is alleged to have received at least \$5 billion dollars in direct funding from Saudi Arabia, plus technical support.<sup>32 33 34</sup> Dr. Jafar’s secret nuclear weapons program was code-named Petrochemical 3 (PC3) in order to mask it as a civilian petroleum products program.

A 1993 PBS “Frontline” special “The Arming of Saudi Arabia” claims that sources at the CIA and NSA “first heard of a Saudi Iraqi nuclear connection as early as 1986” and that the DIA also uncovered evidence of secret Saudi payments for Iraq’s nuclear program.<sup>35</sup>

“Frontline” also stated that former U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia James E. Aikins, who was interviewed for the program, “believes that Saudi involvement in Iraq’s nuclear program began after Israel destroyed a nuclear reactor near Baghdad in 1981.” This timeline is important because it establishes that Saddam Hussein’s assignment of Dr. Jafar to lead Iraq’s nuclear weapons program coincided with Saudi Arabia’s funding of the program with billions of dollars.

Saudi Arabia’s alleged funding and technical involvement in Dr. Jafar’s nuclear weapons program should raise additional national security concerns about Port Canaveral in light of the so-called “28 pages” of the 2002 “9/11 Commission Report.” The White House, CIA Director John Brennan, and Saudi officials maintain that the partially-redacted 28 pages exonerate the Saudi Arabian government from any direct involvement in the September 11, 2001 attacks. Rep. Thomas Massie, (R-KY), however, has read

---

<sup>30</sup> Chittaranjan, Kalpana, Researcher, ISDA, “Iraq’s Nuclear Weapons Programme,” *Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA)*, New Delhi, India, June 9, 2004, available at <http://www.idsa-india.org/an-jun9-4.html>

<sup>31</sup> “Dr Jaffar Dhia Jaffar,” BBC Newsnight transcript, August 12, 2004, available at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/newnight/3559198.stm>

<sup>32</sup> “Saudi Arabia Special Weapons,” GlobalSecurity.org, page last modified April 04, 2016, available at <http://www.globalsecurity.org/wmd/world/saudi/index.html>

<sup>33</sup> Coll, Steve, Mintz, John, “Saudi Aid to Iraqi A-Bomb Effort Alleged; Asylum-Seeking Diplomat Says Riyadh Secretly Gave Baghdad Money and Technology,” *The Washington Post*, July 25, 1994, available at [http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/washingtonpost/doc/307800294.html?FMT=ABS&FMTS=FT&type=current&date=Jul+25,+1994&author=Steve+Coll&pub=The+Washington+Post+\(pre-1997+Fulltext\)&edition=&startpage=&desc=Saudi+Aid+to+Iraqi+A-Bomb+Effort+Alleged](http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/washingtonpost/doc/307800294.html?FMT=ABS&FMTS=FT&type=current&date=Jul+25,+1994&author=Steve+Coll&pub=The+Washington+Post+(pre-1997+Fulltext)&edition=&startpage=&desc=Saudi+Aid+to+Iraqi+A-Bomb+Effort+Alleged)

<sup>34</sup> “Mohammed Al Khilewi: ‘Saudi Arabia Is Trying to Kill Me,’” *Middle East Quarterly*, September 1998, pp. 66-77, available at <http://www.meforum.org/409/mohammed-al-khilewi-saudi-arabia-is-trying-to>

<sup>35</sup> “The Arming of Saudi Arabia,” PBS Frontline documentary episode, aired February 16, 1993, available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=na6BB6XSP6Y>

the unredacted version and said “I had to stop every couple of pages and just sort of absorb and try to rearrange my understanding of history for the past 13 years and the years leading up to that. It challenges you to rethink everything.”<sup>36</sup>

Dr. Jafar “went to the University of Birmingham (UK) for his baccalaureate and master’s degree in physics, and then completed a doctorate at Manchester” according to a 2003 NBC News report.<sup>37</sup> After he earned his Ph.D. in 1965, Dr. Jafar’s initial professional position was as an associate researcher at the Institute for Nuclear Physics, located at London University’s Imperial College.<sup>38</sup>

During the 1970s, Dr. Jafar spent considerable time, spanning a period of four years, employed at the site of the CERN (Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire or European Council for Nuclear Research) particle accelerator in Switzerland, before becoming head of Iraq’s nuclear weapons program.<sup>39</sup>

At CERN, Jafar learned how to use giant magnets to enrich uranium but the Swiss scientists grew suspicious about Dr. Jafar’s motives, suspecting that he was spying to militarize Iraq’s civilian nuclear program into a secret nuclear weapons program. No one stopped him, however, from learning how to duplicate the electromagnetic isotope separation (EMIS) method used by the Americans at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee during the Manhattan Project to build the bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan at the end of World War II.

In 1974 Dr. Jafar was part of an Iraqi delegation that “travel(ed) to Paris to negotiate the purchase of a reactor based on the French-designed Osiris reactor” according to the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS).<sup>40</sup>

In 1975 Dr. Jafar returned to Baghdad and was recruited by then Vice President Saddam Hussein to work at the Iraq Energy Commission, which was beginning construction of the Osirak (portmanteau of Osiris-class plus Iraq) nuclear reactor.<sup>41</sup>

Before the reactor became operational, Dr. Jafar led a team that travelled to the Soviet Union to study nuclear fission.<sup>42</sup>

Israel would later (1981) bomb the Osirak reactor that Dr. Jafar had helped procure from the French on behalf of Saddam.

---

<sup>36</sup> Bovard, James, “We need to know: Did Saudis help fund 9/11 attacks?,” *USA Today*, July 6, 2015, available at <http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2015/07/06/declassification-28-pages-911-saudis-column/28926283/>

<sup>37</sup> Windrem, Robert “A man with a foot in multiple worlds,” NBCNews.com, October 24, 2003, available at <http://www.nbcnews.com/id/3340769/t/man-foot-multiple-worlds/>

<sup>38</sup> Id.

<sup>39</sup> See <http://nuclearweaponarchive.org/Iraq/Calutron.html> and also “Allah’s Bomb: The Islamic Quest for Nuclear Weapons” on Amazon Kindle Location 1478.

<sup>40</sup> “Iraq Nuclear Chronology,” produced independently for the Nuclear Threat Initiative by the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS), last update February 2009, available at [http://www.nti.org/media/pdfs/iraq\\_nuclear.pdf?\\_id=1316466791](http://www.nti.org/media/pdfs/iraq_nuclear.pdf?_id=1316466791)

<sup>41</sup> Windrem, Robert, “A man with a foot in multiple worlds,” NBCNews.com, October 24, 2003, available at <http://www.nbcnews.com/id/3340769/t/man-foot-multiple-worlds/>

<sup>42</sup> “A Russian reactor was about to be commissioned, so Jaffar took a team to the Soviet Union, studied the technology, and fell in love with fission.” “Saddam’s Bombmaker: The Terrifying Inside Story of the Iraqi Nuclear and Biological Weapons” page 80 Amazon Kindle Location 1223.

Another top Iraqi scientist who worked under Dr. Jafar was Dr. Imad Khadduri. Dr. Khadduri obtained a MSc in Physics from the University of Michigan and a PhD in Nuclear Reactor Technology from the University of Birmingham in the United Kingdom. He subsequently worked with the Iraqi Atomic Energy Commission from 1968 until 1998, when he fled Iraq to settle in Canada.

Dr. Jafar and Dr. Khadduri worked closely together at the Baghdad Nuclear Research Facility, commonly known by its Arabic name, Al Tuwaitha. In 1982, Jafar expanded his nuclear weapons expertise collection efforts into the U.S. as well by dispatching Khadduri along with a “polished young intelligence officer,” to attend a scientific conference in San Diego, CA. Their mission: obtain key scientific articles and reports Jafar needed for Iraq’s nuclear weapons program along with some lasers with which to investigate the feasibility of uranium laser enrichment.<sup>43</sup> The team that Dr. Jafar dispatched to the U.S. then travelled to the Miami airport where they met several men from India and exchanged a briefcase containing \$30,000 in cash for the lasers Dr. Jafar required.

Dr. Jafar was single mindedly focused on delivering the “Arab Bomb” to Saddam, an Iraqi-built nuclear weapon that experts feared Saddam would pass to terrorists to detonate inside the U.S.

## **THE SADDAM TAPES**

During ‘Operation Iraqi Freedom,’ the U.S.-led invasion and occupation that finally ousted Saddam Hussein in 2003, U.S. forces discovered “The Saddam Tapes,”<sup>44</sup> which were 1992-2002 audio recordings that clearly reveal Saddam and his cabinet (including Dr. Jafar) discussing WMDs. Some experts believe that Saddam already had nuclear weapons by 1996 that were stored in a well-guarded facility in the Hamrin Mountains of Northeast Iraq. Interestingly, that nuclear weapons storage facility is close to the Baiji power station that Crescent Group’s URUK Engineering and Contracting eventually rebuilt under the direction of Dr. Jafar.

