



An IPT Investigative Report:

OMAR AHMAD
AND
THE PALESTINE COMMITTEE



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Co-Founder, Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)

“By God, what I have [to do] is to arrange the program, we have to have a meeting on October second,” said Omar Ahmad to the two others on the call.¹ Ahmad, a future CAIR co-founder, proceeded to discuss the details of the meeting—who would attend, where it would be held, even the logistics of getting the attendees from the airport to the hotel.²

Secretly recorded by the FBI in September 1993, this telephone conversation between Ahmad, Holy Land Foundation (HLF) leader Shukri Abu Baker and Hamas activist³ Abdelhaleem Al Ashqar shows Ahmad leading a planning session for an upcoming meeting of the Palestine Committee, a Hamas support network in the U.S.⁴

Omar Ahmad (a.k.a. Omar Yehya/Yehia), along with Nihad Awad, formed the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) in September 1994.⁵ For the next fifteen years, Ahmad served on the boards of both CAIR-National⁶ and CAIR-California.⁷ Until 2005, Ahmad served as the group’s national chairman.⁸

In late 2008, the FBI suspended formal relationships with CAIR, citing evidence from the 2008 HLF trial. In November 2008, HLF and five of its executives were found guilty of funneling millions of dollars to Hamas.⁹

Ahmad was listed as an unindicted co-conspirator (UCC) in the case, named as someone who was a member “of the US Muslim Brotherhood’s Palestine Committee and/or its organizations.”¹⁰

Ahmad announced his retirement as CAIR’s chairman emeritus in May 2009, shortly after the FBI’s decision regarding CAIR became public.¹¹

Evidence from the HLF trial explains Ahmad’s UCC designation. Not only was Ahmad a Palestine Committee leader, he served as president of one of the committee’s central organizations, the Islamic Association for Palestine (IAP) for two years. IAP, as described in detail below, served as a Hamas propaganda outlet in the U.S.

After Ahmad became a CAIR leader, he continued to support HLF, another one of the committee’s primary components. Ahmad’s bargaining power within HLF, even after CAIR’s formation, is demonstrated by FBI wiretaps between Ahmad and HLF leaders. Under Ahmad’s watch, CAIR both received donations from HLF and helped solicit donations for the U.S. Islamic charity.

The following memo details the extent of Ahmad’s leadership role within the Palestine Committee.





The Palestine Committee

In a Department of Justice appellate brief in the HLF case, Omar Ahmad was described as a “Palestine Committee leader.”¹² FBI Agent Lara Burns, who testified during the trial, also called Ahmad a “leader within the Palestine Committee.”¹³

Evidence in the case supported those conclusions.

A 1991 diagram of the Palestine Central Committee leadership assembled by U.S. Brotherhood leader Mohamed Akram lists Ahmad as a member of the executive committee.¹⁴ According to an October 1992 internal memo, the Muslim Brotherhood created the Palestine Committee to help spread information about the Palestinian intifada. The committee, the memo said, would “make the Palestinian cause victorious and to support it with what it needs of media, money, men and all of that.”¹⁵ According to the HLF indictment, the MB created the committee with a “designed purpose to support HAMAS,” both politically and financially.¹⁶

Committee Chairman Palestinian Action Aspects

Central Com	Shura	Executive
1 Mousa		1 Yasser
2 Akram		2 Omar Yehya
3 Yousif		3 Ghassan Dabdoul
4 Drasse		4 Hassan Sabri
5 Mezzain		5 Fawaz
6 Ashqar		6 Elbaraso
7 Yasser		7 Ismail Jaber
8 Hamud		
	9 Shukri	14 Abdel Azim
	10 Sobani	15 Istahfi
	11 Rushid	
	12 Jamal	
	13 Buheiri	

HLF government exhibit “Elbaraso Search 10” shows Omar Ahmad (Yehya) as a top executive of the Palestine Committee.

