

MacLean, Robert

From: MARLON.A.CENTELLA@CBP.DHS.GOV
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2015 1:17 PM
To: Maclean, Robert
Subject: RE: LAX airport smuggling operations

Hi Robert,

As per our conversation,

Yes, I remember receiving a telephonic tip from you on alien smuggling activities taking place at the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). At the time I was the Intelligence Agent for the San Clemente Station. Alien smugglers were utilizing LAX as a jump point to move hundreds of aliens that had recently entered illegally the U.S. via the SW Border. These smuggling activities were taking place in broad daylight, in plain view of the public and other local authorizes, and in blatant disregard for immigration and security laws of the U.S. At the time prior to TSA, the airline industry did not feel that it was their responsibility nor their staff had the proper training to confirm the validity or identity of the passengers travelling.

In response to these illegal activities, Special Operation Teams from the U.S. Border Patrol in the San Diego Sector teamed up with ICE, federal, and local law enforcement partners at LAX to address this issue. As a result of these combined efforts, thousands of aliens were apprehended just prior to boarding their plane, several vehicles used for smuggling activities were seized, and several search and arrest warrants were issued against unscrupulous travel agencies that were facilitating these activities.

Please, feel free to reach to me with any questions you or your staff may have on this issue.

Regards,

Marlon A. Centella
U.S. Border Patrol
Miami Sector HQs
954-965-6300 x362
407-468-5263

From: Maclean, Robert [<mailto:Robert.J.Maclean@ole.tsa.dhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2015 12:39 AM
To: CENTELLA, MARLON A
Subject: LAX airport smuggling operations

Hey Marlon!

Remember that LAX airport alien smuggling tip I gave you when you were the intel officer for the San Clemente Border Patrol Station back in November 2003?

Please let me know a time we can talk over the phone.

Appreciatively,
Robert

--

Robert MacLean
Federal Air Marshal
Los Angeles Field Office
Cellular: 210-840-6001
Robert.J.MacLean@ole.tsa.dhs.gov

Federal Air Marshal Service
Las Vegas Field Office
6380 S. Valley View Blvd., Suite 338
Las Vegas, NV 89118
(702) 263-8756



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

April 28, 2004

Robert MacLean
Federal Air Marshal
Las Vegas Field Office

Dear Mr. MacLean:

On behalf of the Federal Air Marshal Service, I am pleased to inform you that you have recently been nominated for an On the Spot Award in the amount of \$250.00.

I have recommended you for this award in recognition for your efforts of March 5, 2004 at LAX. On this occasion you spotted approximately 30 illegal aliens about to board a Southwest Airlines Flight. By being alert to your surroundings you were able to overhear an incriminating cell phone conversation between an alien smuggler and an unknown accomplice. You were also able to engage the smuggler in conversation without identifying yourself. You prepared the appropriate report and SDR in an exceptional manner and your information was used to institute an ICE investigation.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my personal appreciation for your dedication and professionalism in support of our mission, and my best wishes for continued success as a Federal Air Marshal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David R. Knowlton".

• David R. Knowlton
Special Agent-in-Charge

Individuals involved [e.g. Subject(s) / Witness(es) / Crew Member(s)]

Name:								
Last, First Mi.			D.O.B (m/d/yyyy)		Height	Weight	Hair	Eyes
D.L. / I.D.		City/State/Company Expiration date		Title (e.g. Captain, 1 st officer, GSC, Flt. Attendant, Screener, Subject, Passenger, Other)				
Home Address	Street	Apt#	City	State	Zip	Home Phone		
Work Address	Street	Apt#	City	State	Zip	Cell/Work Phone		

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*Please enter additional individuals in the Details section.

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Incident Report Details:

On 11/13/2003, Federal Air Marshal (FAM) Ralph Parris and I, FAM Robert MacLean, were on mission status awaiting a flight from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) to Las Vegas, Nevada (LAS). Parris and I were in LAX's terminal 2. No SDR was generated because my PDA is not yet connected to the new network.

