

National Briefing South: North Carolina: Pakistani Pleads Not Guilty

The New York Times

September 8, 2004 Wednesday, Late Edition - Final

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Section: Section A; Column 4; **National** Desk; Pg. 17

Length: 109 words

Byline: By Ariel Hart (NYT)

Body

A **Pakistani** man who was arrested in July after the Charlotte police saw him videotaping buildings downtown **pleaded not guilty** to six offenses unrelated to terrorism. Federal prosecutors say the man, Kamran Akhtar, lied to the authorities about his name and his immigration status, possessed false identification and refused to leave the country after he was denied asylum in 1997. Tapes in Mr. Akhtar's possession included images of buildings and transit systems in Atlanta, Dallas, Houston and New Orleans, and the building in Charlotte where the F.B.I. office is situated. Mr. Akhtar's family has said the tapes are innocent tourist ones. Ariel Hart (NYT)

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Publication-Type: Newspaper

Subject: ARRESTS (90%); LAW ENFORCEMENT (78%); PUBLIC PROSECUTORS (78%); SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE FORCES (78%); TERRORISM (72%); IMMIGRATION (71%)

Organization: FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (57%)

Person: Kamran Akhtar; Ariel Hart

Geographic: HOUSTON, TX, USA (78%); DALLAS, TX, USA (70%); **NORTH CAROLINA**, USA (78%); TEXAS, USA (77%); Charlotte (Nc); Pakistan

Load-Date: September 8, 2004