Ahmad was also listed, along with CAIR co-founder Nihad Awad, in a Palestine Committee phonebook.¹⁷ Ahmad’s organization, CAIR, appeared on a Palestine Committee document even before its incorporation; CAIR was one of the Committee’s supporting organizations, according to a July 30, 1994 committee meeting agenda.¹⁸

HLF prosecution exhibits also revealed that Omar Ahmad was listed on two different pages in the phonebook of Mousa Abu Marzook, the former Chief of Hamas’ Political Bureau who currently serves as the Bureau’s Deputy Chief out of Syria.¹⁹

Hamas’ Political Bureau is responsible for “setting policies and guidelines regarding Hamas’s’ activities, including directing and coordinating terrorist acts by Hamas and the Al-Qassam Brigades (Hamas’ military wing),” according an indictment of Marzook.²⁰

The Philadelphia Conference

In October 1993, twenty-seven men assembled at a Marriott hotel in Philadelphia.²¹ Unbeknownst to the attendees, the FBI also attended the meeting, recording their conference and snapping photos of their arrival. According to prosecutors, “[t]he purpose of the meeting was to determine their course of action in support of Hamas’ opposition” to the U.S.-led Middle East peace agreement between the Israelis and Palestinians, the Oslo Accords, and “to decide how to conceal their activities from the scrutiny of the United States government.”²²

Omar Ahmad would later claim he didn’t “recall” attending the meeting.²³ However, as the FBI’s recordings show, Ahmad not only moderated the conference, he also planned it.²⁴ In addition to the FBI recordings, Ahmad’s presence at the meeting has been confirmed by flight records and Marriott hotel



records.²⁵ In fact, credit card records show that HLF member Haitham Maghawri used HLF's *American Express* corporate account to pay for Ahmad's round-trip plane ticket from Texas to Pennsylvania.²⁶

On Oct. 2, 1993, Ahmad convened the meeting:

“This meeting was called for by the Palestine Committee in order to have a seminar or a meeting to the brothers present here today in order to study the situation in light of the latest developments on the Palestinian arena, its effects and impact on our work here in America.”³¹

ITEM 18		AMERICAN AIRLINES		AUSTIN TX	\$360.00
Cardmember Account No.	Transaction Date	Ticket Number			
3783-647035-93036	09/17/93	0011313014490			
Account Name	AMERICAN AIRLINES				
Account Type	TRAVELSCOPE INTERNAT				
Origin	Destination	Class	Fare Basis	Transaction Amount	
DALLAS/FT WORTH TX	PHILADELPHIA PA	AA	MD	350.00	
DALLAS/FT WORTH TX		AA	MD		
				American Int Div 675490110669 003700 00 256003	
PASSENGER TICKET S/E # 759270000					

American Express bank records confirm Omar Ahmad's flight to Philadelphia, PA. HLF government exhibit "AMEX 1."

Ahmad then led discussion about who would present at each session during the meeting. At the end of their discussion, Ahmad became irritated when HLF executive Shukri Abu Baker asked to be reminded of who would moderate each session.

Ahmad scolded him, “Didn’t you write it down? You were talking. You were talking.”

“I wasn’t...” said Baker in an attempt to defend himself. “Am I going to take notes as well?”

“Oh, yes.” Ahmad responded. “You will take notes and then present them to us.”³²

Throughout the Philadelphia conference, Ahmad and Abu Baker worked together to lead the sessions, steering conversation, enforcing time limits for speakers and answering questions other attendees had about organizational roles.³³

Ahmad, along with the others, discussed concealing their Hamas support and activities from the U.S. government and the American public.

In addition to the planning phone call made with Abu Baker discussed above, the FBI recorded another phone conversation between Ahmad and Palestine Committee leader Ashqar on September 27th—just days before the Philadelphia conference. Ashqar and Ahmad discussed the final number of attendees expected at the October 2nd meeting. Their final count came out to about “twenty-three or twenty-six.”²⁷

Notably, Ahmad, who has never been an HLF official, reported on HLF’s fundraising during the call. He notes to Ashqar that an HLF fundraiser in Phoenix, Ariz. the previous Saturday had raised almost \$10,000.²⁸

A government summary of the Philadelphia meeting attendees describes them as members of the Palestine Committee and its organizations, including HLF and IAP.²⁹ The summary also specifically identified Ahmad as a member of the Palestine Committee and the IAP.³⁰



Ahmad said that the group has “always demanded the 1948 territories” that now make up much of Israel. But, as an unnamed participant added, “We don’t say that publicly. You cannot say that publicly, in front of the Americans.” Ahmad agreed. “No,” he said, “We didn’t say that to the Americans.”³⁴



That meant, an unnamed participant said, they needed to promote their goals “while being careful not to show the Association [Islamic Association for Palestine] as an opposition party with direct connections with the inside. It expresses its position. It expresses the Movement’s [Hamas’] position but it doesn’t say I represent this side or anything like that.”³⁵

In other words, Shukri Abu Baker responded, “It should lie, you mean.”