Prior to my appointment as a Federal Air Marshal, I was a U.S. Border Patrol Agent since 1996.

Based on my experience as a Border Patrol Agent, I witnessed 15 – 20 illegal aliens allegedly being smuggled onto Southwest (WN) flight # 2658.

I noticed a group of short, dark-complected males all dressed in brand new (could still see creases), generic (Wal-Mart, Target) shoes and clothing. All of them were very clean, with fresh haircuts and clean-shaven.

In my experience investigating immigrant smuggling cases, I learned the following facts: Aliens spend days walking in difficult terrain to cross the U.S. / Mexican border, they become very dirty without bathing and cannot bring with them American-style clothes. Once across, illegal aliens are met by smugglers who provide them showers, clean American-style clothing, shaving articles, and haircuts. This is done so that the illegal aliens can blend-in with the general U.S. public.

I watched a tall Caucasian male escorting and conversing with the group to the flight's boarding area. This male clearly did not look associated with the group of aliens he was facilitating. I concluded that this man was an immigrant smuggler.

When boarding of the flight began, I stood approximately 10 feet from the WN Gate Agent (GA) Leland King who was taking boarding passes and inspecting identification (ID) cards. Every passenger of the flight except the group of aliens had their government issued IDs ready for show. When the group of aliens approached King, King would ask to see ID. The alien would act like he could not understand King. King then would then gesture with his WN issued employee ID that he wanted to see the alien's ID. The alien would continue to act confused. When King appeared confrontational, the alien finally reached into his pocket and removed his Mexican voter registration card (I am very familiar with this gray background with black text ID card that is issued by the Mexican government inside Mexico. These ID cards are not issued by the Mexican embassy or Mexican consulates inside the U.S.). I watched this process continue between King and 4 more aliens. At this point I contacted ATSAIC Craig Hamic, who suggested that I contact LAX's uniformed law enforcement authorities.

I contacted Los Angeles Police Officer Brown (Badge # 26020) who was working at the terminal #2 checkpoint. I told him about the situation and asked him if he could contact LAX Bureau of Immigration & Customs Enforcement (BICE) authorities to respond and hold the aircraft from leaving the gate. Officer Brown stated that only Los Angeles Airport Police (LAXPD) could hold the aircraft. Officer Brown told me that he was going to contact LAXPD and LAX BICE to respond as soon as possible.

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While waiting for LAXPD Officers, I identified myself to WN GA King. King consented to being interviewed. I asked King if he remembered the 15 – 20 gray ID cards in the Spanish language. King stated that he was very familiar with the IDs I was referring to. King stated that he could not understand the cards because they were written in Spanish. King stated the he had never seen the IDs before. King stated that he showed his coworker, Benjamina Millado the IDs and asked her if they were valid for identification. Millado told King that the IDs were valid and allowed the aliens to board. King stated to me that he was very uncomfortable about Millado allowing the aliens to board.

Passengers are not required to show government ID to pass LAX's terminal 2 security checkpoint.

Approximately 5 minutes later, Supervisory Operations Agent John Bogle approached me. I told Bogle about the interview I had with King. Bogle refuted the statements that King made to me and told me that everyone on the plane had a valid ID. When I asked Bogle to have King repeat the statements he recently made to me, I noticed that King and Millado was nowhere around. Bogle told me that I would need a subpoena to talk to King again. Bogle told me that I needed to contact their legal department person, Kathleen Stewart, in Dallas, TX at 214-792-4918 in order to speak with King again. I told Bogle that LAXPD Officers and LAX BICE Officers were on their way to the gate.

I spoke with the MOC Watch Officer WO Chan Brown about my situation. I told WO Brown that LAXPD and LAX BICE was taking their time to show up. I told WO Brown that I was confident that if determined 1 alien to be illegal, I could detain the rest of the aliens until LAX BICE authorities showed up. WO Brown stated that if I got permission from the aircraft's captain, Matthew McKelvey, I could board the aircraft.