On one of the recovered audio tapes from 1996, President Saddam Hussein and Tariq Aziz (the Iraqi Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister and a close advisor to Saddam -- Dr. Jafar was likely in the meeting too – as he is on other parts of the tape) can be heard apparently wargaming a scenario in which terrorists smuggle an Iraqi WMD (nuclear, biological, or chemical) into Washington, D.C. and detonate it.<sup>45</sup> They reflected on the need to create the appearance that outside terrorists or proxies were behind the event so that Iraq’s fingerprints would not be evident and connect them to the attack. They also wondered how “the five” (possibly the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council) would respond to the attack. The former U.N. inspector who translated the tapes for the FBI believes that because Saddam’s cabinet used the term “destruction” they were discussing the use of a nuclear weapon and likely already possessed nuclear weapons.

---

<sup>43</sup> Khadduri, Imad, “Iraq’s Nuclear Mirage: Memoirs and Delusions,” available at <https://www.amazon.com/Iraqs-Nuclear-Mirage-Memoirs-Delusions/dp/0973379006> See also this June 12, 2009 Al-Jazeera interview with Khadduri: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHLc\\_Ut6yJg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHLc_Ut6yJg)

<sup>44</sup> Ross, Brian and Rhonda Schwartz, “EXCLUSIVE: Saddam’s Secret Tapes,” *ABC News*, 15 February 2006. Accessed 7 November 2016 at <http://abcnews.go.com/Nightline/Investigation/story?id=1616996>

<sup>45</sup> “Saddam Hussein and Weapons of Mass Destruction” – 2006 Intelligence Summit, *CSPAN* video, February 18, 2006, available at <https://www.c-span.org/video/?191296-1/saddam-hussein-weapons-mass-destruction>

## OIL FOR SUPERWEAPONS

By 1993, the U.S. government grew suspicious that Crescent Petroleum was actually a front company for Saddam Hussein, and launched investigations at the Treasury Department and three Congressional committees.<sup>46 47</sup>

It was revealed during the Congressional investigations that Hamid Jafar was involved in an attempted oil-for-superweapons racket in which Crescent was going to sell Iraqi oil in the United States under the FINA brand to fund Saddam's Ministry of Industry and Military Manufacture superweapons program, including Dr. Jafar's nuclear weapons program.

---

<sup>46</sup> Captain Moonlight's Notebook, "Writs fly as Iraq oil firm fends off media," March 20, 1993, *The Independent*, available at <http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/captain-moonlights-notebook-writs-fly-as-iraq-oil-firm-fends-off-media-1499099.html>

<sup>47</sup> "Iraq's nuclear weapons capability and IAEA inspections in Iraq : joint hearing before the Subcommittees on Europe and the Middle East and International Security, International Organizations, and Human Rights of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, One Hundred Third Congress, first session, June 29, 1993," available at <https://archive.org/details/iraqsnuclearweap00unit>



الجمهورية العراقية  
 وزارة الصناعة والتجارة والمعادن  
 مديرية التصنيع المعدني

العدد / ١٠٤ / ٥٥٩

جمهورية العراق



REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY and  
 MILITARY MANUFACTURE

BAGHDAD

التاريخ ١٤ / ٥ / ١٩٨٩  
 ٩ / شوال / ١٤٠٨ هـ

14th May 1989

Mr. Hamid D. Jafar  
 Chairman and Chief Executive  
 Crescent Petroleum Company International Limited  
 P. O. Box 2222  
 Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

International Downstream Integration  
 Petroleum Industry

Dear Mr. Jafar:

This letter is to confirm the establishment of the Joint Venture between the Ministry of Industry and Military Manufacture of the Republic of Iraq and Crescent Petroleum Company International Limited ("Crescent"), for the purpose of acquisition of joint ownership interests in international petroleum refining, marketing and petrochemical assets outside of the Republic of Iraq.

Crescent is hereby authorized to contact the owners and/or managers of appropriate companies in order to discuss and negotiate the potential purchase or participation of the Joint Venture in such companies and/or in the appropriate petroleum assets.

Crescent is also authorized to discuss with the aforementioned owners/management the terms for provision of Iraqi crude oil to such assets on a long term basis in support of such transactions. The formal contract negotiations and execution will be undertaken by the relevant Agency of the Government of Iraq.

If the parties which are contacted by Crescent should require direct confirmation from the Ministry of the authority hereby vested in Crescent they may contact the undersigned at the Ministry in Baghdad on telex number 213670 "SAFAN IK", or telefax (9641) 538 4634.

Yours sincerely,

Lt. Gen. Dr. Amir H. Al-Saadi  
 Senior Deputy Minister



Hamid Jafar also built an aluminum smelting plant in Iraq that was suspected of providing aluminum used to make Iraq's uranium enrichment centrifuges.<sup>48</sup>

## **IRAQ REPORTEDLY DEVELOPED MINIATURIZED NUCLEAR WEAPON "BEACH BALL" AND ALLEGEDLY PLANNED TO DETONATE IT INSIDE ISRAELI HARBOR**

Saddam allegedly planned to detonate a miniaturized nuclear weapon known as "beach ball," reportedly twice as powerful as the one used in Nagasaki, along a highway on the outskirts of Kuwait City according to the book "Brighter than the Baghdad Sun."<sup>49 50 51</sup> According to the book's co-author Shyam Bhatia, Iraq was only six months away from having a working "beach ball" ready for testing, and already had built a mock-up. Saddam also planned to load a second "beach ball" nuclear device onto a ship at Port Umm Qasr, Basra, Iraq and sail it into the Port of Haifa, Israel, a major Israeli Navy surface ship and submarine base, and detonate it, according to the book and a C-SPAN interview with one of the book's authors.

## **2003 IRAQ WAR: DR. JAFAR FLEES COALITION FORCES, THEN SURRENDERS**

In 2003, Dr. Jafar fled Baghdad as coalition forces closed in on him and fellow Iraqi WMD experts "Dr. Germ" and "Chemical Ali." Dr. Jafar eventually surrendered and underwent extensive interrogation by the CIA and MI6.

David Kay was a U.N. weapons inspector in Iraq from 1991 – 1992 and later returned to Iraq after the 2003 U.S. invasion to assist the CIA and the U.S. military in again searching for WMDs.

During Kay's 1990s U.N. inspection mission, Dr. Jafar reportedly stunned Kay and his weapons inspection team with a seemingly impromptu demonstration of his memorized mastery of nuclear weapons design, according to an account in the book "Brighter than the Baghdad Sun: Saddam Hussein's Nuclear Threat to the United States":

One night as (David) Kay was packing up his papers at the end of another frustrating session, Jaffar suddenly blurted out, 'Of course if we had wanted to build a nuclear bomb we're smart enough to do it.'

Jaffar sat down, pulled out a sheet of paper and started to show Kay how to build a bomb. First Jaffar listed the steps in the design and manufacture and then described the technical hurdles and how he would conquer them. For two hours he didn't stop. He drew sketches of explosive lenses, of how to shape the nuclear core and how to get the enriched uranium. At the end Jaffar just smiled and walked out.

---

<sup>48</sup> Captain Moonlight's Notebook, "Writs fly as Iraq oil firm fends off media," March 20, 1993, *The Independent*, available at <http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/captain-moonlights-notebook-writs-fly-as-iraq-oil-firm-fends-off-media-1499099.html>

<sup>49</sup> Bhatia, Shyam, and McGrory, Daniel, "Brighter than the Baghdad Sun: Saddam Hussein's Nuclear Threat to the United States," Regnery Publishing, April, 2000

<sup>50</sup> Dolley, Steven and Leventhal, Paul, "Overview of IAEA Nuclear Inspections in Iraq," *Nuclear Control Institute*, June 14, 2001 available <http://www.nci.org/new/iraq-ib.htm>

<sup>51</sup> "Saddam's Bomb," *The Washington Times*, July 25, 2000, available at <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2000/jul/25/20000725-011747-8187r/>

Kay was speechless, as was the rest of his team.

'Why did Jaffar as good as tell us that he has built a damn bomb?' one team member asked when they were back at their hotel.<sup>52</sup>

Kay claims that on the last day of Dr. Jafar's debriefing Jafar told him:

"You can bomb our buildings. You can destroy our technology. But you cannot take it out of our heads. We now have the capability."<sup>53</sup>

Since his 2003 surrender and interrogation, Dr. Jafar has been building new electric power stations in Iraq, just as he had done in previous years to secretly power Saddam's underground uranium enrichment facilities. This time around, however, Dr. Jafar is operating under the guise of "Iraq reconstruction." Intriguingly, Dr. Jafar and Saddam can be heard on the "Saddam Tapes" discussing the need for civilian electric power stations to secretly provide power to Dr. Jafar's underground uranium enrichment facilities at the time.