Not necessarily, the other man said. “It shouldn’t talk. [laughter] It shouldn’t lie. It shouldn’t talk.”³⁶

“War is deception,” Baker replied. “Learn from your masters in the Fund [HLF],” Ahmad added.³⁷

Baker made this point again, in another exchange with Ahmad.

“War is deception,” Baker said. “Deceive, camouflage, pretend that you’re leaving while you’re walking that way. Or do we have to be ... UI. Deceive your enemy.”³⁸ “This is like one who plays basketball; he makes a player believe that he is doing this while he does something else...UI. I agree with you,” Ahmad said.³⁹

Ahmad’s group, CAIR, grew out of discussions at the Philadelphia conference, FBI Agent Burns testified at the 2008 trial of HLF leaders. One conferee, FBI transcripts show, said that they needed to “begin thinking about establishing alternative organizations which can benefit from a new atmosphere, ones whose Islamic hue is not very conspicuous.”⁴⁰

“The organization that was started as a result of that was CAIR, C-A-I-R?” prosecutor Barry Jonas asked Burns.⁴¹ “That was an organization that was created after the Philadelphia meeting as a result of this,” she answered.⁴²

Burns’ claims match up with Ahmad’s comments in Philadelphia. Don’t worry about registering a new organization, Ahmad told his colleagues at the

Philadelphia conference. “Registering an organization is easy,” he said. “Here in America you begin working first and you then go register.”⁴³

Records show CAIR did just this. CAIR was listed as part of the Palestine Committee in a July 30, 1994 internal document.⁴⁴ Yet, its incorporation documents show CAIR was formed two months later, in September 1994.⁴⁵

During the Philadelphia conference, Ahmad joined a conversation about concern over the Oslo Accords empowering the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). As part of the Oslo Accords, Israel agreed to recognize the PLO as the legitimate government of the Palestinian people. The Palestine Committee, Ahmad said, had an advantage over the PLO because the PLO didn’t have a big presence in the U.S.⁴⁶ Given Ahmad’s leadership at a conference set on “derailing” the Oslo Accords, it’s not surprising that he rejected the peace process in a 1999 interview as “a security arrangement in which the stronger party (Israel), backed by the U.S., is getting the most and the weaker party (Palestinians) are forced to accept whatever is thrown at them.”⁴⁷

The Islamic Association for Palestine (IAP)

The IAP, HLF and the United Association for Studies and Research (UASR), a Virginia think tank created by Hamas official Mousa Abu Marzook, were the three primary components of the Palestine Committee, according to the group’s 1991 central committee bylaws.⁴⁸

The Brotherhood created the IAP in 1981, according to a 1991 report, “to serve the cause of Palestine on the political and media fronts.” “The [Islamic] Association [for Palestine]’s work has developed a great deal since its inception, particularly with the formation of the Palestine Committee, the beginning of the Intifada at



the end of 1987 and the proclamation of the Hamas Movement,” the report added.⁴⁹

In 1993 and 1994, Omar Ahmad served as president of IAP National.⁵⁰ He acknowledged his position with the IAP during a 2003 deposition when he said that he was “de fact [sic] kind of a president of IAP.” He added:

“When AMELP [American Middle Eastern League for Palestine] was doing business as IAP, then I was kind of, you know, referred to as the president of IAP because it was doing business as IAP.”⁵¹

While Ahmad was IAP’s president in 1993 and 1994, CAIR co-founder Nihad Awad was its public relations director.⁵² Awad was also a contributing editor for its English publication, *The Muslim World Monitor*.⁵³

In a 2000 article, Awad recounted how he and Ahmad talked in the early 1990s about leaving IAP to form a new organization. Ahmad, Awad wrote, “suggested to me that we leave the IAP and concentrate on combating anti-Muslim discrimination nationwide. He proposed that I move to Washington, D.C., where any effective national effort would have to be based, while he tried to raise the seed money for the project.”⁵⁴

Government memos and court rulings summarize the IAP’s relationship with Hamas. A 2001 U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) memo extensively documented IAP’s support for Hamas and noted that the “facts strongly suggest” that IAP is “part of Hamas’ propaganda apparatus.”⁵⁵

