Notes from The Terror conspiracy Revisited by Jim Marrs 2011,

Mohammad Atta, the chief hijacker, was also named by (Mike) Ruppert as a double agent secretly working for US intelligence.

Atta was reportedly under surveillance by US military intelligence agents who had identified him as an Al Qaeda ringleader more than a year prior to his visit to the United States for flying lessons.

This astounding fact only made public in the mid-2005 came from a highly classified antiterrorism program named Able Danger, formed under the US Special Operations Command SOCOM, in October 1999.

The Able Danger team specifically targeted al Qaeda for investigation.

In 2000, a year before the 9/11 attacks, the Able Danger team identified Mohamed Atta and three others named 911 hijackers as possible members of an Al Qaeda cell.

This Revelation appeared to contradict government claims that no one in the US intelligence had identified Atta as a terrorist before 9/11, although it is unclear if senior government officials were given information regarding Atta in either the Clinton or early Bush administrations.

What is clear is that this case of forewarning was presented to the 9/11 commission who chose not to mention it in their report. It is also noteworthy that in an unprecedented action, General Pete Schoomaker, one of the officers in charge of Able Danger, was brought out of retirement and made Army Chief of Staff in 2003. In 2006, a report from the Pentagon's inspector General's office claimed that there had been no pre-9/11 identification of Atta by Able danger, and that those who claimed otherwise were simply mistaken.

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Upset over claims by 9/11 commission members that they had not been given critical information concerning Able Danger and its capabilities, Pennsylvania representative Curt Weldon in the summer of 2005 wrote to the former chairman and vice chairman of the 9/11 Commission reminding them that commission staffers had received two briefings on Able Danger, once in October 2003, and another in July 2004. "The impetus for this letter is my extreme disappointment in the recent, and false, claim of the 9/11 Commission staff that the commission was never given access to any information on Able Danger " wrote Weldon.

Commission Vice Chairman Lee Hamilton said staff workers indicated that they could not recall being briefed on able Danger and that no mention of the program was included in the

report because the commission had no "information that the United States government had under surveillance or had any knowledge of Mohammad Atta prior to the attacks. "

[Able Danger] team members believed that the Atta cell in Brooklyn should be subjected to closer scrutiny, but somewhere along the food chain of administration bureaucrats and lawyers the decision was made in late 2000 against passing the information to the FBI, "Weldon stated in his letter to the commission.

If the Able Danger Intelligence on Atta and his Al Qaeda ties were available in 2000, it would be critical to determine who then blocked this information from going to the FBI. But as usual there was no investigative follow-up to this information, so damning to the official denials of full knowledge, and which seemed to point to the possibility that Atta was being protected by US intelligence.

In 2010, one of Able Danger team members, Lieutenant Colonel Anthony A Shaffer, the winner of a Bronze Star medal for his leadership against the Taliban, published a book entitled *Operation Dark Heart*.

In his book, Shaffer, who had retired from the DIA, provided further details on Able Danger as well as his experiences in Afghanistan.

He said while serving undercover in Afghanistan he met with Philip Zelikow, the executive director of the 9/11 commission, and personally alerted Zelikow to the activities of Able Danger and the fact that they had identified Atta a year

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prior to the 9/11 attacks. He added that this information was met with "stunned silence, "but that nothing of this was mentioned in the commission's report.

In an action reminiscent of Nazi book burnings, defense department of officials bought and then destroyed nearly 10,000 copies of Shaffer's book, effectively censoring the first printing. This Book destruction costs the taxpayers \$47,000 according to Fox News.

... Later in 2010, Shaffer along with five other Witnesses to the able danger program, told Fox News that investigators for the inspector General's office looking into able danger and distorted their statements and attempted to guide their comments and even intimidate them.

Sources: p 525 Marrs (SCAN)