Ralph Parris and I identified ourselves to Captain McKelvey. I told McKelvey the situation and asked him if I could board his aircraft. McKelvey stated to us that he did not care if illegal aliens were being smuggled on his aircraft and denied us boarding. Without hinderance, McKelvey boarded his aircraft and departed for Nashville, TN at approximately 1600 hours. FAM Parris and I remained in the same gate area until 2100 hours. Los Angeles Airport Police nor Los Angeles Police ever showed up.

WO Brown stated that he was going to contact Nashville and Baltimore BICE authorities about the situation. Nashville nor Baltimore BICE authorities ever contacted me about the aforementioned case.



Robert MacLean
Federal Air Marshal
Las Vegas Field Office, Nevada

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1 1

FAM Robert MacLean
Field Office Los Angeles

Location of Occurrence

SDRID	Current Date	Current Time	Reason	Airport	City
3284	20040303	13:22:52	Other	Los Angeles, CA - (LAX)	Los Angeles
State	Country	High Priority	Has Objects	Has Accomplice	
CA	United States	No	No	No	

SDR Comments

My partner and I observed 30 to 40 illegal aliens board WN flights 1814 and 260. Each alien presented invalid Mexican government IDs to the gate agents. We sat next to their smuggler who bragged about his operations to someone on his mobile phone. I relayed all my information to S/A David Balazar of the LA ICE office. He stated that his office will perform an operation at Terminal 2 LAX on 3/9/04.

Subject Info.

First Name	Last Name	Mid.Name	Suffix	Alias	Nick Name
SSN	Other ID	DOB	Nationality	Language	
			Hispanic	Spanish	

Subject Description

Physical Identifiers

Age	Sex	Race	Height	Weight	Eye
		White			
Hair Color	Hair Style	Hair Length	Build	Beard/Must:1	Beard/Must:2
Scars:1	Scars:2	Tatoos:1	Tatoos:2		

Home Address

Number	Street	City	State	Zip	Home Phone	Cell Phone
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Employer

Number	Street	City	State	Zip
Employer Name	Job Title	Employed Since	Work Phone	Work Cell

Clothing

Eyewear

Item (1)	Color (1)	Pattern (1)
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Item (2) **Color (2)** **Pattern (2)**

Clothing Description

Vehicle

Make **Model** **Color** **Top Color** **Shade** **Year**

License **License Year** **License State** **VIN**

First Name **Middle Name** **Last Name** **Registration Address** **Registration City** **Registration State**

Vehicle Description

Air Carrier

Airline **Arrival** **Departure** **Flight#** **Seat#**
 Southwest West Palm Beach, FL - (PBI) Los Angeles, CA - (LAX)

Captain

First Name **Middle Name** **Last Name** **Phone** **SSN** **Employee ID**

Lead Flight Attendant

First Name **Middle Name** **Last Name** **Phone** **SSN** **Employee ID**



Federal Air Marshal Incident Report

Transportation Security Administration
Federal Air Marshal Service

Incident Report # _____

Date: 12/31/2003 Time: 1900

Reporting Official: Mac Lean, Robert J. 485 LAS Contact # (702) 499-8107

Last, First Mi.	Staff ID	Hub
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Mission Partner: [REDACTED] LAS Contact # (702) [REDACTED]

Last, First Mi.	Hub
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Incident Location (Check one): Airport Aircraft Other