In August 2002, a federal judge ruled that there was evidence that



“the Islamic Association for Palestine has acted in support of Hamas.”⁵⁶

In November 2004, a federal magistrate judge held IAP civilly liable for \$156 million in the 1996 shooting of an American teenager by a Hamas member in the West Bank.⁵⁷ The judge ruled that there was “an abundance of evidence” that “IAP...desired to help Hamas’ activities succeed, and...engaged in some act of helping those activities succeed.”⁵⁸ She added, “If IAP has never outrightly cheered on Hamas’ terrorist activities, it has come awfully close.”⁵⁹ After further litigation, the appellate court upheld the award of damages to the Boim family.⁶⁰

Internal Palestine Committee documents admitted into evidence during the HLF prosecution show IAP was an arm of the U.S.-based Hamas-support network.⁶¹

Dispute Resolution Regarding Hamas Leader Sheik Jamil Hamami

Several months after the Philadelphia conference, Omar Ahmad again flexed his leadership muscle to try to resolve a dispute between Palestine Committee leader Abdelhaleem Al Ashqar and the Holy Land Foundation regarding the fundraising activities of Sheikh Jamil Hamami. According to the U.S. government, Hamami was a Hamas leader in the West Bank, who would sometimes travel to the United States to raise money for Hamas.⁶²

Ashqar had arranged for Hamami to come to the United States in 1993 to raise money through his group, the Al Aqsa Education Fund. HLF leaders were not happy to see a competing Islamic charity trying to raise funds on their turf.



On Feb. 23, 1994, Omar Ahmad was wiretapped leading another phone meeting of the Palestine Committee. “I have called for this meeting today,” said Ahmad, “so that we may discuss the issue of.., the issue of Sheik Jamil.”⁶³

After some discussion, Ahmad called for a vote on a final decision. The decision, Ahmad explained, “is that we ask Sheik Jamil to comply with the same program with the Holy Land Foundation. And the funds which will be raised is to be disbursed according to an agreement between him [Sheik Jamil] and the Holy Land Foundation.”⁶⁴

Palestine Committee member Muin Shabib disagreed, but still agreed to comply with the decision, saying, “I respect by brothers’ opinions.” Ahmad then asks that the agreement be sent to him via fax in writing so that he could send it to Ashqar and then call him.⁶⁵

Ashqar wasn’t happy with the agreement.

In March 1994, Ashqar met with Sheikh Jamil Hamami in Mississippi.⁶⁶ On March 14th, the FBI recorded the meeting between Ashqar, Hamami and Mohamed Siam,⁶⁷ a roving Hamas ambassador based out of Yemen.⁶⁸ Omar Ahmad wasn’t there, but his opinion and the phone call he led in February still made it into the conversation.⁶⁹

“We were in disagreement,” Ashqar explained, “Omar Yehya (Ahmad) stood up and said, ‘As long as I am the president of the Association [IAP], I will not deal with the Aqsa Fund.’ Ashqar said he asked Ahmad, ‘Have we become factions now, man? What kind of dealing is this?’⁷⁰

Ultimately the entire dispute was resolved by Hamas leader Mousa Abu Marzook, who sided with HLF.

During the meeting, the men read a letter out loud from Marzook which asked Ashqar to stop his plans until he could return to “work on solving the disagreement.”

“My honorable brother, I hope that you suspend your activity until I arrive in America and work on solving the disagreement. Sheik Jamil is to join the program of your brothers and I have written to him accordingly,” Marzook wrote.⁷¹ A copy of the letter was also sent to the members of the Palestine Committee and Sheik Hamami.

Sheik Hamami agreed that Marzook’s decision was balanced.

Ahmad’s Relationship with HLF as CAIR Chairman

Even after CAIR’s incorporation, Ahmad maintained his relationship with HLF, aiding Shukri Abu Baker in decision making processes, in addition to accepting donations and soliciting money on behalf of the group.

In October 1994, only a month after its incorporation, CAIR received a wire transfer in the amount of \$5,000 and a \$5,000 check from the Holy Land Foundation - for a total of \$10,000.⁷²

In January 1995, President Bill Clinton signed an executive order designating Hamas as a terrorist organization that threatens to “disrupt the Middle East peace process.”⁷³ Participants at the 1993 Philadelphia conference had warned each other the U.S. might one day make material support of Hamas illegal. Now it was.