## **DR. JAFAR TODAY: URUK ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING AND CRESCENT**

Today, Dr. Jafar and his brother Hamid Jafar both hold leadership positions at the Jafar family's UAE-based company Crescent, with Dr. Jafar serving as CEO of Crescent's URUK Engineering & Contracting subsidiary while Hamid serves as Chairman of the Crescent Group.<sup>54</sup>

According to a former House Committee on Foreign Affairs staff member,<sup>55</sup> Hamid Jafar would "swear up and down" for years that Hamid and his company Crescent had no business relationship with Hamid's nuclear physicist brother Dr. Jafar.

A recent screenshot from Crescent's own website, however, belies Hamid Jafar's contention and reveals that Dr. Jafar's URUK Engineering & Contracting is indeed a unit of Crescent and that Crescent is intimately involved in the day-to-day operation of URUK.<sup>56</sup> Hamid Jafar is a Director of URUK according to decision maker database Relationship Science.<sup>57</sup>

---

<sup>52</sup> Bhatia, Shyam, and McGrory, Daniel, "Brighter than the Baghdad Sun: Saddam Hussein's nuclear threat to the United States," Regnery Publishing, April 15, 2000, page 253

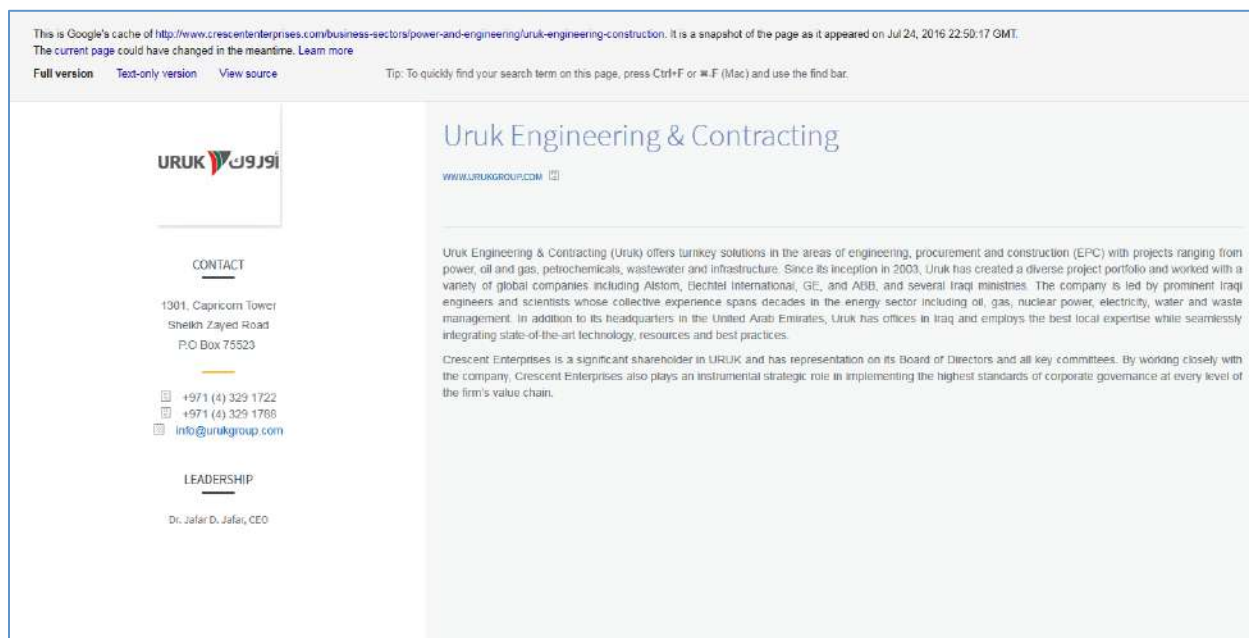
<sup>53</sup> Windrem, Robert, "A man with a foot in multiple worlds," *NBC News*, October 24, 2003, available at <http://www.nbcnews.com/id/3340769/t/man-foot-multiple-worlds/#.WC4CldlrKpo>

<sup>54</sup> Crescent Enterprises, Uruk Engineering & Contracting, available at <http://www.crescententerprises.com/business-sectors/power-and-engineering/uruk-engineering-construction>

<sup>55</sup> Former House Committee on Foreign Affairs staff member interviewed by Alan Jones and Mary Fanning on September 24, 2016, name being withheld

<sup>56</sup> Crescent Enterprises, Uruk Engineering & Contracting, available at <http://www.crescententerprises.com/business-sectors/power-and-engineering/uruk-engineering-construction>

<sup>57</sup> "URUK Engineering & Contracting Co. LLC"- Board of Directors, *Relationship Science*, available at <http://relationshipscience.com/uruk-engineering-contracting-co-llc-o1710397>



Dr. Jafar, arguably the Middle East’s foremost nuclear WMD expert, is considered superior as a nuclear physicist to Pakistan’s so-called “father of the Pakistani bomb” A.Q. Khan and technically on par with American theoretical physicist, J. Robert Oppenheimer, who directed the Manhattan Project research. Dr. Jafar’s brother Hamid Jafar, meanwhile, has spent most of his time in the United Arab Emirates running the family’s oil and gas conglomerate, The Crescent Group and its subsidiaries Crescent Petroleum and Gulfainer, beginning in the 1970s.

## **PRESIDENT’S OBAMA’S CHICAGO – BAGHDAD CONNECTIONS**

President Barack Obama shares some interesting connections to this story as well. In 2006, then a Senator from Illinois, Obama traveled<sup>58</sup> to Iraq to meet with Iraqi reconstruction officials. It is worth noting here that Obama’s Chicago political patrons share a similar background with the Jafars: connections to Saddam’s Ba’athist regime and secret money laundering networks, and expertise in electrical power production.

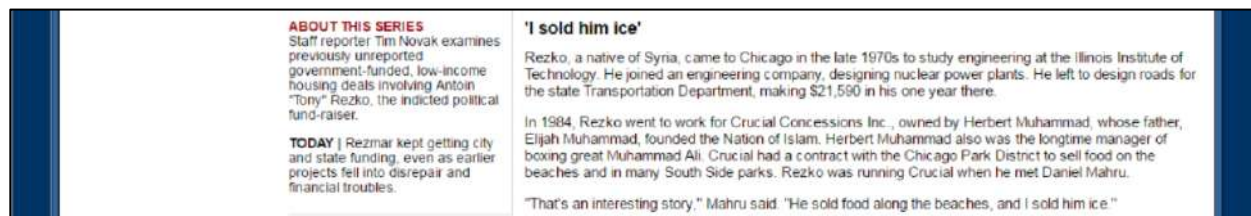
In a 2004 deal, President Obama’s corrupt Chicago associates, Syrian businessman Antoin ‘Tony’ Rezko, former Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich, and former Iraq Electricity Minister Aiham Alsammarae entered into a joint venture with a British firm in a \$150-million project to build an electric power plant in Iraq. The deal subsequently fell through and was investigated by U.S. federal authorities.<sup>59</sup>

<sup>58</sup> “January 2006 Trip to Iraq and Kuwait – Podcast Transcript,” ObamaSpeeches.com, January 9, 2006, available at <http://obamaspeeches.com/042-From-the-Road-Speaking-with-American-Troops-in-Iraq-Obama-Speech-Podcast.htm>

<sup>59</sup> “Feds probe Iraqi electric plant contract,” *UPI*, December 3, 2006, available at [http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/2006/12/03/Feds-probe-Iraqi-electric-plant-contract/UPI-74671165207864/?st\\_rec=84951305045570](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/2006/12/03/Feds-probe-Iraqi-electric-plant-contract/UPI-74671165207864/?st_rec=84951305045570)

Rezko and Blagojevich additionally were connected to Iraqi billionaire and alleged long-time Saddam associate Nadhmi Auchi.

