

The process of JPEG compression can produce changes in image content (such as distortion or deletion of select data) particularly if the image was resaved multiple times after editing, or if a low quality/high compression setting was used. While there is a strong visible effect from JPEG compression in both Q3 and Q4, the compression process would not produce the differences in text layout and spacing seen in the banner in Q4. Any distortion from compression would have been on a smaller scale and would have affected the image in a similar manner throughout the image.

All of the observations outlined above are in line with expectations under the alternative proposition; that is, that the image data in Q3 and Q4 has been altered (H_1).

Please note that a key assumption in the evaluation process was that Q3 and Q4 are supposed to be images from the same scene with the same physical banner present. This assumption is supported by the consistent shadow effects in the banner indicating a common 'source'. However, if this assumption is not considered to be valid then the conclusion would change.

Overall, the observations very strongly support the proposition that images Q3 and Q4 have been altered (H_1) and provide no tangible support for the alternative that these are normal, unaltered images (H_0). In other words, the probability of the observed features if Q3 and Q4 were not composite/altered images can be excluded for all practical purposes, in the absence of any other information or factors aside from those outlined in this report.

Therefore, it is my opinion that images Q3 and Q4 are altered/composite images; specifically, in the area of the banner element within each image.

REMARKS

1. Reference CONTINUITY AND DESCRIPTION, please note that K1, A, and B were not used directly in the assessment of Q1 to Q4. They are listed for continuity purposes only.

Note: Q3, Q4 and K1 all depict some human subjects who appear to be the same in each image with some wearing the same clothing. This suggests the images were taken within a limited time-frame.

Please also note that no markings were applied to the submitted items as they are all in the form of digital data. Printouts of each item were prepared in the laboratory and placed on the casefile for reference; however, all examinations, analyses and evaluations were based upon the digital versions of the information.

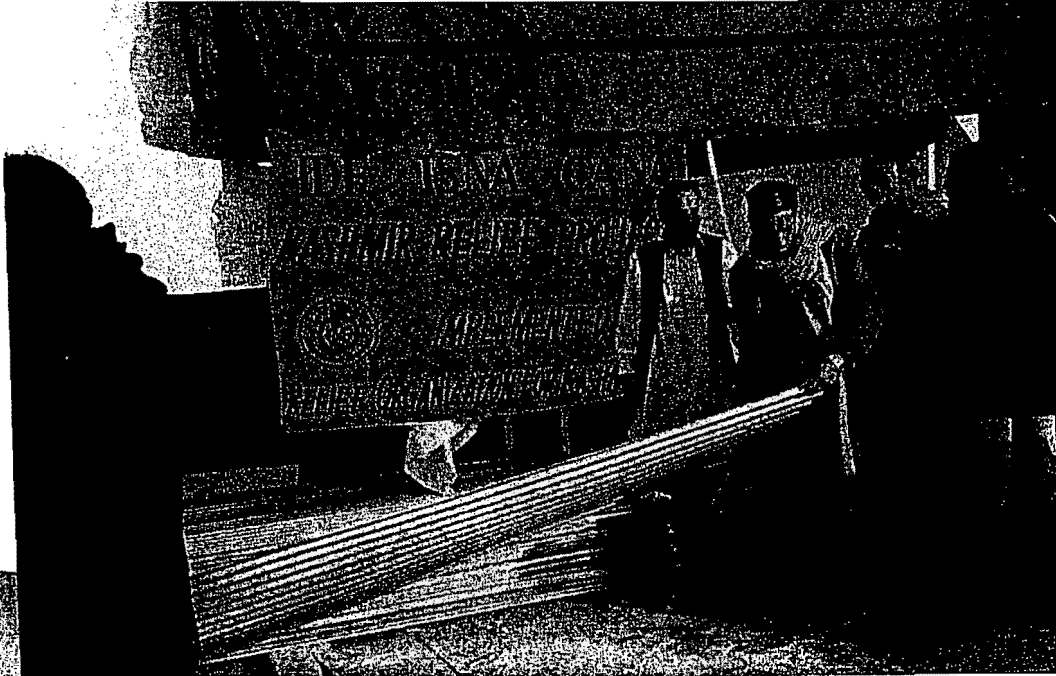
2. Reference METHOD and the phrases "beyond the level of normal imaging processes" and "relative to the expectations for normal, natural images or

photographs of human subjects”, the latter are important criteria used in the evaluation and assessment process. Modern imaging processes often involve functions such as edge sharpening, tonal adjustments or selective blurring to enhance images, sometimes automatically and without user input or selection. Any image features relating to that type of function are considered ‘normal imaging processes’ unless the effect is extreme or inconsistently applied in the image. In addition, unless otherwise indicated, images are assessed in accordance with expectations based upon lighting and optics used when capturing images of human subjects in natural scenes.