Given Ahmad’s role with the Palestine Committee and IAP, he was intimately familiar with the groups’ goals and ideology, namely its support for the newly designated Hamas. Still, CAIR continued to solicit funds on behalf of the group. As for Ahmad himself, he continued a close working relationship with HLF officials.



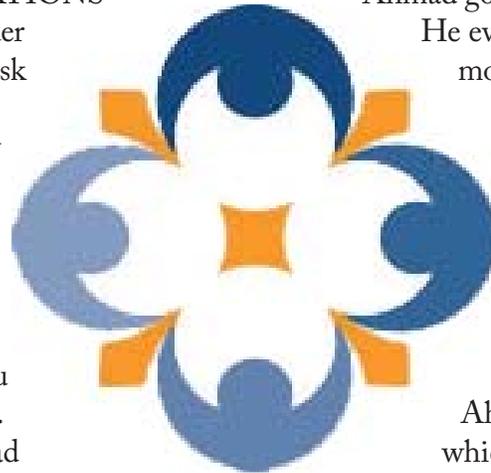
In September 1996, CAIR distributed an “Action Alert” soliciting money for HLF after Israel opened a tunnel below the Temple Mount and Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem. In that emailed “Action Alert,” CAIR urged recipients to “SEND DONATIONS to help those who are suffering under occupation. Every mosque should ask each person for at least one dollar. Donations may be sent to the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development...”⁷⁴

As of May 1999, several years after CAIR’s formation, Ahmad was still working with Shukri Abu Baker to make decisions for HLF. In a wiretapped phone call, Ahmad and Baker joked that their phone cutting out was due to their phones being monitored. They discussed how to calculate the payment of HLF official Mohammed El-Mezain for making several fundraising trips.⁷⁵ Again, Ahmad weighs in on HLF payment, though he is not an official with the group.⁷⁶ During the conversation Ahmad advocates on El-Mezain’s behalf, calling himself a “go-between” between HLF and El-Mezain. “I don’t want you to promise me something and it doesn’t happen because he [El-Mezain] will be very upset,” Ahmad tells Baker. Baker assures him he understands and the two work out an appropriate payment deal.

Several years later, in 2004, Ahmad sat in the crowd as El-Mezain conducted fundraising at a CAIR-New York event, raising over \$100,000 for CAIR.⁷⁷

Another wiretapped phone conversation from November 1999 shows Ahmad speaking with HLF official Haitham Maghawri, the same individual who booked Ahmad’s flight to the 1993 Philadelphia conference. Ahmad tells Maghawri that HLF Executive Baker has promised him \$50,000 to support a “Lebanese project.”⁷⁸ Maghawri sounds frustrated that so much money

has been dedicated to the project, when others “have been lined up for a year and haven’t gotten a cent.”⁷⁹ Maghawri’s concern demonstrates Ahmad’s influence. It seems—at least in this case—what Ahmad wanted, Ahmad got. Ahmad tells Maghawri to calm down. He eventually does and agrees to send the money.⁸⁰



Maghawri, HLF’s executive director, was named as a defendant the HLF indictment, but did not stand trial because he left the country before the U.S. filed the indictment in 2004.⁸¹

On June 1, 2000, CAIR Chairman Ahmad wrote a letter to HLF in which he said, “It is truly an honor to congratulate the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development on ten years of outstanding achievement.... On behalf of the Council on American Islamic Relations, please accept our best wishes for many years of continued excellence in your field.”⁸²

That same year, CAIR made at least two solicitations on behalf of HLF. In October, at a rally outside the Israeli Consulate in Los Angeles, CAIR Southern California’s Hussam Ayloush told the crowd, “We need to make sure to send our donations” to HLF.⁸³ Also, a CAIR Action Alert asked members to “sponsor a Palestinian child orphaned in the recent massacres” by contacting HLF, and provided a direct link to HLF’s donation page.⁸⁴

The most recent CAIR solicitation for HLF came in response to 9/11. The appeal, titled “Help for Victims” appeared on CAIR’s website for over a month⁸⁵ and urged people to donate to HLF among other charities.⁸⁶

Not long after, on Dec. 4th, 2001, the U.S. Department of the Treasury named the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development (HLFRD a.k.a. HLF) as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist [SDGT],

blocking and freezing the group's assets.⁸⁷

President George W. Bush called the move “another step in the war on terrorism.” “There are more terrorist networks of global reach, and more front groups who seek to support them. The net is closing,” he said.⁸⁸

According to a visitor's log, Shukri Abu Baker had visited CAIR's offices in Washington D.C. earlier that year, in March.⁸⁹ The day of the HLF designation, CAIR joined several other organizations in issuing a statement critical of the government's action against Abu Baker's group.