Rezko holds an undergraduate and a master's degree in civil engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology earned in the late 1970s and designed nuclear power plants prior to his political career.<sup>60</sup>



*Tim Novak's 2007 Chicago Sun-Times feature about President Obama's Syrian Chicago associate Antoin "Tony" Rezko claims that Rezko "joined an engineering company designing nuclear power plants."*

Alsammarae, who attended the Illinois Institute of Technology with Rezko, holds a Ph.D. in electrical engineering.<sup>61</sup> <sup>62</sup> Alsammarae owns KCI Engineering Consultants, which offers nuclear engineering services.<sup>63</sup> Alsammarae is listed as having attended the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Regulatory Meeting in 2016.<sup>64</sup>

## **THE JAFARS, OBAMA'S PAKISTANI COLLEGE ROOMMATE, THE ABRAAJ GROUP, AND OBAMA'S MYSTERIOUS 1981 TRIP TO PAKISTAN**

The Abraaj Capital Group<sup>65</sup> is a UAE private equity company. Dr. Jafar's brother Hamid Jafar claims to be a founding shareholder of Abraaj Capital.<sup>66</sup> Crescent Enterprises lists The Abraaj Group as one of its private equity holdings.<sup>67</sup>

<sup>60</sup> Novak, Tim, "Broken promises, broken homes," DAY TWO OF TWO, *Chicago Sun-Times*, April 24, 2007, no longer available free online, available from HighBeam Research with subscription <https://www.highbeam.com/doc/1P2-5864226.html>

<sup>61</sup> Fusco, Chris, "Iraqi with ties to Rezko escapes Baghdad jail," *Chicago Sun-Times*, December 20, 2006, available at <http://www.pressreader.com/usa/chicago-sun-times/20061220/281629595784563>

<sup>62</sup> Glanz, James, "New Election Issues: Electricity and Water," *New York Times*, January 26, 2006, available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/01/26/world/middleeast/new-election-issues-electricity-and-water.html>

<sup>63</sup> KCI Engineering Consultants – Mechanical/Nuclear Engineering Services, KCIconsultants.com, accessed on November 15, 2016, available at <http://www.kciconsultants.com/Nuclear.shtml>

<sup>64</sup> "Online Registration List," 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Regulatory Information Conference, March 8-10, 2016, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, available at <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/conference-symposia/ric/past/2016/2016-ric-online-registration-list.pdf>

<sup>65</sup> The Abraaj Group official website, available at <http://www.abraaj.com>

<sup>66</sup> Crescent Petroleum – Crescent Management – Hamid Jafar, CrescentPetroleum.com, available at <http://www.crescentpetroleum.com/html/hamid-jafar.html>

<sup>67</sup> Crescent Enterprises – Private Equity Holdings, available at <http://www.crescententerprises.com/business-sectors/private-equity-holdings/abraaj-group>

# Our shareholders

Alongside Abraaj Capital's management, our shareholders include prominent institutions, business groups, leading entrepreneurs and business people.

Our shareholders include:

Nasser Bin Khalid & Sons  
Holdings Company

Al Jaber Energy Services LLC

GIBCA Limited

Sheikh Abdulrahman Ali Al Turki

Hamid D Jafar

Arif M Naqvi

Deutsche Bank  
AG London Branch

DIFC Investments LLC

Wafra International  
Investment Company

Al Qudra Holdings P.J.S.C.

Zabeel Investments

Mashreqbank

General Retirement and  
Pension Authority

Hussain Jasim Al Nowais

Emirates Bank International PJSC

Abraaj Capital Co-Investor Limited\*

Citicorp International  
Finance Corporation

Sanabria Holdings Inc

Abdul Aziz Abdulla Al Ghurair

*Screenshot from The Abraaj Group 2007 Annual Report*

“Hamid Jafar is a director of Abraaj Capital, the biggest private equity firm in the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) and south Asian region. Crescent Investments owns a chunk of Abraaj” according to the UAE’s government-owned newspaper *The National*.<sup>68</sup>

“Badr Jafar, Hamid Jafar’s son, is presently listed as a member of The Abraaj Group’s board of directors.”<sup>69</sup>

Wahid Hamid, who attended Occidental College in Los Angeles as a wealthy Pakistani foreign student, was one of Barack Obama’s college roommates, and became one of Obama’s lifelong friends,<sup>70 71</sup> is a Partner at The Abraaj Group.<sup>72</sup> Wahid Hamid graduated from Occidental in 1981 with a degree in physics before receiving a degree in electrical engineering at the California Institute of Technology.<sup>73</sup> According to Bloomberg “Mr. Wahid Hamid serves as a Senior Partner, Partner, Director, Member of the Executive Board, and Head of the Portfolio Operations and Management Group at The Abraaj Group. Mr. Hamid joined Abraaj Capital in 2012.”<sup>74</sup>

As a freshman, (Barack Obama) quickly became friends with Mohammed Hasan Chandoo and Wahid Hamid, two wealthy Pakistanis.

In 1981, Obama transferred from Occidental to Columbia. In between, he traveled to Pakistan — a trip that enhanced his foreign policy qualifications, he maintained in a private speech at a San Francisco fundraiser last month. Obama spent "about three weeks" in Pakistan, traveling with Hamid and staying in Karachi with Chandoo's family, said Bill Burton, Obama's press secretary. — Politico<sup>75</sup>

Abraaj’s Senior Partner Wahid Hamid of Pakistan, Mohammed Hasan Chandoo of Pakistan, and Vinai Thummalapally of India were all college roommates of Barack Obama, were all 2008 campaign bundlers for Barack Obama (each bringing in \$100,000 to \$200,000)<sup>76</sup>, and all attended Barack Obama and Michelle Robinson’s 1992 wedding.<sup>77 78</sup> Wahid Hamid and Chandoo spent time with Obama during his 1981 trip to Pakistan.

---

<sup>68</sup> Carlisle, Tamsin, “Magnate with more in sight than oil in his homeland, Iraq,” *The National*, September 5, 2010, available at <http://www.thenational.ae/business/industry-insights/energy/magnate-with-more-in-sight-than-oil-in-his-homeland-iraq#full>

<sup>69</sup> The Abraaj Group – About Us – Governance – Board of Directors, Abraaj.com, available at <http://www.abraaj.com/about-us/governance/>

<sup>70</sup> Mifflin, Margot, “Obama at Occidental,” *The New Yorker*, October 3, 2012, available at <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/obama-at-occidental>

<sup>71</sup> Gilmore, Jim, The FRONTLINE INTERVIEWS – The Choice 2012 – “Sohale Siddiqi,” June 30, 2012, video and transcript available at <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/government-elections-politics/choice-2012/the-frontline-interview-sohale-siddiqi/>

<sup>72</sup> “Wahid Hamid,” Abraaj.com – People, available at <http://www.abraaj.com/site/people-popup/wahid-hamid-1>

<sup>73</sup> Profiles – People – “Wahid Hamid,” *Bloomberg*, accessed November 20, 2016, available at <http://www.bloomberg.com/profiles/people/16167229-wahid-hamid>

<sup>74</sup> Pepsico Inc. - Executive Profile - “Wahid Hamid,” Bloomberg.com, accessed on November 20, 2016, available at <http://www.bloomberg.com/research/stocks/people/person.asp?personId=31047849&privcapId=32854>

<sup>75</sup> The Associated Press, “Old friends recall Obama’s college years,” *Politico*, May 16, 2008, available at <http://www.politico.com/story/2008/05/old-friends-recall-obamas-college-years-010402?o=1>

<sup>76</sup> Center for Responsive Politics – Open Secrets - 2008 Presidential Race – Bundlers – Barack Obama (D), available at <https://www.opensecrets.org/pres08/bundlers.php?id=n00009638>

<sup>77</sup> Wolffe, Richard, “When Barry Became Barack,” *Newsweek*, March 22, 2008, available at <http://www.newsweek.com/when-barry-became-barack-84255>



On August 1, 2015 Wahid Hamid visited President Obama for a weekend celebration of the President's birthday. Hamid flew aboard Marine One from Joint Base Andrews to Camp David with President Obama, three of President Obama's high school friends, and another of Obama's Occidental College friends.<sup>79</sup>

"During his years at Occidental College, Mr. Obama also befriended Wahid Hamid, a fellow student who was an immigrant from Pakistan and traveled with Mr. Obama there, the Obama campaign said" reported the "New York Times" in 2008.<sup>80</sup>

One of President Obama's college roommates, with whom he shared an apartment near the Occidental College campus, was a foreign student from India named Vinai Thummalapally, who attended the grand opening of GulfTainer's Port Canaveral cargo container terminal in 2015 alongside Badr Jafar and other UAE VIPs.

Thummalapally, formerly the Ambassador to Belize, now recruits foreign companies to America for the Department of Commerce as the first Director of SelectUSA. Thummalapally travelled to Dubai and Sharjah, UAE, where Crescent is headquartered.

Through Treasury Secretary Jack Lew's authorization of the Jafars' Port Canaveral deal, Dr. Jafar and possible Iranian interests (which essentially control the Baghdad regime) have been handed a classic "Trojan Horse" whose establishment along Florida's strategic but vulnerable east coast possibly imperils U.S. national security in a serious way.

