

## PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #28

### TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

1 JANUARY 2010

\*\*\*\*\*

### STRATEGIC ANALYSIS

#### **1. Jihadists Emphasize Obtaining Intelligence on US Navy**

In recent weeks, several jihadist communications intercepted by ITRR researchers have placed a significant emphasis on gathering intelligence on US Navy ships, bases, capabilities and personnel.

The most recent such item declares that "the time has come to defeat what remains of the US at sea!" Referencing the October 2000 Al-Qaeda attack on the *USS Cole* in Yemen, the jihadist continues: "We will now, with Allah's help, begin exterminating the American Navy spread across seas and oceans... here and there and within range of Al-Qaeda."

The detailed communication goes on to stress that the current mission is intelligence gathering, for which the writer turns to fellow jihad supporters, saying that providing information is one way they can take part in this stage of the jihad. Some of the information sought by the jihadists is as follows:

- Where are the ships located, with locations provided according to international nautical measurements.
- The number of sailors on board and their ranks, along with the US states they come from, as well as their family status and the location of their parents' homes.
- Which Internet websites the sailors on board visit.
- How communications among the crew and from the ship can be monitored.

**Families of sailors from Pennsylvania serving on US Navy vessels and at naval bases, especially in the Middle East, should be alerted to the possibility of unidentified callers seeking private information, suspicious informational "fishing" requests, or covert surveillance. Online operational security, focusing on the vulnerabilities of social media, should also be emphasized.**

Other intelligence sought by the jihadists through distributed communications include:

- What weapons there are aboard any given ship; including the presence of nuclear weapons and the possible consequences of an attack on such a ship.
- What the ship's mission and purpose are, and its efficiency.

- How it can be tracked for a 24-hour period.
- Locating its course and movements in the event that it changes its current location.
- Which countries are closest to the ship at any given moment.
- Which countries provide security and maintenance for the identified ships.
- How the ship receives supplies, from where and when, and what route the supply convoys take from their production until they reach the American ship.
- Research regarding the best mode of attack against the named ship.
- What is the most advanced technology aboard the vessel.

In PAIB no. 10 (20 November 2009), ITRR cited jihadist communications requesting guidance on naval vessels such as battleships and aircraft carriers: "how they are built, especially their weak-points"; and "how to disrupt their radar systems and how radar works." The person making the request claimed: "All we need is this information and we will have a new weapon, which will give all Muslims reason to celebrate."

In the more recent communication, jihadists also sought more general research information, such as:

- The latest developments in maritime warfare.
- The military vessels generally located closest to Western states.
- As much information as possible from the Internet on various navies, translated into Arabic.
- The best method to collect intelligence on the easiest way to attack the naval vessels.

One of these requests for intelligence, received by a large number of jihadists worldwide, emphasized: "Brother Muslims, do not discount the quality of the information you have, no matter how unimportant it appears to you, for it could be exactly that which interests our brothers."

Earlier in December, ITRR researchers identified an explicit call by insurgents in Yemen, to "all the citizens in the Arabian Peninsula," to initiate attacks on maritime military fleets, among other regional targets.

All of the above, including previous ITRR analysis, indicates a clear intent by jihadist elements to begin waging a deadly form of *Jihad Al-Bahr* ("jihad at sea") as soon as operationally possible. In past communications, as cited and reiterated in PAIB no. 27 (30 December 2009), jihadists have made it clear that they see maritime travel as more vulnerable and easier to infiltrate at this point than air travel.

**However, the ships of the Naval Inactive Ship Maintenance Facility (NISMF) in Philadelphia do not appear to be a significant target for jihadist attack when compared to active duty ships at sea.**

## SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

### Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

#### **2. Al-Qaeda Threat in Lebanon**

Several Al-Qaeda threats to government offices and foreign representatives in Lebanon have been identified and reported by Lebanese authorities and local media. The local terrorist group most identified with Al-Qaeda in Lebanon is Fatah Al-Islam, a primarily Palestinian organization which has waged bloody battles with Lebanese armed forces in the past.

Local reports quote security sources saying that Al-Qaeda members get into Lebanon from Pakistan by way of Turkey, Greece and Syria.

Of note is that the same week, a Hamas leader in Lebanon was targeted by a bomb attached to his vehicle. Two Hamas members who attempted to remove the device were killed in the blast. While Hizbullah forces blocked access to the scene of the bombing in Beirut, no one has yet claimed responsibility for the attack.

\*\*\*\*\***ANALYSIS**\*\*\*\*\*

**Threat Level: MODERATE**

ITRR analysts reiterate past guidance that all Western or Western-identified organizations and assets in Lebanon should be considered at risk. Past attacks aimed at pushing Western involvement out of Lebanon have targeted various civilian and military assets in the country.

In PAIB no. 17 (7 December 2009), ITRR noted an explicit Al-Qaeda-affiliated threat to United Nations forces in Lebanon, as well.

Pennsylvania students and business interests in the region should be advised of the current threat to government facilities within Beirut, southern Lebanon and elsewhere in that country, but also to northern Israel.

### Sectors: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

#### **3. Racist PA Skinheads Gathering in Harrisburg**

Current - 2 January 2010: The "racialist" Keystone State Skinheads organization is holding a three-day, "invitation only" event in Harrisburg. The event is billed as a New Year's party and "Polar Bear Plunge".

The Keystone State Skinheads has a history of conducting organized actions that has required significant law enforcement interaction.