The release asked President George W. Bush to “reconsider” his decision, which CAIR called “an unjust and counterproductive move that can only damage America's credibility with Muslims in this country and around the world...” The move, CAIR said, creates “the impression that there has been a shift from a war on terrorism to an attack on Islam.”⁹⁰

At a fundraiser on Oct. 26, 2002, Ahmad called the HLF shutdown the result of the U.S. government targeting Muslims.

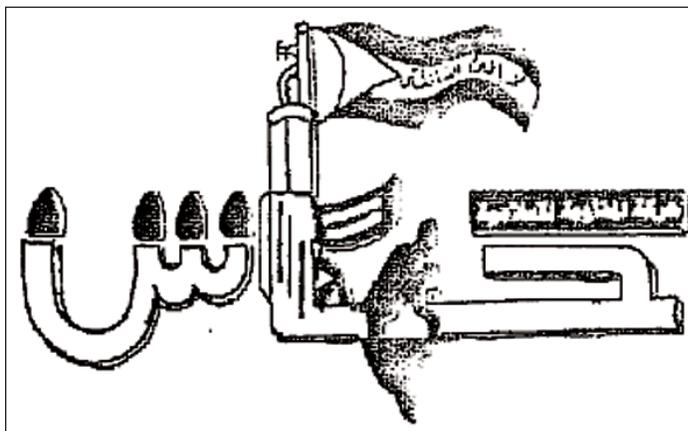
“Our...organizations have been shut down, some in the northern Virginia area, some of them in Dallas, charitable organizations and they are begging to belong... We [Muslims] are under attack... We are under the squeeze.”⁹¹

Asked in a May 2003 deposition, “Do you support Hamas,” Ahmad responded, “It depends. Qualify ‘support.’”⁹² Subsequently, Ahmad responded

“no,” when asked whether he advocated Hamas' “political line.”⁹³

Ahmad's track record indicates otherwise. Ahmad watched CAIR co-founder Nihad Awad suggest in Philadelphia in 1993 that “If there's a political issue, a Samah's [Hamas'] input for instance, about this or that, we inform people to contact their representatives... print circulations and send them to them.”⁹⁴

At the meeting, Ahmad himself suggested making IAP publications “the main and popular source of information about Palestine.”⁹⁵ The October 1988 issue of its Arabic-language publication, *Ila Filastin*, read “The IAP will deliver this charter of the Hamas movement to all over the American continents.”⁹⁶ In addition to disseminating Hamas statements in *Ila Filastin*, IAP published the English-language *Muslim World Monitor* and the Arabic periodical, *Al-Zaitounah*, which frequently praised Hamas terror attacks. An October 1994 *Al-Zaitounah* headline captures the magazine's ideological bent: “In Its Greatest Operation, Hamas Takes Credit for the Bombing of an Israeli Bus in the Center of Tel Aviv.”⁹⁷



The Hamas banner as pictured on pg. 43 of *Ila Filastin's* November/December 1989 issue.

In November 2008, HLF and five of its executives, including Shukri Abu Baker, were found guilty of funneling millions of dollars to Hamas.⁹⁸

Still, Ahmad defended HLF along with another man with terrorist ties. One month after the HLF verdict, Ahmad told his audience at CAIR-SFBA's 14th Annual Banquet that “A lot of people are in jail – Sami al-Arian is an example. The Holy Land Foundation case.