## **HOW THE SECRET GULFTAINER DEAL SLIPPED IN UNDER THE RADAR**

In a troubling indicator of unintended consequences emanating from the July 2015 nuclear deal with Iran, in September 2015, the UAE Ambassador to the U.S. told Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA) Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee via telephone call that, in light of the Iran nuclear deal, the UAE does not recognize restrictions on uranium enrichment at the UAE's four brand new nuclear reactors.<sup>81</sup> It was President Obama, against the wishes of Congress, who pushed through the "123 Agreement" that allowed the UAE to set up the reactors at the curiously-named Barakah Nuclear Power Plant. Hillary Clinton sent an email to Huma Abedin and Cheryl Mills from her private server regarding UAE's 123 agreement, but almost the entire message was redacted by the State Department.<sup>82</sup>

---

<sup>78</sup> The Associated Press, "Old friends recall Obama's college years," *Politico*, May 16, 2008, available at <http://www.politico.com/story/2008/05/old-friends-recall-obamas-college-years-010402?o=1>

<sup>79</sup> Fabian, Jorday, "Obama golfs with old friends on pre-birthday weekend," *The Hill*, August 1, 2016, available at <http://thehill.com/homenews/administration/250003-obama-golfs-with-old-friends-on-pre-birthday-weekend>

<sup>80</sup> Rohter, Larry, "Obama Says Real-Life Experience Trumps Rival's Foreign Policy Credits," *New York Times*, April 10, 2008, available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/10/us/politics/10obama.html>

<sup>81</sup> Associated Press, "After Iran nuke deal, another country shows new interest in uranium," *CBS News*, October 16, 2015, available at <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/united-arab-emirates-us-enriching-uranium-iran-nuclear-deal/>

<sup>82</sup> Halper, Daniel, "Clinton emailed classified information after leaving State Dept.," *New York Post*, August 31, 2016, available at <http://nypost.com/2016/08/31/clinton-emailed-classified-information-after-leaving-state-dept/>



Gulftainer executive Peter Richards admitted in 2013 that Gulftainer's conversations with U.S. port operators were conducted "very carefully."<sup>83</sup> Gulftainer appears to have learned lessons from the doomed expansion into America by the UAE government's Dubai Ports World (DPW). Beginning in mid-October 2005, DPW, under advice from Bill Clinton, tried to take over six U.S. ports, igniting a firestorm of controversy on Capitol Hill. DPW was forced to abandon the plan at that time after a Congressional House panel voted to block the deal.<sup>84</sup>

The Gulftainer operation to take over Port Jacksonville and Port Canaveral began as early as March 2012, while Hillary Clinton was President Obama's Secretary of State. That is when the Jafars made a run at taking over Florida's Port Jacksonville (JAXPORT), 14 miles south of Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay. Gulftainer quietly approached JAXPORT with a \$250 million proposal to become a "silent partner" and to work with the port "behind the scenes" operating a new container terminal. When the Jacksonville Business Journal exposed Gulftainer's secret meeting two months later, JAXPORT CEO Paul Anderson reportedly explained that Gulftainer "wanted us to turn over the port to them, and we're not going to do that."<sup>85</sup>

Navy officials from Kings Bay's Submarine Group 10, which often moves Ohio-class ballistic missile nuclear submarines in and out of Port Canaveral, had no idea that Iraqis connected to Saddam's nuclear weapons program had tried to get into Port Jacksonville and subsequently succeeded getting into Port Canaveral. Upon learning in October 2016 that the Port Canaveral lessee family was the Jafars, Group 10 immediately reported the information to the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) and to FBI counter-terrorism officials.<sup>86</sup>

Marine Corp Support Facility Blount Island, which provides logistics support to U.S. troops deployed in the Middle East, is located inside JAXPORT.

A SpaceX security official in Florida, who asked to remain anonymous, reacted similarly in October 2016, with an "oh [expletive]" upon learning that Gulftainer, which has a contract to handle recovery of the Falcon 9 rocket booster from the SpaceX drone barge docked in Port Canaveral, is actually owned by the family of Saddam's nuclear weapons mastermind. The official added that the information would immediately be communicated to senior SpaceX officials, including CEO Elon Musk.<sup>87</sup>

---

<sup>83</sup> Kane, Frank, "Sharjah company Gulftainer sails into US ports business," *The National*, December 15, 2013, available at <http://www.thenational.ae/uae/sharjah-company-gulftainer-sails-into-us-ports-business>

<sup>84</sup> Alfano, Sean, "Dubai Company Gives Up On Ports Deal," *CBS News*, March 9, 2006, available at <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/dubai-company-gives-up-on-ports-deal/>

<sup>85</sup> Mueller, Sarah, "JaxPort weighing \$250M terminal proposal," *Jacksonville Business Journal*, May 25, 2012, available at <http://www.bizjournals.com/jacksonville/print-edition/2012/05/25/port-weighing-250m-terminal-proposal.html>

<sup>86</sup> The authors spoke twice via telephone on October 17, 2016 with two individuals who answered the phone at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay's Group 10. The first individual looked at the evidence presented online in the article about the connection between Gulftainer's Port Canaveral Deal and Dr. Jafar, published on September 22, 2016 at <https://www.1776channel.com/2016/09/22/special-reports/obama-clinton-handed-port-canaveral-to-brother-of-saddam-husseins-nuclear-bomb-mastermind/> and said he would immediately notified NCIS and FBI that the company at Port Canaveral was connected to Dr. Jafar of Saddam's nuclear program.

<sup>87</sup> Anonymous SpaceX official, interviewed in Florida by author, October, 2016

George Cecalia, Communications Director for Representative Bill Posey (R-FL), whose district includes Port Canaveral, along with the Congressman’s military expert, told the authors that the U.S. Federal Maritime Commission briefed Posey’s staff on Gulftainer. The Commission reportedly assured Posey’s staff that the Gulftainer - Port Canaveral deal was a “run of the mill contract.” They claim that they were never informed that the lessee was Hamid Jafar, the brother of infamous Iraqi nuclear scientist Dr. Jafar.<sup>88</sup>

## THE SHIA JAFAR FAMILY’S CONNECTIONS TO IRAN AND TO THE IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL



*Former Crescent Petroleum Head of Strategic Planning Siamak Namazi (L), Flag of Iran (R)*

Of note, the Shia Jafars have a personal connection to Iran and the Iran nuclear deal: Siamak Namazi.

While Gulftainer’s secret port negotiations were underway, Iranian-American Siamak Namazi was Crescent Petroleum’s Head of Strategic Planning. Namazi is a former Iranian government official who served at the Islamic Republic’s Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning in Tehran. Namazi and Trita Parsi helped found the National Iranian American Council (NIAC), Tehran’s Washington D.C. lobbying wing. NIAC works closely with the State Department, the CIA, and the White House. The Daily Beast has characterized the Namazi family as the “intellectual architects of NIAC.”<sup>89</sup> Namazi has also been called “an instrumental puppet-master of the Iran nuclear deal, working behind the scenes with the Obama White House.” by Joshua Yasmeh in a “Daily Wire” article published on October 30, 2015.<sup>90</sup>

Ploughshares, an NGO supported by George Soros, gave over a quarter million dollars to NIAC, making it possible for staff members to travel to Vienna and other nuclear deal negotiating venues to

<sup>88</sup> Conference call between with two staff members of Rep. Bill Posey (R-FL) (Communications Director George Cecala and Rep. Posey’s “military expert”), Alan Jones, and Mary Fanning, afternoon of September 26, 2016

<sup>89</sup> Shirazi, Alex, “The Shady Family Behind America’s Iran Lobby,” *The Daily Beast*, September 15, 2015, available at <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2015/09/15/the-shady-family-behind-america-s-iran-lobby.html>

<sup>90</sup> Yasmeh, Joshua, “Iranian-American Arrested Is ‘Intellectual Architect’ of Nuclear Deal. Obama: Who?,” *The Daily Wire*, October 30, 2015, available at <http://www.dailywire.com/news/799/iranian-american-arrested-intellectual-architect-michael-gazvini#>

attend the Iran nuclear deal negotiations, according to the “Daily Caller”<sup>91</sup> and their own Facebook pages.

Siamak Namazi was detained inside Iran around mid-October 2015 and remains in custody there as of November 2016, conveniently beyond the reach of the FBI.<sup>92</sup> Namazi has been charged with “spying and cooperating with the U.S. government”.<sup>93</sup>

Namazi is possibly not the only Crescent Petroleum official to have previously worked for the Iranian government. As recently as 2014, Dr. Hamid Zaheri was reportedly the general manager of Crescent Petroleum’s Tehran office.<sup>94</sup> <sup>95</sup> Hamid Zaheri is also the name of a former official with Iran’s Ministry of Petroleum. NPR also described the former Iranian oil ministry official as a “businessman” during a 2008 interview,<sup>96</sup> increasing the likelihood that they are the same person.

