

Algerian Ordered Held Without Bond

The Washington Post

January 6, 2000, Thursday, Final Edition

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The Washington Post
washingtonpost.com

Section: A SECTION; Pg. A12

Length: 338 words

Dateline: SEATTLE, Jan. 5

Body

An **Algerian** suspected of having links to a countryman charged with trying to smuggle explosives into the United States was **ordered held without bond** today.

Abdel Hakim Tizegha, 29, is charged with illegally entering the country and eluding federal officers at the Canadian border. He was arrested Dec. 24 at the border crossing at Bellevue, Wash.

Tizegha was to appear before a federal magistrate today, but his attorney declined to challenge a government motion to detain him.

No link has been made in court between Tizegha and Ahmed Ressam, who has pleaded not guilty to federal charges accusing him of having bombmaking materials in his rental car as he entered the country Dec. 14.

But newspaper reports have said that Tizegha is linked to Ressam and that Tizegha and another man investigated in the case, Abdel Ghani, are longtime friends. Ghani was arrested Thursday and charged with helping Ressam.

A fourth man, Abdel Majid Dahoumane, is believed to have stayed with Ressam at a motel in British Columbia before Ressam was arrested. Warrants have been issued for his arrest.

According to former CIA counterterrorism chief Vincent Cannistraro, all four are part of a terrorist splinter group in Algeria that is supported by Osama bin Laden, the Saudi exile believed to have masterminded last year's attack on two U.S. embassies in Africa.

Cannistraro, citing information from French counterterrorism officials, said the men belong to a faction that broke with the Armed Islamic Group in Algeria over its practice of targeting fellow Muslims.

French investigators have said Ressam has links to Fateh Kamel, who has been jailed in Paris since April and is suspected of being the leader of an Islamic militant group. Cannistraro, citing the same French officials, said Kamel is the leader of the splinter group to which Ressam and the others belong.

A car containing Abdel Hakim Tizegha leaves garage of federal courthouse in Seattle on Monday. He is charged with illegally entering the country.

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Subject: TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS (90%); ARRESTS (90%); TERRORISM (90%); COUNTERTERRORISM (90%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (89%); MUSLIMS & ISLAM (86%); ARREST WARRANTS (78%); MAGISTRATES (78%); TERRITORIAL & NATIONAL BORDERS (78%); BORDER CONTROL (78%); BAIL (78%); SMUGGLING (78%); FEDERAL INVESTIGATIONS (77%); INVESTIGATIONS (74%); LAWYERS (73%); AL-QAEDA (72%); RELIGION (69%); EMBASSIES & CONSULATES (51%)

Company: ARMED ISLAMIC GROUP (54%); ARMED ISLAMIC GROUP (54%)

Organization: ARMED ISLAMIC GROUP (54%); ARMED ISLAMIC GROUP (54%); ARMED ISLAMIC GROUP (54%); ARMED ISLAMIC GROUP (54%)

Industry: LAWYERS (73%); HOTELS & MOTELS (53%)

Person: OSAMA BIN LADEN (50%)

Geographic: SEATTLE, WA, USA (79%); PARIS, FRANCE (69%); WASHINGTON, USA (92%); BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA (73%); ALGERIA (94%); CANADA (92%); UNITED STATES (79%); NORTH AMERICA (79%); AFRICA (79%)

Load-Date: January 6, 2000