No evidence whatsoever; nothing. They label you a terrorist and you're a threat.”⁹⁹ ■



Endnotes

1. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Government Exhibit: Ashqar Wiretap 1,” pg. 2.
2. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Government Exhibit: Ashqar Wiretap 1,” pg. 2.
3. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Government’s Second Supplemental Trial Brief,” (N.D. Tx. September 12, 2008) pg 10.
4. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Government Exhibit: Ashqar Wiretap 1,” pg. 2.
5. Articles of Incorporation, Council on American-Islamic Relations, September 15, 1994.
6. Council on American Islamic Relations, Tax Form 990s, 1994-2006.
7. Council on American Islamic Relations-Northern California, Tax Form 990s, 1998-2005.; Council on American Islamic Relations-Southern California, Tax form 990s, 1999-2005. CAIR-SFBA Annual Report, 2009-2010, pg. 13.
8. Council on American Islamic Relations, Tax Form 990s, 1994-2006. ; “CAIR Co-Founder Retires From Board After 15 Years of Service,” CAIR, May 7, 2009. “Shaw said Ahmad stepped down as CAIR board chairman in 2005, but had remained on the board.”
9. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Jury Verdict,” (N.D. Tx. November 24, 2008).
10. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “List of Unindicted Co-conspirators and/or Joint Venturers,” (N.D. Tx. 2007).
11. “CAIR Co-Founder Retires From Board After 15 Years of Service,” CAIR, May 7, 2009.
12. *U.S. vs. Mohammad El-Mezain et al.*, 09-10560, “Brief for the United States,” (5th. Cir. January 28, 2011).
13. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G, Testimony of FBI Agent Lara Burns, September 30, 2008.
14. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Elbarasse Search 10,” (N.D. Tx. September 25, 2008).
15. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Elbarasse Search 5,” (N.X. Tx. September 25, 2008).
16. *US v. Holy Land Foundation*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Superseding Indictment,” (N.D. Tx., July 26, 2004) pg.6.
17. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Ashqar Search 1,” (N.D. Tx. September 25, 2008).
18. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Elbarasse Search 19,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008).
19. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Marzook Phonebook,” (N.D. Tx. September 25, 2008), pages 35, 61.
20. *U.S. vs. Mousa Abu Marzook*, 03-CR-978, “Second Superseding Indictment,” (N.D. Ill. August 19, 2004).
21. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Philly Meeting Summary,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008). Exhibit lists 27 attendees at the conference.
22. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Indictment,” (N.D. Tx. July 27, 2004).
23. *Stanley Boim vs. Quranic Literacy Institute, et al.*, “Deposition of Omar Ahmad,” (N.D. Ca. May 27, 2003). “Q. So is it your testimony here today that you don’t recall attending a meeting in Philadelphia with all of these individuals present? A. I don’t, no. Q. Is it your testimony you did not attend that meeting? A. No. I don’t recall. I don’t know if I did.”
24. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Government Exhibit: Ashqar Wiretap 1,” pg. 2.
25. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Philly Meeting Summary,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008).
26. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: AMEX 1,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008) pg.12. The card number used to pay for Ahmad’s ticket, 3783-647335-93036 matches the card number of Haitham M. Maghawri.
27. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al.*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Ashqar



- Wiretap 2,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008) pg. 4.
28. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Ashqar Wiretap 2,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008) pg. 6.
29. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Philly Meeting Summary,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008).
30. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Philly Meeting Summary,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008).
31. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al*, 3:04-CR-240-G “Government Exhibit: Philadelphia Meeting 1,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008) pg.10.
32. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Government Exhibit: Philadelphia Meeting 1,” pg. 15.
33. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Government Exhibit: Philadelphia Meeting 1-18,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008).
34. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Government Exhibit: Philadelphia Meeting 12E,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008), pg. 6.
35. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et al*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Government Exhibit: Philadelphia Meeting 12E,” (N.D. Tx. September 29, 2008), pg. 6.
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41. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Redirect Examination of Lara Burns by Barry Jonas,” (N.D. Tx. October 7, 2008).
42. *U.S. vs. Holy Land Foundation*, 3:04-CR-240-G, “Redirect Examination of Lara Burns by Barry Jonas,” (N.D. Tx. October 7, 2008). Note: CAIR disputes this assertion and petitioned the court asking to be removed from the list of unindicted co-conspirators. U.S. District Judge Jorge Solis rejected that petition, saying the list should not have been filed publicly, but noting there was “ample evidence to establish the associations of CAIR ...with HLF, the Islamic Association for Palestine (“IAP”), and with Hamas. See: Memorandum and Opinion Order, July 1, 2009. The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld Solis’s ruling in an opinion released Nov. 19, 2010.
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