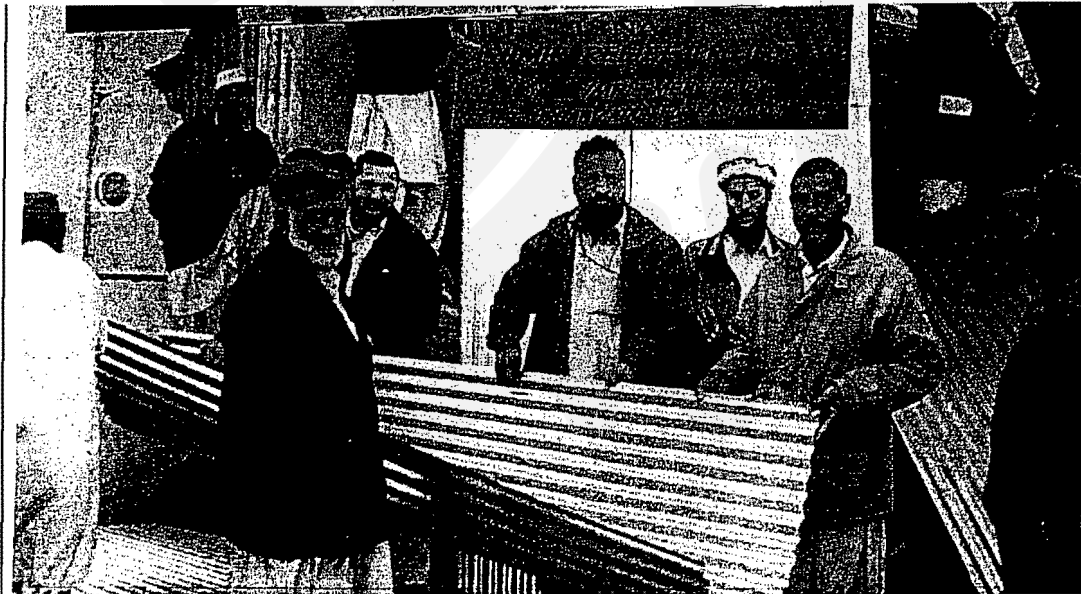
3. Reference METHOD and the possibility of an undetected alteration, the methods presently used to examine and assess images for potential alteration cannot preclude the possibility of an undetected alteration. In other words, the examination process is aimed at detecting alterations based upon the presence of image features or artefacts caused by the alteration or editing process. However, some processes leave very few artefacts and most are dependent upon the skill of the person doing the imaging or editing. It is unlikely, but possible, that an alteration could be made without detectable traces being present in the resulting image data. Therefore, it is not possible to guarantee an image has not been altered. At the same time, if the image quality is good (high resolution, properly focused, etc.) then the absence of any evidence of alteration provides some support for the belief that an image is in its original form and state.
4. Reference OBSERVATIONS relating to Q3 and Q4, images that have been captured with insufficient sampling to resolve ‘fine’ details of the image content or scene (i.e., low spatial resolution) generally do not permit complete assessment of image details. Another complicating factor arises from JPEG compression artefacts that may be present in an image, particularly if a high compression-ratio or low image quality setting was used. This issue can be further exacerbated by repeated resaving in a JPEG format after editing an image. Each image is, however, unique and it is sometimes possible to reach a limited conclusion despite such limitations.
5. Please contact this office directly if there are questions about the examination process or this report. See also Appendix 2 for qualifications of the examiner.

APPENDIX 1: Submitted images

The following show the image files as received. Image specifications are shown below each image:



Q1: 01.jpg (Original file size: 880x557 px, 24-bit colour, file format jpeg)



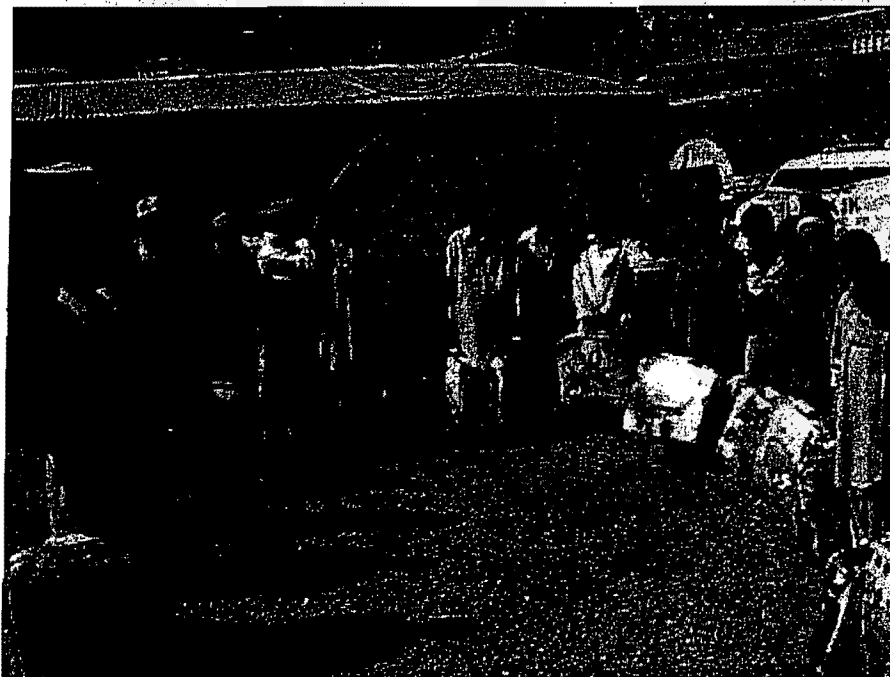
Q2: 02.jpg (Original file size: 912x496 px, 24-bit colour, file format jpeg)