A 2011 Zaway (Thomson Reuters) article quoted in a Stratfor email released in 2012 by WikiLeaks identifies Hamid Zaheri as “the general manager of the Crescent Petroleum Company in Tehran.”<sup>97</sup>

Data about Crescent Petroleum’s Tehran office appears to have been deleted from a Crescent website on or about November 6, 2013, based on information provided by AIHIT, a UK-based database service that crawls corporate websites and tracks changes.<sup>98</sup> The data that appears to have been removed from Crescent’s website includes the physical address, phone numbers, and email address of Crescent Petroleum’s Iranian office on Africa Expressway in Tehran. Crescent’s Tehran office address was scrubbed from Crescent’s website seven months before Port Canaveral and Gulftainer announced their “Project Pelican” deal.

---

<sup>91</sup> Read, Russ, “Revealed: Iran Deal Propaganda Money Made Its Way All Around Washington, *The Daily Caller News Foundation*, May 22, 2016, available at <http://dailycaller.com/2016/05/22/ploughshares-fund-funded-media-campaign-on-iran-nuclear-deal/>

<sup>92</sup> “Iranian-American businessman detained in Iran, family and friends say,” *The Guardian*, 30 October 2015. Accessed 7 November 2016 at <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/oct/30/iran-iranian-american-detained-siamak-namazi>

<sup>93</sup> Bozorgmehr, Sharafedin and Torbati, Yeganeh, “Tehran sentences two U.S. citizens to 10 years in prison,” *Reuters*, October 18, 2016. Accessed 7 November 2016 at <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-usa-prison-idUSKCN1211HX>

<sup>94</sup> “Crescent Petroleum To Export Natural Gas With Iran,” *India Infoline*, February 12, 2014, available at [http://www.indiainfoline.com/article/print/news/crescent-petroleum-to-export-natural-gas-with-iran-3645165447\\_1.html](http://www.indiainfoline.com/article/print/news/crescent-petroleum-to-export-natural-gas-with-iran-3645165447_1.html)

<sup>95</sup> “Crescent Petroleum – Iran,” *Oil and Gas Pages*, available at <http://www.oilandgaspages.com/details.php?i=23519&p=2&cntry=Iran>

<sup>96</sup> Shuster, Mike, “Iran’s Rich Oil Fields Attract Foreign Investors,” *NPR All Things Considered*, March 21, 2008, available at <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=88772901>













<sup>97</sup> “Re: [MESA] MATCH Mideast – 4/12/11,” email released by *WikiLeaks*, created April 12, 2011, released on October 18, 2012, available at [https://wikileaks.org/gifiles/docs/18/1892207\\_re-mesa-match-mideast-4-12-11-.html](https://wikileaks.org/gifiles/docs/18/1892207_re-mesa-match-mideast-4-12-11-.html)


<sup>98</sup> Company - Crescent Enterprises – Historical Events, AIHIT, accessed November 16, 2016, *aiHit Limited*, available at <https://www.aihitdata.com/company/005CD345/CRESCENT-ENTERPRISES/history>

| AIHIT      | SEARCH              | DIRECTORY   | ABOUT | FEEDBACK | SUBSCRIPTIONS | SIGN UP | LOG IN |
|------------|---------------------|---|-------|----------|---------------|---------|--------|
| 2014-02-14 | insert address      | P.O. Box 2222 Sharjah United Arab Emirates  |       |          |               |         |        |
| 2014-02-14 | insert fax          | +971 (6) 554 7688   |       |          |               |         |        |
| 2014-02-14 | insert phone        | +971 (6) 554 7222   |       |          |               |         |        |
| 2014-01-30 | insert ceo          | Badr Jafar  |       |          |               |         |        |
| 2014-01-30 | insert person       | Rene Hansen   |       |          |               |         |        |
| 2014-01-30 | insert person       | Tushar Singhvi  |       |          |               |         |        |
| 2014-01-30 | update person_title | Badr Jafar: Managing Director of Crescent Group, CEO, Crescent Enterprises Ravi Kumar, Director => Managing Director of Crescent Group, Chief Executive Officer |       |          |               |         |        |
| 2013-11-06 | delete address      | Apartment 15 6th Floor Navak Building 244 Navak Street Africa Expressway Tehran 15186 Iran  |       |          |               |         |        |
| 2013-11-06 | delete email        | cp_@crescent.ae   |       |          |               |         |        |
| 2013-11-06 | delete fax          | +98 (21) 8888 9729  |       |          |               |         |        |
| 2013-11-06 | delete phone        | +98 (21) 8888 973   |       |          |               |         |        |

Crescent Petroleum's Tehran office is also listed in several other online databases.

### CRESCENT PETROLEUM - IRAN

|   |  |   |                 |   |                 |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|---|--|---|--|
| <p>PO Box: 0<br/>Tehran<br/>Iran</p> <p><b>Address</b></p> <p>Apt. 15, 6th Floor - Navak Building, 244 Africa Exoressway,<br/>Tehran 15186 - Iran</p> | <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"></td> <td>+98-21 88889730</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"></td> <td>+98-21 88889729</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"></td> <td><a href="mailto:cpci-iran@crescent.ae">cpci-iran@crescent.ae</a></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"></td> <td><a href="http://www.crescent.ae">www.crescent.ae</a></td> </tr> </table> |  | +98-21 88889730 |  | +98-21 88889729 |  | <a href="mailto:cpci-iran@crescent.ae">cpci-iran@crescent.ae</a> |  | <a href="http://www.crescent.ae">www.crescent.ae</a> |
|    | +98-21 88889730  |   |                 |   |                 |   |  |   |  |
|    | +98-21 88889729  |   |                 |   |                 |   |  |   |  |
|    | <a href="mailto:cpci-iran@crescent.ae">cpci-iran@crescent.ae</a>   |   |                 |   |                 |   |  |   |  |
|    | <a href="http://www.crescent.ae">www.crescent.ae</a>   |   |                 |   |                 |   |  |   |  |



Crescent Petroleum does business with the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), Iran's state-owned oil company. Crescent struck a deal with NIOC in 2001 to import gas from Iran's Salman gas

field to the UAE, but the deal was mired in price disputes and allegations of corruption, remaining in arbitration as recently as 2016.<sup>99 100 101</sup>

US sanctions over Iran's disputed nuclear programme have slowed development of the country's gas exports. Iranian officials said the country currently has little or no net exports of natural gas.

Crescent's representative in Tehran told Reuters it had "fulfilled all its contractual obligations" and that Iran's national oil company NIOC was still not technically ready to deliver the gas, regardless of the price.

This had caused Crescent and its UAE customers "large and ongoing losses," Hamid Zaheri said in a faxed statement. – "Crescent hits back in Salman gas row," *upstream – THE GLOBAL OIL & GAS SOURCE*<sup>102</sup>

In 2009, Majid Jafar reportedly led a Crescent Petroleum investment proposal to develop Iran's South Pars gas field, located in the Persian Gulf between Iran and Qatar.<sup>103</sup> That deal would take advantage of a business opportunity that other petroleum players like Royal Dutch Shell, France's Total, and Spain's Repsol have avoided due to U.S. political coercion and U.N. sanctions imposed to curb Iran's nuclear ambitions.

Crescent Petroleum's Salman gas field deal and Crescent's proposed South Pars deal reveal a disregard for sanctions against Iran which, in contrast, are recognized by major petroleum companies.

In 2010, while Hillary Clinton was Secretary of State, the State Department raised the issue of Iran sanctions during a February 8, 2010 meeting among Hamid Jafar, Majid Jafar, and U.S. Consul General Justin Siberell in Dubai. According to a classified February 25, 2010 State Department cable released by WikiLeaks, Jafar tried to defend Crescent's gas deal with Iran.<sup>104</sup> [Note: CG = Consul General.]

When CG reminded Jafar of the possibility of exposure to sanctions measures for involvement with NIOC in the development of Iran's petroleum resources, he countered that purchasing Iranian gas was no different than lifting Iranian crude oil, which has not been viewed as violating U.S. Iran sanctions, at least to date. If the USG began sanctioning companies for purchases of

---

<sup>99</sup> Kauri, Vidya, "Iran Oil Co. Loses Bid To Set Aside Arbitration Award," *Law360*, March 29, 2016, available at [http://www.law360.com/articles/777534/iran-oil-co-loses-bid-to-set-aside-arbitration-award?\\_ga=1.170503520.1961447323.1479311141](http://www.law360.com/articles/777534/iran-oil-co-loses-bid-to-set-aside-arbitration-award?_ga=1.170503520.1961447323.1479311141)

<sup>100</sup> "English Court refuses to allow challenge to arbitral award to be discontinued," *Herbert Smith Freehills Dispute Resolution*, September 19, 2016, available at <http://hsfnotes.com/arbitration/2016/09/19/english-court-refuses-to-allow-challenge-to-arbitral-award-to-be-discontinued/>

<sup>101</sup> McAuley, Anthony, "Dispute between Sharjah's Crescent Petroleum and Iran moves to damages phase," *The National*, April 13, 2015, available at <http://www.thenational.ae/business/energy/dispute-between-sharjahs-crescent-petroleum-and-iran-moves-to-damages-phase>

