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**Folder Title:** Terrorism: Abu Nidal Organization  
(04/01/1988-10/31/1988)

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**Collection Name** ~~MCNAMARA, THOMAS E.: FILES~~  
*Counter terrorism and Narcotics*

**Withdrawer**

CAS 8/24/2007

**File Folder** TERRORISM: ABU NIDAL ORGANIZATION (4/01/1988-10/31/1988)

**FOIA**

F05-008

**Box Number** *92285 RAL Box 7*

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ID Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
41018 CABLE	051637Z APR 88	2	4/5/1988	B1
41019 CABLE	071656Z APR 88	2	4/7/1988	B1 B3
41020 CABLE	082304Z JUN 88	2	6/8/1988	B1
41021 CABLE	102243Z JUN 88	2	6/10/1988	B1
41022 CABLE	272125Z JUN 88	2	6/27/1988	B1 B3
41023 CABLE	051549Z JUL 88	3	7/5/1988	B1 B3

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

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ID Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
41024 CABLE	21123Z JUL 88	2	7/21/1983	B1 B3
41025 CABLE	272048Z JUL 88	1	7/27/1988	B1 B3
41026 CABLE	191547Z AUG 88	2	8/19/1988	B1 B3
41027 CABLE	222214Z SEP 88	5	9/22/1988	B1 B3
41028 CABLE	270001Z OCT 88	2	10/27/1988	B1 B2 B3

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41019	CABLE 071656Z APR 88	2	4/7/1988	B1 B3

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41020	CABLE  082304Z JUN 88	2	6/8/1988	B1

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41021	CABLE 102243Z JUN 88	2	6/10/1988	B1

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41022	CABLE 272125Z JUN 88	2	6/27/1988	B1 B3

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41023	CABLE 051549Z JUL 88	3	7/5/1988	B1 B3

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# Abu Nidal Heads List of Suspects In Boat Attack

## Some U.S. Aides See Mark Of Palestinian Terrorist, Point to Possible Motive

By JOHN WALCOTT

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WASHINGTON — Renegade Palestinian terrorist Abu Nidal is the leading suspect in Monday's attack aboard a Greek excursion boat, in which 11 people were killed and nearly 100 wounded, U.S. diplomats and intelligence officials say.

Central Intelligence Agency Director William Webster yesterday told reporters and editors of The Wall Street Journal that Abu Nidal is a suspect but cautioned that there isn't enough information to conclude that his group was responsible for the bloody attack on the cruise ship City of Poros.

Nevertheless, some administration analysts note that Abu Nidal had a possible motive for an attack in Greece and that Monday's carnage bore his trademark of senseless slaughter. They point out that three members of Abu Nidal's organization are in jail in Greece on separate charges of attacking a synagogue in Rome, weapons smuggling, plotting to assassinate the Jordanian charge d'affairs in Greece, and possessing weapons in prison.



Abu Nidal

### A Secret Deal

Thirteen months ago, the U.S. intervened to stop what officials believed was a secret deal between Greece and Abu Nidal to free two of the alleged Abu Nidal terrorists. Greek officials denied that any negotiations were under way and the three suspects remained in jail.

Some intelligence analysts suspect that a car bomb that apparently detonated prematurely near the ship's dock Monday also may have been part of an Abu Nidal plot. "The idea may have been to smuggle the car bomb onto the ferry and set off a real spectacular," an official theorizes.

After the Rome and Vienna attacks and the 1986 American air raid on Libya, Abu Nidal's most important patron, the group remained dormant for more than a year. But intelligence analysts believe Abu Nidal re-emerged this spring, almost certainly with Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi's blessing, to launch terrorist attacks in the Sudan, Jordan, and India. Some American analysts also suspect Iran has joined Libya in sponsoring Abu Nidal attacks.

But Mr. Webster said the attack on the Greek ship "also could be consistent with Hezbollah," a Lebanese Shiite terror group allied with Iran, or with a heretofore unpublicized group headed by a Palestinian Liberation Organization terrorist known by the code name Col. Hawari. U.S. intelligence officials believe Col. Hawari, whose real name is Mohammed Abdel-Ali Labib and who is a protege and close ally of PLO chairman Yasir Arafat, was responsible for planting a sophisticated bomb that killed four Americans on a TWA jetliner in 1986.

### A U.S. Request

A suspected top operative of the Hawari group, Mohammed Rashid, was arrested at Athens Airport last month and is awaiting trial on charges of entering Greece on a false passport. The U.S. is seeking to extradite Mr. Rashid to stand trial for bombing a Pan Am plane in 1982; the Greek government has said it will consider the American request.

Administration officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, say that in the wake of the ship attack and the recent murder of the U.S. defense attache in Athens, the State Department is debating whether to issue a travel advisory warning Americans that visiting Greece may be risky. "Greece has become a dangerous place," an official says.

But a decision to issue such a warning, State Department officials fear, could aggravate the already strained relations between Washington and Greece's socialist prime minister, Andreas Papandreou, and hamper the Reagan administration's effort to win better Greek cooperation in the battle against terrorists.

Mr. Webster yesterday said, "What's going to be interesting is how the Greeks respond." He added, "I'd like to see them brought into the fold instead of the other way around," he said.

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41025	CABLE	1	7/27/1988	B1
	272048Z JUL 88			B3

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41026	CABLE	2	8/19/1988	B1
	191547Z AUG 88			B3

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	222214Z SEP 88			B3

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