(Appendix 1, continued)

APPENDIX 1 (continued): Submitted images



Q3: 03.jpg (Original file size: 400x300 px, 24-bit colour, file format jpeg)



Q4: 04.jpg (Original file size: 400x300 px, 24-bit colour, file format jpeg)

(Appendix 1, continued)

APPENDIX 1 (continued): Submitted images



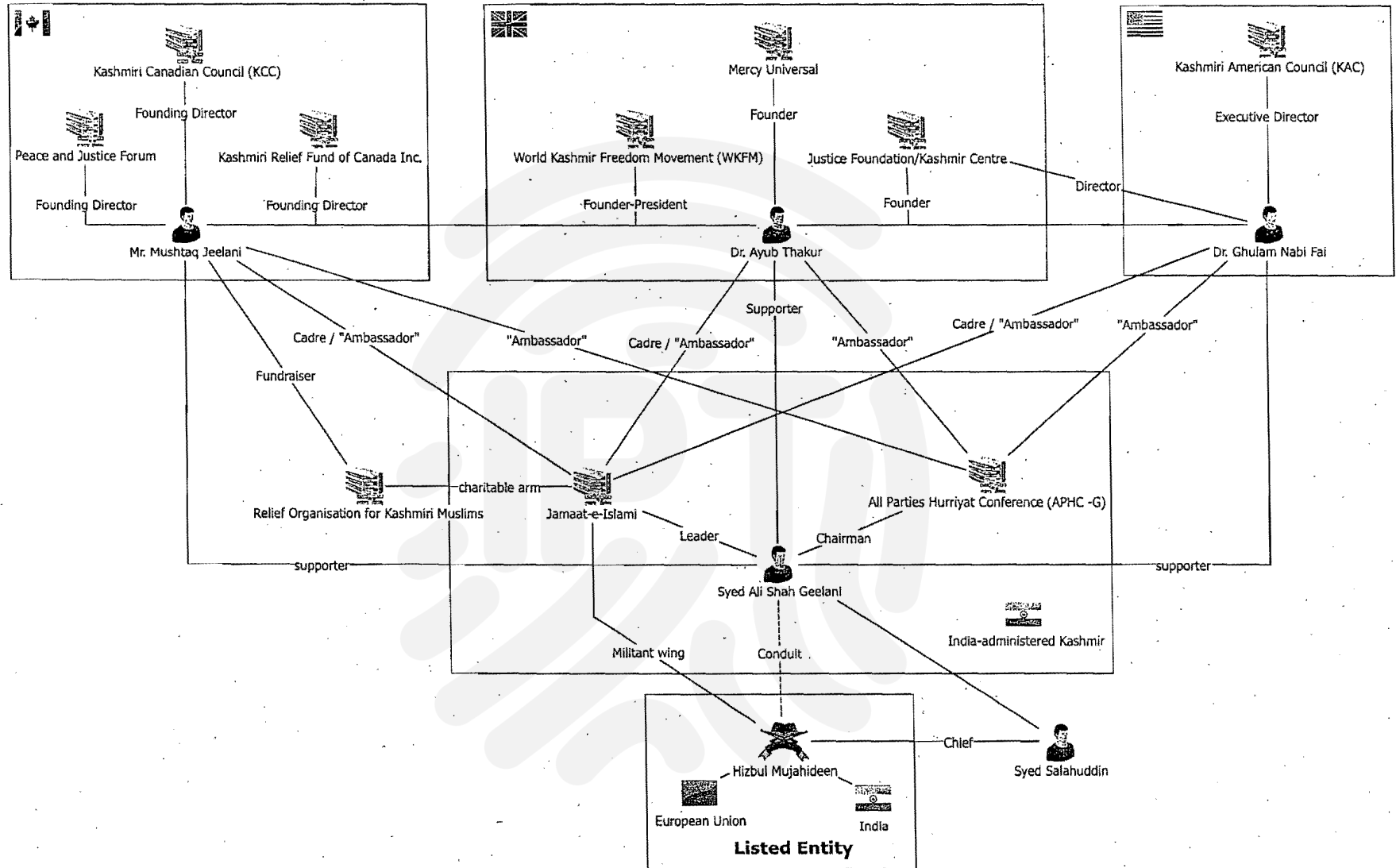
K1: 09.jpg (Original file size: 848x590 px, 24-bit colour, file format jpeg)



APPENDIX C

Kashmiri Canadian Council (KCC) Associated Entities Link Chart

Appendix C: Kashmir Canadian Council Link Chart



APPENDIX D

Relief Organization for Kashmiri Muslims (ROKM) Associated Entities Link Chart

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