<sup>102</sup> News wires – "Crescent hits back in Salman gas row," *upstream – THE GLOBAL OIL & GAS SOURCE*, February 15, 2009, available at <http://www.upstreamonline.com/live/1101526/crescent-hits-back-in-salman-gas-row>

<sup>103</sup> Tamsin, Carlisle, "Crescent in bid to develop Iranian gas field," *The National*, March 8, 2009, available at <http://www.thenational.ae/business/energy/crescent-in-bid-to-develop-iranian-gas-field>

<sup>104</sup> "Iranian Gas Deliveries to Sharjah on Hold," email released by *Wikileaks*, email created on February 25, 2010, available at [https://wikileaks.org/plusd/cables/10DUBAI27\\_a.html](https://wikileaks.org/plusd/cables/10DUBAI27_a.html)

Iranian crude oil, as opposed to investing in or developing Iran's oil and gas infrastructure, then Crescent might face some exposure, he said. But Crescent has invested "not one dollar" in Iran's oil and gas infrastructure, according to Jafar; it merely has a contract to purchase its (untreated) gas. – Classified 2010 State Department Cable

## **GULFTAINER'S ACTIVITIES AT PORT UMM QASR, IRAQ**

Gulftainer reportedly shipped weapons through the Port of Umm Qasr, Iraq to two Iranian-backed terrorist militia groups operating in Iraq, the Badr Brigades and Asaeib Ahl al-Haq (AAH), also known as the "League of the Righteous People," according to a leak from Iraq General Port Company officials in Basra to Iraqi media.<sup>105</sup> A former senior official with a coalition embassy in Iraq confirmed that the report<sup>106</sup>, which was published in Arabic by electronic newspaper Al-aalem Al-jadeed<sup>107</sup> on February 10, 2015, charges that Gulftainer moved weapons to terrorist groups the Badr Brigades and AAH.

"The Badr Brigade, for one, targeted hundreds of American troops in Iraq with Iranian-provided explosively formed projectile bombs, one of that war's deadliest weapons" according to the Daily Beast.<sup>108</sup> AAH, also known as the "League of the Righteous," "operates under the supervision of Major General Qassem Suleimani, who commands the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Qods (Quds) Force, which is in charge of most of Iran's expeditionary missions in Syria and across the Middle East" reports the Telegraph.<sup>109</sup> AAH "has claimed responsibility for over 6,000 attacks on US forces."<sup>110</sup>

Of further concern, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) intercepted the Panamanian-flagged cargo ship KLOS-C in the Red Sea on March 5, 2014 during "Operation Full Disclosure." The freighter was smuggling heavy rockets, Kalashnikovs, and other weapons. The shipment originated in Damascus, Syria. The weapons were concealed inside shipping containers surrounded by cement and loaded aboard the KLOS-C at an Iranian port. The ship sailed on to Port Umm Qasr where Gulftainer operates several container terminals. At Umm Qasr, more cement was added to further conceal the weapons before the

---

<sup>105</sup> Al-Ahmad, Hussam, "A shipping source: UAE company supplying weapons to factions of the popular crowd through (Umm Qasr), *Al-aalem Al-jadeed*, February 10, 2015 available in Arabic at <http://al-aalem.com/%D9%85%D8%B5%D8%AF%D8%B1-%D9%85%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%AD%D9%8A-%D8%B4%D8%B1%D9%83%D8%A9-%D8%A5%D9%85%D8%A7%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%AA%D9%88%D8%B1%D8%AF-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%AD-%D9%84/> Arabic to English Translation available at <https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=ar&u=http://al-aalem.com/%25D9%2585%25D8%25B5%25D8%25AF%25D8%25B1-%25D9%2585%25D9%2584%25D8%25A7%25D8%25AD%25D9%258A-%25D8%25B4%25D8%25B1%25D9%2583%25D8%25A9-%25D8%25A5%25D9%2585%25D8%25A7%25D8%25B1%25D8%25A7%25D8%25AA%25D9%258A%25D8%25A9-%25D8%25AA%25D9%2588%25D8%25B1%25D8%25AF-%25D8%25A7%25D9%2584%25D8%25B3%25D9%2584%25D8%25A7%25D8%25AD-%25D9%2584/&prev=search>

<sup>106</sup> Id.

<sup>107</sup> Id.

<sup>108</sup> Youssef, Nancy A., "Exclusive: U.S. Allies Now Fighting CIA-Backed Rebels," *The Daily Beast*, February 12, 2016, available at <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2016/02/12/exclusive-u-s-allies-now-fighting-cia-backed-rebels.html>

<sup>109</sup> Sanchez, Raf and Agencies, "Iran-backed Shia militia says it will fight US Marines deployed to Iraq," *The Telegraph*, March 21, 2016, available at <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/iraq/12200172/Iran-backed-Shia-militia-says-it-will-fight-US-Marines-deployed-to-Iraq.html>

<sup>110</sup> Id.



ship departed for Sudan. IDF commandos captured the freighter before the weapons reached their final destination of Gaza.

Follow the money and follow the Iran nuclear deal.

### **CLINTONS CONNECTED TO JAFARS THROUGH “BUSINESS BACKS EDUCATION,” A CAMPAIGN FUNDED BY GEMS EDUCATION OF DUBAI**

Former President Bill Clinton co-chairs the “Business Backs Education” campaign alongside Dr. Jafar’s nephew, Majid Jafar, who is also a Crescent Group executive. The campaign is funded by the Varkey GEMS Foundation that paid Bill Clinton \$5.6 million to serve as “Honorary Chairman” and that helped raise \$70 *billion* in commitments for the Clinton Global Initiative. What would donors expect in exchange for \$70 billion in donations?

Bill Clinton was paid by GEMS Education while Abraaj Capital held equity (reportedly a 25% stake) in GEMS Education, according to reports about Abraaj Capital’s investment in GEMS Education and the Clintons’ tax returns, which show payments from GEMS Education.

“Dubai-based buyout firm Abraaj Capital, which bought a 25-percent stake in GEMS in 2007 for \$112 million, earlier this year converted its position into an exchangeable loan instrument” reported Reuters in March 2012.<sup>111</sup>

“The first payment<sup>112</sup> (Bill) Clinton received from GEMS Education came in 2011 in the amount of \$500,000, according to Hillary Clinton’s tax returns. In 2012, he earned<sup>113</sup> another \$1.25 million from GEMS” reported the “Washington Free Beacon.”

---

<sup>111</sup> Sleiman, Mirna, “UAE’s GEMS Education eyes 2013 IPO – sources,” *Reuters*, March 15, 2012, available at <http://www.reuters.com/article/emirates-gems-ipo-idUSL5E8EF5V720120315>

<sup>112</sup> Clinton, William J. Rodham Clinton, Hillary, “1040 Individual Income Tax Return 2011,” available at [https://www.hillaryclinton.com/p/files/returns/WJC\\_HRC\\_2011\\_Form\\_1040.pdf](https://www.hillaryclinton.com/p/files/returns/WJC_HRC_2011_Form_1040.pdf)

<sup>113</sup> Clinton, William J. Rodham Clinton, Hillary, “1040 Individual Income Tax Return 2012,” available at [https://www.hillaryclinton.com/p/files/returns/WJC\\_HRC\\_2012\\_Form\\_1040.pdf](https://www.hillaryclinton.com/p/files/returns/WJC_HRC_2012_Form_1040.pdf)



WJC\_HRC\_2011\_Form\_1040.pdf 39 / 46

WILLIAM J CLINTON & HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

SUPPLEMENT TO SCHEDULE C

---

GROSS RECEIPTS OR SALES - SCHEDULE C, LINE 1

---

BUSINESS NAME: WJC, LLC

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| FA CAPITAL MM SUB LLS-TENEO HOLDINGS LLC | 100,000.   |
| GEMS EDUCATION                           | 500,000.   |
| LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC.                 | 2,475,000. |
| TOTAL TO SCHEDULE C, LINE 1              | 3,075,000. |

WJC\_HRC\_2012\_Form\_1040.pdf 41 / 48

SUPPLEMENT TO SCHEDULE C

---

GROSS RECEIPTS OR SALES - SCHEDULE C, LINE 1

---

BUSINESS NAME: WJC, LLC

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| GEMS EDUCATION              | 1,250,000. |
| LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC.    | 3,547,500. |
| TOTAL TO SCHEDULE C, LINE 1 | 4,797,500. |

“GEMS repaid a loan to Abraaj Capital, the Middle East’s biggest private equity company” in October 2013, according to GEMS chief financial officer Nicholas Guest.<sup>114</sup>

### CLINTON CONNECTION TO PORT CANAVERAL CEO

Port Canaveral CEO John E. Walsh, a construction manager who never worked in the maritime industry before joining Port Canaveral and secretly shepherding the GulfTainer deal through the port’s bureaucracy, is founder and senior partner at Watersmark Holdings. Watersmark is a developer of Arab-

<sup>114</sup> Bloomberg News, “Gems Education plans to raise \$500m from sukuk sale,” *The National*, October 29, 2013, available at <http://www.thenational.ae/business/economy/gems-education-plans-to-raise-500m-from-sukuk-sale>

style resorts with headquarters located in the offshore tax haven of Anguilla, a British Overseas Territory in the Eastern Caribbean and a Clinton vacation spot.