Airport Designator: ATL City/State or City/Country: Atlanta, GA

Air Carrier Designator: N/A Aircraft Type: N/A Flight # N/A

Aircraft Incidents (Check one): Pre-Flight In-Flight Post-Flight

Terminal/Concourse: Terminal T Gate# 8

Origin: N/A Destination: N/A

Nature of Incident (e.g. Interference with Flight Crew, Suspicious Activity, Assault, etc.)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check in Process | <input type="checkbox"/> Security Procedures | <input type="checkbox"/> Escort Procedures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seating | <input type="checkbox"/> Serious Boarding Incidents | <input type="checkbox"/> Briefings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Searches | <input type="checkbox"/> Compromised | <input type="checkbox"/> Arrival Procedures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interference w/ Flight Crew | <input type="checkbox"/> Assault | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suspicious Activity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | |

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Individuals involved [e.g. Subject(s) / Witness(es) / Crew Member(s)]

Name: Ulin-Ajin, [REDACTED]				5' 7	120	blk	bro
Last, First Mi.		D.O.B (m/d/yyyy)		Height	Weight	Hair	Eyes
N/A							
D.L. / I.D.	City/State/Company Expiration date		Title (e.g. Captain, 1 st officer, GSC, Flt. Attendant, Screener, Subject, Passenger, Other)				
Barrio Conicido			Guatemala				
Home Address	Street	Apt#	City	State	Zip	Home Phone	
N/A							
Work Address	Street	Apt#	City	State	Zip	Cell/Work Phone	

Name:							
Last, First Mi.		D.O.B (m/d/yyyy)		Height	Weight	Hair	Eyes
D.L. / I.D.	City/State/Company Expiration date		Title (e.g. Captain, 1 st officer, GSC, Flt. Attendant, Screener, Subject, Passenger, Other)				
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*Please enter additional individuals in the Details section.

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Incident Report Details:

On 12/30/2003, Federal Air Marshal (FAM) [REDACTED] and I, FAM Robert MacLean, were on mission status awaiting a flight from Atlanta Hartsfield International Airport (ATL) to New York, NY LaGuardia Airport (LGA). [REDACTED] and I checked ourselves in for Delta flight # 1430 leaving for LGA at 1930. We checked in at gate T-8 by showing our FAM credentials to Delta Gate Agent Daniece Dedeoux. Dedeoux told us that she would pre-board us through the general boarding gate when the flight's crew arrived. Dedeoux told us to wait there in the T-8 area.

While in the T-8 area, a female passenger approached [REDACTED] and told him that she "felt nervous" about the some of the 6 males sitting next to her in staggered style, so she moved someplace else. We observed these 6 males sitting next to each other and quietly conversing. 1 of these males was later arrested and identified as [REDACTED] ULIN-AJIN AKA: Mario SOTO-VILLEDADA. 3 of the males in this group separated from ULIN-AJIN and relocated within T-8 area. One of these males approached a second group of 2 males located in the T-8 area. This male spoke with second group and directly looked at [REDACTED] and me several times during their conversation. The male then walked back to his original group, and with 2 other males collectively got up and started walking toward the terminal exit, at the same time the second group got up and followed. With his handbag and roller-bag, [REDACTED] proceeded to follow the group of 5 males. After approximately 10 seconds, the group of 5 walking toward the terminal exit notice [REDACTED] following them and began to run in full stride toward the terminal exit. [REDACTED] choose not to pursue the group of 5 due to their separation of distance and the excess baggage he carried with him. While [REDACTED] was gone, I noticed ULIN-AJIN walking the opposite direction of the terminal exit. When [REDACTED] returned, I told him that ULIN-AJIN had gone the other way. We knew that the direction ULIN-AJIN took had no exit out of the terminal except into a sterile area. [REDACTED] and I found ULIN-AJIN wandering in the terminal. [REDACTED] approached ULIN-AJIN and asked him if he knew where his friends were because they were ready to board. ULIN-AJIN replied in broken English, "No speak English." [REDACTED] asked him the same question again in Spanish. ULIN-AJIN replied that he was looking for his friends but could not find him. [REDACTED] asked ULIN-AJIN if he could help him by talking to him. [REDACTED] redirected ULIN-AJIN to sit down with him in the T-6 area to answer some questions. ULIN-AJIN stated he and his group of 5 arrived from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Delta flight # 618 and were waiting for an unknown individual to take them to New York. ULIN-AJIN would not answer why the other 5 left the terminal. ULIN-AJIN then wanted to leave us. At approximately 1850 hours, we identified ourselves as Federal Air Marshals and asked him if he could continue answering our questions. ULIN-AJIN complied and stayed to answer our questions. ULIN-AJIN freely admitted that he was a citizen of Guatemala who illegally entered Mexico and traveled through Mexico on several buses to Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico. ULIN-AJIN stated that he illegally entered the United States on 12/28/2003 through the Calexico, California Port of Entry by showing a Bureau of Customs & Border Enforcement Inspector a valid B1/B2 Mexican Border Crossing Card (Form DSP-150) that was