\*\*\*\*\***ANALYSIS**\*\*\*\*\*

**Threat Level: LOW**

No part of the communications identified by ITRR analysts indicates an intention to conduct confrontational actions.

**Sectors: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES**

**4. Shooter in Finnish Mall Kills Five**

On Thursday, an armed Albanian immigrant from Kosovo, Ibrahim Shkupolli, opened fire in a shopping mall in Finland. Four people were murdered at the mall, while a fifth victim, an ex-girlfriend of the perpetrator, was murdered in her apartment. After the shooting, despite police response, Shkupolli escaped the mall, returned to his own home and committed suicide.

The perpetrator was a known narcotics trafficker who was already considered armed and dangerous. Police believe the motive for the crime is related to the killer's personal relationships; the victims were apparently selected by the shooter for premeditated murder, although no solid conclusion has yet been reached.

Arabic-language jihadist forums have not reacted, as of 1 January 2010, to the incident in any way. A news report on the shooting was posted in an English-language forum generally supportive of Islamist terrorism. The same forum cited a media item last month about the refuge Muslims from war-torn parts of the world are finding in Finland.

\*\*\*\*\***ANALYSIS**\*\*\*\*\*

**Threat Level: MODERATE**

ITRR analysts are wary to attribute the shooting to international jihad, although that possibility cannot be ruled out. However, regardless of motive, jihadists generally make note of such events as the Finnish shooting for tactical lessons learned. As noted in previous PAIBs, the practicality of assaults on public venues in the West was repeatedly discussed in detail in jihadist communications in December.

ITRR reiterates the need for security measures and rapid response capabilities at such public facilities during and immediately after the current holiday season.

**Sectors: HEALTHCARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH, CRITICAL MANUFACTURING**

**5. Animal Rights Groups to Target Pharmaceuticals with Locations in PA**

Since 1999, the animal rights organization known as SHAC (Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty) has targeted Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS). The goal has not been the simple shut down of a facility, but the destruction of the corporation. HLS's 3 hardened facilities (2 in the UK, 1 in East Millstone, NJ) have provided frequent targets for mass demonstrations.

However, unlike a single localized organization, SHAC is a movement that has targeted clients of HLS through a world-wide terror campaign. Their tactics have used arson, bombings, and other forms of violence to separate the client base from HLS. In the words of SHAC, "In 2009, there was well over 900 protests in 25 countries on every inhabited continent on the planet. This was over 100 more protests than 2008, with 5 more countries joining the global movement to smash HLS. "

In a recent communication, the animal rights movement has named AstraZeneca (Wayne, PA) and Glaxo SmithKline (with a location in Philadelphia, PA) as primary targets.

\*\*\*\*\***ANALYSIS**\*\*\*\*\*

**Threat Level: MODERATE**

ITRR analysts expect a concerted effort on the part of local members of the SHAC movement to target AstraZeneca and Glaxo SmithKline. Tactics to be used against these corporations will range from attempts at telecommunications disruption and denial of service attacks to localized protests.

**No actionable intelligence at this time for the following sectors:**

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD  
DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASES  
ENERGY  
NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS  
BANKING AND FINANCE  
WATER  
CHEMICAL  
DAMS  
EMERGENCY SERVICES  
NUCLEAR REACTORS, MATERIALS, AND WASTE  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
COMMUNICATIONS  
POSTAL AND SHIPPING  
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

THREAT LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
<b>LOW (Level 4)</b>	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements currently have little capability or intent to take action against the target. It is assessed that, although it cannot be ruled out, an attack or action is unlikely to be mounted based on current available intelligence.
<b>MODERATE (Level 3)</b>	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements have the capability to take action against the target and that such action is within the adversary's current intent. It is assessed that an attack or action is likely to be a priority and might well be mounted.
<b>SEVERE (Level 2)</b>	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements have an established capability and current intent to take action against the target and there is some additional information on the nature of the threat. It is assessed that an attack or action on the target is a priority and is likely to be mounted.
<b>CRITICAL (Level 1)</b>	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements with an established capability are actively planning to take action against the target within a matter of days (up to two weeks). An attack or action is expected imminently.

**END-CLASSIFIED-TAM-C-**

**For additional information, please contact the TAM-C of the Institute of Terrorism Research and Response at: +1.215.922.1080 or [info@terrorresponse.org](mailto:info@terrorresponse.org)**

***Working with organizations that refuse to surrender their  
domestic or international operations to terrorism***

Ensure that you always receive the latest information from The Institute of Terrorism Research and Response. Add the e-mail address, "tamc@terrorresponse.org" to your personal address book.

This Intelligence report includes information from open and closed intelligence sources. Not all information is able to be verified; however, the TAM-C is actively evaluating the reporting to establish its accuracy and to determine if it represents a possible link to terrorism. If recipients have any additional or clarifying information, please contact the Targeted Actionable Monitoring Center (TAM-C) at +1.215.922.1080.

**Actionable Intelligence Weekly Briefing®** A general overview of actionable intelligence (upcoming events) used by directors of security and law enforcement managers to pre-plan their future operations. The Briefing is dispatched on Monday of each week by 1100 GMT to enable early planning of the upcoming weeks.

**Threat and Hazard Monitoring (THM)** A custom service meeting the needs for each client. With the assistance of our international analysts, this service identifies specific threats, hazards, vulnerabilities, and assets our team of native language speakers researchers and ground resources, are to monitor and forward on to the client.

For additional information regarding the Center's services or specialized customized research and analysis programs, feel free to contact us at: [tamc@terrorresponse.org](mailto:tamc@terrorresponse.org)