One of Walsh’s Watersmark business partners is Miguel Lausell, a senior adviser to Hillary Clinton’s 2008 presidential campaign<sup>115</sup> who contributed \$1 million to the Clinton Library<sup>116</sup> and is a member of the Clinton Global Initiative. Walsh’s other Watersmark business partners include representatives of the Saudi and UAE royal families and of the UAE government.

In another coincidence, Anguilla is also home of KCI Engineering Consultants, owned by President Obama’s Chicago associate former Iraq Minister of Electricity Aiham Alsammarae, according to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.<sup>117</sup>

## PORT CANAVERAL: NATIONAL SECURITY NEXUS



Kennedy Space Center (KSC) is the crown jewel of America’s space program. America launched the Apollo moon missions and 135 Space Shuttle missions from KSC’s famed launch pads.

Immediately beside the Jafars’ Gulfstream terminal sits Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, currently used to launch SpaceX rockets and top secret spy satellites.

The Jafar family’s ports company Gulfstream was handed the keys to the cargo container terminal at Port Canaveral. Their facility is dangerously close to America’s first lines of defense:

<sup>115</sup> “Press Release – Clinton Campaign Welcomes Miguel D. Lausell as a Senior Political Advisor,” September 19, 2007, archived by The American Presidency Project <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=92330>

<sup>116</sup> Van Natta Jr., Don, Becker, Jo, and McIntire, Mike, “In Charity and Politics, Clinton Donors Overlap,” *New York Times*, December 20, 2007, available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/20/us/politics/20clinton.html>

<sup>117</sup> U.S.NRC 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Regulatory Information Conference, March 8-10 2016, Online Registration List <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/conference-symposia/ric/past/2016/2016-ric-online-registration-list.pdf>

- U.S. Navy nuclear submarines dock inside Port Canaveral, just a couple hundred yards away from the Iraqis' Gulfstream cargo terminal.
- NASA's Kennedy Space Center (KSC) is just a few miles away.
- Cape Canaveral Air Force Station launch pads, used for top-secret spy satellites, the X-37 "Space Plane," and missile tests, sit adjacent to the Iraqis' Gulfstream cargo terminal.
- "Doomsday Planes," Boeing E-4B "Nightwatch" Advanced Airborne Command Posts, which are converted 747s designed to conduct command operations during a nuclear war, fly into nearby Patrick Air Force Base. Patrick is also home to Air Force operations which monitor seismic activity and nuclear weapons activity around the globe.

The Iraqi Jafar family's Gulfstream terminal is also close to Port Canaveral's civilian critical infrastructure:

- Seaport Canaveral Fuel Terminal, a massive petroleum tank farm and pipeline that connects with Orlando International Airport, sits only feet away from the Gulfstream terminal.
- Port Canaveral is the second-busiest cruise ship port in the world. On a busy day as many as 48,000 passengers pass through Canaveral's cruise terminals, close to Gulfstream's cargo terminal.

Homeland security experts have warned that America is vulnerable to nuclear terrorism at U.S. port cargo container terminals like the one the Port Canaveral leased to the Jafars.

"Lawmakers said an undetected radiological weapon smuggled into a U.S. port inside a cargo container is at the top of the list of homeland security nightmares" reported FCW<sup>118</sup> in July 2016.

"We're at a threshold of having nuclear material available worldwide' that could find its way into the hands of terrorists who are willing to use it" said Rep. Hunter.<sup>119</sup>

In 2011 San Diego Assistant Port Director Al Hallor, who at the time was also a high-ranking Customs and Border Protection officer at the port, told San Diego's ABC 10 News that a "weapon of mass effect" had been found, but not at the port itself. The Department of Homeland Security soon tried to walk back Hallor's statements, insisting that he was "nervous" and "misspoke" during the interview.<sup>120</sup>

121 122

**VIDEO: New Details in WMD Comment Surface:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pCjVTig65Q>

<sup>118</sup> Rockwell, Mike, "Congress talks port security and smuggled nukes," – *FCW: The Business of Federal Technology*, July 7, 2016, available at <https://fcw.com/articles/2016/07/07/port-security-sensors.aspx>

<sup>119</sup> Id.

<sup>120</sup> "Interview Raises Questions Over Weapons Of Mass Effect in SD," ABC 10 News Transcript, February 14, 2011, available at <http://www.10news.com/news/interview-raises-questions-over-weapons-of-mass-effect-in-sd>

<sup>121</sup> "New Details in WMD Comment Surface" FOX News Insider official YouTube channel, February 15, 2011

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pCjVTig65Q&app=desktop>

<sup>122</sup> Gardner, David, "'A weapon of mass destruction was found in the U.S.': Shock confession of Customs officer," DailyMail.com, February 2011, available at <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1356645/A-weapon-mass-destruction-U-S--Shock-confession-Customs-officer.html>

## BETRAYAL OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**“In South Texas, we understand how vital port security is and we fear the day a weapon of mass destruction could be brought into a U.S. port in a container and cause hundreds of thousands of casualties.”**

– House Armed Services Committee member Rep. Solomon Ortiz (D-TX),  
Congressional Record, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006 <sup>123</sup>

The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) and the Foreign Investment and National Security Act of 2007 (FINSA) were established because they are critical to our national security.

President Obama and his cabinet were mandated to protect national security and took an oath to protect the American people. Instead, they put through the secret “Project Pelican” deal with no CFIUS National Security Threat Analysis, as required under FINSA.

At the local level, the Canaveral Port Authority disregarded the open-bidding requirements of Florida’s Sunshine law.

By approving the deal, President Obama handed a 35-year cargo container terminal lease to the family of Saddam Hussein’s nuclear weapons mastermind, a fact that was conveniently omitted from all of Port Canaveral’s slick marketing efforts and never announced by Treasury Department or Department of Homeland Security officials. Who knew this information, and who covered up this information?

The partial ownership of Gulftainer by a foreign government, the Ruler of Sharjah, UAE, was never presented to the American people or Congress. Who knew this information, and who covered up this information?

If those involved did not know that what they were doing was illegal, then why all of the secrecy? Why was information about Crescent Petroleum’s Tehran office scrubbed from Crescent’s website before the Port Canaveral Gulftainer deal was announced?

Once it was discovered that Gulftainer had tried in 2012 to quietly buy themselves in as a “silent partner” for \$250 million, “behind the scenes” at Port Jacksonville, near Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Gulftainer should have been banned from Port Canaveral and every other U.S. port.

---

<sup>123</sup> “United States of America Congressional Record Proceedings of the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress Second Session, Volume 152 – Part 5 April 7, 2006 to May 5, 2006,” page 6996, May 4, 2006, available at <https://books.google.com/books?id=o12Uern-7n4C&pg=PA6996&lpg=PA6996&dq=%22In+South+Texas,+we+understand+how+vital+port+security+is+and+we+feared+the+day+a+weapon+of+mass+destruction+could+be+brought+into+a+U.S.+%22&source=bl&ots=KtCY32QaBk&sig=qmfcCsJlgyRojtjuTOz63k34rgY&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKewjY2JfLpftQAahVGZCYKHfSfCvQQ6AEIITAB#v=onepage&q=%22In%20South%20Texas%20we%20understand%20how%20vital%20port%20security%20is%20and%20we%20fear%20the%20day%20a%20weapon%20of%20mass%20destruction%20could%20be%20brought%20into%20a%20U.S.%20%22&f=false>

The connections between the Jafar family, the Clintons, and the Clinton Foundation are troubling and warrant a full-blown investigation. The connections between the Jafar family and two of President Obama's foreign student college roommates likewise warrant further investigation.

Aviation and cargo security expert Glen Winn, who is also a former Secret Service agent, was interviewed by telephone by the authors several times in September and October 2016. Winn asserted that "while we may not be able to check every cargo container coming into the country without bringing global commerce to a standstill, it is imperative that the lessees to America's ports receive the proper national security threat analysis. That is the point at which you maintain your national security."<sup>124</sup>

---

<sup>124</sup> Three interviews with Glen Winn, conducted via telephone by the authors on September and October 2016 – Glen E. Winn, Condor-Avsec Inc., *JurisPro Expert Witness Directory* <https://www.jurispro.com/expert/glen-winn-1674>