

REQUESTED BY: MACDONALD, MARY B  
O F F I C I A L U S E O N L Y

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ICE		TECS ACCESS CODE 3	
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		CASE NUMBER DC03TR05DC0005	
TITLE: VICTOR BOUT / RICHARD CHICHAKLI			
CASE STATUS: INTERIM RPT			
REPORT DATE 052505	DATE ASSIGNED 041805	PROGRAM CODE 057	REPORT NO. 004
RELATED CASE NUMBERS: DA03TR05DC0005			
COLLATERAL REQ:			
TYPE OF REPORT: SEARCH WARRANT REPORT /			
TOPIC: EXECUTION OF 3 FEDERAL SEARCH WARRANTS			

SYNOPSIS:

In December 2003, the Office of the Special Agent in Charge, Washington, DC (SAC/DC) received information relating to violations of the UN Arms Embargo on Liberia. Reports compiled from the UN, worldwide NGOs, and domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies provided to SAC/DC indicate that Victor BOUT and his international network of air cargo companies and planes consistently violated the UN Arms Embargo on Liberia. BOUT'S chief financial representative, a US Citizen living in Dallas, TX named Richard CHICHAKLI, allegedly established and ran several BOUT companies that appear to be complicit in facilitating the transportation of weapons to Liberia during the Charles TAYLOR regime.

On April 26, 2005, ICE, FBI, IRS, and DCIS agents executed federal search warrants at CHICHAKLI'S home, business, and condominium located in the Dallas, TX vicinity. The details relating to this enforcement action are contained in this report.

DISTRIBUTION: SACDC SACDA	SIGNATURE: _____ BAECHTLE MATTHEW A SPECIAL AGENT
	APPROVED: _____ REED PHILIP L OI GRP SUPERVISOR
	ORIGIN OFFICE: DC WASHINGTON DC - SAC
	TYPIST: BAECHTLE

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BAECHTLE  
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## O F F I C I A L U S E O N L Y

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## DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION:

In December 2003, the Office of the Special Agent in Charge, Washington, DC (SAC/DC) received a package of information relating to violations of the UN Arms Embargo on Liberia. The data suggested that several individuals and companies operating both in the United States and abroad played a significant role in violating UN imposed and US backed sanctions. Reports compiled from the UN, worldwide NGOs, and domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies provided to SAC/DC indicate that Victor BOUT and his international network of air cargo companies and planes consistently violated the UN Arms Embargo on Liberia. BOUT'S chief financial representative, a US Citizen living in Dallas, TX named Richard CHICHAKLI, allegedly established and ran several BOUT companies that appear to be complicit in facilitating the transportation of weapons to Liberia during the Charles TAYLOR regime. During the course of two parallel SAC/DC investigations relating to arms trafficking to Liberia involving US persons and companies, SAC/DC has obtained information in support BOUT and CHICHAKLI'S role in violations of both UN sanctions and US laws.

On April 21, 2005, SAC/DC Special Agent Matt Baechtle and Dallas FBI Agent Dennis Brady obtained three federal search warrants in the Eastern and Northern Districts of Texas to be served on CHICHAKLI'S home, business, and condominium. The warrants authorized the search of these locations for records, information, files, documentation, correspondence, etc. in all forms relating to CHICHAKLI'S alleged involvement in violations of Title 22 USC Section 2778(C) (AECA) and Title 50 USC Section 1705 (IEEPA).

The briefing was conducted on April 25, 2005 at 3pm at the FBI Dallas Field Office. ICE S/A Matt Baechtle provided the case background and information on evidence to be seized, while FBI S/A Bill Hoffman briefed the operational details. Present at the briefing were agents representing ICE, FBI, DCIS, and IRS; local police officers; OFAC analysts and enforcement officers; and DOJ AUSAs and Trial Attorneys.

On April 26, 2005 at approximately 5:00am, federal agents and local law enforcement staged at the Richardson and Plano Police Departments. At approximately 6:00am, three teams of ICE, FBI, IRS, and DCIS agents executed simultaneous search warrants at the following locations:

- \* 225 Syracuse Place Richardson, TX (CHICHAKLI'S home)
- \* 811 S. Central Expressway Suite 210 Richardson, TX (CHICHAKLI'S business)
- \* 3801 W. 14th St. #1906 Plano, TX (CHICHAKLI'S condo)

CHICHAKLI, his wife Gloria NELSON CHICHAKLI, and their son David were present

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at their residence on Syracuse Place at the time the warrants were served. The business on S. Central Expressway was locked at the time of service. Keys were later secured to enter the location. CHICHAKLI'S employee Ioulia FLYAGINA aka Julia FLIAGUINA, a Russian national present in the U.S. on a valid H1B visa, occupied the condominium.

After advising CHICHAKLI of the situation, CHICHAKLI, under his own free will and accord, consented to speak with Agents Baechtle and Brady at restaurant/coffee shop nearby to his residence. The details of this interview will be provided in a subsequent report.

ICE Agent Jeff Tabler and DCIS Agent Billy Byassee interviewed CHICHAKLI'S wife Gloria at 225 Syracuse Place. ICE Agent George Ramirez and IRS Agent Rob Loecker interviewed FLYAGINA at the 14th St. location in Plano, TX. Details relating to these interviews can be found under case DA03TR05DC0005.

It is noted that the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), a branch of the Department of Treasury, designated CHICHAKLI as a specially designated national pursuant to Presidential Order after the execution of the federal search warrants. By Executive Order 13348 dated July 22, 2004, the President of the United States declared a national emergency, stating that activities involving former Liberian President Charles Taylor in the ongoing Liberia conflict, which included "the proliferation of and trafficking in illegal arms," constituted an "unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. Pursuant to that Executive Order, the President designated Victor BOUT a denied person, under US law. The same action was taken against CHICHAKLI on April 26, 2005. The process not only froze all assets, bank accounts, and financial assets belonging to CHICHAKLI and his companies, but also barred Americans from entering into business with CHICHAKLI or the denied entities.

Further information relating to the interview of CHICHAKLI, action taken by OFAC, and subsequent investigative activities will be provided in upcoming reports.

This investigation is ongoing.

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