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issued to another unknown individual. Once in the U.S., **ULIN-AJIN** stated that an alien smuggler took back the DSP-150 and transported him to Los Angeles where he showered, shaved and got a hair cut. **ULIN-AJIN** stated that the smuggler bought him new clothes and shoes before transporting him to LAX. **ULIN-AJIN** stated that he used a fraudulent Mexican voter registration card with name Mario SOTO-VILLEDA to board the Delta flight # 618. **ULIN-AJIN** freely surrendered the fraudulent Mexican voter registration card. **ULIN-AJIN** stated that he did not have to show identification to pass through LAX TSA screening. **ULIN-AJIN** stated that he was with a group of 15 other illegal aliens who also boarding the same flight. Delta Gate Agent Daniece Dedeoux provided us a list of the 16 names. All 16 names including **ULIN-AJIN**, were all booked on the same reservation group for Delta flight # 618 from LAX. **ULIN-AJIN** stated that 5 of his group of 16 were with him in the T-8 gate area at ATL. **ULIN-AJIN** stated that he and the 5 other males believed we were police officers by the way we were watching them, our appearance and our interaction with Delta Gate Agent Daniece Dedeoux . **ULIN-AJIN** stated that he and 5 other males agreed to leave the terminal as soon as possible.

At approximately 1925 hours, **ULIN-AJIN** was arrested for possession of fraudulent documents and illegally entering the U.S. **ULIN-AJIN** was transported to the ATL ICE secondary inspections office for further processing.

██████████ and I missed our mission on Delta flight # 1430 to LGA.

During the aforementioned events, ██████████ and I were in constant contact with AT SAC Charles Maurer of the FAMS LAS Field Office. After transporting **ULIN-AJIN** back to ATL ICE secondary office, we contacted MOC Watch Officer Chan Brown and FAMS ATL Duty AT SAC Mark Woodall and gave him all the aforementioned information.

ICE Special Agent Anthony Ruffule responded to our request to assume custody of **ULIN-AJIN**. Duty officer in charge of ATL ICE Inspections, Derb Shire, stated that his office could not assume custody of **ULIN-AJIN** because he arrived from a destination from within the U.S. He stated that only Atlanta ICE Investigations could assume custody of **ULIN-AJIN**. SA Ruffule determined that **ULIN-AJIN** was illegally in the U.S. Ruffule stated that Atlanta ICE Investigations would not assume custody of **ULIN-AJIN** because he had no prior immigration or criminal record.

ULIN-AJIN has no foreign address or U.S. address. **ULIN-AJIN** had no monetary funds on his person.

I gave **ULIN-AJIN** \$7.00 for food and to make a phone call. I released **ULIN-AJIN** to SA Ruffule who stated that he would release him at the ATL public transportation area on his own free will.

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SA Ruffule maybe reached at 404-765-2210 x-2215

NCIC: Negative
IDENT: Negative

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. MacLean", written in a cursive style.

Robert MacLean
Federal Air Marshal
Las Vegas Field Office, Nevada

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